

Chapter 1

Introduction

This joint environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) evaluates the impacts associated with issuing endangered species permits and implementing the *Placer County Conservation Program* (PCCP). The PCCP is a regional, comprehensive program that would provide a framework to protect, enhance, and restore the natural resources in western Placer County, while streamlining permitting for Covered Activities. Within this framework, the PCCP would achieve conservation goals and comply with state and federal environmental regulations while streamlining planning and permitting for anticipated urban and rural growth and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure needed to serve the county's population. The PCCP includes three integrated programs.

- The *Western Placer County Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan* (Plan; Appendix A), a joint habitat conservation plan and natural community conservation plan (HCP/NCCP) that would protect fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats and fulfill the requirements of federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), and California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCPA).
- The *Western Placer County Aquatic Resources Program* (CARP; Appendix B) that would protect streams, wetlands, and other water resources and fulfill the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and analogous state laws and regulations.
- The *Western Placer County In-Lieu Fee Program* (ILF Program; Placer County 2018), that fulfills compensatory mitigation requirements under Section 404 of the CWA.

This EIS/EIR was prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 21000–21178.1); the State CEQA Guidelines (PRC 21000 et seq.; 14 California Code of Regulations 1500 et seq.); the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code 4321; 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500.1); and the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidelines on implementing NEPA.

The proposed action (also, the *proposed project* under CEQA) is described in detail in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, of this EIS/EIR. The proposed action under NEPA is issuance of incidental take¹ permits (ITPs) by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA. The proposed project under CEQA consists of issuance of an NCCP permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code; adoption of the PCCP, including the HCP/NCCP and the CARP by the agencies receiving the endangered species and wetlands permits (see Section 1.1, *Placer County Conservation Program Overview*, below); and approval of associated implementing actions such as adoption or amendment of plans and ordinances (Table 1-1).

¹ As defined by the ESA, *take* means “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.” *Harm* is defined as “any act that kills or injures the species, including significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering” (50 CFR 17.3). *Take* is defined under the California Fish and Game Code Section 86 as any action or attempt to “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.”

1.1 Placer County Conservation Program Overview

The PCCP is a regional, comprehensive program that would provide a framework to protect, enhance, and restore the natural resources in western Placer County, while streamlining permitting for Covered Activities. Within this framework, the PCCP would achieve conservation goals and comply with state and federal environmental regulations while facilitating planning and permitting for anticipated urban and rural growth and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure needed to serve the county's population. The PCCP includes three integrated program components.

- The *Western Placer County Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan*, also referred to as the Plan, a joint HCP and NCCP that would protect fish, wildlife, and plants, and their habitats and fulfill the requirements of the ESA and NCCPA.
- The *Western Placer County Aquatic Resources Program*, also referred to as CARP, that would protect streams, wetlands, and other water resources and fulfill the requirements of the CWA and analogous state laws and regulations.
- The *Western Placer County In-Lieu Fee Program*, referred to as the ILF Program, that fulfills compensatory mitigation requirements under Section 404 of the CWA.

The following agencies are jointly applying for endangered species permits from state and federal agencies.

- Placer County (County).
- City of Lincoln.
- South Placer Regional Transportation Authority (SPRTA).²
- Placer County Water Agency (PCWA).
- Placer Conservation Authority (PCA).³

These entities are collectively referred to as the *Permit Applicants* or the *Permittees*.⁴ The Permit Applicants are applying for ITPs from USFWS and NMFS, pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA. The same entities are also applying for an NCCP permit from CDFW, pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code. USFWS, NMFS, and CDFW are collectively referred to as the *Wildlife Agencies*. The permits from the Wildlife Agencies would authorize take of certain state- and federally listed species (i.e., Covered Species) during the course of otherwise lawful activities (i.e., Covered Activities), as described in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*.

To fulfill an application requirement for these permits, the Permit Applicants have prepared the Plan, which serves as an HCP under the ESA and an NCCP under the NCCPA. The Plan is intended to support the issuance of ITPs from USFWS and NMFS and issuance of an NCCP permit from CDFW with a term of 50 years. The Plan includes a long-term conservation plan to protect and contribute to the recovery of Covered Species and natural communities in the Plan Area as described below in Section 1.1.2, *Plan Area*, while streamlining development and maintenance activities that are

² SPRTA is a Joint Powers Authority of Placer County and the Cities of Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville.

³ PCA would be created as a Joint Powers Authority of Placer County and the City of Lincoln to implement the HCP/NCCP and the CARP on behalf of all Permit Applicants.

⁴ In addition to the Permit Applicants identified above, other parties may elect to seek coverage under the PCCP. These entities are considered *Participating Special Entities* and are listed in Section 8.9.4 of the Plan.

compatible with local policies and regulations. The Plan identifies where future impacts on protected species would likely occur and lays out a strategy for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation of the impacts on natural resources that would result from these activities. The Plan also goes beyond the mitigation requirements of the ESA to include measures that protect and contribute to the recovery of Covered Species and natural communities in the Plan Area, as required by the NCCPA.

1.1.1 Background

In 1998, the Placer County Board of Supervisors directed the Placer County Planning Department to prepare a program to implement the open space and conservation goals and policies of the 1994 *Placer County General Plan*. This program, now known as the Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program (Placer Legacy Program), was approved in June 2000. Implementation programs from the general plan provided the impetus for initiating the PCCP. The Placer Legacy Program further refined the direction provided by the general plan, including the decision to prepare an NCCP and a comprehensive program to address wetlands and streams that became the CARP. The PCCP was initiated in 2001 after the Board voted unanimously to sign the PCCP Planning Agreement (Planning Agreement), which included the work program for the PCCP. In 2007, the PCCP Ad Hoc committee was formed consisting of two Board members from Placer County and two Council members from the City of Lincoln. The Ad Hoc Committee was created to engage the decision-makers and to develop a consistent framework, a conservation map, and priorities. In 2008, the Board unanimously adopted the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations to work with partners (City of Lincoln, PCWA, and SPRTA), and to coordinate with the public and resource agencies to finish the work plan and prepare a second draft. In spring 2013, a draft reserve map was developed by the Ad Hoc Committee and County staff. That map provided the foundation for the preparation of the proposed conservation strategy.

The 2001 Planning Agreement was entered into by the County, CDFW, USFWS, and NMFS. That document identified the Permit Applicants, the program areas and phases, regulatory goals, the planning process, guidelines for plan development, commitment of resources to complete the program, and other miscellaneous provisions. The Planning Agreement was amended in December 2011 to remain effective until December 1, 2018.

The process used to develop the PCCP relied upon many of the same principles from the Placer Legacy Program, which included independent scientific input and analysis, extensive public participation, and advice from key stakeholder groups. To assist in the development of the PCCP, the County formed working groups consisting of citizens (the Biological Stakeholder Working Group [BWG] and Finance Committee), agency staff, and science advisors.

1.1.2 Plan Area

The Plan Area is that land proposed for permit coverage under the Plan as shown on Figure 1-1. The Plan Area was developed with a focus on areas where growth and development may greatly affect state- and federally protected species. As shown in Figure 1-1, the Plan Area boundary includes a portion of western Placer County, including all unincorporated lands in western Placer County, and the city of Lincoln. Also shown in Figure 1-1, the Plan Area also includes areas where some Covered Activities of the County and PCWA would be located within the non-participating cities, a portion of

the Coon Creek⁵ floodplain in Sutter County, canals in Sutter County that are important for salmonid fish passage, and the Big Gun Conservation Bank in Michigan Bluff.

The Covered Activities and locations of Covered Activities are described in detail in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*.

1.1.3 PCCP and this EIS/EIR

The County is the lead agency and the other Permit Applicants and CDFW are responsible agencies for the CEQA portion of this environmental document. USFWS is the lead agency and NMFS is a cooperating agency for the NEPA portion of this environmental document. This EIS/EIR evaluates the potential impacts of ITP and NCCP permit issuance by USFWS, NMFS, and CDFW; approval and execution of the implementing agreement (IA) for the NCCP portion of the Plan by CDFW; and the Permit Applicants' adoption and implementation of the PCCP. These actions are referred to collectively as the *proposed action* (for a detailed description, see Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*). This EIS/EIR also evaluates the impacts of other alternatives, including the no action alternative.

The purpose of the EIR component of this joint EIS/EIR is to inform the public and agency decision-makers about the potential, significant environmental impacts of the proposed action; potential mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate these significant impacts; and reasonable alternatives that could reduce the significant environmental impacts of the proposed action. The EIR will be used by the Permit Applicants approving the PCCP to comply with CEQA for actions (described in detail in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*) taken by these agencies to adopt and implement the PCCP. The EIR would also be used by CDFW to comply with CEQA for its proposed actions in issuing to the Permit Applicants the state NCCP permit.

The purpose of the EIS component of this joint EIS/EIR is to inform the public and two federal agencies about the potential effects on the human environment resulting from issuance of the ITPs to the Permit Applicants and the implementation of the PCCP. USFWS and NMFS would use the EIS to comply with NEPA for their proposed actions in issuing ITPs to the Permit Applicants. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) would use information in the EIS to support its own NEPA compliance actions in the Plan Area for programmatic general permit (PGP) and other related permit issuance and other permitting over time, as described in more detail below (see Section 1.4.4, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*).

See Section 1.3, *Purpose and Need*, for more details on the purpose of this document under both NEPA and CEQA.

⁵ The name *Coon Creek* has been officially changed by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names to *Raccoon Creek*. However, many background studies pertinent to this EIS/EIR use *Coon Creek*, and to avoid confusion, this name has generally been used throughout this document.

1.2 Overview of NEPA and CEQA

1.2.1 NEPA

NEPA provides an interdisciplinary framework for federal agencies to promote efforts to prevent environmental damage and contains action-forcing procedures to ensure that the federal agency decision-makers consider environmental values alongside technical and economic considerations that are inherent factors in federal decision-making. NEPA applies to all federal agencies in the executive branch and to most of the activities they manage, regulate, or fund that affect the human environment. NEPA requires all agencies to consider and to publicly disclose the environmental effect of their proposed actions (in this instance, USFWS and NMFS issuance of ITPs) through the preparation of appropriate documents. It is also intended to foster intergovernmental coordination and cooperation and to enhance public participation in government planning and decision-making. The CEQ has adopted regulations and other guidance providing detailed procedures that federal agencies must follow to implement NEPA. In addition to the CEQ's NEPA regulations, each agency has implemented its own NEPA implementing procedures, frequently through the issuance of regulations that recognize each agency's particular mandate and mission.

A primary intent of this joint EIS/EIR is to support Lead Agency compliance with NEPA. USFWS, as the federal lead agency under NEPA, has determined that the decision to permit a regional HCP/NCCP in Placer County is a major federal action that may result in a significant effect on the human environment, and that an EIS must be prepared to fully comply with its NEPA obligations. NEPA requires public participation be included in the planning and implementation of federal agencies' actions. The NEPA process helps federal agencies make informed decisions regarding the environmental consequences of their actions and ensures that measures to protect, restore, and enhance the environment are included, as necessary, as a component of their actions.

As described in CEQ's NEPA regulations (40 CFR Section 1501.6), federal agencies other than the NEPA lead agency are included as cooperating agencies if they have jurisdiction by law or may be included as cooperating agencies if they have special expertise with respect to the action's anticipated environmental effects. Other federal agencies may use the lead agency's NEPA document to support their own decision-making processes, if appropriate. A *cooperating agency* participates in the NEPA process and may provide input and expertise during preparation of the NEPA document. Federal agencies may designate and encourage nonfederal public agencies such as state, local, and tribal entities to participate in the NEPA process as cooperating agencies (40 CFR 1508.5). Accordingly, NMFS and USACE are cooperating agencies under NEPA because of their jurisdiction by law, their special expertise in aquatic resources and endangered species, and their involvement in the PCCP. Consequently, this EIS/EIR may be used by NMFS and USACE to satisfy, at least in part, those agencies' NEPA requirements. See Section 1.4, *Intended Uses of this EIS/EIR*, for more details on how each agency will use this document.

1.2.2 CEQA

CEQA requires state and local agencies to estimate and evaluate the environmental impacts of their actions and aims to prevent the significant environmental impacts of those actions by requiring agencies, when feasible, to avoid significant environmental impacts or reduce them to a level of less than significant by adopting feasible mitigation measures. Like NEPA, CEQA requires all agencies to consider and publicly disclose the environmental impacts of their proposed actions through the

preparation of appropriate documents. The State CEQA Guidelines are the primary source of regulations that interpret CEQA.

CEQA requires that the state or local lead agency prepare an EIR when the lead agency determines that a project may have a significant impact on the environment. CEQA applies to all discretionary activities proposed to be carried out or approved by a lead agency. Placer County is the CEQA lead agency, and it has determined that an EIR must be prepared because the proposed project—which, as described in detail in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, includes the PCCP and implementing actions as described above—may result in a significant impact on the environment. This EIR has been prepared to facilitate CEQA compliance for all of the Permit Applicants. Each Permit Applicant must adopt the final EIR to provide that compliance.

In addition to lead agencies, responsible and trustee agencies have roles in the environmental review process. A *responsible agency* under CEQA is a state or local public agency other than the CEQA lead agency that has discretionary approval over the project. A *CEQA trustee agency* is a state agency that has jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by a project that are held in trust for the people of California.

CDFW is a responsible agency under CEQA because it would approve the NCCP portion of the PCCP under Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code. CDFW is also a trustee agency under CEQA because it has jurisdiction by law over the natural resources that are the subject of the PCCP. Similarly, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) is also a responsible agency under CEQA because it would issue a water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA.

All agencies with responsibility for implementing or approving the proposed project, including the Permit Applicants, are considered responsible agencies under CEQA (see Section 1.4, *Intended Uses of this EIS/EIR*). Aside from Placer County (the CEQA lead agency), the Permit Applicants—the City of Lincoln, SPRTA, and PCWA—are CEQA responsible agencies responsible for approving and implementing the PCCP.

All lead and responsible agencies have independently reviewed and directed the preparation of this document.

1.2.3 Joint Documentation

CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1506.2), U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI)⁶ procedures (516 DM 4.18), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)⁷ require federal agencies to cooperate, to the fullest extent possible, with the applicant and state and local officials to reduce duplication among NEPA requirements, state and local environmental requirements, and ESA requirements. Similarly, CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines strongly encourage state and local agencies to prepare a combined EIS/EIR that satisfies both NEPA and CEQA requirements (PRC Section 21083.6, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15222).

Although there are many requirements of CEQA and NEPA that are similar or the same, there are some important terminology differences between the two laws. For example, NEPA refers to the activity evaluated in an EIS as a proposed *action* by a federal entity, whereas CEQA refers to the

⁶ USFWS is a federal government agency within USDOI.

⁷ NMFS is a federal government agency within the NOAA and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

activity as a proposed *project* undertaken, supported, or permitted by a public agency. For the purposes of this EIS/EIR, the proposed action also means the proposed project and consists of the following components.

- Approval and adoption of the PCCP, including the Plan, the IA, the fee ordinance, and the CARP, by the Permit Applicants (note that SPRTA would not adopt the CARP).
- Issuance of ITPs by USFWS and NMFS and issuance of an NCCP permit by CDFW for the Covered Species associated with the Covered Activities described in the Plan.
- Approval and execution of the IA by CDFW for the Plan.
- Federal, state, and local agency actions or approvals that would be issued or undertaken as a result of the PCCP, including the CWA 404 permit strategy aligned with the PCCP (see Appendix C), issuance of Section 404 permits for Covered Activities described in the PCCP, and a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a streamlined water quality certification process from the Central Valley Water Board.
- Issuance of programmatic agreements between federal, state and local agencies as a result of the PCCP, including Section 401 certification.
- Local agency actions that would be undertaken as a result of the PCCP and associated implementation agreements, including amendments to general plans and codes.
- Implementation of the PCCP, including the Plan and the CARP, by the Permit Applicants.

See Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, for a detailed description of the proposed action.

All Covered Activities would be subject to the approval authority of one or more of the Permit Applicants with jurisdiction over such projects. Issuance of permits by the Wildlife Agencies would provide compliance only with the ESA and NCCPA for Covered Species. Approval of the proposed HCP/NCCP would not confer or imply approval to implement the Covered Activities. Rather, as part of the standard approval process, individual projects would be considered for further environmental analysis and generally would receive separate, project-level environmental analysis under CEQA and, in some cases, NEPA for those projects involving federal agencies. This EIS/EIR is intended to provide compliance with CEQA and NEPA for all Covered Activities regarding impacts on Covered Species and other biological resources that would be authorized by a Section 10(a)(1)(b) permit pursuant to the ESA and Section 2835 of the NCCPA chapter of the Fish and Game Code. As the proposed action analyzes incidental take resulting from the Covered Activities by addressing certain of the various statutory and regulatory requirements tied to project authorization, reasonably foreseeable environmental effects of the Covered Activities are discussed herein to provide context for the analysis of the proposed action and alternatives.

1.3 Purpose and Need

NEPA requires an EIS to briefly describe the underlying purpose and need for the agency's proposed and alternative actions (40 CFR 1502.13). Similarly, the State CEQA Guidelines require that an EIR contains a "statement of objectives sought by the proposed project;" this statement should include the "underlying purpose of the project" (State CEQA Guidelines 15124[b]).

1.3.1 Underlying Need

The underlying need for the proposed action arises from the potential take of Covered Species resulting from the Covered Activities described in detail in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, for which the Permit Applicants have applied for ITPs from USFWS and NMFS pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of ESA and an NCCP permit from CDFW pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code.

1.3.2 Purpose and Need Statement

The purposes of the proposed action for USFWS are listed below.

- Respond to the Permit Applicants' application for an ITP based on the proposed Covered Activities that may result in incidental take of the Covered Species within the Plan Area.
- To comprehensively protect and conserve Covered Species and to conserve, enhance, and restore the habitat and ecosystems upon which these species depend to ensure their long-term survival in the Plan Area.
- Assemble and maintain a Reserve System within the Plan Area that focuses on preservation and enhancement actions that provide for the protection of species, natural communities, and ecosystems on a landscape level.

Both USACE and NMFS have been involved in the preparation of the EIS/EIR as cooperating agencies. The purpose of their involvement was to ensure that the EIS/EIR addressed these agencies' NEPA requirements for considering issuance of their respective permits (i.e., PGP and ITP, respectively) that are part of the proposed PCCP, to the extent consistent with USFWS's purpose and need as the lead agency. USACE and NMFS will undertake separate review of this EIS/EIR to determine if the analysis contained herein adequately addresses each agency's NEPA obligations, conduct additional analysis as necessary, and adopt the appropriate decision documents.

1.3.3 Statement of Project Objectives

The Permit Applicants' objectives for the proposed PCCP are stated in HCP/NCCP Section 1.1.4. The broad objective for the PCCP is stated as follows:

the purpose of the PCCP is to protect and enhance ecological diversity and function, including aquatic resource functions and values, in the greater portion of western Placer County while allowing appropriate and compatible growth in accordance with applicable laws.

This broad objective—planning for Western Placer County's conservation and development—was addressed by Placer County and the other Permit Applicants in consultation with State and federal agencies, with advice from a scientific working group; with input from stakeholders representing environmental, land ownership, development, and community interests; and through a series of public meetings and coordination with elected representatives from Placer County and the City of Lincoln. HCP/NCCP Section 1.4 provides an overview of HCP/NCCP planning process.

The specific objectives of the proposed action for Placer County and the other Permit Applicants are listed below.

- Provide comprehensive species, natural community, and ecosystem conservation in the Plan Area.

- Provide for the conservation and management of the Covered Species in the Plan Area and contribute to the recovery of listed species in Placer County and Northern California.
- Protect and enhance biological and ecological diversity in the county.
- Establish a regional system of habitat reserves to preserve, enhance, restore, manage, and monitor native species and the habitats and ecosystems upon which they depend.
- Enhance and restore stream and riparian systems inside and outside the habitat reserves to provide additional benefit to native fish and other stream-dwelling species.
- Allow issuance of federal permits to the Permittees for lawful incidental take of species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the ESA resulting from development under the Permittees' adopted plans, policies, and programs.
- Allow issuance of a state authorization to the Permittee for lawful take of both nonlisted species and species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the CESA resulting from development under the Permit Applicants' adopted plans, policies, and programs.
- Streamline and simplify the process for future incidental take authorization of currently non-listed species that may become listed pursuant to the ESA or CESA during the permit term.
- Standardize avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and compensation requirements of all applicable laws and regulations related to biological and natural resources within the Plan Area so that public and private actions will be governed equally and consistently, thereby reducing delays, expenses, and regulatory duplication.
- Provide a less costly, more efficient project review process that will result in greater conservation than the current project-by-project, species-by-species endangered species compliance process.
- Provide a streamlined aquatic resource protection and permitting process, the CARP, to provide the basis for streamlined USACE/CWA permitting and 1602 permitting for PCCP Covered Activities, as well as provide the basis for a CWA Section 404 PGP for Covered Activities and a programmatic certification of the PGP by the Regional Water Quality Control Board under CWA Section 401.
- Provide a means for local agencies receiving permits to extend incidental take authorization to private entities subject to their jurisdiction, integrating endangered species permitting with local land use authorization.

1.4 Intended Uses of this EIS/EIR

Implementation of the PCCP would require permits and approvals from the lead agencies as well as other public agencies. This section describes the uses of this EIS/EIR by the lead agencies as well as the cooperating and responsible agencies. Table 1-1 summarizes the permits and approvals associated with implementation of the PCCP.

Table 1-1. Summary of Federal and State Permit and Approval Decisions for the PCCP

Agency	Legal Authority	Permit or Approval Decision
Federal		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 7	Biological Opinion
	Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 10(a)(1)(B)	Incidental take permit, implementing agreement
National Marine Fisheries Service	Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 7	Biological Opinion
	Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 10(a)(1)(B)	Incidental take permit, implementing agreement
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act, Section 404	Permit for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act Programmatic general permit (PGP) for Placer County and City of Lincoln Regional general permit (RGP) for Placer County Water Agency Letter of permission (LOP)
State		
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	California Fish and Game Code, Section 2835	Natural community conservation plan permit, implementing agreement
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Clean Water Act, Section 401	Regional Water Quality Certification
Local		
Placer County		Adopt PCCP, including the Plan and CARP; establish Placer Conservation Authority; adopt implementing ordinance; adopt fee ordinance; adopt amendments to the Placer County Code; amend general plan and community plans; sign agreements
City of Lincoln		Adopt PCCP, including the Plan and CARP; establish Placer Conservation Authority; adopt implementing ordinance; adopt fee ordinance; adopt amendments to the Lincoln Municipal Code; amend general plan ; sign agreements
Placer County Water Agency		Adopt PCCP, including the Plan and CARP; sign agreements
South Placer Regional Transportation Authority		Adopt the Plan; sign agreements

1.4.1 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

USFWS must decide whether to issue an ESA Section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP for the species under its jurisdiction that are covered under the Plan (all non-marine and non-anadromous species). They must also select a preferred alternative for the purposes of NEPA. ESA Section 10(a)(2)(B) requires that specific issuance criteria be met before USFWS may issue ITPs. The Permit Applicants have proposed a permit term of 50 years. If USFWS decides to issue the ITP, it may also decide to enter into an IA with the Permit Applicants, CDFW, and NMFS.

Permit Issuance Criteria

The issuance criteria for an ITP are contained in ESA Section 10(a)(2)(B) and the implementing regulations for ESA (50 CFR 17.22[b][2][i]). These issuance criteria are listed below.

1. The taking will be incidental.
2. The applicant will, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate the impacts of such takings.
3. The applicant will ensure that adequate funding for the conservation plan and procedures to deal with unforeseen circumstances will be provided.
4. The taking will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild.
5. The measures, if any, required under paragraph (b)(1)(iii)(D) of this section will be met.
6. He or she [the Director] has received such other assurances as he or she may require that the plan will be implemented (50 CFR 17.22[b][2][i]).

An applicant must prepare and submit to USFWS for approval an HCP containing the mandatory elements of Section 10(a)(2)(A) before an ITP can be issued. Accordingly, the HCP must specify the following information.

1. The impact which will result from such taking.
2. What steps the applicant will take to minimize and mitigate such impacts, and the funding that will be available to implement such steps; and the procedures to be used to deal with unforeseen circumstances.
3. What alternative actions to such taking the applicant considered and the reasons why such alternatives are not being used.
4. Such other measures that USFWS may require as being necessary or appropriate for the purposes of the plan.

The determination as to whether the criteria have been met will be described in USFWS's decision package: a Biological Opinion (BO) pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA; a Findings and Recommendations for the issuance of a Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit; and a NEPA decision document (in this case, a record of decision [ROD]). These decision documents are produced at the end of the process and will contain the rationale behind USFWS's decision to either approve or deny a Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit application. USFWS may decide to issue the ITP, which will contain standard

terms and conditions and may also contain additional terms and conditions as deemed appropriate by USFWS. Alternatively, USFWS may deny the application for an ITP.⁸

Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 7

Issuance of an ITP is also a federal action subject to Section 7 of ESA. Section 7(a)(2) requires all federal agencies, in consultation with USFWS, to ensure that any action “authorized, funded, or carried out” by any such agency “is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification” of critical habitat. Because issuance of a Section 10 permit involves a federal authorization, it is subject to this provision. In this case, because it is issuing the authorization, USFWS will conduct an internal consultation. Although the provisions of Section 7 and Section 10 are similar, Section 7 and its regulations require an analysis of the HCP’s direct and indirect effects, a jeopardy analysis for federally listed plants, and analysis of effects on designated critical habitat. The results of this internal consultation will be documented in a BO, which will be produced at the end of the internal Section 7 process.

1.4.2 National Marine Fisheries Service

NMFS shares responsibility with USFWS for implementing the ESA and oversees marine and anadromous species. Like USFWS, NMFS must also decide whether to issue an ITP for the federally listed species covered under the Plan that are under their jurisdiction. If NMFS decides to issue an ITP, NMFS may also sign the IA. The same issuance criteria (pursuant to Section 10[a][2][B] of ESA) must be met before NMFS may issue its ITP.

As part of its ESA requirements, NMFS will need to issue a separate BO and a Findings and Recommendation. As discussed in this chapter, NMFS is a cooperating agency under NEPA (see Section 1.2.1, *NEPA*, above). NMFS may adopt this EIS as part of its decision-making process (40 CFR 1506.3) and then issue a ROD.

1.4.3 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CDFW must decide whether to approve the NCCP pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code. The determination as to whether the criteria for approval of the NCCP have been met is described in CDFW’s NCCP permit decision and CEQA findings. CDFW would also sign the IA.

Approval of an NCCP is an action requiring compliance with CEQA. The CEQA document for the NCCP must include a specific mitigation, monitoring, and reporting program consistent with the requirements of PRC Section 21000 et seq. As a responsible and trustee agency under CEQA, CDFW would be required to adopt the EIR and make findings pursuant to the EIR.

California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act

In accordance with the NCCPA (California Fish and Game Code, Section 2800 et seq.), CDFW will approve the NCCP for implementation if it makes the finding that the Plan is in substantial compliance with the following, based on substantial evidence in the record.

⁸ Permit denial regulations are codified in 50 CFR 13.21(b).

1. The Plan has been developed consistent with the process identified in the Planning Agreement entered into pursuant to California Fish and Game Code Section 2810.
2. The Plan integrates adaptive management strategies that are periodically evaluated and modified on the basis of information from the monitoring program and other sources. These strategies will assist in providing for the conservation of Covered Species and ecosystems within the Plan Area.
3. The Plan provides for the protection of habitat, natural communities, and species diversity on a landscape or ecosystem level through the creation and long-term management of habitat reserves or other measures that provide equivalent conservation of Covered Species appropriate for terrestrial, aquatic, and marine habitats within the Plan Area.
4. The development of reserve systems and conservation measures in the Plan Area provides, as needed for the conservation of species, all the following functions.
 - a. Conserving, restoring, and managing representative natural and semi-natural landscapes to maintain the ecological integrity of large habitat blocks, ecosystem functions, and biological diversity.
 - b. Establishing one or more reserves or other measures that provide equivalent conservation of Covered Species within the Plan Area, and linkages between the reserves and adjacent habitat areas outside the Plan Area.
 - c. Protecting and maintaining habitat areas that are large enough to support sustainable populations of Covered Species.
 - d. Incorporating a range of environmental gradients (e.g., slope, elevation, aspect, coastal or inland characteristics) and high habitat diversity to provide for shifting species distributions due to changed circumstances.
 - e. Sustaining the effective movement and interchange of organisms between habitat areas in a manner that maintains the ecological integrity of the habitat areas within the Plan Area.
5. The Plan identifies activities, and any restrictions on those activities, allowed within reserve areas that are compatible with the conservation of species, habitats, natural communities, and their associated ecological functions.
6. The Plan contains specific conservation measures that meet the biological needs of Covered Species and are based on the best available scientific information regarding the status of Covered Species and the impacts of permitted activities on those species.
7. The Plan contains a monitoring program.
8. The Plan contains an adaptive management program.
9. The Plan establishes the estimated timeframe and process by which the reserves or other conservation measures are to be implemented, the obligations of landowners and plan signatories, and the consequences of the failure to acquire lands in a timely manner.
10. The Plan contains provisions that ensure adequate funding to carry out the conservation actions identified in the plan.

Section 2835 of the NCCPA allows CDFW to authorize take in an NCCP for any identified species for which conservation and management is provided in the plan, whether or not the species is listed as threatened or endangered under the CESA or ESA.

1.4.4 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Many of the proposed activities to be covered under the PCCP will also require authorizations under Section 404 of the CWA from USACE. Placer County and the City of Lincoln are seeking a Section 404 PGP for a large portion of PCCP Covered Activities. PCWA is seeking a Regional General Permit (RGP) for a portion of its PCCP Covered Activities. Many of the aquatic resources in the Plan Area that provide habitat for species covered are considered waters of the United States under CWA Section 404. If sufficient for its purposes, USACE intends to use this EIS/EIR to develop a permitting strategy consistent with the PCCP, streamlines the review process, and provides better protection of aquatic resources in the Plan Area that may not otherwise be achievable on a case-by-case basis.

Placer County and the City of Lincoln are jointly requesting the USACE issue a 5-year PGP under CWA Section 404.⁹ If issued, the PGP would be based on a local aquatic resource program (CARP), described below, that provides the same or better level of protection to waters of the United States as afforded under the USACE's Regulatory Program. Once the County or City has approved an activity under its CARP, the USACE will rely on the local determination and the activity will also be approved under the respective PGP. PCWA is also requesting the issuance of a 5-year RGP by USACE under CWA Section 404. The requested PGP and RGP would address activities covered by the PCCP that would result in the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States, and they would require USACE to verify that each activity is consistent with the terms and conditions of the PGP or RGP and has minimal individual and cumulative impacts on the aquatic environment.

USACE would potentially authorize impacts on waters of the United States from certain Covered Activities. The proposed PGP would allow the County and City of Lincoln to verify those projects that meet the terms and conditions of the PGP. The proposed County/City PGP and PCWA RGP would also require that the County, City of Lincoln, and PCWA submit annual reports to USACE documenting such items as the total fill authorized and compensatory mitigation authorized during the reporting period.

The PGP and PCWA RGP would be part of a permitting strategy that the USACE would propose to establish under CWA Section 404. The USACE permitting strategy is proposed to align with the PCCP and would cover activities resulting in a discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States. The permitting strategy may include general permit(s) (PGP and PCWA RGP, and RGP for restoration projects associated with the in-lieu fee program), Section 404 letter of permission (LOP) procedures, and individual permitting procedures to cover many of the activities proposed under the PCCP. The goal of this strategy would be to provide greater protection for waters of the United States, ensure consistency with the PCCP, and reduce the processing time required to obtain a permit decision from USACE. USACE would use the information and data in the PCCP and EIS to the maximum extent possible to develop and implement the Section 404 permitting strategy.

USACE will undertake a separate, but concurrent, public review process in support of its actions and NEPA compliance. The USACE draft permit strategy is found in Appendix C of this document.

USACE will also need to ensure compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Section 404(b)(1) guidelines for any proposed PGP, RGP, LOP, and standard permit that would result in the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States. As part

⁹ If approved, the USACE would likely issue a joint PGP to the County and City.

of its compliance with the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines, USACE would conduct an alternatives analysis to determine the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA). In addition, USACE will need to evaluate any proposed PGP, RGPs, LOPs, and individual permits to determine if they are contrary to the public interest. USACE cannot issue any permits for activities that do not meet all of the requirements of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines and/or that are contrary to the public interest. Compliance with the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines and the effects on the public will be determined by the USACE in their decision documents for any proposed PGP, RGP, LOP, or standard permit.

The alternatives in this EIS/EIR (see Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*) have been developed in cooperation with USACE as a NEPA cooperating agency; consequently, the alternatives analysis contained in this EIS/EIR is intended to support USACE's alternatives analysis obligations as set forth in the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines. Information in the evaluation of alternatives in this EIS/EIR is intended to support USACE's determination of the LEDPA for the PGP.

1.4.5 Participating Jurisdictions in the PCCP

Plan

Placer County would be responsible for adopting the Plan, certifying the EIR portion of the EIS/EIR as the lead agency under CEQA, making Findings of Fact pursuant to CEQA, and signing the IA. The City of Lincoln, PCWA, and SPRTA must decide whether to adopt the Plan and sign the IA; each of these entities is also a responsible agency under CEQA and would be required to consider the EIR and make findings pursuant to CEQA, including adoption of mitigation measures, as applicable. Other actions by local jurisdictions would include adoption of implementing ordinances, potential amendments to their respective general plans to ensure consistency with the PCCP, local municipal code amendments, and the adoption of fee ordinances.

Permit Applicants that adopt the Plan, sign the IA, and adopt the EIR would be Permit Applicants on two joint ESA Section 10(a)(1)(B) ITPs, one issued by USFWS and one by NMFS, and a joint NCCPA Section 2835 permit issued by CDFW. These permits will provide authorization for take of Covered Species resulting from Covered Activities within each Permit Applicant's respective jurisdiction. The Permit Applicants will vest the responsibility for implementing the conservation strategy of the Plan to the PCA. The PCA will oversee implementation of the Plan on behalf of the Permit Applicants but will not have regulatory authority over permit decisions except in its role in permitting actions associated with Participating Special Entities who seek coverage under the Plan. However, the Permit Applicants will ultimately be responsible for compliance with all terms and conditions of the state and federal permits.

CARP

The CARP establishes a local program to conserve aquatic resources in the Plan Area through the avoidance and minimization of impacts on aquatic resources from regional growth and development. It provides for the conservation of wetlands, streams, and the waters and the watersheds that support them in the Plan Area while streamlining the USACE's CWA Section 404 and the Central Valley Water Board's Section 401 permit processes for Covered Activities. See Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, for a detailed description of the CARP. To implement the CARP and the PGP, Placer County and the City of Lincoln would adopt ordinances that enforce the CARP.

1.4.6 Relationship of EIS/EIR with the Plan

The proposed action, as described in Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, is based on information contained in the PCCP, including the Plan Area boundary, goals and objectives, Covered Species, Covered Activities, and anticipated permit duration. In addition to the species identified for coverage under the Plan, this EIS/EIR also evaluates species not proposed for coverage by the Plan that may be affected by plan implementation, such as special-status animal and plant species that are legally protected under the ESA, CESA, or other regulations, and species that are considered sufficiently rare by the scientific community that they might qualify for such listing.

This EIS/EIR evaluates a range of alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative. This EIS/EIR will be used to inform agency decision-makers and the public regarding the potential significant environmental effects of the proposed action, potential measures to mitigate these significant effects and impacts, and reasonable alternatives that could reduce the significant adverse environmental effects and impacts related to implementing the proposed action. See Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*, for a more complete discussion of the requirements of selecting and evaluating alternatives.

1.5 Public and Agency Involvement

Public participation is an essential part of the NEPA and CEQA processes. The NCCPA and federal regulations also require public participation and outreach. This section describes the public and agency involvement activities for the PCCP, including the EIS/EIR scoping process (pursuant to CEQA and NEPA), agency coordination activities, PCCP working group meetings, and other public outreach activities that have occurred since the initial stages of the PCCP planning process.

1.5.1 EIS/EIR Scoping Process

The public scoping process, which also establishes the environmental baseline, began in March 2005, with the publication of a notice of intent (NOI) in the Federal Register (pursuant to NEPA) and submittal of a notice of preparation (NOP) to the State Clearinghouse (pursuant to CEQA). The NOI and NOP notified the public and agencies of the PCCP, the intent to prepare an EIS/EIR, and the public meetings that were held on March 15, 16, and 17, 2005. The NOI and NOP also informed the public that written comments on the NOI and NOP should be received by April 6, 2005, respectively. The NOI and NOP and scoping comments are included in Appendix D.

Public Scoping Meetings

USFWS, as the NEPA lead agency, and Placer County, as the CEQA lead agency, held joint public scoping meetings at the following locations.

- City of Roseville Corporation Yard, Rooms 2 and 3, 2005 Hilltop Circle, Roseville, CA 95747, on March 15, 2005, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Placer County Planning Commission Chambers, 11414 B Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603, on March 16, 2005, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- City of Lincoln McBean Pavilion, 65 McBean Park Drive, Lincoln, CA 95648, on March 17, 2005, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Significant Issues Identified in Scoping Comments

The review period for the NOP ended on April 8, 2005. Comments were received from Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Placer County Department of Facility Services, Special Districts; California Department of Fish & Game (now CDFW); California Department of Conservation; California Department of Transportation (District 3); City of Lincoln; USFWS; and the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit). The following topics were raised in comments.

- The role of various agencies in development and review of the PCCP and EIS/EIR.
- Definition and use of an environmental baseline in impact analysis.
- Selection and analysis of a range of alternatives.
- Specificity of Covered Activities and associated impact analyses.
- Location of and requirements for mitigation.
- Increased burden on stormwater and flood-carrying facilities and alteration of floodplain boundaries.
- Areas designated for expanded public utilities.
- Impacts on agricultural land including Williamson Act lands.
- Identification and consideration of future transportation facilities.

1.5.2 Agency Coordination

Technical Agency Meetings

Throughout the PCCP planning process, regular technical agency meetings were held with USEPA, USFWS, NMFS, USACE, and CDFW to discuss specific agency comments related to administrative draft sections of the PCCP. These agencies provided technical input on the baseline data, Covered Species lists, Covered Species accounts, existing ecological conditions report, Covered Activities, impact analysis, and conservation strategy.

Collaboration and Consultation with Tribes

The adoption of the PCCP HCP/NCCP and the CARP, as well as approval of this EIS/EIR, requires compliance with both NEPA and CEQA. Both require consultation with federally recognized and/or California Native American Tribes. The mechanisms by which tribal consultation applies are as follows.

- NEPA, in which federal agencies are encouraged to consult with Native American tribes early in the planning process.
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and afford State and tribal historic preservation offices, and the public, a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. The implementing regulations for section 106 of the NHPA, at 36 CFR 800, define how the Services can meet these requirements. The Service implements coordination with federally recognized tribes by following Secretarial Order 3206.

Under CEQA, the County is generally required to consult with California Native American Tribes on the impact that a project may have on Tribal Cultural Resources; however, the NOP of this document was filed in 2005 and thus compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52 does not apply to the approval of this document. In the future, however, projects utilizing the PCCP that also require project-specific CEQA compliance will be subject to the requirements of AB 52, including consultation with California Native American Tribes, if necessary.

Consultation and outreach to tribes were carried out during several phases of the development of the PCCP. These include tribal consultation meetings with the United Auburn Indian Community. Tribal consultation is ongoing and will be carried out in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the PCCP's Cultural Resources Management Plan.

1.5.3 Committee Meetings

An organizational structure was created to develop the PCCP efficiently and with substantial opportunity for input from stakeholders and the general public. Key working groups, described below, were formed to help with the development of the PCCP. A Placer County Program Manager reported to the various groups and was responsible for day-to-day administration of the planning effort.

Interagency Working Group

After the Planning Agreement was signed by all parties, the conservation planning process for the PCCP began with the establishment of an Interagency Working Group (IAWG). The IAWG is made up of County planning staff, Wildlife Agency staff, staff of other participating agencies, and the County's consultants. The group initially met monthly in Auburn, or more frequently as necessary, to assist the Permit Applicants with the preparation of the PCCP. Later meetings were held less frequently to discuss the drafting of the conservation strategy. The IAWG has guided the scope of work and methodologies used in the various biological studies conducted in support of the PCCP. Members have also provided input on the development of numerous aspects of the conservation strategy, including the different analysis zones, conservation areas, biological goals and objectives, and reserve acquisition criteria.

Biological Working Group

During PCCP preparation, the BWG generally met as necessary, on average four or five times per year at the outset, and monthly during finalization of the PCCP, to provide stakeholder input into the conservation planning process. Meetings were held in an open public forum and were attended by members of local environmental organizations, farming interests, development industry representatives, and other landowner representatives. The BWG has been involved with reviewing and discussing findings of biological studies conducted in the PCCP area and reviewing and commenting on the development of the conservation strategy. The group was also asked to provide specific input on various aspects of the draft PCCP.

Science Advisors

Independent scientific input is required by the NCCPA (Section 2810[b][5]). The CDFW provides guidelines for "obtaining independent scientific analysis and input, to assist ... permittees in meeting scientifically sound principles for the conservation and management of species" for assembling a

science advisory group, defining their scope of work, involving a facilitator, and providing scientific advice (California Department of Fish and Game 2002). The science advisory process for the PCCP was guided by CDFW's guidelines. The USFWS and NMFS "encourage[s] the use of scientific advisory committees during development and implementation of an HCP" in their revised *Habitat Conservation Planning and Incidental Take Permit Processing Handbook* (December 21, 2016)¹⁰.

The Science Advisors were an independent group of scientists retained by Placer County under the direction of CDFW in order to comply with the science review provisions of the NCCPA. The Science Advisors reviewed available information on biological resources and published a report in January 2004 (Brussard et al. 2004). The Science Advisors identified the ecosystems described in Chapter 3 of the PCCP and made recommendations for conservation and management. Science Advisors were convened again in January 2009 to address the need to refine the land cover mapping for vernal pool complexes. The Permit Applicants considered all comments from the Science Advisors' report when developing the Plan and the comments on mapping of vernal pool complexes when the land cover mapping was updated in 2009 and again in 2011.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee was formed in May 2013 to discuss PCCP's cost assumptions and the funding plan. Membership was composed of staff representatives from the Permit Applicants and stakeholders representing real estate interests, land development, non-profit conservation organizations (e.g., Placer Land Trust and Sierra Club), and individuals with backgrounds on land values in Placer County (e.g., real estate broker and appraiser). This group met on a number of occasions between 2013 and 2015, and its deliberations helped direct County staff, the consultant team, and the Board of Supervisors on a number of key funding issues. In addition to the Finance Committee deliberations, the cost model was peer reviewed by Economic Planning Systems in 2015. No substantive changes were made to the PCCP funding plan as a result of that peer review.

Ad Hoc Committee

The Ad Hoc Committee was formed in February 2007. The Committee is comprised of two members of the Placer County Board of Supervisors and two members of the Lincoln City Council. The purpose of the Committee is to "meet with various resource agencies to prepare a map and a set of policy guidelines that are acceptable to the committee" and to "focus on the issue of the viability of agriculture land that is adjacent to habitat, the science in delineating the quality of habitat, the science behind the cost estimates in terms of long term preservation of this habitat in the conservation area, and the science of restoration or the use of restoration as a tool to mitigate the impacts to habitat." The Committee meets on an as-needed basis (typically once per month between 2007 through 2012) to review and evaluate reserve map alternatives and to consider the land use, infrastructure, and cost implications of the various reserve maps. Once a reserve map was selected that could serve as the foundation of a viable conservation strategy in 2013, the Committee's focus has primarily been on governance, plan funding strategies, and cost implications to landowners and local government.

¹⁰ The Five-Point Policy was superseded by the HCP Handbook published by USFWS and NMFS in December 2016. However, the Five-Point Policy was in effect when the science advisory process was implemented for the PCCP in 2003–2004.

1.5.4 Public Outreach

Public involvement has been an integral part of the process of developing the Plan. Stakeholders and the public have been actively involved throughout the planning process and have had the opportunities to provide their input and influence on the development of the Plan through public meetings and hearings.

In addition, a website was created that provided information on PCCP documents (<https://www.placerconservation.com>).

The Permit Applicants developed the Plan in compliance with public involvement guidelines established by USFWS and NMFS (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service 1996, 2016) and the requirements of the NCCPA.

1.6 Document Organization

This EIS/EIR is organized as shown below.

- Chapter 1, *Introduction*
- Chapter 2, *Proposed Action and Alternatives*
- Chapter 3, *Affected Environment*
 - 3.1, *Agriculture/Forestry*
 - 3.2, *Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases, Climate Change*
 - 3.3, *Biological Resources*
 - 3.4, *Cultural and Paleontological Resources*
 - 3.5, *Hydrology and Water Quality*
 - 3.6, *Land Use*
 - 3.7, *Mineral Resources*
 - 3.8, *Noise and Vibration*
 - 3.9, *Population and Housing, Socioeconomics, and Environmental Justice*
 - 3.10, *Recreation*
 - 3.11, *Transportation and Circulation*
- Chapter 4, *Environmental Consequences*
 - 4.1, *Agriculture/Forestry*
 - 4.2, *Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases, Climate Change*
 - 4.3, *Biological Resources*
 - 4.4, *Cultural and Paleontological Resources*
 - 4.5, *Hydrology and Water Quality*
 - 4.6, *Land Use*

- 4.7, *Mineral Resources*
- 4.8, *Noise and Vibration*
- 4.9, *Population and Housing, Socioeconomics, and Environmental Justice*
- 4.10, *Recreation*
- 4.11, *Transportation and Circulation*
- Chapter 5, *Other Required CEQA and NEPA Analyses*
- Chapter 6, *Consultation and Coordination*
- Chapter 7, *Report Authors and Preparers*

1.7 References Cited

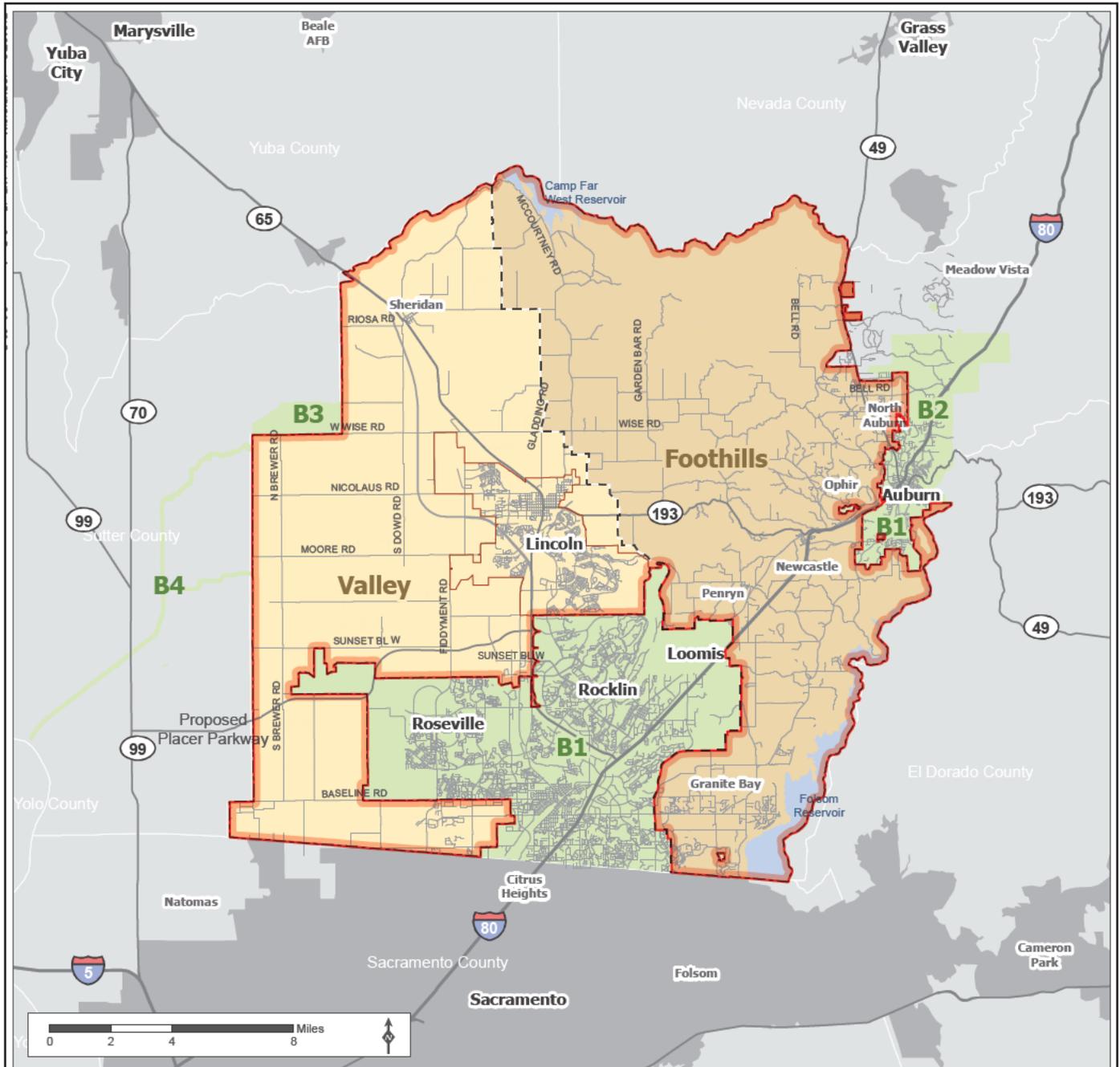
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Source: Placer County, 2014; MIG | TRA 2015; CalTrans

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Interstate — Highway — Road — City of Lincoln - - Valley/Foothill Divide ■ Surrounding Urban Area | <p>Plan Area A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley 100,698 acres Foothills 109,134 acres All Plan Area A 209,832 acres | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Plan Area A Boundary |
| | <p>Plan Area B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B1. Permittee Activity in Non-Participating City Jurisdiction. 50,636 acres B2. PCWA Zone 1 Operations and Maintenance. 6,315 acres B3. Coon Creek Floodplain Conservation. 1,724 acres in Sutter County B4. Fish Passage Channel Improvement. 33 miles of channels in Sutter County B5. Big Gun Conservation Bank. 52 acres in Placer County (Not shown on map) | |

Source: Appendix A

Graphics ... 04-40-6.04(7-12-2018)19



Figure 1-1
Plan Area
 Placer County Conservation Program – EIS/EIR