
**DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
FALL CREEK WATER PERMIT PROJECT**

March 2012

Prepared for:

THE CITY OF YREKA
701 Fourth Street
Yreka, CA 96097



140 Independence Circle, Suite C
Chico, CA 95973

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1.1 INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This document is an Initial Study and proposed negative declaration prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*, and the State CEQA Guidelines, 14 California Code Regulations Section 15000 *et seq.* The Initial Study demonstrates and concludes that a negative declaration is the appropriate CEQA document for the Fall Creek Water Permit Project (project).

An Initial Study is conducted by a Lead Agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064, an EIR must be prepared if substantial evidence indicates that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment. A Negative Declaration is a written statement prepared by the Lead Agency describing the reasons why the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines Section 15371). According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a Negative Declaration shall be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when:

- a) *The initial study shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, or*
- b) *The initial study identifies potentially significant effects, but:*
 - (1) *Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before the proposed mitigated negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur; and*
 - (2) *There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.*

If revisions and/or measures are adopted for the proposed project that would mitigate the potential effects to point where no significant effects would occur in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15070(b), a mitigated negative declaration is prepared. If no potential significant effects that warrant revisions or mitigation measures are identified, a negative declaration without mitigation measures is appropriate.

1.2 LEAD AGENCY

The lead agency is the public agency with primary responsibility over a proposed project. Where two or more public agencies will be involved with a project, CEQA Guidelines Section 15051 provides criteria for identifying the lead agency. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15051, "the lead agency will normally be the agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose" Based on the criteria above, the City of Yreka serves as the lead agency for the proposed Fall Creek Water Permit Project.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.3 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

This document is divided into the following sections:

1.0 Introduction - This section provides an introduction and describes the purpose and organization of this document.

2.0 Project Information - This section provides general information regarding the project including the project title, lead agency and address, contact person, brief description of the project location, general plan land use designations, zoning classifications, identification of surrounding land uses, and identification of other public agencies whose review, approval, and/or permits may be required. Also provided is a checklist of the environmental factors that are potentially affected by the project. Finally, this section provides the environmental determination for the project, identifying that a mitigated negative declaration will be prepared for the project.

3.0 Project Description - This section provides a detailed description of the proposed project.

4.0 Environmental Checklist - This section describes the environmental setting/overview for each of the environmental subject areas, evaluates a range of impacts classified as "no impact," "less than significant," "less than significant with mitigation incorporated," and "potentially significant" in response to the environmental checklist. Each environmental checklist question is discussed and analyzed. Where appropriate, mitigation measures are identified to mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level.

Section 4.0 contains the following environmental issue subsections as well as the CEQA Mandatory Findings of Significance:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Aesthetics | 10. Land Use and Planning |
| 2. Agricultural Resources | 11. Mineral Resources |
| 3. Air Quality | 12. Noise |
| 4. Biological Resources | 13. Population and Housing |
| 5. Cultural Resources | 14. Public Services |
| 6. Geology and Soils | 15. Recreation |
| 7. Greenhouse Gases | 16. Transportation/Traffic |
| 8. Hazards and Hazardous Materials | 17. Utilities and Service Systems |
| 9. Hydrology and Water Quality | |

Each environmental issue subsection is organized as follows:

The **Overview** summarizes the existing conditions at the regional, sub-regional and local level as appropriate, and identifies applicable plans and technical information for the particular issue area.

The **Checklist Discussion/Analysis** provides a detailed discussion of each of the environmental issue checklist questions. The level of significance for each topic is determined by considering the predicted magnitude of the impact. Four levels of impact significance are evaluated in this initial study:

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- **No Impact:** No project-related impact to the environment would occur with project development.
- **Less than Significant Impact:** The impact would not result in a substantial and adverse change in the environment. This impact level does not require mitigation measures.
- **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated:** An impact that may have a "substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15382). However, the incorporation of mitigation measures would reduce the project-related impact to a less than significant level.
- **Potentially Significant Impact:** An impact that is "potentially significant" as described above, but for which mitigation measures cannot be immediately suggested or the effectiveness of potential mitigation measures cannot be determined with certainty. In such cases, an EIR is required.

Where appropriate, a **Mitigation Measures** section is included that lists mitigation measures for impacts identified as "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated." These measures are designed to avoid, minimize, rectify, compensate for, reduce or eliminate identified potential impacts.

The **Conclusions** section summarizes the potential impacts and mitigation measures of the project on an environmental issue. If mitigation measures are recommended, the potential impacts after the implementation of these measures are assessed.

5.0 Special Studies and References - This section lists all the special studies and other documents either used or referred to in the Initial Study, and persons consulted during preparation of this document.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.4 ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are used within the Fall Creek Water Permit Project Initial Study:

ACOE	U.S. Army Corps of engineers
af	Acre feet
afy	Acre feet per year
cfs	cubic feet per second
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
GHG	Greenhouse gas emissions
MAF	Million acre feet
MGD	Millions gallons per day
MMD	Maximum month demands
SCAPCD	Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District

2.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **Project title:** City of Yreka Fall Creek Water Permit
2. **Lead agency name and address:** City of Yreka
701 Fourth Street
Yreka, CA 96097
3. **Contact person and phone number:** Mary Frances McHugh, City Attorney
701 Fourth Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 841-2326
4. **Project location:** Dam A and the Intake Structure are located in the NW corner Section 30, Township 48 North, Range 4 West, MDM. Latitude 41°59'07.287"N, Longitude 122°21'42.313"W (APNs 004-370-010 and 030). Dam B is located in NE corner Section 25, Township 48 North, Range 5 West, MDM. Latitude 41°59'08.441", Longitude 122°21'46.710 (APN 041-030-200). (See **Figures 3.0-1a, 3.0-1c and 3.0-1d**)

The project location also includes the place of use of the diverted water in and around the City of Yreka, as indicated in the water service "Place of Use" map (**Figure 3.0-1b**). The place of use includes land contained within the following described area: Sections 7 and 19, T45N, R6W; Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35 within T45N, R7W; Sections 3 and 4 within T44N, R7W.
5. **Project sponsor's name and address:** City of Yreka
701 Fourth Street
Yreka, CA 96097
6. **General plan designation:** N/A
7. **Zoning:** For the diversion facilities, the zoning is Non-Prime Agricultural, 40 acre minimum (AG-2-B-40). For the water service area, the zoning is as shown on the attached City of Yreka zoning map (**Figure 4.0-1**).
8. **Description of project:** The City of Yreka is requesting from the State Water Resources Control Board an extension of time under the City's water permit No. 15379 for the City to divert up to 6,300 acre feet per year (afy) from Fall Creek. The City's permit, issued in 1967, authorized the City to divert 15 cubic feet per second (cfs), up to a maximum of 6,300 afy, from Fall Creek to supply the City's municipal water system. The permit states that the City was to complete full beneficial use of the diverted

2.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

water by December 31, 2005. The City constructed the diversion facility and is fully capable of diverting the full amount; no new construction is proposed. The City requests that the term of the permit to use the 6,300 afy be extended to the year 2022.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The Fall Creek diversion/intake facility is in a remote area of Siskiyou County, approximately 23 miles northeast of the City of Yreka. The site is located next to Fall Creek and an outflow canal from a small powerhouse; both of which can be used to supply water to the intake. In addition to the powerhouse facility is a state-owned fish hatchery facility (currently not in use) and a day use recreation site. The Klamath River and Iron Gate Reservoir are one mile southwest and downstream from the site. The project location in terms of the place of use for the diverted water is all of the incorporated boundaries of the City of Yreka and outlying areas as shown in **Figure 3.0-1b**.

10. Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g. permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

State Water Resources Control Board/Division of Water Rights.

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is reduced to less than significant through the use of mitigation measures indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

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

2.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

2.2 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 proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have 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 or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Steven W. Baker, City Manager

Printed Name

Date

3.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The place of diversion on Fall Creek from which the City of Yreka obtains water for its municipal water system is located approximately 23 miles northeast of the City. Fall Creek is a tributary to the Klamath River, flowing into the river at a point below where the river enters Iron Gate Reservoir. The intake to the City's water system is located approximately one mile north and upstream of the point where Fall Creek enters the reservoir/river. The location is north of, and is accessed from, Copco Road. The location of diversion Dam "A" and the intake facilities may generally be described as being within the NW ¼ of Section 30, T48N, R4W, and, for "Dam B", within the NE ¼ of Section 25, T48N, R5W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian. The location of the diversion site is illustrated in **Figure 3.0-1a, Project Location**.

The project location, relative to the resulting use of the water, also includes the place of use of the diverted water, which is the City of Yreka and its water service area, which includes recognized areas outside the city limits as indicated in **Figure 3.0-1b**. The place of use includes land contained within the following described area: Sections 7 and 19, T45N, R6W; Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35 within T45N, R7W; and Sections 3 and 4 within T44N, R7W.

To better clarify the location of the places of diversion and intake at Fall Creek, **Figures 3.0-1c** and **3.0-1d** further illustrate the layout and location of the existing project components. **Figure 3.0-1c** illustrates the correct locations of "Dam A" on the outflow from the PacifiCorp (AKA, PP&L) hydroelectric powerhouse and "Dam B" on the main course of Fall Creek. These facilities are described below. **Figure 3.0-1d** provides additional information concerning previously reported but incorrect points of diversion with the intent of helping to reconcile the correct locations of these facilities with the city's and state's water permit records dating back to 1966.

3.2 PROJECT SUMMARY

The City of Yreka has applied to the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to extend the time to put the water diversion authorized under the City's water permit (permit number 15379) issued on May 17, 1967, to maximum beneficial use. Permit 15379 stipulated that the water diverted from Fall Creek by the City shall not exceed 15.0 cubic feet per second (cfs) with the maximum amount not to exceed 6,300 acre-feet per year (afy), and that complete application of the water to the authorized uses was to be completed by December 31, 2005. The City's meter records for the year 2004, as well as its 2004 Progress Report to the State Water Resources Control Board, indicate that the City diverted up to 15 cfs for a total of 3,132 acre-feet from Fall Creek in 2004. The City is requesting that the time for it to put the full amount of its authorized diversion (i.e., 6,300 afy) to beneficial use be extended until the year 2022.

With recognition that the City has established a diversion baseline of 3,132 afy (based on the amount of diversion in the year 2004), it may be said in one context that consideration of potential environmental impacts, especially those related to in-stream resources on Fall Creek, concern the impacts of diverting an additional 3,168 afy (i.e., in addition to the baseline amount) in order to be able to utilize the full amount of 6,300 afy by the year 2022.

Concerning potential impacts to in-stream resources, it is important to note that the City's Fall Creek water permit is subject to a condition that requires the City to bypass a minimum flow of 15 cfs or the natural flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs. This permit condition is

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

discussed in greater detail in Section 4.4 below relating to potential impacts on biological resources. The City is not seeking a change in that condition.

The City's existing Fall Creek diversion and intake facility was designed and constructed to handle the full allocation of 15 cfs up to a maximum of 6,300 afy per the 1967 water permit. The City does not need and does not propose at this time any physical expansion or modification of the existing diversion facility. Therefore, the proposed project has no construction components or any features that would cause new disturbance of the site or the Fall Creek stream course. The only issue considered in this Initial Study is the impact that may result from extending the time for the City to put the full amount of its authorized diversion to beneficial use under its 1967 permit. (The City notes that it would currently be permitted to divert the full amount of 6,300 afy if development and growth in the City had required diversion of that amount by 2005.)

(Note: The City had also requested an amendment of the permitted "place of use" of water obtained under the Fall Creek water permit. A Notice of Exemption pursuant to CEQA was filed in November 3, 2006. On August 5, 2010, the Division of Water Rights issued an order approving change in the place of use and issued an amendment to Water Permit 15379 to clarify the amended place of use. Therefore, issues concerning the place of use pursuant to the water permit is not part of the current project description.)

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Yreka was incorporated in 1857. Prior to 1970, the City's water sources included a number of wells and local reservoirs. The Greenhorn dam and reservoir was a major source of water. Also, water was pumped to storage reservoirs or directly into the distribution system from sources such as the North Well and Boston Shaft Well (which were actually infiltration galleries). However, the quantity of water available during drought conditions was unpredictable and unreliable.

Droughts and water shortages began to have greater impacts as the City of Yreka grew. In a series of summers (e.g., in the years 1944, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1966), the City experienced critical water shortages. In 1966, the City commissioned a feasibility study for the development of new and more reliable water sources. The study report recommended that the City install a water conduit from Fall Creek, which is located north of the Klamath River approximately 23 miles northeast of the City.

To obtain water for the new system, the City applied to the State Water Board (Application 22551) and was issued a Permit for Diversion and Use of Water (Permit 15379) on May 17, 1967. The Permit specifies that the water appropriated shall not exceed 15 cubic feet per second (which equates to 9.7 million gallons per day), and that the maximum amount to be diverted shall not exceed 6,300 acre-feet per year. Under the Permit, construction work and complete application of the water to the authorized uses was to be "prosecuted with reasonable diligence" and completed by December 31, 2005.

The Fall Creek water system was completed by the City in 1968, which included diversion and intake structures, a 24-inch pipeline from Fall Creek, a pump station, new water treatment facilities, and small reservoirs (i.e., Evergreen, City Ranch, and Klamath Pass).

On December 18, 2003, the City of Yreka adopted a major update of its General Plan. Along with the other elements of a general plan, the *City of Yreka General Plan 2002-2022* contains a Land Use Element that provides policy guidance for the physical form and development of the

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

community, and a Public Facilities Element that describes public services within the planning area. These two elements are closely connected in that, while the Land Use Element includes projections about the anticipated future growth of the City and the land use designations and patterns needed to accommodate that growth, the Public Facilities Element addresses the facilities and services needed to serve the city and accommodate development and growth. The Public Facilities Element includes Goal PF.3, "Ensure an ample water supply for the City of Yreka". More will be said about the General Plan and related water supply needs in this Initial Study.

It is also noted that the City of Yreka prepared and, when it adopted the General Plan Update in December 2003, certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) concerning that update to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIR addressed the range of impacts that could result from buildout pursuant to the General Plan. In the context of the relationship of the "Water Rights Service Boundary" to the future growth of the City as contemplated in the General Plan and the EIR, this Initial Study observes that the impacts that might be said to be "induced" in any way by the water rights permit timeframe issue have already been evaluated in the General Plan EIR. In other words, although the area within the water rights service boundary may be said to be a component of the project site in that this area constitutes the "place of use" of the water to be diverted from Fall Creek, the related impacts concerning the place of use of the water have already been addressed in the General Plan EIR and need not be again evaluated in the context of the requested extension of time concerning the water permit.

While, under the 1967 Permit, complete application of diverted water to authorized uses was to be completed by December 31, 2005, the City's records indicate that it diverted 3,132 af from Fall Creek in 2004. Thus, 3,132 afy is considered to be the appropriate "baseline" for the maximum amount of annual diversion through 2005. Since the permitted amount under the 1967 Permit was 6,300 acre-feet per annum, the City is requesting to have the permit extended to enable the City to have until the year 2022 to put the full 6,300 afy to beneficial use (i.e., 3,168 afy in addition to the "baseline" amount of 3,132 afy.).

Even though growth and demand may not have necessitated full beneficial use of 6,300 afy by December 2005 as contemplated when the 1967 permit was approved, the City will have desperate need for more water from Fall Creek as the City grows in future years. This need is further demonstrated by the lack of other surface water sources and the constraints and limitations of using ground water resources in the vicinity. An extension of time to put the full amount of the authorized diversion from Fall Creek to beneficial use is necessary for the City to continue to support implementation of its adopted General Plan by encouraging and accommodating urban growth and development.

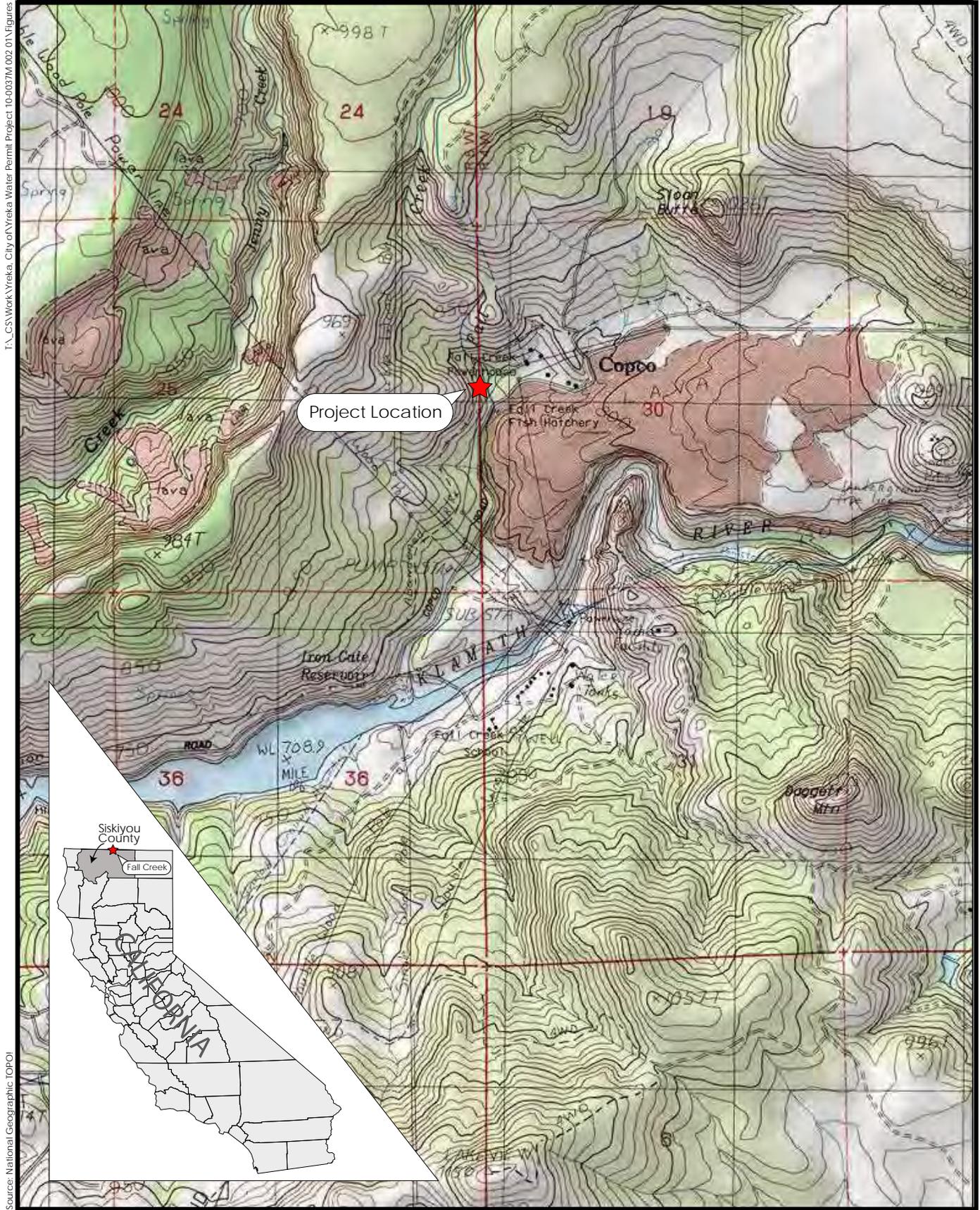


Figure 3.0-1

Fall Creek Water Permit Project Location



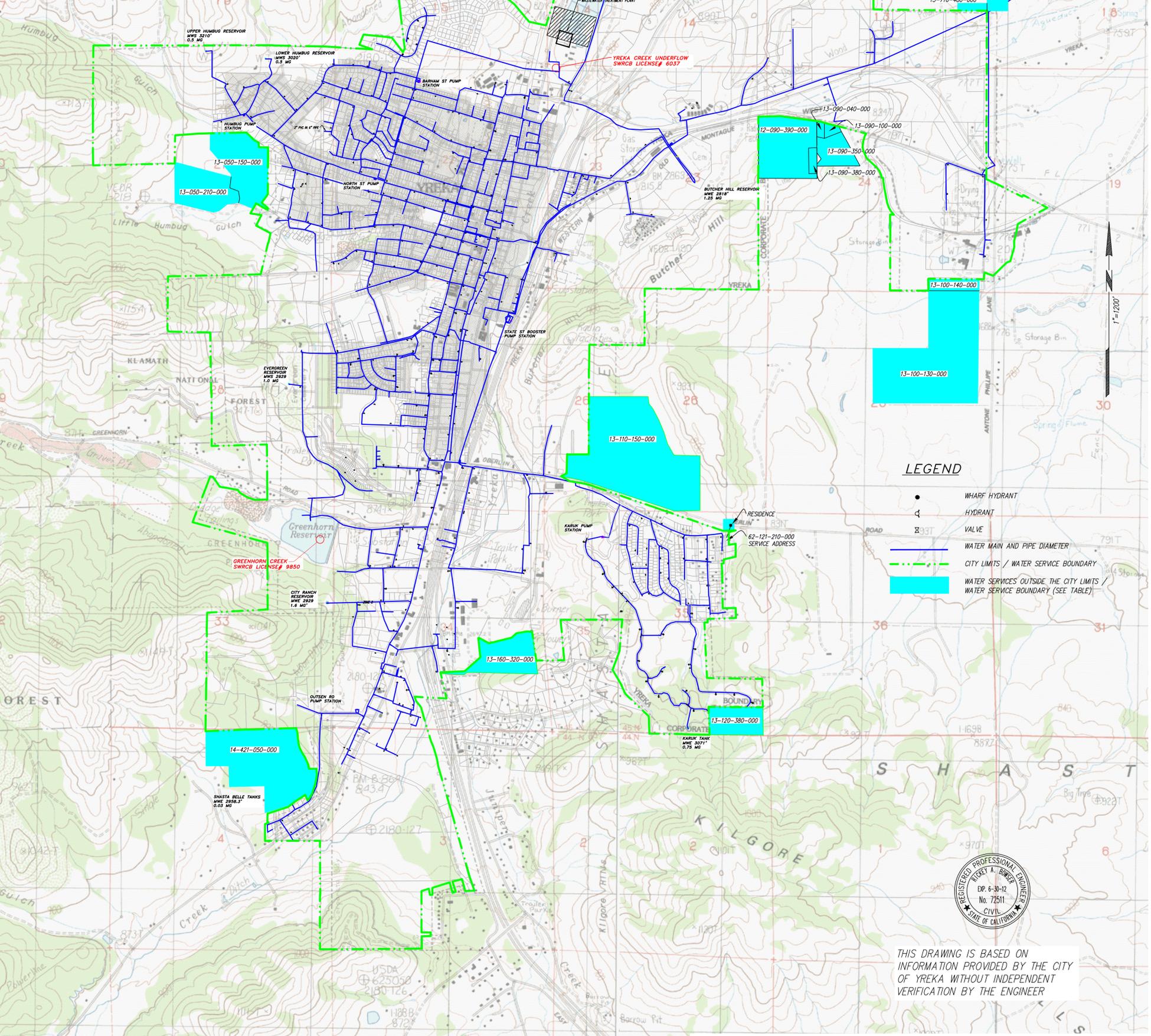
3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Figure 3.0-1b, Project Location (Place of Use)

Outside the City Limits / Inside Water Service Boundary		
Assessors Parcel #	Customer Name	Service Address
13-050-150-000	Steve Kolpacoff	1201 W Miner St
13-090-350-000	Lucia Cardoza	1091 N Foothill Dr
13-090-100-000	Wayne Smith	1107 N Foothill Dr
13-090-040-000	William & Jill Hanam	1103 N Foothill Dr
13-710-210-000	Roger Cummins	1735 Riverview Dr
13-710-200-000	Earl Cummins	1815 Riverview Dr
13-710-260-000	Richard Moyer	1810 Riverview Dr
13-710-480-000	Linda Conrad	412 Riverview Dr
62-121-210-000	Delores Mackey	1408 Quail Ave
13-710-650-000	Ted Hill	1090 Juniper Dr
13-710-670-000	Tom Deany	1098 Juniper Dr
13-050-210-000	Dorothy Lange	(See Note 1 below)
14-421-050-000	Judith M Anderson	2215 Taylor Ave
13-160-320-000	GJ & June Collins	1934 Fairlane Rd
13-110-150-000	Christy Cheyne	739 E Oberlin Rd
13-090-380-000	Robert Fleischman	1081 N Foothill Dr
13-090-390-000	Andy & Carole Jura	1089 N Foothill Dr
13-110-130-000	City of Yreka	
13-110-140-000	City of Yreka	
13-120-380-000	Karuk	1333 Yellowhammer St

Fall Creek Main Transmission Line Connections (Not Shown on Map)		
Between Pumping Station and Filter Plant		
Assessors Parcel #	Customer Name	Service Address
13-251-570-000	Louis Clemons	6317 Shelley Rd
41-302-030-000	Betty Cooley	6904 Ager Rd
41-132-380-000	Sherrill/Karen Currie	6034 York Rd
41-132-370-000	Robert & Denise Mastella	10238 Airport Rd
41-131-330-000	Chuck York	5830 Airport Rd
36-180-310-000	Mark R Shepherd	11100 Bogus Creek
Between Filter Plant and City Limits		
Assessors Parcel #	Customer Name	Service Address
13-280-390-000	John Cizin	1625 Ager Rd
13-280-300-000	Pete & Anna Himmel	2215 Ager Rd
13-280-310-000	Boyd Fiock	3101 Ager Rd
13-680-090-000	Tim/Sherry Shaw	4500 Pheasant Ln
13-680-100-000	Paul/Judy Morton	4532 Pheasant Ln
13-680-110-000	John/Lauren Kennedy	4616 Pheasant Ln
13-680-120-000	Stephen Mikinka	4836 Pheasant Ln
13-680-130-000	Stan Solus	4916 Pheasant Ln
13-680-050-000	Bill & Diana Chesney	4939 Pheasant Ln
13-680-060-000	Kelly & Eileen Blake	5125 Pheasant Ln
13-680-070-000	James Harding	5131 Pheasant Ln
13-680-220-000	Kaylon/Danielle Benson	5237 Pheasant Ln

Note 1: Service connection is authorized but not connected.



FALL CREEK DIVERSION DAMS - PERMIT 15379
 DAM A: TOP OF CONCRETE SPILLWAY AT CENTER OF DAM
 LATITUDE 41° 59' 07.287"
 LONGITUDE 122° 21' 42.313"
 ELEVATION 2510.4
 STATE PLANE COORDINATES N 2608914.5 E 6463303.2
 DAM B: TOP OF CONCRETE AT CENTER OF WEIR
 LATITUDE 41° 59' 08.441"
 LONGITUDE 122° 21' 46.710"
 ELEVATION 2514.4
 STATE PLANE COORDINATES N 2608932.7 E 6462971.6
 DATUM NOTES:
 1. GEODETIC POSITIONS ARE NAD83, EPOCH 2011.0
 2. ELEVATIONS ARE ORTHOMETRIC HEIGHT IN FEET, GROUND
 3. STATE PLANE COORDINATES ARE IN FEET, SPK11, CAL ZONE 1
 4. POSITIONS DETERMINED BY NCS OPUS, > 3 HOURS

LEGEND

- WHARF HYDRANT
- HYDRANT
- VALVE
- WATER MAIN AND PIPE DIAMETER
- CITY LIMITS / WATER SERVICE BOUNDARY
- WATER SERVICES OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS / WATER SERVICE BOUNDARY (SEE TABLE)



THIS DRAWING IS BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF YREKA WITHOUT INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION BY THE ENGINEER

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Description of Existing Diversion System

The City of Yreka's water permit concerns the appropriation of water from Fall Creek. The City has two small related diversion facilities involving Fall Creek that supply water to the system's intake structure. (See **Figure 3.0-2a**) The "A" Dam diverts water to the intake building from a canal coming from a PacifiCorp powerhouse. (The powerhouse facility, which has been in use since 1903, uses water diverted from Fall Creek upstream. This relationship with the City's diversion will be further explained below.) The City's "B" Dam is located on the natural Fall Creek channel itself and diverts water through a 24-inch pipeline approximately 300 feet in length to the same intake as water from the "A" Dam. From the City's intake building (see **Figure 3.0-2b**), water is transported by a 24-inch pipe to the Yreka Fall Creek pump station (located approximately 0.5 mile from the diversion site) and on to the City's water treatment and storage facilities and, eventually, to the City of Yreka, located approximately 23 miles to the southwest of the intake. (See **Photos 3.0-1, 3.0-2 and 3.0-3**)



The diverted Spring Creek flow is carried through a canal 1.7 miles where it enters Fall Creek. Up to 16.5 cfs of flow is diverted by PacifiCorp from Spring Creek to Fall Creek.

Photo 3.0-1: Fall Creek "A" Dam

The PacifiCorp Fall Creek diversion dam is located approximately 1.5 miles from where the Spring Creek diversion canal feeds into Fall Creek. The Fall Creek diversion dam diverts up to 50 cfs, including water from the Spring Creek diversion, into the canal and penstock that leads to the powerhouse. PacifiCorp is required under its license to maintain a minimum flow of 0.5 cfs in Fall Creek below the diversion and a minimum flow of 15 cfs (or natural stream flow, whichever is less) downstream of the powerhouse. The water in this diversion canal and penstock bypasses approximately 1.2 miles of Fall Creek, including a steep cascade known as the "barrier falls".



Photo 3.0-2: Fall Creek "B" Dam

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Photo 3.0-3: Fall Creek Intake Structure

After the flow of water is used by PacifiCorp at the powerhouse, the water is directed to a canal that flows back to the natural Fall Creek channel. It is on this return canal that the City of Yreka maintains the "A" Dam, by which water is diverted to the intake structure. The "A" Dam is the primary diversion used by the City to supply Fall Creek water to the intake. As noted above, the City can also divert water directly from Fall Creek via the "B" Dam.

Below the City's "A" Dam diversion to the intake building, between that intake and the point where the outflow from the powerhouse flows back into the natural Fall Creek channel, there is a fish

hatchery established by the California Department of Fish and Game. The Department of Fish and Game has a permit from the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights (Permit 17762, License 11681) for nonconsumptive use of up to 10 cfs to be diverted between March 15 and December 15 of each year, not to exceed 5,465 afy. A small canal can divert water to the hatchery from the main canal from the powerhouse, below the point where the City diverts water. This fish hatchery is currently not in use.

3.3 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Since the City's diversion/intake facilities were designed and constructed to intake 6,300 afy at a maximum rate of 15 cfs when needed, as permitted in the 1967 permit, no new physical construction at the diversion/intake site or modification of the facilities are proposed as part of this project.

3.4 REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Apart from the permit required for this project, which is the amended water permit from the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, to extend the time (from 2005 to 2022) for the City to put the full amount (6,300 afy) of the authorized diversion from Fall Creek to beneficial use, the Department of Fish and Game has commented regarding Fish and Game Code Section 1602 for streambed alteration notification requirements. The City will notify the Department of Fish and Game of its ongoing SWRCB permitted water diversions, if required by law. No construction or physical alteration of the site is proposed; therefore, no construction-related permits will be needed.

3.5 RELATIONSHIP OF PROJECT TO OTHER PLANS AND PROJECTS

CITY OF YREKA GENERAL PLAN

As noted above, The *City of Yreka General Plan* [General Plan] is the fundamental document governing land use development within the incorporated areas of the City. The last comprehensive update of the *General Plan* was adopted on December 18, 2003 (City Council

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Resolution No. 2457). An Environmental Impact Report was prepared and certified on that date by the City (SCH No. 2002032122).

The City's General Plan includes numerous goals and policies pertaining to Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Parks and Recreation, Noise, Public Health and Safety and Public Facilities. The General Plan includes growth projections, including projections into the year 2022. These projections are discussed in the following Environmental Checklist, especially in Section 4-10, Land Use and Planning.

The EIR for the General Plan update evaluated the impacts of anticipated development in the City of Yreka to the year 2022. The growth projections and scope of the EIR assumed that the City would retain its water rights, which would sustain anticipated growth and municipal development and help meet regional housing needs and encourage commercial and industrial development for job creation. As discussed in the following Initial Study, the analysis of the impacts of the proposed extension of time for the City to utilize the full amount of 6,300 afy related to development and buildout in the City of Yreka per the General Plan was already evaluated in the General Plan Update EIR. The growth and development projections of the General Plan also validate the need for extending the time to put the full authorized amount of 6,300 afy of water to full beneficial use in order for the City to accommodate urban growth within the city limits.

FALL CREEK WATER PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Yreka recently completed an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to evaluate proposed improvements of portions of the City's water system. The City has applied for funding assistance through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to make improvements in the system. The proposed improvements include modifications and improvements to the City's existing water system. These components of the project will occur within existing structures or facilities and will not result in either a direct or indirect physical change in the environment. Those project components are primarily intended to meet regulations associated with the Long-Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, and to achieve more efficient use of the resource. Components of the project include:

- New pump at the existing pump station.
- Replacement of the filter control panel and upgrade of the SCADA system.
- Addition of magnetic flow meters and modulating butterfly valves.
- Replace manually controlled valve with modulating butterfly valve.
- Installation of a double block and bleed separation between raw and treated water mains.
- Addition of two new filters.
- Addition an emergency power generator.
- Upgrade of the existing Butcher Hill tank foundation.
- Upgrade of the existing distribution system telemetry.
- Land and/or easement acquisitions.
- Recycling components, including the 2.5 MG clear well and a backwash recycle system.

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

None of these improvements involve modifications of the City's existing facilities at the point of diversion/intake at Fall Creek.

KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT FERC LICENSING

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is reviewing PacifiCorp's Klamath Hydroelectric Project, for which the company has filed an application with the Federal Energy Commission for relicensing of hydroelectric facilities, including dams, located along the Klamath River. The document entitled *Final Environmental Impact Statement for Hydropower License* [Klamath Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2082-027, dated November 2007], addresses licensing and related environmental issues. Of particular concern to the City of Yreka's Fall Creek water source are the questions of: 1) whether PacifiCorp's Fall Creek power plant and water diversions related to Fall Creek will continue, change, or be terminated, and 2) whether Iron Gate Dam will be removed, which would result in Fall Creek flowing directly into the Klamath River rather than the reservoir.

At the time of preparing this Initial Study for the City of Yreka's Fall Creek water permit, it is speculative to guess what may or may not be approved and/or required by FERC and other agencies, and what may happen or not relative to PacifiCorp's facilities and operations. The baseline condition relative to the CEQA review of the City's Fall Creek water permit project is that PacifiCorp is diverting and will continue to divert the water that it does to and from Fall Creek for its Fall Creek power plant operation, and that Iron Gate Dam will continue to exist below the confluence of Fall Creek, resulting in Fall Creek flowing directly into the reservoir.

EFFECT OF KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT UPON CITY'S PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

At the time of consideration by the State Water Resources Control Board of the City's Petition for Extension of Time, the Secretary of the Interior is conducting a review for the purpose of making a determination of whether or not there will be removal of up to four dams which are in place on the Klamath River. The City contends that this proposed action has no significant effect upon the City's pending Petition for Extension of Time.

The Secretary's Determination is for the purpose of implementing the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA) and the related Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA), which were signed on February 18, 2010. The KHSA is an agreement among a collection of federal, state and other agencies to study the potential removal of four dams owned by PacifiCorp on the Klamath River, including Iron Gate Dam. Should a decision be made to remove facilities, the agreement provides direction for undertaking the removal. The KBRA, which was prepared and signed concurrently with the KHSA, addresses a range of resource restoration issues in the Klamath Basin, including some which are directly related to the removal of facilities as proposed in the KHSA. If the proposal to remove any or all of the facilities on the Klamath River is approved, the target date established in the KHSA to begin decommissioning of the facilities is January 1, 2020. The PacifiCorp Fall Creek Powerhouse and related water supply facilities (e.g., Spring Creek and Fall Creek diversions), which also provide water used to supply the City's water system, are not proposed to be removed as a result of the KHSA.

It is noteworthy that, because of the relationship of the City's Fall Creek water rights and system to the Klamath River facilities (due mainly to the circumstances that Fall Creek flows directly into

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Iron Gate Reservoir and the City's main water supply line crosses beneath the reservoir), the City's water system receives special recognition in the KHSA. Under KHSA Section 7.2.3, Assessment and Mitigation of Potential Impacts to the City of Yreka, the agreement states that the parties understand that actions related to the settlement may affect the City and agree to specific provisions. (KHSA page 46) For example:

- A. The Parties collectively and each Party individually shall agree not to oppose the City of Yreka's continued use of California State Water Right Permit 15379, which provides for the diversion of up to 15 cfs for municipal uses by the City of Yreka.

The KHSA includes additional provisions concerning potential impacts to the City's water supply facilities and ability to divert water consistent with its Water Right Permit 15379. For example:

- C. As part of implementation of this Settlement, the Secretary [U.S. Department of Interior] shall conduct an assessment of the potential need for fish screens on the City of Yreka's Fall Creek diversion facilities. If the assessment finds that installation of fish screens is necessary, as a result of implementation of this Settlement, in order to meet regulatory requirements and screening criteria, construction of the required fish screens, including, but not limited to, necessary costs to preserve City facilities with additional species protection, shall be funded through the California Bond Measure pursuant to Section 4.2.3, or through other appropriate sources. (KHSA page 47)

A document under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) entitled, *Klamath Facilities Removal Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report* is being prepared. The lead agencies for that document are the U.S. Department of the Interior (through the Bureau of Reclamation) for the NEPA aspects of the process and the California Department of Fish and Game for the CEQA aspects. It is unknown at this time when that document will be certified, and, in any event, it is unlikely that action affecting the area of diversion of the City's water right will occur earlier than 2019 (cf., *Klamath Facilities Removal Public Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report*, State Clearinghouse Number 2010062060, Executive Summary, ES-6.2; and Chapter 3 – Affected Environment-Environmental Consequences, Section 3.2 Water Quality, page 3.2-88). For that reason, there is no significant change warranting greater environmental review of the City's petition to the State Water Board for an extension of time concerning the City's water permit as there is no change in the project at this time.

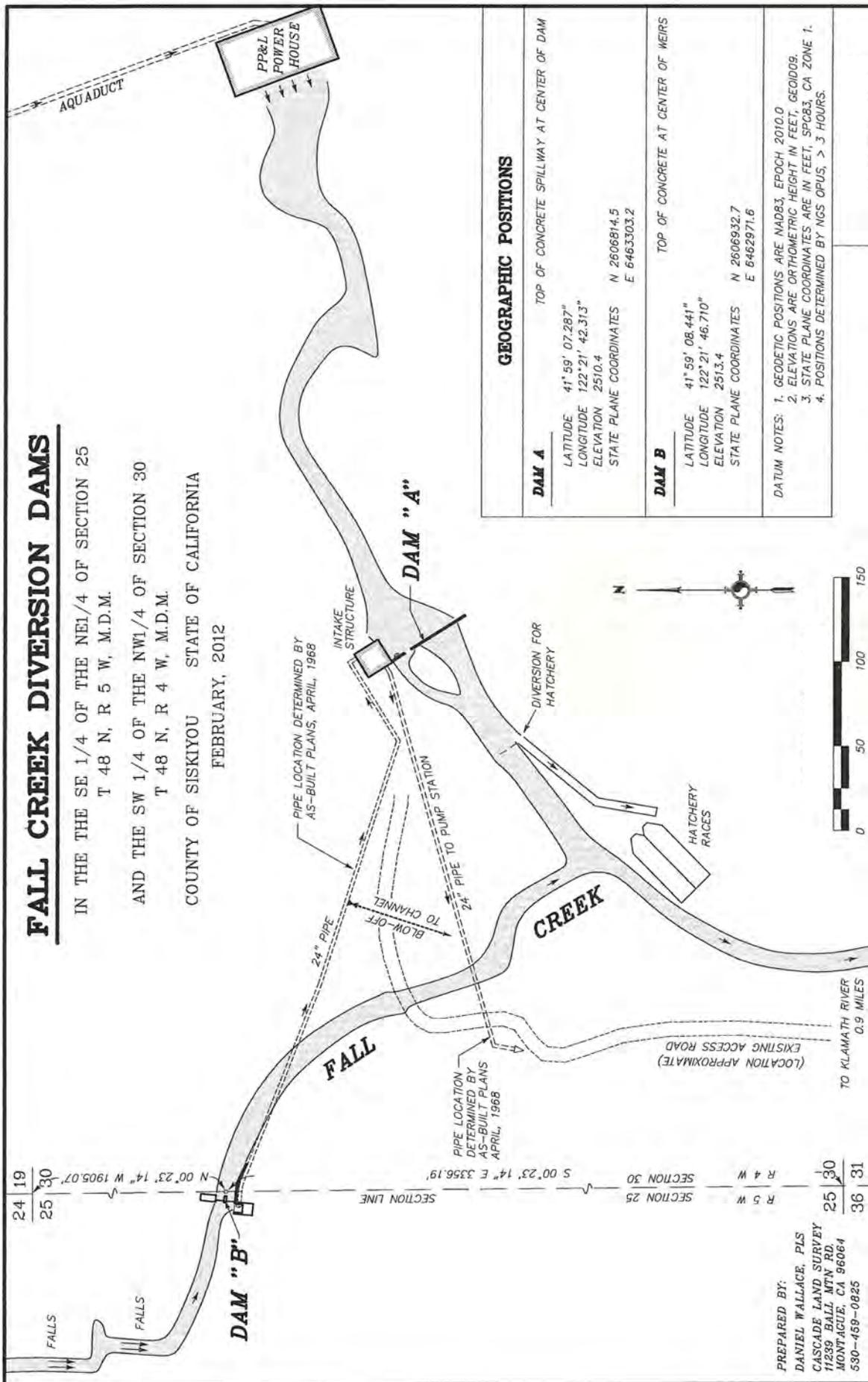


Figure 3.0-1c
Fall Creek Diversion Facilities: Geographic Positions



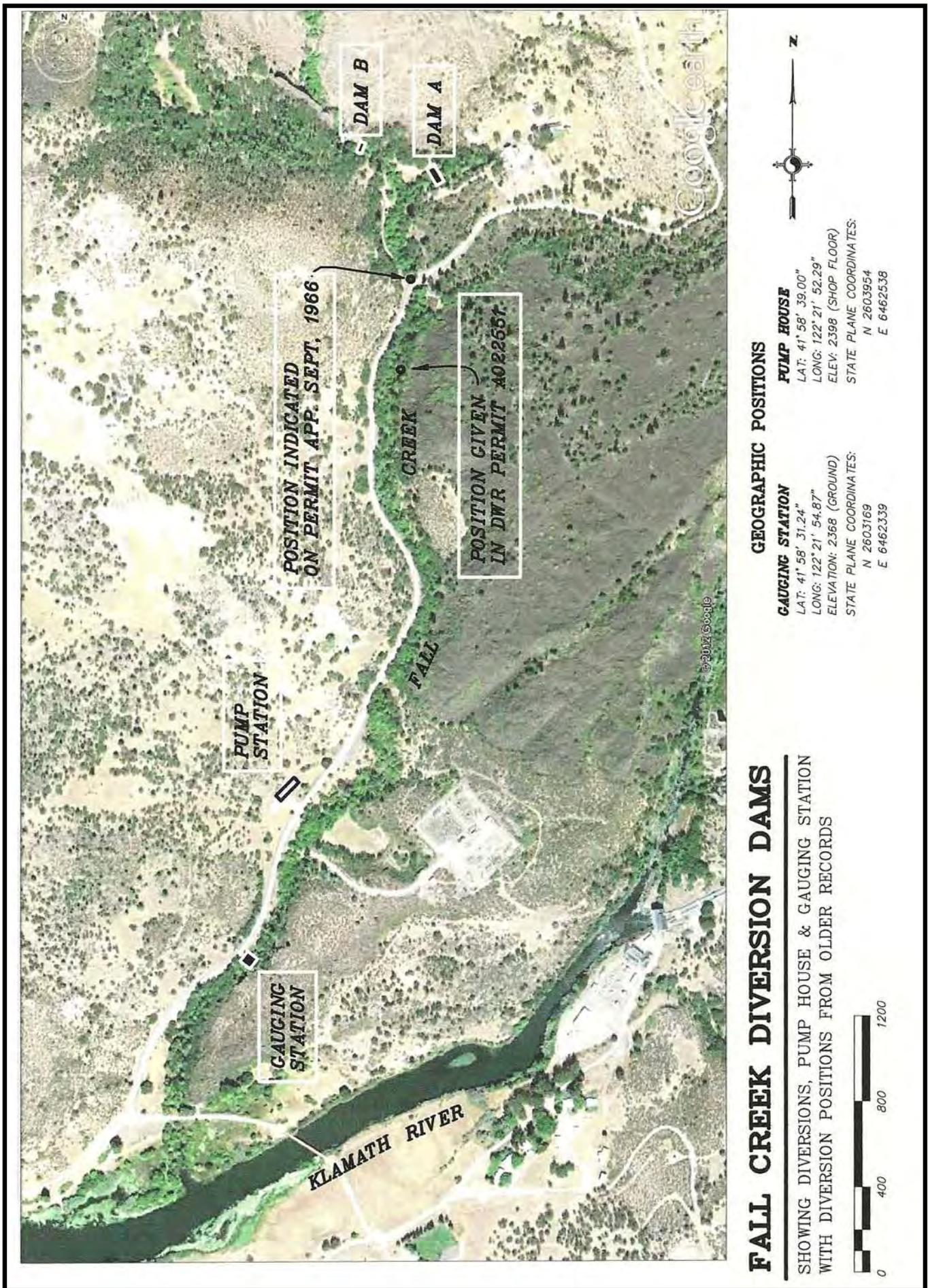
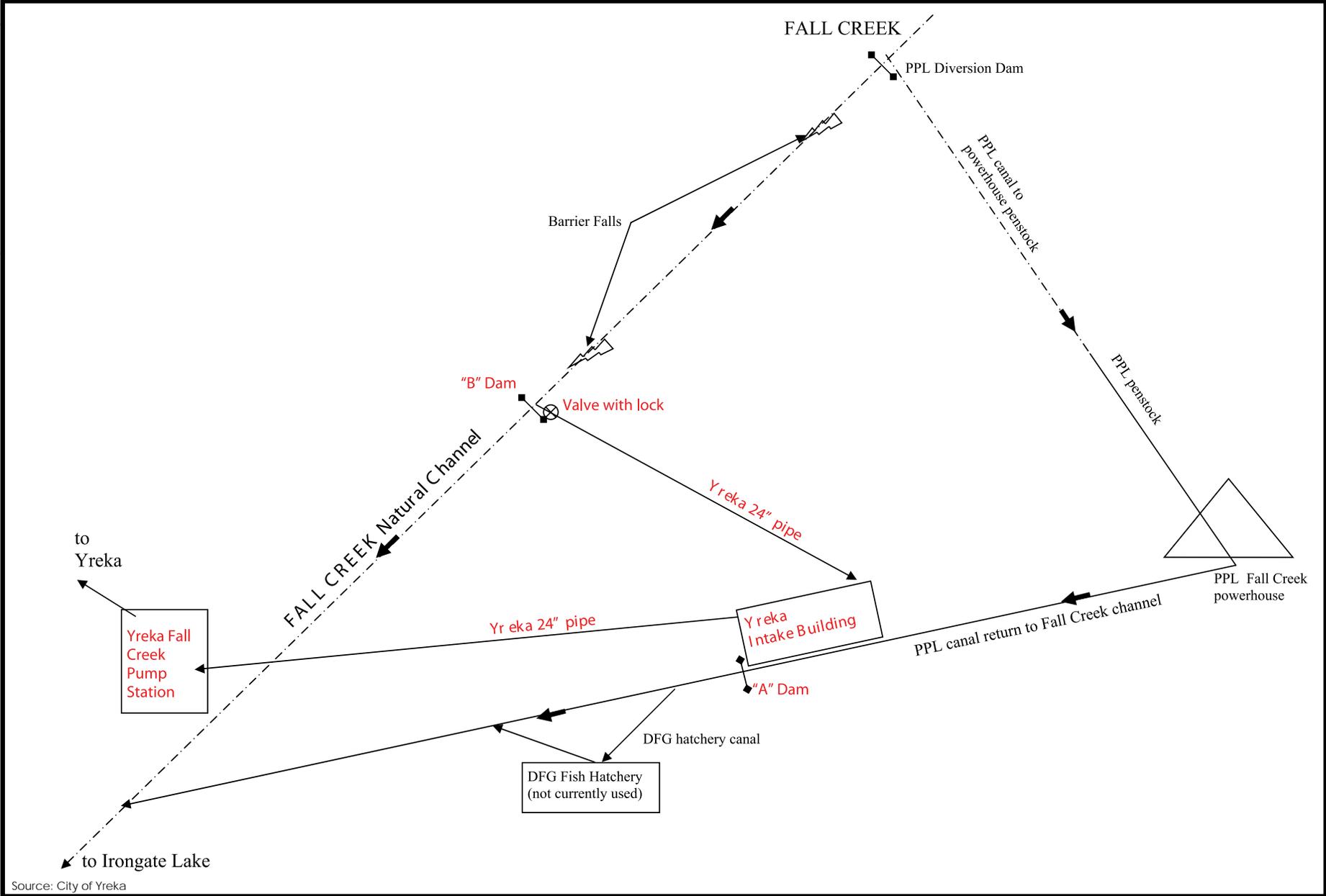


Figure 3.0-1d
 Fall Creek Diversion Facilities: Previously Reported Positions





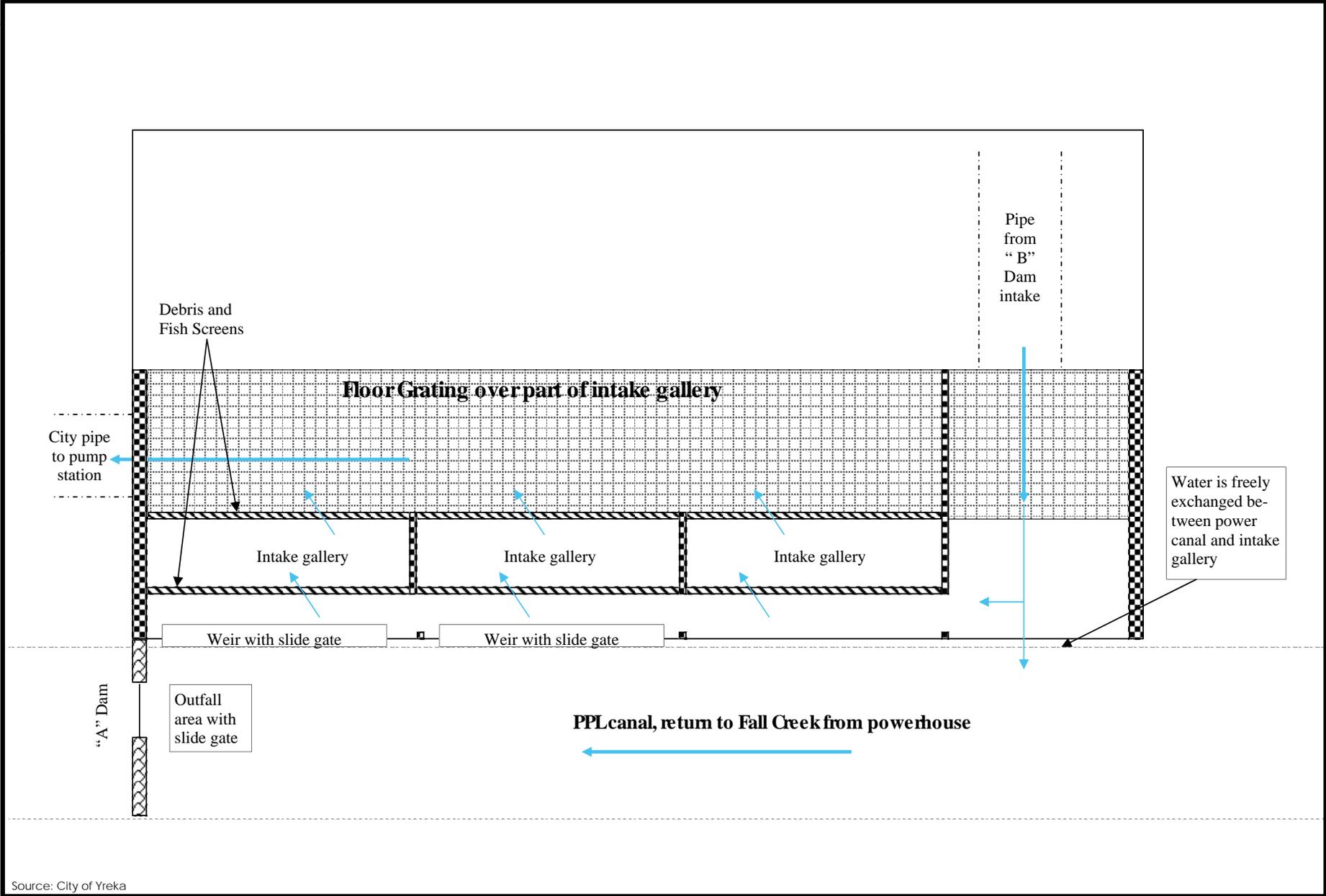
Source: City of Yreka

Not to Scale



Figure 3.0-2a
Fall Creek Intake Facilities





Source: City of Yreka

Not to Scale



Figure 3.0-2b
Fall Creek Intake Building



4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

The diversion of water from Fall Creek by the City of Yreka takes place in a relatively remote area along the creek approximately one mile north from where Fall Creek flows into Iron Gate Reservoir and the Klamath River, and approximately 300 feet north of Copco Road. The intake site is located in a canyon below where Fall Creek cascades down a steep escarpment, and below the penstock and the PacifiCorp powerhouse, which are supplied by water diverted upstream from Fall Creek. Other improvements in the vicinity, in addition to the powerhouse, include a California Fish and Game fish hatchery that is currently not in use, and a small day-use picnic site and trail. The components of the City's water diversion system, including the intake structure that covers the fish screens and pipeline intake, are not readily visible from a public right of way (i.e., Copco Road).

The project consists of the proposed extension by the State Water Board of previously permitted water rights to the City of Yreka, with an extended amount of time with which to fully utilize the full amount of 6,300 acre feet per year (afy) that was permitted in the City's water permit granted in 1967. No new facilities or physical modification of the existing diversion works, or any other physical changes at the site, are proposed.

Potential impacts concerning aesthetics related to planned development within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, were addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The diversion site is not readily visible to the public and the project (i.e., the extension of time in which to put the authorized diversion to maximum beneficial use) has no physical components that would alter the appearance of the stream or existing diversion system.
- b) No impact. The project is not near a scenic highway and the project has no components that would noticeably alter the appearance of the existing diversion system.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

- c) No impact. The project has no features that would noticeably alter the appearance of the existing diversion system and thereby degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.
- d) No impact. The project does not propose to add any new light features or components that would add glare to the existing diversion facility.

Mitigation Measure:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Relating to Aesthetics:

The proposed project will have **no impact** concerning visual resources.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

2. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant 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) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

The City’s diversion of water from Fall Creek takes place in a relatively remote area along the creek approximately one mile from where Fall Creek flows into the Klamath River at a point where the river is inundated by Iron Gate Reservoir. The intake site is located in a rugged canyon below where Fall Creek cascades down a steep escarpment. The only agricultural use in the immediate vicinity is dispersed rangeland cattle grazing. The proposed project will not physically expand the existing diversion and intake system.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

a-c) The project is the extension of time in which to put the City’s permitted water diversion to full beneficial use for municipal and industrial purposes within the authorized place of use. The place of use, which is generally coterminous with the City’s incorporated lands, does include Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide importance as identified in the 2000 Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program GIS data (www.consv.ca.gov). Impacts on agricultural resources from development pursuant to the General Plan was considered in the General Plan Update EIR. Additionally, there are no sites on lands with a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, there is no impact to agricultural resources as a result of the proposed extension of time relative to the use of water.

Conclusions Relating to Agricultural Resources:

The project will have **no impact** to agricultural resources.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
3. AIR QUALITY. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

Overview:

The City of Yreka is located in a region identified as the Northeastern Plateau Air Basin, which principally includes Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties. The larger air basin is divided into local air districts, which are charged with the responsibility of implementing air quality programs. The local air quality agency affecting Yreka is the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District (SCAPCD). Within the SCAPCD, the primary source of air pollution is the motor vehicle. In response to this source of pollutants, the state legislature adopted the California Clean Air Act, which requires local air districts to develop measures to reduce emissions from mobile sources.

Yreka and Siskiyou County have not been identified as having significant air quality problems and are considered to be in full attainment for all Federal and State Air Quality Standards, except for particulate matter (i.e., PM₁₀). The County does not have an attainment plan or maintenance plan. In order to reduce particulate matter, the City has adopted *Program CO.5.B* of the City's Conservation, Open Space and Recreation Element:

"Work with the Siskiyou County Air Quality Management District in efforts to maintain air quality standards and to minimize air quality impacts associated with new development".

The City of Yreka's diversion/intake facility operates by gravity. The project consists of an extension in time per the City's 1967 water permit in which to utilize the full allocation of 6,300 afy. No new facilities or physical modification of the existing diversion works, or any other physical changes at the site, are proposed or needed for the full diversion. No component of the proposed project will produce a noteworthy increase in the operation of maintenance vehicles or operation of other machinery. The intake facility has a small solar panel for electric devices. The only vehicle emissions directly related to the diversion facility is an occasional maintenance vehicle that services the facility, which is currently required and would continue even if the project were not approved. In other words, the operations and maintenance of the existing diversion facilities are part of the baseline condition.

The extension of time in which to put the permitted amount of water to full beneficial use will not require construction at the diversion site; therefore, there will be no short-term air quality impacts related to construction equipment.

Potential impacts concerning air quality related to planned development within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, was addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Since the project does not involve air emissions, there will be no impact on greenhouse gas emissions related to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), or guidelines for the feasible mitigation of GHG emissions and the effects of GHG emissions pursuant to Senate Bill 97. (See **Section 7, Greenhouse Gases**)

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project will not result in an increase in air emissions that would conflict with or obstruct the implementation of an applicable air quality plan.
- b) No impact. The project will not result in an increase of air emissions that would violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.
- c) No impact. No component of the project will cause an increase of air emissions that would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment.
- d) No impact. The project will not result in an increase in air emissions that would expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.
- e) No impact. The project will not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people, nor will the project be located in an area subject to objectionable odors.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Air Quality:

The project will have **no impact** on air quality.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
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 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"/>
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"/>

Overview:

The project consists of a request for an extension of permitted time (to the year 2022) in which the City of Yreka can put to beneficial use the full amount of water (6,300 acre feet per year) diverted from Fall Creek as was permitted under the City's 1967 permit.

The context of evaluating potential impacts to biological resources relative to the City's request may be said to concern the difference in impacts from a "baseline" amount of water that was diverted per year (that is, the maximum amount of acre feet per year that the City historically diverted prior to December 2005) compared to the impacts that could result from the diversion of the full amount that is being requested (in spite of the fact that the City was already authorized to divert the full amount). Based on the City's meter records for 2004, as well as its 2004 Progress Report submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, the City diverted up to 3,132 acre-feet from Fall Creek in 2004. The 1967 water permit granted the City a water right to divert up to a maximum of 6,300 acre feet per year (afy) at a rate of up to 15 cfs. Therefore, there is a

'difference' of up to 3,168 afy between the "baseline" of 3,132 afy and the full amount of 6,300 afy that was approved in 1967.

In terms the potential impacts of diversion of water on biological resources, as will be explained below, the issue of the amount of acre feet of water per year to be diverted is not the primary environmental concern related to stream diversion. Whether the cumulative amount to be diverted is 6,300 afy or less, the primary environmental factor relating to biological resources is the amount of stream flow and the functional quality of that flow relative to biological resources. In other words, the primary environmental concern affecting biological resources has to do with flow as measured in cubic feet per second, not the cumulative amount of water that flows in or is diverted from the stream, which is typically quantified as acre feet per year.

The City's water permit allows the City to divert up to 15 cfs from Fall Creek, with a noted exception that the permit is subject to a condition that requires the City to bypass a minimum flow to mitigate potential biological impacts. In December 1966, the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) protested the City's Fall Creek application to appropriate water from Fall Creek. One condition upon which DFG proposed to dismiss its protest was that the City agree to bypass a minimum flow of 15 cfs, or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs. In January 1967, the City agreed to that condition with the adoption of Resolution No. 880. Since May 1967 when the City's Fall Creek permit was issued, the permit has contained the condition for minimum bypass flow. The City is not seeking a change in that condition. Therefore, the following analysis assumes that there will continue to be a minimum flow requirement of 15 cfs, or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs.

The following analysis utilizes a method known as the "Tennant Method" (which is also known as the "Montana Method") to evaluate potential impacts of the project on biological resources related to stream flow. The Tennant Method (Tennant, 1976) is a popular methodology that is often used to identify and rate the functional quality of stream flows that maintain the habitat and health of aquatic and riparian habitat. This method is based on an observed correlation between habitat conditions and the flow regime, expressed as a percentage of the mean average annual flow, or AAF, (Tennant 1976). The method was originally developed empirically from data on a variety of streams primarily inhabited by coldwater fish species such as salmon and trout. The Tennant Method is widely recognized and accepted by agencies as a reconnaissance-level, project planning methodology.

Application of the Tennant Method for analyzing the potential impacts of stream flow modification on Fall Creek is appropriate in this case because: it can be used with estimated hydrologic data; it addresses broad aquatic ecosystem impacts (including instream, floodplain, and riparian habitats); and it is capable of detecting relative levels of impacts for making determinations of significance (Tennant 1976).

The Tennant Method relies on long-term stream gage data or synthetic flow data to obtain a representation of water year variability and annual flows. Therefore, it incorporates the range and variability of water years in its computations through use of flow exceedance data. **Table 4.0-1** below provides the criteria developed by Tennant based on percentages of mean annual flow for different levels of instream habitat protection.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Table 4.0-1
Instream flow regimens for fish, wildlife, recreation, and related environmental resources as a function of average annual flow (AAF)

Functional Flow Quality	Oct-Mar % AAF	Apr-Sep % AAF
Flushing/maximum	200%	NA
Optimum Range	60% to 100% average flow	
Outstanding	40%	60%
Excellent	30%	50%
Good	20%	40%
Fair/degrading	10%	30%
Poor/minimum	10%	10%
Severe degradation	<10%	<10%

Source: Tennant, D.L. 1976. Fisheries 1(4): 6-10.

For example, according to Tennant (1976), 50% or greater of mean average annual flow of a particular stream is considered to be a base flow that supports “excellent” to “outstanding” habitat for most aquatic life forms during their principal periods of growth (i.e., April through September). Channel widths, depths, and water velocities at such flows will provide “outstanding” aquatic habitat for fish and invertebrates. Riffles, runs, and pools typically will carry sufficient flows and depths to provide necessary feeding, rearing, migration, and spawning habitats for fish and other aquatic animals. Stream banks will provide cover for fish and safe denning areas for wildlife, and riparian vegetation will have access to water. Water temperatures at flows of 60% or more of mean annual average flow are also considered to not be limiting for most coldwater fisheries. In the October through March period, flows of 30% of the average annual flow are still considered “excellent” in terms of overall functional quality. (Tennant 1976)

In order to use the Tennant Method as a tool to identify and rate potential impacts to aquatic habitat and related biological resources, a threshold for significant impact must be defined. In this evaluation concerning the City of Yreka’s diversion from Fall Creek, the threshold of significance is recognized as the degree to which flow alteration may result in a functional flow quality rating less than “good”. For the purposes of this evaluation, a threshold of 40% of AAF in the April-September semester and 20% AAF in the October-March semester is considered as the thresholds against which the proposed project’s effect on stream flow is compared, since those flow levels would generally still maintain a high-quality (i.e., good) functional habitat, per the Tennant Method, as indicated in **Table 4.0-1**.

Stream flow information is available for Fall Creek from USGS gage information obtained in water years from 1933 to 1959 from a gage (USGS gage no. 115120000) that was located on Fall Creek near Copco (i.e., near Iron Gate Reservoir). **Table 4.0-2** below depicts monthly mean average discharge statistics and the annual average in cubic feet per second (cfs), as reported from gage data. Since these measurements were made prior to the City initiating its Fall Creek diversion project per its 1967 permit, this information provides a portrayal of stream flow without that diversion. These measurements were taken after installation of the PacifiCorp powerhouse project, it is apparent that these measurements include the diversion of water from Spring Creek into Fall Creek, and the measurements were made after the point where the powerhouse canal returns water to Fall Creek.

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Based on the USGS data, it is observed that the mean annual average flow (AAF) for Fall Creek is 40 cfs. As will be seen, this is an important baseline number for the Tennant Method analysis.

The City already has the ability to divert from Fall Creek up to 15 cfs, excepting the limitation noted above that it must bypass a minimum flow of 15 cfs, or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs. For the initial purposes of this analysis, the impacts from a “sustained” average diversion of 15 cfs are evaluated. However, that isn’t necessarily a practical assumption because a constant rate of 15 cfs would greatly exceed the proposed amount of 6,300 afy. Nevertheless, an evaluation of the diversion of 15 cfs relative to the average annual mean flow of Fall Creek is evaluated as the “most intensive” scenario.

Table 4.0-2
Fall Creek Mean Monthly Discharge Averages: 1933-1959
(In cubic feet per second – cfs.)

October	November	December	January	February	March	
35	37	43	46	51	49	
April	May	June	July	August	September	Annual Average
45	38	35	34	33	34	40

Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Final EIS for Klamath Hydropower License, November 2007

If the City’s use of water from Fall Creek resulted in a constant diversion of 15 cfs, relative to the gage information described above, the subtraction of 15 cfs would suggest the monthly averages indicated in **Table 4.0-3** below. It is noted that, for all months indicated, the average flow following diversion would preserve a remaining flow in excess of the minimum 15 cfs that the City is required to release per its permit condition. (Concerns with periods of less-than-average flows are discussed below.)

Table 4.0-3
Fall Creek Estimated Average Flows With Sustained 15 cfs Diversion
In cubic feet per second – cfs.

(Percentage of the “natural” annual average of 40 cfs shown in parenthesis.)

October	November	December	January	February	March	
20 (50%)	22 (55%)	28 (70%)	31 (77%)	36 (90%)	34 (85%)	
April	May	June	July	August	September	Annual Average
30 (75%)	23 (57%)	20 (50%)	19 (47%)	18 (45%)	19 (47%)	25 (62%)

When we compare the resulting averages to the Tennant Method criteria illustrated on **Table 4.0-1**, we note that, in the semester of October-March, the resulting flows in all months exceed an “outstanding” rating and would certainly exceed the threshold of 20% of the mean average annual flow by a wide margin.

In the April-September semester, there are three months (i.e., April, May and June) when the resulting flows after diversion of 15 cfs would be 50% of AAF or greater and would therefore be rated “excellent”. There would, however, be three months when the resulting flows would be less than 50% of AAF (July, August and September), resulting in a Tennant Method rating within the

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“good” range, but slightly less than “excellent”. The resulting flows are still considerably higher than the significance threshold of 40% AAF.

While the “most extreme” scenario used above is helpful, that scenario does not represent the reality of how the City will manage its diversion from Fall Creek. As noted above, although the City is and would continue to be conditionally authorized to divert up to 15 cfs at any one time, the City would not sustain a 15 cfs flow for 24 hours, 7 days a week, even in the summer months. If, for example, on any given summer day the City was to divert 15 cfs for 12 hours in the morning and afternoon and then cut back at night to an average of 10 cfs for 12 hours, the 24-hour average would equate to 12.5 cfs. If an average daily diversion at a rate of 12.5 cfs was extended for the months of July, August and September, the subsequent flow of Fall Creek below the diversion point would equate to the following averages:

July	21.5 cfs (53% of the average annual flow (AAF) of 40 cfs)
August	20.5 cfs (51% of AAF)
September	21.5 cfs (53% of AAF)

Those three months are the most problematic in terms of how sustained flows of up to 15 cfs relate to a threshold of 50% of the annual average flow of 40 cfs, which under the Tennant Method would still maintain “excellent” functional flow quality concerning biological resources. However, relative to average monthly and annual flows under more realistic diversion scenarios, the diversions would not exceed the significance thresholds.

It must again be emphasized that the analysis above, which is based on a theoretical sustained diversion of 15 cfs, is a “worse-case” and hypothetically extreme scenario. Such a sustained yield would greatly exceed the quantity component of the project, which is the eventual diversion of up to 6,300 afy. That is, if the City’s maximum diversion rate of 15 cfs was sustained throughout the year, 24/7, the amount of diversion would equate to approximately 10,859.5 afy. Therefore, the City could not actually divert a sustained flow of 15 cfs.

The application of the Tennant Method indicates that, based on an average year, the impacts to biological resources from diverting 6,300 afy (or, said another way, of diverting 3,168 afy in addition to a baseline of 3,132 afy) would be less than significant. The biological functions of Fall Creek, according to the Tennant methodology, will continue to be very good, if not excellent. Such a conclusion acknowledges and ultimately relies upon the limiting conditions that are already required and that will be continued with the permit to ensure that adequate flows are maintained to prevent significant adverse impacts to the stream environment at times of less-than-average flows. As noted, the City’s permit includes the condition that requires the City to bypass a minimum flow of 15 cfs, or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs. That provision is a component of the baseline condition and would continue to be applicable to the diversion of up to 6,300 afy.

For example, the USGS gage information used for this analysis indicates that, during the water years 1933 to 1959, the historic minimum monthly average recorded for the month of August reached a low of 27 cfs. At a flow of 27 cfs, the permit condition would allow the City to divert not more than 12 cfs (not up to 15 cfs as otherwise permitted) to maintain a minimum stream flow of 15 cfs.

Therefore, even under stream flow conditions that may be less than average, mitigating permit provisions are already in place that limit the impacts to biological resources that may result from the City’s diversion from Fall Creek to levels that are less than significant.

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In addition to the Tennant Method analysis of general functional flow quality and related stream habitat, site-specific issues concerning biological resources have been considered. PMC Senior Biologist Dale Pooley met with City of Yreka Water Manager Rob Taylor to tour the City's water supply facilities and assess the proposed project's potential impacts on special-status species and sensitive habitats. During the site visit, facilities and operations were observed and photo-documented. Included in the review were the water system's delivery pipe route, pump station and filtration/treatment equipment, and two supply diversion and intake structures – one at the foot of the Lower Barrier Falls on Fall Creek, and one at PacifiCorp's powerhouse diversion channel ("power canal"). Special attention was paid to the structure and function of the four-panel fish screen apparatus in place in front of the intake structure on the power plant canal.

During the time of the site visit, no fish species of any kind were observed either in the power canal or at the stretch of Fall Creek below the Lower Barrier Falls. The water in the streams and the system was swift-moving at that time of year, and very clear with low turbidity to a depth of at least 18" to 24". The entire field assessment lasted approximately four hours.

There was a minor amount of algal and other vegetative debris buildup present upon the diversion screens during the site visit, which afforded the observing biologist a demonstration of the cleaning process performed by Mr. Taylor. Identical replacement screens, stored in the shed enclosing the intake facilities, were placed behind the screens to be removed prior to the removal of the functioning screens for cleaning. Clean screens are placed behind the dirty screens during replacement so that any debris that falls from the dirty screen as it is removed will be captured and not pulled into the intake where it could plug instrumentation. Once the replacement screens were installed, the old ones were removed such that at no time during the cleaning operation were the intakes unscreened to incoming water. The old screens were then cleaned manually using scrub brushes and water, and were left in a clean, debris-free state in the shed for the next change-out event.

Following the assessment at the diversion site, the PMC biologist and Mr. Taylor reconvened at the City Corporation Yard offices and viewed the system's technical and engineering drawings for further explanation and clarification of the system's specifications and layout, including the various components' dates of construction and current "as-built" configurations.

The Klamath River supports Coho salmon, a federally and state listed threatened species. However, under the baseline environmental conditions, which include the existence of Iron Gate Dam below the confluence of Fall Creek with the river, there is no Coho salmon habitat affected by the Fall Creek project.

Two fish species that have historic records of occurrence in the vicinity of the City's water supply intake are listed as endangered under both the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA): the Lost River sucker (*Deltistes luxatus*) and the shortnose sucker (*Chasmistes brevirostris*). According to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)'s California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB), CDFG staff detected shortnose suckers in Copco Reservoir and upstream in the Klamath River in the 1990s, and Lost River suckers from Iron Gate Reservoir to upstream of Copco Reservoir in the 1980s. The trend in these populations was described as "decreasing", and no Lost River suckers were detected during subsequent surveys in 1990 (CDFG 2008).

As Lost River suckers are not native to the Klamath River below the Klamath Basin in Oregon, CDFG officials have postulated that the construction of the reservoirs created an "adult" habitat for the long-lived species that did not formerly exist, and lack of adequate spawning habitat in the river

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channel between the reservoirs, low recruitment, continued declining water quality from upstream sources, and predation by other fish – most notably the exotic yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*) – have all contributed to the steady decline of any local populations.

Even while there is inadequate spawning habitat either upstream or downstream of the City's water intake facilities for these listed sucker species (adults spend their lives in the quiet lake waters feeding on detritus and zooplankton), the City's intake structure is fitted with fish screens of galvanized, 16-gauge, 4-per-inch mesh that are in place all year long to protect against the entrainment of any fish species that could be present in either the PacifiCorp powerhouse bypass channel (power canal) or passed through the City's Fall Creek intake below the lower barrier falls. During regular manual cleaning and maintenance of the screens, as noted above, replacement screens are positioned behind the screens to be removed and cleaned such that at no time are the intake facilities in an "un-screened" state.

The "proposed project" (i.e., the extension of time to put the authorized amount of water to be diverted to full beneficial use) will not alter the intake structure or the operational means by which the existing intake facilities are screened. Because the project does not propose any new facilities or affect any special-status species or sensitive habitats, and the incorporated protective equipment of the existing facilities is in place and adequately operational to prevent any take of special-status species, the proposed project would have no impact upon the noted biological resources.

As discussed in Section 3.5 above under "Relationship of Project to Other Plans and Projects", at the time of consideration by the State Water Board of the City's Petition for Extension of Time, the Secretary of the Interior is conducting a review for the purpose of making a determination of whether or not there will be removal of up to four existing dams on the Klamath River, including Iron Gate Reservoir. The Secretary's Determination is for the purpose of implementing the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA) and the related Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA), which were signed on February 18, 2010. If the proposal to remove any or all of the facilities on the Klamath River is approved, the target date established in the KHSA to begin decommissioning of the facilities is January 1, 2020.

Under KHSA Section 7.2.3, Assessment and Mitigation of Potential Impacts to the City of Yreka, the agreement states that the parties understand that actions related to the settlement may affect the City's water source and agree to specific provisions. (KHSA page 46) For example:

- A. The Parties collectively and each Party individually shall agree not to oppose the City of Yreka's continued use of California State Water Right Permit 15379, which provides for the diversion of up to 15 cfs for municipal uses by the City of Yreka.

The KHSA includes additional provisions concerning potential impacts to the City's water supply facilities and ability to divert water consistent with its Water Right Permit 15379. For example:

- C. As part of implementation of this Settlement, the Secretary [U.S. Department of Interior] shall conduct an assessment of the potential need for fish screens on the City of Yreka's Fall Creek diversion facilities. If the assessment finds that installation of fish screens is necessary, as a result of implementation of this Settlement, in order to meet regulatory requirements and screening criteria, construction of the required fish screens, including, but not limited to, necessary costs to preserve City facilities with additional species protection, shall be funded through the California Bond Measure pursuant to Section 4.2.3, or through other appropriate sources. (KHSA page 47)

With regard to potential impacts on biological resources as a result of the City's petition to the State Water Board, the City contends that not only would it be speculative to consider whether or not Iron Gate Dam will be removed or that Coho salmon and other anadromous species might otherwise have access by passage to Fall Creek, the agencies that are party to the KHSA have agreed to have the issue and potential impacts studied sometime in the future and to develop related mitigation. Pursuant to the KHSA, it is not the City's responsibility to evaluate the ramifications of possible removal of Iron Gate Dam on the City's diversion of water, nor should the lack or delay of such studies interfere with the provisions of Water Right Permit 15379.

The proposed project will have no impact on special-status species or sensitive habitats as no new facilities are proposed, and the existing facilities, in place and operating since 1969, have not contributed, in and of themselves, to the decline or jeopardy of species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA).

Migratory Birds

Construction activities such as grading and tree and shrub removal during the breeding season can result in impacts to avian species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Accidental death of adult birds, eggs, or nestlings, or abandonment of nests caused by construction activities would be a violation of MBTA. However, as has been noted, no new construction is needed or proposed for the proposed project, and there will be no increased operational aspects of the project that would cause a disturbance of any nests.

Potential impacts concerning biological resources related to planned land use within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, was addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) Less than significant. As noted in the Overview discussion above, the project will have no impact on special status species. The analysis, using the Tennant Methodology, indicates that the diversion of 6,300 afy of water at the Fall Creek intake (or, in other words, the diversion of an additional 3,168 afy in addition to the City's "baseline" amount of 3,132 afy) will not have a significant impact on the "functional flow quality" of the stream below the point of diversion if the rate of diversion does not exceed 15 cfs. The Tennant Method is based on an observed correlation between habitat conditions and the flow regime, expressed as a percentage of the mean annual flow. As evaluated in the discussion above, on the basis of mean annual flow averages, the diversion would allow adequate stream flow to maintain healthy habitat conditions. The City will continue to utilize fish screens to protect against the entrainment of fish (including special species) that could be present in either the PacifiCorp powerhouse canal at the "A" dam, or passed through the City's Fall Creek intake by the "B" dam below the lower barrier falls.

Based on the Tennant Method analysis, diversion of 15 cfs up to 6,300 acre feet per year would result in a less-than-significant impact on biological resources, in part because the City's diversion permit has and will continue to have a permit condition that requires a minimum flow bypass of 15 cfs or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever it is less than 15 cfs. That requirement will ensure that the City's diversion of water will not significantly impact the aquatic and riparian ecosystem.

The Klamath River supports Coho salmon, a federally and state listed threatened species. However, under the baseline environmental conditions, which include the existence of Iron

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Gate Dam, there is no Coho salmon habitat affected by the Fall Creek project. As a result, the allocation of water and diversion from Fall Creek will have no impact on existing Coho salmon habitat.

- b) Less than significant. See (a) above. The project will not significantly impact riparian habitat on or below the project site.
- c) Less than significant. No construction or physical changes at the diversion site are proposed or needed to put the full amount of the permitted diversion to beneficial use. Also, see (a) above. The project will not impact wetlands or Waters of the U.S. as regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).
- d) Less than significant. See (a) above. Riparian habitat in the project area provides foraging and nesting opportunities for migratory birds. However, no physical construction is proposed as part of the project. Furthermore, as discussed above, the project will not result in diminished stream flows to the extent that nesting and other habitat would be significantly degraded.
- e) No impact. The proposed project will not conflict with any related policies or ordinances.
- f) No impact. There are no applicable habitat conservation plans in this area.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Biological Resources:

The impacts on biological resources that would result from an extension of time (i.e., from 2005 to 2022) for the City of Yreka to divert from Fall Creek the full amount of up to 6,300 afy as approved in 1967 (which may also be expressed as a diversion of 3,168 afy in addition to a baseline of 3,132 afy) under the current conditions of use will be **less than significant**. The City's water permit is limited to diversion of not more than 15 cfs and will continue to include the permit condition that the City will allow a minimum bypass flow of 15 cfs or the natural channel flow of the stream whenever the flow is less than 15 cfs. That requirement already serves to mitigate potential impact on biological resources as a result of the City's diversion. Furthermore, protective screening equipment at the existing intake structure is already adequate to prevent take of any special-status fish species.

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Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant 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 Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

Public Resources Code §21083.2 requires planning agencies to determine if a project may have a significant effect on historical resources or unique archaeological resources. The proposed project consists of an extension of time (i.e., from 2005 to the year 2022) under the City’s water permit to put to full beneficial use the previously-approved amount of 6,300 acre feet per year. No new facilities, diversion works, or other construction or site disturbance activities are proposed.

Potential impacts concerning cultural resources related to planned land use within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, was addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. No proposed ground disturbance or alteration of a structure that might be considered as having historic characteristics is proposed.
- b) No impact. No proposed ground disturbance that could impact archaeological resources is proposed.
- c) No impact. No proposed ground disturbance that could impact paleontological resources or unique geologic features is proposed.
- d) No impact. No proposed ground disturbance that could inadvertently disturb human remains.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Cultural Resources:

The project will have **no impact** on historical, archaeological, paleontological resources or human remains.

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death, involving:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

The proposed project consists of an extension of time (i.e., from 2005 to the year 2022) under the City's water permit to put to full beneficial use the previously-approved amount of 6,300 acre feet per year. The diversion of the water will continue to be from two small existing diversion dams; one located in Fall Creek and one on the existing water canal in which water is returned to Fall Creek from the existing PacifiCorp powerhouse. The City's diversion/intake structure and system already exists, was designed and built to accommodate the requested amount, and does not need to be expanded. The project does not include any new facilities, diversion works, or physical changes to the ground or stream course. Therefore, there are no CEQA issues that need to be considered concerning impacts to geology and soils.

Potential impacts concerning geology and soils related to planned development within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, was addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact for (i), (ii), or (iii). The project will not expose people or structures to potential risks related to seismic-related features including rupture of a known fault, strong seismic ground shaking, or seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, or landslides.
- b) No impact. There will be no construction activity or substantial changes in the environment that would impact soils or result in the loss of topsoil.
- c) No impact. There will be no construction activity or changes in the environment that would involve potential off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.
- d) No impact. There will be no construction, including construction on, or other disturbance of, expansive soils.
- e) No impact. The project does not involve the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Geology and Soils:

The project will have ***no impact*** related to geology and soils.

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
7. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gasses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

Since the project does not cause any new air emissions, there will be no impact on greenhouse gas emissions related to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), or guidelines for the feasible mitigation of GHG emissions and the effects of GHG emissions pursuant to Senate Bill 97.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project will not cause any construction activity or operational activity that will generate air emissions.
- b) No impact. The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Conclusions Relating to Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

Since the project will not generate air emission from construction or operation, there is **no impact** related to greenhouse gas emissions.

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Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a 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"/>

Overview:

A material is considered hazardous if it appears on a list of hazardous materials prepared by a federal, state, or local agency, or if it has characteristics defined as hazardous by such an agency. A hazardous material is defined in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) as follows:

A substance or combination of substances which, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may either (1) cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or environment when improperly

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treated, stored, transported or disposed of or otherwise managed. (California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 662601.10)

Chemical and physical properties cause a substance to be considered hazardous. Such properties include toxicity, ignitability, corrosivity, and reactivity. CCR, Title 22, Sections 66261.20-66261.24 define the aforementioned properties. The release of hazardous materials into the environment could potentially contaminate soils, surface water, and groundwater supplies.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, DTSC maintains a list of hazardous substance sites. This list, referred to as the "Cortese list", includes CALSITE hazardous material sites, sites with leaking underground storage tanks, and landfills with evidence of groundwater contamination. The most recent Cortese list, accessed via the internet database in October 2008, does not identify any hazardous materials sites in the vicinity of the City's Fall Creek diversion site.

No new facilities, diversion works, water treatment facilities, or other physical changes to the ground or stream course are proposed.

Potential impacts concerning hazards and hazardous materials related to planned land use within the City of Yreka, which may indirectly result from future use of water resources from Fall Creek, was addressed in the 2003 City of Yreka General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. No transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials will occur as a result of the proposed project.
- b) No impact. The project does not involve hazardous materials. The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through foreseeable upset or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) No impact. There will be no hazardous emissions from the project, and therefore the project will not have any effect on school sites. There are no public schools near the project water diversion site. There are public schools within the City of Yreka, but the water right timeline question has no components that would involve exposing school sites to hazards or hazardous materials.
- d) No impact. The project water diversion facility is not located on a site known and listed as having hazardous materials as noted by the most recent Cortese list. While the City of Yreka does contain sites that are listed, the proposed project will not directly involve or impact those sites.
- e) No impact. There are no airports within two miles of the site, and the project is not located within an airport land use plan area.
- f) No impact. There are no private air-strips within the vicinity of the project.
- g) No impact. There is no construction component of the project that could impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an emergency response plan or evacuation plan.

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- h) No impact. There is no component of the proposed project that would expose people or new structures to a risk related to wildland fires.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Hazardous Materials:

The project will have ***no impact*** related to hazardous materials.

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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?	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 a 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"/>

Overview:

The proposed project consists of an extension of time (i.e., from 2005 to the year 2022) under the City's water permit to complete full beneficial use of the originally-approved amount of 6,300 acre feet per year (afy). The City's diversion and intake facility is already designed and constructed to intake 6,300 afy at a rate of up to 15 cubic feet per second; therefore, no new diversion works or modifications of the facility are required or proposed as part of the City's request.

The City's water supply originates from Fall Creek, where gravity supplies water to the intake facility via diversion directly from the creek or from the canal that returns water to the creek from the PacifiCorp diversion through its power house. From the intake structure the water flows by gravity to the first pumping station located approximately 0.5 mile west of the intake. The water is pre-

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chlorinated at the pumping station and then pumped to the City's treatment plant near the City of Montague before being piped to the City of Yreka.

A portion of the water that eventually contributes to the City's Fall Creek water source comes from a diversion by PacifiCorp of water from Spring Creek into Fall Creek. This diversion is located on Bureau of Land Management-managed land on the Oregon side of the state line. Spring Creek, which has its source at Shoat Springs, is a tributary to Jenny Creek, which is located to the west of Fall Creek. Like Fall Creek, Jenny Creek also flows into Iron Gate Reservoir, which is an impoundment of the Klamath River. The diverted flow from Spring Creek is carried through a canal for 1.7 miles where it enters Fall Creek. Up to 16.5 cfs of flow is diverted by PacifiCorp from Spring Creek to Fall Creek.

The Fall Creek diversion dam is located approximately 1.5 miles from where the PacifiCorp Spring Creek diversion canal feeds into Fall Creek. The Fall Creek diversion dam diverts up to 50 cfs, including water from the Spring Creek diversion, into the canal and penstock that leads to the PacifiCorp powerhouse. PacifiCorp is required under its license to maintain a minimum flow of 0.5 cfs in Fall Creek below the diversion and a minimum flow of 15 cfs (or natural stream flow, whichever is less) in Fall Creek downstream of the powerhouse. The water in this diversion canal and penstock bypasses approximately 1.2 miles of Fall Creek. The powerhouse is located approximately one mile upstream from where Fall Creek flows into Iron Gate Reservoir. After the flow of water is used by PacifiCorp at the powerhouse, the water is directed to a small canal that flows back to the natural Fall Creek channel. It is on this canal that the City has developed its "A" dam, which diverts water into the City's intake structure.

As described in Section 3.0 above, the City has two small diversion facilities to supply its water system. The "A" Dam, noted above, diverts water to the City's intake building from the canal coming from the powerhouse. The "B" Dam is located on the natural creek channel of Fall Creek (above the point where the powerhouse canal returns water to the creek) and is capable of diverting water through a 24-inch pipe to the same intake as is otherwise supplied from the "A" Dam. From the City's intake building, water is transported by a 24-inch pipe approximately 0.5 mile to a pump station and then on to the City's other water treatment and storage tanks. Eventually, the water is supplied to the City, located approximately 23 miles to the southwest of the Fall Creek intake.

Below the City's diversion and intake building, between that intake and the point where the canal flows back into the natural Fall Creek Channel, there is a fish hatchery established by the Department of Fish and Game. A small canal can divert water to the hatchery from the main canal from the powerhouse, below the point where the City diverts water. This fish hatchery is currently not in use.

As discussed in **Section 4.4, Biological Resources**, stream flow information is available for Fall Creek from USGS gage information obtained in water years from 1933 to 1959 (summarized below). The mean annual flow for Fall Creek is 40 cfs. **Table 4.0-1** summarizes the mean annual flow on the basis of monthly average. The table depicts monthly discharge statistics in cubic feet per second (cfs). Since these measurements were made prior to the City initiating its Fall Creek diversion project, this information provides a portrayal of stream flow (based on mean annual average) without diversion. As noted in **Section 4.4**, since these measurements were taken after installation of the PacifiCorp powerhouse project, it is apparent that the measurements include the diversion of water from Spring Creek into Fall Creek, and that the measurements were made after the point where the powerhouse canal returns water to Fall Creek below the barrier falls. The measurements were taken prior to installation of the City's diversion/intake facilities in 1967.

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Table 4.0-2 (Reproduced)
Fall Creek Mean Monthly Discharge Averages: 1933-1959
(In cubic feet per second – cfs.)

October	November	December	January	February	March	
35	37	43	46	51	49	
April	May	June	July	August	September	Annual Average
45	38	35	34	33	34	40

Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Final EIS for Klamath Hydropower License, November 2007

The City of Yreka obtains its normal water supply from Fall Creek, based on a State water right that allows withdrawals at a rate of 15 cfs (9.7 MGD). According to the 2005 Master Water Plan, the City's current maximum daily demand is about 5.4 MGD, which equates to approximately 8.37 cfs.

The projected growth of the City of Yreka for the life of the City's General Plan was anticipated to be at a rate of between 1 and 2 percent annually [Page 1-4, General Plan Update, City of Yreka]. Like most north state cities, growth has been inconsistent; however, over the last two years the growth rate has been 1.26 percent, which is a slight reduction from the 1.76 percent experienced from 2007 to 2008. In the period between 1995 and 2008 the City approved 56 applications for subdivisions of land, creating approximately 280 residential parcels; approximately 50 commercial or industrial use parcels, and two condominium conversions totaling 32 residential units. Land use demands projected by the General Plan Update have averaged between 18 and 20 new buildings a year (both residential and commercial) over the past 14 years.

The City's future growth was fully analyzed in the environmental impact report (EIR) prepared for the General Plan (SCH# 2002032122) certified by the City Council on December 18, 2003, (Resolution of the City Council of the City of Yreka, Number 2457). The General Plan EIR analyzed the potential environmental impacts, including water supply impacts, resulting from City's anticipated long-range development through the year 2022 (EIR, pg. 3-1). Extending the time for the City to put its water to beneficial use will allow the City to develop in accordance with its long-range General Plan. This extension of time will not facilitate growth that was not already fully analyzed in the General Plan EIR.

Growth Projections Related to Water Needs

The following is added to elaborate on the City's water resources needs:

The City boundary encompasses approximately 6,408 acres (10 square miles) with a 2005 population of 7,383. In 2004 (according to the 2005 Master Water Report), it was estimated that the City had 2,933 water service connections with average day demands of 2.03 million gallons per day (MGD) and maximum month demands (MMD) of 3.6 MGD.

The City of Yreka General Plan predicts that the City's future population growth rate will be approximately 1.6 percent per year over the next 20 years. As evaluated in the City's Master Water Plan (2005), although the population growth rate could be used to predict future water consumption, the growth rate alone tends to neglect other factors that contribute to growth in water consumption. Increases in industrial and commercial water use, for example, will tend to accelerate water consumption over time. The Master Water Plan was developed based on an

average annual increase in water consumption of 1.8 percent. If the actual annual increase in water consumption in the future is smaller than 1.8 percent, then improvements designed to accommodate growth for the future will be satisfactory for a longer period of time.

Although there are different development scenarios considered in the Master Water Plan, the amount of water estimated to be needed to serve the City's current water service area is approximately 15.9 MGD. The Master Water Plan observed that the City's allocation of 15 cubic feet per second from Fall Creek equates to about 9.7 MGD. This falls short of the estimated water production needed to serve ultimate build-out of the City's current water rights service boundary that was estimated to be approximately 15.9 MGD. This difference makes two things apparent: 1) the City needs to develop new water supply sources that will supplement the Fall Creek allocation, and; 2) if the State cuts back in the City's allocation of 6,300 afy from Fall Creek, the demand for the City to make up that loss in supply by other means and investments becomes increasingly urgent, problematic and costly.

As the project will not physically alter the existing diversion facility or require site-disturbing activity, the project will not have components that could violate any water quality standards, waste discharge requirements, deplete groundwater supplies, alter the existing drainage pattern, result in flooding on- or off-site, create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of stormwater systems, otherwise substantially degrade water quality, place housing or structures within a 100-year flood hazard zone, expose people or structures to the risk of flooding or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

Water Efficiency/Conservation Measures

The City of Yreka has implemented a variety of water-efficiency measures. These measures include "best management practices" (BMPs) that have been consolidated under a memorandum of understanding (now as amended on June 9, 2010) with the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC). Under the terms of a DWR loan agreement, the City is required to implement these BMPs on a regular basis and to report them annually to the CUWCC. Following is a list and brief description of BMPs for FY 2009-10 and 2010-11:

Foundational BMPs

1. Utility Operations Programs

1.1 Operations Practices

- 1.1.1 Retain a Conservation Coordinator. The position was filled July, 2010, part time, for the 2010-11 fiscal year with funding assistance from a CDBG planning grant.
- 1.1.2 Water Waste Prevention. A California Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance was approved by the City Council in November 2010.

1.2 Water Loss Control

- 1.2.1 Water Audit and Balance. AWWA (American Waterworks Association) M36 Water Audit and Balance was completed in November 2010.
- 1.2.5 Real Water Loss (Leaks) Interventions. Water distribution pipeline leak repairs and pipe replacement, every fiscal year.
- 1.2.6 Customer Leaks. Monitoring of individual water meter volumes month to month, and immediate notification to customers of excess usage, every fiscal year.

1.3 Metering with Commodity Rates

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- 1.3.3 Volumetric Billing. In 2008, the water rate structure was changed to tiered volumetric rates, where domestic water is now billed as a commodity according to the amount consumed.
- 1.3.4 Plan for Meter Testing and Replacement. Funding is provided every fiscal year for replacement of water meters.
- 1.4 Retail Conservation Pricing.
 - 1.4.1 Retail Water Service Rates. In tiered water rates, the price per unit of water increases with the amount of water consumed. A five year implementation of the rate changes is in place, and 2010 was the third year.
- 2. Educational Programs
 - 2.1 Public Information Programs.
 - 2.1.1 Information Distribution. In 2010, a water efficiency information flyer/utility bill insert was prepared and distributed to every water customer. In addition, in 2010 a residential water efficiency self-survey was prepared and distributed to every water customer. In 2011, a revised water efficiency flyer/utility bill insert has been prepared for posting on the City website and mail distribution to every water customer. The documents entitled "Yreka Water Efficient Plant Guide" and "Saving Water in Residential Gardens" have also been prepared for posting on the website, and for use in public presentations and teaching.
 - 2.2 School Education Programs.
 - 2.2.1 Plan Water Conservation School Programs. In 2011, K-8 school programs in water efficiency have been planned in conjunction with the Siskiyou County Schools Office.
 - 2.2.2 Instructional Materials and Assistance. In 2011, a listing of K-8 educational materials sources was prepared.

Programmatic BMPs

- 3. Residential
 - 3.1 Water Efficiency Survey. In 2010, 200 water customers were contacted by phone and 38 on-site residential water use surveys were conducted. The surveys included leak detection and a review with the customers of water use in the house and in the yard. The City has planned a ten-year program of on-site residential water use surveys; contacting approximately 10% (200) of residential water customers each year.
 - 3.2 Landscape Water Survey. On-site landscape water use surveys were part of the residential survey program above.
 - 3.5 WaterSense Specifications for Building Permits. The State adopted the Residential Green Building Code in 2010, and the City started implementing its use in 2011.
- 4. Commercial, Industrial and Institutional (CII)
- 5. Landscape
 - 5.1 CII Accounts with Dedicated Irrigation Meters
 - 5.1.1 ETo-Based Water Budgets. Evapotranspiration (ETo) based water use budgets are required for 9% of CII-dedicated water meter customers each year until 2020. In 2010, one ETo-based water use budget was prepared, which is 10% of the total of the City's nine CII-dedicated water meter customers.
 - 5.1.3 Site-Specific Technical Assistance. In 2010, site specific technical assistance was provided for one CII-dedicated water meter customer.
 - 5.2 CII Accounts with Mixed Use or No Meters
 - 5.2. Strategy for Large Landscape Water Use Surveys. Site specific technical assistance surveys and sample ETo water use budgets were prepared for

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two City parks with mixed use meters in 2010. From the data developed, strategies for large landscape water use surveys were developed.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project does not involve any new construction or waste discharge.
- b) No impact. Fall Creek flows directly into Iron Gate Reservoir and does not recharge an aquifer.
- c) No impact. No new construction and no new alteration of the stream course is proposed that would result in erosion or siltation on or off the diversion site.
- d) No impact. No new construction or new alteration of the stream is proposed that would result in flooding on or off the diversion site.
- e) No impact. The existing Fall Creek facility is already designed and constructed to divert 6,300 acre feet per year at a rate of up to 15 cubic feet per second. No new construction or alteration of the site is proposed, nor does the diversion facility have any components that could result in polluted runoff. Therefore, the project will not create or contribute runoff water that would impact stormwater drainage or provide additional sources of polluted runoff.
- f) No impact. The proposed project has no components that would degrade water quality.
- g) No impact. The project does not include the creation of housing and therefore would not result in the placement of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area.
- h) No impact. The project does not involve construction of any new structures, including any structure that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area.
- i) No impact. See h) above. The project will not expose people or structures to risk from flooding.
- j) No impact. The site is not in an area with the geological or topographic characteristics that would be inundated by seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Hydrology and Water Quality:

Other than the simple hydrological fact that the proposed project will extend the City's existing permit to divert 6,300 afy of water from Fall Creek to the year 2022, relative to smaller amounts of diversion that might otherwise be permitted, the project will have **no impact** on related hydrological resources or water quality.

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
10. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
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"/>

Overview:

While the water that is diverted from Fall Creek serves the City of Yreka, which is located approximately 23 miles to the southwest of the diversion site, the diversion site itself is located in the unincorporated area of Siskiyou County. The Siskiyou County General Plan establishes policies that guide development. These policies, along with zoning regulations, control the amount and distribution of land allocated for different land uses. The County's General Plan does not establish conventional land use designations, nor does it express the usual standards for densities and intensity of land use. Rather, the General Plan identifies areas of the County that may have various "constraints" to development, such as areas with severe septic tank limitations, deer wintering areas, woodland productivity, wildfire hazards, flood hazards, etc. Those mapped constraint areas and the policies that apply to them direct the type of development that may be allowed in particular areas of the County.

The development of natural resources, including water, is consistent with the General Plan land use designations applicable to the Fall Creek area. Furthermore, the City's water system, coupled with the PacifiCorp water system that brings water to the Fall Creek Powerhouse, is an established land use. No changes in land use are proposed and the County has no land use determination to make.

With regard to the City of Yreka's General Plan, the City's future growth was fully analyzed in the environmental impact report (EIR) prepared for the General Plan (SCH# 2002032122) certified by the City Council on December 18, 2003 (Resolution of the City Council of the City of Yreka, Number 2457). The General Plan EIR analyzed potential environmental impacts, including water supply impacts, that would result from the City's anticipated long-range development through the year 2022 (EIR, pg. 3-1). Extending the time to 2022 for the City to put its Fall Creek water to beneficial use will help enable the City to develop in accordance with its long-range General Plan. The City's current zoning pattern, which is based on the General Plan, is attached as **Figure 4.0-1**.

The projected growth of the City of Yreka for the life of the City's General Plan was anticipated to be at a rate of between 1 and 2 percent annually [Page 1-4, General Plan Update, City of Yreka]. Like many north state cities, growth has been inconsistent. However, over the last two years the growth rate has been roughly 1.26 percent, which is a slight reduction from the 1.76 percent experienced between the years 2007 and 2008. In the period between 1995 and 2008 the City approved 56 applications for subdivisions of land, creating approximately 280 residential use

parcels; approximately 50 commercial or industrial use parcels, and, two condominium conversions totaling 32 residential units. Land use demands projected by the General Plan Update have averaged between 18 and 20 new buildings a year (both residential and commercial) over the past 14 years.

The proposed extension of time to put the 6,300 afy to full beneficial use will not facilitate growth in the City that was not fully analyzed in the General Plan Update EIR. The project does not involve any changes in land use. The City has already addressed issues related to the "place of use" for the water that is the subject of the proposed water permit amendment, including issues related to the City's General Plan.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project will not result in the division of any existing community.
- b) No impact. The project will not conflict with any applicable plans that have jurisdiction over the project area. The project is and will be consistent with applicable land use plans.
- c) No impact. There are no habitat conservation or natural community conservation plans that are applicable to the project area.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Land Use and Planning:

The proposed project, if approved, will have **no impact** on land use and planning which has not otherwise been addressed in the General Plan Update EIR. However, if the project is not approved, the City of Yreka will have to take other measures (with related expense and impacts) to obtain the amount of water it needs to serve the expected growth of the City.

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Insert Figure 4.0-1: City of Yreka Zoning Districts

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Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

11. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant 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"/>

Overview:

Historically, a substantial amount of gold mining took place in this general area of Siskiyou County and, in fact, was responsible for the establishment of the City of Yreka. Although some dredge mining still takes place on the Klamath River, as well as a small amount of panning for gold, the resource is essentially depleted, or is not considered otherwise available in ways that can be cost-effectively recovered.

The State Mining and Geology Board has the responsibility to inventory and classify mineral resources, and the Board could designate identified mineral resources as having a "statewide" or "regional significance." If this is done, the local agency must adopt a management plan for such identified resources. At this time there are no plans by the Mining and Geology Board for a new assessment of local mineral resources for the project area or Siskiyou County.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The proposed approval of the City's requested amendment of its water permit will have no effect on the current availability of mineral resources.
- b) No impact. There is no mineral resource recovery site in the area, actual or planned.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Mineral Resources:

The project will have **no impact** on mineral resources within the area.

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
12. NOISE. Would the project:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or of applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a 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"/>

Overview:

The only project-related noise occurring at this time at the diversion/intake site is the sound of running water, which is diverted from flows either in the canal at the "A" Dam after use in the PacifiCorp powerhouse, or directly from Fall Creek as diverted by the "B" Dam. No new facilities, diversion works, water treatment facilities, or other physical changes to the ground or stream course are proposed at the diversion site; therefore, there will be no construction noise. The project will not require any change in the on-site diversion and intake technology, which operates by gravity.

General noise issues and impacts relative to planned growth at the place of use of the diverted water (i.e., in the City itself) were addressed in the General Plan Noise Element and the General Plan update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. There is no component of the project that will generate increased noise, including noise in excess of standards established in the Siskiyou County General Plan or the applicable standards of other agencies.
- b) No impact. There is no construction component to the project, nor will the proposed amendments of the permit require any change in the current diversion methodology that would expose people to groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

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- c) No impact. There will not be any source of noise connected with the project that would result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels above levels existing without the project (i.e., the baseline amount of diversion).
- d) No impact. There will not be any source of noise connected with the project that would result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels above levels existing without the project.
- e) No impact. The project is not located within an airport land use plan area.
- f) No impact. The project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Noise:

The proposed project will have no construction or operational features that would generate noise notably greater than current levels. **No impact.**

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Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
13. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Overview:

The population of the City of Yreka in 2010, according to the California Finance Department, was approximately 7,415. **Section 4.10, Land Use and Planning**, of this Initial Study has discussed the relationship of the requested water allocation to the City's General Plan and projected population growth. The basic infrastructure to deliver water to the City already exists (although the City has proposed improvements to its water treatment system and storage capacity). The Fall Creek diversion and intake facility has already been designed and constructed to accommodate the amount of 6,300 acre feet per year at a rate of up to 15 cubic feet per second, since those were the amounts permitted in 1967. The project is intended to serve the existing population of the City and expected growth as identified and planned in the City's General Plan, which was updated in 2003. There is no housing or population in the vicinity of the diversion/intake facility that will be impacted by the amount of water permitted to be diverted. Impacts that may result from development in the City of Yreka, as addressed in the General Plan Land Use Element, were addressed in the General Plan EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- Less than significant. The extension of time in which to allow the City to divert its permitted amount of 6,300 afy is consistent with, and is scaled to help serve the population and land use build-out projections of, the City's General Plan. The project will not directly nor indirectly result in induced growth that is not already expected in the City's General Plan. It is acknowledged that the City will need to develop other sources of water in addition to Fall Creek by the year 2022. However, if the City cannot obtain its full request from Fall Creek, it will need to develop other sources of water sooner and to a greater extent than it would need to do otherwise. In either event, the City will need to develop water supplies to serve expected growth unless the City imposes substantial growth controls. The project will have a less than significant impact on the population of the City, either directly or indirectly.
- No impact. There are no homes in the vicinity of the project water diversion site and the project has no construction components that would displace existing housing.
- No impact. There are no residences in the vicinity of the water diversion site and the project will not displace any people.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Population and Housing:

The proposed project will have a *less than significant impact* in terms of induced population growth, and will have *no impact* concerning displacement of people or houses.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

14. PUBLIC SERVICES. 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 following public services:

a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

The project site (i.e., the City of Yreka's existing water diversion/intake facility) is located approximately 23 miles northeast of the City in an unincorporated, relatively remote area of Siskiyou County. The Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement in this area. The site is not within a fire protection district; therefore, it is in an area where wildland fire protection is provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire). The project will not involve the construction of new homes with resulting residents, or the construction of any other structure that would require an increase in fire protection or police protection at the site.

The project water diversion site is located in the Hornbrook Elementary School District and the Yreka High School District. However, the project will not directly result in the construction of any homes that would require school or park services.

Concerning "parks", there is a small day-use area adjacent to the California Fish and Game fish hatchery below the City's intake facility. There are two picnic tables. Visitors can park along Copco Road to picnic and/or hike up to Fall Creek Falls on a 0.2-mile trail. The site has no restrooms or obvious signage, and the trail is poorly maintained.

There are no other public service facilities in the vicinity of the City's water diversion facility. Indirect public service impacts concerning development in the City of Yreka related to water supply and service has been addressed in the City of Yreka General Plan Environmental Impact Report. (See **Section 4.10, Land Use and Planning**, above.) All related public service aspects of the City's General Plan were analyzed in the EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- No impact. No new buildings are proposed to be added to the diversion facility that would require additional fire protection.
- No impact. No new buildings are proposed to be added to the diversion facility that would require additional law enforcement services.
- No impact. There are no schools within the project vicinity, and the project will not affect the enrollment of schools.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

- d) No impact. The project will have no impact on the existing day use picnic site in the vicinity.
- e) No impact. The project will not impact any other governmental services or facilities.

Mitigation Measure:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Public Services:

The project will have ***no impact*** on public services.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
15. RECREATION.				
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"/>

Overview:

The proposed project does not include any new facilities, diversion works, water treatment facilities, or other physical changes to the ground or stream course. General issues relating to recreation facilities and services within the City were analyzed in the City's General Plan EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project will not result in the increased use of any existing parks or other recreation facilities.
- b) No impact. The project does not include new recreation facilities, nor will it require the construction or expansion of any recreation facilities.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Recreation:

The project will have **no impact** on recreation use or facilities.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

16. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard 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) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overview:

The Fall Creek diversion system is accessed by Copco Road, which has an interchange with Interstate 5 approximately 12 miles to the west near the community of Hornbrook.

Periodically, a maintenance vehicle is used by City staff to visit and maintain the facility. Because the existing diversion and intake facility was designed to divert up to 15 cfs for a maximum of 6,300 acre feet per year, all water allocated for diversion can and will be diverted into the City’s existing intake facility. No new facilities, diversion works, water treatment facilities, pipelines, or other physical changes at the intake site are proposed. There is no component of the project that would necessarily require additional maintenance vehicle trips to the diversion site or otherwise relate to transportation and traffic issues.

General circulation issues related to planned growth in the City were addressed in the City’s General Plan Circulation Element and have been evaluated in the General Plan Update EIR.

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. No component of the project will cause a substantial increase in traffic in relation to the existing traffic load and street capacity.
- b) No impact. No component of the project will increase traffic, much less result in congestion.
- c) No impact. There will be no effect on air traffic patterns as a result of the project.
- d) No impact. No component of the project will increase hazards due to a design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

- e) No impact. Since the project has no construction component, the project will not interfere with emergency access.
- f) No impact. The project will not require additional parking, nor does it have any construction or operational component that would impact existing parking.
- g) No impact. The project will not conflict with existing local alternative transportation plans or programs.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Transportation and Circulation:

The proposed project will have **no impacts** relating to traffic or transportation in general.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

17. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant 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"/>

Overview:

The Fall Creek diversion facility is the fundamental source of municipal and industrial water for the City of Yreka. As noted above, the City's water use has been addressed in the Public Facilities Element of the General Plan and fully analyzed in the General Plan Update EIR. The diversion facility itself has no water "use" other than the water that it supplies from Fall Creek to the City's municipal water system. The supply of water is addressed specifically in this Initial Study in **Section 4.9, Hydrology and Water Quality**. The existing Fall Creek diversion/intake facility is gravity-fed and has no direct utility requirements other than the water system that delivers water to it. What little electrical power is needed at the diversion site for lights, etc., is obtained from solar panels. Downstream in the City's water system, pumps and facilities are already capable of pumping 15 cfs when needed.

The existing diversion site is not served by a wastewater septic system, nor is one proposed.

The system does not generate a noteworthy amount of solid waste, other than organic wastes that result from cleaning the fish screens and performing other routine maintenance of the channels that supply water to the facility.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Discussion of Checklist Answers:

- a) No impact. The project will have no wastewater treatment components.
- b) No impact. The project will not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities.
- c) No impact. The project will have no features that would impact existing storm water drainage facilities.
- d) No impact. The project consists of extending the time in which the City can perfect the full amount of its approved water rights to serve the City of Yreka. Therefore, the project will help ensure sufficient water supplies to support planned municipal growth.
- e) No impact. The project does not require wastewater service.
- f) No impact. The project will not produce solid waste that would need to be disposed of in a solid waste facility and will have no impact on solid waste disposal facilities.
- g) No impact. See (f) above. The project will comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation is necessary.

Conclusions Related to Utilities and Service Systems:

The proposed project will have **no impacts** concerning utilities and service systems.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Environmental Issues

Potentially Significant Impact Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact

17. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants 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 the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Does the project have environmental effects that 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"/>

Discussion of Mandatory Findings of Significance:

- a) **Less than Significant.** The foregoing Initial Study has not revealed a potential for the proposed project to significantly degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Analysis of potential impacts to biological resources indicates: 1) that diversion of up to 6,300 acre feet per year and up to 15 cubic feet per second will, based on mean average flows, still allows excellent functional flow and habitat quality in Fall Creek, and; 2) conditions of the water permit to maintain minimum flows and screening measures already being taken at the existing intake facility are adequate to mitigate potential impacts to special status species.
- b) **No impact.** The project is consistent with the City of Yreka's long-range General Plan goals concerning its public facilities and water supply. In particular, the General Plan Public Facilities Element includes the following goals:

Goal PF.1: Ensure that public facilities are designed to accommodate reasonable future need.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Goal PF. 3: Ensure an ample water supply for the City of Yreka.

These General Plan goals are considered to be long-term goals that are vital to the health and welfare of the City. The ability of the City to put the full amount of its authorized diversion from Fall Creek (6,300 afy) to beneficial use is a critical component of its long-term water supply goals. No other long-term environmental goals have been identified that will be significantly disadvantaged by the City's long-term goals concerning its Fall Creek water source. Furthermore, there are no expressed "short-term goals" related to this project that can be said to have the potential to constitute a significant "disadvantage" for related long-term goals.

- c) **No impact.** No impacts have been identified that would be individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
- d) **No impact.** No impacts have been identified that would have environmental effects that could cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

5.1 DOCUMENTS REFERENCED OR PERSONS CONTACTED AND/OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents were used to determine the potential for impacts from the proposed project. Compliance with federal, state and local laws is assumed in all projects.

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2008. *California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB). Data Base Record Search for Special-Status Species: Bogus Mountain, Copco, Dewey Gulch, Iron Gate Reservoir, Panther Rock, and Secret Spring Mtn. 7.5 Minute Quadrangles*. December 2, 2008. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit. *Table 2:E-5 City/County Population and Housing Estimates, January 1, 2010*.

Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program GIS data (www.consv.ca.gov).

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. *Final Environmental Impact Statement for Hydropower License*. November 2007.

Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement. February 18, 2010.

PACE Civil, Inc. Yreka Master Water Plan. 2005.

PMC. *City of Yreka General Plan Update 2002-2003*. Adopted December 18, 2003. Resolution No. 2457.

PMC. *Environmental Impact Report for the Comprehensive General Plan Update, Zoning Ordinance Update and Sign Ordinance Updated, City of Yreka*. SCH No. 2002032122. September 2003.

Tennant, D.L. 1976. *Instream flow regimens for fish, wildlife, recreation, and related environmental resources*. Fisheries 1(4): 6-10.

United States Geological Survey. 2006a. Daily Streamflow for the Nation webpage. USGS Surface-Water Annual Statistics, Reston, Virginia. Accessed from <http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/annual/>, on January 21, 2011.

The following persons were consulted in preparation of this document.

Hook, Jeannette. Administrative Assistant, Yreka Department of Public Works. January 2011.

Rolph, Don. Water Efficiency Coordinator, City of Yreka. February 2011.

Taylor, Rob. Water Manager, City of Yreka. January 2011.