I. CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE / ROLL CALL  6:00 PM

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II. PROCLAMATIONS

- Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
- Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign

III. ORAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Members of the Public may be heard on any item of interest not on the Public Meeting Agenda. Speakers addressing the Council will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Comments concerning the Consent Calendar may be heard at this time. Be advised that, by law, the City Council can only deliberate or take action on items that are included on the agenda.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Any member of the Council may pull a particular item for further discussion.

1. City Council Minutes – March 16, 2015 (regular meeting)
2. Report of Disbursements
3. Approve Promotion of Fortuna Skating Rink with KHSU Public Radio Advertising

V. BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing to Consider: 1) Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, CEQA Findings, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and 2) Approval of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project; Lead Agency/Project Proponent: City of Fortuna; Location: Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), Dinsmore Drive. Resolution-05

B. Authorization for Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize design and install a digital sign at the entrance of Rohner Park

C. Approval of Annual City Investment Policy Review

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT, PENDING LEGISLATION AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS
VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
At this time, members of the Council may consider or request items to be placed on a future agenda through a consensus of the majority.

VIII. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Council Member Tiara Brown  Parks & Recreation Commission, Redwood Coast Energy Authority
- Council Member Linda Gardner  Historical Commission
- Council Member Doug Strehl  Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Mayor Pro Tem Tami Trent  Humboldt Transit Authority, Fortuna Business Improvement District, League of California Cities Employer Relations Policy Committee, Indian Gaming Committee
- Mayor Sue Long  Redwood Region Economic Development Commission, Fortuna Oversight Board, Local Agency Formation Commission, League of California Cities Legislative Committee

IX. ADJOURN
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, any non-confidential documents or writings that the City distributes, less than 72 hours before a regular meeting, to all or a majority of the legislative body's members must be made available to members of the public at the same time as the distribution. Documents and information related to the agenda topics are available for review at City Hall, 621 11th Street, between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Members of the public are invited to come to the meeting and comment. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 725-7600. Notification prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Linda McGill, CMC
City Clerk
In Recognition of
National Public Safety Telecommunications Week
April 12th – 18th, 2015

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at anytime that require police, fire or emergency medical services and Public Safety Dispatchers are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Dispatchers are the single vital link for our police officers and firefighters by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our police officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Fortuna Police Department communications center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fortuna is served by a group of men and women working as public safety dispatchers for the law enforcement, fire, rescue and medical emergency response agencies in this community; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated individuals work tirelessly to answer our citizens’ calls for help, and dispatch the first responders to the scene of those emergencies; and

WHEREAS, these public safety dispatchers have demonstrated loyalty, commitment and dedication in the performance of their duties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Safety Dispatchers working in the City of Fortuna are a valuable asset to our community at large. These professionals who toil, with little recognition, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, to save lives and provide assistance are unsung heroes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED it is for these reasons that the City Council of the City of Fortuna wishes to honor them and proclaim April 12th - 18th, 2015 as “National Public Safety Telecommunications Week” in the City of Fortuna. The City Council of the City of Fortuna appreciates their commitment and dedication to their profession, and congratulates them on a “job well done.”

SIGNED this 6th day of April, 2015 at the City of Fortuna, in the State of California, and in witness thereof, the seal of Fortuna.

Sue Long,
Mayor, City of Fortuna
In Recognition and Support of
National Distracted Driving Enforcement Campaign

WHEREAS, distracted driving is a serious, life-threatening practice that is preventable; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving can result in injuries and deaths to all road users (motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity; and

WHEREAS, the increased health and well-being of Fortuna citizens are a direct result of increased enforcement and awareness about the dangers of distracted driving; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce the number of crashes as well as improve driver safety, Fortuna motorists should commit to adopting and maintaining safe behavior while behind the wheel; and

WHEREAS, April 7 through April 15, 2015, has been selected as the “National Distracted Driving Enforcement Campaign”; and

WHEREAS, increased high visibility enforcement of distracted driving laws coupled with publicity has proven to be an effective method to reduce distracted driving and save lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Sue Long, Mayor of Fortuna, do hereby proclaim and pronounce April 7-15, 2014, as the “National Distracted Driving Enforcement Campaign” in the City of Fortuna, and urge all citizens to always put the cell phone down, focus on the road, and buckle up when driving on our roadways. Drivers are reminded that if they drive and text, they will pay.

SIGNED this 6th day of April, 2015 at the City of Fortuna, in the State of California, and in witness thereof, the seal of Fortuna.

Sue Long,
Mayor, City of Fortuna
I. CALL TO ORDER:
Mayor Pro Tem Trent called the Public Session to order at 6:00 PM

FLAG SALUTE:
Mayor Pro Tem Trent asked Dean Glaser to lead the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

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II. PROCLAMATION
- March for Meals Month presented to Barbara Walser
- In Recognition of Doug Edgemon

III. ORAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
Dianna Rios spoke about the River Life foundation and their goals which have been met and exceeded in their work with relocating and helping the homeless and cleaning up their encampments. She also spoke about the upcoming spring extravaganza and the Daffodil days.
Dean Glaser spoke about the “Wall that Heals” which will be held in Loleta across from the Community Center on April 2-4, 2015. Travis Yirka spoke about a friend in need named Sandra Morvan. He spoke about her as a friend and said she asked him to do some things for her around her house. He said she needs some care from the community and that he does not do the bad things that have been said about him.
There being no further comment Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to close public comment. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR
1. City Council Minutes – March 2, 2015 (regular meeting), March 5, 2015 (special meeting)(MO-2015-48)
10. Approve Extension of the February 11, 2015 City Manager/Director of Emergency Services Declaration of a Local Emergency in Fortuna, California per 21 day continuance requirement(MO-2015-57)
11. Update of the January 30, 2015 City Manager/Director of Emergency Services Declaration of a Local Emergency in Fortuna (MO-2015-58)
13. Informational Report regarding amendment to Administrative Policy relating to the Donation of Leave time(MO-2015-60)
14. Consideration of Amendments to the City’s Conflict of Interest Code, **Resolution 2015-04.**
15. Authorize City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) for the Installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Location (**MO-2015-61**) 

**Mayor Pro Tem Trent pulled Consent Calendar Items 7 & 13 for further discussion**

**CITY COUNCIL ACTION:** Approve Consent Calendar Items 1-6, 8-12, 14 & 15

Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown. Voice Vote.

AYES: Council Member Brown, Gardner, Strehl, Mayor Pro Tem Trent
NOES: None
ABSENT: Mayor Long
ABSTAIN: None
Motion Carried 4-0

**PULLED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

Item #7 Mayor Pro Tem Trent read from the report to recognize City employees Cory Smith and Manny Anderson for their clean up efforts after the recent flooding.

Item #13 Mayor Pro Tem Trent asked about hour for hour donation and the requirement for maintaining a balance by the donor.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTION:**
Approve Consent Calendar Items 7 & 13

Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown. Voice Vote.

AYES: Council Member Brown, Gardner, Strehl, Mayor Pro Tem Trent
NOES: None
ABSENT: Mayor Long
ABSTAIN: None
Motion Carried 4-0

V. **BUSINESS**

A. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2015**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**
Receive report as an informational item.

**STAFF REPORT:**
The City Council received a written and oral report from Deputy Director of Community Development Shorey

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**
There being no comments, Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to close the public comment. Motion Carried 4-0

**CITY COUNCIL ACTION:**
Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to receive the Community Development Department Monthly Report for February 2015. Voice Vote

AYES: Council Member Brown, Gardner, Strehl, Mayor Pro Tem Trent
NOES: None
ABSENT: Mayor Long
ABSTAIN: None  
Motion Carried 4-0 by MO-2015-62

B. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT UPDATED COST ESTIMATES AND AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS ALLOCATION

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:
Authorize additional funds to be allocated to cover increased costs of the City of Fortuna for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project (CIP 0167).

STAFF REPORT:
The City Council received a written and oral report from Public Works Director/City Engineer Perry

PUBLIC COMMENT
There being no comment Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to close public comment. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

CITY COUNCIL ACTION:
Council Member Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Gardner to authorize additional funds to be allocated to cover City match requirements for increased cost estimates pertaining to the grant received by the City of Fortuna for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project; Roll call vote;

AYES: Council Member Brown, Gardner, Strehl, Mayor Pro Tem Trent  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Mayor Long  
ABSTAIN: None  
Motion Carried 4-0 by MO-2015-63

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT, PENDING LEGISLATION AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
None

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS:
Individual Council Members provided oral reports and comments.

IX. ORAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
There being no comment Council Member Strehl moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to close public comment. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

X. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION
Mayor Pro Tem Trent asked to postpone to next regular meeting at the request of Mayor Long with the approval of the Council. Gardner suggested going to closed session to discuss.

Council Member Strehl moved, seconded by Council Member Gardner to adjourn to closed session at 7:08 PM. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS, City Negotiator: City Manager Regan Candelario, Employee Organizations: Unrepresented/Management group in accordance with Section 54957.6 of the Government Code.

2. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, pursuant Section 54957 of the California Government Code. 
Titles: City Attorney and Police Chief
XI. REPORT OUT AND ADJOURN
Closed Session item 1: No reportable action
Closed Session item 2: No reportable action

Council Member Gardner moved, seconded by Council Member Strehl to adjourn at 7:53PM. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted by
Linda McGill, CMC
City Clerk
DATE: April 06, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Regan M. Candelario, City Manager

SUBJECT: Report of Disbursements

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:
Receive staff report of disbursements that were processed for the City of Fortuna and the Successor Agency (Fortuna Redevelopment Agency) if applicable, as an informational item only.

REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS:
Disbursements were processed on March 18, 2015 in the following amount(s):

- City of Fortuna $ 405,256.96

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:
Informational Item. Receive report by Consent Agenda Vote

Attachments:
- Disbursements Detail Reports for March 18, 2015
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Consent Calendar Item 2
14 of 15
### Cash Disbursement Detail Report

**Report Date:** Mar 18 15  
**Run By:** Raechel Henry

**Check Listing for 03-15 Bank Account:** 1020

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**Check Total:** 326.11

**Cash Account Total:** 405256.96

**Total Disbursements:** 405256.96
DATE: April 6, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Kevin Carter, Development Services Manager

THRU: Regan M. Candelario, City Manager

SUBJECT: Approve Promotion of Fortuna Skating Rink with KHSU Public Radio Advertising

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Council approval of a promotional agreement with KHSU Public Radio.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Fortuna Skating Rink has been offered a free promotion through KHSU Public Radio for on air broadcasting, print, and internet promotions for a full year. The promotion is called a MemberCard Promotion and is designed to gain new customers for the skate rink, and support public broadcasting in the community.

Top contributors to KHSU Public Radio receive a KHSU MemberCard that allows them a one-time “two for one admission” into the Fortuna Skate Rink. Another option is a percentage off a private skate party. The City Manager will determine the proper offer. The anticipated result of the advertising derived from similar promotions is 2-3 new customers per month. Once people have visited the skate rink however, return visits are likely to occur.

The promotion and advertising will last for one year, and the City has the right to cancel at any time with 30 days’ notice. Below are the terms of the agreement:

I. Marketing

A. Broadcast: MemberCard program and benefits are promoted on-air during live on-air fundraising campaigns and/or around regular programming on KHSU throughout the year.

B. Print: The Fortuna Skating Rink listing will be printed in the Directory of Membership Benefits used by active station members throughout the year. Station members also receive frequent mailings that include MemberCard promotion and listings.

C. Internet & Mobile App: Placement on the KHSU webpage at membercard.com with a link to your site and placement on the Member Card Mobile App with touch redemption.

D. Regional Promotion: In addition to local promotion, the MemberCard and the participating establishments may also promoted by other public broadcasting stations in the area. You may occasionally see a MemberCard from one of these other stations and if you do, accepting it is exactly the same as accepting this station’s MemberCard.

E. National Promotion: Member Benefits also offers national promotion through a network of public broadcasting stations and non-profits across the country. Accepting MemberCards from other organizations is the same as accepting your local MemberCard, though you may not be able to cross off a number.
II. Terms of Participation

A. **No Fees:** There are no fees for participation. Your agreement is to provide MemberCard holders with a one-time, 2-for-1 savings or percentage off of private skate.

B. **Holidays and Specials Excluded:** The MemberCard is not valid on major holidays or in conjunction with other specials.

C. **Schedule and Notification:** Merchant participation listings will be updated at the end of 2015. In the Fall, you will receive a participation renewal kit by regular mail with instructions for updating your listing or to keep your listing as is (no response required). You may cancel at this (or any other) time with 30-days notice.

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:**
Authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to enter into a one year promotional agreement with KHSU Public Radio for advertisement of the Fortuna Skate Rink by Consent Agenda Vote.
DATE:        April 6, 2015

TO:           Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM:         Liz Shorey, Deputy Director of Community Development

THRU:         Regan M. Candelario, City Manager

SUBJECT:      Public Hearing to Consider: 1) Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, CEQA Findings, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and 2) Approval of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project; Lead Agency/Project Proponent: City of Fortuna; Location: Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), 180 Dinsmore Drive. Resolution-05

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution 2015-05 and thereby adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, CEQA Findings, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approve the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project.

PROJECT INFORMATION:

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<td>The City of Fortuna is proposing two facility improvements to protect the City’s wastewater system during flood events. The first is to construct earthen berms around portions of the WWTP site where existing ground elevations are less than the 100-year flood elevation. The second is to install a new treated effluent pump station.</td>
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<td>Public and Industrial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning</td>
<td>Public Facility (PF)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The WWTP is a 5.0 acre site located on the bank of the Eel River. Portions of the WWTP are constructed within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year flood plain and are subject to flooding. In addition, the City’s gravity effluent outfall to Strongs Creek is below the 100-year flood elevation, which prevents discharge during some flood events. The City is proposing a flood protection project that includes construction of a treated effluent pump station to allow discharge to Strongs Creek during flood events, and a berm around the WWTP constructed at one-foot above the 100-year flood elevation.

The purpose of the project is to minimize damage to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and avoid loss of wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area.

The project includes two major new berm sections along the southern (Berm Section 2) and northern (Berm Section 1) boundaries of the WWTP (Figure 1). The 100 year flood elevation at the WWTP is 42.5 feet and much of the WWTP is below that elevation. The new berm sections would raise the existing ground elevation to 43.5 feet, allowing for one foot of freeboard above the 100-year flood elevation. These improvements would ensure that the entire WWTP perimeter is above the 100-year flood level.

The proposed 12-foot wide berms would also be used as roads by plant personnel to access portions of the WWTP, as the berms are proposed to be constructed over the existing access routes. Typically, between two to six feet of fill would be required to raise the ground elevation to 43.5 feet. The useful life of the berms is estimated at 50 years or more.

Berm Section 1 along the northern portion of the WWTP is approximately 493 feet in length and approximately 1,650 cubic yards in volume. Berm Section 2 along the western and southern edge of the WWTP is 1,417 feet in length and approximately 5,250 cubic yards in volume. The total length of both berms is 1,910 feet and is approximately 6,900 cubic yards in new fill volume.

The project also includes a pump station to allow treated effluent to be pumped when flooding prevents gravity flow. Wastewater effluent flows by gravity from the WWTP chlorine contact basin through an existing 16” diameter pipe to Strongs Creek. The chlorine contact basin water surface level is at an elevation of 38.6 feet. When Strongs Creek exceeds 38.6 feet in elevation, the WWTP can no longer discharge. The City would install a pump station with a set of three emergency effluent pumps which operate in series to allow effluent disposal during flood conditions when the effluent can no longer flow by gravity. A fourth pump would be installed for redundancy. The location of the pump station is shown in Figure 1. The proposed pumps are rated for 3,500 gallons per minute (gpm) each, three of which would operate in series to pump a maximum of 10 million gallons per day (mgd). Historically, the City’s WWTP has seen peak wet weather flows over eight mgd.

Ancillary activities include replacement of some portions of existing fencing, construction of a new culvert to maintain existing surface drainage routes, removal of some riparian vegetation to accommodate portions of the berm and access road.

Through the adoption of Resolution 2015-05 included in Attachment 1, the Council will formally approve the project and authorize staff to proceed up to the point of awarding construction of the project.

**Environmental Review**

Since the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project is defined as a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the potential for environmental impacts must be
considered by the lead agency prior to approving the project itself. While the project has been discussed and considered previously during the course of grant application, annual Capital Improvement Program, and funding approval, project approval at this time will provide direction to staff to move forward and complete the necessary steps to finalize its design and engineering.

Staff has prepared an Initial Study (IS) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (Attachment 2) to document the environmental determination for the project, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, Div 13, Section 21000-21177, and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000-15387)). The initial study’s purpose is to consider the project’s physical changes to the environment, and to provide a basis for deciding whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), a Mitigated Negative Declaration or a Negative Declaration. CEQA encourages lead agencies to modify their projects to avoid significant adverse impacts or to identify mitigation measures that may be implemented during project construction or operations in order to reduce impacts to less than significant.

The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft IS/MND) was completed and released for public review on February 12, 2015, initiating a 30-day public comment period. During the public review period, the City received one written comment (State Water Resources Control Board, March 5, 2015, Appendix D of the Draft IS/MND). Response to the comment letter is provided in Appendix D; the letter or its response does not alter any conclusions reached in the Draft IS/MND or provide new information of substantial importance relative to the draft document that would require recirculation of the Draft IS/MND pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5. Based on the Findings of the IS/MND, staff recommends that the MND be adopted, since the project has been designed to avoid impacts, and the MND provides adequate mitigation to reduce the impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Summary of Mitigation Measures

The Discussion of Environmental Factors and Findings in the Draft IS/MND identifies no “Potentially Significant Impacts” resulting from the project. Mitigation measures were discussed and required to reduce impacts to “Less than Significant” for:

- Impacts to Special-Status Species, Riparian or Sensitive Natural Community—Mitigation Measures Bio-1 through Bio-6 require nesting surveys if construction occurs during nesting season; measures to protect the Northern red-legged frog and Western pond turtle; protection of riparian and native habitat protection, and prevention of spread of invasive species.

- Wetlands—Mitigation Measure Bio-7 requires protection of wetland areas adjacent to work areas.

- Historical and/or Archaeological Resources—Mitigation Measure CR-1 requires that a cultural resources study be completed for the project footprint and protection measures if any resources are found, and evaluation and recommendations if any historic or archaeological resources are found during construction.

- Paleontological and/or Geological Resources—Mitigation Measure CR-2 requires professional assessment if any paleontological resources are found during construction.
• Water Quality—Mitigation Measure HYD-1 requires preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and implementation of erosion control and stormwater protection measures during construction.

• Traffic/Circulation—Mitigation Measure TR-1 requires implementation of traffic control measures during construction.

The specific mitigation measures to be adopted and implemented are described in detail in the attached Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program in Attachment 3. The proposed mitigation measures will be implemented during project construction activities.

Modifications to the Draft IS/MND

Subsequent to Public Review, modifications to the Draft IS/MND wetlands delineation and to the mitigation measures have been proposed. In addition, minor changes to the project description have been made. These changes do not alter any conclusions reached in the Draft IS/MND or provide new information of substantial importance relative to the draft document that would require recirculation of the Draft IS/MND pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5. The modifications are as follows:

Upon further investigation it was determined that Sample Point 2 in the Wetland Delineation (see Figure 2 in the Wetland Delineation) prepared for the project (Appendix C) is a wetland. However, the project footprint has been changed to entirely avoid this wetland. Figure 2 has been updated to reflect the project footprint change.

The City of Fortuna proposes the following clarification to Mitigation Measure Bio-6 and Mitigation Measure HYD-1. Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5 (c) (3) and (4) the following modifications to the text in these mitigation measures do not result in recirculation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration because they do not create new significant environmental effects, are not necessary to mitigate an avoidable significant effect, and are merely for clarification. Additions are shown in double underline and deletions are shown in strikethrough text.

Mitigation Measure BIO-6: Avoidance of Spread of Invasive Plant Species (last bullet)

• Flood protection berm outer slopes and all disturbed areas outside the berms shall be re-seeded with native grasses and herbs. Flood protection berm inside slopes and all disturbed areas within the berms shall be re-seeded with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. If any straw is used outside the flood protection berms it shall be sterile straw.

Mitigation Measure HYD -1: Prepare and Implement SWPPP and BMPs

Erosion Control BMPs

• Site Stabilization and Seeding - All soil disturbance in riparian areas outside of the berms, and berm outer slopes shall be stabilized by native seeding. All soil disturbance within riparian areas outside of the berms and berm inside slopes shall be stabilized by native seeding with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. The contractor should hand broadcast seed and rice straw in access areas (within the berms) where bare ground exists after construction. Seeding should be done at an adequate time to develop a uniform vegetative cover (70% or greater) before the seasonal rains begin. If this is not possible at the site due to the construction schedule of the project, the Contractor shall implement temporary soil stabilization measures
until the vegetative cover develops. The Contractor shall consider measures such as: covering with mulch, temporary seeding/vegetation, soil stabilizers, binders, fiber rolls, blankets, or permanent seeding.

During the project design the top width of the berms was increased from 10 feet to 12 feet to improve vehicle access safety. The berm lengths and volumes are correct as stated in the Draft IS/ MND. Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5 (c) (3) and (4) the following modifications to the text in section 1.4.2, Project Description/ Flood Protection Berms do not result in recirculation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration because they do not create new significant environmental effects, are not necessary to mitigate an avoidable significant effect, and are merely for clarification. Additions are shown in double underline and deletions are shown in strikethrough text.

- The proposed berms would also be used as roads by plant personnel to access portions of the WWTP, as the berms are proposed to be constructed over the existing access routes. The berms are proposed to be 10-12 feet wide at the top, with 2:1 (Horizontal: Vertical) typical side slopes, with 1:1 side slopes on portions of the berm where the footprint is limited at the south side of the WWTP.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The costs to construct the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project will be funded by a combination of grant funds provided from the CalOES/FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program and City matching funds. The total estimated project cost is $1,234,075. Following the Council’s March 16th approval of 25% matching funds, CalOES/FEMA will provide $888,845, and the City match will be a total of $345,230 funded from Sewer Reserves.

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:**

1. Receive staff presentation and review Council questions with staff;
2. Open Public Hearing;
3. Receive oral testimony and/or written statements from the public;
5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2015-05 and read by title only. Roll call vote;

Figure 1— Overview Map of Project Area

Attachments:

1. Resolution 2015-05: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fortuna Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, CEQA Findings, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Approving the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project
2. City of Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project Draft Initial Study & Mitigated Negative Declaration
3. City of Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program
Figure 1—Overview Map of Project Area
WHEREAS, the purpose of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project is to minimize damage to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and avoid loss of wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area;

WHEREAS, the City of Fortuna Community Development Department Planning Division had prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project which determined that potential impacts can be avoided or mitigated to a point where no significant effects would occur because revisions in the project plans and construction activities have been made and there is no evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment;

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2015, a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was completed and submitted to the Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse and Humboldt County Recorder’s Office to commence a 30-day public review period for review and comment on the Mitigated Negative Declaration, and a Notice of the public review period to consider approval of the Mitigated Negative Declaration was published in a general circulation newspaper pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);

WHEREAS, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact identified no potentially significant effects on the environment, reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the City of Fortuna, has been prepared in compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines;

WHEREAS, the determinations and findings in Attachment A are based on the analysis and reports as described in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fortuna City Council hereby:
1) Adopts the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project as described in Section I, above;
2) Approves and incorporates into the project all project elements, project-specific environmental protection actions, and the project-specific Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program;
3) Adopts the Findings in their entirety as set forth in Attachment A; and
4) Approves the City of Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 6th day of April, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:       _____________________________

Sue Long, Mayor

ATTEST:

_________________________
Linda McGill CMC, City Clerk
ATTACHMENT “A” TO RESOLUTION 2015-05

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
FINDINGS IN CONNECTION WITH PROJECT APPROVAL OF THE
CITY OF FORTUNA, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD PROTECTION
PROJECT AND
ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
APRIL 6, 2015

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as provided for in Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq., the City of Fortuna (City) hereby finds that the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project (project) have been completed in compliance with CEQA. The City further finds that the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, comments received during the public review process, and responses to these comments, were presented to the City, and that the City reviewed and considered the information contained in these items prior to approving the project. The City hereby finds that the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the City, and that the City adopts the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration.

I. FINDINGS
The following Findings are hereby adopted by the City pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15074, in conjunction with the approval of the project.

A. Project Description (Summary)
The project consists of facility improvements to protect the City’s wastewater system during flood events—construction of earthen berms around portions of the WWTP site where existing ground elevations are less than the 100-year flood elevation, and installation of a new treated effluent pump station. The purpose of the project is to minimize damage to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and avoid loss of wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area.

B. Environmental Review Process
An Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration were prepared for the project in accordance with CEQA. The Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration were submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH# 2015022051) and other applicable agencies for review. The 30-day review period was from February 12, 2015 to March 13, 2015.

C. Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program
CEQA requires the Lead Agency approving a project to adopt a mitigation monitoring program to reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level. A Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program has been prepared for the project. Implementation of mitigation measures incorporated into the project will be monitored pursuant to the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program.

D. Record of Proceedings
The documents that constitute the record of proceedings upon which the City bases its findings and decisions contained herein are located at the City office located at 621 11th Street, Fortuna, California.
E. Summary
Based on the foregoing Findings and the information contained in the record, the City has made the following Findings with respect to the project:

1. Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the Approval for the project. These changes or alterations mitigate to a less-than-significant level or avoid the potentially significant environmental effects of the project as identified in the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration.

2. There is no substantial evidence in the record as a whole that the project as proposed and mitigated may have a significant effect on the environment.
City of Fortuna
Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project

Initial Study & Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration

April 2015
This Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (“Report”):

1. has been prepared by GHD for the City of Fortuna;
2. may only be used and relied on by the City of Fortuna;
3. must not be copied to, used by, or relied on by any person other than the City of Fortuna without the prior written consent of GHD;
4. may only be used for the purpose of CEQA compliance for the project (and must not be used for any other purpose).

GHD and its servants, employees and officers otherwise expressly disclaim responsibility to any person other than the City of Fortuna arising from or in connection with this Report.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, all implied warranties and conditions in relation to the services provided by GHD and the Report are excluded unless they are expressly stated to apply in this Report.

The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this Report:

- were limited to those specifically detailed in this Report;

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this Report are based on assumptions made by GHD when undertaking services and preparing the Report.

GHD expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from, this Report arising from or in connection with any of the Assumptions being incorrect.

Subject to the paragraphs in this section of the Report, the opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this Report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the time of preparation and may be relied on until six months, after which time, GHD expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from, this Report arising from or in connection with those opinions, conclusions and any recommendations.
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACV  Arcata-Eureka Airport
AE   Agriculture Exclusive
APCD Air Pollution Control District
APE area of potential effect
APN Assessor’s Parcel Number
BAAQMD Bay Area Air Quality Management District
BMPs Best Management Practices
CAAQS California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CALEPA California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Caltrans California Department of Transportation
CARB California Air Resources Board
CCR California Code of Regulations
CDFW California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CDHS California Department of Health Services
CEQA California Environmental Quality Act
CESA California Endangered Species Act
CH4 Methane
CHP California Highway Patrol
CHRIS California Historical Resources Information System
CMP corrugated metal pipe
CNDDB California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS California Native Plant Society
CO Carbon Monoxide
CO2 Carbon Dioxide
coir biodegradable fabric
dB decibel
dBA A-Weighted Sound Level
DBH Diameter at breast height
DTSC Department of Toxic Substances Control
EA Environmental Assessment
EFD HMRT Eureka Fire Department Hazardous Materials Response Team
EIR Environmental Impact Report
EO Executive Order
EPA Environmental Protection Agency
ERD Eel River Disposal and Resource Recovery
ESA Endangered Species Act
ESHA Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFPD Fortuna Fire Protection District
FMMP Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
FPD Fortuna Police Department
GHGs Greenhouse Gases
GIS Geographic Information System
GPM gallons per minute
HCDEH Health & Human Services Division of Environmental Health
HP horsepower
HMAP Hazardous Materials Area Plan
HMP Hazard Mitigation Plan
$L_{dn}$ day/night noise level
$L_{eq}$ equivalent continuous sound pressure level
\( L_{\text{max}} \)  maximum A-weighted sound
\( L_{\text{min}} \)  minimum A-weighted sound
LOS  Level of Service
LRA  Local Responsibility Areas
MBTA  Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MGD  million gallons per day
N2O  Nitrous Oxide
NAAQS  National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC  Native American Heritage Commission
NAVD88  North American Vertical Datum of 1988
NCAB  North Coast Air Basin
NCOIC  North Coast Information Center
NCRWQCB  North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
NCUAQMD  North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District
NEPA  National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA  National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS  National Marine Fisheries Service
NOX  nitrogen oxides
NPDES  National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP  National Register of Historic Places
NSR  New Source Review
NWIC  Northwest Information Center
OSHA  Occupational Safety & Health Administration
PLC  programmable logic controller
PF  Public Facility
PM  Particulate Matter
PRC  Public Resources Code
PUD  Planned Unit Development
RCP  reinforced concrete pipe
ROW  right-of-way
RTS  Redwood Transit Service
RWQCB  Regional Water Quality Control Board
SMAQMD  Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
SO2  Sulfur Dioxide
SONCC  Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast
SRA  State Responsibility Area
SWPPP  Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB  State Water Resources Control Board
USACE  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFS  U.S. Forest Service
USFWS  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS  U.S. Geological Survey
VHFHSZ  Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
VOC  Volatile Organic Compounds
WWTP  Wastewater Treatment Plant
1. Project Information

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<td><strong>Project Title</strong></td>
<td>City of Fortuna, Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Lead Agency Name & Address** | City of Fortuna  
621 11th Street  
Fortuna, CA 95540 |
| **Contact Person** | Mr. Regan M. Candelario, City Manager  
Phone number: (707) 725-1409  
Email: rc@ci.fortuna.ca.us |
| **Project Location** | The project is located within the incorporated City limits of the City of Fortuna at the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Humboldt County, California. |
| **Project Assessor’s Parcel Numbers (APN)** | 200-352-005, 200-352-004, 200-353-028 |
| **General Plan Land Use Designation** | Public and Industrial |
| **Zoning** | Public Facility |
| **Description of Project** | The City of Fortuna is proposing two facility improvements to protect the City’s wastewater system during flood events. The first is to construct earthen berms around portions of the WWTP site where existing ground elevations are less than the 100-year flood elevation. The second is to install a new treated effluent pump station. |
1.1 CEQA Requirements

This project is subject to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CEQA Lead Agency is the City of Fortuna. The purpose of this Initial Study is:

1. to provide a basis for deciding whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Report, a Mitigated Negative Declaration or a Negative Declaration;
2. to disclose potential project environmental impacts; and
3. to inform the CEQA Lead Agency, responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and the public of the project and potential environmental impacts.

This Initial Study has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the CEQA, (Public Resources Code (PRC), Div. 13, Sec 21000-21177), and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sec 15000-15387).

1.2 Background

The City of Fortuna's wastewater collection system and Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) fall under the jurisdiction of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (RWQCB). Discharges from the Wastewater Treatment Plant must meet the requirements of the Plant’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR), which are issued by the RWQCB. The City operates under NPDES permit number CA0022730 and WDR Order No. R1-2011-0004.

The WWTP is a 5.0 acre site located on the bank of the Eel River in the City of Fortuna, Humboldt County, see Figure 1. Portions of the WWTP are constructed within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year flood plain and are subject to flooding. In addition, the City’s gravity effluent outfall to Strongs Creek is below the 100-year flood elevation, which prevents discharge during some flood events. The City is proposing a flood protection project that includes construction of a treated effluent pump station to allow discharge to Strongs Creek during flood events, and a berm around the WWTP constructed at one-foot above the 100-year flood elevation.

1.3 Environmental Setting and Existing Conditions

The project site is within Section 2, Township 2 North, Range 1 West, Humboldt Meridian within the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' Fortuna topographic quadrangle map at approximately 27 feet above sea level to 47 feet above sea level (Figure 1). Access to the project site is from Dinsmore Drive.

The project site is located within the Strongs Creek watershed, which encompasses approximately 10,700 acres and drains a mix of developed and undeveloped areas. Rainfall in the area ranges from 41 to 55 inches per year.

The WWTP is located near the confluence of Strongs Creek and the Eel River. There is riparian vegetation along the northern and southern berm areas.
1.4 Project Description

1.4.1 Project Objective
The primary objective of the project is to reduce damage to the WWTP and avoid loss of wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area.

1.4.2 Flood Protection Berms
The project would include two major new berm sections along the southern (Berm Section 2) and northern (Berm Section 1) boundaries of the WWTP, as shown in Figure 3. The 100 year flood elevation at the WWTP is 42.5 feet and much of the WWTP is below that elevation. The new berm sections would raise the existing ground elevation to 43.5 feet, allowing for one foot of freeboard above the 100-year flood elevation. These improvements would ensure that the entire WWTP perimeter is above the 100-year flood level.

The proposed berms would also be used as roads by plant personnel to access portions of the WWTP, as the berms are proposed to be constructed over the existing access routes. The berms are proposed to be 10-feet wide at the top, with 2:1 (Horizontal: Vertical) typical side slopes, with 1:1 side slopes on portions of the berm where the footprint is limited at the south side of the WWTP. Typically, between two to six feet of fill would be required to raise the ground elevation to 43.5 feet. Aggregate base would be placed on top of the berms to allow vehicle access and create stabilization. The useful life of the berms is estimated at 50 years or more.

Berm Section 1 along the northern portion of the WWTP is approximately 495 feet in length and approximately 1,610 cubic yards in volume. Berm Section 2 along the western and southern edge of the WWTP is 1,435 feet in length and approximately 5,760 cubic yards in volume. The total length of both berms is 1,930 feet and is approximately 7,370 cubic yards in new fill volume.

Construction of Berm Section 2 would require that a portion of the existing chain link and barbed wire security fence at the south side of the WWTP be removed and re-installed along approximately 1,345 feet of the new berm. The west side of Berm Section 2 crosses an existing gravel access road, which is currently the drainage route for storm runoff. A new culvert is proposed (Figure 3), which would allow stormwater to flow underneath the berm such that the existing drainage route remains unchanged. Rock slope protection would be constructed at the outfall end of the culvert to minimize erosion and sediment transport. The culvert would include a one-way valve at the outlet to prohibit water from entering the facility during a flood event.

There is riparian vegetation along the northern and southern berm areas that is potential habitat for nesting birds that would need to be trimmed prior to berm construction. Some riparian vegetation would also need to be removed to facilitate the construction of the berm and maintenance of the access road at the western edge of the southern berm. Figure 2 shows the approximate location of cottonwood, alder, willow, elm, redwood, and other trees in addition to two wetland areas. Figure 2 also shows the riparian dripline and/or extent of branches along the project exterior.
1.4.3 Treated Effluent Pump Station

Wastewater effluent flows by gravity from the WWTP chlorine contact basin through an existing 16" diameter pipe to Strongs Creek, a tributary to the Eel River. The chlorine contact basin water surface level is at an elevation of 38.6 feet. When Strongs Creek exceeds 38.6 feet in elevation, the WWTP can no longer discharge. The City would install a pump station with a set of two emergency effluent pumps to allow effluent disposal during flood conditions when the effluent can no longer flow by gravity. Each pump is sized for the maximum flow rate through the plant, and two pumps are included for redundancy. The location of the pump station is shown in Figure 3. The proposed pumps are single speed, impeller type sump pumps, rated for 2,700 gallons per minute (gpm) each, which will typically operate in a lead/lag manner, but are capable of operating in series to pump approximately 6 million gallons per day (mgd). Historically, the City's WWTP has seen peak wet weather flows over eight mgd, during which time approximately 3.9 mgd is processed through the plant and the rest of the flows are diverted to the storage ponds.

The proposed new emergency pumps would be submerged in a wet well created from an existing, abandoned concrete tank in good physical condition. New piping and existing valves would allow treated effluent to be diverted to the wet well if gravity flow in the existing line is not possible due to high river flows. A new flap gate would be installed at the end of the existing 16-inch gravity line to assure no backflow into the WWTP.

The pump station would operate at a single stage, with one pump kept in the lag position for redundancy, however both pumps would have the capability of operating in series, if effluent flows exceed 3.9 mgd. The emergency pumps would be initiated and controlled by a level transducer and float switch. A pressure transducer would send a 4-20 milliamp signal level output to the pump PLC (programmable logic controller). The PLC would initiate an emergency pump if the level of the wet-well exceeded a pre-determined level condition.

The pump discharge pipeline would be a separate, dedicated line that would discharge to Strongs Creek, just downstream of the existing outfall at a higher elevation just below the top of the berm. Rock slope protection would be constructed at the outfall to minimize erosion and sediment transport. The useful life of the pump station would be 50 years, while the pumps themselves are anticipated to have a useful life of 25 years. This is slightly longer than a typical useful pump life, however, when they are maintained properly and used infrequently, this is a reasonable useful life.

1.4.4 Construction Access and Staging

Access to and from the project site would be from Dinsmore Road (Figure 3). Access within the WWTP is shown in Figure 3. Staging areas are also shown in Figure 3 and are primarily in the north-northwestern portion of the WWTP.

1.4.5 Construction Schedule, Techniques and Equipment

The proposed project is anticipated to start construction in the spring of 2015 and expected to be completed in six months. Typical earth moving and compaction equipment would be the majority of equipment used, including bull dozers, excavators, backhoes, and rollers. Other equipment and vehicles used would include dump trucks, concrete trucks, portable generator sets, and
various power and hand-tools. No lane closures or traffic detours are anticipated to be needed as the entire project is located within the WWTP site, and there is ample staging room and access routes onsite.

The project is located in an industrial area of town with a gravel mining company located on the adjacent parcel north of the WWTP. As this is an industrial part of town with existing heavy equipment noise, project hours are anticipated to be from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday with allowances for work on weekends and holidays with the permission of the City.

Construction activities would be conducted in compliance with applicable state and local requirements and in a manner that minimizes disturbance to adjacent properties and disruption to traffic. It is anticipated that between eight and 10 construction workers would be present on the project site at any given time. The number of motor vehicles is anticipated to be up to 10. The project would also require the delivery of equipment and materials via Dinsmore Road from Highway 101.

1.4.6 Operations and Maintenance
Ongoing operations and maintenance activities are necessary to assure long-term hydraulic functions of the project. Maintaining the proposed project facilities, including berms, pump station, and culverts, would require annual inspections and periodic operation of valves and pumps. Frequent mowing would be required to maintain the berms, which the City is currently doing to maintain existing facilities.

1.4.7 Agencies with Permit Jurisdiction
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Wetlands Jurisdiction Determination

1.4.8 CEQA Responsible and Trustee Agencies and Endangered Species Consultation Agencies
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- North Coast Air Quality Management District

1.5 Environmental Protection Actions Incorporated into the Project
The following actions are included as part of the project to reduce or avoid potential adverse effects that could result from construction or operation of the project. Additional resource-specific mitigation measures are presented in the following analysis sections in Section Three. Project
and resource-specific mitigation measures are also included in the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan prepared for the project (bound separately).

1.5.1 Environmental Protection Action 1 – Implement Air Quality Emission Control Actions during Construction

The North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) has not adopted formal construction measures or guidelines for reduction of emissions; however, the City of Fortuna General Plan includes Program HS-5. Applicable requirements of this program for this project are as follows:

The City shall require proposed new subdivisions, planned unit developments (PUDs), and other large development projects to implement the following air emission reduction measures:

Construction Emission Reduction Measures (to be implemented during construction):

1. Use watering to control dust during earthwork and tree removal/trimming activities.
2. Spray exposed soils and dirt roads as needed during clearing, grading, and trenching.
3. Sweep paved streets used by earth-moving equipment as needed to keep free of dirt and debris.
4. Limit diesel-powered construction equipment idling time to 10 minutes maximum.

1.5.2 Environmental Protection Action 2 – Procedures Regarding Encountering Human Remains

If human graves or remains are encountered, the City or construction manager would ensure that work would halt in the vicinity and the County Coroner would be notified. At the same time, a qualified archaeologist would be contacted to evaluate the situation. If human remains are of Native American origin, the County Coroner would notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours of identification, pursuant to PRC 5097.98.

1.5.3 Environmental Protection Action 3 – Erosion Control

The following erosion control actions shall be implemented by the construction contractor to prevent soil erosion and sedimentation during construction. Erosion and sediment control actions would be in effect and maintained by the contractor throughout construction until all disturbed areas are stabilized.

1. Stockpiled material would be covered or watered to eliminate excessive dust, as necessary.
2. Fiber rolls, silt fencing, or similar products would be utilized in appropriate locations to reduce sediment runoff from disturbed soils, as necessary.
3. Storm drain inlets receiving stormwater runoff would be equipped with inlet protection, as necessary.
4. An aggregate base and bermed washout area, away from storm drain inlets and drainage facilities, would be designated to clean concrete trucks and tools, as necessary.
1.5.4 Environmental Protection Action 4 – Noise Reduction Actions

During project construction, the following actions would be incorporated into the project to reduce daytime noise impacts to the maximum feasible extent:

1. A preconstruction meeting/conference call would be held among the City of Fortuna, construction manager, and the general contractor to confirm that the following noise reduction practices are to be implemented in the appropriate phase of construction.
2. Hours of construction would be limited to between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday, with allowances for work on weekends and holidays with the permission of the City.
3. Equipment and on-site trucks used for project construction would be equipped with properly functioning noise control devices such as mufflers, shields, and shrouds. All construction equipment would be inspected at periodic intervals to ensure proper maintenance and resulting lower noise levels.
Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

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

☐ Aesthetics    ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions    ☐ Population/Housing
☐ Agricultural & Forestry Resources    ☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials    ☐ Public Services
☐ Air Quality    ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality    ☐ Recreation
☒ Biological Resources    ☐ Land Use/Planning    ☐ Transportation/Traffic
☒ Cultural Resources    ☐ Mineral Resources    ☐ Utilities/Service Systems
☒ Geology/Soils    ☐ Noise    ☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

(To be completed by the Lead Agency) On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect: (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect: (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

[Signed]

Signature  Date

City of Fortuna

City of Fortuna
Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project - Initial Study & Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration
February 2015  2-1

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3. Environmental Effects of the Project

3.1 Aesthetics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</td>
<td></td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

Views within the project site include the WWTP facilities themselves including ponds, digester and digester building, biofilter, compost building, cell tower site, automotive and fabrication shop, administration buildings, parking and access roads, and landscaping and native vegetation. Views adjacent to the project site to the north include a gravel mining company, shrubs and trees and Highway 101. Views to the east include Highway 101, agricultural land, residences and the coastal foothills in the distance. Views to the south include Strong Creek and associated riparian vegetation and gravel mining operations. Views to the west include the Eel River and associated riparian vegetation.

a) Adverse Effect on a Scenic Vista – Less than Significant Impact

The project area has views of the coastal foothills in the distance and riparian areas along Strong Creek and the Eel River in the near distance which may be temporarily altered by equipment, construction materials, and workers during active construction at the WWTP. Construction would be limited to within the existing boundaries of the WWTP. Reference Figure 2 for existing conditions within the WWTP and Figure 3 for the location of project activities. Project activities would not be readily seen by residents during construction as there are no residences in close proximity. The closest residences to the project site, those on the east side of Highway 101 with rear yards facing the highway, are approximately 500 feet away. Post construction, the only visible elements would include the berms, which would be up to six feet higher than existing conditions in some areas, and would not be noticeably different from adjacent properties because of the low height and surrounding vegetation.
The project would include temporary obstructions or changes to the visual environment related to construction. Subsurface construction would be accomplished through open-cut trenching methods, which upon site restoration would not be noticeably different from pre-project conditions. Visible elements of the project would likely include temporary stationary and mobile heavy equipment and vehicles, materials storage and staging, workers, and new culvert in Berm Section 2. These visual changes may be expected to last for the duration of construction, which would occur relatively rapidly within the WWTP as improvements are completed. The staging areas may experience noticeable visual changes for the duration of project construction. The changes to these views would be minor, temporary, and would generally be visible only to the public in the immediate vicinity of the active portion of construction. Upon completion of the project, there would not be any substantial discernible alterations to the visual nature of the area or any obstructions to scenic vistas other than the removal/trimming of riparian vegetation and scrub shrub at the periphery of the WWTP. Native vegetation that is removed or damaged at access ways and within construction areas shall be replaced under a re-vegetation plan (reference Section 3.4, Biological Resources for more information). The project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista; therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

b) Damage Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway – No Impact

Based on California Scenic Highway Mapping System information, no designated state scenic highways are found adjacent to or within view of the project site (California Department of Transportation 2011). There are no officially designated State Scenic Highways within Humboldt County, although Highway 101 for its entire length in Humboldt County has been identified by the State Scenic Highway Mapping System as eligible for state listing. The project site is visible from Highway 101 due to the relatively flat ground, and due to the project’s minor, isolated, and temporary nature of construction, and the fact that Highway 101 has not been designated a State Scenic Highway, no impact has been identified.

c) Degrade Existing Visual Character – Less than Significant Impact

Construction activities associated with the project would result in minor temporary aesthetic impacts that would not substantially alter/degrade the existing visual character of the project area. There would be no visual effects associated with project operations. The project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character, or the visual quality of the project site and its surroundings. The project site is currently developed with the existing WWTP. The proposed pump station would be constructed within an existing, abandoned concrete tank, and will not be visible; the berms would not be so high as to be block views; and the removal/trimming of riparian shrubs and trees would not be substantially altered; therefore, the project would not substantially alter the existing visual character of the project site or its surroundings. The impact is less than significant.

d) New Source of Light or Glare – No Impact

Construction of the project would occur during daylight hours and would not produce a noticeable amount of light or glare. The pump station could include interior and exterior lighting that would not spill over to adjacent properties, and would be similar to exterior lighting on other buildings at the WWTP. As a result, there would be no new source of substantial light or glare; therefore, there would be no impacts.
### 3.2 Agriculture and Forest Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Level</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would the project:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Discussion

Maps prepared pursuant to California’s Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) include Humboldt County as an “Area Not Mapped” and, therefore do not categorize the project area as having any type of Important Farmland (California Department of Conservation 2012). According to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report (Mintier & Associates et al. 2009), most of the City of Fortuna is located on top of prime farmland, which under the Humboldt County General Plan is defined as having a Storie Index rating of 80 to 100. Grade 1 soils have a Storie Index rating of 80 to 100, and are considered excellent for agriculture.

According to the 2013 City of Fortuna Zoning Map, the project site is zoned PF and the adjacent properties to the north and south are zoned M-1. The closest zoned Agriculture Exclusive (AE) parcels to the project site are directly east of Highway 101 between the highway and railroad tracks (abandoned).

According to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report, there are no parcels under Williamson Act contract within or adjacent to the project site (Mintier & Associates et al. 2009).
a) Convert Farmland – No Impact

The project site does not include Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on any maps prepared pursuant to the FMMP. The project would not convert FMMP designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use; therefore, no impact would occur.

b, c, d) Conflict with Existing Zoning for Agricultural Use or Forest Land or Result in the Loss of Forest Land – No Impact

The project site is zoned PF. There are no parcels in the project site or in the vicinity under Williamson Act contract (California Department of Conservation 2012) or zoned for Timberland Production. The project would not conflict with agricultural or forest land zoning or Williamson Act contracts, and would not result in the loss of forest land; therefore, no impact would occur.

e) Convert Forest Land or Farmland – No Impact

No forest land, timberland, or agricultural land exists at the project site; therefore, the project would not result in the loss or conversion of forest land, or involve other changes in the existing environment which would result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact has been identified.
3.3 Air Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

The project site is located within the North Coast Air Basin (NCAB), which is under the jurisdiction of the NCUAQMD. The NCAB is comprised of three air districts, the NCUAQMD, the Mendocino County AQMD, and the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). The NCUAQMD includes Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity Counties; the Mendocino County AQMD consists of Mendocino County; and the Northern Sonoma County APCD comprises the northern portion of Sonoma County. The NCAB currently meets all federal air quality standards; however, the entire air basin is currently designated as non-attainment for the state 24-hour and annual average particulate matter smaller than 10 microns in size (PM10) standards. The air basin is designated as unclassified for the state annual PM2.5 standard – available data are insufficient to support designation as attainment or non-attainment. Both natural and anthropogenic sources of particulate matter (including vehicle emissions, wind generated dust, construction dust, wildfire and human caused wood smoke, and sea salts) in the NCAB have led to the state PM10 non-attainment designation.

A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations in the NCUAQMD characterizes the air quality environment. Depending on whether the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are met or exceeded, an area is designated non-attainment, maintenance, or attainment. A non-attainment area is an area that has not met one or more ambient air quality standard(s). A maintenance area is an area that was formerly designated as a non-attainment area, but has since met the NAAQS, and for which the jurisdictional authority has established a maintenance plan to maintain compliance with the
standards (FEMA 2013). The City of Fortuna does not have any ambient air quality monitoring sites. The nearest monitoring stations are in the City of Eureka at I Street and Jacobs Avenue.

The NCUAQMD is designated as a non-attainment area for the CAAQS 24-hour PM10 standard. The NCUAQMD is in attainment or unclassified for all other CAAQS and NAAQS (FEMA 2013).

Sensitive receptors in the project area include residential neighborhoods downwind of the construction zone. Several churches, schools and parks are also located in the area.

a) Conflict with or Obstruct Applicable Air Quality Plan – Less than Significant Impact

To address non-attainment for PM10, the NCUAQMD adopted a Particulate Matter Attainment Plan in 1995. This plan presents available information about the nature and causes of PM10, standard exceedances, and identifies cost-effective control actions to reduce PM10 emissions to levels necessary to meet CAAQS.

The Health and Safety Element of the Fortuna General Plan (October 2010) includes policies to maintain compliance with NAAQS for PM10 (Policy HS-3.2 Particulate Matter); to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions (Policy HS-3.6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction from Transportation); and require that new development incorporate air pollutant emission reduction measures during construction and operation (Policy HS-3.7 Air Pollutant Emission Reduction Construction and Operation Measures). The Health and Safety Element also includes programs to work with the NCUAQMD to develop and implement an Air Quality Management Plan for controlling PM10 (Program HS-4); and to require proposed new subdivisions, PUDs, and other large development projects to implement air emission reduction measures (Program HS-5).

The project would generate a minor amount of particulate emissions over the duration of construction in the form of dust, and vehicle and equipment emissions as a result of earthwork, trenching, clearing, grading, and other construction activities. The project would not cause any long-term increase in the emissions of particulate matter or other air pollutants. To reduce potential impacts to air quality, the City of Fortuna General Plan includes construction emission reduction measures that are required for development projects (Environmental Protection Action 1). Those are incorporated into the project as specified in Section 1.5, Environmental Protection Actions Incorporated into the project. While the NCAB is in non-attainment for PM10, the temporary nature of construction activities combined with project implementation of standard dust and CO2 emission reduction actions during construction would avoid significant impacts.

In the long term, the project would not substantially add to the level of PM10 or other emissions such that it would cause a cumulatively considerable net increase of pollutant emissions in the area. With implementation of best management practices (BMPs) and the City's Construction Emission Reduction Measures, which are incorporated into the project, the project would not obstruct implementation of the NCUAQMD particulate matter attainment plan. The project would also be consistent with applicable General Plan policies related to air resources and a less than significant impact would occur.

b) Violate Air Quality Standard or Contribute Substantially to Existing or Projected Air Quality Violation – No Impact

Under the federal Clean Air Act of 1977, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is required to identify NAAQS to protect public health and welfare. The EPA has established
NAAQS for six criteria air pollutants (Carbon Monoxide, Lead, Nitrogen Dioxide, Ozone, Particle Pollution and Sulfur Dioxide); however, the NCAB does not meet or exceed these federal pollutant thresholds. Under the California Clean Air Act, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted more stringent standards for the criteria air pollutants. Though it has adopted a particulate matter attainment plan, the NCUAQMD has not established specific thresholds of significance for criteria pollutants. As discussed above, the NCAB is currently designated as a state non-attainment area for PM10, but does not violate any other federal, state, or local air quality standards (CARB 2013). In the NCAB, most particulate matter is caused by vehicle emissions, wind generated dust, construction dust, wildfire and human caused wood smoke, and sea salts. Health effects from particulate matter include reduced lung function, aggravation of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, increases in mortality rate, and reduced lung function and growth in children.

It is anticipated that the following equipment would be used during construction, which is anticipated to last between three and six months: excavator, bulldozer, roller, backhoe, concrete trucks and dump trucks for hauling materials.

During project construction, a small number of trips associated with the delivery of materials would occur throughout the construction period. The trips would create a minor temporary air quality impact within the neighborhood immediately surrounding the project area.

The project involves construction of earthen berms and a pump station to be used during emergency flooding conditions. Therefore, no long-term operational impacts to air quality would occur. However, implementation of the project would result in temporary increases of fugitive dust including PM10 and PM2.5, and combustion emissions (CO, NOX, SO2 and VOC).

Disturbance of soil at the project site during excavation and earthmoving would contribute to project dust emissions. Project construction would require trucks to remove excess materials to a disposal site and to deliver construction and fill materials to the project site. In addition to haul truck trips, workers would travel to and from the project site each day, generating a minor amount of daily commute trips.

The Federal General Conformity Rule De Minimus Thresholds for PM10 in the NCAB is 100 tons per year. The Final Environmental Assessment prepared for the project estimated that the unmitigated PM10 emissions expected for the project are in the range of 10 to 20 tons, which is well under the federal de minimus threshold of 100 tons per year (FEMA 2013).

Grading operations associated with construction of the project would be subject to Humboldt County grading regulations, which requires implementation of dust control measures. Emissions from the construction phase would be minor, temporary and localized; therefore, the project would not violate any air quality standard.

The project would be required to comply with all rules and standards of the NCUAQMD, and with air pollution prevention BMPs incorporated into the project (see Section 1.5, Environmental Protection Actions Incorporated into the Project), no impact has been identified.

c) Result in Cumulatively Considerable Net Increase of Any Criteria Pollutant for which the Region is in Non-Attainment – Less than Significant Impact

As described above, the NCAB is in non-attainment for the criteria air pollutant PM10; however, as discussed above, with incorporation of construction emission reduction measures that are
required for development projects (Environmental Protection Action 1) in the City of Fortuna, project construction would cause only minor and short-term production of PM10 and would not significantly increase the background levels. Project operation would result in negligible additional PM10 emissions; therefore, the project would result in a less than significant cumulative impact to air quality from criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions.

d) Expose Sensitive Receptors to Substantial Pollutant Concentrations – Less than Significant Impact

Construction of the project would create temporary emissions of toxic air contaminants, primarily as a component of diesel emissions. Due to the variable nature of construction activity, the generation of toxic air contaminant emissions in most cases would be temporary, particularly considering the short amount of time such equipment is typically within an influential distance of sensitive receptors. Sensitive receptors in the project area include residences, churches, schools, parks, and areas adjacent to roadways where the general public would have access. Concentrations of mobile-source diesel PM emissions are typically reduced by 70 percent at a distance of approximately 500 feet (BAAQMD 2012). In addition, current models and methodologies for conducting health risk assessments are associated with longer-term exposure periods of 9, 40, and 70 years, which do not correlate well with the temporary and variable nature of construction activities associated with this project.

Construction would commence in the Spring 2015 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Construction would be allowed on weekends and holidays subject to City approval. As discussed above, the project would result in only minor, short-term construction-related air emissions. Additionally, the implementation of the City’s construction emission reduction measures that are required for development projects (Environmental Protection Action 1), would keep diesel PM exhaust emissions at lower levels. As these emissions are temporary in nature, health risks from project construction are not anticipated. Construction impacts are less than significant.

Project operation would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations as the project does not include any stationary source emissions, as the project components are primarily passive facilities (berms, culverts, fencing) without any energy or motors to drive moving parts. The pump station would only operate in flood conditions when the effluent can no longer flow by gravity. Therefore operational impacts would be less than significant.

e) Create Objectionable Odors – Less than Significant Impact

During construction the various diesel-powered vehicles and equipment could create localized odors. Additionally, some materials used in construction or substrates encountered in sub-surface construction may create objectionable localized odors. These odors would be temporary and not likely to be noticeable for extended periods of time beyond the construction zone due to atmospheric dissipation. The impact would be less than significant.

Project operation would not expose a substantial number of people to objectionable odors as the project does not include any project components which would cause long-term objectionable odors; therefore, no impact would occur from operations.
3.4 Biological Resources

| Would the project:                                                                 | Potentially Significant Impact | Less-Than-Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporation | Less-Than-Significant Impact | No Impact |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | | | ✔ | |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service? | | ✔ | | |
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? | | ✔ | | |
| d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? | | ✔ | | |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | | | ✔ | |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? | | | ✔ | |

Discussion

Existing Setting

Land uses in the project area include industrial, commercial, and agricultural. A gravel mining operation is located adjacent to and north of the WWTP. Highway 101 runs directly east of the WWTP. Rohner Creek is located southeast of the WWTP, meeting Strongs Creek which flows along the southern perimeter to its confluence with the Eel River to the west of the WWTP. A portion of the following existing setting information is excerpted from the Final Environmental Assessment prepared for the project (FEMA 2013).
Vegetation Communities

Riparian Woodland

Riparian woodland occurs along Strongs Creek, Rohner Creek, and the Eel River. The riparian corridor along Rohner creek includes a total width of approximately 90 feet along the southeastern perimeter of the WWTP. The riparian corridor along Strongs Creek has a total width of approximately 150 feet along the southern perimeter of the WWTP. Tree species along these riparian corridors are dominated by willows (Salix spp.), red alder (Alnus rubra), and black cottonwood (Populus balsmifera), with an understory of Himalayan blackberry (Rubus armeniacus), elderberry (Sambucus racemosa), thimbleberry (Rubus parviflorus), and red osier dogwood (Cornus sericea). A drainage ditch runs along the northwestern perimeter of the WWTP, which supports large cottonwoods and understory vegetation including willows and Himalayan blackberry.

At its confluence with Strongs Creek, the Eel River channel is approximately 1,400 feet wide, but its width varies in the vicinity up to 3,000 feet. The river channel is braided and large, vegetated sand bars are present within the channel. Riparian vegetation along the Eel River in the vicinity of the project area consists predominantly of hardwood species listed above (willow, alder, and cottonwood), with limited coniferous species.

Aquatic Habitat

Within the proposed project area, Strongs Creek and Rohner Creek are narrow and shallow and have substrates consisting of sand and silt, with limited gravel suitable for spawning (CDFG 2010). The banks of both creeks have been armored or channelized in sections to control flooding, and barriers to fish passage exist at some road crossings. The Eel River is wide and shallow with high levels of sedimentation. A levee was constructed along the east side to protect the City of Fortuna from flooding.

Aquatic habitat in the project area also occurs at the treatment ponds located along the southern end of the WWTP. Two of the ponds were largely devoid of vegetation, while the third supported cattails (Typha sp.).

Wildlife

Wildlife species utilizing the project area include common species adapted to urban areas as well as migratory birds and aquatic species utilizing the aquatic habitat and riparian corridors along Rohner Creek, Strongs Creek, and the Eel River. Wildlife species that were observed in riparian habitat include many species of birds such as American robin (Turdus migratorius), song sparrow (Melospiza melody), spotted towhee (Pipilo maculatus), Townsend’s warbler (Setophaga townsendi), and yellow-rumped warbler (Setophaga coronate). Other species likely to occur in this riparian habitat include Cooper’s hawk (Accipiter cooperi), Pacific treefrog (Hyla regilla), raccoon (Procyon lotor), and coyote (Canis latrans).

Wildlife observed utilizing the water treatment ponds include American coot (Fulica americana), Northern shoveler (Anas clypeata), and bufflehead (Bucephala albeola). Within the project area, Strongs Creek, Rohner Creek, and the Eel River have potential habitat for federally listed fish species to occur. Other fish species that occur in these streams likely include largemouth bass (Micropterus salmoides) and bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus).
Wetlands

A Wetland Delineation Report prepared by GHD in March 2013 (GHD 2013) identified two wetland areas within the project area totalling approximately 0.0185 acres (803 square feet) that are U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) three parameter palustrine emergent wetlands (Figure 2).

Wetland 1 (Figure 2) was delineated as a three parameter USACE wetland. This is a small wetland 538 square feet (0.0124 acres) which is located in the northern portion of the WWTP near the storage and staging area. At the time of the investigation, this area contained standing water (three inches) and as a result of observing highly compacted gravel and refusal occurring at two inches below ground surface, it is inferred that the standing water is present for a minimum of seven consecutive days. The soil sample was taken three feet from the edge of the wetland. In addition, primary and secondary hydrology indicators were observed and include High Water Table (A2), Saturation (3) and Algal mats (B4) as primary hydrology indicators, and secondary indicators observed include geomorphic position (D2) and FAC- Neutral Test (D5). Given that the rainfall on the date of the delineation was below normal, combined with the presence of positive hydrology indicators, and the dominance of hydrophytic vegetation, this sample point location was delineated as wetland. The dominant plant in the wetland was annual blue grass (Poa annua) (FAC).

Wetland 2 (Figure 2) was delineated as a three parameter USACE wetland. This is a small linear wetland 265 square feet (0.0061 acres) and occurs between the upland stockpile and road edge. W2-T2-W exhibited a water table and saturation at approximately nine inches below ground surface. The soils were comprised of gravelly silt loam with low chromas of 2.5 Y 3/2 for a 100 percent of the matrix in the first five inches, and 2.5 Y 4/1 for 85 percent of the matrix from six to 14 inches below ground surface and 15 percent redox concentrations comprised of 10 YR 3/4 located in the matrix. The sample point was taken two feet from the wetland edge. The dominant plants in the wetland were in the herbaceous stratum and included tall cyperus (Cyperus eragrostis), spikerush (Eleocharis palustris), and rush (Juncus patens).

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) decrees that all migratory birds and their parts (including eggs, nests, and feathers) are fully protected. Nearly all native North American bird species are protected by the MBTA. Under the MBTA, taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds is unlawful. Projects that are likely to result in the taking of birds protected under the MBTA would require the issuance of special purpose take permits from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Activities that would require such a permit include destruction of migratory bird nesting habitat during the nesting season when eggs or young are likely to be present. Under the MBTA, surveys are required to determine if nests will be disturbed and, if so, a buffer area with a specified radius around the nest would be established so that no disturbance or intrusion would be allowed until the young had fledged and left the nest.

Potential Rare, Threatened, Endangered, or Special Concern Species

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 gives the USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) federal legislative authority for the protection of listed (threatened or endangered) species. This protection includes a prohibition of direct take (i.e., killing, harassing) and indirect take (i.e., destruction of critical habitat). The California Endangered Species Act
(CESA) includes provisions for the protection and management of species listed by the State of California as endangered or threatened or designated as candidates for such listing (Fish and Wildlife Code Sections 2050 through 2085). The act requires consultation “to ensure that any action authorized by a State lead agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or results in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to the continued existence of the species” (Section 2053). California plants and animals declared to be endangered or threatened are listed at 14 CCR 670.2 and 14 CCR 670.5, respectively. The State prohibits the take of protected amphibians (14 CCR 41), protected reptiles (14 CCR 42), and protected furbearers (14 CCR 460).

Appendix B includes a list of potential rare, threatened, endangered, or special concern state and federal species for the Fortuna USGS quadrangle and the likelihood of their presence in the project area. The list identifies 10 species potentially present in the project area. The USFWS lists are often of a general nature and do not indicate presence, merely the need for further review. The CNDDB Occurrence Report RareFind 4 identifies 15 species potentially present for the Fortuna Quad. The CNPS rare plant inventory Advanced Fortuna Quad search identifies five species potentially present in the project vicinity, of which three species are redundant from the CNDDB search. All species lists were acquired in December, 2014.

**Fortuna General Plan**

The Fortuna General Plan includes several policies that apply to biological resources in the project area. The policies which are most applicable to the project are as follows:

**NCR-2.6 Biological/Ecological Review.** When considering building permit applications, planning applications or development applications, the City shall undertake the three stage process outlined below:

1. **Upon receipt of building permits applications, planning applications or development applications, City staff shall perform an initial screening to determine whether the application would have the potential to impact special status species as defined by CEQA Guidelines §15380.** For ministerial projects, the initial screening shall be performed in the context of the application checklist. For discretionary projects, the initial screening shall be performed in the context of Initial Study preparation required under CEQA. For purposes of this screening, the application would have the potential to impact special status species if development or other activities would occur in ESHA areas, wetlands or riparian areas, forested areas, areas within 50 feet of any blue line stream as shown on USGS maps, or any undeveloped rural parcel of greater than one acre in size.

2. **If the initial screening indicates the potential for impacts to special status species, the applicant shall have a records search performed in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the City’s ESHA inventory to determine whether any sensitive species have been documented on or within the vicinity of the subject parcel.**

3. **If the CNDDB or ESHA inventory indicates that sensitive species have been documented on or within the vicinity of the subject parcel, or if the proposed activities would occur within wetland, riparian vegetation, or forested areas, within 50 feet of any blue line stream, or would disturb more than 10 acres, or at the discretion of City staff, a biological study shall be performed for the proposal by a qualified biological consultant, the application shall be referred to the appropriate responsible and trustee agencies (CDFG, USFWS, etc.), and any mitigation measures identified**
by the biologist and the responsible and trustee agencies incorporated into the project. Mitigation may include, but may not be limited to restoration, off-site replacement for no net loss, or project design/operation modification.

**NCR-2.7 Endangered Species.** The City, as lead agency, shall require that all projects comply with the requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act, California Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, CDFG code, and CEQA.

**NCR-2.8 Native Vegetation.** The City shall coordinate with resource agencies to require the preservation of native vegetation, while managing areas with high concentrations of invasive species and/or noxious weeds and preventing their encroachment into new areas.

**NCR-2.10 Wetland Identification and Protection.** In considering new development projects, the City shall conduct an initial screening, as described in Policy NCR-2.6 in order to determine whether the proposal would have the potential to impact wetlands. If the initial screening indicates the potential presence of wetlands, a wetland assessment/delineation shall be prepared to determine the presence of jurisdictional wetlands. The assessment/delineation, with proposed mitigation, shall be submitted to the City, and appropriate state (CDF&G) and federal (USCOE) agencies for concurrence prior to permitting. Mitigation may include, but may not be limited to, avoidance, minimization of impacts, restoration, off-site replacement, and/or the use of buffers.

**NCR 2.13 Watercourse, Wetland and Riparian Buffers.** The City shall require appropriate watercourse, wetland, and riparian area buffers to protect water quality and biologic values.

a, b) **Impacts to Special-Status Species, Riparian or Sensitive Natural Community – Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation**

Based on guidelines established by the CDFW and USFWS, a project could be considered to have a significant adverse impact on biological resources if it would result in substantial disruption to, or destruction of, any special-status species, its habitat, or breeding grounds. A project would also be considered to have a significant impact if it would result in a substantial loss of important plant or animal species; would cause a change in species composition, abundance, or diversity beyond that of normal variability; would result in the direct or indirect measurable degradation of sensitive habitats; or would result in loss of a significant plant community.

A field review of the project area was conducted on December 13, 2012 by a FEMA-contracted biologist to assess existing vegetation communities, potential wetlands, and habitat for special-status species. The field reconnaissance consisted of visual observation and photographic documentation of the project area (including the project footprint, action area, and vicinity), focusing on habitat within the WWTP and the adjacent riparian corridors of Strongs Creek, Rohner Creek, and the Eel River. The potential for special-status species to occur within the project area was evaluated against the presence of suitable habitat observed during the field reconnaissance. (FEMA 2013)

**Wildlife**

Wildlife species that were observed in riparian habitat include many species of birds such as American robin (*Turdus migratorius*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*), Townsend’s warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*), and yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronate*). Other species likely to occur in this riparian habitat include Cooper’s Hawk (*Accipiter*
cooperii, Pacific treefrog (*Hyla regilla*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*) (FEMA 2013).

Wildlife observed utilizing the water treatment ponds include American coot, northern shoveler, and bufflehead. Within the project area, Strongs Creek, Rohner Creek, and the Eel River have potential habitat for the federally listed (threatened) Western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*).

Potential adverse effects to western snowy plover would be limited to disturbance of nesting or foraging within suitable habitat on gravel bars and banks of the Eel River, which the project would not affect. Disturbance from noise and human activity during construction at the WWTP would not be anticipated to affect western snowy plovers that may occupy potential nesting and foraging habitat within the Eel River due to the distance and lack of "line of sight" between the construction areas and suitable habitat in the Eel River. There would be no construction within the Eel River or modification of critical habitat. Therefore, the proposed project would have no effect on the western snowy plover or its designated critical habitat within the project area.

There is riparian vegetation along the northern and southern berm areas that is potential habitat for nesting birds that would need to be trimmed prior to berm construction (Figure 2). Some riparian vegetation would also need to be removed to facilitate the construction of the berm and maintenance of the access road at the western edge of the southern berm. Although construction activities are not likely to have an effect on special-status wildlife species due to the low-quality habitat present, if construction activities were scheduled to occur during the bird nesting season, there could be potential impacts.

Migratory and non-migratory bird species may be present in the project area, although no special-status bird species were found during surveys. Take of active nests is prohibited by the CDFW Code Section 3503.5 and the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The following mitigation measure would reduce any potential impacts to nesting birds to a less than significant level.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Conservation Measures to Protect Nesting Birds and Migratory Bird Species**

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following conservation measures take place.

- If possible, vegetation clearing activities would take place between August 16 and March 13 outside of the active nesting season for migratory bird species (i.e., March 14 to August 15.

- If work must be completed during the nesting season, a qualified biologist would conduct preconstruction surveys of all ground disturbance areas to verify absence of nesting migratory birds in the project area prior to vegetation removal and the start of construction. These surveys would be conducted within two weeks prior to start of vegetation removal or any construction activities. If nesting migratory birds are found in the construction area during the preconstruction surveys, they would be avoided with an appropriate buffer area until the young birds have fledged. If state listed (CESA), federally listed (ESA), or raptors are found outside of the construction (disturbance) area but near the construction area, appropriate buffers will be implemented. If non-listed state (CESA), non-listed federal (ESA), including state species of special concern are found near, but outside of the construction area, no buffers will be implemented.
Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Protection of Northern Red-Legged Frog

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following take place prior to and/or during construction.

- Contractor shall be limited to mowing at eight inches or above during the Northern red-legged frog breeding season (November 15th-April 15th).
- If any adult Northern red-legged frogs are observed during construction, they shall be relocated to nearby suitable habitat.
- If disturbance is necessary November 15 through August 15, within 100 feet of aquatic habitats, then the area shall be cleared of any eggs or tadpoles and if present they shall be relocated to suitable habitat.
- Conduct construction work in accordance with site-specific construction plans that minimize the potential for increased delivery of sediment to surface waters.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Protection of Western Pond Turtle

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following take place prior to and/or during construction.

- The Contractor shall install temporary construction fencing to identify areas of riparian particularly along the berm area and wetland areas of protection.
- If the pond turtle is observed it shall be relocated to appropriate habitat.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3 would reduce potential impacts to nesting birds, the northern red-legged frog, pond turtle and wildlife to a less than significant level.

Vegetation

Rare Plants

The rare plant species with the potential to occur in the project area according to Appendix B (State and Federally Listed Species Potentially Present) include Whitney's farewell-to-spring (*Clarkia amoena ssp. Whitneyi*), Wolf's evening-primrose (*Oenothera wolfii*), Oregon polemonium (*Polemonium carneum*), and Siskiyou checkerbloom (*Sidalcea malviflora ssp. patula*). None of these species are located within the type of habitat found within the area of disturbance. These species would be located west of the project site in coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub and coastal prairie habitats.

Riparian Woodland

Riparian woodland is described above in Section 3.4.1. In addition to the trimming and thinning of branches along the flood protection berms, the following trees would be removed as part of the project: Willow (*Salix spp.*), (4" DBH), Red alder (*Alnus rubra*) (4" DBH), Cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera*) (12" DBH; 26" DBH; & 24" DBH).

Aquatic Habitat

Aquatic habitat is described above in Section 3.4.1. The proposed project would not impact aquatic habitat. All construction work would be within the WWTP project boundary as shown in Figure 3.
Landscaped/Ornamental/Disturbed

A large part of the WWTP is paved and supports only ruderal vegetation. Landscaped areas consisting of managed lawn exist around the water treatment ponds. Large Monterey pine trees line the eastern perimeter of the WWTP (FEMA 2013).

Invasive Species

Under EO 13112, actions that occur on federal lands or are federally funded must be “subject to the availability of appropriations, and within administration budgetary limits, use relevant programs and authorities to: (i) prevent the introduction of invasive species; (ii) detect and respond rapidly to, and control, populations of such species in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner; (iii) monitor invasive species populations accurately and reliably; and (iv) provide for restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded.” According to the Final EA, invasive species were identified within the project area during the field visit, and included Himalayan blackberry (FEMA 2013).

The following mitigation measures would be required to reduce potential impacts to vegetation to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Tree/Vegetation Removal BMPs

The City shall implement the following measures to protect riparian habitat:

- A riparian revegetation and management plan will be prepared accompanied by an adaptive management plan. A monitoring protocol, including a defined set of goals, success criteria, schedule and reporting requirements will be developed to understand success of the project over a 10 year timeline. Vegetation monitoring of planted stock and monitoring customized to where invasive plants encroachment may occur in addition to photo-monitoring methods will be outlined in the plan.

- Construction access routes and equipment staging areas shall be limited to the WWTP.

- The Contractor shall install temporary construction fencing or silt fencing to identify areas of riparian particularly along the berm area and wetland areas of protection.

- All tree trimming and/or removal areas identified on the site plans shall be clearly flagged.marked in the field. Native trees should be protected as much as possible. Following a pre-construction survey to verify that no sensitive species are at risk, trees shall be removed using conventional logging methods. Crews shall stay within designated work areas. The contractor shall avoid felling trees or shrubs into or across creeks, as well as into wetland areas. Tree removal shall not change the original ground surface. Trees and debris shall be removed from the site by the access roads shown. Offsite reuse options are possible if allowable per ordinances and regulations, such as donated firewood, or chipping for mulch, compost, biomass power generation, etc. Any forest product materials (including but not limited to logs, chipped debris, etc.) leaving property shall have a non-commercial end use unless outlined in a City-approved Timber Harvesting Plan. At the completion of tree removal activities, all boles, limbs, and bark shall be removed from the site by methods appropriate for the area.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5: Post-Construction Restoration of Disturbed Areas
Native vegetation that is removed or damaged at access ways and within the construction areas shall be replaced under a re-vegetation plan. Trees greater than four inches (4”) Diameter at Breast height (DBH) would be replaced in-kind using a 2:1 ratio. Small scrub material would be replaced in-kind using a 1:1 ratio. Seeding in riparian areas shall be native seeds and straw shall be weed free (sterile).

Vehicles (including staff vehicles and construction equipment) are a key source of invasive weed seed and propagule introductions, and often inadvertently spread invasive species within open, recently disturbed areas. Plant seeds and vegetation fragments are easily transported on tire tread, on bumpers, on the carriage or inside a vehicle. Inspecting and cleaning vehicles, especially those that are moving between known infested sites and uninfected areas, would help prevent invasive plant introductions into new areas and help reduce the spread of weeds, therefore, the following mitigation is included.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-6: Avoidance of Spread of Invasive Plant Species**

The City shall require the following actions to avoid the spread of invasive plant species in the project area.

- Require inspection and cleaning of all equipment. Contractor shall clean all equipment prior to use onsite, including chainsaws, hand tools, and personal equipment (boots, clothing, personal vehicles), the construction monitor shall inspect for absence of vegetation debris, invasive plant, or soil before allowing equipment onsite.

- Establish a cleaning area for vehicles and equipment moving between known infested and uninfected areas. The cleaning area shall be established within the staging area and should be cleared of invasive plants prior to construction work. Once the area is cleared of invasive plants it shall be monitored throughout the duration of project implementation so that new infestations can quickly be eradicated.

- The cleaning area would consist of an excavated depression (usually placed in the road surface or a pull-out), lined with Tyvek and filled with clean gravel or a metal “Rumble Strip.” All vehicles would be required to wash, or “broom” vehicles to remove dirt and debris from the undercarriage, tires, bed, bumper etc. of vehicles, and to cover loads before entering and exiting the treatment area. Pressure washing with clean water is preferred if access to water can be provided. If water is unavailable, manual cleaning would be required. Following completion of the project, the cleaning area would be removed, disposed of properly, and the site restored to natural conditions.

- Keep vehicles on existing road surface or access routes. The Contractor shall not park in infested areas, or park on or drive over known sites of invasive plants.

- Flood protection berm outer slopes and all disturbed areas outside the berms shall be re-seeded with native grasses and herbs. Flood protection berm inside slopes and all disturbed areas within the berms shall be re-seeded with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. If any straw is used outside the flood protection berms it shall be sterile straw.

Impacts to riparian habitat and the avoidance or spread of invasive plant species would be reduced to less than significant through implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-4, BIO-5, and BIO-6.
Fisheries
Within the project area, Strongs Creek, Rohner Creek, and the Eel River have potential habitat for federally listed fish species to occur, such as Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Northern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), and California coastal chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). In addition, two other federally listed species, southern eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) and green sturgeon (*Acipenser mediostris*), are considered to have low potential to occur within the project area (FEMA 2013).

Potential adverse effects to SONCC coho salmon ESU, Northern California steelhead DPS, and California coastal Chinook salmon within the project area could occur during construction from increased turbidity in surface waters, including downstream turbidity effects in the Eel River, if there is sediment-laden runoff from areas disturbed by construction. Adverse effects to water quality could also occur from accidental spills or other discharges to surface waters.

Potential adverse effects could also occur through loss or modification of riparian habitat along Rohner Creek or Strongs Creek adjacent to the proposed berm construction areas, as riparian vegetation provides shade and woody debris that are important characteristics of salmon habitat. However, this is not anticipated, as any trimming or removal of vegetation would only occur directly adjacent to the WWTP property fence line, which is approximately 50 feet from the edge of the creeks. The riparian vegetation between the fence and the creek would largely be undisturbed (except for trimming at the fence) and would also provide a dense vegetative buffer to assist in slowing and capturing any runoff from the disturbed soil at the berm locations. A new flap gate would be installed at the existing outfall to Strongs Creek. No construction would occur near the aquatic habitat within Strongs Creek or Rohner Creek.

There would be no permanent effects to riparian vegetation or aquatic habitat and no change in discharge to Strongs Creek. A second outfall from the new pump station would be constructed to discharge flows during flood events. Rock slope protection would be constructed at the outfall to minimize erosion and sediment transport. There would be no other modifications of critical habitat from the proposed project.

Noise and human disturbance during construction would not affect listed fish species within the aquatic habitats of Rohner Creek, Strongs Creek, or the Eel River.

Avoidance and minimization measures would be required to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to federally listed fish species and designated critical habitat from turbidity created by runoff from disturbed soil areas or from spills of fuels or oils from equipment during construction. As described in Section 3.9, a SWPPP and other BMPs (Mitigation Measure HYD-1) would be implemented such that the proposed project would result in a less than significant adverse impact to water quality. Restoration of disturbed soil areas would be conducted through hydoseeding with native species. With implementation of these measures, temporary effects from increased turbidity in aquatic habitats within the project area, including Rohner Creek, Strongs Creek, or the Eel River would be minimal.

In addition, the proposed project would have benefits to the listed species and critical habitat in avoiding the potential for untreated wastewater to flow into aquatic habitats during flood events. Currently, when the water surface elevation of Strongs Creek reaches an elevation of 38.6 feet (11-year flood event), the plant can no longer discharge and water starts flooding the chlorine
contact basin and overflowing into the plant site. When this occurs there is a loss of function of the WWTP and potential for discharge of untreated wastewater to surrounding surface waters, including Rohner Creek, Strongs Creek, and the Eel River.

Therefore, with implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, including a SWPPP (Mitigation Measure HYD-1), the proposed project may affect but would be unlikely to adversely affect state or federally listed fish species with potential to occur in the project area. The impact is less than significant.

c) Effect on Wetlands – Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation

Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires federal agencies to minimize damage to wetlands resulting from federal and federally assisted projects.

On March 11, 2013, a wetland delineation (Appendix C) and mapping were completed pursuant to the USACE 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and the Regional Supplement to the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coastal Regions. The wetland delineation identified two USACE defined 3-parameter wetlands at the project site totalling approximately 0.0185 acres (803 square feet). Wetland 1 is a small wetland (538 square feet or 0.0124 acres) which is located in the northern portion of the site near the sites storage and staging area (Figure 2). Wetland 2 is a small linear wetland (265 square feet or 0.0061 acres) located west of the three water treatment ponds in the southern portion of the site. (FEMA 2013) Reference the Wetland Delineation Report (Appendix C) for more detailed information.

Construction of the proposed project would not result in disturbance or fill within these potential wetland areas. Therefore, there would be no permanent impacts to wetlands. However, the proposed project would increase the height of the existing berm located along the southern and eastern perimeters of the treatment ponds from 39.6 feet to 43.5 feet, requiring approximately 7,370 cubic yards in additional soil volume. During construction of the berm, there could be indirect impacts to potential wetland areas from erosion.

Mitigation Measure HYD-1 includes the preparation of a SWPPP and BMPs to avoid or reduce impacts to wetlands from construction. Additionally, the following mitigation is included to further reduce this potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure BIO-7: Wetland Protection

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the contractor is responsible for avoiding the Wetland 1 and 2 during construction activities. The contractor will be responsible for installing silt fencing around the perimeter of both wetlands at a minimum of six inches away from the wetland boundary and 10 feet away wherever possible around the wetland perimeter.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure HYD-1, BIO-7, and Environmental Protection Action 3 (Erosion Control), would reduce potential impacts to wetlands to a less than significant level.

d) Interfere with Movement of Fish or Wildlife Species – Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation

Implementation of the project would not interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Numerous species of birds use the riparian areas surrounding the project site as a resting site, including migratory birds. However, the
WWTP is not used as a wildlife movement corridor or nursery site. Nearby construction would disrupt bird species using these areas; however, impacts would be temporary, and due to the other available nearby habitats, it is anticipated that birds would temporarily relocate during construction. There would be no permanent above ground barriers to movement associated with the project, construction disturbance would be limited to a relatively small area, and implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would reduce potential impacts to nesting birds to a less than significant level. A less than significant impact would occur.

e) Conflict with Local Policies or Ordinances – No Impact

The project is consistent with the policies listed above from the City of Fortuna General Plan. Per Policy NCR-2.6 a biological evaluation and revegetation plan and wetland delineation have been prepared for the project (or will be prepared for the project prior to construction, Mitigation Measure BIO-4), in addition to special-status species database searches. Mitigation has also been included in the project to reduce any potential effects to a less than significant level. The project will comply with the requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act, CESA, Clean Water Act, CDFW code, and CEQA (Policy NCR-2.7). Invasive plants pose a significant threat to the health and productivity of creeks, creek banks, and will be removed wherever feasible as part of the project (Policy NCR-2.8). A Wetland Delineation has been prepared for the project, (see c) above) (Policy NCR-2.10). Per Policy NCR-2.13 the City’s contractor will ensure that Wetland 1 and Wetland 2 are protected from development with the installation of silt fencing around the perimeter of the wetlands at a minimum of 6 inches away from wetland boundary and 10 feet away wherever possible around the wetland perimeter (see mitigation measure above).

The project does not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources and is consistent with all applicable policies related to biological resources in the City of Fortuna General Plan; therefore, no impact would occur.

f) Habitat Conservation Plan – No Impact

The City of Fortuna does not have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved conservation plan within which the project would conflict. Furthermore, according to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report (City of Fortuna 2007), the Fortuna General Plan Planning Area (which encompasses both incorporated territory and unincorporated areas that may directly or indirectly affect the City’s future development) is not subject to an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur.
3.5 Cultural Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would the project:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

A historic properties inventory report (confidential, available at the City of Fortuna) was prepared for the Final EA for this project (FEMA 2013) in support of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Historic properties include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, districts, and objects; standing historic structures, buildings, districts, and objects; locations of important historic events; and Native American sites and cultural properties such as sites of traditional/cultural importance to various groups. A historic property is defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The historic properties study included a literature search review of the area of potential effect (APE) and a one mile buffer around the APE and a systematic archaeological pedestrian surface survey of the APE. A literature search was requested from the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) located at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, on December 17, 2012.

A Cultural Resources Investigation (results of records search) for the Rohner Creek Flood Control, Habitat and Seismic Improvements Project was prepared by Roscoe and Associates in December 2012 (confidential, available at the City of Fortuna) (Roscoe and Associates 2012). The APE for the Rohner Creek Flood Control, Habitat and Seismic Improvements Project included the proposed project. The records search focused on a review of the CHRS regional NWIC files of archaeological sites and previous surveys. The research also includes a review of the NRHP-Listed Properties and Determined Eligible Properties, California Register of Historical Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historical Resources, and California Historical Landmarks. Other reviewed documents include historic maps, photographs, and sources of ethnographic information on file in the authors’ personal collections.
A systematic pedestrian archaeological survey was conducted on May 23, 2013. No archaeological resources were observed (FEMA 2013).

Background research indicates that the project area lies within the traditional territory of the Wiyot Tribe. The ridgeline to the southeast of Rohnerville was apparently the boundary area between the Wiyot and Nongatl Tribe (Loud 1918). No village sites are known to have existed in the Fortuna or Rohnerville areas, the two closest (east of the Eel) being Tswokërok, approximately 1.5 miles to the northwest at the mouth of Strong’s Creek, and Kigërgololil, approximately two miles to the south at the mouth of the Van Duzen River (Loud 1918, Plate 1). No Wiyot trails are shown in the area, although it is likely that a path made its way along the “Goose Lake Prairie Trail” shown on the early GLO plat maps for the townships. A brief review of John P. Harrington’s notes did not reveal any additional information about the Wiyot presence in the area.

The general area was settled in 1850, and was the location of a pack train route to the Trinity County gold mines. By the 1860s, the area “on both sides of what is now Rohnerville Road and Main Street, as far as the eyes could see westward to the Eel River were fields of hay and grain” (Thompson 1967:11). The community gained a post office, which was first called Eel River, but soon another name became prominent, it was that of Swiss immigrant Henry Rohner (Turner 1993:71). In 1856 Rohner opened the first business in the area located just southeast of the corner of today’s First Street and Rohnerville Road (Fountain 2001:(128)42).

According to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report, the bluffs overlooking the Eel River are made up of massive fine and medium grained sandstones, pebbly conglomerate and siltstone and have been a significant source of fossils. Ash layers exposed in some areas date from 1.3 to 1.5 million years ago. This formation has produced mollusks, sand dollars, fossilized plant, turtle, starfish and agatized whalebone finds; therefore, it is assumed that the Fortuna General Plan Planning Area has the potential to contain paleontological resources (City of Fortuna 2007).

**a, b) Historical or Archaeological Resources – Less than Significant with Mitigation**

The historic properties inventory report concluded than no historic properties would be affected by the proposed project. After a thorough assessment, no historic properties are present within the WWTP survey area and the project site is considered to have a low sensitivity for buried resources. A systematic pedestrian archaeological survey was conducted on May 23, 2013, and no archaeological resources were observed (FEMA 2013).

According to the cultural resources records search for the Rohner Creek Flood Control, Habitat and Seismic Improvements Project, there are no known prehistoric archaeological sites in the survey area or within a 500-meter radius (which includes the project site). The Fortuna area figures prominently in the early history of the north coast; however, specific project locations appear to have a relatively low to moderate sensitivity for containing significant remains from historic period activity. Historical buildings and archaeological deposits would be more likely along Fortuna Boulevard. Survey area air photo and historic map analysis reveals that the project area has been substantially altered through agricultural practices, creek channelization, and development. No historic period cultural resources are listed with the North Coast Information Center (NCOIC) for the project area.

Although the project would not cause demolition of any structures, there may be cultural artifacts on or below the surface that could be disturbed by project activities. If previously unidentified archaeological or historic resources are discovered during construction of the project, impacts to
such resources could be significant if not treated properly. Therefore, the following mitigation is included to reduce any potentially significant impacts to unknown historical/archaeological resources to a less than significant level.

**Mitigation Measure CR-1: Identify and Avoid or Minimize Impacts to Unknown Historic and/or Archaeological Resources**

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that if concentrations of prehistoric or historic-period materials are encountered as a result of ground-disturbing activity attributable to the project, all work in the immediate vicinity shall halt until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the finds and make recommendations. The recommendations of the archaeologist shall be implemented. Prehistoric materials could include obsidian and chert debitage or formal tools, grinding implements, (e.g., pestles, handstones, bowl mortars, slabs), locally darkened midden, deposits of shell, faunal remains, and human burials. Historic materials could include ceramics/pottery, glass, metal, can and bottle dumps, cut bone, barbed wire fences, building pads, structures, and trails/roads.

If such materials are encountered during construction, the City shall retain a qualified archaeologist who shall be present during subsequent surface and subsurface activities in the vicinity of the sensitive materials as determined necessary by the archaeologist. With respect to these areas of sensitive materials:

- Ground disturbance shall be monitored by a qualified archaeologist with the authority to temporarily halt work and redirect equipment if cultural materials are discovered.

- If cultural materials are discovered, the archaeologist shall assess the discovery to determine if it constitutes either a unique archaeological resource or a historical resource for purposes of CEQA (CCR Title 14 §15064.5[a]).

- If the archaeologist determines that the materials do not constitute either a unique archaeological resource or a historical resource, their presence shall be noted but need not be considered further (CCR Title 14 §15064.5[c][3]).

- If the archaeologist determines: (a) that the materials do constitute a unique archaeological resource or historical resource; and, (b) they are subject to substantial adverse change as defined in CCR Title 14 §15064.5[b], the archaeologist shall provide recommendations to the City for appropriate treatment which, among other options, may include preservation in place or archaeological data recovery. Preservation in place is preferred, if it is feasible.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels by protecting, preserving, or recovering any significant cultural resources, including historical resources, affected by project construction.

c) **Paleontological or Geological Resources – Less than Significant with Mitigation**

Paleontological resources are the remains or traces of prehistoric animals and plants. Paleontological resources, which include fossil remains and geologic sites with fossil-bearing strata are non-renewable and scarce and are a sensitive resource afforded protection under environmental legislation in California. Under California PRC Section 5097.5, unauthorized disturbance or removal of a fossil locality or remains on public land is a misdemeanor. State law
also requires reasonable mitigation of adverse environmental impacts that result from development of public land and affect paleontological resources (CPR Section 30244).

As noted previously, the Fortuna General Plan Planning Area has the potential to contain paleontological resources. Although it is unlikely that project construction would impact potentially significant unique paleontological or geologic resources because the site is underlain by fluvial deposits not uplifted marine terrace and/or marine-derived rock, it cannot be ruled out altogether. Therefore, the potential impact is considered significant, and the following mitigation measure is proposed.

**Mitigation Measure CR-2: Evaluation and Treatment of Paleontological Resources**

If paleontological resources (e.g., vertebrate bones, teeth, or abundant and well-preserved invertebrates or plants), are encountered during construction, the City shall ensure work in the immediate vicinity shall be diverted away from the find until a professional paleontologist assesses and salvages the find, as appropriate.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-2 would reduce impacts to a less than significant level by requiring evaluation and salvage of any paleontological resources found during project construction. Additionally, the project site does not include any unique geologic features.

d) **Human Remains – Less than Significant Impact**

Although no known cemeteries or burial sites are located on the project site, given the long history of human activity in the area, encountering human remains during construction activities is possible. If human remains are discovered during construction of the project, impacts could be significant. As such, Environmental Protection Action 2, Procedures for Encountering Human Remains, has been incorporated into this project to reduce this potential impact to less than significant by providing standard procedures in the event that human remains are encountered during project construction and adherence to PRC Section 5097.98 requiring Native American tribal notification.
### 3.6 Geology and Soils

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>iii) Seismic related ground failure, including liquefaction?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Landslides?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on, or off, site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

The City of Fortuna is located within a complex geological environment characterized by high rates of tectonic activity. The area is known for a high amount of seismicity, with more than 60 earthquakes producing discernible damage since the mid-1800s. The project area lies north of the Mendocino Triple Junction, where the North American, Pacific and Gorda plates meet. The local geologic setting of Fortuna is characterized by the Little Salmon fault and the Eel River. The City lies east of the Eel River and is built on alluvium derived from the Eel and Van Duzen rivers and from streams draining the hills east of town. (FEMA 2013)
a.i) **Fault Rupture – Less than Significant Impact**

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act was passed in 1972 to mitigate the hazard of surface faulting to structures for human occupancy. This act prohibits the location of structures designed for human occupancy across active faults and regulates construction within fault zones. The project site is not within or adjacent to an Alquist–Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (CGS 1991). The nearest fault classified as an Alquist–Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone is the Little Salmon Fault located approximately 2.1 miles northeast of the project. Based on published mapping, the possibility of ground ruptures and/or fault creep at the WWTP is low. Additionally, the project does not include housing or structures for human occupancy subject to the Alquist-Priolo Act. The impact is less than significant.

a.ii) **Ground Shaking – Less than Significant Impact**

All of coastal Northern California is subject to potentially strong seismic ground shaking and multiple earthquake sources capable of generating moderate to strong earthquakes are in close proximity to the project site. Strong seismic shaking is a regional hazard that could cause major damage to the project area. The extent of ground-shaking during an earthquake is controlled by the earthquake magnitude and intensity, distance to the epicenter, and the geologic conditions in the area.

The proposed project would not expose people or structures to seismic ground shaking and the berms and treated effluent pump station have been designed by professionally registered civil engineers to industry standards. Additionally, the project does not involve the construction of structures which would be occupied by people. The impact is less than significant.

a.iii) **Liquefaction – Less than Significant Impact**

Liquefaction is the transformation of saturated, loose, fine-grained sediment to a fluid-like state because of earthquake shaking or other rapid loading. Liquefaction is known to occur in loose or moderately saturated granular soils with poor drainage.

The proposed project would not include residential development, occupied structures, or critical facilities that would be subject to liquefaction. The civil plans and specifications for the project have been designed by professionally registered civil engineers to industry standards. Therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects from liquefaction and the impact would be less than significant.

a.iv) **Landslides – Less than Significant Impact**

Landslides are gravity-driven downslope movements of earth materials, typically triggered by earthquakes, or elevated pore pressures, resulting from peak rainfall events. Factors that influence the susceptibility of an area to landslides, or mudflows, include slope gradient, the nature of earth materials, vegetative cover, and groundwater levels (City of Fortuna 2010a). The project site is not within a landslide zone and is on relatively flat ground. The project would not expose people or structures to substantial risk of landslides for the reasons stated above. The impact is less than significant.

b) **Loss of Topsoil – Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation**

Construction activities, including trenching, excavation, trimming/removal of vegetation, shrubs and trees, and operation of heavy equipment would disturb soil and, therefore, have the potential
to cause erosion. Subject to regulatory approval, erosion control actions (Environmental Protection Action 3) and SWPPP (Mitigation Measure HYD-1) would be prepared for the project prior to the start of construction and soil disturbance. The erosion control actions would include BMPs designed to reduce erosion of exposed soil and minimize the sediment entrained in runoff from the site during construction. BMPs may include: plastic tarps, geo-fabric, woven coconut fronds, silt fences, coir rolls/straw wattles, erosion control matting, site watering for controlling dust, or other suitable materials. All disturbed riparian areas would be re-vegetated following construction with native plant species and native seed that would serve to stabilize site conditions and prevent invasive species from colonizing. Sterile straw would also be used. Ground disturbance in non-sensitive habitat areas would be mulched with straw or other appropriate material, as necessary under the SWPPP for the project. With the implementation of Environmental Protection Action 3 and Mitigation Measure HYD-1, potential impacts to soil erosion or the loss of topsoil would be less than significant.

c) Unstable Soil – Less than Significant Impact

According to the City of Fortuna General Plan Program EIR (City of Fortuna 2010a), the western portion of the Planning Area by the Eel River is underlain by sedimentary materials and the potential for unstable soils (e.g., soils subject to liquefaction, lateral spreading, subsidence, or expansion). However, because the project would be subject to state building code requirements and is on relatively flat ground, the impact would be less than significant.

d) Expansive Soils – Less than Significant Impact

Expansive soils are generally high in certain clay types and are prone to large volume changes upon wetting and drying. According to the Fortuna General Plan Program EIR (City of Fortuna 2010a), the Eel River Valley is underlain by the Hookton Formation that includes coastal plain and fluvial deposits. The western two-thirds of the Fortuna Planning Area overlays this formation. Given the unconsolidated nature of this formation and its proximity to the Eel and Van Duzen rivers this portion of the Fortuna Planning Area is subject to varying levels of expansive soils. However, because the project has been designed to industry standards and will be constructed to State Building Code standards, the project impact from expansive soils would be less than significant.

e) Septic Tanks – No Impact

Because the project does not include septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems, and because construction of the berms and treated effluent pump station would not be impacted or be located on soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems, no impact would occur.
3.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?</td>
<td></td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

Climate change refers to change in the Earth’s weather patterns including the rise in the Earth’s temperature due to an increase in heat-trapping or "greenhouse" gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. Unlike emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants, which have local or regional impacts, emissions of GHGs that contribute to global warming or global climate change have a broader, global impact. Global warming is a process whereby GHGs accumulating in the atmosphere contribute to an increase in the temperature of the Earth’s atmosphere. The principal GHGs contributing to global warming are carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O) and fluorinated compounds. These gases allow visible and ultraviolet light from the sun to pass through the atmosphere, but they prevent heat from escaping back out into space. Among the potential implications of global warming are rising sea levels, and adverse impacts to water supply, water quality, agriculture, forestry, and habitats. In addition, global warming may increase electricity demand for cooling, decrease the availability of hydroelectric power, and affect regional air quality and public health. Like most criteria and toxic air contaminants, much of the GHG production comes from motor vehicles. GHG emissions can be reduced to some degree by improved coordination of land use and transportation planning at the City, County and subregional level, and other measures to reduce automobile use. Energy conservation measures also can contribute to reductions in GHG emissions (BAAQMD 2012).

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32) definitively established the state’s climate change policy and sets GHG reduction targets (Health & Safety Code §38500 et seq.). The state set its target at reducing greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2020.

The NCUAQMD does not have rules, regulations, or thresholds of significance for non-stationary or construction-related GHG emissions. In 2011, the NCUAQMD adopted Rule 111 - Federal Permitting Requirements for Sources of Greenhouse Gases to establish a threshold above which New Source Review (NSR) and federal Title V permitting applies and to establish federally enforceable limits on potential to emit greenhouse gases for stationary sources. These are considered requirements for stationary sources and should not be used as a threshold of significance for non-stationary source projects.

The Fortuna General Plan includes two policies specific to GHGs. Policy HS-3.5 (Restoration for Greenhouse Gases Absorption) states, “foster and restore forests and other terrestrial ecosystems that offer significant carbon mitigation potential.” Policy HS-3.6 (Greenhouse Gas
Emissions Reduction from Transportation) states, “Increase clean-fuel use, promote transit-oriented development and alternative modes of transportation, and reduce travel demand.” The City of Fortuna does not have an adopted Climate Action Plan or similar policies and standards to address GHG emissions other than the two polices noted above. Also, the City has not adopted local implementing procedures and guidelines for CEQA to address how emissions should be analyzed in environmental documents.

a) Generation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Less than Significant Impact

Construction

Construction of the project would cause GHG emissions as a result of combustion of fossil fuels used in construction equipment and vehicles from workers commuting to and from the project site. The project would require the use of several pieces of heavy earthmoving equipment, delivery trucks, construction commute and utility vehicles, paving equipment, in addition to generators, and other small engine-powered tools. The NCUAQMD has not adopted a threshold for construction-related GHG emissions against which to evaluate significance and has not established construction-generated criteria air pollutant screening levels above which quantitative air quality emissions would be required.

Guidelines established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) suggest that the district would expect qualitative analysis to be conducted for projects substantially greater in scope than the proposed project. For example, quantitative analysis would be expected for a school or commercial facility construction project over 30 acres, a city park over 60 acres, or a single family residential development with over 180 units (SMAQMD 2009). Project emissions during construction of the project would not approach the level of emissions associated with these reference project types and would not cause a considerable contribution to the cumulative GHG impact at the regional or state level. Given the project’s scale, scope, and duration, it would not have a measurable or considerable contribution to the cumulative GHG impact at the local, regional or state level. The impact would be less than significant.

Operations

The project would include only minor and negligible operational GHG emissions associated with the repair and maintenance of the berms and the effluent pump station during flood conditions. The level of repair and maintenance would not lead to a substantial increase in GHG emissions or a related impact. The impact would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with an Applicable Plan, Policy, or Regulation – No Impact

As stated above, the City of Fortuna has not prepared a Climate Action Plan. The project does not conflict with the two GHG policies noted above (HS-3.5 and HS-3.6). Although the project would produce a minor amount of construction-related emissions, the project would not conflict with any plans, policies, or regulations, and there would be no impact.
### 3.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

Hazardous Materials
Hazardous materials are substances, or a combination of substances, that, due to quantity, concentration, physical, chemical, radiological, explosive, or infectious characteristics, pose a potential danger to humans or the environment. Generally, these materials are categorized as: explosive and blasting agents; flammable and nonflammable gases; combustible liquids and solids; oxidizers; poisons; disease-causing agents; radioactive materials; corrosive materials and other materials, including hazardous wastes.

Current operations at the WWTP involve transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials. Wastewater treatment operations by intention typically involve the use of hazardous materials during routine operations for disinfection and treatment of wastewater and during routine facility maintenance for painting and diesel powered equipment maintenance. Many of the materials used in routine operation at the WWTP are considered hazardous and while many are stored and used in significant quantity on a daily basis, use of, and access to these materials is strictly controlled. Furthermore, materials used for painting and equipment repair activities generally are maintained at the WWTP in limited quantities and stored and handled following manufacturer and regulatory agency guidelines for safety.

Airport Hazards
Two airports serve the City of Fortuna, including Arcata/Eureka Airport (ACV) and Rohnerville Airport. The ACV, located approximately 31 miles north of the project site in the unincorporated community of McKinleyville, is the primary regional commercial airport serving Humboldt County. The Rohnerville Airport is a public airport located between Drake Hill Road and State Route 36. The Rohnerville Airport is more than two miles south of the project site.

Emergency Response and Evacuation Planning
Federal and state laws require local jurisdictions to prepare Emergency Response Plans that address interruptions of water and power due to earthquakes, fires, floods, sabotage and terrorist acts. The City of Fortuna has Emergency Response Plans in place (City of Fortuna 2010a).

Humboldt County is the primary agency responsible for emergency response and evacuation planning. The Humboldt County Emergency Operations Plan addresses a planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national security emergencies in or affecting Humboldt County. The Humboldt County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan inventories the potential natural hazards in the County, assesses the risk to people, buildings and critical facilities, and develops a mitigation strategy to reduce the risk of exposure and allow a swift and organized recovery should a disaster occur (City of Fortuna 2010a).

Wildland Fire
According to the Fortuna General Plan Program EIR (City of Fortuna 2010a), wildland fire risks are primarily an issue in the northern and eastern edges of the Planning Area, which are steeply sloped and covered with coniferous forest. The central and western portions of the Planning Area (location of the proposed project) are predominately flat and therefore less subject to wildland fire.
a) Transport, Use, and Disposal of Hazardous Materials – Less than Significant Impact

Project construction would require the use of hazardous materials such as fuels, lubricants, paints, and solvents. Construction activities for the project would be short-term and one-time in nature, and would involve the limited transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Some examples of hazardous materials handling include fueling and servicing construction equipment on-site, and the transport of fuels, lubricating fluids, and solvents. These types of materials; however, are not acutely hazardous, and all storage, handling, and disposal of these materials are regulated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the U.S. EPA, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), and the Fortuna Fire Protection District.

Following construction, the project would result in the storage and transport of hazardous materials, similar to existing operational conditions for the WWTP as discussed above (chlorine for example). Hazardous areas would be classified in accordance with the National Electrical Code and the National Fire Protection Association. All equipment located within hazardous areas would be suitable for the location.

Numerous laws and regulations ensure the safe transportation, use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials. Worker safety regulations cover hazards related to exposure to hazardous materials. Regulations and criteria for the disposal of hazardous materials mandate disposal at appropriate landfills. Because the City, contractors, and other construction service providers would be required to comply with existing hazardous materials laws and regulations for the transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials, the impacts associated with the project having the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment would be less than significant.

b) Upset or Accidents Involving Hazardous Materials – Less than Significant Impact

During construction, routine transport of hazardous materials to and from the project site could indirectly result in an incremental increase in the potential for accidents. Caltrans, the Federal Department of Transportation, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) regulate the transportation of hazardous materials and wastes, including container types and packaging requirements, as well as licensing and training for truck operators, chemical handlers, and hazardous waste haulers. Because the City, contractors, and other construction service providers would be required to comply with existing hazardous materials laws and regulations for the transport and use of hazardous materials, the impacts associated with the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment would be less than significant. Excavated soil and waste materials would be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. If contaminated materials are discovered during construction activities, work would cease until the appropriate procedures and permits can be implemented. Any hazardous materials discovered, generated, or used during construction would be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. Under Mitigation HYD-1, an additional level of safety would occur with the requirement to implement BMPs with regard to hazardous materials management and sediment control.

c) Emit Hazardous Materials within 0.25 Mile of a School – No Impact

There is no impact related to the potential for the project to emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or
proposed school, as no public schools are located or proposed for construction within 0.25 mile of the project site. The closest public school to the project site is Fortuna Middle School which is approximately 0.38 mile north of the project site. Fortuna High School is approximately 0.41 mile northeast of the project site. No impact has been identified.

d) Included on a List of Hazardous Materials Sites – No Impact

There are no hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List or “Cortese” list) within the project area. According to EPA’s EnviroMapper for Envirofacts, the closest hazardous materials site to the WWTP is a hazardous waste collection facility approximately 0.3 mile from the project site. GHD further researched listed sites that have the potential to affect the project by reviewing available records on the SWRCB GeoTracker Website and determined that there are no sites in close proximity to affect the WWTP. The nearest site on this list is a leaking underground tank cleanup site approximately 0.3 mile north of the project site on 7th Street (CalEPA 2012). The project is not located on a Cortese list and would therefore not create a hazard to the public or environment. No impact would occur.

e, f) Safety Hazard for People Residing or Working Within Two Miles of an Airport – No Impact

There are no public or private airports within two miles of the project site. The nearest public airport, the Rohnerville Airport, is located approximately 2.6 miles southeast of the project site (City of Fortuna 2007). The project would not result in airport-related safety hazards for people residing or working in the project area. No impact would occur.

g) Impair or Interfere with an Adopted Emergency Response/Evacuation Plan – No Impact

The Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services Division of Environmental Health (HCDEH) has a Hazardous Materials Area Plan (HMAP) that covers the County, including the City of Fortuna and its surroundings. The HMAP establishes the following:

- Policies, responsibilities, and procedures required for protecting the health and safety of Humboldt County’s population, the environment, and the public and private property from the effects of hazardous materials incidents;
- Emergency response organization for hazardous materials incidents occurring within Humboldt County;
- Operational concepts and procedures associated with the Eureka Fire Departments Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (EFD HMRT).

The City of Fortuna also has hazardous material response plans associated with the regulatory requirements for their wastewater treatment, water treatment plant facilities and operations, and an emergency response plan that establishes chain-of-command and response procedures between the police, fire, public works, City staff and board, and other essential departments and outside organizations. Response plans are also included in hazardous materials business plans, for those businesses that are required by the HCDEH to prepare and maintain them (City of Fortuna 2010a).
The project will not impair or interfere with any emergency response and evacuation plans, and does not include development that would significantly increase the number of people exposed to potential emergencies. Furthermore, no roads would be closed as a result of project activities. No impact would occur.

**h) Exposure to Wildland Fires – Less than Significant Impact**

The project would not expose people or structures to a risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands. Government Code Sections 51175-89 directs CAL FIRE to map areas of very high fire hazard within Local Responsibility Areas (LRA). Mapping of the areas, referred to as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) is based on relevant factors such as fuels, terrain, and weather. CAL FIRE has determined that Humboldt County has no VHFHSZ in the LRA. The LRA map for Humboldt County is in draft form as of December, 2014. According to the adopted Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA map for Humboldt County (adopted by CAL FIRE on November 7, 2007), the project site is in zones LRA Moderate and LRA Unzoned for fire hazard severity (CAL FIRE 2008). Humboldt County’s GIS classifies the project area as having a “Low Fire Rating.”

Construction involving heavy equipment, vehicles, power tools, and personnel smoking in and around the project site could cause the ignition of a wildfire; however, the project site is within the urbanized area of Fortuna so the possibility of a wildfire is remote. The project area is generally considered to be in the central and western portions of the Fortuna Planning Area and is not prone to wildland fire. Furthermore, the project is required to comply with local fire code requirements. The impact is less than significant.
### 3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

Surface Water

The proposed project is located within the Eel River watershed, which drains approximately 3,680 square miles and extends from the headwaters in the mountains to the east to the river's mouth at the Pacific Ocean. More specifically, the project site is located within the Strongs Creek watershed, which encompasses approximately 10,700 acres and drains a mix of developed and undeveloped areas. Rainfall in the project area ranges from 41 to 55 inches per year. Flooding is a direct result of storm flows.

Watershed

The Strongs Creek Drainage Area is located in the central area of the City of Fortuna, bordered by the Rohner Creek and Hillside Creek Drainage Areas to the north and the Jameson Creek Drainage Area to the south. The Strongs Creek watershed is the largest watershed in the general Fortuna area, encompassing approximately 5,200 acres without including tributaries, and approximately 10,700 acres when tributaries are included. Tributaries to Strongs Creek include Rohner Creek, Jameson Creek, and Mill Creek (Winzler & Kelly 2005).

Municipal Stormwater Discharges

The City of Fortuna stormwater drainage system serves the incorporated City of Fortuna and its immediate environs (11,350 acres total). It consists of a downtown system, several peripheral subdivision systems and outlying rural systems. The downtown drainage system is composed primarily of reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) and corrugated metal pipe (CMP) with diameters ranging from 8" to 54", with older box culverts and cross drains at intersections. The subdivision drainage systems are composed of RCP, CMP and polyethylene pipe with diameters ranging from 12" to 48." The outlying rural systems are composed largely of roadside ditches and culverts. Stormwater runoff from these systems flows by gravity to Rohner Creek, Hillside Creek, Strongs Creek, Jameson Creek, and Mill Creek before flowing to the main stem of Strongs Creek and discharging to the Eel River. Each of the aforementioned creeks are primarily in their natural, unchannelized, except for the lower reaches of Strongs Creek which is partially channelized (City of Fortuna 2010a).

Flooding

The proposed project is located within Zone A7, which is within the 100-year flood plain as shown in Figure 4. The proposed project is located outside of the defined floodway, in the floodway fringe, which is defined by FEMA as the portion of the flood plain that could be completely obstructed without increasing the water surface elevation of the 100-year flood by more than 1.0 foot. The area of the Eel River flood plain in the vicinity of the WWTP is large, ranging between two and three miles, and the increase in flood elevation due to the displacement of flood water from the proposed flood protection berm would be minimal.

a, f) Violate Water Quality Standards or Degrade Water Quality – Less than Significant with Mitigation

Construction activities can introduce pollutants to stormwater runoff, including sediment, paint, solvent, pavement, construction debris and trash, as well as hydrocarbons and other fluids from construction vehicles. The most likely pollutant from the proposed project would be sediments created by soil disturbance during or immediately after construction from rainfall events. These
potential pollutants are regulated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order Number 2009-0009-DWQ, NPDES Number CAS000002; a.k.a construction general permit). This construction general permit offers NPDES coverage for stormwater discharges with construction activities of more than 1.0 acre, and would apply if the project disturbs over one acre of ground. Ground disturbance will be more than one acre; therefore, the project would trigger the requirement for a SWPPP.

A SWPPP must contain site plans that show the construction area, roadways, stormwater collection/discharge points, general existing and proposed topography, and drainage patterns across the project. As described in section A of the construction general permit, a SWPPP must include: BMPs the discharger will use to protect stormwater runoff; a visual monitoring program; a chemical monitoring program for non-visible pollutants to be implemented in the event of a BMP failure; and a sediment monitoring plan if the site discharges directly to a water body listed on the 303(d) list for sediment.

The Eel River is on the 303 (d) list, which Rohner Creek and Strongs Creek are tributaries to. Project activities would not take place along the Eel River; however, since the Eel River is immediately downstream from the project site, the Eel River could be potentially affected by project activities. With incorporation of Environmental Protection Action 3, (Erosion Control Plan), and Mitigation Measure HYD-1 (below) the project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, or otherwise substantially degrade water quality. Additionally, the Rohner Creek Flood Control, Habitat and Seismic Improvements Project (adopted June 2014) would further reduce erosion through a combination of channel widening and terracing to stabilize the streambanks, and provide areas in which sediment and silt could naturally deposit without being carried downstream and conveyed to Strongs Creek and eventually the Eel River. Along with rock slope protection and retaining walls placed along the creek banks, large woody debris placed in strategic locations provides habitat and stabilization to the channel. The project would also result in less property and structure flooding which would reduce the potential for debris and household chemicals to enter the waterways.

Construction of the project would also require the use of gasoline and diesel-powered equipment, such as trucks, excavators, graders, bulldozers, backhoes, compactors, and generators. Chemicals such as diesel, gasoline, lubricants, hydraulic fluid, transmission fluid, paints, solvents, glues, and other substances would be utilized during construction. An accidental release of any of these substances could degrade surface or groundwater and cause a significant impact. Therefore, the following mitigation is included:

**Mitigation Measure HYD -1: Prepare and Implement SWPPP and BMPs**

The City shall ensure that a SWPPP is prepared and implemented for the project and includes BMPs. The SWPPP shall be prepared prior to any construction on any portion of the project, and implemented prior to and during construction. At a minimum the contractor shall implement the following:

**Materials Management**

- The Contractor shall provide protected (covered) storage areas for any potentially toxic materials (concrete, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizer, grease, oils, fuel, paints, stains, solvents,
wood preservatives, etc.). Ensure that these materials are protected from vandalism, and that all lids and covers are securely fastened. Clearly mark all hazardous material containers.

- Bags of mortar, concrete, or other supplies shall be placed on pallets and covered with tarps so that if precipitation does occur these materials would not be exposed to stormwater and become a stormwater pollutant.

- Minimize the production or generation of hazardous materials and wastes at the site. Do not allow them to accumulate on the ground. Schedule regular pick up of used materials by licensed waste haulers and ensure proper disposal.

- All hazardous material containers shall be placed in secondary containment. Ensure that adequate secondary containment volume is provided for hazardous materials and that they are located in areas on the site away from stormwater drains or watercourses. Segregate potentially hazardous waste from non-hazardous construction debris. Provide berms, if necessary, to prevent stormwater run-on from contacting the storage area. Also, use containment berms in fueling and maintenance areas and where the potential for spills is high.

Waste Disposal

- The Contractor shall provide waste receptacles for common solid wastes at convenient locations on the job site and provide regular collection of wastes, including building materials. Provide cover for receptacles or piles of waste prior to rain events. Do not allow crew to discard miscellaneous trash on the project site.

Spill Prevention and Response

- The Contractor shall make adequate preparations, including training personnel and providing equipment, to contain and/or clean up spills of oil and other hazardous materials. Ensure that adequate materials such as absorbents, berms, dry sweep shovels, brooms, and absorbent pads are on hand to clean up any accidental spill that may occur. Spills of hazardous materials can originate from fueling, equipment breaking down (such as hydraulic lines), material transfer operations, and other sources. Clean up such spills immediately and properly dispose of all wastes and used spill control materials.

Available Erosion Control Supplies

- The Contractor shall ensure that sufficient erosion control supplies shall be available on site at all times to deal with areas susceptible to erosion during rain events. Materials should include plastic tarps, geo-fabric, woven coconut fronds, coir rolls/straw wattles, jute netting, erosion control matting, silt fencing, straw mulch or other suitable materials.

Non-Stormwater Discharges

- Activities such as vehicle washing, bucket rinsing, paintbrush cleaning, etc. shall be carried out at an approved facility (i.e. car wash or interior sink), wherein the water is discharged into a sanitary sewer. Non-stormwater discharges should be eliminated or reduced to the extent feasible. The Contractor shall designate a qualified person with the responsibility for ensuring that no materials other than stormwater are discharged in quantities, which would have an adverse effect on receiving waters or storm drain systems.
Sanitary Waste Management

- The Contractor shall provide sanitary facilities of sufficient number and size to accommodate construction crews. Locate the sanitary facilities in a convenient location, but away from storm drain inlets and drainage facilities. Anchor the facilities sufficiently to prevent them from being blown over or tipped by vandals. Ensure that the facilities are maintained in good working order and emptied at regular intervals by a licensed sanitary waste hauler.

Vehicle and Equipment Fueling

- On-site vehicle and equipment fueling should only be used where it’s impractical to send vehicles and equipment off site for fueling. The Contractor shall designate an area for equipment fueling and maintenance away from storm drain inlets or drainage channels. The fueling area shall be located on a paved surface (if practical) and shall be protected with berms to prevent run-on and run-off and contain spills. Secondary containment techniques such as drip pans or drop cloths shall be used when fueling to catch drips or leaks.

Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning

- Off-site commercial washing businesses are equipped to handle and dispose of wash water properly and are to be used for vehicle and equipment cleaning as much as possible. If vehicle and equipment washing and cleaning must occur on site and cannot be performed in a building equipped with sanitary sewer facilities, the outside cleaning area shall be located away from storm drain inlets and drainage facilities. The wash area shall be stabilized with aggregate base, and bermed to prevent run-off and run-on. The drainage area shall be outfitted with a sump to allow for the collection and disposal of wash water. Wash water is not to be disposed of into storm drains or watercourses.

- The wash area shall be used as little as possible, while using the minimum amount of wash water and soaps necessary. Power washers tend to use less water and should be considered. Steam cleaning is not to be performed at any time. Cleaning solvents shall never to be used on-site.

Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance

- Perform vehicle maintenance off site whenever practical. The Contractor shall coordinate with the City and designate the on-site vehicle and equipment maintenance areas away from storm drain inlets and watercourses. Locate the maintenance areas on paved surfaces if practical and protect the maintenance area from stormwater run-on and run-off.

- Properly dispose of used oils, fuels, and lubricants. Do not dump fuels or lubricants on the ground, place in dumpsters, or pour into storm drains or watercourses. Properly dispose of or recycle batteries and other waste products.

- Repair leaks of fluids and oil immediately. Place drip pans under vehicles with leaks while they are waiting repair and promptly empty drip pans into proper waste containers.

- Regularly inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks or potential leaks. Perform regularly scheduled preventative maintenance, preferably off site. Inspect the maintenance area regularly and clean up any spills or leaks immediately. Maintain an adequate supply of spill cleanup materials in the maintenance area at all times.
Erosion Control BMPs

- **Scheduling Work** - Proper sequencing of construction activities to reduce erosion potential should be incorporated into the schedule of the construction project especially during the rainy season. This project is scheduled to be constructed in the summer season with all work completed prior to the onset of the rainy season, which begins on October 15th. When rainfall is forecast, the construction schedule is to be adjusted to allow the implementation of erosion and sediment controls on all disturbed areas prior to the onset of rains.

- **Minimize Earthmoving and Vegetation Removal** - Vegetation removal, grading, and other construction activities shall be restricted to the minimum area necessary to complete the project.

- **Site Stabilization and Seeding** - All soil disturbance in riparian areas outside of the berms and berm outer slopes shall be stabilized by native seeding. All soil disturbance within the berms and berm inside slopes shall be stabilized with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. The contractor should hand broadcast seed and rice straw in access areas (within the berms) where bare ground exists after construction. Seeding should be done at an adequate time to develop a uniform vegetative cover (70% or greater) before the seasonal rains begin. If this is not possible at the site due to the construction schedule of the project, the Contractor shall implement temporary soil stabilization measures until the vegetative cover develops. The Contractor shall consider measures such as: covering with mulch, temporary seeding/vegetation, soil stabilizers, binders, fiber rolls, blankets, or permanent seeding.

- Seeding and mulching should be done as soon as grading operations are completed. Proper and timely attention shall be taken to avoid erosion. Erosion control and seed establishment can be enhanced with the use of surface roughening followed by seeding and mulching.

- **Exposed Area Limitations** - The occurrence of windy days may also require water to be sprayed onto exposed surface areas for dust control. These areas could include dirt roads, soil disposal areas, or other graded surfaces. Care should be taken not to create run-off from the application of excessive quantities of water, or to increase vehicle track-out of sediment from this activity.

- **Stockpiled Soils** - The Contractor shall work with the Owner to designate an area to be used for stockpiled soils. Trench spoils generated during utility installation and other activities must be securely stockpiled at the site. In the event of rain, care shall be taken to prevent erosion and sediment transport from stockpiled areas. Stockpiles should be securely covered and placed away from drainage channels, preferably in areas with some natural vegetation in place. Silt fences shall be installed around the soil stockpile areas in the event of extended heavy rainfall. Silt fence construction and maintenance is further discussed in the Sediment Control section of this SWPPP. Uncovered soil stockpiles are to be wetted as needed during windy days to prevent wind erosion.

- **Silt Fences** - Prior to construction, after a preconstruction survey has taken place, silt fences shall be installed around Wetlands 1 and 2 and to protect the riparian habitat located along the berm action area, to reduce sediments or impacts to habitat or sensitive species in these locations. Silt fences are to be placed along a level contour except at the ends, which should be returned uphill in a “J” hook formation to prevent water and sediment from flowing around the fence. The silt fencing shall be maintained throughout construction. Repair undercut
fences and repair or replace split, torn, slumping, or weathered fabric. Remove and properly
dispose of sediment when it reaches one-third of the fence height. Silt fences shall not be
removed until the area draining to the silt fence has stabilized and approved by the Owner,
and accumulated materials have been removed. Fill and compact post holes, anchorage
trench and grade fence alignment to blend with adjacent ground.

With implementation of Environmental Protection Action 3 and Mitigation Measure HYD-1, project
impacts to water quality would be less than significant after mitigation.

b) Substantially Deplete Groundwater Supplies or Interfere with Groundwater
Recharge – No Impact

Dewatering of the construction work area could be required if groundwater accumulates in an
excavation area. Dewatering typically involves pumping water out of the excavation area to lower
groundwater levels to the extent needed for construction. Any water table draw-down during
project construction would be very minor and localized and would not affect the ability of any
offsite wells to draw water. No other aspect of the project would substantially deplete groundwater
supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge; therefore, no impact has been identified.

c) Alter Drainage Patterns – Less than Significant Impact

The City is undertaking the proposed project to reduce damage to the WWTP and avoid loss of
wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area. The west side of Berm Section 2
crosses an existing gravel access road, which is currently the drainage route for storm runoff. A
new culvert is proposed, which would allow storm water to flow underneath the berm such that
the existing drainage route remains unchanged. Rock slope protection would be constructed at
the outfall end of the culvert to minimize erosion and sediment transport. The culvert would
include a one way valve at the outfall to prohibit water from entering the facility during a flood
event. The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project site or
in the area, and would not alter any waterway. The impact is less than significant.

d, e) Increase Runoff Resulting in Flooding or Exceed Capacity of Storm Drain System
– Less than Significant Impact

According to the Final Environmental Assessment prepared for the project, the proposed project
would not materially alter the hydrology and hydraulics of the watershed. It would permanently
reduce the risk of flooding at the wastewater treatment plant but would not materially change the
rate of area runoff from existing conditions (FEMA 2013). The impact is less than significant.

g, h) Place Housing and/or Structures Within a 100-Year Flood Zone – No Impact (g),
Less than Significant Impact (h)

The proposed project does not involve the construction of housing, therefore, no impact has been
identified for this significance threshold. The proposed project does include the construction of a
new flood protection berm around the northwestern portion of the WWTP and the raising of the
existing berm in the southern and eastern perimeter of the WWTP. The proposed berms would be
10 feet wide and require between two to six feet of additional fill to raise the elevation to 43.5 feet.

As noted previously, the proposed project is located within Zone A7, which is within the 100-year
flood plain as shown in Figure 4. There are no alternatives to this location, as the purpose of the
proposed project is to protect a critical water-dependent facility from the 100-year flood. The
proposed project is justified in being constructed in the floodplain as it is necessary to protect the
WWTP and protect surface water by avoiding the potential release of untreated wastewater to surface water.

The berms and treated effluent pump station are planned to reduce the potential for flooding on the project site, therefore, the project would have a beneficial effect on flooding at the WWTP. It would permanently reduce the risk of flooding at the WWTP but would not materially change the rate of area runoff from existing conditions (FEMA 2013). The impact is less than significant.

i) Flooding From a Levee or Dam Failure – No Impact

According to the Humboldt Operational Area – Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) (*Figure 11-2 Dam Inundation Areas*), the project site is not located within a dam failure inundation area. Fortuna also does not have any critical facilities located in a dam inundation area (Humboldt County 2008). The HMP includes information on risk assessment and mitigation strategies for hazards from dam failure and other hazards such as flooding, tsunami, earthquakes, etc. The proposed project does not include any activities or components which would expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss from flooding from a levee or dam failure. No impact would occur.

j) Inundation by Seiche, Tsunami, or Mudflow – No Impact

Based on area characteristics, the project site is not down-gradient of a debris-flow source and would not be subject to mudflows. The project site is also not near any enclosed water body capable of producing a seiche event. According to the State of California Humboldt County Tsunami Inundation Map for Emergency Planning, the tsunami inundation zone for the Fortuna quadrangle generally ends approximately ½ mile east of the historic Fernbridge on the Eel River (CEMA 2009). No impact would occur.
3.10 Land Use and Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Physically divide an established community?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?</td>
<td></td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

The City of Fortuna’s General Plan was adopted in October, 2010. The Fortuna General Plan formalizes the long-term vision for the City’s physical evolution. It outlines policies, standards, and programs to guide day-to-day decisions concerning future development.

General Plan Land Use designations identify both the types of development (e.g., residential, commercial, and industrial) that are permitted and the density or intensity of allowed development. The City of Fortuna General Plan Land Use designations at the WWTP are Public and Industrial. Zoning at the WWTP is Public Facility.

a) Physically Divide an Established Community – No Impact

No aspect of the project would physically divide the community; therefore, no impact would occur.

b) Conflict with Applicable Land Use Plans, Policies or Regulations – No Impact

The project site is within the City limits of Fortuna and includes the General Plan Land Use designations of Public and Industrial. The proposed project is consistent with General Plan Land Use and Zoning and would not require a General Plan Land Use designation or zoning change, is not within the California Coastal Commission’s jurisdiction, and would not conflict with any other applicable plan, policy or regulation with jurisdiction over the project area. Therefore, no impact has been identified.

c) Conflict with any Applicable Habitat Conservation Plan – No Impact

The City of Fortuna does not have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved conservation plan within which the project would conflict. Furthermore, according to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report (City of Fortuna 2007), the Fortuna General Plan Planning Area is not subject to an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur.
### 3.11 Mineral Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Least-Than-Significant Impact Without Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Least-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

According to the Fortuna General Plan Background Report (Natural & Cultural Resources, Section 6.5 Mineral/Soils and Energy Resources) (City of Fortuna 2007), there are seven gravel extraction operations as of December 23, 2005 in the Eel River adjacent to the City's Planning Area.

**a, b)** *Result in the Loss of Availability of a Known Mineral Resource of Value to the Region or Delineated by a General Plan, Specific Plan or other Land Use Plan – Less than Significant Impact*

Gravel mining operations are located to the north and south of the WWTP. The project, however, would require use of mined rock material but would not require the use of a substantial amount of any mineral resource, and would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources of value to the state, region or locally; therefore, the impact would be less than significant.
3.12 Noise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

The project site and surrounding area are primarily characterized by a mix of industrial, commercial, residential and agricultural uses. A gravel mining operation is located adjacent to and north of the WWTP. Highway 101 runs directly east of the WWTP. Rohner Creek is located southeast of the WWTP, meeting Strongs Creek which flows along the southern perimeter to its confluence with the Eel River to the west of the WWTP. Noise levels in the project area vary depending on the proximity to human activity, traffic on Highway 101, and industrial and commercial activities along Dinsmore Drive. Highway 101 runs north-south to the east of the project site. Ambient noise (background noise) levels in the project area are reduced as distance from the human activities listed above is increased. Noise sensitive receptors and noise sensitive areas in the project area and immediate vicinity include residences, churches, and schools to the north and east.

The City of Fortuna General Plan identifies the major noise sources in the City and includes a number of policies and programs addressing noise within the City. The most applicable to the project include Policies HS-4.4 (Noise Source Isolation), HS-4.5 (New Construction), HS-4.7
(Noise Barriers), and Program HS-6 which identifies appropriate hours and days of construction. The major noise sources in the project area are traffic on Highway 101 and industrial and commercial activities.

The Fortuna General Plan Health & Safety Element contains a table, “Table 8-1 Construction Noise Compatibility Standards,” on page 8-10, which identifies by zoning district the maximum daytime (7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.) and nighttime (8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) exterior noise standards. The table specifies that the dBA$^1$ $L_{\text{max}}$$^2$ for residential uses is 65 in the daytime exterior and 60 in the nighttime exterior. The dBA $L_{\text{max}}$ for schools, churches, and recreation/park areas is 75 in the daytime exterior and 65 in the nighttime exterior. The dBA $L_{\text{max}}$ for commercial uses is 80 in the daytime exterior and 70 in the nighttime exterior. The dBA $L_{\text{max}}$ for industrial uses is 85 in the daytime exterior and 75 in the nighttime exterior.

Table 8-2 (Traffic & Stationary Source Noise Compatibility Standards) in the Health & Safety Element (page 8-10) identifies interior and exterior dBA by $L_{\text{dn}}$$^3$ by land use type. The dBA $L_{\text{dn}}$ for residential uses, hotels, schools and churches is 45 dBA interior and 60 dBA exterior. The dBA $L_{\text{dn}}$ for commercial uses is 50 dBA interior and 70 dBA exterior. The dBA $L_{\text{dn}}$ for industrial uses is 60 dBA interior and 75 dBA exterior.

a, c, d) Exposure to Noise in Excess of Established Standards or Substantially Increase Existing Levels – Less than Significant Impact

The primary noise sources in the project area continue to be transportation-related. Traffic on Highway 101 will continue to have noise impacts on the project area; however, noise impacts from the project itself will be minimal due to the nature of the project.

Construction

Construction of the proposed project would temporarily increase noise in the immediate vicinity of the WWTP. The temporary noise increases would result from use of construction equipment to construct the berms and install the new treated effluent pumps, as well as from increased traffic as construction workers commute to and from the project site. To prevent noise disturbance to the community, construction would be limited to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays with the permission of the City. Noise levels would be consistent with the reference noise levels in Table 3.12-1 below.

Sound from a point source is known to attenuate at a rate of -6 dB for each doubling of distance. For example, a noise level of 84 dB Leq as measured at 50 feet from the noise source would attenuate to 78 dB Leq at 100 feet from the source and to 72 dB Leq at 200 feet from the source to the receptor. Based on the reference noise levels in Table 3.12-1, the noise levels generated by construction equipment at the project site may reach a maximum of approximately 85 dB Leq at 50 feet during site excavation, vegetation trimming/removal and construction.

\[ ^1 \text{dBA – A-Weighted sound Level. The sound pressure level in decibels as measured on a sound level meter using the A-weighting filter network. The A-weighting filter de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequency components of the sound in a manner similar to the frequency response of the human ear and correlates well with subjective reactions to sound.} \]

\[ ^2 \text{L}_{\text{max}}, \text{L}_{\text{min}} – \text{The maximum and minimum A-weighted sound level during the measurement period.} \]

\[ ^3 \text{L}_{\text{dn}} – \text{Day/Night Noise Level. The average A-weighted sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of 10 decibels to levels measured in the night between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.} \]
Table 3.12-1: Construction Equipment Reference Noise Levels as Measured at 50’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Noise Level (dB⁴)</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Noise Level (dB)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drill rig truck</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Jackhammer</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Boring Hydraulic Jack</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Large Generator</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front end loader or Backhoe</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Paver or Roller</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavator</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Dump truck</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The closest sensitive receptors are neighboring homes to the east. The closest residences are approximately 700 feet or more away from the project site’s eastern boundary. However, these uses would not be in close enough proximity to construction equipment to experience exterior noise levels near the full reference levels (up to 85 dB L eq). Additionally, Highway 101 is just east of the project site and would continue to be the primary noise source to the residences to the east.

To avoid and minimize potential adverse effects to sensitive noise receptors, Environmental Protection Action 4, Noise Reduction Actions, has been incorporated into the project. Under Environmental Protection Action 4 sound abatement measures such as construction hour limitations, installation of noise attenuating barriers, and equipment muffler/maintenance requirements would be implemented. With the implementation of Environmental Protection Action 4, construction noise would be limited in duration and intensity such that construction noise at sensitive receptors would be less than significant.

Operation

Noise at the project site during operation and maintenance would not measurably exceed the existing background noise levels because only infrequent vehicular access, minor repairs, and maintenance would be required, and the pump station would only operate during flood conditions. A less than significant impact would occur.

b) Exposure to Ground Borne Vibration or Noise – Less than Significant Impact

Construction would cause temporary vibration in the immediate vicinity of the active portion of the construction site. Vibration would predominantly be caused by trenching equipment, excavation equipment, and compaction equipment. Vibration from on-site construction activities would typically be intermittent and for short durations.

Based upon the types of anticipated construction equipment, and because no pile driving or blasting is needed, ground borne vibration levels produced during project construction are not expected to have a significant impact at neighboring sensitive receptor locations. The restriction of working hours under Environmental Protection Action 4 would eliminate the impact of equipment-generated vibration during night-time, early morning, and evening hours when people

⁴ “dB” is a weighted decibel measurement for assessing hearing risk and, therefore, is used by most regulatory compliance.
are generally more sensitive to noise and vibration. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur related to ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels.

**e, f) Exposure of People Residing or Working Near a Private or Public Airport to Excessive Noise Levels – No Impact**

There are no public or private airports within two miles of the project site. The nearest public airport, the Rohnerville Airport, is located approximately 2.6 miles south of the project site (City of Fortuna 2007). The project would not result in any changes to the noise levels related to an airport or private airstrip. No impact would occur.
### 3.13 Population and Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

The project does not include any new residences and there are no residences within and adjacent to the project site. The nearest residences are east of the project site on the east side of Highway 101.

**a) Induce Substantial Population Growth – No Impact**

The primary objective of the project is to reduce damage to the WWTP and avoid loss of wastewater service as a result of flooding in the project area. The City is proposing a flood protection project that includes a berm around the WWTP and construction of a treated effluent pump station. The project is needed to protect the WWTP from flooding and loss of service. Without this project, the City risks damage to critical equipment at the WWTP, including the City’s co-generation system. The project would not create any housing nor necessitate the development of housing. It would not result in the extension of utilities or roads or other infrastructure into outlying or exurban areas and would not directly or indirectly lead to the development of new sites that would induce population growth. No impact has been identified.

**b, c) Displace Housing or People – No Impact**

The project would not result in the displacement of any housing or people. The project would protect the WWTP from flooding and loss of service. No impact would occur.
### 3.14 Public Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police protection?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public facilities?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Discussion

For fire protection services, the project area is protected by the Fortuna Fire Protection District (FFPD). The FFPD provides structural fire protection and emergency services to the City of Fortuna as well as most of the Planning Area. The CAL FIRE provides wildland fire protection to the forest area within the Planning Area north and east of the City limits that is designated as a SRA. Mutual aid agreements exist between the FFPD and other local emergency response agencies in Carlotta, Ferndale, Loleta, Rio Dell, and Scotia (City of Fortuna 2007).

Police protection services and traffic patrol for the project area and Fortuna City limits are provided by the Fortuna Police Department (FPD). The Humboldt County Sheriff Department provides police protection within the Planning Area and along Highway 101 in the City limits.

The school districts serving the project area include the Fortuna Union High School District and Fortuna Union Elementary School District. Fortuna Union High is located on 12th Street immediately west of Rohner Creek, approximately 2,000 feet northeast of the project site. Fortuna Middle School is located on L Street and is approximately 1,700 feet north of the project site.

Parks and recreation facilities in the project area include landscaped areas and recreational facilities and equipment at Fortuna Union High School. The Parks and Recreation Department has a shared agreement with Fortuna high school to use gym and school field facilities for community soccer, basketball, and football programs. This partnership allows the community to maximize use of available parks and facilities. Other parks in the vicinity include Chamber Park and Rohner Park to the northeast and Newburg Park to the east.
The nearest library to the project site is the Fortuna Library located at 753 14th Street at the corner of "N" Street, northeast of the project site.

a) **Substantial Adverse Physical Impacts Associated with New or Altered Fire or Police Protection, Schools, Parks, or other public facilities – No Impact**

As discussed in Section 3.13.1, the project would not directly or indirectly induce population growth nor create new demand for services. Therefore, the project would have no impact on the service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives of schools, parks, and other public facilities and services that are based on population growth. The project would not require new or physically altered government facilities to serve the project site. No impact would occur.
### 3.15 Recreation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

The City of Fortuna owns and maintains public parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities under the Parks and Recreation Department. The responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Department include managing and maintaining City parks and recreational facilities, coordinating recreation programs and service club activities that take place at City parks and facilities, and planning for park and recreational facilities demand (City of Fortuna 2007).

The project site does not include any recreational facilities and there are no recreational facilities adjacent to the project site. Rohner Park is located north of Main Street off of Park Street and the Fortuna High School track and sports fields and Fortuna Middle School track are located at those schools.

**a) Increase in the Use of Existing Facilities Resulting in Substantial Physical Deterioration – No Impact**

As discussed in Impact 3.13.1a (Population and Housing), the project would not directly or indirectly induce substantial population growth. Therefore, the project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. No impact would occur.

**b) Development of Recreation Facilities that Could Result in Adverse Physical Effects on the Environment – No Impact**

The project would not include recreational facilities. As discussed in Impact 3.13.1a (Population and Housing), the project would not directly or indirectly induce substantial population growth. Therefore, the project would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. No impact would occur.
### 3.16 Transportation/Traffic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>True</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>True</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?</td>
<td></td>
<td>True</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Result in inadequate emergency access?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>True</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>True</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

**Roadways**

Fortuna’s circulation system is comprised of Highway 101 together with City streets as well as sidewalks, bikeways, trails and informal paths. The major roadways in the project area consist of Highway 101 and Dinsmore Drive.

Level of Service (LOS) is a quantitative measure that characterizes operation of transportation facilities. Using data relative to volumes, right-of-way (ROW) controls, and lane configurations, the relative experience of drivers using the transportations system can be evaluated. It “grades” the operation of the facility similar to a report card; a LOS of “A” is representative of generally...
free-flowing conditions while a LOS of “F” is representative of long delays. The City’s standard is LOS “C” for all City streets, except Main Street where LOS “D” is the minimum. According to the Fortuna General Plan EIR (City of Fortuna 2010a) the closest intersection to the project area operating worse than LOS “C,” is the westbound left-turn at North Fortuna Boulevard/Main Street-Rohnerville Road, which is operating at LOS “F” during the evening peak hour.

Public Transportation

Redwood Transit Service (RTS) is the principal transit service within Fortuna, providing local and intercity service. Operated by the Humboldt Transit Authority, RTS provides fixed route service along the Highway 101 corridor from Trinidad in the north to Scotia in the south, and along Highway 299 connecting Willow Creek with the Arcata Transit Center. Fortuna Senior Transit serves senior citizens (50 and older) and persons with disabilities within the Fortuna City limits. The service operates on a call-in basis Monday through Saturday.

Pedestrians and Bicycles

Pedestrian facilities (sidewalks on public streets) are provided in varying coverage throughout Fortuna. While historic downtown Fortuna has nearly complete sidewalk coverage, areas outside of downtown have varying coverage and/or are missing pedestrian facilities altogether. There are no approved pedestrian facilities along Dinsmore Drive. The Arterials, Collectors and newer Local roads in the project vicinity do have sidewalks.

Fortuna’s existing bicycle transportation system consists of bike lanes on Main Street, 12th Street and Rohnerville Road, along with a limited number of bicycle racks for short term parking at schools and a handful of other locations. Dinsmore Drive is not a designated bike route.

a) Conflict with an Applicable Plan, Ordinance, Policy, or Program Establishing Measures of Effectiveness for the Performance of the Circulation System – Less than Significant with Mitigation

Increases in traffic would occur during project construction. The proposed project would generate short-term traffic during construction from transport of heavy construction equipment to and from the project site, truck traffic associated with hauling construction components and materials to the site and removal of debris, and construction workers commuting to and from the site. The temporary increase in traffic would be localized and temporary.

During project construction, truck trips associated with delivery of materials and hauling away of soil and other construction debris would occur. The trips would create a minor impact within the neighborhood immediately surrounding the project site. However, the impact would be short-term, and once construction is completed, all short-term impacts associated with the proposed project would cease.

With implementation Mitigation Measures TR-1, less than significant temporary impacts and no permanent adverse impacts to transportation are anticipated.

Mitigation Measure TR-1: Implement Transportation Measures

The City of Fortuna will be responsible for implementing the following measures to minimize the potential short-term impacts to transportation in the project area during construction:

1. No public traffic routes shall be fully blocked at any time.
2. Workers shall park their privately owned vehicles at designated locations at the WWTP to reduce traffic impacts.

3. Temporary parking advisory signs shall be posted at least 24 hours, but no more than 48 hours, in advance of construction.

4. Haul routes shall be utilized by construction trucks to minimize truck traffic on local roadways to the extent possible. When necessary, flaggers and/or signage to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone shall be utilized.

5. Truck trips shall be scheduled outside of peak morning and afternoon commute periods to the extent possible.

6. The City of Fortuna shall be responsible for ensuring that any affected residents are notified well in advance of any disruption to the transportation infrastructure.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1, potential impacts on traffic, bicycle and pedestrian circulation attributable to the project would be reduced to a less than significant level.

b) Conflict with an Applicable Congestion Management Program – No Impact

The project area is not subject to a Congestion Management Program and does not have a traffic congestion problem during weekday work hours, with all project area streets and roads below capacity; therefore, there would be no impact.

c) Result in a Change in Air Traffic Patterns – No Impact

There are no public or private airports within two miles of the project site. The nearest public airport, the Rohnerville Airport, is located approximately 2.6 miles south of the project site (City of Fortuna 2007). No aspect of the project would affect air traffic patterns; therefore, there would be no impact.

d) Substantially Increase Hazards due to a Design Feature or Incompatible Use – Less than Significant with Mitigation

The project would not change the geometry of any street or the roadway network in the project area. Therefore, no potentially hazardous roadway design features would be introduced by the project.

As discussed above, the presence of construction vehicles and equipment on nearby roadways could increase the normal traffic hazard in the project area. The project would only require traffic safety control procedures onsite to accommodate traffic during construction. Work hours would be confined to 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends and holidays (if work on weekends and/or holidays is permitted by the City).

Construction equipment and delivery trucks would access the project site from Dinsmore Drive. Construction vehicles would not be parked to block public ROW. To prevent interferences to emergency vehicles and/or conflicts between day-to-day traffic and project construction activities, Mitigation Measure TR-1 – Implement Transportation Measures is also applicable to this impact.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 (refer to Impact 3.16.1a above for text of Mitigation Measure), potential project impacts to emergency access and/or potential conflict with traffic operations would be reduced to a less than significant level.
e) Result in Inadequate Emergency Access – Less than Significant with Mitigation

The project area is located within the incorporated City limits of the City of Fortuna (Figure 1). The project would not alter existing emergency access in the project area. Emergency access would not be obstructed within the project area, nor would Highway 101 emergency access be affected by construction and operation of the project. With implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 (refer to Impact 3.16.1a above for text of Mitigation Measure), above, which states that public traffic routes shall not be fully blocked at any time, this potential access impact would be considered less than significant.

f) Conflict with Adopted Policies, Plans, or Programs Regarding Public Transit, Bicycle, or Pedestrian Facilities, or Otherwise Decrease the Performance or Safety of Such Facilities – No Impact

The Fortuna General Plan Policy Document is the guiding document addressing bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities in the project area and Planning Area of Fortuna. The project would not conflict with any of the policies or programs in the policy document, nor adversely affect facilities for public transit, bicycles, or pedestrians. There would be no impact.
### 3.17 Utilities and Service Systems

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

**Discussion**

**Wastewater**

The City’s wastewater collection system and WWTP fall under the jurisdiction of the RWQCB. Discharges of the WWTP must meet the requirements of the WWTP’s NPDES permit, which is required by the RWQCB. The City operates under NPDES permit number CA0022730 and WDR Order No. R1-2011-0004 (City of Fortuna 2007). The City maintains more than 40 miles of sewer pipe and the WWTP, which treats between one million gallons per day (MGD) during dry weather and up to five MGD during wet weather.

**Stormwater**

The City’s Storm Drain Master Plan was completed in 2005 by Winzler & Kelly. This was an update to the City’s 1982 Storm Drain Master Plan. The 2005 Storm Drain Master Plan is organized according to the major natural drainages located within the City limits. The 2005 Storm
Drain Master Plan provides a detailed overview of the existing major storm drain facilities within each drainage basin, and provides recommendations for improving identified deficiencies in the City’s storm drain system. The Rohner Creek Flood Control, Habitat and Seismic Improvements Project (adopted June 2014) would further reduce erosion in the project area through a combination of channel widening and terracing to stabilize the streambanks (of Rohner and Hillside Creeks), and provide areas in which sediment and silt could naturally deposit without being carried downstream and conveyed to Strongs Creek and eventually the Eel River. Along with rock slope protection and retaining walls placed along the creek banks, large woody debris placed in strategic locations provides habitat and stabilization to the channel. The project would also result in less property and structure flooding which would reduce the potential for debris and household chemicals to enter the waterways.

According to the 2005 Storm Drain Master Plan, the majority of the storm drain system within the City limits consists primarily of RCP and CMP storm drains. There are also box culverts and cross drains at intersections. In the rural areas surrounding the City, the storm drainage system consists largely of roadside ditches and culverts. The storm drains and drainage ditches convey runoff to the natural drainages within the City limits, which ultimately discharge to the Eel River (Winzler & Kelly 2005).

**Water Supply**

The City’s water distribution system and water treatment plant fall under the jurisdiction of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CALEPA) and the California Department of Health Services (CDHS).

The City has more than 4,200 water service connections in the water service area that service more than 5,200 units. Ninety percent of the units are residential, while 10 percent are commercial service connections. The service area, for the most part, consists of level topography and has an elevation range of 40 to 80 feet. The northern and eastern portions of the service area are more hilly and steep with elevations ranging from 80 to 400 feet (Winzler & Kelly 2005).

Water from five wells located throughout the City is pumped from the wells to a 120,000 gallon wet well. A booster station, containing three 100 horsepower (HP) pumps, pumps the water into the distribution system. The distribution system is divided into eight pressure zones within the City and is composed of a series of pumps, water tanks, reservoirs, and hydropneumatic tanks (Winzler & Kelly 2005).

**Solid Waste**

The waste stream generated in the City of Fortuna totals approximately 7,000 tons per year, and includes household, commercial, construction, and garden refuse material, as well as recycling (City of Fortuna 2007).

The City of Fortuna contracts with Eel River Disposal and Resource Recovery Inc. (ERD) for municipal solid waste collection services. ERD has been in operation for more than 20 years and offers Fortuna residents weekly garbage pickup and bi-weekly curbside recycling of paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, and metal. Solid waste from the ERD transfer station is transported out of Humboldt County to the Dry Creek Landfill in Medford, Oregon or Anderson Landfill in Anderson, California.
The City of Fortuna offers a variety of programs including weekly curbside refuse pickup, bi-weekly recycling pickup and enhanced recycling pickup services which include a single-stream recycling program established January 9, 2006. Programs at ERD that are designed to increase resident diversion include reduced rates for construction and garden refuse.

a, e) **Exceed Applicable Wastewater Treatment Requirements or Wastewater Treatment Capacity – No Impact**

The project consists of a berm around the WWTP and construction of a treated effluent pump station. The project would not cause an increase or change in wastewater and would, therefore, not have an impact on wastewater treatment requirements or capacity. No impact would occur.

b) **Require Construction or Expansion of New Water or Wastewater Facilities – Less than Significant Impact**

The project would not require construction or expansion of new water facilities, which would cause significant environmental effects. The project does include a pump station. The City would install a pump station with a set of two emergency effluent pumps to allow effluent disposal during flood conditions when the effluent can no longer flow by gravity. The location of the pump station is shown in Figure 3. Construction of the pump station would not result in the construction or expansion of new water or wastewater facilities which could cause significant environmental effects, the impact is less than significant.

c) **Require Construction or Expansion of New Stormwater Facilities – Less than Significant Impact**

The project site is in a developed area of Fortuna, which is served by an existing stormwater collection and conveyance system. Implementation of the project is not anticipated to increase the volume or velocity of stormwater runoff off-site which would cause significant environmental effects (see Section 3.9.1); therefore, impacts would be less than significant. Implementation of Mitigation Measure HYD-1 - Prepare and Implement SWPPP and BMPs, includes the preparation of a SWPPP and BMPs to further avoid or reduce potential drainage impacts.

d) **Have Sufficient Water Supplies to Serve the Project – No Impact**

The project would not increase the capacity or demand of the City’s water system. No additional water supply is necessary to serve the proposed project. No impact would occur.

f, g) **Have Sufficient Landfill Capacity and Comply with Statutes Related to Solid Waste – Less than Significant Impact**

The project would generate a small volume of construction waste that would be hauled by the construction contractor to an approved disposal site. Waste would include construction materials remnants, replaced materials, and worker-generated trash and debris. This would be a less than significant impact on landfill capacity with the implementation of federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.
## 3.18 Mandatory Findings of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would the project:</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</th>
<th>Less-Than-Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Discussion

**a, c) Degrade Environmental Quality or Adversely Affect Human Beings – Less than Significant with Mitigation**

With implementation of the Environmental Protection Actions and Mitigation Measures presented herein, the project as a whole does not have the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment, including air quality, fish or wildlife species or their habitat, plant or animal communities, important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory, geologic resources, hazards, water resources, land use compatibility, noise, traffic movement, or other adverse effects, directly or indirectly, on human beings.

**b) Cumulatively-Considerable Impacts – Less than Significant**

The project’s individual impacts would not add appreciably to any existing or foreseeable future significant cumulative impact, such as visual quality, historic resources, traffic impacts, or air quality degradation. Incremental impacts, if any, would be negligible and undetectable. As reported throughout this document, cumulative impacts to which this project would contribute would be mitigated to a less than significant level.
4. References

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), 2012, *California Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines*.


California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), 2012, *Cortese List Data Resources*, accessed at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?global_id=T0602300110.


5. **Preparers**

5.1 **City of Fortuna**
Regan Candelario, City Manager  
Merritt Perry, City Engineer/Director of Public Works  
Kevin Carter, Engineering Technician

5.2 **GHD**
Rebecca Crow, Project Manager  
Misha Schwarz, Senior Scientist  
James Alcorn, Project Planner  
Tyler Duncan, Staff Engineer  
Lia Webb, Biologist  
Stephanie Klein, Ecologist  
Josee Rousseau, Spatial Analyst

5.3 **Roscoe and Associates (Cultural Resources)**
Jamie Roscoe, Director  
William Rich, Co-Director
Figure 2

Existing Conditions

City of Fortuna
WWTP Flood Protection Project
Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

Project Boundary
Project Boundary for Wetland Delineation
Wetland
Riparian Dripline/Extent of Branches
Existing Staging Area/Stock Piles

Riparian Trees and Brush
Ruderal (Naturalized Grass)
Urban Infrastructure
Manmade Pond
Access Road

Surveyed Trees
- Cottonwood
- Elm
- Willow
- Redwood
- Alder
- Other (Deciduous)

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Data source: City of Fortuna. 3D_Aerial. 2010. GHD/PointsWest Survey Data. 2013. Created by glidavision.
Figure 3.9-1

100-year FEMA Flood Zone

- Proposed Site Access
- Proposed Berm Area
- Pump Station Proposed Excavation Area
- Staging Area

City of Fortuna
WWTP Flood Protection Project
Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

FEMA Flood Zones

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Data source: City of Fortuna. 3D_Aerial, 2015. GHD/PointsWest Survey Data, 2015. Created by gladison.
Appendix B

State and Federally Listed Species Potentially Present
### Appendix B - State and Federally Listed Species Potentially Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Fed List</th>
<th>Cal List</th>
<th>CRPR</th>
<th>General Habitat</th>
<th>Period of Identification</th>
<th>Potential for Occurrence in Project Study Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amphibians</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rana aurora</em></td>
<td>northern red-legged frog</td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, &amp; streamsides in northwestern California, usually near dense riparian cover.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rana boylii</em></td>
<td>foothill yellow-legged frog</td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Partly-shaded, shallow streams &amp; riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>Low Potential. Few of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present and/or the majority of habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable or of very poor quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Birds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Agelaius tricolor</em></td>
<td>tricolored blackbird</td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley &amp; vicinity. Largely endemic to California.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Brachyramphus marmoratus</em></td>
<td>marbled murrelet</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feeds near-shore; nests inland in old-growth forests along coast from Eureka to Oregon border &amp; from Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</em></td>
<td>western snowy plover</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nests and forages on sandy beaches on marine and estuarine shores - requires sandy, gravelly, or friable soils for nesting.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Coccyzus americanus</em></td>
<td>western yellow-billed cuckoo</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Riparian forest nester, along the broad, lower flood-bounds of larger river systems.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>Low Potential. Few of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present and/or the majority of habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable or of very poor quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Riparia riparia</em></td>
<td>bank swallow</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Colonial nester; nests primarily in riparian and other lowland habitats west of the desert.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Strix occidentalis caurina</em></td>
<td>northern spotted owl</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Live in forests characterized by dense canopy closure of mature and old-growth trees, abundant logs, standing snags, and live trees with broken tops.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fish</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Acipenser mediocris</em></td>
<td>green sturgeon</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spends majority of life in ocean waters near shore, estuaries, and bays, spawns in fresh water rivers.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eucyclogobius newberryi</em></td>
<td>tidewater goby</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shallow waters of bays and estuaries.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii</em></td>
<td>coast cutthroat trout</td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Small coastal streams from the Eel River to the Oregon border.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Oncorhynchus kisutch</em></td>
<td>S. OR/N. CA coho salmon</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Central and Northern California coastal rivers and streams.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Oncorhynchus mykiss</em></td>
<td>Northern California steelhead</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Central and Northern California coastal rivers and streams.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</em></td>
<td>CA coastal chinook salmon</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Central and Northern California coastal rivers and streams.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Spirinchus thaleichthys</em></td>
<td>longfin smelt</td>
<td>FC</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Euryhaline, nektonic &amp; anadromous. Found in open waters of estuaries, mostly in middle or bottom of water column.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Thaleichthys pacificus</em></td>
<td>Southern eulachon DPS</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Found in Klamath River, Mad River, Redwood Creek &amp; in small numbers in Smith River &amp; Humboldt Bay tributaries.</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Fed List</td>
<td>Cal List</td>
<td>CRPR</td>
<td>General Habitat</td>
<td>Period of Identification</td>
<td>Potential for Occurrence in Project Study Area</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mammals</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antrozous pallidus</td>
<td>pallid bat</td>
<td></td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands &amp; forests. Most common in open, dry</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>habitats with rocky areas for roosting.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arborimus pomo</td>
<td>Sonoma tree vole</td>
<td></td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td>North coast fog belt from Oregon border to Sonoma Co. In Douglas-fir, redwood &amp;</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>montane hardwood-conifer forests.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reptiles</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emys marmorata</td>
<td>western pond turtle</td>
<td></td>
<td>SSC</td>
<td></td>
<td>A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams &amp; irrigation</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abronia umbellata var. breviflora</td>
<td>pink sand-verbena</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal dunes</td>
<td>Jun-Oct</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astragalus pycnostachyus var. pycnostachyus</td>
<td>coastal marsh milk-vetch</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal dunes (mesic), Coastal scrub, Marshes and swamps (coastal salt, streamside)</td>
<td>Apr-Oct</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carex leptalea</td>
<td>bristle-stalked sedge</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bogs and fens, Meadows and seeps (mesic), Marshes and swamps</td>
<td>Mar-Jul</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carex lyngbyei</td>
<td>Lyngbye's sedge</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marshes and swamps (brackish or freshwater)</td>
<td>Apr-Aug</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castilleja ambigua var. humboldtiensis</td>
<td>Humboldt Bay owl's-clover</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marshes and swamps (coastal salt)</td>
<td>Apr-Aug</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castilleja litoralis</td>
<td>Oregon coast paintbrush</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub/sandy</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloropyron maritimum ssp. palustre</td>
<td>Point Reyes bird's-beak</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marshes and swamps (coastal salt)</td>
<td>Jun-Oct</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarkia amoena ssp. whitneyi</td>
<td>Whitney's farewell-to-spring</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub</td>
<td>Jun-Aug</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erysimum menziesii</td>
<td>Menzies' wallflower</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td>Coastal dunes</td>
<td>Mar-Sep</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erythronium oregonum</td>
<td>giant fawn lily</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cismontane woodland, Meadows and seeps (sometimes serpentineite, rocky, openings)</td>
<td>Mar-Jun(Jul),</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erythronium revolutum</td>
<td>coast fawn lily</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bogs and fens, Broadleafed upland forest, North Coast coniferous forest (Mesic, streambanks)</td>
<td>Mar-Jul(Aug),</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frissidens pauperculus</td>
<td>minute pocket moss</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>North Coast coniferous forest (damp coastal soil)</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilia capitata ssp. pacifica</td>
<td>Pacific gilia</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub, Chaparral (openings), Coastal prairie, Valley and foothill grassland</td>
<td>Apr-Aug</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesperax vasciflora var. brevifolia</td>
<td>short-leaved evax</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub (sandy), Coastal dunes, Coastal prairie</td>
<td>Mar-Jun</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesperolinon adenophyllum</td>
<td>glandular western flax</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Valley and foothill grassland/usually serpentineite</td>
<td>May-Aug</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layia carnosa</td>
<td>beach layia</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td>Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub (sandy)</td>
<td>Mar-Jul</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Fed List</td>
<td>Cal List</td>
<td>CRPR</td>
<td>General Habitat</td>
<td>Period of Identification</td>
<td>Potential for Occurrence in Project Study Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilium occidentale</td>
<td>western lily</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td>Bogs and fens, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, Marshes and swamps(freshwater), North Coast coniferous forest(openings)</td>
<td>Jun-Jul</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montia howellii</td>
<td>Howell's montia</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest, Vernal pools/vernally mesic, sometimes roadsides</td>
<td>(Feb),Mar-May</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oenothera wolfii</td>
<td>Wolf's evening-primrose</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal prairie, Lower montane coniferous forest/sandy, usually mesic</td>
<td>May-Oct</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packera bolanderi var. bolanderi</td>
<td>seacoast ragwort</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal scrub, North Coast coniferous forest/Sometimes roadsides</td>
<td>(Jan),(Feb),(Apr), May-Jul(Aug),</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piperia candida</td>
<td>white-flowered rein orchid</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Broadleafed upland forest, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest/sometimes serpentine</td>
<td>(Mar),May-Sep</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polemonium camenum</td>
<td>Oregon polemonium</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest</td>
<td>Apr-Sep</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puccinellia pumila</td>
<td>dwarf alkali grass</td>
<td>List 2B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marshes and swamps(coastal salt)</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidalcea malviflora ssp. patula</td>
<td>Siskiyou checkerbloom</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal prairie, North Coast coniferous forest/often roadcuts</td>
<td>May-Aug</td>
<td>Moderate Potential. Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidalcea oregana ssp. eximia</td>
<td>coast checkerbloom</td>
<td>List 1B.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest</td>
<td>Jun-Aug</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisyrinchium hitchcockii</td>
<td>Hitchcock's blue-eyed grass</td>
<td>List 1B.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cismontane woodland(openings), Valley and foothill grassland</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spergularia canadensis var. occidentalis</td>
<td>western sand-spurrey</td>
<td>List 2B.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marshes and swamps(coastal salt)</td>
<td>Jun-Aug</td>
<td>No Potential. Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Federal Key:**
(FPE) Proposed Endangered = Proposed in the Federal Register as being in danger of extinction
(FPT) Proposed Threatened =Proposed as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future
(E) Endangered = Listed in the Federal Register as being in danger of extinction
(FC) Candidate = Candidate which may become a proposed species

**State Key:**
SE = Endangered
ST = Threatened
SSC = State CDFW Species of Special Concern

**California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Ranks:**
1A - Presumed Extirpated in California and either Rare or extinct elsewhere
1B - Rare, Threatened or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
2A - Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere
2B - Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
3 - Review List ( more information needed)
4 - Watch List (limited distribution in California)

**Threat Ranks:**
_0.1 Seriously threatened in California
_0.2 Moderately threatened in California
_0.3 Not very threatened in California

Source: CDFW CNDDB/USFWS/CNPS, 2014. Fortuna 7.5' USGS Quad
Appendix C

Wetland Delineation
Wetland Delineation
Fortuna Waste Water Treatment Plant
Humboldt County, California

April 2013

Prepared for:
City of Fortuna
621 11th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540

Prepared by:
GHD Inc.
718 Third Street
Eureka, California  95501-0504
(707) 443-8326
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Appendices

Appendix A: Figures
Appendix B: Data Sheets
I. SUMMARY

On March 11, 2013, a wetland delineation and mapping occurred at City of Fortuna’s Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), 180 Dinsmore Drive, in Fortuna Ca. The project site is approximately 5.084 acres. This effort included mapping and delineating wetlands within the proposed area of disturbed ground and staging areas within the WWTP facility flood protection project.

The wetland delineation procedure was completed pursuant to the USACE 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and the Regional Supplement to the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coastal Regions (USACE 2010). The methods and results presented herein are consistent with the USACE three parameter wetland definition. The wetland delineation identified that there are two USACE jurisdictional wetlands at the Fortuna WWTP project site.

II. INTRODUCTION

The WWTP is a 5.084 acre site located in the Eel River Valley in the City of Fortuna, Humboldt County. The site can be accessed from the 12th Street exit off of Highway 101, turn right on Dinsmore Drive, a dead end road, to the WWTP facility. A vicinity map is provided as Figure 1. Figure 2 presents limits of the investigation [“Project Study Boundary” (PSB)], and results from the wetland delineation field work. Figures are provided in Appendix A. The PSB is a terminology adopted from definitions and permit procedures promulgated by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE). Data sheets documenting conditions observed during the investigation are included in Appendix B. A species list of plants observed during field work is provided in Appendix C.

The WWTP is located east of the Eel River and west of Highway 101. Rohner Creek borders the property to the west, and Rohner Creek joins with Strongs Creek in the southwestern part of the property. Strongs Creek then borders the site to the south and west with remnant, fragmented riparian habitat occurring in the northern portion of the facility. The site is approximately 20 miles from the City of Eureka.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this investigation was to delineate the size and location of wetlands, where present, within the proposed boundaries of the WWTP flood protection project so that the City can determine opportunities and constraints when planning the flood protection mitigation project. Wetland mapping within the PSB includes the potential ground disturbance area, staging area and south berm covering approximately 5.084 acres of property. The wetland delineation can be used for decision making in regards to the development of the flood protection mitigation project and will be used to assist with identifying potential project alternatives to reduce or avoid impacts to wetlands.

IV. METHODOLOGY

Research Methods

The initial analysis of the PSB consisted of review of existing environmental literature and data, where available, such as soil and ecological maps and descriptions generated by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) [NRCS 2010] and wetlands mapping from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) [USFWS 1987]. NWI maps are compiled using a variety of remote sensing data sources, including aerial photographs, infrared photography, and soils data. NWI maps do not necessarily represent an accurate extent of jurisdictional wetlands in the study area. When available, Geographic Information System (GIS) data was overlaid with the PSB.

Wetland Delineation

To define a wetland, the USACE requires that all three parameters (vegetation, soil, and hydrology) show wetland attributes. The wetlands delineation followed the USACE guidance from the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (USACE 1987), Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region (USACE 2010), including
Vegetation, soil, and hydrology data were collected at transects with two plots (wetland/upland) per transect in order to delineate the wetland/upland boundary. Additional wetland/upland boundaries were determined and marked by an "intermediate" point (i.e., W1T2-INT) and were based on conditions observed at adjacent plots in order to map the wetland boundary. The intermediate points were used between transects and were based on best scientific means but data were not recorded (i.e. vegetation was observed and where deemed necessary soil pits were dug for confirmation of the wetland boundary). Additional soil pits were dug in several other depressions within upland areas to confirm non-wetland conditions (non-hydric soils, non-wetland hydrology, and vegetation growing as non-hydrophytic vegetation). Some data points, i.e., TP-2 were single data points not collected along a transect. Vegetation, soils, and hydrology data sheets from the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast were utilized for this delineation (Version 2 May 2010). Data sheets are located in Appendix B.

**Botanical Methodology**

Vegetation data collection consisted of listing up to the five dominant species at each plot of only one layer, or up to three species in each layer (herb, shrub, or tree). The percent cover was also noted for each species. The species were then classified as to whether or not they were wetlands indicators, using the standard reference for plant wetlands indicators, National Wetlands Plant List - Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Final Draft Ratings (2012). This document classifies plants based on the probability that they would be found in wetlands, ranging from:

- Obligate (almost always in wetlands),
- Facultative/wet (67% to 99% in wetlands)
- Facultative (34% to 66% in wetlands)
- Facultative/up (1% to 33% in wetlands)
- Uplands (less than 1% in wetlands)

Plants not listed (NL) are included in the UP category. Plants listed as Non-indicators (NI), are not assigned a rating of wetland condition. If greater than 50% of the dominant plant species at each plot are classified Obligate (OBL), Facultative/wet (FACW), or Facultative (FAC), the vegetation is determined to be hydrophytic (wetland plants) so long as the plants are growing as hydrophytes (plants that have adapted to anaerobic soils). Plants with indicators of FACW to FACU often have a high range of tolerance and can occur in many habitats from wetland to non-wetlands. The presence of plants with wetland indicator status may not be definitive that these plants are growing as hydrophytes and additional investigations are warranted to identify if hydric soils and/or if wetland hydrology is also present to support a wetland plant community (USACE 1987 and 2010). A list of observed plant species is included as Appendix C.

**Soils Methodology**

The 1987 Manual’s procedures were combined with the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) definition of hydric soils presented in Changes in Hydric Soils of the United States and Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1995 and 2006, respectively), as well as most recent wetland guidance document Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region (USACE 2010). Soil pits were dug to an approximate depth of 18 inches. Data on soil color, texture and redoximorphic features were collected. Care was taken to observe mottling (iron concentrations) and to distinguish between chromas of 1 and 2.

Colors were described for the entire depth of the test pit and were compared to the above parameters at a depth of 10 inches. Colors were determined on moist ped surfaces, which had not been crushed, using the Munsell Color Chart (Gretag Macbeth 2000). Hydric soils indicators for sandy soils were evaluated per Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region (USACE 2010).
Hydrology Methodology
The delineation was performed in the spring of 2013. One primary indicator or two secondary indicators are required to identify the presence of wetland hydrology. Direct evidence of positive hydrology indicators (soil saturation, standing water, etc.) was present in soil pits within wetlands. The primary wetland hydrology indicators identified to delineate the wetland boundary included: Surface Water (A1), High Water Table (A2), Saturation (A3) and Algal mat or crust (B4). Secondary indicators include Geomorphic Position (D2) and the FAC- Neutral Test (D5).

Wetland Determination
The wetland boundary was evaluated using the USACE (three-parameter) methodology. The 5.084 acre PSB was determined to contain two wetlands. An area was determined to be wetlands based on the presence of all three of the wetland parameters (hydric soils, wetland hydrology, and the predominance of hydrophytes). If one of the three wetland parameters was not present, then the area was not determined to be a USACE wetland. The PSB was predominately determined to be uplands based on absence of one or more wetland indicator (soils/botany/hydrology).

Although some sample point locations contained facultative (FAC) vegetation, for example, cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), or poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), these areas were disconnected from positive hydric soil indicators and positive wetland hydrology inferring these locations are upland habitat; upland plots exhibited predominance of facultative-up (FACU) or drier vegetation.

The horizontal location of each point for each wetland sample point was collected in the field by Points West Surveying in March 2013 to ensure that the base map lines up accurately with the delineation results.

V. RESULTS
A total of 0.0185 acres (803 square feet) of wetlands were delineated within the PSB at the Fortuna WWTP. Figure 1 present a vicinity map and Figure 2 present the PSB and wetland delineation field work results and are presented in Appendix A. Data sheets documenting conditions observed during the 2013 investigation are included in Appendix B. A list of plant species observed on site is provided in Appendix C. Characteristics of each test pit are further described below.

Three-Parameter Wetland
A total of 10 test pits were sampled using the USACE wetland delineation protocol and one additional vegetation plot was sampled. The sample locations were selected based on the presence of potential hydrophytic vegetation and topographic position. Of each of the 10 test locations, two sample points met the three parameter wetland definition.

Vegetation results
Many of the vegetative plot locations sampled contained a predominance of FAC or wetter hydrophytic vegetation, including cottonwood, poison hemlock, ribwort (*Plantago lanceolata*), common horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), and bristly oxe-tongue (*Picris echoides*). However, both the soil and hydrology indicators were absent at many of these locations and thus the areas were determined to not meet the USACE definition of jurisdictional wetlands based on the three parameter approach. Sampling points W1-T1-W and W2-T2-W contained a predominance of hydrophytic vegetation such as common spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*), tall cyperus (*Cyperus eragrostis*), pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*) and rush (*Juncus patens*).

Soils Results
The definition of a hydric soil is “a soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.” A majority of the soils sampled consisted of gravelly silt loams or loamy sand with a matrix of 2.5 Y 3/2, 2.5 Y 4/3, 2.5 Y 4/2, and 2.5 Y 3/1. Many sites had low chromas however, they were absent of redox (depletions or concentrations) indicating the lack of positive wetland hydric soil indicators. Furthermore, upland test pits showed no evidence of mottling. W1-T1-U had initial appearance of potential mottling or mixed matrix.
color in soil profile at 6-9" below ground surface, but the chromas were too high and/or the layer was not thick enough to meet hydric soils indicators.

Sampling point W1-T1-W was comprised of asphalt in highly compacted gravel with refusal occurring at approximately two inches causing ponding of groundwater. Thus it has been assumed ponding occurs for more than 7 consecutive days inferring this area contains positive hydric soils. Sampling point W2-T2-W contained a matrix with chromas of 2 or less in mottled soils.

Hydrology Results
None of the sample points contained positive wetland hydrology indicators with the exception of sampling points W1-T1-W and W2-T2-W. Sampling point W1-T1-W had several wetland hydric indicators exhibited during the field investigation including: Surface Water (A1), Saturation (3), and algal mat or crust (B4) as primary indicators, as well as, Geomorphic Position (D2) and FAC- Neutral Test (D5) as secondary indicators. This sample point location also contained 0.5 inches of surface water and it is assumed that this ponding lasts for greater than seven consecutive days.

Sampling Point W2-T2-W did not have standing water, however the water table and saturation was present at nine inches below ground surface. Additionally this sample point location also exhibited primary wetland indicators such as High Water Table (A2), Saturation (3) and FAC- Neutral Test (D5) as a secondary indicator.

VI Wetland Distribution
There were a total of two USACE wetlands (Wetlands 1 and 2) in the Fortuna WWTP project study boundary where flood control mitigation is proposed. These palustrine emergent wetlands are small concave wetland depressions.

Wetland 1:
Wetland 1 (Figure 2) was delineated as a three parameter wetland with USACE jurisdiction. This is a small wetland 538 square feet (0.0124 acres) which is located in the northern portion of the PSB near the sites storage and staging area. At the time of the investigation, this area contained standing water (three inches) and as a result of observing highly compacted gravel and refusal occurring at two inches below ground surface, it is inferred that the standing water is present for a minimum of seven consecutive days. The soil sample was taken three feet from the edge of the wetland. In addition primary and secondary hydrology indicators were observed and include High Water Table (A2), Saturation (3) and Algal mats (B4) as primary hydrology indicators, and secondary indicators observed include geomorphic position (D2) and FAC- Neutral Test (D5). Given that the rainfall to date is below normal combined with the presence of positive hydrology indicators and the dominance of hydrophytic vegetation, this sample point location was delineated as wetland. The dominant plant in the wetland was annual blue grass (Poa annua) (FAC).

Wetland 2:
Wetland 2 (Figure 3) was delineated as a three parameter wetland with USACE jurisdiction. This is a small linear wetland 265 square feet (0.0061 acres) and occurs between the upland stockpile and road edge. W2-T2-W exhibited a water table and saturation at approximately nine inches below ground surface. The soils were comprised of gravely silt loam with low chromas of 2.5 Y 3/2 for a 100% of the matrix in the first five inches, and 2.5 Y 4/1 for 85 % of the matrix from 6-14 inches below ground surface and 15% redox concentrations comprised of 10 YR 3/4 located in the matrix. The sample point was taken 2 feet from the wetland edge. The dominant plants in the wetland were in the herbaceous stratum and included tall cyperus, spikerush, and rush.

VII. CONCLUSIONS
The wetland delineation conducted by GHD in March 2013 identified two wetland areas totaling approximately 0.0185 acres (803 square feet) that are USACE three parameter palustrine emergent wetlands. It is recommended that this report be submitted to the USACE with a request in writing for a
jurisdictional determination from the Army Corp of Engineers. GHD can assist in coordinating and attending an in-person site visit.

VIII. REPORT PREPARER(S)

This report was prepared and reviewed by the following individual(s):

Prepared by:
GHD Inc.

Stephanie Klein
Environmental Scientist

Reviewed by:

Ken Mierzwa
Senior Project Manager
IX. REFERENCES


NOTE: This wetlands delineation map is the opinion of GHD, Inc. at the time the delineation was conducted. This map is not for planning, permitting, or construction uses without a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdictional verification stamp below. Note that some projects may also require map approval from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW).

USACE STAMP FOR JURISDICTIONAL APPROVAL
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Fortuna
City/County: Fortuna
State: CA
Sampling Date: 11-13-00
Applicant/Owner: ______________________________
Investigator(s): ______________________________ Section, Township, Range: __________________
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Tilted Plane Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave
Subregion (LRR): _____________________________ Lat: __________________
Datum: __________________
Soil Map Unit Name: ___________________________ NWI classification: __________________

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ☑ No ☐ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation ☑, Soil ☐, or Hydrology ☑ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes ☐ No ☑
Are Vegetation ☐, Soil ☑, or Hydrology ☐ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes ☑ No ☐</th>
<th>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</th>
<th>Yes ☑ No ☐</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes ☑ No ☐</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes ☑ No ☐</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Stratum (Plot size: ___________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Dominance Test worksheet:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ☑ 1 (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: ☑ 1 (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ☑ 100 (A/B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: ___________)</th>
<th>☑ Total Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb Stratum (Plot size: ___________)</th>
<th>☑ Total Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>☑ 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ___________)</th>
<th>☑ Total Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum ☑

Remarks:

Prevalence Index worksheet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total % Cover of</th>
<th>Multiply by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OBL species</td>
<td>☑ x 1 = ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACW species</td>
<td>☑ x 2 = ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAC species</td>
<td>☑ x 3 = ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACU species</td>
<td>☑ x 4 = ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPL species</td>
<td>☑ x 5 = ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column Totals:</td>
<td>☑ (A)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Prevalence Index = B/A = ☑

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

1. Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
2. Dominance Test is >50%
3. Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
4. Morphological Adaptations (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
5. Wetland Non-Vascular Plants
6. Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain)

Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ☑ No ☐
### SOIL

**Profile Description:** (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Loc'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5</td>
<td>2.54/3/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-14</td>
<td>2.54/1/1</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>109/2/3/4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Texture:** Gravelly Silt Loam
**Remarks:** Very Gravelly Silt Loam

---

1Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains.  2Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

**Hydric Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Eppedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:**

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present,**
**unless disturbed or problematic.**

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

- Type: __________________________
- Depth (inches): ________________
- Hydric Soil Present? Yes [X] No ____________

**Remarks:**

---

### HYDROLOGY

**Wetland Hydrology Indicators:**

**Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply):**

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B11)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

**Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):**

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C8)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes [X] No ____________
- Water Table Present? Yes [X] No ____________
- Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes [X] No ____________

- Depth (inches): ______

**Wetland Hydrology Present?** Yes [X] No ____________

**Remarks:** Soil pit 2.0' from wetland edge
### WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

**Project/Site:**

**City/County:**

**State:** CA

**Applicant/Owner:**

**Investigator(s):**

**Section, Township, Range:**

**Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):**

**Local relief (concave, convex, none):**

**Slope (%):** 40

**Subregion (LRR):**

**Lat:**

**Long:**

**Datum:**

**Soil Map Unit Name:**

**NWI classification:**

---

**Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year?** Yes [x] No [ ] (If no, explain in Remarks.)

**Are Vegetation [x] Soil [x] or Hydrology [x] significantly disturbed?**

**Are ‘Normal Circumstances’ present?** Yes [x] No [ ]

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] or Hydrology [ ] naturally problematic?** (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

---

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remarks:** Fill material left artificial mound dominated by invasive

---

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

**Tree Stratum** (Plot size: ________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Absolute % Cover**

**Dominant Indicator Species?**

**Status**

**Total Cover**

**Sapling/Shrub Stratum** (Plot size: ________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover**

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**Herb Stratum** (Plot size: ________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover**

---

**Woody Vine Stratum** (Plot size: ________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover**

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**% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum**

**Remarks:** Not growing as hydrophyte

---

**Dominance Test worksheet:**

- Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ______

- Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: ______

- Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ______

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**

- Total % Cover of Multiply by:
  - OBL species ______ x 1 = ______
  - FACW species ______ x 2 = ______
  - FAC species ______ x 3 = ______
  - FACU species ______ x 4 = ______
  - UPL species ______ x 5 = ______

- Column Totals: ______ (A)

- Prevalence Index \( = \frac{B}{A} \) = ______

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**

- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
- 4 - Morphological Adaptations¹ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants¹
- 6 - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation¹ (Explain)

¹Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?** Yes [x] No [ ]

---

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SOIL

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Texture: Gravel
Loc.: Sil/Diam
Remarks:

**Hydric Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRR's, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type:

Depth (inches):

**Hydric Soil Present?** Yes ☒ No ☒

Remarks:

Some variation of Redox Appears to be non natural slope

HYDROLOGY

**Wetland Hydrology Indicators:**

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface Water Present?</th>
<th>Yes ☒ No ☒ Depth (inches):</th>
<th>Water Hydrology Present?</th>
<th>Yes ☒ No ☒</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Table Present?</td>
<td>Yes ☒ No ☒ Depth (inches):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturation Present?</td>
<td>Yes ☒ No ☒ Depth (inches):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(includes capillary fringe)

Remarks:

Soil put 2'-5' from wetland edge

1Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains

2Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix

3Indicators of hydric vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
### WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

**Project/Site:**

**City/County:**

**State:** CA

**Sampling Date:** 3/11/83

**Applicant/Owner:**

**Section, Township, Range:**

**Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):**

**Local relief (concave, convex, none):**

**Slope (%):**

**Subregion (LRR):**

**Lat:**

**Long:**

**Datum:**

**Soil Map Unit Name:**

**NWI classification:**

**Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year?**

Yes [ ] No [ ] (If no, explain in Remarks.)

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] Hydrology [ ] significantly disturbed?**

Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes [ ] No [X]

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] Hydrology [ ] naturally problematic?**

(If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**

Yes [X] No [ ]

**Hydric Soil Present?**

Yes [X] No [ ]

**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?**

Yes [X] No [ ]

**Wetland Hydrology Present?**

Yes [ ] No [X]

**Remarks:**

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

#### Tree Stratum (Plot size: _________)  |  Absolute % Cover  |  Dominant Species?  |  Indicator Status
---|---|---|---
1.  |  |  |  
2.  |  |  |  
3.  |  |  |  
4.  |  |  |  

= Total Cover

#### Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _________)

1.  |  |  |  
2.  |  |  |  
3.  |  |  |  
4.  |  |  |  
5.  |  |  |  

= Total Cover

#### Herb Stratum (Plot size: _________)

1.  |  |  |  
2.  |  |  |  
3.  |  |  |  
4.  |  |  |  
5.  |  |  |  
6.  |  |  |  
7.  |  |  |  
8.  |  |  |  
9.  |  |  |  
10.  |  |  |  
11.  |  |  |  

= Total Cover

#### Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _________)

1.  |  |  |  
2.  |  |  |  

= Total Cover

#### Remarks:

### Dominance Test worksheet:

- **Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** ________ (A)
- **Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata:** ________ (B)
- **Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** ________ (A/B)

### Prevalence Index worksheet:

- **Total % Cover of:**
  - OBL species ________ x 1 = ________
  - FACW species ________ x 2 = ________
  - FAC species ________ x 3 = ________
  - FACU species ________ x 4 = ________
  - UPL species ________ x 5 = ________
- **Column Totals:** ________ (A/B) (B)

**Prevalence Index** = B/A ________

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

1. Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
2. Dominance Test is >50%
3. Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
4. Morphological Adaptations (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
5. Wetland Non-Vascular Plants
6. Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain)

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**

Yes [X] No [ ]

**Remarks:**

---

US Army Corps of Engineers

Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast – Version 2.0

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Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Couvered or Coated Sand Grains.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
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Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

3Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

- Type:
- Depth (inches):

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

1 Assumed based on observed standing water.

Probably standing > 7 consecutive days

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
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- Other (Explain in Remarks)
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- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface Water Present?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Table Present?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturation Present?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes capillary fringe)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Remarks:

Based on standing > 30 days and assumed > 7 consecutive days.

Soil pit 2.0 from wetland edge.
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: __________________________  City/County: ______________  Sampling Date: __________
Applicant/Owner: __________________________  State: CA  Sampling Point: __________
Investigator(s): __________  Section, Township, Range: __________
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): __________  Local relief (concave, convex, none): __________  Slope (%): __________
Subregion (LRR): __________  Lat: __________  Long: __________  Datum: __________
Soil Map Unit Name: __________  NWI classification: __________

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ______ No ______ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation __________ Soil __________, or Hydrology __________ significantly disturbed? Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes ______ No ______
Are Vegetation __________ Soil __________, or Hydrology __________ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes ____ No ___</th>
<th>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</th>
<th>Yes ____ No ___</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes ____ No ___</td>
<td>Remarks: ____________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes ____ No ___</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Stratum (Plot size: ____________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Dominance Test worksheet:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ______ (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: ______ (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: ______% (A/B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= Total Cover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: ____________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Prevalence Index worksheet:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | Total % Cover of: 
or Multiply by: |
| 2. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | OBL species ______ x 1 = ______ |
| 3. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | FACW species ______ x 2 = ______ |
| 4. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | FAC species ______ x 3 = ______ |
| 5. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | FACU species ______ x 4 = ______ |
| 6. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | UPL species ______ x 5 = ______ |
| 7. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | Column Totals: ______ (A) |
| 8. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | |
| 9. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | |
| 10. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | |
| 11. ______ | ______ | ______ | ______ | |

= Total Cover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb Stratum (Plot size: ____________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>2 - Dominance Test is &gt;50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>4 - Morphological Adaptations (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>6 - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ____________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes ____ No ___</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>Remarks: ____________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= Total Cover

| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum | ____________________________ |

Remarks: ____________________________
### SOIL

**Profile Description:** (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Color (moist)</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-6</td>
<td>2.54/2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>2.54/1</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-14</td>
<td>2.54/2</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hydic Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils**: (2 cm Muck (A10), Red Parent Material (TF2), Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12), Other (Explain in Remarks))

- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

- Type: __________________________
- Depth (inches): __________________

Hydric Soil Present? Yes [X] No

**WETLAND HYDROLOGY**

***Wetland Hydrology Indicators:***

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparcey Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

**Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):**

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D8) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes [X] No
- Water Table Present? Yes [X] No
- Saturation Present? Yes [X] No (includes capillary fringe)

Depth (inches): __________________

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes [X] No

**Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:**

**Remarks:**

Plat 2 3.5' from wetland edge
### WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

**Project/Site:** [Fill in]  
**City/County:** [Fill in]  
**State:** CA  
**Sampling Date:** 2/11/12

**Applicant/Owner:** [Fill in]  
**Section, Township, Range:** [Fill in]  
**Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):** [Fill in]  
**Local relief (concave, convex, none):** [Fill in]  
**Slope (%):** [Fill in]

**Subregion (LRR):** [Fill in]  
**Lat:** [Fill in]  
**Long:** [Fill in]  
**Datum:** [Fill in]

**Soil Map Unit Name:** [Fill in]  
**NWI classification:** [Fill in]

**Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year?**  Yes [ ] No [X]  (If no, explain in Remarks.)

**Are Vegetation [X], Soil [X], or Hydrology [X] significantly disturbed?**  Yes [ ] No [X]  Are “Normal Circumstances” present?  Yes [ ] No [X]

**Are Vegetation [ ], Soil [ ], or Hydrology [ ] naturally problematic?**  (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes [X] No [ ]</th>
<th>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</th>
<th>Yes [ ] No [X]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes [ ] No [X]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes [X] No [ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remarks:** [Enter remarks]

---

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

**Tree Stratum**  
(Plot size: [ ])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover** = Total Cover

**Sapling/Shrub Stratum**  
(Plot size: [ ])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sapling/Shrub Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover** = Total Cover

**Herb Stratum**  
(Plot size: [ ])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover** = Total Cover

### Dominance Test worksheet:

- **Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** 2
- **Total Number of Species Across All Strata:** 2
- **Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** 100

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**

- **Total % Cover of OBL species:** 2
- **Total % Cover of FACW species:** 1
- **Total % Cover of FAC species:** 1
- **Total % Cover of FACU species:** 1
- **Total % Cover of UPL species:** 0
- **Column Totals:** 100

**Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.60**

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

1. Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
2. Dominance Test is <50%
3. Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
4. Morphological Adaptations1 (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
5. Wetland Non-Vascular Plants1
6. Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation1 (Explain)

1Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**  Yes [X] No [ ]

**Remarks:** [Enter remarks]
SOIL

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Loc*</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>2.5 6</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-14</td>
<td>2.5 6</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains

Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipod (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulphide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:

- 2 cm Mull (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☑ No ☒

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type:

Depth (inches):

Remarks:

Engineered fill (river run)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D8) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ☑ No ☒ Depth (inches): _______

Water Table Present? Yes ☑ No ☒ Depth (inches): _______

Saturation Present? Yes ☑ No ☒ Depth (inches): _______

(Water gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☑ No ☒

Remarks:
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Applicant/Owner: __________________________ City/County: __________________________ Sampling Date: ____________

Investigator(s): ___________________________ Section, Township, Range: __________________________

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): __________________________ Local relief (concave, convex, none): __________________________ Slope (%): ______

Subregion (LRR): __________________________ Lat: __________________________ Long: __________________________ Datum: __________________________

Soil Map Unit Name: __________________________ NWI classification: __________________________

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ______ No ______ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ______ Soil ______, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes ______ No ______

Are Vegetation ______ Soil ______, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ______ No ______

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ______ No ______

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ______ No ______

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes ______ No ______

Remarks: __________________________________________________________________________

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: ________)

1. Pinus radiata __________________________ Absolute % Cover: ________ Dominant Species: ________ Indicator Status: ________

Sum = Total Cover

2. __________

3. __________

4. __________

5. __________

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: ________)

1. Hydrilla verticillata __________________________ Absolute % Cover: ________ Dominant Species: ________ Indicator Status: ________

Sum = Total Cover

2. __________

3. __________

4. __________

5. __________

Herb Stratum (Plot size: ________)

1. Peruvian Dactylaria __________________________ Absolute % Cover: ________ Dominant Species: ________ Indicator Status: ________

Sum = Total Cover

2. __________

3. __________

4. __________

5. __________

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ________)

1. __________

2. __________

Sum = Total Cover

% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum __________________________

Remarks: __________________________________________________________________________

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

____ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

____ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0

____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations’ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

____ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants

____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ______ No ______

Prevalence Index = B/A = ________

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

1 Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Fortuna WMTT
City/County: Fortuna
Sampling Date: 3/11/12
Applicant/Owner: SLK
State: CA
Sampling Point: TP-2
Investigator(s): SLK
Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): ______ Local relief (concave, convex, none): ______ Slope (%): 0
Subregion (LRR): ______ Lat: ______ Long: ______ Datum: ______
Soil Map Unit Name: ______ NWI classification: ______

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ______ No ______ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation ______ Soil ______, or Hydrology ______ significantly disturbed? Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes ______ No ______
Are Vegetation ______ Soil ______, or Hydrology ______ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ______ No X
Hydric Soil Present? Yes ______ No X
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ______ No X
Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes ______ No X

Remarks: Aquatic vegetation present.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Stratum (Plot size: _______</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Dominance Test worksheet:</th>
<th>Prevalence Index worksheet:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>FOB</td>
<td>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)</td>
<td>Total % Cover of OBL species x 1 = 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)</td>
<td>Total % Cover of FACW species x 2 = 6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 60% (A/B)</td>
<td>FAC species x 3 = 11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FACU species x 4 = 22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UPL species x 5 = 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>= Total Cover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Column Totals: 110 (A) 380 (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Herb Stratum (Plot size: _______)

1. Eriogonum fasciculatum 20% 0 FACW
2. Eriogonum fasciculatum 30% 0 FACW
3. Campanula humilis 25% 0 FACW
4. 25% 0 FACW
5. 25% 0 FACW
6. 25% 0 FACW
7. 25% 0 FACW
8. 25% 0 FACW
9. 25% 0 FACW
10. 25% 0 FACW
11. 25% 0 FACW
= Total Cover
Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
__ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
__ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
__ 3 - Prevalence Index is <3.0
__ 4 - Morphological Adaptations¹ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
__ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants¹
__ 6 - Problems Hydrophytic Vegetation¹ (Explain)

¹Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ______ No X

Remarks:

% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum 20%
Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Loc</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>2.5431</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-16</td>
<td>2.5432</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOIL HYDROLOGY**

**Hydric Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Historic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type:</th>
<th>Depth (inches):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Remarks:** Low chroma in 0-12" due to organic matter, not reduction.

**Wetland Hydrology Indicators:**

**Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply):**

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

**Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):**

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C8)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes No
- Water Table Present? Yes No
- Saturation Present? Yes No

**Wetland Hydrology Present?** Yes No

**Remarks:** No hydric soils nor wetlands hydrology.
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: [Redacted] City/County: [Redacted] Sampling Date: 3.11.13
Applicant/Owner: [Redacted] State: CA Sampling Point: [Redacted]
Investigator(s): [Redacted] Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): [Redacted] Local relief (concave, convex, none): [Redacted] Slope (%): 0-5%
Subregion (LRR): [Redacted] Lat: [Redacted] Long: [Redacted] Datum: [Redacted]
Soil Map Unit Name: [Redacted] NWI classification: [Redacted]

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ___ No ___ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation, Soil, or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes ___ No ___
Are Vegetation, Soil, or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes ___ No ___</th>
<th>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</th>
<th>Yes ___ No ___</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes ___ No ___</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes ___ No ___</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks: on top bank, 3100 (code)

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
<th>Total Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
<th>Total Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum 10.1%

Remarks: [Redacted]

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _______ (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _______ (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _______% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total % Cover of:</th>
<th>Multiply by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OBL species</td>
<td>x 1 =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACW species</td>
<td>x 2 = 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAC species</td>
<td>x 3 = 105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACU species</td>
<td>x 4 = 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPL species</td>
<td>x 5 = 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column Totals</td>
<td>B/A = 2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.0

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
2 - Dominance Test is >50%
3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
4 - Morphological Adaptations \(^1\) (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants \(^1\)
6 - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation \(^1\) (Explain)

\(^1\) Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ___ No ___

165
SOIL

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>2.5±3/2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Gravel, Si + 10aM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-18</td>
<td>2.5±3/2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Si + 10aM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

- Type: 
- Depth (inches): 

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

- Surface Water Present? Yes No Depth (inches): 
- Water Table Present? Yes No Depth (inches): 
- Saturation Present? Yes No Depth (inches): 

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Remarks:

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:
### WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

**Project/Site:**

**City/County:**

**Sampling Date:** 3/11/98

**Applicant/Owner:**

**State:** CA

**Investigator(s):**

**Section, Township, Range:**

**Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):**

**Local relief (concave, convex, none):**

**Slope (%):**

**Subregion (LRR):**

**Lat:**

**Long:**

**Datum:**

**Soil Map Unit Name:**

**NWI classification:**

**Are climatic/hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year?** Yes [ ] No [X] (If no, explain in Remarks.)

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] or Hydrology [ ] significantly disturbed?**

**Are "Normal Circumstances" present?** Yes [ ] No [X]

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] or Hydrology [ ] naturally problematic?**

(If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes [ ] No [X]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes [ ] No [X]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes [ ] No [X]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</td>
<td>Yes [ ] No [X]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remarks:**

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

#### Tree Stratum (Plot size: ____________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Indicator Species?</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cover =**

#### Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: ____________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Indicator Species?</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Cover =**

#### Herb Stratum (Plot size: ____________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Indicator Species?</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Cover =**

#### Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ____________)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Indicator Species?</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Cover =**

**Remarks:**

### Dominance Test worksheet:

**Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** 4 (A)

**Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata:** 5 (B)

**Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC:** 80 (A/B)

### Prevalence Index worksheet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Multiply by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OBL species</td>
<td></td>
<td>x 1 =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACW species</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>x 2 =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAC species</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>x 3 =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACU species</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>x 4 =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPL species</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>x 5 =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Column Totals:** 470 (A)

**Prevalence Index = B/A =**

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

1. Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
2. Dominance Test is >50%
3. Prevalence Index ≤ 3.0
4. Morphological Adaptations1 (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
5. Wetland Non-Vascular Plants
6. Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation1 (Explain)

1. Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?** Yes [ ] No [X]

**Remarks:**

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US Army Corps of Engineers

Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast – Version 2.0
### SOIL

**Profile Description:** (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gravelly Silty Loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very Gravelly Silty Loam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hydric Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Historic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils:**

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

- Type: 
- Depth (inches): 

- Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☑ No ✗

**Remarks:**

### HYDROLOGY

**Wetland Hydrology Indicators:**

**Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply):**

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

**Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):**

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes ☑ No ✗ Depth (inches): 
- Water Table Present? Yes ☑ No ✗ Depth (inches): 
- Saturation Present? Yes ☑ No ✗ Depth (inches): 

- Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☑ No ✗

**Remarks:**

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:
### WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

**Project/Site:**

**City/County:**

**State:** CA

**Sampling Date:**

**Applicant/Owner:**

**Investigator(s):**

**Section, Township, Range:**

**Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):**

**Local relief (concave, convex, none):**

**Slope (%):**

**Subregion (LRR):**

**Lat:**

**Long:**

**Datum:**

**Soil Map Unit Name:**

**NWI classification:**

**Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year?** Yes [X] No [ ] (If no, explain in Remarks.)

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] or Hydrology [ ] significantly disturbed?** Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes [X] No [ ]

**Are Vegetation [ ] Soil [ ] or Hydrology [ ] naturally problematic?** (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</th>
<th>Yes [X] No [ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydric Soil Present?</td>
<td>Yes [X] No [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Hydrology Present?</td>
<td>Yes [X] No [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</td>
<td>Yes [X] No [ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remarks:**

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

**Tree Stratum** (Plot size: _______)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Absolubte % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cover = _______

**Sapling/Shrub Stratum** (Plot size: _______)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cover = _______

**Herb Stratum** (Plot size: _______)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cover = _______

**Woody Vine Stratum** (Plot size: _______)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>% Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cover = _______

**% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum** _______

**Remarks:**

### Dominance Test worksheet:

- Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _______ (A)
- Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _______ (B)
- Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 25% (A/B)

### Prevalence Index worksheet:

- Total % cover of: Multiply by:
  - OBL species _______ x 1 = _______
  - FACW species _______ x 2 = _______
  - FAC species _______ x 3 = _______
  - FACU species _______ x 4 = _______
  - UPL species _______ x 5 = _______
- Column Totals: _______ (A) (B)
- Prevalence Index = B/A = _______

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0
- 4 - Morphological Adaptations¹ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants
- 6 - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain)

¹Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

### Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes [X] No [ ]
### SOIL

**Profile Description:** (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Color (moist)</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.59%2/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-16</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.59%2/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hydric Soil Indicators:** (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils**:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Restrictive Layer (if present):**

- Depth (inches): ________

**Hydric Soil Present?** Yes [ ] No [X]

**Remarks:**

### HYDROLOGY

**Primary Hydrology Indicators** (minimum of one required, check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilted Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Secondary Hydrology Indicators** (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes [ ] No [ ] Depth (inches): ________
- Water Table Present? Yes [ ] No [ ] Depth (inches): ________
- Saturation Present? Yes [ ] No [ ] Depth (inches): ________

**Wetland Hydrology Present?** Yes [ ] No [X]

**Remarks:**

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Fortuna WMTP  City/County: Fortuna  Sampling Date: 3/11/98
Applicant/Owner:  State: CA  Sampling Point: 1PNC
Investigator(s):  Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.):  Local relief (concave, convex, none):  Linear Slope (%): 0
Subregion (LRR):  Lat:  Long:  Datum: 
Soil Map Unit Name:  NWI classification:

Are climatic/hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ☑ No ☑ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation  Soil  or Hydrology  significantly disturbed? Are “Normal Circumstances” present? Yes ☑ No ☑
Are Vegetation  Soil  or Hydrology  naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ☑ No ☑  Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes ☑ No ☑
Hydric Soil Present? Yes ☑ No ☑
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ☑ No ☑

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
<th>Absolute % Cover</th>
<th>Dominant Species?</th>
<th>Indicator Status</th>
<th>Status Worksheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Quercus rubra</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>Quercus rubra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td>= Total Cover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Juniperus osteosperma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _________)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>= Total Cover</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum | 10% |

Remarks: 8/12/97  7/17/97

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
☑ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
☐ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
☐ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0°
☐ 4 - Morphological Adaptations (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
☐ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants
☐ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain)

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ☑ No ☑

Remarks:
### Soil Profile Description

(Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth (inches)</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Redox Features</th>
<th>Texture</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5</td>
<td>2.547/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>Silty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>2.547/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sandy loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-17</td>
<td>2.547/2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>Silty loam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains.
2Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

### Hydric Soil Indicators
(ApPLICABLE to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)

- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

### Restrictive Layer (if present):

- Type: 
- Depth (inches): 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydric Soil Present?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Hydrology

**Primary Hydrology Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply):**

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

**Secondary Hydrology Indicators (2 or more required):**

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

**Field Observations:**

- Surface Water Present? Yes | No |
- Water Table Present? Yes | No |
- Saturation Present? Yes | No |
- Depth (inches): 
- Depth (inches): 
- Depth (inches): 

**Wetland Hydrology Present?**

- Yes | No |

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

**Remarks:**

---

US Army Corps of Engineers

Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast – Version 2.0
### Appendix C: Plant Species Observed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Native</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agrostis stolonifera</td>
<td>Creeping bentgrass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allium sp.</td>
<td>Wild onion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alnus rubra</td>
<td>red alder</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccharis pilularis</td>
<td>coyote brush</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellis perennis</td>
<td>English lawn daisy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirsium vulgare</td>
<td>bull thistle</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conium maculatum</td>
<td>poison hemlock</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cortaderia sp.</td>
<td>pampas grass</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyperus eragrostis</td>
<td>tall flatsedge</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dactylis glomerata</td>
<td>orchard grass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daucus carota</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s Lace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delairea odorata</td>
<td>Cape ivy</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioscorea communis</td>
<td>common spikerush</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equisetum arvense</td>
<td>common horsetail</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geranium molle</td>
<td>woodland geranium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedra helix</td>
<td>English ivy</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helminthotheca echioides</td>
<td>bristly ox-tongue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holcus lanatus</td>
<td>velvet grass</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juncus patens</td>
<td>Spreading rush</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemna minor</td>
<td>duckweed</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentha pulegium</td>
<td>pennyroyal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus radiata</td>
<td>Monterey pine</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantago lanceolata</td>
<td>English plantain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poa annua</td>
<td>annual bluegrass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polystichum munitum</td>
<td>western swordfern</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii</td>
<td>Fremontii cottonwood</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raphanus sativus</td>
<td>wild radish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranunculus repens</td>
<td>creeping buttercup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubus armeniacus</td>
<td>Himalayan blackberry</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubus spectabilis</td>
<td>salmonberry</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubus ursinus</td>
<td>California blackberry</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rumex acetosella</td>
<td>common sheep sorrel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rumex crispus</td>
<td>curly dock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salix sp.</td>
<td>willow</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sambucus racemosa</td>
<td>red elderberry</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrophularia californica</td>
<td>figwort</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stachys ajoides</td>
<td>hedge nettle</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tellima grandiflora</td>
<td>fringe cups</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taraxacum officinale</td>
<td>common dandelion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trifolium repens</td>
<td>clover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typha latifolia</td>
<td>broadleaf cattail</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urtica dioica</td>
<td>stinging nettle</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicia sp.</td>
<td>vetch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zantedeschia aethiopica</td>
<td>calla lily</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*outside of region*
Plants in bold indicate an non-native plant with the following ratings:
High = Humboldt Weed Management Area Strategic Management Weed List High Priority for control, education, outreach, prevention, and mapping.
Moderate= Humboldt Weed Management Area Strategic Management Weed List Moderate Priority for control, education, outreach, prevention, and mapping.
All other bold plants are naturalized or are being monitored for invasive determination.
Appendix D

Response to Comments
APPENDIX D - Response to Comments
for the
City of Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant
Flood Protection Project

Prepared for:
City of Fortuna
621 11th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540

Attention: Regan M. Candelario
City Manager
(707) 725-1409

Prepared by:
GHD Inc.
718 Third Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 443-8326

April 2015
Dear Mr. Candelario:

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR CITY OF FORTUNA (CITY); WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT (PROJECT); HUMBOLDT COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2015022051

We understand that the City may be pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project. As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information and comments for the environmental document prepared for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program. The primary purpose for the CWSRF Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution, recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, provide for estuary enhancement, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state. The CWSRF Program provides low-interest funding equal to one-half of the most recent State General Obligation Bond Rates with a 30-year term. Applications are accepted and processed continuously. Please refer to the State Water Board's CWSRF website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional "CEQA-Plus" environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package, please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli, at (916) 341-5855.

It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special status species.
Please be advised that the State Water Board will consult with the USFWS, and/or the NMFS regarding all federal special-status species that the Project has the potential to impact if the Project is to be financed by the CWSRF Program. The City will need to identify whether the Project will involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement, that may affect federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that are known, or have a potential to occur in the Project site, in the surrounding areas, or in the service area, and to identify applicable conservation measures to reduce such effects.

In addition, CWSRF projects must comply with federal laws pertaining to cultural resources, specifically Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The State Water Board has responsibility for ensuring compliance with Section 106 and the State Water Board must consult directly with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). SHPO consultation is initiated when sufficient information is provided by the CWSRF applicant. The City must retain a consultant that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards (http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm) to prepare a Section 106 compliance report.

Note that the City will need to identify the Area of Potential Effects (APE), including construction and staging areas, and the depth of any excavation. The APE is three-dimensional and includes all areas that may be affected by the Project. The APE includes the surface area and extends below ground to the depth of any Project excavations. The records search request should extend to a 1/2-mile beyond Project APE. The appropriate area varies for different projects but should be drawn large enough to provide information on what types of sites may exist in the vicinity.

Other federal environmental requirements pertinent to the Project under the CWSRF Program include the following (for a complete list of all environmental requirements, please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/application_environmental_package.pdf):

A. Compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act: (a) Provide air quality studies that may have been done for the Project; and (b) if the Project is in a nonattainment area or attainment area subject to a maintenance plan; (i) provide a summary of the estimated emissions (in tons per year) that are expected from both the construction and operation of the Project for each federal criteria pollutant in a nonattainment or maintenance area, and indicate if the nonattainment designation is moderate, serious, or severe (if applicable); (ii) if emissions are above the federal de minimis levels, but the Project is sized to meet only the needs of current population projections that are used in the approved State Implementation Plan for air quality, quantitatively indicate how the proposed capacity increase was calculated using population projections.

B. Compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act: Identify whether the Project is within a coastal zone and the status of any coordination with the California Coastal Commission.

C. Protection of Wetlands: Identify any portion of the proposed Project area that should be evaluated for wetlands or United States waters delineation by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), or requires a permit from the USACE, and identify the status of coordination with the USACE.

D. Compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act: Identify whether the Project will result in the conversion of farmland. State the status of farmland (Prime, Unique, or Local Statewide Importance) in the Project area and determine if this area is under a Williamson Act Contract.

E. Compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act: List any birds protected under this act that may be impacted by the Project and identify conservation measures to minimize impacts.
F. Compliance with the Flood Plain Management Act: Identify whether or not the Project is in a Flood Management Zone and include a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood zone maps for the area.

G. Compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: Identify whether or not any Wild and Scenic Rivers would be potentially impacted by the Project and include conservation measures to minimize such impacts.

Following are specific comments on the City’s draft IS/MND:

1. The air resources section of the City’s IS/MND is lacking air emission calculation estimates for the Proposed Project. Please include these in or as an attachment to the City’s Project documents.

2. Page 3-8 of the City’s IS/MND indicated that construction is to occur in the Spring of 2015, but page 3-14 states that Project construction would not occur during the breeding season which extends from March 15 to August 15. Please discuss this discrepancy further.

3. Please clarify when species lists for biological resources were obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Natural Diversity Database, ensuring that they are less than one year old. In addition, provide a more detailed account on the biological surveys performed in the Project area, including the date at which they were conducted.

4. In regards to cultural resources, please consider the following comments if seeking CWSRF funding:
   
   i. A clear description of the APE, specifying the length, width, and depth of excavation, including a map, will need to be provided as a part of the City’s IS/MND.
   
   ii. The City mentions a literature search that was conducted on December 12, 2012, followed by a subsequent systematic archaeological pedestrian survey. Please note that these may need to be revised if these are more than one year old.
   
   iii. The City will need to initiate consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission and the local Native American contacts which they provide and include documentation of these letters and follow-up phone logs in the IS/MND.

Please provide us with the following documents applicable to the proposed Project if seeking CWSRF or other State Water Board funding: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND, (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) making California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings, (3) all comments received during the review period and the City’s response to those comments, (4) the adopted MMRP, and (5) the Notice of Determination filed with the Humboldt County Clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.
Thank you for the opportunity to review the City's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5855, or by email at Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov, or contact Elysar Naja at (916) 327-9117, or by email at Elysar.Naja@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Ahmad Kashkoli
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures (3)

1. Clean Water State Revolving Fund Environmental Review Requirements
2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2015022051)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Comments and Responses to Comments

Response to SWRCB Comments on the Fortuna WWTP Flood Protection Project ISMND

The City of Fortuna is not pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for the proposed project.

**Question 1:**

SWRCB Comment: The air resources section of the City's IS/MND is lacking air emission calculation estimates for the Proposed Project. Please include these in or as an attachment to the City's Project documents.

**Response:**

Emissions estimates for the proposed project are found on page 3-7 of the ISMND and are estimated to be between 10 and 20 tons per year of PM10, which is well below the General Conformity Rule (40 CFR 93, Subpart B) federal de minimis threshold of 100 tons/year. There are no specific significance thresholds for the NCAB with regard to PM10.

**Question 2:**

Page 3-8 of the City's IS/MND indicated that construction is to occur in the Spring of 2015, but page 3-14 states that Project construction would not occur during the breeding season which extends from March 15 to August 15. Please discuss this discrepancy further.

**Response:**

Deleted the sentence on page 3-14 that states that project construction would not occur during the breeding season. There is mitigation for nesting birds already in the ISMND.

**Question 3:**

Please clarify when species lists for biological resources were obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Diversity Database, ensuring that they are less than one year old. In addition, provide a more detailed account on the biological surveys performed in the Project area, including the date at which they were conducted.

**Response:**

Species lists for all databases listed in the ISMND were collected in December, 2014. A field review of the proposed project area was conducted on December 13, 2012 by a FEMA-contracted biologist to assess existing vegetation communities, potential wetlands, and habitat for special-status species. On March 11, 2013, a wetland delineation and mapping were completed for the project site pursuant to the USACE 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and the Regional Supplement to the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coastal Regions.
**Question 4:**

In regards to cultural resources, please consider the following comments if seeking CWSRF funding:

1. A clear description of the APE, specifying the length, width, and depth of excavation, including a map, will need to be provided as a part of the City's IS/MND.

2. The City mentions a literature search that was conducted on December 12, 2012, followed by a subsequent systematic archaeological pedestrian survey. Please note that these may need to be revised if these are more than one year old.

3. The City will need to initiate consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission and the local Native American contacts which they provide and include documentation of these letters and follow-up phone logs in the IS/MND.

**Response:**

As noted above, the City of Fortuna is not pursuing CWSRF financing for the proposed project. However, the NEPA EA prepared for the proposed project included a historic properties study including a literature search review of the area of potential effects (APE) and a 1-mile buffer around the APE and a systematic archaeological pedestrian surface survey of the APE. The NEPA EA also included a figure showing the APE. A literature search was requested from the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) located at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, on December 17, 2012. A systematic pedestrian archaeological survey was conducted on May 23, 2013. No archaeological resources were observed. The ISMND was sent to the NAHC through the State Clearinghouse.
Dear Mr. Candelario:

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR CITY OF FORTUNA (CITY); WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT (PROJECT); HUMBOLDT COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2015022051

We understand that the City may be pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project. As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information and comments for the environmental document prepared for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program. The primary purpose for the CWSRF Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution, recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, provide for estuary enhancement, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state. The CWSRF Program provides low-interest funding equal to one-half of the most recent State General Obligation Bond Rates with a 30-year term. Applications are accepted and processed continuously. Please refer to the State Water Board's CWSRF website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional “CEQA-Plus” environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package, please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli, at (916) 341-5855.

It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special status species.
Please be advised that the State Water Board will consult with the USFWS, and/or the NMFS regarding all federal special-status species that the Project has the potential to impact if the Project is to be financed by the CWSRF Program. The City will need to identify whether the Project will involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement, that may affect federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that are known, or have a potential to occur in the Project site, in the surrounding areas, or in the service area, and to identify applicable conservation measures to reduce such effects.

In addition, CWSRF projects must comply with federal laws pertaining to cultural resources, specifically Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The State Water Board has responsibility for ensuring compliance with Section 106 and the State Water Board must consult directly with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). SHPO consultation is initiated when sufficient information is provided by the CWSRF applicant. The City must retain a consultant that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards (http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm) to prepare a Section 106 compliance report.

Note that the City will need to identify the Area of Potential Effects (APE), including construction and staging areas, and the depth of any excavation. The APE is three-dimensional and includes all areas that may be affected by the Project. The APE includes the surface area and extends below ground to the depth of any Project excavations. The records search request should extend to a ½-mile beyond Project APE. The appropriate area varies for different projects but should be drawn large enough to provide information on what types of sites may exist in the vicinity.

Other federal environmental requirements pertinent to the Project under the CWSRF Program include the following (for a complete list of all environmental requirements, please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/application_environmental_package.pdf):

A. Compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act: (a) Provide air quality studies that may have been done for the Project; and (b) if the Project is in a nonattainment area or attainment area subject to a maintenance plan; (i) provide a summary of the estimated emissions (in tons per year) that are expected from both the construction and operation of the Project for each federal criteria pollutant in a nonattainment or maintenance area, and indicate if the nonattainment designation is moderate, serious, or severe (if applicable); (ii) if emissions are above the federal de minimis levels, but the Project is sized to meet only the needs of current population projections that are used in the approved State Implementation Plan for air quality, quantitatively indicate how the proposed capacity increase was calculated using population projections.

B. Compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act: Identify whether the Project is within a coastal zone and the status of any coordination with the California Coastal Commission.

C. Protection of Wetlands: Identify any portion of the proposed Project area that should be evaluated for wetlands or United States waters delineation by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), or requires a permit from the USACE, and identify the status of coordination with the USACE.

D. Compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act: Identify whether the Project will result in the conversion of farmland. State the status of farmland (Prime, Unique, or Local Statewide Importance) in the Project area and determine if this area is under a Williamson Act Contract.

E. Compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act: List any birds protected under this act that may be impacted by the Project and identify conservation measures to minimize impacts.
F. Compliance with the Flood Plain Management Act: Identify whether or not the Project is in a Flood Management Zone and include a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood zone maps for the area.

G. Compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: Identify whether or not any Wild and Scenic Rivers would be potentially impacted by the Project and include conservation measures to minimize such impacts.

Following are specific comments on the City’s draft IS/MND:

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Enclosures (3)

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2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2015022051)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Attachment 3
City of Fortuna Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project
Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program
### Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program

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| Impacts to Special-Status Species, Riparian or Sensitive Natural Community | **Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Conservation Measures to Protect Nesting Birds and Migratory Bird Species**<br>The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following conservation measures take place.  
  - If possible, vegetation clearing activities would take place between August 16 and March 13 outside of the active nesting season for migratory bird species (i.e., March 14 to August 15).  
  - If work must be completed during the nesting season, a qualified biologist would conduct preconstruction surveys of all ground disturbance areas to verify absence of nesting migratory birds in the project area prior to vegetation removal and the start of construction. These surveys would be conducted within two weeks prior to start of vegetation removal or any construction activities. If nesting migratory birds are found in the construction area during the preconstruction surveys, they would be avoided with an appropriate buffer area until the young birds have fledged. If state listed (CESA), federally listed (ESA), or raptors are found outside of the construction (disturbance) area but near the construction area, appropriate buffers will be implemented. If non-listed state (CESA), non-listed federal (ESA), including state species of special concern are found near, but outside of the construction area, no buffers will be implemented. | City of Fortuna/Construction Manager | Prior to construction and prior to nesting season for migratory bird species |                                            |
<p>| Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Protection of Northern Red-Legged Frog        | The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following take place prior to and/or during construction. | City of Fortuna/Construction Manager | Prior to construction                                         |                                            |</p>
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<td>• Contractor shall be limited to mowing at eight inches or above during the Northern red-legged frog breeding season (November 15th-April 15th).</td>
<td>City of Fortuna/Construction Manager</td>
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<td>• If any adult Northern red-legged frogs are observed during construction, they shall be relocated to nearby suitable habitat.</td>
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<td>• If disturbance is necessary November 15 through August 15, within 100 feet of aquatic habitats, then the area shall be cleared of any eggs or tadpoles and if present they shall be relocated to suitable habitat.</td>
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<td>• Conduct construction work in accordance with site-specific construction plans that minimize the potential for increased delivery of sediment to surface waters.</td>
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<td><strong>Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Protection of Western Pond Turtle</strong></td>
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<td>The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the following take place prior to and/or during construction.</td>
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<td>• The Contractor shall install temporary construction fencing to identify areas of riparian particularly along the berm area and wetland areas of protection.</td>
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<td>• If the pond turtle is observed it shall be relocated to appropriate habitat.</td>
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<td><strong>Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Tree/Vegetation Removal BMPs</strong></td>
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<td>The City shall implement the following measures to protect riparian habitat:</td>
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<td>• A riparian revegetation and management plan will be prepared accompanied by an adaptive management plan. A monitoring protocol, including a defined set of goals, success criteria, schedule</td>
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Mitigation Measure BIO-5: Post-Construction Restoration of Disturbed Areas

and reporting requirements will be developed to understand success of the project over a 10 year timeline. Vegetation monitoring of planted stock and monitoring customized to where invasive plants encroachment may occur in addition to photo-monitoring methods will be outlined in the plan.

- Construction access routes and equipment staging areas shall be limited to the WWTP.
- The Contractor shall install temporary construction fencing or silt fencing to identify areas of riparian particularly along the berm area and wetland areas of protection.
- All tree trimming and/or removal areas identified on the site plans shall be clearly flagged/marked in the field. Native trees should be protected as much as possible. Following a pre-construction survey to verify that no sensitive species are at risk, trees shall be removed using conventional logging methods. Crews shall stay within designated work areas. The contractor shall avoid felling trees or shrubs into or across creeks, as well as into wetland areas. Tree removal shall not change the original ground surface. Trees and debris shall be removed from the site by the access roads shown. Offsite reuse options are possible if allowable per ordinances and regulations, such as donated firewood, or chipping for mulch, compost, biomass power generation, etc. Any forest product materials (including but not limited to logs, chipped debris, etc.) leaving property shall have a non-commercial end use unless outlined in a City-approved Timber Harvesting Plan. At the completion of tree removal activities, all boles, limbs, and bark shall be removed from the site by methods appropriate for the area.

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<td>Native vegetation that is removed or damaged at access ways and within the construction areas shall be replaced under a re-vegetation plan. Trees greater than four inches (4”) Diameter at Breast height (DBH) would be replaced in-kind using a 2:1 ratio. Small scrub material would be replaced in-kind using a 1:1 ratio. Seeding in riparian areas shall be native seeds and straw shall be weed free (sterile).</td>
<td>City of Fortuna/Construction Manager</td>
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Mitigation Measure BIO-6: Avoidance or Spread of Invasive Plant Species

The City shall require the following actions to avoid the spread of invasive plant species in the project area.

- Require inspection and cleaning of all equipment. Contractor shall clean all equipment prior to use onsite, including chainsaws, hand tools, and personal equipment (boots, clothing, personal vehicles), the construction monitor shall inspect for absence of vegetation debris, invasive plant, or soil before allowing equipment onsite.

- Establish a cleaning area for vehicles and equipment moving between known infested and uninfected areas. The cleaning area shall be established within the staging area and should be cleared of invasive plants prior to construction work. Once the area is cleared of invasive plants it shall be monitored throughout the duration of project implementation so that new infestations can quickly be eradicated.

- The cleaning area would consist of an excavated depression (usually placed in the road surface or a pull-out), lined with Tyvek and filled with clean gravel or a metal “Rumble Strip.” All vehicles would be required to wash, or “broom” vehicles to remove dirt and debris from the undercarriage, tires, bed, bumper etc. of vehicles, and to cover loads before entering and exiting the treatment area. Pressure washing with clean water is preferred if access to water is available.
can be provided. If water is unavailable, manual cleaning would be required. Following completion of the project, the cleaning area would be removed, disposed of properly, and the site restored to natural conditions.

- Keep vehicles on existing road surface or access routes. The Contractor shall not park in infested areas, or park on or drive over known sites of invasive plants.
- Flood protection berm outer slopes and all disturbed areas outside the berms shall be re-seeded with native grasses and herbs. Flood protection berm inside slopes and all disturbed areas within the berms shall be re-seeded with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. If any straw is used outside the flood protection berms it shall be sterile straw.

**Wetlands**

**Mitigation Measure BIO-7: Wetland Protection**

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that the contractor is responsible for avoiding the Wetland 1 and 2 during construction activities. The contractor will be responsible for installing silt fencing around the perimeter of both wetlands at a minimum of six inches away from the wetland boundary and 10 feet away wherever possible around the wetland perimeter.

**Historical or Archaeological Resources**

**Mitigation Measure CR-1: Identify and Avoid or Minimize Impacts to Unknown Historic and/or Archaeological Resources**

The City of Fortuna shall ensure that if concentrations of prehistoric or historic-period materials are encountered as a result of ground-disturbing activity attributable to the project, all work in the immediate vicinity of such materials shall stop immediately and not continue until approval is granted by the City of Fortuna/Construction Manager.
vicinity shall halt until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the finds and make recommendations. The recommendations of the archaeologist shall be implemented. Prehistoric materials could include obsidian and chert debitage or formal tools, grinding implements, (e.g., pestles, handstones, bowl mortars, slabs), locally darkened midden, deposits of shell, faunal remains, and human burials. Historic materials could include ceramics/pottery, glass, metal, can and bottle dumps, cut bone, barbed wire fences, building pads, structures, and trails/roads.

If such materials are encountered during construction, the City shall retain a qualified archaeologist who shall be present during subsequent surface and subsurface activities in the vicinity of the sensitive materials as determined necessary by the archaeologist. With respect to these areas of sensitive materials:

- Ground disturbance shall be monitored by a qualified archaeologist with the authority to temporarily halt work and redirect equipment if cultural materials are discovered.
- If cultural materials are discovered, the archaeologist shall assess the discovery to determine if it constitutes either a unique archaeological resource or a historical resource for purposes of CEQA (CCR Title 14 §15064.5[a]).
- If the archaeologist determines that the materials do not constitute either a unique archaeological resource or a historical resource, their presence shall be noted but need not be considered further (CCR Title 14 §15064.5[c] [3]).
- If the archaeologist determines: (a) that the materials do constitute a unique archaeological resource or historical resource; and, (b) they are subject to substantial adverse change as defined in CCR Title 14 §15064.5[b], the archaeologist shall provide recommendations to the City for appropriate treatment which,
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<td>among other options, may include preservation in place or archaeological data recovery. Preservation in place is preferred, if it is feasible.</td>
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<td>Paleontological or Geological Resources</td>
<td>Mitigation Measure CR-2: Evaluation and Treatment of Paleontological Resources If paleontological resources (e.g., vertebrate bones, teeth, or abundant and well-preserved invertebrates or plants), are encountered during construction, the City shall ensure work in the immediate vicinity shall be diverted away from the find until a professional paleontologist assesses and salvages the find, as appropriate.</td>
<td>City of Fortuna/Construction Manager</td>
<td>During construction</td>
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| Violate Water Quality Standards or Degrade Water Quality | Mitigation Measure HYD -1: Prepare and Implement SWPPP and BMPs The City shall ensure that a SWPPP is prepared and implemented for the project and includes BMPs. The SWPPP shall be prepared prior to any construction on any portion of the project, and implemented prior to and during construction. At a minimum the contractor shall implement the following:  

**Materials Management**  
- The Contractor shall provide protected (covered) storage areas for any potentially toxic materials (concrete, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizer, grease, oils, fuel, paints, stains, solvents, wood preservatives, etc.). Ensure that these materials are protected from vandalism, and that all lids and covers are securely fastened. Clearly mark all hazardous material containers. | City of Fortuna/Construction Manager | Prior to and during Construction | |
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<td>• Bags of mortar, concrete, or other supplies shall be placed on pallets and covered with tarps so that if precipitation does occur these materials would not be exposed to stormwater and become a stormwater pollutant.</td>
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<td>• Minimize the production or generation of hazardous materials and wastes at the site. Do not allow them to accumulate on the ground. Schedule regular pick up of used materials by licensed waste haulers and ensure proper disposal.</td>
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<td>• All hazardous material containers shall be placed in secondary containment. Ensure that adequate secondary containment volume is provided for hazardous materials and that they are located in areas on the site away from stormwater drains or watercourses. Segregate potentially hazardous waste from non-hazardous construction debris. Provide berms, if necessary, to prevent stormwater run-on from contacting the storage area. Also, use containment berms in fueling and maintenance areas and where the potential for spills is high.</td>
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<td>Waste Disposal</td>
<td>• The Contractor shall provide waste receptacles for common solid wastes at convenient locations on the job site and provide regular collection of wastes, including building materials. Provide cover for receptacles or piles of waste prior to rain events. Do not allow crew to discard miscellaneous trash on the project site.</td>
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<td>Spill Prevention and Response</td>
<td>• The Contractor shall make adequate preparations, including training personnel and providing equipment, to contain and/or clean up spills of oil and other hazardous materials. Ensure that adequate materials such as absorbents, berms, dry sweep shovels, brooms, and</td>
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<td>absorbent pads are on hand to clean up any accidental spill that may occur. Spills of hazardous materials can originate from fueling, equipment breaking down (such as hydraulic lines), material transfer operations, and other sources. Clean up such spills immediately and properly dispose of all wastes and used spill control materials.</td>
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<td>▪ The Contractor shall ensure that sufficient erosion control supplies shall be available on site at all times to deal with areas susceptible to erosion during rain events. Materials should include plastic tarps, geo-fabric, woven coconut fronds, coir rolls/straw wattles, jute netting, erosion control matting, silt fencing, straw mulch or other suitable materials.</td>
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<td>▪ Activities such as vehicle washing, bucket rinsing, paintbrush cleaning, etc. shall be carried out at an approved facility (i.e. car wash or interior sink), wherein the water is discharged into a sanitary sewer. Non-stormwater discharges should be eliminated or reduced to the extent feasible. The Contractor shall designate a qualified person with the responsibility for ensuring that no materials other than stormwater are discharged in quantities, which would have an adverse effect on receiving waters or storm drain systems.</td>
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<td>▪ The Contractor shall provide sanitary facilities of sufficient number and size to accommodate construction crews. Locate the sanitary facilities in a convenient location, but away from storm drain inlets and drainage facilities. Anchor the facilities sufficiently to prevent them from being blown over or tipped by vandals. Ensure that the facilities are maintained in good working order and emptied at</td>
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<td>Vehicle and Equipment Fueling</td>
<td>• On-site vehicle and equipment fueling should only be used where it’s impractical to send vehicles and equipment off site for fueling. The Contractor shall designate an area for equipment fueling and maintenance away from storm drain inlets or drainage channels. The fueling area shall be located on a paved surface (if practical) and shall be protected with berms to prevent run-on and run-off and contain spills. Secondary containment techniques such as drip pans or drop cloths shall be used when fueling to catch drips or leaks.</td>
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| Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning | • Off-site commercial washing businesses are equipped to handle and dispose of wash water properly and are to be used for vehicle and equipment cleaning as much as possible. If vehicle and equipment washing and cleaning must occur on site and cannot be performed in a building equipped with sanitary sewer facilities, the outside cleaning area shall be located away from storm drain inlets and drainage facilities. The wash area shall be stabilized with aggregate base, and bermed to prevent run-off and run-on. The drainage area shall be outfitted with a sump to allow for the collection and disposal of wash water. Wash water is not to be disposed of into storm drains or watercourses.  
• The wash area shall be used as little as possible, while using the minimum amount of wash water and soaps necessary. Power washers tend to use less water and should be considered. Steam cleaning is not to be performed at any time. Cleaning solvents shall never to be used on-site. |                   |                         |          |
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| Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance          | • Perform vehicle maintenance off site whenever practical. The Contractor shall coordinate with the City and designate the on-site vehicle and equipment maintenance areas away from storm drain inlets and watercourses. Locate the maintenance areas on paved surfaces if practical and protect the maintenance area from stormwater run-on and run-off.  

• Properly dispose of used oils, fuels, and lubricants. Do not dump fuels or lubricants on the ground, place in dumpsters, or pour into storm drains or watercourses. Properly dispose of or recycle batteries and other waste products.  

• Repair leaks of fluids and oil immediately. Place drip pans under vehicles with leaks while they are waiting repair and promptly empty drip pans into proper waste containers.  

• Regularly inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks or potential leaks. Perform regularly scheduled preventative maintenance, preferably off site. Inspect the maintenance area regularly and clean up any spills or leaks immediately. Maintain an adequate supply of spill cleanup materials in the maintenance area at all times.  

Erosion Control BMPs  

• Scheduling Work - Proper sequencing of construction activities to reduce erosion potential should be incorporated into the schedule of the construction project especially during the rainy season. This project is scheduled to be constructed in the summer season with all work completed prior to the onset of the rainy season, which begins on October 15th. When rainfall is forecast, the construction schedule is to be adjusted to allow the implementation of erosion and sediment controls on all disturbed areas prior to the onset of rains.  

Monitoring Agency | Implementation Schedule | Sign-off
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<td><strong>Minimize Earthmoving and Vegetation Removal</strong> - Vegetation removal, grading, and other construction activities shall be restricted to the minimum area necessary to complete the project.</td>
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<td><strong>Site Stabilization and Seeding</strong> - All soil disturbance in riparian areas outside of the berms and berm outer slopes shall be stabilized by native seeding. All soil disturbance within the berms and berm inside slopes shall be stabilized with a pasture seed mix or similar seed mix. The contractor should hand broadcast seed and rice straw in access areas (within the berms) where bare ground exists after construction. Seeding should be done at an adequate time to develop a uniform vegetative cover (70% or greater) before the seasonal rains begin. If this is not possible at the site due to the construction schedule of the project, the Contractor shall implement temporary soil stabilization measures until the vegetative cover develops. The Contractor shall consider measures such as: covering with mulch, temporary seeding/vegetation, soil stabilizers, binders, fiber rolls, blankets, or permanent seeding.</td>
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<td>Seeding and mulching should be done as soon as grading operations are completed. Proper and timely attention shall be taken to avoid erosion. Erosion control and seed establishment can be enhanced with the use of surface roughening followed by seeding and mulching.</td>
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<td><strong>Exposed Area Limitations</strong> - The occurrence of windy days may also require water to be sprayed onto exposed surface areas for dust control. These areas could include dirt roads, soil disposal areas, or other graded surfaces. Care should be taken not to create run-off from the application of excessive quantities of water, or to increase vehicle track-out of sediment from this activity.</td>
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<td>- Stockpiled Soils</td>
<td>The Contractor shall work with the Owner to designate an area to be used for stockpiled soils. Trench spoils generated during utility installation and other activities must be securely stockpiled at the site. In the event of rain, care shall be taken to prevent erosion and sediment transport from stockpiled areas. Stockpiles should be securely covered and placed away from drainage channels, preferably in areas with some natural vegetation in place. Silt fences shall be installed around the soil stockpile areas in the event of extended heavy rainfall. Silt fence construction and maintenance is further discussed in the Sediment Control section of this SWPPP. Uncovered soil stockpiles are to be wetted as needed during windy days to prevent wind erosion.</td>
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<td>- Silt Fences</td>
<td>Prior to construction, after a preconstruction survey has taken place, silt fences shall be installed around Wetlands 1 and 2 and to protect the riparian habitat located along the berm action area, to reduce sediments or impacts to habitat or sensitive species in these locations. Silt fences are to be placed along a level contour except at the ends, which should be returned uphill in a &quot;J&quot; hook formation to prevent water and sediment from flowing around the fence. The silt fencing shall be maintained throughout construction. Repair undercut fences and repair or replace split, torn, slumping, or weathered fabric. Remove and properly dispose of sediment when it reaches one-third of the fence height. Silt fences shall not be removed until the area draining to the silt fence has stabilized and approved by the Owner, and accumulated materials have been removed. Fill and compact post holes, anchorage trench and grade fence alignment to blend with adjacent ground.</td>
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**Conflict with an Applicable Plan, Ordinance, Policy, or Mitigation Measure**

**Mitigation Measure TR-1: Implement Transportation Measures**
The City of Fortuna will be responsible for implementing the following

City of Fortuna/Construction

Prior to and during construction
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| **Program Establishing Measures of Effectiveness for the Performance of the Circulation System** | measures to minimize the potential short-term impacts to transportation in the project area during construction:  
1. No public traffic routes shall be fully blocked at any time.  
2. Workers shall park their privately owned vehicles at designated locations at the WWTP to reduce traffic impacts.  
3. Temporary parking advisory signs shall be posted at least 24 hours, but no more than 48 hours, in advance of construction.  
4. Haul routes shall be utilized by construction trucks to minimize truck traffic on local roadways to the extent possible. When necessary, flaggers and/or signage to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone shall be utilized.  
5. Truck trips shall be scheduled outside of peak morning and afternoon commute periods to the extent possible.  
6. The City of Fortuna shall be responsible for ensuring that any affected residents are notified well in advance of any disruption to the transportation infrastructure. | Manager |  |  |
DATE: April 6, 2015
TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Kevin Carter, Development Services Manager
THRU: Regan M. Candelario, City Manager
SUBJECT: Authorization of Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize design and install a digital sign at the entrance of Rohner Park

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

To consider authorization of the Fortuna Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize design and installation of a digital information sign at the entrance to Rohner Park.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Fortuna Parks and Recreation Commission has been considering the design and installation of a digital information sign at the entrance to Rohner Park since October 2013, with multiple concepts and placements considered. During that time, the commission pursued donations from user groups to fund the project.

Attached to this staff report is the recommended design from the Commission in a photo simulation format. The photo simulation was posted on the City’s website approximately two weeks preceding this meeting to allow for public input via email, and allow notice to those viewing the site that public input will be heard at this meeting. The results of input provided on the website to date of this report (4-3-2015, two weeks after posting) is the following:

Support of Digital Sign – 12
Opposed to Digital Sign – 5

A summary of the comments received is attached.

The proposed digital sign is anticipated to be used for events in Rohner Park and to advertise recreation programs. User groups are likely to benefit from the installation of the digital sign, however a concern of a change to the small town character of the park is evident.

The attached photo simulation shows the sign in the location and size approved by the Commission; however the simulation of the digital sign itself is shown in a low key yellow text design. A full color option has been considered by the commission and is included as part of the cost of the installation. A rendering of the color sign is attached as Exhibit C to allow for visualization of the sign in full color. Staff recommends that if the sign is authorized by Council.
that the type of sign by considered in the decision. Staff has no recommendation in consideration of the benefits to the user groups and the concerns of members of the public.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Fortuna Parks and Recreation Commission has received pledges, and is currently seeking donations from user groups to fund the digital sign installation. The estimated amount pledged to date is $7,500 dollars from two user groups. The estimated total cost for the installation including PGE costs is $11,000. The funding gap is intended to be sought first by other user groups which may benefit from the sign, and as a last resort, the use of Goble funds were discussed by the Commission.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Receive staff presentation and review Council questions with staff
2. Open Public Comment
3. Close Public Comment; voice vote
4. Motion to authorize the Fortuna Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize design and installation of a digital information sign at the entrance to Rohner Park; Roll call vote.

Attachments:
- Exhibit A - Photo Simulation of new Digital Sign & Existing Sign Photo
- Exhibit B – Rendering of full color sign from supplier
- Exhibit C – Public comments received through the website
Exhibit B
EXHIBIT “C”

From: Patti De La O
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2015 7:07 PM
To: Kevin Carter
Subject: LED

I am not opposed to the addition of an LED sign to the existing sign. However, I'm not thrilled about it either. If the council chooses to add an LED sign, I hope that it is designed to fit into the country-rustic environment of the park. Rohner Park is lovely. The entrance to Rohner Park is lovely. It is befitting of its redwood coast home.
The existing sign conveys the friendly, small town, redwood coast feeling of Fortuna. If a new LED sign is not made to match the existing environment, it will look like Bear River Casino's new LED sign along Hwy 101, which I think is an awful eyesore.

Thank you,
Patti De La O

From: Karen Hall
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2015 2:04 PM
To: Kevin Carter
Subject: SIGN

I like the proposed sign

Karen Hall

From: Dennis Hazelton
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 2:03 PM
To: Kevin Carter
Cc: Connie Berti
Subject: Electronic reader sign

I think the sign looks good, really good!

Linda, if you're asking if this will bring more outside visitors to Fortuna, rent more motel rooms, stay for lunch or dinner, absolutely not!

Will this new sign entice our local citizens more likely come to our park on Saturday or Sunday... maybe, yes!

Will it be a distraction? Yes, but nevertheless this would let drive/walk by's know what's happening.

It's a good thing...

Dennis Hazelton
From: Kathy Heuschkel  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 1:17 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Rohner Park Sign  

I like it. Good way to show what is happening in the park. Not everyone takes the paper, watches TV or has a computer. You have my vote to change the sign.

From: Kent Wrede  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 1:35 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: LED Sign  

Kevin,  
The idea for the LED sign at Rohner Park is GREAT!  
Now, if we could get one a the River Lodge.... all in good time, I suppose.

Kent Wrede

From: Patricia Holbrook  
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2015 9:22 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: LED  

No on LED entrance sign. LED do not belong in Redwood country. Vegas and Reno yes. but not here!

From: Bob & Mary Besanceney  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 8:19 AM  
To: Kevin Carter; Regan Candelario  
Subject: Sign Change at Rohner Park  

Linda, City Council Members, Kevin & Regan,  
The wife & I like the proposed sign change. The "electric message board" will give the people passing by the sign a heads up of on what is happening in the park.

Bob & Mary Besanceney

From: VICKIE AUST  
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 7:17 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Rohner Park sign  

I am in favor of changing to the sign as you enter Rohner Park. It is very attractive and will be an asset to the park and the city of Fortuna. Alan and Vickie Aust
From: Carol Youkey  
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:26 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Sign

I like the sign.

Carol

__________________________________________________________

From: Candy  
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:49 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: New park sign

I think the new sign is unnecessary. We already use banners for special events.

__________________________________________________________

From: Cynthia Cooke  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 12:38 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Rohner Park sign

Linda Gardner has asked for some input on an altered sign for Rohner Park. I have found that the more there is to read the less likely it will be read. I sometimes have problems reading the Caltrans electronic signs on the highway. I am an older adult, although not yet ancient, and have corrected vision.

Also, I do not like the electronic signs. If we add another layer to the Rohner Park sign it should match what is already there.

__________________________________________________________

From: Travis Low  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 6:44 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Sign@entrance

What a great idea to inform folks as to what is going in Rohner Park. Using donations from the public is a win win.

__________________________________________________________

From: Hollis Kreb  
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 7:57 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: New Park Sign

Proposed new sign looks like good idea to me. Might bring in more visitors.

Hollis Kreb
From: Jan's Loft  
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 6:27 PM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: LED Sign

As a resident of Fortuna, I want to submit my support for the LED sign at the entrance to Rhoner Park. Great idea. Excellent visible way to support those events and activities happening or about to happen, even reminding folks about those activities that are permanently or regularly in place even when there is no special event. Great for new & existing residents, visitors, facility renters, and REVENUE. It will probably pay for itself within the first year.

I am concerned the sign might not be large enough as pictured. Maybe it should be mounted on top of the sign instead of "between" as shown in the photo, so you can have a third line and it would be higher for better/safer readability while driving by. Also, I hope the LED will be quite bright for daytime and may need tone change for evening; I don't know enough about the operation of LED signs, but I note the brown sign and the red lights with black frame as shown don't provide much contrast for a good promotional sign.

Sincerely,  
Janet M. Dahlke

From: Joseph Kravitz  
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 9:07 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: Proposed sign

Kevin,  
the proposed sign for the park looks nice. I think it would be a great addition and helpful to advertise upcoming events.

Joe Kravitz

From: Ken Zanzi  
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 9:04 AM  
To: Kevin Carter  
Subject: LED Sign

Kevin,  
I am in full support of the proposed change to the entrance sign at Rohner Park. I also support the same kind of signage enhancement for River Lodge.

Ken Zanzi
From: Leslie McMurray
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 11:09 AM
To: Kevin Carter
Cc: Leslie McMurray
Subject: LED Sign

To the City Council,

Providing information of events at Rohner Park is, in principal, a terrific idea. Given the photo issued today projecting both the look and location of the new LED sign, I would think the city could do a much better job finding a means to this ends in a manner befitting the woodlands setting and small town country charm of Main Street Fortuna.

I do appreciate the effort made to blend the LED sign into the existing wooden Rohner Park sign, but the LED portion is out of keeping with the charm of the existing sign. It’s garish, and it will be more so at night. I cringe to think of it flashing, if that’s also part of the plan. I feel it would seriously destroy the look of the entrance to the park. In addition to being an annoyance and an eye sore, it will pose a danger of traffic accidents. Since it will likely be scrolling through information, drivers may slow to read it and accidents may predictably ensue.

A much better compromise, in keeping with the city’s charm, would be a manually-placed interchangeable portion of the sign (or a separate such sign) with an old world feel. The city takes the time to switch out the fish, apple and saw blade emblems on its ‘city sign’ on Kenmar Road approaching Fortuna Blvd. I would think the city could also switch in and out a charming wooden (or metal) placard as and when new Rohner Park events arise. I understand such a manually changed sign will not communicate all of the information that an LED sign can scroll through, but it would be far more pleasant to look at, in keeping with the city’s charm, and it would not pose any risk of causing traffic to slow. The public, seeing something such as “Rodeo Sat. June 12th” for example, would be informed sufficiently to inquire further. There is ample information available online about pending events and the city could also place a rain proof acrylic box on the sign that houses informative flyers about the pending event (like those used on real estate signs.) The LED sign posed is just excessively intrusive for the purpose intended.

Clearly someone worked hard to come up with the LED sign design and concept and the initiative is appreciated. I just don’t think the LED sign is a good fit for the charm of this historic small town woodland city. I fear that such an eye sore takes the city in the wrong direction. Would we expect to see such a sign on main street in Ferndale? Never!

Fortuna can be just as hip, up to date and digitized as ever beneath her charming appearances. Let’s hold on tight to Fortuna’s legendary small town beauty – and add to her charm, not chip away at it until this city has all the appeal of a strip mall.

The “burdens” of the proposed LED sign outweigh the “benefits”. If I were a voting member, I would vote down the LED sign. Thanks for inviting community comments and keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Leslie G. McMurray
DATE: April 6, 2015
TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Marie Essig, Finance Director
THRU: Regan M. Candelario, City Manager
SUBJECT: Approval of Annual Investment Policy Review

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

City Council to review and approve the Statement of Investment Policy dated July 15, 2013.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Per Government Code 53646, the City Treasurer shall render to the City Council a Statement of Investment Policy once each fiscal year for changes or review and approval by the Council at a public meeting. The City’s Investment Policy was last revised in July 2013.

BACKGROUND:

Various statewide local government associations have developed local agency investment guidelines for treasurers to use in creating an investment policy as required by legislation. These investment policy guidelines have been used in the review of the City’s Investment Policy.

In addition, the Statement of Investment policy is reviewed annually for compliance by the City’s external Auditor. No exceptions to the policy or legal compliance issues were noted in the audit findings for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

A copy of the current investment policy is included for your review. Staff recommends no changes to the Investment Policy.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Receive Staff’s presentation and allow discussion between Council and staff.
2. Open public comment.
3. Motion to close the public comment. Voice vote.
4. Motion to approve annual review of the City Investment Policy. Voice Vote

Attachments: City of Fortuna Investment Policy
In accordance with Section 53646 of the Government Code of the State of California, the Fortuna City Council, adopts the following Investment Policy for the City:

A. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to identify various policies and procedures that enhance the opportunities for a prudent and systemic investment policy and to organize and formalize investment related activities. Related activities which comprise good cash management include accurate cash projections, the expeditious collection of revenue, the control of disbursements, cost-effective banking relations, and a short-term borrowing program which coordinates working capital requirements and investments are the many facets of an appropriate and secure short-term investment program.

B. Scope

It is intended that this policy cover all funds and investment activities under the direct authority of the City.

C. Objectives

The primary objectives of the City’s investment activities shall be, in order of priority:

1. Safety. Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. The City’s investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure preservation of capital in the overall portfolio.

2. Liquidity. The City’s investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to enable the City to meet its reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements. An adequate percentage of the portfolio should be maintained in liquid, short-term securities which can be converted to cash if necessary to meet disbursement requirements.

3. Yield. Yield should become a consideration only after the basic requirements of safety and liquidity have been met. The City seeks to attain a market-average rate of return on its investments throughout economic cycles, taking into account the City’s risk constraints, the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio, and State and Local laws, ordinances or resolutions that restrict investments.

D. Prudence

All participants in the investment process shall recognize that the investment program is subject to public review and evaluation. The overall program shall be designed and managed with a degree of professionalism worthy of the public trust.

All persons authorized to make investment decisions on behalf of the City are trustees and therefore fiduciaries subject to the prudent investor standard. The prudent investor standard states, in essence, that “a trustee shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the agency, that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiarity with those matters would use in the conduct of funds of a like character and with like aims, to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the agency.”
E. Delegation of Authority

The City Council delegates its authority to invest funds of the City for a one-year period to the City Treasurer, who shall thereafter assume full responsibility for those transactions until the delegation of authority is revoked or expires. Subject to review, the City Council may renew the delegation of authority each year. The Treasurer shall make all investment decisions and transactions in strict accordance with state law and this investment policy. If authorized by the City Council, the Treasurer may delegate his/her investment decision-making and execution authority to an investment advisor. The advisor shall follow the investment policy, herein stated, and such other written instructions as are provided.

The Finance Director shall act as the Chief Accounting Officer of the City and shall be responsible, under the City Manager’s direction, for keeping the record of all investments and submitting the reports as required by this policy and the California Government Code.

The Treasurer and the delegated investment officers, acting in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy and exercising due diligence, shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security’s credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

F. Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activities that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

G. Internal Controls

The Treasurer shall establish a system of written internal controls to regulate the City’s investment activities, including the activities of any subordinate officials acting on behalf of the City. As part of the annual financial audit, the City’s external auditor will perform a review of investment transactions to verify compliance with policies and procedures.

H. Authorized Financial Dealers and Institutions

A competitive process, when practical, will be used for all purchases and sales of investments. It shall be the City’s policy to purchase securities only from those authorized institutions and firms. No deposit of public funds shall be made except in a qualified public depository as established by state laws.

The Treasurer shall maintain a list of authorized broker/dealers and financial institutions that are approved for investment purposes. If an external investment advisor is authorized to conduct investment transactions on the City’s behalf, the investment advisor may use their own list of approved broker/dealers and financial institutions for investment purposes.

I. Safekeeping and Custody

All security transactions entered into by the City shall be conducted on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis. To protect against potential losses by collapse of individual securities dealers, and to enhance access to securities, interest payments and maturity proceeds, all securities owned by the City shall be held in safekeeping.
by a third party bank trust department, acting as agent for the City under the terms of a custody agreement executed by the bank and by the City. The only exception to the foregoing shall be depository accounts and securities purchases made with: (i) LAIF, the county pool and other local government investment pools; (ii) time certificates of deposit, and, (iii) money market mutual funds, since the purchased securities are not deliverable. Evidence of each these investments will be held by the City.

**J. Authorized and Suitable Investments**

The City’s investments are governed by Government Code, Sections 53600 et seq. Within the investments permitted by the Government Code, the City seeks to further restrict eligible investment to the investments listed below. In the event an apparent discrepancy is found between this policy and the Government Code, the more restrictive parameters will take precedence.

The portfolio shall be diversified by security type and institution to avoid incurring unreasonable and avoidable risks regarding specific security types or individual financial institutions. Percentage holding limits listed in this section apply at the time the security is purchased. In the event a security held by the City is subject to a credit rating change that brings it below the minimum credit ratings specified in this policy, the Treasurer should notify the City Council of the change. The course of action to be followed will then be decided on a case-by-case basis, considering such factors as the reason for the change, prognosis for recovery or further rate drops, and the market price of the security.

1. **United States Treasury Issues.** United States Treasury notes, bonds, bills, or certificates of indebtedness, or those for which the faith and credit of the United States are pledged for the payment of principal and interest. There is no limitation as to the percentage of the portfolio that may be invested in this category.

2. **Federal Agency Obligations.** Federal Agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises. There is no limitation as to the percentage of the portfolio that may be invested in this category; however purchases of callable Federal Agency obligations are limited to a maximum of 20 percent of the portfolio. In addition, purchases of Federal Agency mortgage-backed securities issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by government agencies are limited to a maximum of 20 percent of the portfolio.

3. **California Municipal Debt.** Registered treasury notes or bonds of this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by a state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of this state.

   Bonds, notes, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness of any local agency within this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency, or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency.

   Purchases are limited to securities rated at least in the “AA” category, or its equivalent, by a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (“NRSRO”). A maximum of 15 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category. The amount invested with any one issuer shall not exceed 10 percent of the portfolio.
4. **Medium-Term Notes.** Medium-term notes are defined as all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, issued by corporations organized and operating within the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the United States or any state and operating within the United States. Purchases are limited to securities rated at least in the “A” category, or its equivalent, by a NRSRO. A maximum of 30 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category. The amount invested in corporate notes of any one issuer in combination with any other securities from that issuer shall not exceed 10 percent of the portfolio.

5. **Negotiable Certificates of Deposit.** Negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs) issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank, a savings association or a federal association, a state or federal credit union, or by a state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Purchases are limited to institutions which have long-term debt rated at least in the “AA” category, or its equivalent, by a NRSRO; and/or have short-term debt rated at least “A-1, or its equivalent, by a NRSRO. NCDs may not exceed 5 years in maturity. A maximum of 25 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category. The amount invested in NCDs with any one financial institution in combination with any other securities from that financial institution shall not exceed 10 percent of the portfolio.

6. **Commercial Paper.** Commercial paper of “prime” quality of the highest ranking or of the highest letter and number rating as provided for by a NRSRO. The entity that issues the commercial paper shall meet all of the following conditions: (i) Is organized and operating in the United States as a general corporation. (ii) Has total assets in excess of five hundred million dollars ($500,000,000). (iii) Has debt other than commercial paper, if any that is rated at least in the “AA” category, or its equivalent, by a NRSRO.

Eligible commercial paper shall have a maximum maturity of 270 days or less and not represent more than 10 percent of the outstanding paper of an issuing corporation. A maximum of 25 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category. The amount invested in commercial paper of any one issuer in combination with any other securities from that issuer shall not exceed 10 percent of the portfolio.

7. **Bankers’ Acceptances.** Bankers’ acceptances, otherwise known as bills of exchange or time drafts that are drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Purchases are limited to bankers’ acceptances issued by domestic or foreign banks, which are eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve System. Purchases of bankers’ acceptances may not exceed 180 days maturity. Eligible bankers’ acceptances are restricted to issuing financial institutions with short-term paper rated in the highest category by a NRSRO. Investments in bankers’ acceptances are further limited to 40 percent of the portfolio. The amount invested in bankers’ acceptances of any one issuer in combination with any other securities from that issuer shall not exceed 10 percent of the portfolio.

8. **Bank Deposits.** FDIC insured or fully collateralized demand deposit accounts, savings accounts, market rate accounts and time certificates of deposits (“TCDs”) in financial institutions located in California. The amount on deposit in any financial institution shall not exceed the shareholder’s equity. To be eligible to receive City deposits, the financial institution must have received a minimum overall satisfactory rating, under the Community Redevelopment Act, for meeting the credit needs of California Communities in its most recent evaluation. Bank deposits are required to be collateralized as specified under Government Code Section 53630 et. seq. The Treasurer, at
his/her discretion, may waive the collateralization requirements for any portion that is covered by federal deposit insurance. The City shall have a signed agreement with any depository accepting City funds per Government Code Section 53649. The maturity of TCDs may not exceed 1 year in maturity. A maximum of 20 percent of the portfolio may be invested in TCDs.

9. Placement Service Time Certificates of Deposit. Certificates of deposit placed through a deposit placement service shall meet the requirements under Government Code Section 53601.8. The full amount of the principal and the interest that may be accrued during the maximum term of each certificate of deposit shall at all times be insured by federal deposit insurance. The maximum term for time certificates of deposit shall be five years. The combined amount invested in time certificates of deposit and negotiable certificates of deposit shall not exceed 20 percent of the portfolio.

10. State of California Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). There is no limitation as to the percentage of the portfolio that may be invested in this category. However, the amount invested may not exceed the maximum allowed by LAIF.

Whenever the City has any funds invested in LAIF, a copy of LAIF’s Answer Book shall be maintained on file. In addition, the Treasurer should review the LAIF’s summary portfolio holdings on a quarterly basis.

11. Humboldt County Investment Pool. The City may invest in the Humboldt County Investment Pool operated by the Humboldt County Treasurer. A maximum of 50 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category.

Whenever the City has any funds invested in County pool, the Treasurer shall maintain on file a copy of the pool’s current investment policy and its requirements for participation, including limitations on deposits or withdrawals. In addition, the Treasurer should review the pool’s summary portfolio holdings on a quarterly basis.

12. Local Government Investment Pools. Shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint powers authority organized pursuant to Government Code Section 6509.7. To be eligible for purchase, the pool must meet the requirements of California Government Code Section 53601(p), the pool must seek to maintain a stable Net Asset Value (“NAV”), and the pool must rated at least AAAm, or its equivalent, by a NRSRO. A maximum of 50 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category.

Whenever the City has any funds invested in a LGIP, the Treasurer shall maintain on file a copy of the pool’s current information statement. In addition, the Treasurer should review the pool’s summary portfolio holdings on a quarterly basis.

13. Money Market Funds. Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies that are money market funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission that invests solely in U.S. Treasuries and Federal Agency obligations and repurchase agreements relating to such obligations. The company shall have met either of the following criteria: (A) Attained the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating provided by not less than two NRSROs. (B) Retained an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
Commission with not less than five years of experience managing money market mutual funds with assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars ($500,000,000). A maximum of 20 percent of the portfolio may be invested in this category.

If the City has funds invested in a money market fund, a copy of the fund’s information statement shall be maintained on file. In addition, the Treasurer should review the fund’s summary holdings on a quarterly basis.

K. Authorized Investments for Bond Proceeds

Bond proceeds shall be invested in the securities permitted by the applicable bond documents. If the bond documents are silent as to the permitted investments, bond proceeds will be invested in the securities permitted by this policy. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this policy, the percentage or dollar portfolio limitations listed in elsewhere in this policy do not apply to bond proceeds. In addition to the securities listed in Section J above, bond proceeds may be invested in a structured investment product if approved by the Treasurer.

L. Prohibited Investment Practices and Instruments

Any investment in a security not specifically listed in Section J, but otherwise permitted by the Government Code, is prohibited without the prior approval of the City Council. In addition, Government Code Section 53601.6 specifically prohibits investments in inverse floaters, range notes, or interest-only strips that are derived from a pool of mortgages.

M. Maximum Maturities

It is the objective of this policy to provide a system which will accurately monitor and forecast revenues and expenditures so that the City can invest funds to the fullest extent possible. Funds of the City will be invested in accordance with sound treasury management principles.

The maximum maturity of individual investments shall not exceed the limits set forth in Section J. Where no maturity limit is stated, no investment shall exceed a maturity of five years from the date of purchase unless the City Council has granted express authority to make that investment either specifically or as a part of an investment program approved by the City Council no less than three months prior to the investment. With respect to maximum maturities, this policy authorizes investing bond reserve funds beyond five years if prudent in the opinion of the Treasurer.

N. Reporting

The Treasurer delegates to the Finance Director the responsibility for submitting a monthly investment report to the City Council. This report will include all required elements as prescribed by Government Code Sections 53607 and 53646, including:

- Type of investment
- Name of issuer
- Date of maturity
- Amount of deposit or cost of security
- Current market value of securities with maturity in excess of 12 months
- Coupon rate, if applicable
• Yield to maturity at cost
• Credit quality, as determined by one or more NRSROs of each rated investment
• A list of monthly investment transactions
• A statement that the portfolio complies with the investment policy, or the manner in which the portfolio is not in compliance
• A statement denoting the ability of the City to meet its liquidity requirements for the next six months, or provide an explanation as to why sufficient money shall, or may not be, available

O. Policy Adoption

This policy can be revised whenever necessary and will be reviewed by the City Council annually at a public meeting. Any change in the policy shall be reviewed and approved by the City Council at a public meeting.

HISTORY
This policy was originally adopted September 21, 1998 by Resolution 98-28
Revised on July 15, 2013 by Resolution 2013-29
Reviewed as Finance Policy 4.08 April 6, 2015

_________________________________
Mayor, City of Fortuna

Attest:

_________________________________
City Clerk
DATE: April 6, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Regan M. Candelario, City Manager

1. **Upcoming Council Meeting Dates**

<table>
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| Thursday, April 16, 2015 | Special Council Workshop Meeting at 8:30 a.m.  
                         | WWTP                                                                   |
| Monday, April 20, 2015  | Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.  
                         | Council Chambers at City Hall                                         |
| Monday, May 4, 2015     | Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.  
                         | Council Chambers at City Hall                                         |

2. **Verbal Report**

1. The local media has inquired about the growing Hispanic population in Fortuna. There may be some media coverage in the near future. The City of Fortuna currently has Hispanic listed as 17% of the total population.

2. The City Manager attended the Upper North Coast City Manager group meeting on Thursday March 19. Many Countywide issues were discussed and the County Measure Z application for funds process was discussed. Fortuna submitted a public safety grant request before the County Measure Z deadline of March 20.

3. The City Manager met with a graduate student from HSU to discuss the Headwaters hiking trails and the impact of the availability of the trails to Fortuna. A formal survey will be distributed citywide in the near future with a goal of identifying how the trails can better affect Fortuna.

4. The City has had to address a few difficult public safety issues over the past few weeks. The Staff have done well and performed admirably and the cooperation between departments continues to be top notch.

5. The sale of the remaining mobile home at Royal Crest is looking promising. Escrow is slated to close on April 17 if all goes well.

6. The most recent Recreation and Historical Commission meetings went very well. Both groups are active and accomplishing positive things for the City. The Recreation Commission currently is acquiring feedback on the City Web Page for the proposed new digital information sign for Rohner Park.