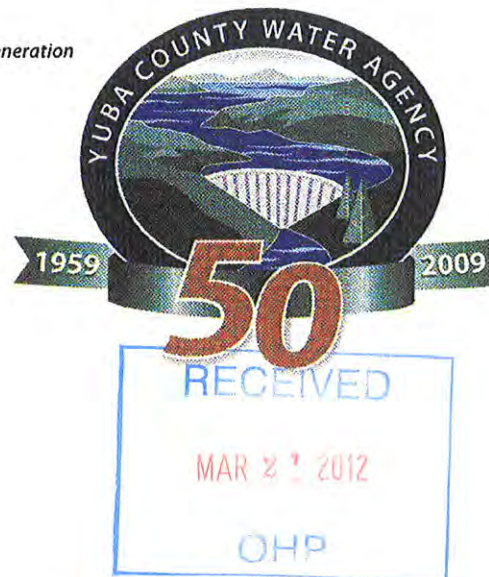


March 21, 2012

Milford Wayne Donaldson  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Historic Preservation  
1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95816

**Subject:** Yuba River Development Project  
FERC Project No. 2246  
Request for SHPO's Concurrence Regarding Area of Potential Effects



Dear Mr. Donaldson:

On January 4, 2011, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued a notice of commencement of proceeding for the relicensing of Yuba County Water Agency's (YCWA) Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project No. 2246 (Project). A copy of FERC's notice is attached to this letter (Attachment 1). Part "k" of the notice initiated informal consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), as required by Section 106 of the National Historical Preservation Act and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR Section 800.2, for the relicensing of the Project (i.e., the undertaking). Part "l" of the notice designated YCWA as the Commission's non-federal representative for carrying out the informal consultation.

The Yuba River Development Project, which ranges in elevation from 280 feet to 2,049 feet, is located in Yuba, Sierra, and Nevada counties, California, on the main branches of the Yuba River, the North Yuba River, and the Middle Yuba River and on Oregon Creek, a tributary of the Middle Yuba River. Existing Project facilities include:

- 1 dam and associated storage reservoir - New Bullards Bar
- 2 diversion dams - Our House and Log Cabin
- 2 diversion tunnels - Lohman Ridge and Camptonville
- 2 underground power tunnels - New Colgate and Narrows 2
- 1 aboveground penstock - New Colgate
- 3 powerhouses - New Colgate, New Bullards Minimum Flow, and Narrows 2
- 7 recreation areas - Emerald Cove Marina, Hornswoggle Group Camp, Schoolhouse Family Camp, Dark Day Campground, Dark Day Boat Ramp, Garden Point Campground, and Madrone Cove Campground

At this time, YCWA proposes to operate the Project as it has been operated historically, and does not propose any significant changes to Project facilities. A map showing Project facilities is attached to this letter (Attachment 2).

As the Commission's non-federal representative, YCWA has determined the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking. The proposed APE encompasses all lands within the FERC Project Boundary, with the exception of the Project Boundary associated with the Lohman Ridge and Camptonville diversion tunnels. Since these are buried diversion tunnels, the surface above the tunnels will not experience project-related effects. The proposed APE is shown in Attachment 3 to this letter.

In accordance with §800.4(a)(1), YCWA requests your concurrence on the appropriateness of the APE. We respectfully request your concurrence within 30 days of your receipt of this submittal so that we may proceed in a timely fashion with the relicensing process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or comments regarding this request. For cultural resources-related questions, please contact Ms. Dawn Ramsey Ford by telephone at 916-679-8812 or by email at [dawn.ramsey@hdrinc.com](mailto:dawn.ramsey@hdrinc.com).

Sincerely,



Curt Aikens  
General Manager  
Yuba County Water Agency  
530-741-6278 x115

Attachments:

1. FERC's January 4, 2011 Notice of Commencement of Proceeding
2. Project Map
3. USGS Topographic Quadrangles Depicting the Location of the Undertaking and YCWA's Determination of the APE

cc:

Alan Mitchnick, FERC, DC  
Dr. Frank Winchell, FERC, DC  
Dawn Ramsey Ford, HDR

**Request for SHPO's Concurrence Regarding Area of Potential Effects**

**Attachment 1**

**FERC's January 4, 2011 Notice of Commencement of Proceeding**

Yuba River Development Project  
FERC Project No. 2246

March 21, 2012

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Yuba County Water Agency

Project No. 2246-058

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE LICENSE APPLICATION, FILING OF PRE-APPLICATION DOCUMENT (PAD), COMMENCEMENT OF PRE-FILING PROCESS, AND SCOPING; REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE PAD AND SCOPING DOCUMENT, AND IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES AND ASSOCIATED STUDY REQUESTS

(January 4, 2011)

- a. Type of Filing: Notice of Intent to File License Application for a New License and Commencing Pre-filing Process
- b. Project No.: 2246-058
- c. Dated Filed: November 5, 2010
- d. Submitted By: Yuba County Water Agency
- e. Name of Project: Yuba River Hydroelectric Project
- f. Location: The Yuba River Project facilities are located on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada on the main stems of the Yuba River, the North Yuba River, the Middle Yuba River, and Oregon Creek (a tributary to the Middle Yuba River) in Yuba, Sierra, and Nevada Counties, California. Portions of the Yuba River Project occupy lands of the Plumas and Tahoe National Forests.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: 18 CFR Part 5 of the Commission's Regulations
- h. Potential Applicant Contact: Curt Aikens, General Manager, Yuba County Water Agency, 1220 F Street, Marysville, California 95901, 530-741-6278
- i. FERC Contact: Alan Mitchnick at (202) 502-6074 or [alan.mitchnick@ferc.gov](mailto:alan.mitchnick@ferc.gov).
- j. Cooperating agencies: Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item o



below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. *See* 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

- k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with: (a) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402 and (b) the California State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historical Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR § 800.2.
- l. With this notice, we are designating the Yuba County Water Agency as the Commission's non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and section 106 of the National Historical Preservation Act.
- m. Yuba County Water Agency filed with the Commission a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule), pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.
- n. A copy of the PAD is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website (<http://www.ferc.gov>), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCONlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCONlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in paragraph h.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filing and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

- o. With this notice, we are soliciting comments on the PAD and Commission's staff Scoping Document 1 (SD1), as well as study requests. All comments on the PAD and SD1, and study requests should be sent to the address above in paragraph h. In addition, all comments on the PAD and SD1, study requests, requests for cooperating agency status, and all communications to and from Commission staff related to the merits of the potential application must be filed with the Commission. Documents may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website <http://www.ferc.gov/docs->

[filing/efiling.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp). Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All filings with the Commission must include on the first page, the project name (Yuba River Hydroelectric Project) and number (P-2246-058), and bear the appropriate heading: “Comments on Pre-Application Document,” “Study Requests,” “Comments on Scoping Document 1,” “Request for Cooperating Agency Status,” or “Communications to and from Commission Staff.” Any individual or entity interested in submitting study requests, commenting on the PAD or SD1, and any agency requesting cooperating status must do so by March 7, 2011.

- p. Although our current intent is to prepare an environmental assessment (EA), there is the possibility that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required. Nevertheless, this meeting will satisfy the NEPA scoping requirements, irrespective of whether an EA or EIS is issued by the Commission.

### Scoping Meetings and Site Visit

Commission staff will hold two scoping meetings in the vicinity of the project at the time and place noted below. The daytime meeting will focus on resource agency, Indian tribes, and non-governmental organization concerns, while the evening meeting is primarily for receiving input from the public. We invite all interested individuals, organizations, and agencies to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist staff in identifying particular study needs, as well as the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the environmental document. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

#### Daytime Scoping Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 2, 2011, 1:00 p.m. (PST)

Location: Yuba County Government Center, Conference Rooms 1 and 2, 915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Marysville, California

### Evening Scoping Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 2, 2011, 7:00 p.m. (PST)

Location: Yuba County Government Center, Conference Rooms 1 and 2,  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Marysville, California

Scoping Document 1 (SD1), which outlines the subject areas to be addressed in the environmental document, was mailed to the individuals and entities on the Commission's and Yuba County's mailing lists. Copies of SD1 will be available at the scoping meetings, or may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link. Follow the directions for accessing information in paragraph n. Based on all oral and written comments, a Scoping Document 2 (SD2) may be issued. SD2 may include a revised process plan and schedule, as well as a list of issues, identified through the scoping process.

### Site Visit

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 1, 2011, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (PST)

Location: meet at Yuba County Water Agency office, 1220 F Street,  
Marysville, California

Please notify Alan Mitchnick at 202-502-6074 or [alan.mitchnick@ferc.gov](mailto:alan.mitchnick@ferc.gov) by **January 21, 2011**, if you plan to attend the site visit.

### Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, staff will: (1) initiate scoping of the issues; (2) review and discuss existing conditions and resource management objectives; (3) review and discuss existing information and identify preliminary information and study needs; (4) review and discuss the process plan and schedule for pre-filing activity that incorporates the time frames provided for in Part 5 of the Commission's regulations and, to the extent possible, maximizes coordination of federal, state, and tribal permitting and certification processes; and (5) discuss the appropriateness of any federal or state agency or Indian tribe acting as a cooperating agency for development of an environmental document.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns. Please review the PAD in preparation for the scoping meetings. Directions on how to obtain a copy of the PAD and SD1 are included in item n. of this document.

### Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and will be placed in the public record of the project.

Kimberly D. Bose,  
Secretary.



**Request for SHPO's Concurrence Regarding Area of Potential Effects**

**Attachment 2**

**Project Map**

Yuba River Development Project  
FERC Project No. 2246

March 21, 2012

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**Request for SHPO's Concurrence Regarding Area of Potential Effects**

**Attachment 3**

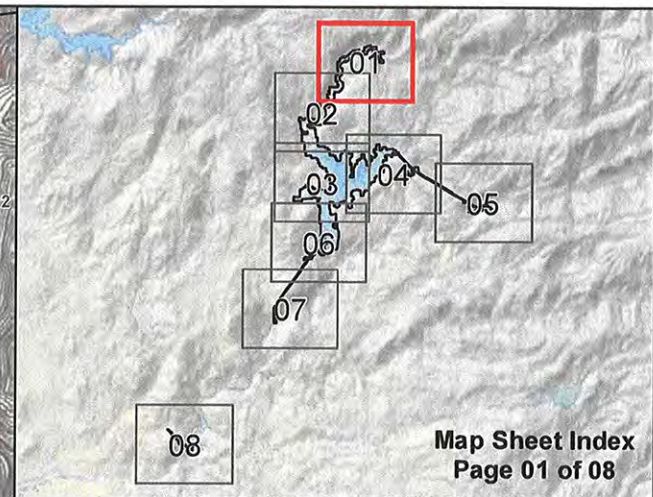
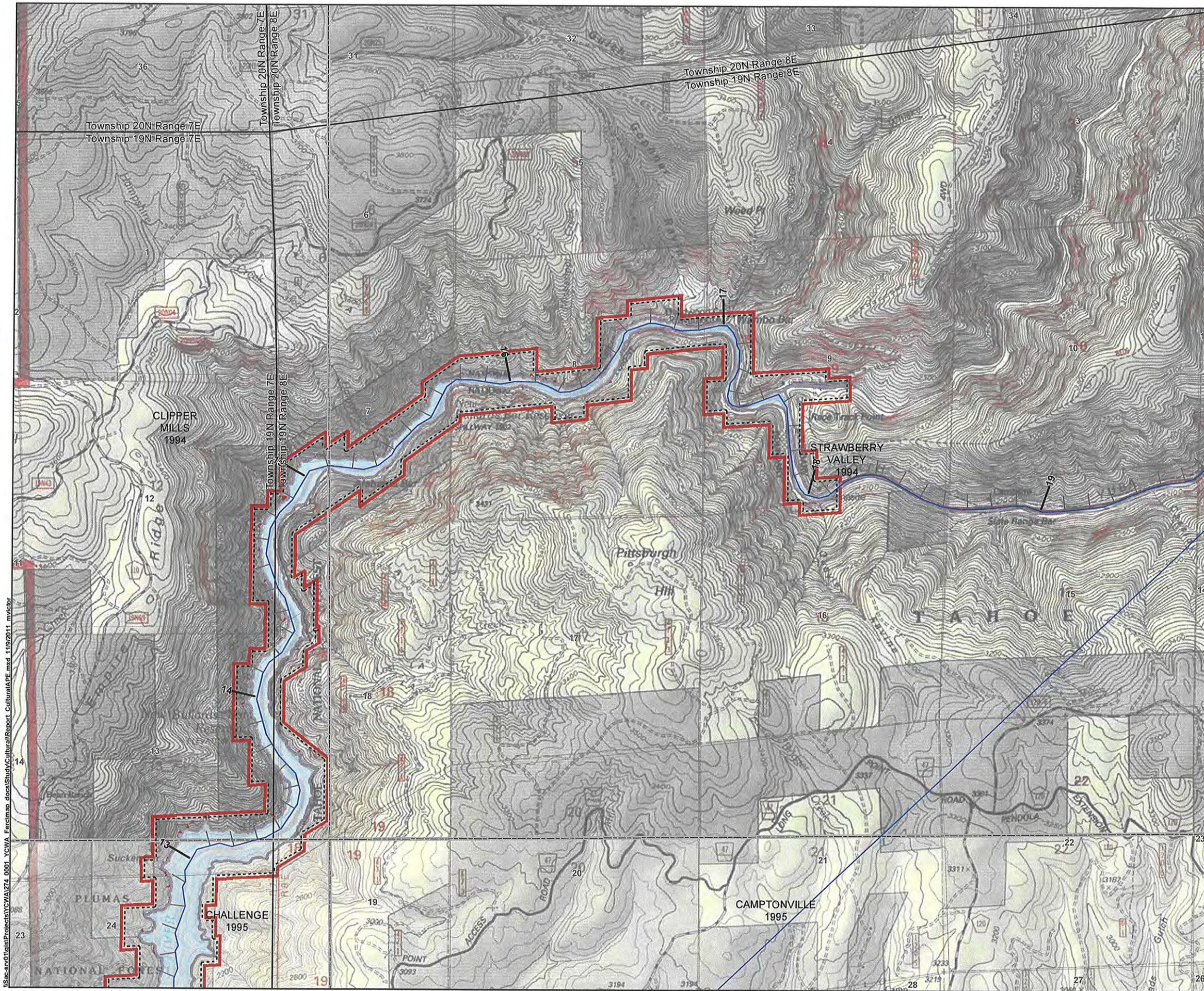
**USGS Topographic Quadrangles Depicting the Location of the Undertaking  
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Yuba River Development Project  
FERC Project No. 2246

March 21, 2012

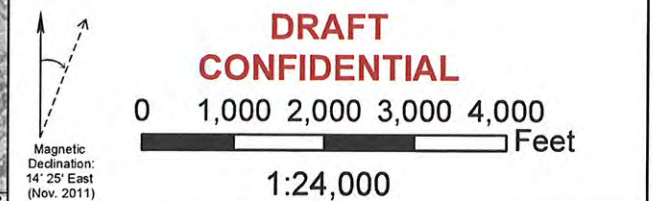
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- FERC Boundary (No. 2246)
- Cultural Area of Potential Effect (APE)
- Powerhouse
- River Mile
- Tunnel
- Penstock
- Dam
- USGS 24K Topographic Map Boundary
- Township/Range Boundary
- Section Boundary
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**Label Color Key**  
Yuba County Water Agency  
Yuba River Development Project  
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**Non-Project Facility**  
Quadrangle - Camptonville, T18N, R8E, Sec. 3; T18N, R8E, Sec. 4; T18N, R8E, Sec. 5; T18N, R8E, Sec. 6; T18N, R8E, Sec. 7; T18N, R8E, Sec. 8; T18N, R8E, Sec. 9; T18N, R8E, Sec. 10; T18N, R8E, Sec. 11; T18N, R8E, Sec. 13; T18N, R8E, Sec. 14; T18N, R8E, Sec. 16; T18N, R8E, Sec. 17; T18N, R8E, Sec. 18; T18N, R8E, Sec. 19; T18N, R8E, Sec. 20; T18N, R9E, Sec. 18; T18N, R9E, Sec. 19.  
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**Cultural APE**  
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Map information was compiled from the best available sources. No Warranty is made for its accuracy or completeness  
**Original Map:** Size 11" x 17" color NAD 83 Stateplane, Zone 2, US Ft  
Map prepared by: HDR/JTA © 2009, Yuba County Water Agency

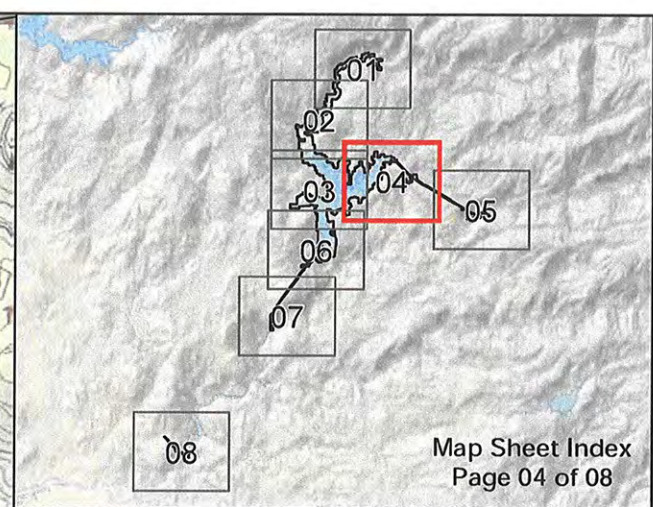
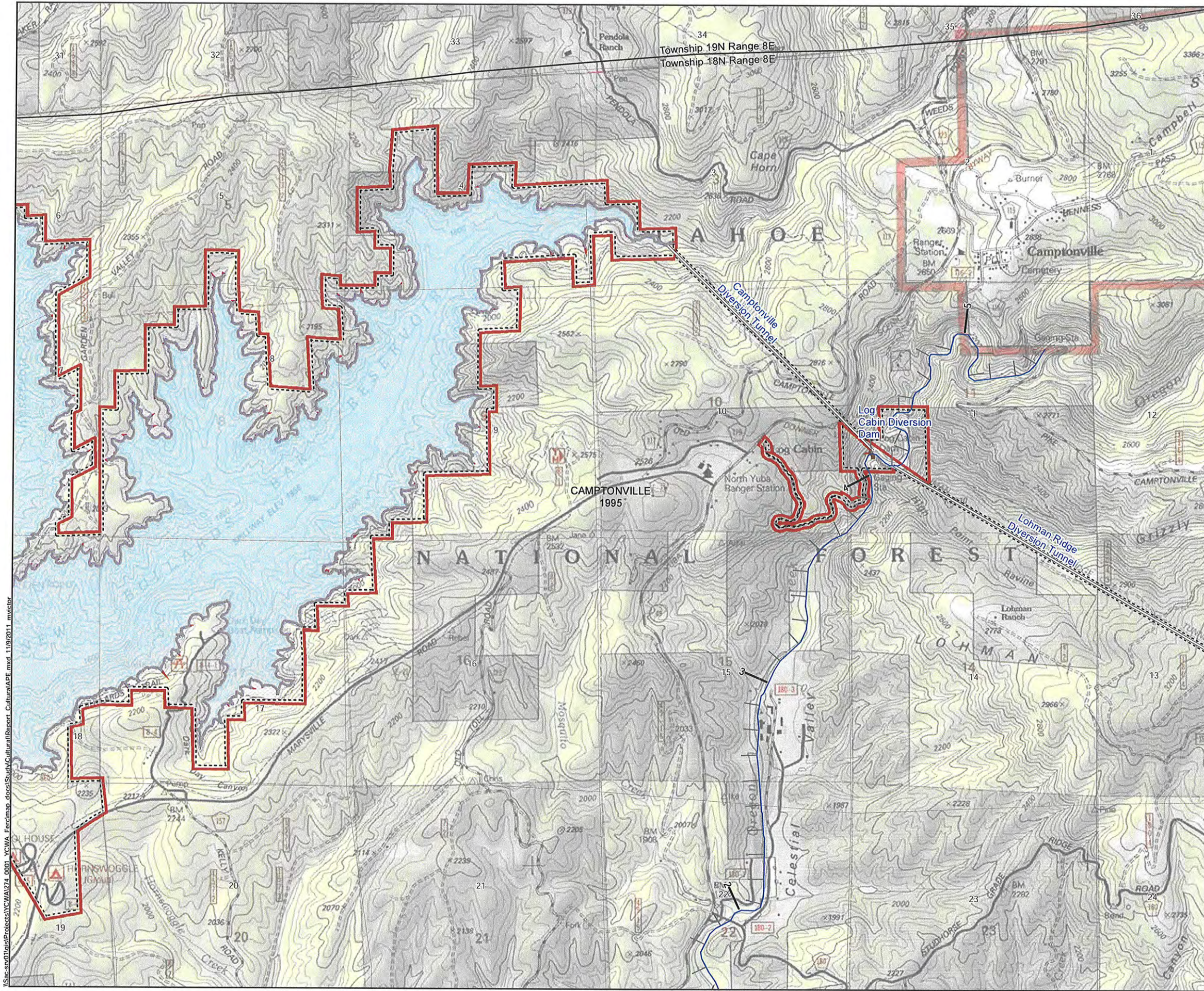












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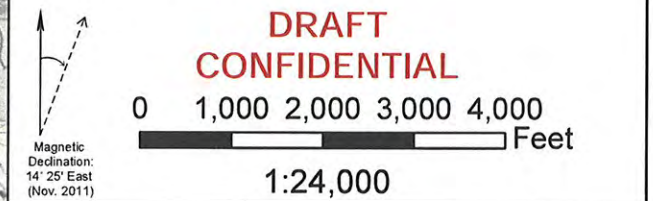
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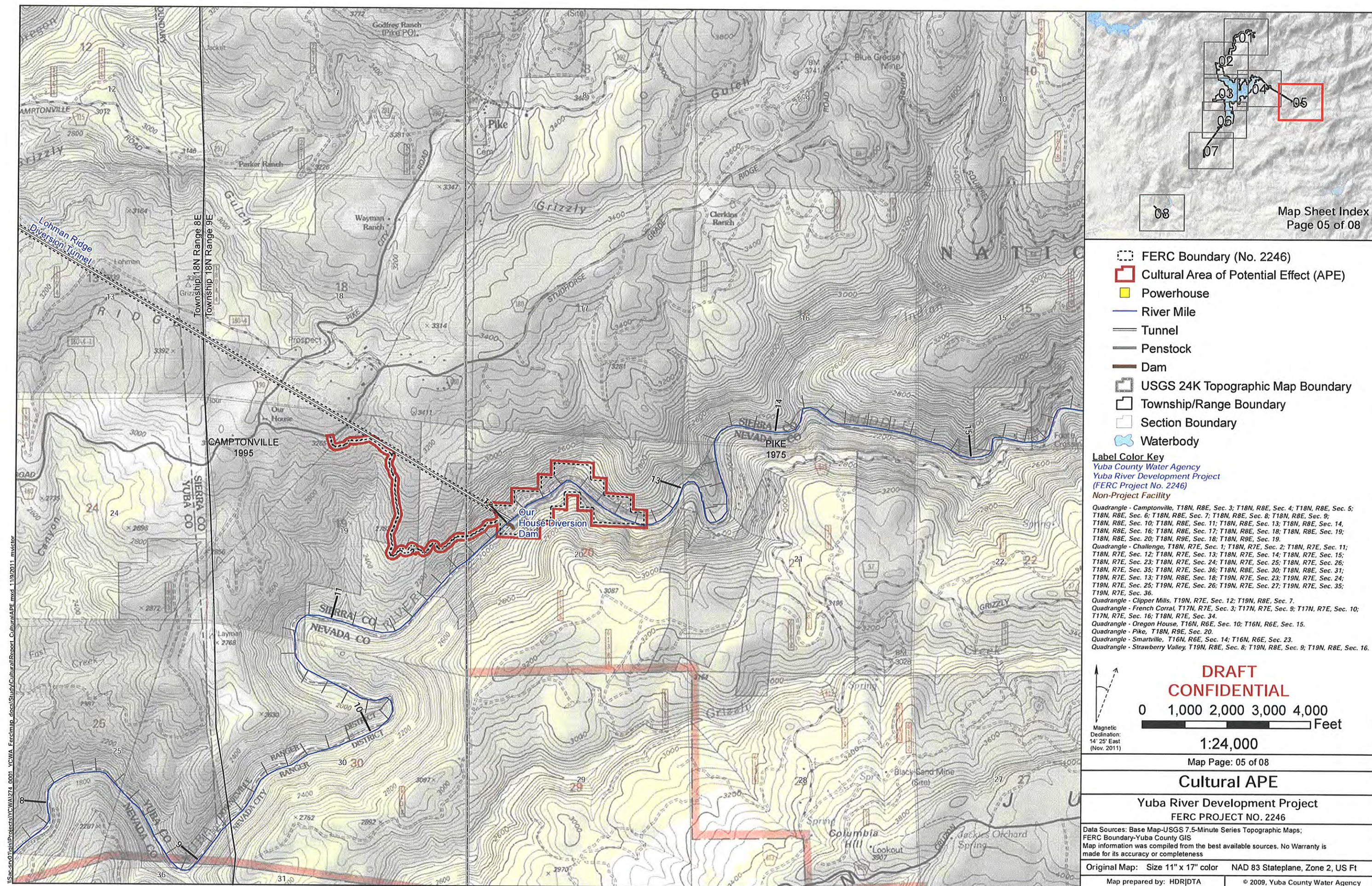
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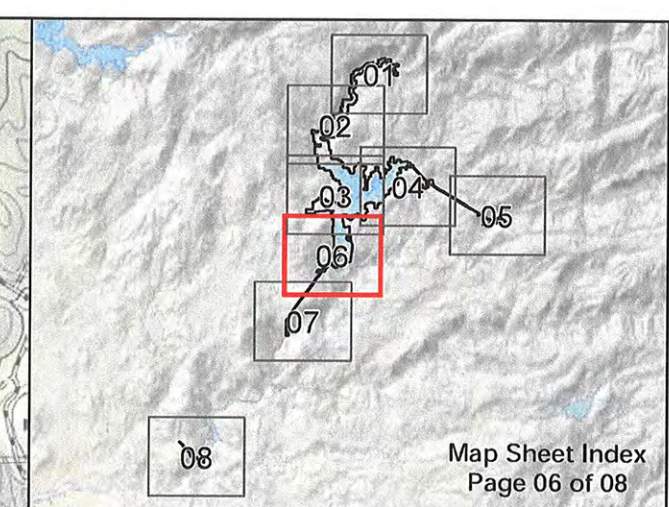
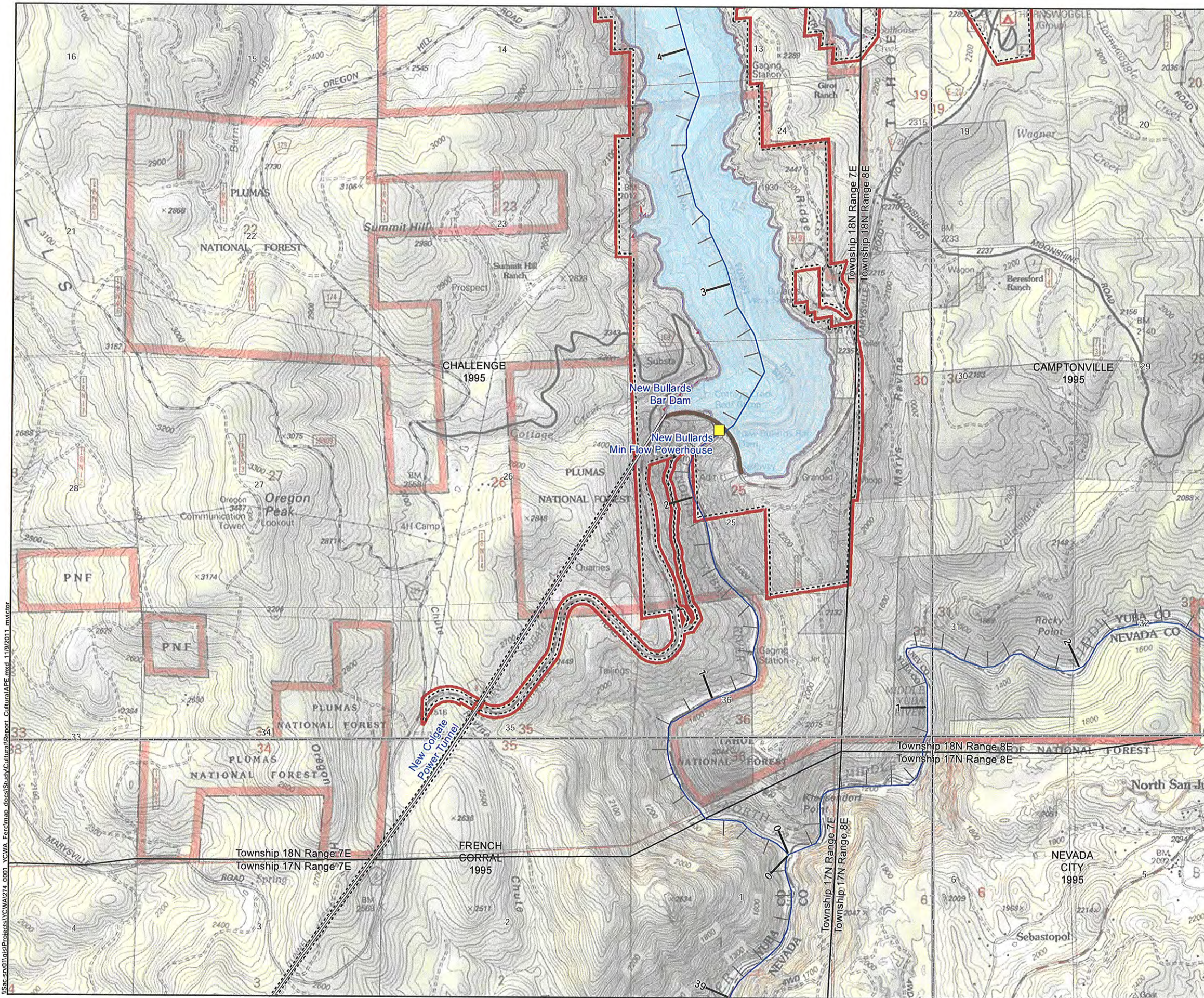


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|--|----------------------------------|
| Map Page: 04 of 08   |                                  |
| Cultural APE   |                                  |
| Yuba River Development Project   |                                  |
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| Data Sources: Base Map-USGS 7.5-Minute Series Topographic Maps;<br>FERC Boundary-Yuba County GIS<br>Map information was compiled from the best available sources. No Warranty is made for its accuracy or completeness |                                  |
| Original Map: Size 11" x 17" color   | NAD 83 Stateplane, Zone 2, US Ft |
| Map prepared by: HDR/DTA   | © 2009, Yuba County Water Agency |









**Map Sheet Index**  
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- Tunnel
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**DRAFT**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

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**Cultural APE**

**Yuba River Development Project**  
FERC PROJECT NO. 2246

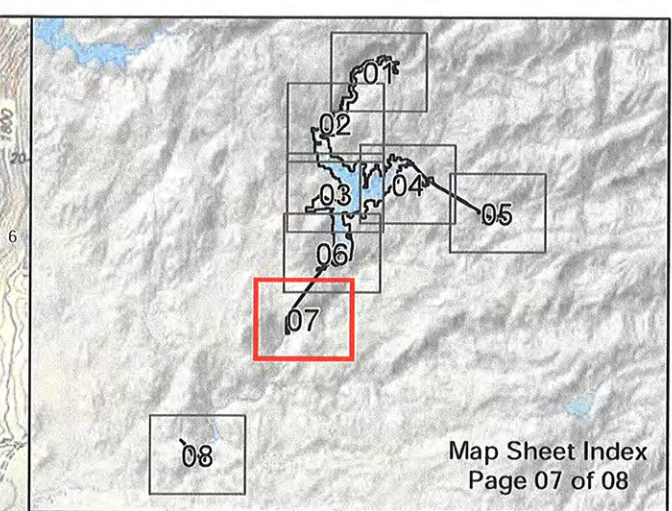
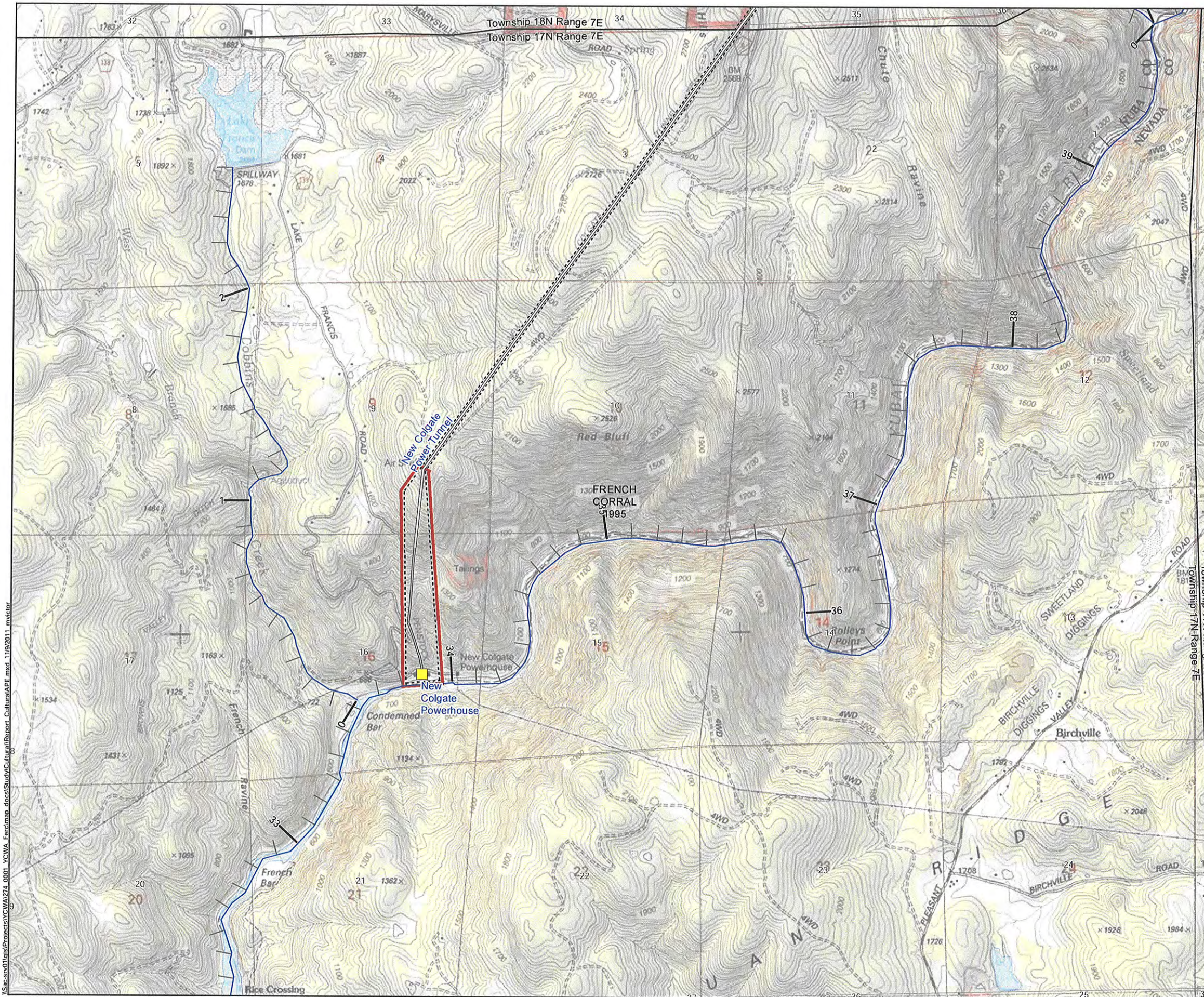
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Original Map: Size 11" x 17" color NAD 83 Stateplane, Zone 2, US Ft

Map prepared by: HDR|DTA © 2009, Yuba County Water Agency

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Quadrangle - Challenge, T18N, R7E, Sec. 1; T18N, R7E, Sec. 2; T18N, R7E, Sec. 11; T18N, R7E, Sec. 12; T18N, R7E, Sec. 13; T18N, R7E, Sec. 14; T18N, R7E, Sec. 15; T18N, R7E, Sec. 23; T18N, R7E, Sec. 24; T18N, R7E, Sec. 25; T18N, R7E, Sec. 26; T18N, R7E, Sec. 35; T18N, R7E, Sec. 36; T18N, R8E, Sec. 30; T18N, R8E, Sec. 31; T19N, R7E, Sec. 13; T19N, R8E, Sec. 18; T19N, R7E, Sec. 23; T19N, R7E, Sec. 24; T19N, R7E, Sec. 25; T19N, R7E, Sec. 26; T19N, R7E, Sec. 27; T19N, R7E, Sec. 35; T19N, R7E, Sec. 36.

Quadrangle - Clipper Mills, T19N, R7E, Sec. 12; T19N, R8E, Sec. 7.

Quadrangle - French Corral, T17N, R7E, Sec. 3; T17N, R7E, Sec. 9; T17N, R7E, Sec. 10; T17N, R7E, Sec. 16; T18N, R7E, Sec. 34.

Quadrangle - Oregon House, T16N, R6E, Sec. 10; T16N, R6E, Sec. 15.

Quadrangle - Pike, T18N, R9E, Sec. 20.

Quadrangle - Smartville, T16N, R6E, Sec. 14; T16N, R6E, Sec. 23.

Quadrangle - Strawberry Valley, T19N, R8E, Sec. 8; T19N, R8E, Sec. 9; T19N, R8E, Sec. 16.

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CONFIDENTIAL**

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**Cultural APE**

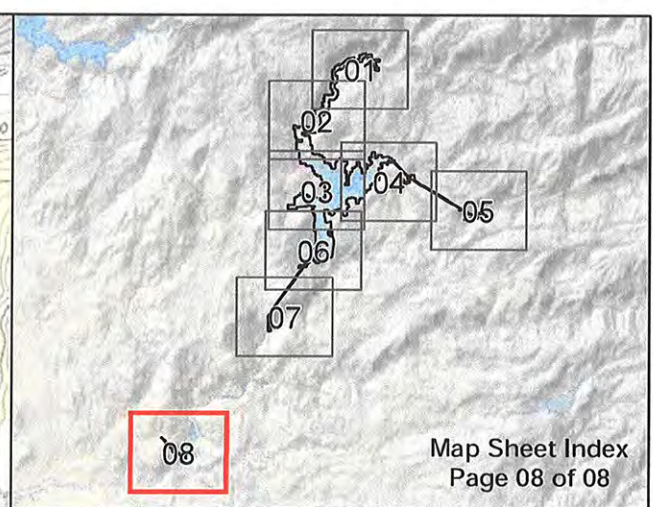
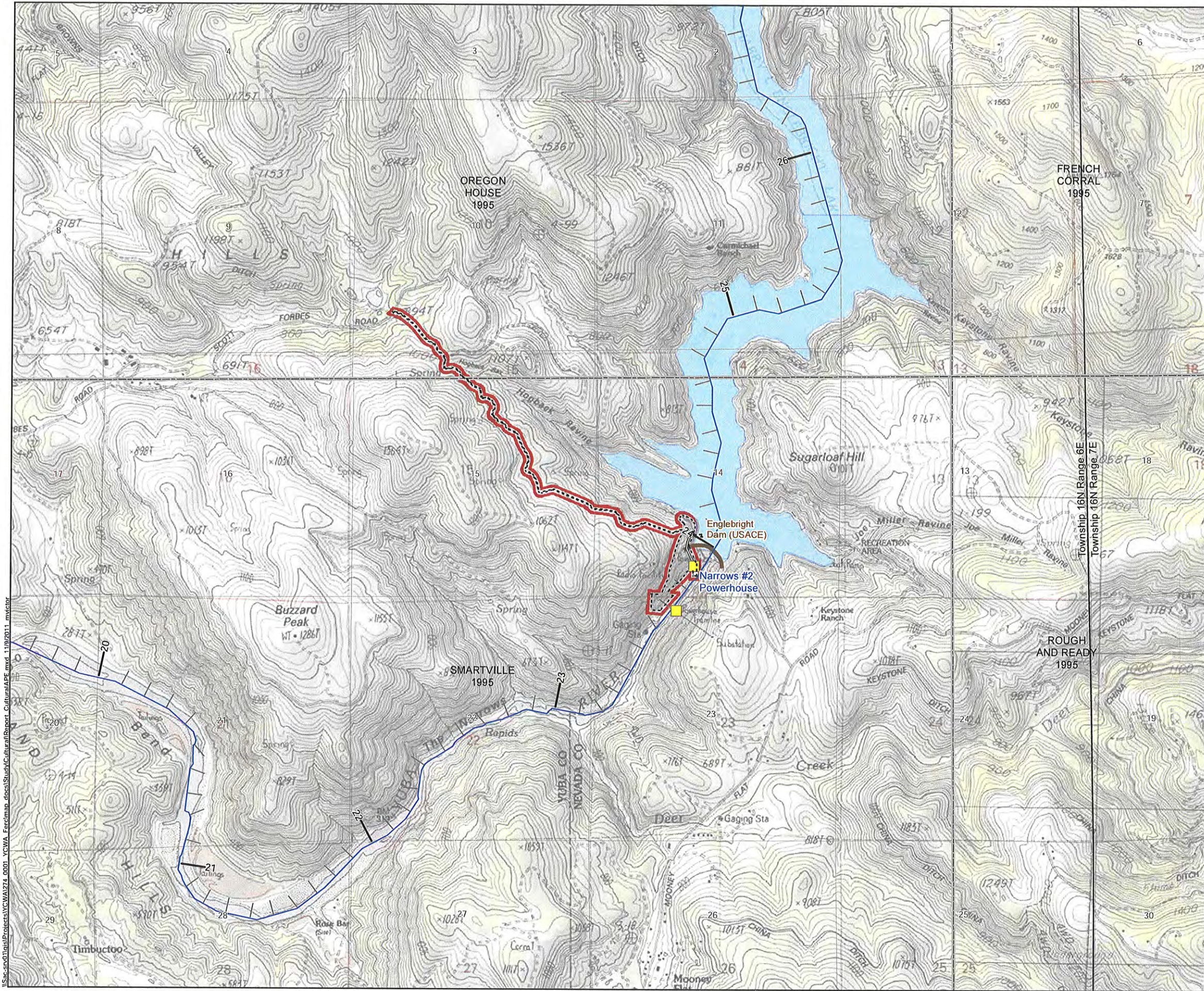
**Yuba River Development Project**  
FERC PROJECT NO. 2246

Data Sources: Base Map-USGS 7.5-Minute Series Topographic Maps;  
FERC Boundary-Yuba County GIS  
Map information was compiled from the best available sources. No Warranty is made for its accuracy or completeness

Original Map: Size 11" x 17" color NAD 83 Stateplane, Zone 2, US Ft

Map prepared by: HDR/DTA © 2009, Yuba County Water Agency





- FERC Boundary (No. 2246)
- Cultural Area of Potential Effect (APE)
- Powerhouse
- River Mile
- Tunnel
- Penstock
- Dam
- USGS 24K Topographic Map Boundary
- Township/Range Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Waterbody

**Label Color Key**  
Yuba County Water Agency  
Yuba River Development Project  
(FERC Project No. 2246)  
Non-Project Facility

Quadrangle - Camptonville, T18N, R8E, Sec. 3; T18N, R8E, Sec. 4; T18N, R8E, Sec. 5; T18N, R8E, Sec. 6; T18N, R8E, Sec. 7; T18N, R8E, Sec. 8; T18N, R8E, Sec. 9; T18N, R8E, Sec. 10; T18N, R8E, Sec. 11; T18N, R8E, Sec. 13; T18N, R8E, Sec. 14; T18N, R8E, Sec. 16; T18N, R8E, Sec. 17; T18N, R8E, Sec. 18; T18N, R8E, Sec. 19; T18N, R8E, Sec. 20; T18N, R9E, Sec. 18; T18N, R9E, Sec. 19.

Quadrangle - Challenge, T18N, R7E, Sec. 1; T18N, R7E, Sec. 2; T18N, R7E, Sec. 11; T18N, R7E, Sec. 12; T18N, R7E, Sec. 13; T18N, R7E, Sec. 14; T18N, R7E, Sec. 15; T18N, R7E, Sec. 23; T18N, R7E, Sec. 24; T18N, R7E, Sec. 25; T18N, R7E, Sec. 26; T18N, R7E, Sec. 35; T18N, R7E, Sec. 36; T18N, R8E, Sec. 30; T18N, R8E, Sec. 31; T19N, R7E, Sec. 13; T19N, R8E, Sec. 18; T19N, R7E, Sec. 23; T19N, R7E, Sec. 24; T19N, R7E, Sec. 25; T19N, R7E, Sec. 26; T19N, R7E, Sec. 27; T19N, R7E, Sec. 35; T19N, R7E, Sec. 36.

Quadrangle - Clipper Mills, T19N, R7E, Sec. 12; T19N, R8E, Sec. 7.

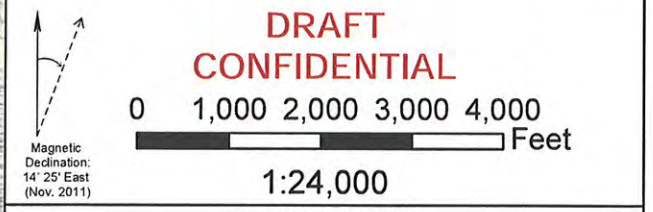
Quadrangle - French Corral, T17N, R7E, Sec. 3; T17N, R7E, Sec. 9; T17N, R7E, Sec. 10; T17N, R7E, Sec. 16; T18N, R7E, Sec. 34.

Quadrangle - Oregon House, T16N, R6E, Sec. 10; T16N, R6E, Sec. 15.

Quadrangle - Pike, T18N, R9E, Sec. 20.

Quadrangle - Smartville, T16N, R6E, Sec. 14; T16N, R6E, Sec. 23.

Quadrangle - Strawberry Valley, T19N, R8E, Sec. 8; T19N, R8E, Sec. 9; T19N, R8E, Sec. 16.



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| Map Page: 08 of 08   |                                  |
| Cultural APE   |                                  |
| Yuba River Development Project<br>FERC PROJECT NO. 2246  |                                  |
| Data Sources: Base Map-USGS 7.5-Minute Series Topographic Maps;<br>FERC Boundary-Yuba County GIS<br>Map information was compiled from the best available sources. No Warranty is made for its accuracy or completeness |                                  |
| Original Map: Size 11" x 17" color   | NAD 83 Stateplane, Zone 2, US Ft |
| Map prepared by: HDR DTA   | © 2009, Yuba County Water Agency |

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