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Application for New License

Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

Placer County Water Agency Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT HISTORIC PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT PLAN



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List of Acronyms

ac-ft	acre-feet
AHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
AHPA	Archeological and Historic Preservation Act
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
APE	Area of Potential Effects
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHSC	California Health and Safety Code
Council	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation
ENF	Eldorado National Forest
EO	Executive Order
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FPA	Federal Power Act
FSM	Forest Service Manual
GIS	Geographic Information System
HPMP	Historic Properties Management Plan
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
MFP	Middle Fork American River Project
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
msl	mean sea level
MW	megawatts
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PAD	Pre-Application Document
PCWA	Placer County Water Agency
Project	Middle Fork American River Project
SD	Supporting Document
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
TCP	Traditional Cultural Properties
TNF	Tahoe National Forest

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List of Acronyms (continued)

TSR	Technical Study Report
TWG	Technical Working Group
USDA-FS	United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service
VIPMP	Vegetation and Integrated Pest Management Plan
Watershed	Middle Fork American River Watershed
WSE	water surface elevation

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) operates the Middle Fork American River Project (MFP or Project) under a license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) (FERC No. 2079). The current license expires on March 1, 2013. PCWA is in the process of relicensing the MFP using the FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP).

The MFP relicensing is an "undertaking" as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 800.16(y). Therefore, the relicensing of the MFP is subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Section 106 of the NHPA requires the FERC to take into account the effect of continued operation and maintenance of the MFP on properties that are listed or recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). By a letter dated March 3, 2008, the FERC designated PCWA as its non-federal representative for purposes of Section 106 consultation regarding the relicensing of the MFP.

The FERC requested that PCWA identify historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) of the MFP and include a Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) in the Application for New License (License Application). As part of the relicensing studies, PCWA identified cultural resources located in the APE and determined whether any of those resources are listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP. PCWA identified four properties within the APE that are eligible for listing on the NRHP.

This HPMP describes the measures that PCWA will implement to manage the four properties located within the APE that are eligible for the NRHP. The HPMP also describes how PCWA will manage Project activities that may affect Traditional Gathering Areas (although to date, none have been identified in the Project vicinity). The information contained in the HPMP was developed in consultation with resource agencies, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Native American Tribes, and other stakeholders, and is based on inventory and eligibility studies conducted from 2005 through 2009 by PCWA during the relicensing of the MFP. The HPMP also addresses comments provided by the resources agencies on the Draft HPMP included in the Draft License Application filed with FERC on September 27, 2010.

After accepting the License Application, the FERC will continue consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) and the SHPO regarding the Draft HPMP. FERC typically completes Section 106 by entering into a Programmatic Agreement (PA) or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the licensee, the Council, and SHPO. This agreement is then incorporated by reference into the Project license when it is issued (FERC/ACHP 2002). Upon issuance of a new license, PCWA will be responsible for implementing the Final HPMP (including any revisions deemed necessary by FERC). FERC will be responsible for enforcing compliance with the plan.

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An overview of the MFP and the inventory and eligibility studies is provided in the following background information section.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This section presents an overview of the MFP and the cultural resources studies that have been conducted as part of the relicensing of the MFP. The background information is organized as follows:

- Middle Fork American River Project
- APE Definition
- Cultural Resources Studies
- Consultation
- Regulatory Setting

Additional information about the pre-history, history, and ethnography of the MFP region and the history of the development of the MFP is included in Appendix A for reference. The information presented in Appendix A is intended to provide contextual information that pertains to the HPMP management goals and measures.

2.1 MIDDLE FORK AMERICAN RIVER PROJECT

The MFP is a multi-purpose water supply and hydro-generation project designed to conserve and control waters of the Middle Fork American River, the Rubicon River, and several associated tributary streams. The MFP is located in northern California within the Middle Fork American River Watershed (Watershed) at elevations ranging from approximately 1,100 feet to 5,300 feet (HPMP Map 1). The MFP facilities are primarily located within Placer County on land owned by PCWA and on public lands administered by the Tahoe National Forest (TNF) and the Eldorado National Forest (ENF).

The MFP diverts, stores, and transports water through a series of stream diversions, reservoirs, water conveyance systems, powerhouses, and associated infrastructure mostly built between the years 1963 and 1968. The MFP facilities are identified and described in detail in Sections 3.0 (No-Action Alternative) and 4.0 (Proposed Action) of Exhibit E of PCWA's License Application.

The MFP includes two primary storage reservoirs (French Meadows and Hell Hole Reservoir), several small diversion pools (Duncan Creek, South Fork Long Canyon, and North Fork Long Canyon), and two regulating reservoirs (Middle Fork Interbay and Ralston Afterbay). Hydroelectric power from the MFP is produced at five Project

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powerhouses with a combined generating capacity of approximately 224 megawatts (MW).

The backbone of the MFP is its two principal water storage reservoirs, French Meadows and Hell Hole. These reservoirs are located on the Middle Fork American River and the Rubicon River, respectively, and have a combined gross storage capacity of 342,583 acre feet (ac-ft).

Starting at the highest elevation of the MFP, water is diverted from Duncan Creek at the Duncan Creek Diversion and routed through the 1.5-mile-long Duncan Creek – Middle Fork Tunnel into French Meadows Reservoir (134,993 ac-ft of gross storage). Flows in the Middle Fork American River are captured and stored in French Meadows Reservoir along with diversions from Duncan Creek.

From French Meadows Reservoir, water is transported via the 2.6-mile-long French Meadows – Hell Hole Tunnel, passed through the French Meadows Powerhouse and released into Hell Hole Reservoir (207,590 ac-ft of gross storage). Flows in the Rubicon River are captured and stored in Hell Hole Reservoir along with water released from French Meadows Reservoir through French Meadows Powerhouse. Water released from Hell Hole Reservoir passes through the Hell Hole Powerhouse, which is located at the base of Hell Hole Dam.

From Hell Hole Reservoir, water is also transported via the 10.4-mile-long Hell Hole – Middle Fork Tunnel, passed through the Middle Fork Powerhouse and released into the Middle Fork Interbay (175 ac-ft of gross storage). Between Hell Hole Reservoir and Middle Fork Powerhouse, water is diverted from the North and South Forks of Long Canyon creeks directly into the Hell Hole – Middle Fork Tunnel.

Flows in the Middle Fork American River are captured at Middle Fork Interbay, along with water released from Hell Hole Reservoir through the Middle Fork Powerhouse. From Middle Fork Interbay, water is transported via the 6.7-mile-long Middle Fork Ralston Tunnel, passed through the Ralston Powerhouse (installed generating capacity of 79.2 MW) and released into the Ralston Afterbay (2,782 ac-ft of gross storage). Flow from the Middle Fork American River and the Rubicon River are captured in Ralston Afterbay along with water transported from Middle Fork Interbay through the Ralston Powerhouse. From Ralston Afterbay water is transported via the 400-foot-long Ralston Oxbow Tunnel, passed through the Oxbow Powerhouse and released from the MFP to the Middle Fork American River.

In addition, to the primary facilities discussed above, the MFP includes Project roads used almost exclusively for operation and maintenance of the MFP, and a variety of ancillary facilities such as switchyards, gaging stations, weirs, photovoltaic poles, microwave reflectors and radio towers, sediment disposal and augmentation sites, storage buildings, operator cottages, maintenance shop, and a dormitory facility. In addition, the MFP includes a variety of developed Project recreation facilities, including

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campgrounds, picnic areas, boat ramps, and a vista. These facilities enable public access to public lands and Project reservoirs.

2.2 APE DEFINITION

The APE is depicted on HPMP Map 2, which consists of five sheets. For the purposes of the MFP relicensing, the APE comprises all lands within the existing FERC Project boundary and within a 200-foot area surrounding any:

- Project facility or feature;
- Project recreation facility or feature; and
- Proposed facility or feature, or disturbance area (e.g., construction and staging areas), associated with the Hell Hole Seasonal Storage Increase Improvement.

With a few exceptions, the APE does not include lands above any tunnels because the tunnels are situated tens to hundreds of feet underground and no ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project occur in these areas. However, the tunnels occasionally surface due to topographic conditions, for example, at the Long Canyon Crossing Removable Section. In addition, tunnel vents and surge tanks are located at the surface. These areas, and any other areas where the tunnels or associated features surface, are included in the APE. In addition, the tunnel entrance and exit points are included in the APE because they coincide with aboveground features such as reservoirs, penstocks, and powerhouses.

PCWA delineated the APE in consultation with the TNF and ENF, Native American Tribes, and members of the Cultural Resources Technical Working Group (TWG) established during relicensing of the MFP. The proposed APE was submitted to the SHPO for review and comment on December 16, 2009. The SHPO concurred with the MFP APE delineation by letter dated February 23, 2010.

2.3 CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDIES

PCWA conducted a cultural resources inventory study and a NRHP-eligibility study for the MFP relicensing, as summarized in the following.

2.3.1 Cultural Resources Inventory Study

PCWA conducted a cultural resources inventory study in two phases. Phase 1 was initiated in 2005 and included a records search and literature review to identify previously known cultural resources located within or near the study area (described below). Phase 2 was conducted in 2006 through 2008 and consisted of field surveys focused on two activities: (1) verifying the location and condition of known cultural resources; and (2) identifying and recording previously unknown cultural resources.

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The cultural resources inventory study methods and findings are documented in the following reports:

- 2005 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report, which is available in PCWA's Pre-Application Document (PAD) (PCWA 2007);
- 2006 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report, which is available in PCWA's PAD (PCWA 2007);
- CUL 1 – Cultural Resources Technical Study Report (TSR) – 2007, which is available in Supporting Document (SD) D of PCWA's License Application (PCWA 2011a); and
- CUL 1 – Cultural Resources TSR – 2008, which is available in SD D of PCWA's License Application (PCWA 2011b).

The cultural resources inventory study area was defined as all public and PCWA-owned lands within the existing FERC Project boundary and within a 200-foot area surrounding any: (1) Project facility or feature; (2) Project recreation facility; (3) stakeholder-identified dispersed concentrated use area; and (4) potential Project improvement. The study area was larger than the APE primarily because the study area included:

- Facilities that were subsequently excluded from the Project description because they are not used exclusively by PCWA (e.g., road and trail segments, snow courses);
- Dispersed concentrated use areas identified by the stakeholders; and
- Areas associated with potential Project improvements that are no longer under consideration.

The cultural resources inventory study identified a total of 44 cultural resources within the study area, of which 34 are in the APE. Cultural resources present in the APE include: Native American archaeological sites; historic buildings, structures, objects, and sites; and isolated artifacts.

2.3.2 NRHP – Eligibility Study

PCWA conducted a cultural resources NRHP-eligibility study in 2008 and 2009. The eligibility study focused on 17 cultural resources identified through the inventory study that could be affected by: (1) Project operation and maintenance activities; or (2) construction, operation, and/or maintenance of Project improvements. These resources are identified on HPMP Table 1. Three of these resources (Sites FS-05-03-53-64, FS-05-03-53-65, and FS-05-17-54-370) were previously evaluated for inclusion

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on the NRHP by the USDA-FS. The remaining 14 cultural resources were evaluated for inclusion on the NRHP by PCWA.

As indicated in HPMP Table 1, four resources were determined eligible for listing on the NRHP, either by the USDA-FS or by PCWA. These four sites are briefly described in the following.

- **Site FS-05-03-53-64.** This site is located in the ENF, within the boundaries of Hell Hole Campground, a Project recreation facility (HPMP Map 3). The site consists of a large milling station feature with numerous mortar cups, and flake scatter. This site was evaluated by the USDA-FS and was determined to be eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. SHPO concurred with this finding.
- **Site FS-05-03-53-65.** This site is located in the ENF, within Big Meadows Campground, a Project recreation facility (HPMP Map 4). This site is a large seasonal habitation site, consisting of three loci, each containing bedrock milling features and lithic scatters. The site also contains rock art, midden, and numerous groundstone artifacts. This site was evaluated by the USDA-FS and was determined to be eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. SHPO concurred with this determination. The ENF subsequently developed and implemented a management plan for this site (McLemore and Taggart 2004). Data recovery and testing was conducted in 2007 and an interpretive panel was developed for the campground.
- **Site FS-05-03-55-201.** This site is located in the ENF, near Upper Hell Hole Campground, along the Upper Hell Hole Trail (HPMP Map 5). The campground is a Project facility; the trail is not a Project facility. This site consists of a bedrock milling station with two mortars, a lithic scatter, and projectile points. This site was evaluated by PCWA and was recommended eligible for inclusion on the NRHP because it has the potential to yield important information regarding regional prehistory. SHPO concurred with this determination by letter dated June 22, 2010.
- **Site FS-05-03-55-682.** This site is located in the ENF, near Upper Hell Hole Campground, a Project recreation facility, within the boundaries of Hell Hole Reservoir (HPMP Map 5). This site consists of multiple panels of petroglyphs inscribed on two large rocks. This site was evaluated by PCWA and was recommended eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. SHPO concurred with this determination by letter dated June 22, 2010.

Section 6.0 of this HPMP describes the measures that PCWA will implement to manage these four properties.

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2.4 CONSULTATION

The cultural resources studies, including development of the study plans, were conducted in consultation with the appropriate Federal and State agencies, Native American Tribes, and members of the public. Consultation consisted of:

- Conducting regular meetings with the Cultural Resources TWG, which included resource agency representatives, Tribal representatives, PCWA staff, and members of the public;
- Periodic meetings with individual Tribes; and
- Site visits with Tribal representatives.

Tribal consultation including meetings, site visits, and written and telephone correspondence, is summarized in HPMP Table 2.

All of the cultural resources study plans and technical study reports were distributed to the Cultural Resources TWG and Native American Tribes for review and comment, and discussed at the TWG meetings. PCWA views consultation as a process that will continue as part of implementation of the HPMP after issuance of the new FERC license.

2.5 REGULATORY SETTING

This section provides an overview of the statutes, regulations, and executive orders that pertain to cultural resources management.

2.5.1 National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, and as amended, requires federal agencies to consider the potential effects of agency undertakings on historic properties and, if appropriate, afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on such undertakings. The issuance of a license for the MFP by the FERC constitutes an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(y). Therefore, FERC must comply with regulations implementing Section 106 of the NHPA. The FERC designated PCWA as its non-federal representative for purposes of Section 106 consultation regarding the relicensing of the MFP.

The implementing regulations for Section 106, "Protection of Historic Properties," can be found in 36 CFR Part 800. The goal of the Section 106 review process is to determine the eligibility of sites for listing on the NRHP and mitigating any adverse effects to sites eligible for or listed on the NRHP. The criteria for determining NRHP eligibility are found in 36 CFR Part 60. Recent amendments to the NHPA (1986, 1992, and 2001) and subsequent revisions to the implementation regulations have strengthened the

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provisions for Native American consultation and participation in the Section 106 review process.

The criteria in 36 CFR Part 60.4 [a–d] for determining the significance and eligibility of prehistoric and historic sites for inclusion in the NRHP include the following:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, culture, and engineering is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- c) that embody the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The types of cultural resources that may be determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP include Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP) and ethnographic landscapes. The TCP concept is presented in National Register Bulletin 38 (Parker and King 1998). A TCP is defined as a property eligible for inclusion in the NRHP “because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are noted in that community’s history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuity of the community” (Parker and King 1998:1). A cultural landscape is a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources, associated with an historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values (Birnbaum 1994).

The NHPA also addresses the development of measures to protect cultural resources. Section 2 of the NHPA states that it is the policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with other nations and in partnership with the States, local governments, Native American tribes, and private organizations to:

- 1) use measures, including financial and technical assistance, to foster conditions under which our modern society and our prehistoric and historic resources can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations;

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- 2) provide leadership in the preservation of the prehistoric and historic resources of the United States and of the international community of nations and in the administration of the national preservation program in partnership with States, Indian tribes, Native Hawaiians, and local governments;
- 3) administer federally owned, administered, or controlled prehistoric and historic resources in a spirit of stewardship for the inspiration and benefit of present and future generations;
- 4) contribute to the preservation of non-federally owned prehistoric and historic resources and give maximum encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means;
- 5) encourage the public and private preservation and utilization of all usable elements of the Nation's historic built environment; and
- 6) assist State and local governments, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations and the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States to expand and accelerate their historic preservation programs and activities.

2.5.2 American Indian Religious Freedom Act

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) 42 USC §1996 states that “it shall be the policy of the United States to protect and preserve for American Indians their inherent right of freedom to believe, express, and exercise the traditional religions of the American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, and Native Hawaiians, including but not limited to access to sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and the freedom to worship through ceremonials and traditional rites.”

2.5.3 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) 25 USC § 3001 presents a systematic process for determining the rights of lineal descendants and Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to certain Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony with which they are affiliated.

2.5.4 Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (AHPA)

If a project will affect historic properties that have archeological value, the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (AHPA) may impose additional requirements on an agency.

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2.5.5 Federal Power Act

The Federal Power Act (FPA) 16 USC § 791-828c addresses the protection of "reservation" lands, which is defined to include national forests, Indian lands, and any other lands "acquired and held for public purposes" not including national monuments or national parks (16 U.S.C. 796(2)). Any license application for a project within a "reservation" requires an affirmative finding by the FERC that the project will not be inconsistent with the purpose for which the land was acquired or created. The ILP regulations are based on the FPA and include direction that specifies how cultural resources studies should be conducted and consultation requirements.

2.5.6 Executive Order 11593 (1971), Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment

Under Executive Order (EO) 11593, the federal government shall provide leadership in preserving, restoring and maintaining the historic and cultural environment of the Nation. This Executive Order provides guidance to federal property managers regarding the inventory of cultural resources and nomination of those resources for listing on the NRHP.

2.5.7 Executive Order 13007 (1996), Indian Sacred Sites

Pursuant to EO 13007, agencies must consider the effects of their actions on the physical integrity of sacred sites, and access to and ceremonial use of such sites by Indian religious practitioners. The FERC is subject to this executive order. However, the cultural resources studies did not identify any sacred sites in the MFP APE.

2.5.8 Executive Order 13084 (1998), Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments

Pursuant to EO 13084, the United States has a unique legal relationship with Indian tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive orders, and court decisions. Since the formation of the Union, the United States has recognized Indian tribes as domestic dependent nations under its protection. In treaties, our Nation has guaranteed the right of Indian tribes to self-government. As domestic dependent nations, Indian tribes exercise inherent sovereign powers over their members and territory. The United States continues to work with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis to address issues concerning Indian tribal self-government, trust resources, and Indian tribal treaty and other rights. This EO identifies the government to government relationship between the United States and Tribes. The FERC is subject to this EO and consulted accordingly.

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3.0 HPMP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This section describes the goals and objectives that were used as a basis for developing the management measures contained in this HPMP. The goal of the measures is to manage Project-related activities to preserve the cultural values of identified sites from effects that would alter the characteristics that make them eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Effects that alter the characteristics of a site are considered to be “adverse”. “Adverse Effects” as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5 includes physical destruction or damage to an historic property; change of the character of the historic property’s use or its physical features; introduction of visual elements that diminish the integrity of a historic property’s significant features; and/or neglect of a historic property, which causes its deterioration.

The MFP and most of the area within the APE are located on federally-administered lands managed by the USDA-FS. Laws, regulations and policies direct the USDA-FS in the management and protection of Historic Properties. Direction specific to cultural resource management can be found in Section 2360 of the Forest Service Manual (FSM).

Section 110 of the NHPA presents a Federal Agencies’ responsibility to preserve and use historic properties:

“that such properties under the jurisdiction or control of the agency as are listed in or may be eligible for the National Register are managed and maintained in a way that considers the preservation of their historic, archaeological, architectural, and cultural values in compliance with section 106 of this Act and gives special consideration to the preservation of such values in the case of properties designated as having National significance;” ((a)(2)(B)).

The four NRHP-eligible historic properties addressed in this HPMP are of high value both culturally and scientifically. Due to these values, and as per FSM 2360, the primary management objective will be for preservation:

“Preservation is appropriate for cultural resources whose primary value warrants protection in place. The management focus of cultural resources in this category is preservation and protection. This category includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Properties or areas that are important to a specific group’s traditions or religions (TCP and Sacred Site).*
- 2) Cultural resources that are exceptionally unique or extraordinarily valuable.*
- 3) Cultural resources that may have future scientific potential.”*

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The four NRHP-eligible historic properties within the APE have high cultural and research values and warrant preservation. However, these four sites could be affected by one or more of the following activities:

- Recreation use;
- Project recreation facility maintenance; and
- Project operation of Hell Hole Reservoir.

Accordingly, these four NRHP-eligible sites will be managed to preserve the values that contribute to their eligibility. This HPMP provides measures to avoid damage or disturbance to these sites and to preserve their cultural values. The management strategies included in this HPMP fall into the following categories:

- **Interpretation.** Interpretation consists of providing information about the archaeology, ethnography, and history of the Project area. Interpretation may be accomplished through graphic displays, kiosks, signage, etc. It may also be accomplished through the development of materials such as posters and pamphlets.
- **Education.** Education consists of providing information about the importance of preserving cultural resources and the regulations (e.g., ARPA) related to the protection of cultural resources. Public education is typically accomplished through displays, signage, and information posters and pamphlets. Public education measures included in this HPMP primarily include developing posters which will be mounted on information boards in the developed recreation facilities. Employee education will be accomplished through training programs and materials. In both cases, education materials will be developed in consultation with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes.
- **Site Condition Monitoring.** Monitoring of sites is a means of identifying and tracking the condition of sites over time. Regular monitoring of sites will identify any effects to it from natural processes or events or other activities. The site condition monitoring discussed in this HPMP will be performed by a qualified archaeologist. Native American tribes will also be invited to participate in site monitoring activities.
- **Identification of Site Damage.** The USDA-FS will be immediately notified if damage to a site is identified during site condition monitoring or during routine Project operation and maintenance activities. Site damage will be assessed using Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA) guidelines. Appropriate management measures will be identified in consultation with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes.

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- **Avoidance.** Avoidance can be achieved through Project design and by creating buffers around the cultural resources. Buffers protect sites from direct and indirect effects (e.g., campground rehabilitation and vegetation management).
- **Monitoring During Ground-Disturbing Activities.** It may sometimes be advantageous to monitor a cultural site when ground-disturbing activities are proposed. This type of monitoring may be performed by an archaeologist and representatives of the Native American Tribes.
- **Surveys.** Surveys are sometimes warranted when it is advantageous or desirable to collect additional information about a site. Surveys are typically performed as pedestrian surface surveys and focus on gathering data related to the prehistoric and historic use of the area.
- **Studies.** Additional studies are sometimes warranted if more information about a particular site is needed. This may involve archival research, consultation with Tribes and other stakeholders, and limited excavation.

Section 6.0 of this report identifies the specific management measures that PCWA proposes to implement at each NRHP-eligible site, with the goal of preserving the cultural values of these sites. Implementation of the management measures in this HPMP will protect the NRHP-eligible resources from any “Adverse Effects”. The goals and management measures in this HPMP are also consistent with other proposed Project management plans.

As required, the HPMP focuses on the four sites that are eligible for listing on the NRHP. However, PCWA will also implement the following measures related to the protection of cultural and Tribal resources in the vicinity of the MFP.

- **Other Cultural Resources.** PCWA evaluated 13 other sites in the APE for NRHP-eligibility (HPMP Table 1). These sites were determined not to be eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Regardless of their NRHP eligibility, these sites are nonrenewable resources that cannot be replaced. Accordingly, PCWA will work with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes to protect the cultural values of these sites, consistent with PCWA’s existing cultural resources management policy.
- **Traditional Gathering Areas.** To date, no traditional gathering or collection areas have been identified by the Native American Tribes or the resource agencies. However, the resource agencies indicated that MFP activities should be managed to avoid impacting traditional gathering areas that may be identified in the future. Therefore, this HPMP includes specific measures to avoid impacting traditional gathering areas should they be identified in the vicinity of the Project.

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- **Big Mosquito Creek Site.** The Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe (CTVCT) identified one site that is important to their tribe. According to the CTVCT, the site is located along Big Mosquito Creek, near the Middle Fork Interbay Road. PCWA subsequently conducted a site visit on September 9, 2010 to identify the exact location of the site and to discuss any concerns related to the site. Based on the information developed during the site visit, PCWA identified the following measures to protect the site from potential damage.
 - PCWA will remove slide material from Interbay Road and will not push slide material down the adjacent slope;
 - PCWA will monitor the area during routine operation and maintenance activities and report improper recreation use of the site to the TNF.
 - PCWA will consult with the TNF prior to removing hazard trees in the vicinity of the site.

4.0 PROJECT EFFECTS

This section describes potential Project-related effects on the cultural resources addressed in this HPMP, by activity. This information is also summarized on HPMP Table 3.

4.1 RECREATION USE

All of the NRHP-eligible sites are located within or near Project recreation facilities. Recreation use could affect these resources. Typical recreation-related effects may include:

- Inadvertent trampling or damage of the resource by recreation visitors;
- Intentional vandalism of cultural site features by recreation visitors; or
- Removal of artifacts by recreation visitors.

4.2 PROJECT RECREATION FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Two NRHP-eligible sites, FS-05-03-53-64 and FS-05-03-53-65, are located within the boundaries of developed Project recreation facilities, Hell Hole and Big Meadows campgrounds, respectively. Cultural resources located within the boundaries of developed Project recreation facilities could potentially be affected by activities related to operation and maintenance of those facilities.

Operation and maintenance activities include “routine” activities and “heavy maintenance”. Routine maintenance typically includes activities such as patrol, clean

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up, signing, toilet pumping, water testing, etc. These activities are not expected to affect cultural resources.

Heavy maintenance includes anything beyond normal, routine maintenance, and may include: reconstruction, replacement and/or repair of facilities and infrastructure including roads, water systems, sanitation systems, buildings, boat ramps, etc. These activities sometimes involve ground disturbance. Potential effects related to heavy maintenance of developed Project recreation facilities may include:

- Inadvertent trampling of cultural site features or artifacts by construction workers and equipment;
- Removal of artifacts by construction personnel; or
- Inadvertent damage or removal of cultural site features or artifacts during construction activity.

4.3 PROJECT OPERATION

Site FS-05-03-55-682 consists of petroglyphs inscribed on bedrock panels and associated artifacts and features located within Hell Hole Reservoir. The site was recorded at an elevation of 4,615 feet. The maximum operating water surface elevation (WSE) of Hell Hole Reservoir is 4,630 feet and the minimum operating WSE is 4,341 feet. Therefore, the petroglyphs are located within the normal operational range of the reservoir. The petroglyphs could be affected by operation of Hell Hole Reservoir, as follows.

- Wave action could erode the petroglyphs when water levels are at or near the elevation of the petroglyphs;
- The petroglyphs could deteriorate as they are alternately exposed and submerged; or
- The petroglyphs could be vandalized or damaged by recreational boaters when exposed, particularly when water levels are near or just below the elevation of the petroglyphs.

Operation of Hell Hole Reservoir is described further in the following subsection.

4.3.1 Operation of Hell Hole Reservoir

Typical operation of the MFP results in the capture or diversion of water into Hell Hole Reservoir during the winter and spring (filling period) and drawdown of the reservoir during the summer, fall, and early winter (release period). Operation of the MFP varies from year-to-year based on the timing and magnitude of spring runoff, which is

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influenced by the amount of the winter snow pack and ambient temperature conditions, as well as precipitation. Despite the year-to-year variation, the reservoir typically reaches its maximum storage for the year in June. Reservoir levels begin to decline in the summer and continue to decline until the late fall or winter. Reservoir levels are typically at their lowest in December, January, and February, when the area is inaccessible due to snow.

The operational range of the reservoir is depicted on HPMP Figure 1, which also shows the average monthly WSE at Hell Hole Reservoir for wet, above normal, below normal, dry, and critically dry water years, and the elevation of the petroglyphs. As indicated, the WSE is typically below the elevation of the petroglyphs during all but wet and above normal water years. During the wet and above normal water years, the WSE may fluctuate across the elevation of the petroglyphs. Specifically, the WSE may rise to above the elevation of the petroglyphs during the late spring and early summer, and decline to below the elevation of the petroglyphs by July.

4.4 PROJECT VEGETATION AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Routine Project vegetation and integrated pest management includes the trimming of vegetation and application of herbicides, pesticides, and rodenticides within and around the MFP facilities and recreation facilities. These activities are described in detail in PCWA's Vegetation and Integrated Pest Management Plan (VIPMP) (PCWA 2011c).

These activities have the potential to adversely affect Traditional Gathering Areas. PCWA has conducted extensive consultation with the Native American Tribes and the USDA-FS in association with the MFP relicensing. To date, neither the Tribes nor the USDA-FS have identified any specific Traditional Gathering Areas in the vicinity of the MFP. However, PCWA understands the importance of Traditional Gathering Areas to the Native American tribes. Accordingly, Section 6.6 of this HPMP includes measures that will be implemented to manage Project activities that may impact Traditional Gathering Areas that are yet to be identified by the Native American Tribes or USDA-FS.

5.0 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

Unavoidable adverse impacts to the four NRHP-eligible sites in the APE are not expected. However, as described in Section 6.4, PCWA will monitor site conditions when ground-disturbing activities occur in the vicinity of one of the NRHP-eligible sites. If a previously unknown cultural resource is uncovered during ground disturbing activities, or if ground disturbing activities result in an adverse impact to a known NRHP-eligible resource, PCWA will immediately cease work in the area and will notify the USDA-FS. Ground disturbing activities will not be resumed until appropriate protection and avoidance measures are identified in consultation with the USDA-FS, SHPO, and the Native American Tribes.

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In addition, as described in Section 6.5, PCWA will periodically monitor the condition of the four NRHP-eligible sites to determine whether site conditions are changing over time. The USDA-FS will immediately be notified if damage to a site is identified during site condition monitoring or during routine Project operation and maintenance activities. Site damage will be assessed using ARPA guidelines and site documentation will be provided to the USDA-FS and SHPO. Appropriate management measures will be identified in consultation with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes.

6.0 MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The following describes the measures that PCWA will implement to manage Project-related activities in the vicinity of NRHP-eligible cultural properties. These measures are summarized in HPMP Table 3, with respect to Project-related activities and potential Project effects. HPMP Table 4 summarizes what type of management measures will be implemented to avoid adversely affecting NRHP-eligible sites and Traditional Gathering Areas.

6.1 EMPLOYEE EDUCATION

PCWA will implement an Employee Resource Awareness Training Program. The training program includes three components: (1) annual training; (2) informational materials; and (3) field meetings. These components are explained further in the following.

- **Annual Training.** PCWA will provide cultural resources sensitivity training for Power Systems operations and maintenance staff and management on an annual basis. The annual training will be conducted by the HPMP coordinator, or their representative. Representatives of Native American Tribes will be invited to attend and participate in these training sessions to ensure that training covers the appropriate range of topics and concerns. The training will present information regarding the archaeology, ethnography, and history of the area, discuss the types of artifacts and resources that are or may be discovered in the MFP APE, and the protocols for inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources and human remains. The training will highlight the values associated with all sites in the MFP APE and the importance of managing Project-related activities to protect these sites to the fullest extent feasible.
- **Informational Materials.** PCWA has developed a Cultural Information Field Awareness handout, which highlights the types of cultural resources that could be encountered during Project operation and maintenance activities, and provides direction about how these resources should be handled if they are discovered in the field (Appendix B). The HPMP coordinator will be responsible for periodically reviewing the handout in consultation with Native American

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Tribes, updating it as necessary, and for ensuring that it is available and present in all vehicles.

- **Field Meetings.** PCWA will conduct cultural resources sensitivity meetings in the field with PCWA staff and subcontractors prior to any construction or ground-disturbing activities in vicinity of a known cultural resource. The HPMP coordinator (or designee) will be responsible for reviewing all construction plans to determine whether there are cultural resources present in the vicinity of the construction activities, and for organizing a field meeting, if necessary. During the field meeting, the HPMP coordinator or their representative will discuss the types of cultural resources present in the area, and procedures for avoiding these resources. The HPMP coordinator will also review the protocols for inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources.

All Power Systems operations and maintenance staff and management staff will be required to adhere to the provisions outlined in this HPMP. In addition, PCWA subcontractors (including campground concessionaires) will be required to adhere to PCWA's policies regarding the management of cultural resources in the vicinity of the MFP.

6.2 PUBLIC EDUCATION

PCWA will develop a laminated poster and will mount the poster on existing information boards present at Project recreation facilities. The poster will focus on educating recreation users about the laws and regulations pertaining to the protection of cultural resources. The poster will be designed in consultation with the USDA-FS and representatives of Native American Tribes.

6.3 AVOIDANCE OF NRHP-ELIGIBLE SITES

The four eligible resources in the MFP are located within or near Project recreation facilities. Operation and maintenance activities and non-routine recreation facility activities could affect these resources. PCWA will avoid these resources using the following avoidance measures:

- **Design.** Any heavy maintenance and non-routine recreation facility activities will be designed in consultation with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes to avoid the cultural resources associated with Sites FS-05-03-53-64, FS-05-03-53-65, FS-05-03-55-201, and FS-05-03-55-682.
- **Buffers.** Prior to any construction and/or ground-disturbing activities, a buffer of at least 30 feet (approximately 10 meters) will be established around the features associated with sites FS-05-03-53-64, FS-05-03-53-65, FS-05-03-55-201, and FS-05-03-55-682. The buffer will protect the site from direct or indirect effects related to non-routine recreation facility activities and campground maintenance.

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6.4 MONITORING DURING HEAVY MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT PROJECT RECREATION SITES

PCWA will notify each of the Tribes prior to conducting any construction or ground-distributing activities at or near one of the four NRHP-eligible sites. The purpose of this notification is to allow a Tribal representative to be present and monitor site conditions during ground disturbing activities. If a previously unknown cultural resource is uncovered during ground disturbing activities, or if ground disturbing activities result in an adverse impact to a known NRHP-eligible resource, PCWA will immediately cease work in the area and will notify the USDA-FS. Ground disturbing activities will not be resumed until appropriate protection and avoidance measures are identified in consultation with the USDA-FS, SHPO, and the Native American Tribes.

6.5 CULTURAL RESOURCE SITE CONDITION MONITORING

PCWA will revisit the four NRHP-eligible sites once every five years to monitor the condition of the sites over time. These site visits will be conducted by archaeologists who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines in archaeology. Native American Tribes also will be invited to participate in site monitoring activities. During the site visit the archaeologist will survey each site for previously recorded artifacts and features, and will document the condition of the site, noting any changes. No ground-disturbing activities will be conducted and no artifacts will be collected. Survey observations will be documented on standardized Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) cultural resources inventory forms (523 forms). As required, the updated forms will be submitted to the USDA-FS and the North Central Information Center at California State University, Sacramento.

If adverse impacts are identified through these monitoring efforts, PCWA will consult with the USDA-FS, SHPO, and the Native American Tribes, as appropriate, to identify and design measures that address the specific nature of the effect.

6.5.1 Site Stewardship

The Native American Tribes expressed an interest in establishing a site stewardship program, whereby Tribal representatives would periodically conduct site visits to monitor site conditions in coordination with the USDA-FS, independent of the monitoring efforts specified in this HPMP. PCWA supports the concept of an independent site stewardship program. Pertinent information developed through a site stewardship program and provided to PCWA will be reviewed by the PCWA HPMP coordinator. If adverse impacts are identified through the site stewardship program, PCWA will consult with the USDA-FS, SHPO, and Native American Tribes, as appropriate, to identify and design measures that address the specific nature of the effect.

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6.6 MANAGEMENT OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AT TRADITIONAL GATHERING AREAS

As outlined in the VIPMP, PCWA will conduct an annual consultation meeting with the USDA-FS to identify vegetation and pest management activities for the upcoming year, including the specific areas to be treated. After identifying the specific areas to be treated, PCWA will implement the following measures to manage Project activities at potential Traditional Gathering Areas:

- PCWA will notify the Native American Tribes within two weeks after completion on the annual consultation meeting with USDA-FS to identify areas proposed for vegetation and integrated pest management (including vegetation removal and application of pesticides, herbicides or rodenticides). The notification will be provided in writing and will include activity and location-specific information. A copy of the notification will be provided to the USDA-FS. The purpose of this notification is to allow the Native American Tribes to contact PCWA if the Project activities could potentially impact a previously unidentified Traditional Gathering Area. If a Traditional Gathering Area is identified through this process, PCWA will consult with the USDA-FS and Native American Tribes to document the location of the gathering area and to identify additional measures to manage Project activities at that location.
- In addition, all areas that are being treated with pesticides, herbicides or rodenticides will be identified with clearly visible signs along likely access points. The signs will indicate the type of treatment, treatment date, and the name and phone number of a contact person. The signs will remain posted for three weeks following application of any chemicals.

6.7 ADDITIONAL SURVEYS

PCWA surveyed the exposed portions of Hell Hole Reservoir for cultural resources as part of the MFP relicensing studies. The WSE during the surveys was about 4,544 feet. The maximum WSE of Hell Hole Reservoir is 4,630 feet. Therefore, the area of Hell Hole Reservoir that was surveyed equates to approximately 418 acres. The exposed area of Hell Hole Reservoir that was surveyed is visually depicted on HPMP Map 6.

The petroglyphs (Site FS-05-03-55-682) and the area in the vicinity of the petroglyphs was visited and formally recorded on July 31, 2008 as part of PCWA's relicensing studies. The WSE on this date was 4,541 feet. The site was revisited on March 10, 2009, at which time the site was evaluated for NRHP- eligibility. The WSE on this date was 4,536 feet. In August 2009, PCWA co-sponsored with the ENF additional surveys and documentation of FS-05-03-55-682 and vicinity. These efforts focused on evaluating and recording the petroglyphs and the area in the immediate vicinity of the petroglyphs.

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PCWA will conduct an additional survey of Hell Hole Reservoir in coordination with the USDA-FS once over the term of the next license. This survey will be conducted during the late summer or early fall when water levels recede to an elevation of approximately 4,445 feet. As indicated on HPMP Figure 1, this WSE does not typically occur on an average basis. However, this WSE is sometimes reached during individual dry and critically dry water years and represents the lowest recorded WSE that has occurred during the summer period (May 25–September 7), based on the historic hydrologic data. Note that Hell Hole Reservoir has never been drawn down below 4,421 feet since operations began in 1967.

This survey will be limited to the exposed portions of the reservoir that were not previously surveyed, specifically the area between 4,544 and 4,445 feet (HPMP Map 6). This survey will cover an additional 253 acres of the reservoir that was not previously surveyed. The purpose of this survey is to determine whether additional cultural resources are present in areas of the reservoir that are usually submerged. The survey will provide data related to the prehistoric and historic use of the area around Hell Hole Reservoir, and may provide additional insight regarding Site FS-05-03-55-682.

The survey will be an “intensive pedestrian” survey. It will be conducted using USDA-FS cultural resources and professional survey protocols. Survey transects will be spaced at a maximum of 15 meters apart unless surface conditions (e.g., steep slopes) indicate that wider transects are appropriate. The survey will be conducted by archaeologists who meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines in archaeology. Native American Tribes will be invited to participate in the survey. No ground-disturbing activities will be conducted during the surveys and no artifacts will be collected. Survey observations will be documented on standardized DPR 523 forms. As required, the updated forms will be submitted to the USDA-FS and the North Central Information Center at California State University, Sacramento.

6.7.1 Surveys during Minimum Pool Conditions

The current FERC license specifies minimum pool requirements for Hell Hole Reservoir, which vary by water year. The lowest minimum pool requirement for Hell Hole Reservoir is currently 4,341 feet msl, which is unlikely to change under the new license. In the unlikely event that the Hell Hole Reservoir is drawn down below the minimum pool elevation of 4,341 feet, PCWA will survey the areas of the bottom of the reservoir that have not been previously surveyed for cultural resources. This survey effort would be designed and conducted in consultation with the USDA-FS and representatives of the Native American Tribes. The 4,341 elevation contour is shown on HPMP Map 6 for reference.

7.0 SITE CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality of sites is protected under Section 304 of the NHPA, California Public Resources Code 5097.94(a), and California Government Code 6254.10. These

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regulations specify that: (1) information identifying the locations of cultural resources is sensitive and confidential; and (2) site location information is exempt from freedom of information requests. PCWA will adhere to these regulations and will not disclose site-specific cultural resources information to the general public. All cultural resources information developed by PCWA will be maintained in confidential files, which will be exempt from freedom of information requests.

8.0 SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The management measures described in Section 6.0 will be implemented in accordance with the schedule identified in HPMP Table 5.

9.0 EXEMPT ACTIVITIES

This HPMP addresses any potential Project-related effects on known NRHP-eligible properties that could occur from routine operation and maintenance activities. In addition, this HPMP addresses any potential Project-related effects on known NRHP-eligible properties that could occur from: (1) Project operations; (2) modification of existing Project facilities or construction of new facilities; and (3) non-routine recreation facility activities. Therefore, these activities are exempt from further evaluation. A summary of these exempt activities is provided in Appendix C. Detailed information about the activities identified in Appendix C is available in Sections 3.0 (No-Action Alternative) and 4.0 (Proposed Action) of Exhibit E of PCWA's License Application. Procedures for addressing new projects and additional measures to protect currently unknown resources in the APE are addressed in the following sections.

10.0 PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING NEW PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

If PCWA proposes to implement any new Project or activity that has not been analyzed as part of the relicensing studies and is not analyzed in the FERC's NEPA document for the MFP, PCWA will initiate cultural resources investigations (e.g., archival research and survey), as appropriate, in consultation with the ENF and/or TNF and Native American Tribes, to identify cultural resources and to determine if the proposed activity could affect any cultural resources. If the proposed activity could affect cultural resources, PCWA in consultation with the ENF and/or TNF will develop a strategy to avoid, minimize, or negate any potential adverse effects to cultural resources on a project-specific basis. Measures that could be used to minimize or negate adverse effects include, but are not limited to avoidance, preservation in place, and data recovery and curation.

11.0 TREATMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS

Any human remains uncovered during Project-related activities will be treated in accordance with NAGPRA guidelines, ENF and TNF NAGPRA plans, and California Health and Safety Code (CHSC) Section 7050.5(b). If, during the course of Project

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implementation, human remains are discovered all work in the vicinity shall immediately stop. PCWA will immediately notify the Placer County Coroner, the appropriate land manager, and a qualified archaeologist will be secured to evaluate the find. If it is determined that the human remains are Native American, PCWA expects that the land manager and qualified archeologist will provide PCWA with guidance regarding treatment of the remains per NAGPRA, ARPA, and/or other applicable law. In addition, PCWA expects that that the land manager will contact the appropriate Native American Tribes within 48 hours of the determination, as required under NAGPRA. If the determination is that the remains are not Native American, the remains will be treated following CHSC Section 7050.5.

12.0 PROCEDURES FOR INADVERTENT DISCOVERIES

If cultural resources are inadvertently discovered during the course of Project operation or maintenance activities, work within 50 feet of the discovery shall be halted immediately. PCWA will then immediately notify the ENF, TNF, or other appropriate land manager. An ENF, TNF, or other qualified archaeologist retained by PCWA will determine the significance of the discovery and, if appropriate, recommend management measures.

Project activity shall not resume within 50 feet of the discovery until the significance of the discovery has been determined. If it is determined in consultation with the ENF, TNF or other appropriate land manager that the discovery is not significant, Project activity may resume within 50 feet of the discovery. If it is determined that the discovery is significant, PCWA will consult with the ENF, TNF, other appropriate land manager, and/or Native American Tribes, as appropriate, and implement the management measures that are deemed feasible and appropriate for the discovery. Such measures may include avoidance, preservation in place, excavation, further evaluation, documentation, curation, data recovery, or other appropriate measures.

In the case of an emergency situation (e.g., landslide removal, fire suppression) the standard protocols for inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources may be suspended until the emergency situation is resolved. The USDA-FS shall be immediately informed of any emergency situations and the nature of any activities necessary to resolve the situation.

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13.0 PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE PROJECT ACTIVITY

Future Project activities not evaluated in FERC's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document regarding issuance of a new license for the MFP will need to undergo separate environmental review. For future projects, PCWA will notify the appropriate regulatory agencies and complete the necessary environmental process.

14.0 IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

The following subsections describe how PCWA will implement the measures specified in this HPMP. The initial procedure is to identify an HPMP Coordinator who will manage implementation of the HPMP, as explained in the following.

14.1 IDENTIFY AN HPMP COORDINATOR

PCWA will identify an HPMP Coordinator or other individual who will be responsible for implementing the conditions of the HPMP. The role of HPMP Coordinator may be accomplished by the individual(s) responsible for overall MFP environmental compliance. The HPMP coordinator will be responsible for fostering positive relationships with the Native American Tribes. In addition, the HPMP Coordinator will be responsible for the following activities:

- Coordinating consultation activities with Native American Tribes;
- Coordinating consultation activities with the USDA-FS;
- Coordinating the installation of interpretive and/or educational signage;
- Notifying the Native American Tribes of pending vegetation and integrated pest management activities.
- Reviewing plans for any Project-related activities near sites FS-05-03-53-64, FS-05-03-53-65, FS-05-03-55-201, and FS-05-03-55-682 and coordinating the implementation of the management measures identified in Section 6.0 of this HPMP;
- Determining if any proposed ground-disturbing Project-related activities are located near any sites in the APE so that crews may be informed of the sensitivity of the work area;
- Reviewing plans for any proposed Project-related activity beyond the current MFP APE and, if appropriate, coordinating archaeological survey of the area and/or implementation of mitigation measures;
- Maintaining the cultural resources Geographic Information System (GIS) files;

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- Maintaining the files in the PCWA archives related to the history of the MFP facilities;
- Coordinating cultural resources sensitivity training for PCWA staff;
- Coordinating implementation of protocols for any inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources and/or human remains;
- Coordinating and documenting periodic site monitoring;
- Reviewing information provided by the Native American Tribes and/or the USDA-FS as part of their Site Stewardship Program;
- Notifying the USDA-FS if adverse impacts to NRHP-eligible sites are identified through site monitoring activities; Completing an Annual Progress Report identifying any PCWA activities related to cultural resources;
- Coordinating the review of the HPMP; and
- Coordinating and implementing the protocols for dispute resolution, if necessary.

14.2 ANNUAL REPORTING

PCWA will prepare an Annual Progress Report documenting HPMP implementation and any other activities involving or related to cultural resources. The purpose of the Annual Progress Report is to document implementation of and compliance with the HPMP. The Annual Progress Report will be distributed to the ENF, TNF, and other pertinent land managers, and representatives of Native American Tribes who express an interest in reviewing these reports for a 30-day review and comment period. Any comments received will be addressed in a final report. The final report will be filed with the FERC and concurrently distributed to the ENF, TNF, pertinent land managers, and interested Native American Tribes.

14.3 PERIODIC REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE HPMP

The HPMP is not a static document, but rather a dynamic document that can and should be revised to address changed and/or new conditions related to the MFP and any cultural resources within the MFP APE. PCWA will review the HPMP every five years and provide the FERC, ENF, TNF, other pertinent land managers, and Native American Tribes an opportunity to comment on the HPMP. PCWA will review any comments regarding the HPMP and, if appropriate, revise the HPMP in consultation with the FERC, ENF, TNF, Native American Tribes, and SHPO.

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14.4 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

If at any time during implementation of this HPMP the ENF, TNF, SHPO, Native American Tribe, or any other stakeholder object to any action or failure to act pursuant to this HPMP they may file written objections with FERC. FERC will consult with the objecting party to resolve the objection. If the objection is resolved, no further action is necessary. If FERC determines that the objection cannot be resolved, FERC will forward all documentation relevant to the dispute to the ACHP and request that the ACHP comment. Within 30 days after receiving all pertinent documentation, the ACHP will either provide FERC with recommendations, which FERC will take into account in reaching a final decision regarding the dispute; or notify the ACHP that it will comment pursuant to 36 C.F.R. Section 800.6(b) and Section 110(1) of the NHPA, and proceed to comment. FERC will take into account any ACHP comment provided in response to such a request, with reference to the subject of the dispute, and will issue a decision on the objection. Upon issuance of FERC's decision on the objection, PCWA will implement any recommendations for resolution of the objections that are deemed feasible and appropriate to resolve the objection.

15.0 LITERATURE CITED

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Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

TABLES

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HPMP Table 1. Cultural Resources that were Evaluated for NRHP Eligibility.

Site Identification	Description	Resource Type	Eligible Study Conducted by	Land Jurisdiction	Geographic Relationship to Existing Project Facilities
NRHP Eligible Sites					
FS-05-03-53-64	Bedrock mortars, flake scatter	Prehistoric	USDA-FS	ENF	Hell Hole Campground
FS-05-03-53-65	13 BRMs, 39 cups, 3 slicks, petroglyphs, dense lithic scatter.	Prehistoric	USDA-FS	ENF	Big Meadows Campground
FS-05-03-55-201	Bedrock milling features with pestles. Flake scatter originally recorded could not be relocated during 2008 surveys.	Prehistoric	PCWA	ENF	Located near the Upper Hell Hole Campground Upper Hell Hole Trail bisects the site
FS-05-03-55-682	Native American petroglyph	Prehistoric	PCWA	ENF	Located near the Upper Hell Hole Campground, within Hell Hole Reservoir
Non-Eligible Sites					
FS-05-03-53-375	Bedrock mortar and lithic scatter	Prehistoric	PCWA	ENF	Located immediately east of the intersection of FR 2 and FR 24 and just south of the Hell Hole OHV Trail (14N09A). The Big Meadows Campground Water Supply and Trail lies in the vicinity of the resource.
FS-05-17-54-116	Lithic scatter and bedrock mortars	Prehistoric	PCWA	TNF	Located within the Gates Group Campground. The Dolly Creek Water Supply Line runs near the eastern edge of the site.
FS-05-17-54-370	Flake scatter	Prehistoric	USDA-FS	TNF	Located within the Gates Group Campground. Subsumed into Site FS-05-17-54-116.
FS-05-17-54-400	Bedrock mortars and lithic scatter	Prehistoric	PCWA	TNF	Located about 50 feet south of the boundary of the French Meadows Dam Staging Area.
FS-05-17-54-214	Remains of Gates Cabin and lithic scatter	Multi-component, historic and pre-historic	PCWA	TNF	Located approximately 500 feet northeast of the Gates Group Campground access road and adjacent to the Dolly Creek Water Supply Line.
FS-05-03-53-374	Mining ditch	Historic	PCWA	ENF	Located adjacent to the access road leading to the Middle Meadows Group Campground.
FS-05-17-54-445	Lambert Ditch	Historic	PCWA	TNF	Middle Fork American River Gage and Weir below French Meadows Dam Road bisects the ditch.
FS-05-17-54-476	Ralston Ditch	Historic	PCWA	TNF	Traverses the entire length of the south side of French Meadows Reservoir. Portions of the ditch lie within the FERC Project boundary and portions lie outside the boundary.
FS-05-17-54-480	Mining Ditch	Historic	PCWA	TNF	Located within Ahart Campground

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HPMP Table 1. Cultural Resources that were Evaluated for NRHP Eligibility (continued).

Site Identification	Description	Resource Type	Eligible Study Conducted by	Land Jurisdiction	Geographic Relationship to Existing Project Facilities
Non-Eligible Sites (continued)					
FS-05-17-54-481	Stream diversion berm	Historic	PCWA	TNF	Located within Ahart Campground
PL-02	Ditch	Historic	PCWA	TNF	Ditch is adjacent to French Meadows Dam Outlet Works and Leakage Weir Road.
PL-20	Mining ditch	Historic	PCWA	ENF	Crosses the Big Meadows Campground Water Supply Trail.
MFP Facilities	Hydroelectric system	Historic	PCWA	ENF/TNF/ Private land	This resource comprises the existing Project facilities.

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HPMP Table 2. Summary of Consultation with Native American Tribes Regarding the MFP Relicensing.

Date Sent/ Received	Written Correspondence, Reports, Meetings, and Site Visits
2004	
October 15, 2004	Initial outreach letter and MFP information
2005	
July 27, 2005	Request to meet to discuss FERC process & meet the team
August 26, 2005	Meeting with United Auburn Indian Community
August 29, 2005	Meeting with Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
August 31, 2005	Meeting with Shingle Springs Rancheria
September 21, 2005	Invitation to tour MFP facilities
October 4 & 5, 2005	Tour and overnight stay at Hell Hole (handout packets)
October 12, 2005	Thanks for attending tour letter
October 27, 2005	Thanks for attending tour and additional MFP information
2006	
February 24, 2006	Draft 2005 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report
March 30, 2006	Initial Outreach letter and MFP information
April 26, 2006	MFP information and upcoming meeting dates & times
June 23, 2006	Lower & Upper elevation facilities tour invitation
August 11, 2006	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting invitation
August 15, 2006	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
August 23, 2006	Final 2005 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report
September 8, 2006	ILP Workshop Invitation
October 11, 2006	Cultural Resources TSP for TWG meeting
October 17, 2006	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
October 19, 2006	Meeting with Miwok Tribe of the El Dorado Rancheria
November 20, 2006	Cultural Resources TSP for November 28, 2006 TWG meeting
December 15, 2006	Request for interest statements
2007	
March 30, 2007	Request to meet – FERC process – continued consultation
May 1, 2007	Meeting with Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe
May 1, 2007	Meeting with Todd Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation
May 2, 2007	Cultural Resources TSP request for review
May 3, 2007	Meeting with Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
May 9, 2007	Meeting with United Auburn Indian Community
May 22, 2007	Meeting with Miwok Tribe of the El Dorado Rancheria
May 22, 2007	Meeting with Shingle Springs Rancheria

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HPMP Table 2. Summary of Consultation with Native American Tribes Regarding the MFP Relicensing (continued).

Date Sent/ Received	Written Correspondence, Reports, Meetings, and Site Visits
2007 (continued)	
May 22, 2007	Meeting with El Dorado County Indian Council
May 24, 2007	E-mail from Miwok Tribe of the Eldorado Rancheria
June 6, 2007	Cultural Resources TSP for July 17, 2007 TWG meeting
July 3, 2007	Draft 2006 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report
July 10, 2007	Upper elevation facilities tour invitation
July 17, 2007	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
August 1, 2007	July 17, 2007 TWG meeting summary
August 6, 2007	Final TSP to be forwarded to Plenary for approval Sept. 4, 2007
September 19, 2007	November 27, 2007 CUL TWG Meeting reminder
October 9, 2007	Revised Cultural TSP and updated facilities/betterments info
October 12, 2007	Resource Agency Management Objectives
October 25, 2007	Letter from FERC: Consultation for MFP & PG&E Transmission
November 27, 2007	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
December 6, 2007	Final 2006 Cultural Resources Inventory Study Report (via PAD)
December 13, 2007	Draft CUL 1 – Cultural Resources Technical Study Report – 2007
2008	
January 8, 2008	Introduction letter & Draft 2007 Cultural TSR to Darrel Cruz
February 13 & 19, 2008	Agenda and Notification letter re: February 26, 2008 Cultural TWG
February 26, 2008	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
March 5, 2008	Letter transmitting previously distributed CUL reports
March 17, 2008	Letter transmitting MFP Project low altitude aerial DVD's
April 4, 2008	Continued Consultation Meeting Request
April 8, 2008	Letter from United Auburn Indian Community re: NOI/PAD
April 29, 2008	Final CUL 1 – Cultural Resources Technical Study Report – 2007
June 3, 2008	Meeting with Washoe Tribe of Nevada & Ca on cultural resources
June 12, 2008	Meeting with Colfax-Todd Valley Consolidated on cultural resources
June 13, 2008	Meeting with United Auburn Indian on cultural resources
June 18, 2008	Draft Cultural Resources Evaluation Plan
August 1, 2008	MFP Field Trip Tour Invitation
August 21 & 22, 2008	MFP Field Trip
August 28, 2008	Follow-up Letter to MFP Field Trip Participants
August 29, 2008	Final Cultural Resources Evaluation Plan
September 18, 2008	October 2008 Archaeological Evaluation Sites Notification

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HPMP Table 2. Summary of Consultation with Native American Tribes Regarding the MFP Relicensing (continued).

Date Sent/ Received	Written Correspondence, Reports, Meetings, and Site Visits
2008 (continued)	
November 7, 2008	November 18, 2008 Cultural TWG Meeting Notice
November 18, 2008	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
December 12, 2008	Draft CUL 1 – Cultural Resource Technical Study Report – 2008
2009	
February 3, 2009	February 23, 2008 CUL TWG Meeting Notice
February 5, 2009	Draft Supplemental Cultural Resources Evaluation Plan
February 20-26, 2009	Request for Continued Consultation Outreach Letters
February 23, 2009	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
February 25, 2009	Draft PCWA Policy for Management of Cultural Resources
March 25, 2009	Final CUL 1 – Cultural Resources Technical Study Report – 2008
March 25, 2009	Section 106 Meeting with Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe
March 31, 2009	Section 106 Meeting with Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
April 1, 2009	Letter to Shingle Springs Rancheria re: MFP Cultural Resources
April 8, 2009	May 18, 2009 CUL TWG Meeting Notice
April 9, 2009	Section 106 Meeting with United Auburn Indian Community
April 10, 2009	Final Supplemental Cultural Resources Evaluation Plan
May 6, 2009	May 18, 2009 CUL TWG Meeting Cancellation Notice
June 20, 2009	July 21, 2009 CUL TWG Meeting Cancellation Notice
August 10, 2009	Eldorado National Forest Invitation to Visit Petroglyphs
September 9, 2009	September 28, 2009 CUL TWG Meeting Cancellation Notice
November 4, 2009	November 17, 2009 Meeting Notice and Materials
November 17, 2009	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
2010	
January 11, 2010	January 19, 2010 CUL TWG Meeting Notice
January 19, 2010	Cultural Resources Technical Working Group Meeting
January 27, 2010	Letter from Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe
February 8, 2010	Notice of Release of Draft Cultural Resources National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Report (E-mail notification and hard copies)
March 19, 2010	Notice of April 12, 2010 Cultural Resources Meeting
April 12, 2010	Cultural Resources Meeting
April 12, 2010	Comments from Washoe re: Draft NRHP
April 22, 2010	Meeting with United Auburn Indian Community
May 14, 2010	Notice of June 2, 2010 CUL TWG Meeting (HPMP)
June 2, 2010	Cultural Resources Meeting

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HPMP Table 2. Summary of Consultation with Native American Tribes Regarding the MFP Relicensing (continued).

Date Sent/ Received	Written Correspondence, Reports, Meetings, and Site Visits
2010 (continued)	
June 2, 2010	Draft Historic Properties Management Plan – May 2010
June 7, 2010	HPMP Meeting Notification for June 25 and July 9, 2010
June 18, 2010	June 25, 2010 HPMP Meeting Agenda
June 25, 2010	Cultural Resources Meeting – HPMP
June 25, 2010	Letter from Washoe: Comments on Draft HPMP
June 28, 2010	Letter from UAIC: Comments on Draft HPMP and NRHP
July 2, 2010	Letter from CTVCT: Comments on Draft HPMP
July 6, 2010	Notice of July 9, 2010 HPMP Meeting
July 9, 2010	Cultural Resources Meeting – HPMP
September 9, 2010	Confidential Site Visits with Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe
September 13, 2010	Letter to CTVCT – Field Notes Pertaining to Confidential Site Visits
September 27, 2010	Distribution of Draft License Application to Tribes

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HPMP Table 3. Summary of Activities, Potential Project Effects, and Management Measures.

Resource	Location	Activity	Potential Project Effects	Management Measures
Recreation Use				
FS-05-03-53-64	Hell Hole Campground	Recreation use	Inadvertent trampling or damage of resource by recreation visitors	Public education (signage)
FS-05-03-53-65	Big Meadows Campground		Intentional vandalism by recreation visitors	Cultural resource site condition monitoring
FS-05-03-55-201	Upper Hell Hole Trail		Removal of artifacts by recreation visitors	Consultation
FS-05-03-55-682	Hell Hole Reservoir			
Big Mosquito Creek Site	Middle Fork Interbay Road		Damage by recreation users	Monitor activities and report improper use of site to TNF
Project Recreation Facility Maintenance				
FS-05-03-53-64	Hell Hole Campground	Routine maintenance activities	None	None
FS-05-03-53-65	Big Meadows Campground			
FS-05-03-53-64	Hell Hole Campground	Heavy maintenance activities	Inadvertent trampling of cultural site features or artifacts by workers and equipment	Employee education (sensitivity training)
			Removal of artifacts by construction personnel	Avoidance by design and flagging
FS-05-03-53-65	Big Meadows Campground		Inadvertent damage or removal of cultural site features or artifacts by construction equipment and machinery	Monitoring during heavy maintenance activities
Project Operation				
FS-05-03-55-682	Hell Hole Reservoir	Fluctuation of Hell Hole Reservoir	Wave action could erode the petroglyphs.	Cultural resource site condition monitoring
			The petroglyphs could deteriorate as they are alternately exposed and submerged as water levels fluctuate.	Additional surveys
			The petroglyphs could be vandalized or damaged by recreation boaters.	Public education (signage)
				Consultation
Project Maintenance				
Traditional Gathering Areas	Currently Unknown	Vegetation and Integrated Pest Management	Vegetation trimming or application of herbicides, pesticides or rodenticides.	Signage
				Notification of Tribes prior to treatment
Big Mosquito Creek Site	Middle Fork Interbay Road	Road maintenance	Pushing slide material off road could damage site.	Pushing slide material off of Project roads will not be allowed.
		Hazard tree removal	Hazard tree removal could damage site.	Consult with TNF prior to removing hazard trees in vicinity of site.

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HPMP Table 4. Summary of Management Measures by Resource.

Resource	Location	Employee Education	Public Education	Avoidance	Monitoring during Heavy Maintenance Activities at Recreation Facilities	Cultural Resource Site Condition Monitoring	Additional Surveys	Consultation	Tribal Notification
		(Sensitivity Training)	(Signage)	(Design & Flagging)					
FS-05-03-53-64	Hell Hole Campground	X	X	X	X	X		X	
FS-05-03-53-65	Big Meadows Campground	X	X	X	X	X		X	
FS-05-03-55-201	Upper Hell Hole Trail	X	X			X		X	
FS-05-03-55-682	Hell Hole Reservoir	X	X			X	X	X	
Traditional Gathering Areas	Currently Unknown		X					X	X
Big Mosquito Creek Site	Middle Fork Interbay Road	X						X	

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HPMP Table 5. Schedule for Implementing Management Measures.

Management Measures	Schedule
Employee Education	PCWA will identify a HPMP coordinator and will initiate the employee sensitivity training program within six months of issuance of the new license. Employee training will occur annually thereafter. Existing informational materials will be updated on an as-needed basis. Field meetings will occur on an as-needed basis.
Public education	Signage will be designed and installed within two (2) years from the date of the issuance of the new license. The condition of information posters will be evaluated regularly during routine maintenance activities and replaced as needed.
Avoidance	Avoidance areas will be identified concurrent with Project design efforts. Buffer areas will be identified and marked around site boundaries prior to initiation of any activities near the sites. Any flagging or other markings will be removed immediately upon completion of the work.
Monitoring during Heavy Maintenance Activities at Recreation Facilities	PCWA will notify the Tribes of any heavy maintenance activities that involve ground disturbing activities in the location of cultural resources at least three weeks prior to commencing work to allow a Tribal representative to be present during the work.
Cultural Resource Site Condition Monitoring	Monitoring will be conducted once every five years, beginning three years after license issuance.
Additional Surveys at Hell Hole Reservoir	PCWA will conduct an intensive pedestrian surface survey at Hell Hole Reservoir when WSE declines to below 4,445 feet. Previously surveyed areas will not be resurveyed. PCWA will conduct another survey at Hell Hole Reservoir in the unlikely event that the reservoir is drawn down below the minimum operating WSE of 4,341 feet. Previously surveyed areas will not be resurveyed.
Traditional Gathering Areas Measures	PCWA will consult with the USDA-FS annually to identify vegetation and pest management activities for the upcoming year, including the specific areas to be treated. After identifying the specific areas to be treated, PCWA will notify the Native American Tribes of the areas to be treated within two weeks after completion of the annual consultation meeting with USDA-FS. All areas that are being treated will be identified with clearly visible signs located along likely access points. The signs will remain posted for three weeks following application of any chemicals.
Big Mosquito Creek Site Measures	PCWA will consult with the TNF prior to removing hazardous trees along Middle Fork Interbay Road in the vicinity of the sacred site. PCWA will monitor activities in the vicinity of the sacred site and will immediately report improper recreation use of the site to the TNF.

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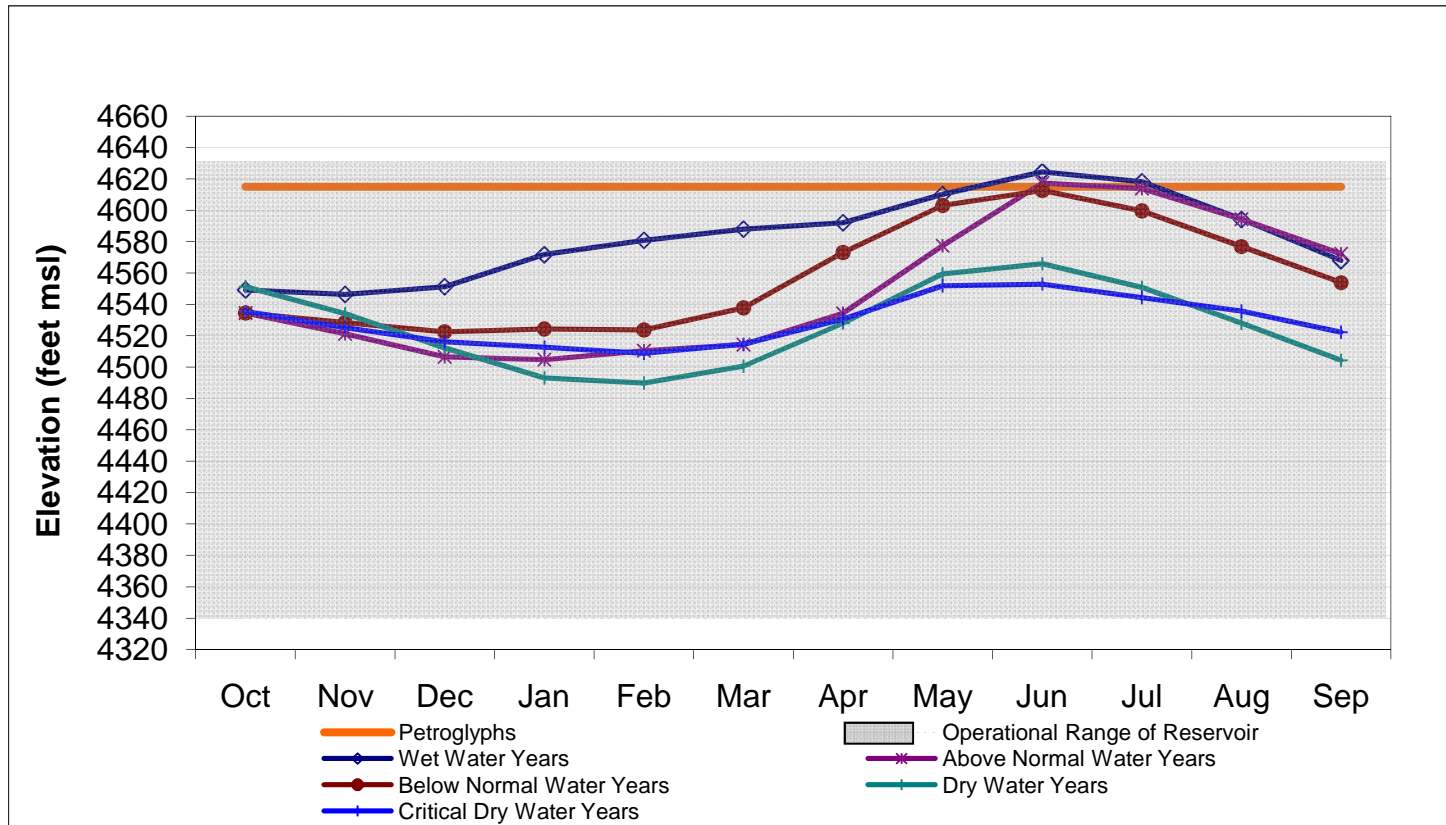
Application for New License

Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

FIGURE

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HPMP Figure 1. Monthly Average Water Surface Elevation at Hell Hole Reservoir by Water Year Type.



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MAPS

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Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

APPENDIX A

Prehistoric, Historic, and Ethnographic Setting

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PREHISTORY OF THE MFP AREA

This section summarizes the prehistory of the MFP area. A more detailed description of the prehistory of the MFP area is available in PCWA's CUL 1 – Cultural Resources National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Study Report (PCWA 2010; SD D).

The prehistory of the MFP area is discussed in terms of northern Sierra Nevada and Lake Tahoe Basin archaeological chronologies, which postulate more than 8,000 years of Native American occupation in the region. Several sources discuss the regional prehistory (e.g., Ataman et al. 1999, 2001; Baker et al. 1999; Bloomer et al. 1997; Elston 1971, 1986; Elston et al. 1977, 1994; Elsasser and Gortner 1991; Jackson and Ballard 1999; Jackson et al. 1994; Lindström 1985, 1992; Lindström and Waechter 1995; Markley 1982; Markley and Henton 1985; Rosenthal and Waechter 2002). The following summary focuses on major works that have resulted in the development or substantial refinement of regional prehistoric models of culture change and chronology.

In the 1950s Heizer and Elsasser (1953) initiated a program of organized research in the north-central Sierra Nevada. Their work identified and defined two archaeological “complexes”, the Martis Complex and the Kings Beach Complex. Initial characterizations of the Martis Complex by Heizer and Elsasser (1953) were based on survey work they conducted to the east of the crest of the Sierra Nevada around Lake Tahoe and parts of the drainages of the Truckee and Carson Rivers.

Heizer and Elsasser (1953:19) defined the Martis Complex based on nine criteria that include: a preference for basalt in the production of bifaces and large, roughly chipped, heavy projectile points that are variable in form; expanded base finger held drills or punches; the rare use of chert and obsidian for tool production; the use of the mano and metate; and an economy that appeared to emphasize hunting of large game. Heizer and Elsasser (1953) suggested that the preference for basalt tools was the most distinguishing characteristic of the Martis Complex. They (1953:20) further suggested that the extensive use of basalt by the Martis Complex linked it to other basalt using complexes in the Great Basin, the Mohave Desert, and the Central Valley of California.

In summary, the Martis Complex may represent a widespread cultural pattern along the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. Cultural manifestations (e.g., the Crane Flat Complex) resembling the Martis Complex appear to be spread along the western midslopes of the length of the Sierra Nevada. Indeed, both ethnographic and archaeological evidence suggest that the Martis Complex may be a midslope adaptation extending across the Sierra Nevada that represents a much broader and longer-lived cultural pattern than is currently acknowledged (Markley 1984; Zeier and Elston 1986).

Initial characterizations of the Kings Beach Complex by Heizer and Elsasser (1953:20) highlighted: a preference for obsidian in the production of small projectile points; the rare use of basalt; an absence of drills; bedrock mortars; and an economic emphasis on seed processing and fishing. The Kings Beach Complex is commonly divided into two

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periods: Early Kings Beach (1,300-700 B.P.), characterized by Rosegate Series points; and Late Kings Beach (700-150 B.P.), characterized by Desert Series Points (Elston 1971; Zeier and Elston 1986). Early Kings Beach is thought to represent the initial phase of the Washoe ethnographic pattern.

At about 1,500 B.P. shifts in the cultural patterns of the Martis Complex become evident in the archaeological record of the north-central Sierra Nevada. For example, changes become evident in technology and subsistence and settlement strategies. Technological shifts are apparent in the appearance of larger numbers of smaller projectile points made from obsidian flake blanks rather than larger projectile points made from basalt. Subsistence and settlement strategies highlight an intensification of plant exploitation and other lower ranked resources, and suggest an increase in regional population size, but also a reduction in the size of regularly used territory (Zeier and Elston 1986; Elston et al. 1994). These changes are probably related to a shift in climatic regime and an overall increase in population size across the region (i.e., growth of local populations and/or an influx of new cultural groups). Regardless, these changes mark the waning of the Martis Complex and the emergence of the Kings Beach Complex.

Alteration of the relatively stable cultural patterns associated with the Martis Complex seems to be associated with both climatic change and increases in population size. At around 2,000 B.P. the climate of the region begins to change from cool/moist conditions to warm/arid conditions. This change obviously affected local cultural groups (i.e., the Martis Complex) and altered their settlement and subsistence strategies. An evident shift in subsistence strategy is the intensification of the exploitation of plant resources. The intensification process probably included expanded use of various seeds, acorns, and piñon seeds. In fact, piñon reaches the eastern limits of the distribution of Martis Complex sites at the beginning of the Early Kings Beach Period. Elston (1986:19) has also tied the incipient use of nut hullers, associated with piñon exploitation, to this time period.

A return to drier conditions in the north-central Sierra Nevada also reduced the size of the resource rich mixed forest environment exploited by the Martis Complex and other similar archaeological cultures. Environmental change coupled with a general increase in population size, probably due to both natural growth and an influx of other groups, seems to have pushed groups exploiting mid-elevation habitats of the Sierra Nevada into closer proximity. This “packing together” of different groups of people probably fueled competition among them, particularly related to access to potentially critical resources. This combination of conditions favored modifications to previous settlement and subsistence patterns. These modifications probably included intensification of the exploitation of certain plant resources (e.g., acorns and piñon) and development of demarcated territorial boundaries. Indeed, these cultural patterns are evident among the ethnographic groups (e.g., the Washoe) that currently occupy the area.

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A more recent cultural chronology for the western Sierra is proposed by Jackson and Ballard (1999) based on excavations at the Camino Site (CA-ELD-145). The model was formulated using a large database of Bodie Hills obsidian hydration data derived from the Camino Site and 124 other site investigations in the American River Watershed. This large database served as the basis for constructing a new cultural-historical framework for the region. Jackson and Ballard (1999) defined the Sierran Pattern to characterize occupations of the American River Watershed for the time-period spanning the mid- to late Holocene.

The early Sierran Period (3200 B.P. – 1400 B.P.) is marked by dart points, millingslabs, and handstones in the western Sierra. Mortar and pestle use was uncommon during this period. The terminus of this period is coincident with a dramatic decline in obsidian production and the introduction of the bow and arrow. During this period the use of locations near abundant freshwater and plant resources may have provided small and extended families regular and abundant resources. Jackson and Ballard (1999:246-247) suggest an increased focus and reliance on acorns and deer during the closing centuries of the Early Sierran Period. This timing places the beginnings of an acorn based economy at 2000 B.P., generally consistent with other regional findings.

The beginning of the Middle Sierran Period (1400 B.P. – 600 B.P.) is coincident with the widespread and apparently rapid appearance of the bow and arrow throughout California and the western Great Basin in general, and Gunther Series projectile points throughout northern California. By the end of the Middle Sierran Period, acorn exploitation is associated with a technological tool assemblage that includes boulder and bedrock mortars, pitted stones, and the use of handstones as pestles, along with their use on millingslabs.

The Late Sierran Period (1000 B.P. – 250 B.P.) is characterized by a widespread, intensive, and specialized use of the western slope of the Sierra. Acorn use was intensive, and black oak was favored. There appears to have been a reduced focus on seeds, exploitation of both large and small fauna (e.g., rabbits, deer), year-round occupation of the western Sierra at sites below 3,000-3,500 feet in elevation, habitual use of mid- and high-elevation Sierran sites during summer months, and widespread land use. Most archaeological sites in the western Sierra have at least some evidence of Late Sierran Period use.

The Late Sierran period witnessed the introduction of Desert Series projectile points. Gunther Series points disappear abruptly, although other small corner-notched points, which were used along with Gunther Series points during the Middle Sierran Period, continue to be used at least during the initial centuries of the Late Sierran Period. Certain forms of large hafted bifaces occur after 500 B.P. during the Late Sierran Period, including large Corner-notched, Stemmed, and Contracting Stemmed points. The Late Sierran Period incorporates what has previously been called the Protohistoric Period.

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ETHNOGRAPHY OF THE MFP AREA

This section summarizes the ethnography of the MFP area. A more detailed description of the ethnography of the MFP area is available in PCWA's CUL 1 – Cultural Resources National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Study Report (PCWA 2010).

The upper reaches of the Middle Fork American River and Rubicon River lies within the ethnographic territory of two indigenous Native American groups, the Hill Nisenan (Southern Maidu) and Washoe. The crest of the Sierra Nevada served as a dividing line between their territories, with the Nisenan to the west and the Washoe to the east. Linguistically distinct groups, their territories overlapped in the Middle Fork American River watershed.

Nisenan inhabit the drainages of the Yuba, Bear, and American rivers, and also the lower reaches of the Feather River, extending from the east banks of the Sacramento River on the west to the mid to high elevations of the western flank of the Sierra Nevada (Wilson and Towne 1978). Washoe historically inhabited the region east of the crest of the Sierra Nevada into Carson Valley, extending from the Walker River in the south to Honey Lake in the north, with peripheral territory extending to the mid-elevations of the west Sierran slope (d'Azevedo 1986). The two ethnographic groups fully exploited their territories by following a pattern of seasonal transhumance, acquiring different resources across a range of altitudes and environments.

Nisenan are members of the Maiduan Family of the Penutian stock and are generally divided into three groups based on dialect differences: the Northern Hill Nisenan in the Yuba River drainage; the Valley Nisenan along the Sacramento River; and the Southern Hill Nisenan along the American River (Kroeber 1925; Beals 1933; Wilson and Towne 1978). Washoe, on the other hand, speak a Hokan language and are the only Great Basin group to speak a non-Numic language (Kroeber 1925; d'Azevedo 1986). Kroeber (1925:569, 1955) and Downs (1966:70) postulate an early relationship, prior to 4,500 years ago, between the Hokan speaking Washoe and other Hokan speakers in California.

Nisenan and Washoe share overall cultural similarities, but characteristics specifically associated with a particular group are highlighted in this report. Detailed information regarding these groups is presented in several sources. These sources include: Power's (1877) Tribes of California; Kroeber's (1925) Handbook of the Indians of California which forms the core of the ethnographic data for Nisenan; Wilson and Towne's (1978:387-397) summary description of the Nisenan; Washoe lifeways are most completely described by Downs (1966); d'Azevedo's (1986:466-498) summary description of Washoe; Littlejohn's (1928) Nisenan Geography; Faye's (1923) Notes on the Southern Maidu; Beals' (1933) Ethnology of the Nisenan; Kroeber's (1929) The Valley Nisenan; Ritter and Schulz (1972) on Nisenan ecology; Power's (1876) Life and Culture of the Washoe and Paiutes; Barrett's (1917) The Washo Indians; Siskin's

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(1938) Washo Territory; Lowie's (1939) *Ethnographic Notes on the Washo*; and d'Azevedo's (1963) *The Washo Indians of California and Nevada*.

The basic social and economic group for the Nisenan and Washoe was the family or household unit. The nuclear and/or extended family formed a corporate unit. For the Nisenan these basic units were combined into distinct, named village or hamlet groups. Each village was largely composed of consanguine relatives (Littlejohn 1928:21; Beals 1933:358). Lineage groups were important political and economic units that combined to form tribelets, which were the largest sociopolitical unit identified for Nisenan (Wilson and Towne 1978). Each tribelet had a chief or headman who exercised political control over all villages within it. Washoe households were somewhat loosely combined to form villages, referred to as bunches by Downs (1966:44-46). Each bunch had a headman or chief (te_be'y), which seems to have been a hereditary position passed on through either parent (Downs 1966:41). During aboriginal times, however, there was never a single chief for all Washoe (Downs 1966:45).

Nisenan and Washoe practice seasonal transhumance, moving from one area or elevation to another to harvest plants, fish, and hunt game across contrasting ecological that are in relatively close proximity to each other. Valley Nisenan generally did not range beyond the valley and lower foothills. Conversely, foothill and mountain groups of Nisenan and Washoe ranged across a rather more extensive area that included jointly shared territory whose entry was subject to traditional understandings of priority of ownership and current relations between the groups (d'Azevedo 1986:467).

Nisenan and Washoe peoples frequently interacted as trading partners, at ceremonial gatherings, and in armed conflict primarily due to perceived territorial encroachment. In fact, the ethnographic literature, particularly in reference to the Nisenan, reports rather regular hostilities between Hill and Valley Nisenan and Nisenan and Washoe (cf., Littlejohn 1928:13, 18, 24, 48; Beals 1933:367). Most interactions between the two groups, however, appear to have been civil and friendly in nature. For example, Beals (1933:366) states that Nisenan and Washoe along the South Fork of the American River frequently interacted and often met for "Big Times" near Kyburz and Myers Station.

Beals (1933) and Littlejohn (1928) state that the Nisenan did not travel extensively beyond their village, usually not going beyond 25 miles in any direction from their place of birth. Washoe, however, did travel over the Sierra Nevada (e.g., to Nisenan and Miwok territory) during the summer, and often wintered on the west side of the Sierra Nevada. This scenario is not surprising considering the extreme mobility of the Washoe during their seasonal subsistence "round".

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REGIONAL HISTORY

This section summarizes the history of the MFP region. A more detailed description of the history of the MFP region is available in PCWA's CUL 1 – Cultural Resources National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Study Report (PCWA 2010).

The historic period in the Sierra Nevada is typically seen as beginning with the Gold Rush in 1849 (Farquar 1965), though written accounts extend back to 1806. The historic period in the MFP area is best understood in the context of major economic developments that dominate the history of the entire central and southern Sierra Nevada, such as gold mining and the development of hydroelectric systems.

The first Euroamericans to make contact with Native Americans in the region were either Spanish explorers or mountain men trapping in and exploring the region. Spanish exploration of the Central Valley did not begin until the late 1700s, and the eastern edges of the Central Valley and the Sierra Nevada were not explored until the early 1800s. In 1808 Gabriel Moraga explored the Mokelumne, Cosumnes, and American Rivers, passing near modern day Folsom (Beck and Haase 1974). He named the river "Rio de las Llamas" (River of Sorrows). The name was changed to "Rio de los Americanos" (American River) by Mexican Governor Alvarado in 1837 because the river was so popular with American fur traders.

Subsequent exploration of the region is credited to mountain men such as Jedediah Smith who crossed the Sierra Nevada into California in 1826 (Beck and Haase 1974). Smith traveled along the American, Sacramento, and Cosumnes rivers, and also probably passed through current Pleasant Valley (Brooks 1977). Other explorers such as Ewing Young, Joseph Walker, John Fremont, and Christopher "Kit" Carson soon followed Smith. In 1844 Fremont crossed the Sierra Nevada near Lake Tahoe and descended the west slope in proximity to the American River, which he eventually followed to Sutter's Fort. Many of the trails, however, used by these early explorers and subsequent immigrants were not newly discovered routes, but rather Native American trails that were already in use.

Early explorations of the Sierra Nevada were soon followed by groups of Euroamerican immigrants moving west. The first of these immigrant groups was the Bartleson-Bidwell party that crossed the Sierra Nevada in 1841 and followed the Stanislaus River into the Central Valley (Beck and Haase 1974). The Joseph Chiles and Joseph Walker parties followed the crossing of the Sierra Nevada by the Bartleson-Bidwell party in 1843 (Beck and Haase 1974).

Chiles crossed the Sierra Nevada following the Malheur and Pit Rivers into the Central Valley, and then traveled south along the Sacramento River. Walker, on the contrary, traveled south along the eastern front of the Sierra Nevada to Walker Lake where he crossed into Owens Valley, and eventually the Central Valley using what is now known as Walker's Pass. Subsequently, in 1844 the Stevens-Murphy party crossed the Sierra

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Nevada and probably is the first immigrant group to enter California via the Truckee and Bear Rivers. The route followed by this group became known as the California Trail, and develops into a popular trail into California during the Gold Rush. The successful crossing of the mountains by the Stevens-Murphy party, however, was followed by the 1846 disaster of the Donner Party.

The Mexican-American War, which began in 1846, also affected the exploration of the Project area, including the identification of new trails across the Sierra Nevada. The exploits of the Mormon Battalion and the establishment of the Mormon Emigrant Trail (MET) highlight these activities. After serving in the Mexican-American War, members of the Mormon Battalion worked at both Sutter's Fort and Coloma. The Mormons, however, in 1848 decided to return to Salt Lake City following a route through current Pleasant Valley, Sly Park and Jenkinson Lake, Leek Springs, Carson Pass, and Hope Valley (Owens 1989). This route eventually became known as the Carson Wagon Road, and provided an alternative trail across the Sierra Nevada to the California Trail along the Truckee River. This route, however, was not popular until the onset of the Gold Rush.

The hub of non-Native American settlement in 1840s was Sutter's Fort on the Sacramento River. Somewhat closer to the MFP area was a cluster of ranches on the Bear River, just north of today's Wheatland. This was originally part of the 22,000 acre Mexican land grant given to Don Pablo Gutierrez. Following Gutierrez's death in the rebellion that toppled the Mexican governor, William Johnson of Boston won the ranch in an auction on April 28, 1845 (Myer 2002:23). Theodore Sigard (or Sicard) of France built a home on the other side of Bear River. This ranch became a rendezvous point for French fur trappers (Myers 2002:24). It has been speculated that the French trappers based here might be the same Frenchmen for whom French Meadows is named.

California's gold rush began with the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill on the American River in 1848. By 1849, the gold discovery ignited a world-wide frenzy, as "forty-niners" dashed to the California gold country. The rush lasted only a few years, but it brought a major influx of people to California. Seeking quick fortunes, prospectors came from all over the world in search of California's gold. Many of the forty-niners arrived by ship and disembarked at San Francisco before heading to the Sierra gold fields. In 1849, most miners were working in an area known as the Mother Lode, which is a strip of land in the Sierra Nevada foothills primarily extending from Yuba to Mariposa County, varying in width from 10 to 20 miles, and in elevation from 1,200 to 2,000 feet.

The early arrivals to the gold fields began prospecting in placer deposits in and along rivers and streams, which were easily accessible. Recovery of gold from these deposits required only simple tools and techniques. Indeed, the earliest and most traditional forms of placer mining in California included panning, rocking, tomming, and sluicing.

Beginning in the 1850s, mining activity included the construction of dams, water ditches, and flumes to drain rivers and expose their beds for mining. The drained areas were

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then worked with pans, rockers, and sluices. The largest river mining operations in California were in operation from the 1850s through the 1860s. Eventually, the surface placers became exhausted, and it was necessary to access deeper gold deposits in streambeds and other areas. These deposits were initially accessed by drift mining, which involved the excavation of shafts and tunnels into auriferous gravels. Early drift mining shafts generally reached depths of up to 35 feet, with branching shafts of similar length. As mining equipment improved, drift mines became more complex, and tunnels routinely reached lengths of 2,000 feet.

Another technological development that enabled miners to access “deep diggings” or buried deposits of gold was hydraulic mining. Hydraulic mining involved the use of highly pressurized water that was typically directed at hillsides through nozzles that received water from ditches and flumes through long, narrow pipes. Hydraulic mining washed away large quantities of soil, and allowed 4-5 men to do the work of 50 men using other mining methods. Consequently, hydraulic mining soon became very common, but it was a very destructive mining method that could remove entire hillsides while depositing large amounts of silt in rivers. The environmental impacts associated with hydraulic mining eventually led to an injunction against the practice in 1884, and the subsequent banning of hydraulic mining. However, hydraulic mining and its associated ditch and water conveyance systems facilitated the development of hydroelectric systems in the Sierra Nevada.

The development and use of hydroelectric systems in California and the United States can be divided into three chronological periods and phases: the American period (1840s-1900s), the public works/regulatory period (1902-1930s) and the modern period (1945-1960s). In California’s American period, as part of the Gold Rush era, hundreds of miles of flumes and ditches were built. These ditches served as a foundation for future early period water diversion activities, including hydroelectric power production, which by the 1880s had emerged as a fledgling industry. The public works/regulatory period revolved around the federal and state governments’ response to the southwestern states and California’s water needs through the creation of a regulatory framework to provide for the construction of dams and reservoirs and the secondary development of hydroelectric power facilities. The modern period is marked by the 1945 California State Water Resources Act in a time when municipalities throughout the state experienced enormous population increases, resulting in greater energy demands as consumption multiplied and California’s cities suburbanized.

MFP PROJECT HISTORY

This section summarizes the history of the MFP. A description of the MFP and its history are presented in PCWA’s CUL 1 – Cultural Resources National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Study Report (PCWA 2010).

Three years after the passage of the 1945 Water Resources Act, the Placer County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution requesting that the State of California Water

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Resources Board conduct a comprehensive survey of water and water conditions within Placer County. In December 1948 a contract was in place between the county and the state to complete the water survey at the cost of \$5,000. The survey was completed approximately six years later. On March 29, 1951 an application for a preliminary permit was submitted for the MFP Project, identified as Project No. 2079, to the Federal Power Commission (FP), the predecessor to the present-day FERC.

In July 1954 the state water survey findings for Placer County were issued in Bulletin 10 of the California Water Resources Board. Subsequently, on September 11, 1957 the State Legislature adopted the PCWA Act and appointed Placer County supervisors as ex-officio directors and Ralph Brody, Esq., a leading California water rights attorney, as council to the newly formed PCWA. The agency hired engineering consulting firm Porter, Urquhart, McCreary and O'Brien to prepare a Water Resources Plan for the PCWA. Soon thereafter the firm reorganized as McCreary-Koretsky Engineers, led by Sanford Koretsky and Bruce McCreary who put together the proposal and initial plans for the MFP.

On July 29, 1958 the Placer County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 58-121, which provided for the assignment and transfer of water and power applications, permits, licenses and rights in the name of the County of Placer to the PCWA for the development of the MFP. On that same day the County Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 58-5 which authorized development of the MFP pursuant to the transfer of rights, applications, licenses and permits from the County to the PCWA under Resolution 58-121. In August 1958 a revised application was resubmitted to the FPC for Project No. 2079. The revised application referenced Resolutions 58-5 and 58-121, accounted for the 1954 survey findings of the State Water Resources Board, and included subsequent design refinements for the proposed MFP based on the water survey findings and additional engineering work.

With a project concept in place, the PCWA sought a purchaser for the power to be generated from the water system. Such a partnership was crucial to the success of the project, as the power purchase funds were intended to repay the bonds issued to finance the construction campaign. PG&E partnered with the PCWA to purchase the hydropower produced by the MFP. In June 1961, Placer County voters approved a measure that authorized issuance of \$140 million in revenue bonds to finance the construction of the MFP (PCWA 2007c). The success at the ballot box allowed PCWA to issue a request for bids to provide engineering and construction services for the proposed Project and to prepare contracts for hydropower sales to PG&E. The American River Constructors (ARC), a syndicate of international engineering and building contracting companies, submitted the only bid to the PCWA and was awarded the project.

In May 1963 the 'Placer Pact' was signed between the PCWA and PG&E which provided for an annual payment of \$5,725,000 to the PCWA for use of the water project's hydroelectric power (Auburn Journal May 2, 1963). The Placer Pact also

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approved construction of the MFP, which was initiated at a May 23, 1963 pre-job conference attended by PCWA and ARC.

Construction of the MFP was initiated with a groundbreaking ceremony at French Meadows, the current location of French Meadows Reservoir, on July 20, 1963. An aggressive project schedule was carefully crafted by PCWA and included penalties for delays. By October 1964 the project was reported as halfway complete with over 2,000 laborers working in cold snowy weather to complete the French Meadows complex on time. ARC was liable for a \$17,500 a day penalty if the French Meadows Reservoir was not completed on schedule.

In November 1964 the French Meadows Dam was completed and the French Meadows Reservoir was filled. One month later the Hell Hole Dam, 20% completed, failed due to storm water runoff. Work commenced immediately on cleanup and reconstruction of the dam. By June 1966 McCreary-Koretsky Engineers stated that the MFP was 98.4% complete with approximately 128,790 acre feet of water stored in the French Meadows Reservoir and 151,082 acre feet stored in the Hell Hole Reservoir. Completion of the MFP was celebrated with a June 29, 1968 dedication ceremony held at Ralston Afterbay Dam. Completion of the MFP provided Placer County residents with a multi-purpose hydroelectric/water project and a stable, in-county, water supply.

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Application for New License

Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

APPENDIX B

PCWA Cultural Resources Information Pamphlet

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STOP! CALL YOUR SUPERVISOR

if you see something similar to these cultural resources!



Bedrock Mortars



Rock Art



Old Ditches

VALUABLE CLUES
TO THE
WATERSHED'S
HISTORY



Old Buildings, Cans, or Ceramics

Stone tools and artifacts



**DO NOT REMOVE OR DISTURB
SUCH RESOURCES
CALL YOUR SUPERVISOR!**

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Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079)

APPENDIX C

Activities Exempt from Further Evaluation

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ACTIVITIES EXEMPT FROM FURTHER EVALUATION

Routine Maintenance of Project Facility and Features

- Inspections and Maintenance
 - Tunnel and Powerhouse Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance
 - Spillway and Tainter Gate Testing
- Vegetation Management
 - Trimming by Hand
 - Trimming with Equipment
 - Herbicide and Surfactant Use
- Pest Management
 - Noxious Weed Management
 - Physical Rodent Control (snap traps)
 - Over-the-Counter Rodenticide Use
 - Rodenticide Use – Fumigants
- Sediment Management at Small Diversions
 - Physical Removal with Equipment
 - Interim Sediment Management
 - Contingency Sediment Management
- Sediment Management at Medium Diversions
 - Physical Removal with Equipment
 - Sediment Augmentation
 - Sediment Disposal
- Slope Stabilization (Falling Rock Control)
 - Gunite (erosion control)
 - Rock Removal/Fence Repair
- Debris Management
 - Large Woody Debris
 - Cleaning Trash Racks
 - Log Booms
- Facility Painting
- Pole Replacement/Retrofit

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Routine Maintenance of Project Recreation Facilities

- Annual Maintenance
- Heavy Maintenance

Routine Maintenance of Project Roads and Project Recreation Facility Access Roads

- Annual Maintenance
- Periodic Maintenance

Routine Maintenance of Project Trails

- Annual Maintenance
- Periodic Maintenance

Project Operations

- Instream Flow Releases
- Power Generation
- Reservoir Water Surface Elevation Fluctuations

Modification of Existing Project Facilities or Construction of New Project Facilities

- Hell Hole Seasonal Storage Increase Improvement
- Modification of Small Diversions
 - Duncan Creek Diversion Dam
 - North Fork Long Canyon Creek Diversion Dam
 - South Fork Long Canyon Creek Diversion Dam
- Modification of Outlet Works
 - French Meadows Dam and Outlet Works
 - Hell Hole Dam and Outlet Works
 - Middle Fork Interbay Dam Outlet Works
 - Ralston Afterbay Dam Outlet Works

Non-Routine Recreation Facility Activities

- Removal, Reduction, and Consolidation of Recreation Facilities
 - Removal of Upper Hell Hole Campground
 - Reduction of Hell Hole Campground

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- Reduction of Poppy Campground
- Reduction of Ralston Afterbay Picnic Area
- Consolidation of McGuire Boat Ramp and Associated Parking
- Conversion of Facilities to Accommodate Group Use
 - Conversion of McGuire Picnic Area and Beach to McGuire Group Campground
- Enhancement of Recreation Facilities
 - Enhancement of Ahart Campground
 - Enhancement of Indian Bar Rafting Access and General Parking
 - Extension of Hell Hole Boat Ramp
 - Extension of French Meadows Boat Ramp
- Improvements to Dispersed Concentrated Use Areas
 - Development of the Duncan Creek Diversion Primitive Recreation Site
 - Development of Ralston Afterbay Sediment Removal Access Point Boat Ramp