



Groundwater Recharge Capacity Expansion Project – Ferro Recharge

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
State Clearinghouse No.
2024071176

prepared by

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Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This document constitutes the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the United Water Conservation District's (United's) Groundwater Recharge Capacity Expansion Project – Ferro Recharge (project). The California Environmental Quality Act requires that a reporting or monitoring program be adopted for the conditions of project approval that are necessary to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment (Public Resources Code 21081.6). This MMRP is intended to track and ensure compliance with adopted mitigation measures during the project implementation phase. For each mitigation measure required in the Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND), specifications are made herein that identify the action required and its timing, the monitoring that must occur, and the agency or department responsible for oversight.

Mitigation Measure/ Condition of Approval	Action Required	Monitoring Timing	Monitoring Frequency	Responsible Agency	Com- pliance Verifi- cation Initial	Com- pliance Verifi- cation Date	Com- pliance Verifi- cation Comments
Air Quality							
AQ-1: Ferro Basin Grading NOx Emission Reduction							
To reduce NOx emissions during grading of the Ferro Basin, a minimum of two of the five scrapers shall be equipped with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Tier 4 Final or better diesel engines, to the extent feasible. If two of the five scrapers are equipped with USEPA Tier 4 Final or better diesel engines, the other three scrapers may be any engine tier. Equipment engines must be maintained in good condition and in proper tune pursuant to manufacturer’s specifications. If the contractor determines equipment with the required tier or fuel type is not reasonably available, United shall require the contractor to utilize a maximum of three scrapers during Ferro Basin grading. Construction equipment used to grade the Ferro Basin must be designated on construction plans and provided to United for review and approval prior to the start of construction.	Include construction equipment requirements in the construction contractor specifications.	Prior to issuance of construction bid packages for construction activities.	Once.	United Water Conservation District (United)			
	Review construction plans for construction equipment specifications.	Prior to the start of construction.	Once.				
Biological Resources							
BIO-1: Nesting Bird Pre-Construction Survey and Avoidance							
To avoid impacts to nesting birds, project-related activities shall occur outside of the bird breeding season (February 1 to September 15) to the extent practicable. If construction must occur within the bird breeding season, then no more than 7 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and/or vegetation removal in areas with potential to support nesting birds (i.e., near the eucalyptus groves or pepper tree groves vegetation communities, or the ornamental landscaping land cover type, as well as areas suitable for ground nesting species), a nesting bird pre-construction survey shall be conducted by a qualified	Schedule construction activities to commence outside the general bird nesting season (September 16 to January 31) if feasible.	Prior to construction.	Once.	United			

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<p>biologist within the disturbance footprint plus a 100-foot buffer (300-feet for raptors if suitable raptor habitat is present), where feasible. As the proposed project is anticipated to occur in several phases, multiple pre-construction nesting bird surveys may be necessary to ensure active nest avoidance. Pre-construction nesting bird surveys shall be conducted during the time of day when birds are active and shall factor in sufficient time to perform this survey adequately and completely. A report or email of the nesting bird survey results, if applicable, shall be submitted to the United project manager for review and approval prior to ground and/or vegetation disturbance activities. If burrowing owls or signs of their activity are present in the project site, United shall consult with CDFW.</p> <p>If nests are found, their locations shall be flagged with bright orange construction fencing or other suitable flagging that is not harmful to wildlife. An appropriate avoidance buffer ranging in size from 25 to 50 feet for passerines, and up to 300 feet for raptors and listed species, depending upon the species and the proposed work activity, shall be determined and demarcated by a qualified biologist. Active nests shall be monitored at a minimum of once per week until it has been determined by the qualified biologist that the nest is no longer being used by either the young or adults. No ground disturbance shall occur within this buffer until the qualified biologist confirms that the breeding/nesting is completed, and all the young have fledged. If project activities must occur within the buffer, they shall be conducted at the discretion of the qualified biologist. If no nesting birds are observed during pre-construction surveys, no further actions would be necessary.</p>	<p>If project construction commences within the general bird nesting season (February 1 to September 15), retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey and establish buffer areas, if necessary.</p> <p>Verify compliance with avoidance requirements.</p>	<p>No more than 7 days prior to site disturbance.</p> <p>During construction.</p>	<p>As needed within the project site, and as needed if work pauses for more than 7 days.</p> <p>As needed.</p>				

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Cultural Resources							
CUL-1: Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources							
<p>In the event archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and the construction contractor shall immediately contact United's project manager. United shall contract an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) to evaluate the resource. If the qualified archaeologist determines the resource to be prehistoric, then a Native American representative shall also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the resource. If the qualified archaeologist and/or Native American representative determines it to be appropriate, archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility shall be completed. If the resource proves to be eligible for the CRHR and significant impacts to the resource cannot be avoided via project redesign, a qualified archaeologist shall prepare a data recovery plan tailored to the physical nature and characteristics of the resource, per the requirements of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C). The data recovery plan shall identify data recovery excavation methods, measurable objectives, and data thresholds to reduce any significant impacts to cultural resources related to the resource. Pursuant to the data recovery plan, the qualified archaeologist and Native American representative, as appropriate, shall recover and document the scientifically consequential information that justifies the resource's significance. United shall review and approve the treatment plan and archaeological testing as appropriate, and the resulting</p>	Require in the construction contract that work be halted and United's project manager immediately contacted upon discovery of an archaeological resource.	Prior to start of construction.	Once.	United			
	Retain a qualified archaeologist to evaluate the find and prepare a data recovery plan, if warranted.	As needed.	As needed.				
	Contact a locally-affiliated Tribe if the find is prehistoric.	As needed.	As needed.				
	Review and approve the archaeological testing and treatment plan, prepared by a qualified archaeologist.	As needed.	As needed.				

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documentation shall be submitted to the regional repository of the California Historical Resources Information System, per CCR Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C).							
Geology and Soils							
GEO-1: Unanticipated Discovery of Paleontological Resources							
United shall include a standard inadvertent discovery clause in every construction contract to inform contractors of this requirement. If a potential fossil is discovered during project construction, construction activity within 50 feet of the find shall cease until the discovery is examined by a Qualified Professional Paleontologist. If the find is determined to be significant, the Qualified Professional Paleontologist shall direct all mitigation measures related to paleontological resources consistent with the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) standards.	Verify a standard inadvertent paleontological resources discovery clause is in the construction contract.	Prior to issuance of construction bid packages for construction activities.	Once.	United			
	Retain a qualified paleontologist to evaluate the find and identify appropriate mitigation measures, if warranted.	As needed.	As needed.				
Noise							
NOI-1: Nighttime Construction Noise Reduction Measures							
For construction occurring between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., United or its construction contractor shall reduce construction noise levels so as not to exceed a nighttime noise level of 70 dBA Leq (8-hour) at nearby residences. Strategies to achieve this may include, but are not limited to, the following noise reduction measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill rigs will be controlled with the best available noise control technology. For example, drilling noise control may be achieved by shrouding the drill rig, shielding drilling noise with temporary noise 	Verify implementation of noise reduction measures such that construction noise levels do not exceed a nighttime noise level of 70 dBA.	During construction occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.	As needed.	United			

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<p>barriers, and/or by reducing exhaust noise with a sound-absorbing muffler.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material hauling and deliveries shall be coordinated by the construction contractor to reduce the potential for nighttime truck trips. Where feasible, hydraulic equipment shall be used instead of pneumatic impact tools, and electric powered equipment shall be used instead of diesel-powered equipment. At least 21 days prior to the start of construction activities, residents within 500 feet of the proposed night work shall be notified of the planned construction activities. The written notification shall include a brief description of the project, the activities that would occur, the hours when construction would occur, and the construction period's overall duration. The notification shall include the telephone numbers of United's and contractor's authorized representatives that are assigned to respond in the event of a noise complaint. If a construction noise complaint(s) is registered, the contractor shall retain a qualified noise consultant to conduct noise measurements at the properties that registered the complaint. The noise measurements shall be conducted for a minimum of eight hours. The consultant shall prepare a letter report for United summarizing the measurement results and potential measures to reduce nighttime noise to 70 dBA Leq (8-hour) at residences. 							

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