

### Yuba River Development Project FERC Project No. 2246

### **Amended Exhibit R (Recreation Plan)**

November 2018

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# Table of Contents Description

Section	on No.	Description	Page No.
Gloss	sary – D	refinitions of Terms, Acronyms and Abbreviations	GLO-1
1.0	Introd	luction	1-1
	1.1	Purpose and Scope	1-1
	1.2	Background	1-2
	1.3	Contents	1-7
2.0	Curre	ent Recreation Resources	2-1
	2.1	Background	2-1
		2.1.1 New Bullards Bar Reservoir	2-3
		2.1.2 Undeveloped Recreation Sites at the Diversion Dam Impound	ments 2-13
	2.2	New Bullards Bar Reservoir Management Direction	2-13
		2.2.1 Reservoir Regulations and Ordinances	2-13
		2.2.2 Reservoir Boating Carrying Capacity	2-14
		2.2.3 Bald Eagle Management	2-14
		2.2.4 Reservoir Debris Management and Removal	2-15
		2.2.5 Hazard Tree Management in Recreation Sites	2-15
3.0	Opera	ation and Routine Maintenance Responsibilities	3-1
	3.1	Facility Operation Responsibilities	3-1
		3.1.1 Operating Season	3-1
		3.1.2 Dedicated Staff	3-2
		3.1.3 Law Enforcement	3-5
		3.1.4 Inspections	3-6
		3.1.5 Fees	3-6
		3.1.6 Reservations and Camping Permits	3-7
	3.2	Routine Maintenance Responsibilities	3-8
		3.2.1 Routine Maintenance Tasks, Schedule and Standards	3-8
4.0	Site D	Development Planning Process	4-1
	4.1	Three-Step Planning Process	4-2
		4.1.1 Step 1 - Site Planning	4-2
		4.1.2 Step 2 – Site Development and Construction Plans	4-2
		4.1.3 Step 3 – Contracting and Construction	4-3
	4.2	Recreation Facility Design Standards and Guidelines	4-3
	4.3	Avoidance, Protection, and Minimizing Effects to Sensitive Resource	Areas 4-4
	4.4	Implementation Schedule for Planned Improvements	4-5
5.0	Plan I	Revisions	5-1
6.0	Refer	ences Cited	6-1

Figure No.	List of Figures  Description	Page No.
1.1-1.	Yuba County Water Agency's Yuba River Development Projectionity.	•
2.1-1.	Schematic of the recreational water supply system	
	List of Tables	
Гable No.	Description	Page No.
2.1-1.	Facilities and undeveloped recreation sites	2-2
2.1-2.	Forest Service Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Classifications and	
	Forest Service Development Scales and Level of Site Modification.	Applicable to
	Recreation Facilities on NFS lands	
2.2-1.	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum maximum capacity and recomm	
	of uses. [Source: YCWA 1993]	
3.1-1.	Operating season for each type of facility.	3-1
3.1-2.	Existing recreation user fee schedule	3-6
3.2-1.	Schedule of annual routine maintenance.	3-8
4.1-1.	Content guidelines for 30, 60, 90 and 100% design drawings	4-3
4.4-1.	Schedule of major improvements of existing facilities	

#### **List of Attachments**

Attachment A. Site Plans for the Existing Facilities

# GLOSSARY – DEFINITIONS OF TERMS, ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Definition
BAOT	Boats-at-one-time
Day-use facility	A recreation site for day-use only, including picnic sites, observation sites, fishing sites, boating sites, etc.
dispersed shoreline camping	Informal, user-created camping below the 1,941 ft elevation that contains no formally managed recreation facilities or improvements along the shoreline of New Bullards Bar Reservoir. It is typified by user-created bare and compacted ground areas and trails and, in some locations, rock fire rings.
Facilities or Project recreation facilities	Existing Project recreation facilities that are part of the Project and within the FERC Project license. The Facilities include features attached to the land or otherwise integral to the asset (e.g., restrooms, fire rings, and picnic tables). Facilities do not include equipment, vehicles, supplies, etc. used to operate and maintain the Facilities.
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
floating comfort station (FCS)	A floating restroom building that provides only toilet stalls for reservoir-based visitors.
Forest Service	United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
FSORAG	Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Guidelines
FSTAG	Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines
ft	Feet
mi	mile
NFS	National Forest System
NMWSE	Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation
non-peak season	Non-peak season extends from January 1 up to the Memorial Day holiday weekend, and after the Labor Day holiday weekend through December 31.
peak season	Peak season extends from Memorial Day to Labor Day holiday weekends.
PAOT	People-at-one-time
Plan	Recreation Facilities Plan
Project	Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project No. 2246
Recreation Day (RD)	Each visit by a person to a development for recreation purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period.
RV	recreational vehicle
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
trail	A route that is designed, constructed, or designated for recreational pedestrian use or provided as a pedestrian alternative to vehicular routes within a transportation system.
undeveloped recreation site	An informal, user created recreation site that contains no formally managed recreation facilities or improvements. It is typified by user-created bare and compacted ground areas and trails and, in some locations, rock fire rings.
water hydrant	A water outlet that allows for distribution of potable drinking water within a recreation facility.
YCWA	Yuba County Water Agency

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#### **SECTION 1.0**

#### INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 <u>Purpose and Scope</u>

Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA or Licensee) is in the process of applying for a new license for the Yuba River Development Project (Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) No. 2246. As part of this relicensing process, YCWA has been involved in extensive discussions and consultation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service) and other interested parties since June 2013 to develop the new license recreation plan based on the results of YCWA's relicensing recreation study - Technical Memorandum 8-1, Recreational Use and Visitor Surveys (YCWA 2013). As part of the consultation, YCWA, the Forest Service and other interested parties have agreed upon several improvements to the existing recreation facilities (Facilities) as part of the existing license, specifically at Cottage Creek Campground (formerly Cottage Creek Picnic Area) and the parking areas at Dark Day and Cottage Creek boat launch facilities. Subsequently, YCWA filed separate letters with FERC for approval of these facility changes under the existing license, including a September 2, 2016 letter requesting FERC approval of the Recreation Plan (Plan) to redevelop Cottage Creek Picnic Area as a group campground; and an April 26, 2017 letter requesting FERC approval for the Plan to provide additional boat ramp parking. In response to YCWA's requests, in letters dated November 1, 2016 and May 24, 2017 FERC requested additional information on both Projects, respectively, requesting that YCWA amend the existing Plan (i.e., sometimes referred to as Exhibit R under the existing license), which was last revised and approved by FERC on August 19, 1993.

This Amended Exhibit R is filed with FERC to satisfy FERC's request in the November 1, 2016 and May 24, 2017 letters, and to accurately describe the current (and immediately planned alterations to) Yuba River Development Project Recreation Facilities and their use by the recreating public.

For reference purposes, the major differences between the existing Exhibit R and the Amended Exhibit R are:

- The Amended Exhibit R replaces the Cottage Creek Picnic Area that was shown in the existing Exhibit R with the Cottage Creek Campground, as proposed by YCWA in its September 2, 2016 letter
- The Amended Exhibit R shows the re-organized parking areas at Dark Day and Cottage Creek Boat Launch facilities, as proposed by YCWA in its April 26, 2017 letter
- The Amended Exhibit R includes the addition of the entrance station building along the entrance road to the Dark Day Campground, Picnic Site and Boat Launch facilities
- The Amended Exhibit R does not include either the Burnt Bridge Campground or the Administrative site, which were removed from the Project by FERC's August 19, 1993 Order

- The Amended Exhibit R shows the current management and amenities of Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground, which was a developed campground in the existing Exhibit R, but is now managed as a dispersed shoreline camping site where the restroom facility has been removed and only the campsite amenities remain (i.e., picnic tables, fire rings and Klamath stoves)
- The Amended Exhibit R uses Facility names consistent with the Forest Service's current facility naming guidelines based on the amenities provided at each Facility. Specifically, the Facilities named Dark Day Picnic Area, Sunset Vista Point, Dam Overlook, and Moran Road Day Use Area in the existing Exhibit R are named Dark Day Picnic Site, Sunset Vista Observation Site, Dam Overlook Observation Site, and Moran Road Boating Site in the Amended Exhibit R
- The Amended Exhibit R provides updated descriptions of the Facilities and amenities provided to the general public
- The Amended Exhibit R provides updated routine maintenance and operation responsibilities at the Facilities based on current practices
- The Amended Exhibit R provides a site development planning process and implementation schedule for the improvements as proposed by YCWA in its September 2, 2016 letter (Cottage Creek Campground) and April 26, 2016 letter (organized parking areas at Dark Day and Cottage Creek Boat Launch facilities)
- The Amended Exhibit R provides updated site plans showing the current Facilities layouts and amenities
- The Amended Exhibit R does not include any recreation monitoring program as the existing Exhibit R does not include monitoring requirements, however the Recreation Plan for the new license contains a monitoring program. YCWA monitors use and development of public recreational facilities and reports to FERC in compliance with 18 C.F.R §8.11 (Form 80)

### 1.2 Background

The Project is located in Yuba, Sierra and Nevada counties, California, on the main stems of the Yuba River, the North Yuba River and the Middle Yuba River, and on Oregon Creek, a tributary to the Middle Yuba River. Major Project facilities, which range in elevation from 280 feet (ft) to 2,049 ft include: 1) New Bullards Bar Dam and Reservoir; 2) Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams; 3) Lohman Ridge and Camptonville diversion tunnels; 4) New Colgate and Narrows 2 power tunnels and penstocks; 5) New Colgate, New Bullards Minimum Flow and Narrows 2 powerhouses; and 6) appurtenant facilities and features (e.g., switchyards, roads, trails and gages). The existing Project does not include any aboveground open water conduits (e.g., canals or flumes) or any transmission lines.

In addition, the existing Project includes 15 developed recreation Facilities, all at New Bullards Bar Reservoir. These include: 1) Hornswoggle Group Campground; 2) Schoolhouse Campground; 3) Dark Day Campground; 4) Cottage Creek Campground; 5) Garden Point Boat-in

Campground; 6) Madrone Cove Boat-in Campground; 7) Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground; 8) Dark Day Picnic Site; 9) Sunset Vista Observation Site; 10) Dam Overlook Observation Site; 11) Moran Road Boating Site; 12) Cottage Creek Boat Launch; 13) Dark Day Boat Launch, including the Overflow Parking Area; 14) Schoolhouse Trail; and 15) Bullards Bar Trail. In addition to these developed Facilities, there is supporting infrastructure including a potable water supply system and floating comfort stations (FCS) on New Bullards Bar Reservoir, and an undeveloped recreation site at Our House Diversion Dam.

All of the existing recreation Facilities are located on NFS lands, with the exception of the Dam Overlook Observation Site, Cottage Creek Boat Launch, and small portions of the Bullards Bar Trail, which are located on lands owned by YCWA. Attachment A to this Amended Exhibit R shows the Facilities. Figure 1.1-1 shows the Project Vicinity, Project, and FERC Project Boundary.<sup>3</sup>

YCWA and the Forest Service meet annually to discuss the operation and management of the Project recreation facilities. Currently, YCWA has an agreement with the Forest Service to operate and maintain the Project recreation facilities. YCWA and the Forest Service jointly develop this annual operating agreement, which clearly identifies the responsibilities and duties of YCWA and the Forest Service.

November 2018

The marina, which is not a Project recreation facility, is provided as a service to Project visitors through a YCWA lease of YCWA lands to a private concessionaire. Currently, the marina is called Emerald Cove Marina. It is located at the end of the Cottage Creek Boat Launch ramp, which is not part of the marina but a Project facility. Emerald Cove Marina consists of a marina with boat slips, a floating general store and a floating restroom building. The marina provides overnight boat slips and mooring buoys, gasoline pumps, and a floating dump station for houseboat sanitation systems. In addition, the marina provides marine-related repair and maintenance services for nearly any watercraft from complete engine overhauls to cosmetic repairs, including 24-hour emergency watercraft calls/service. The marina has a variety of boat rentals including luxury houseboats, powerboats, pontoon boats, and personal watercraft/wave runners. The general store provides groceries and general supplies to the public. The marina is not discussed in this Amended Exhibit R.

For the purpose of this Plan, "Project Vicinity" refers to the area surrounding the Project on the order of United States Geological Survey (USGS) 1:24,000 quadrangles.

The FERC Project Boundary is the area that YCWA uses for normal Project operations and maintenance. The Boundary is shown in Exhibits J and K of the existing license.

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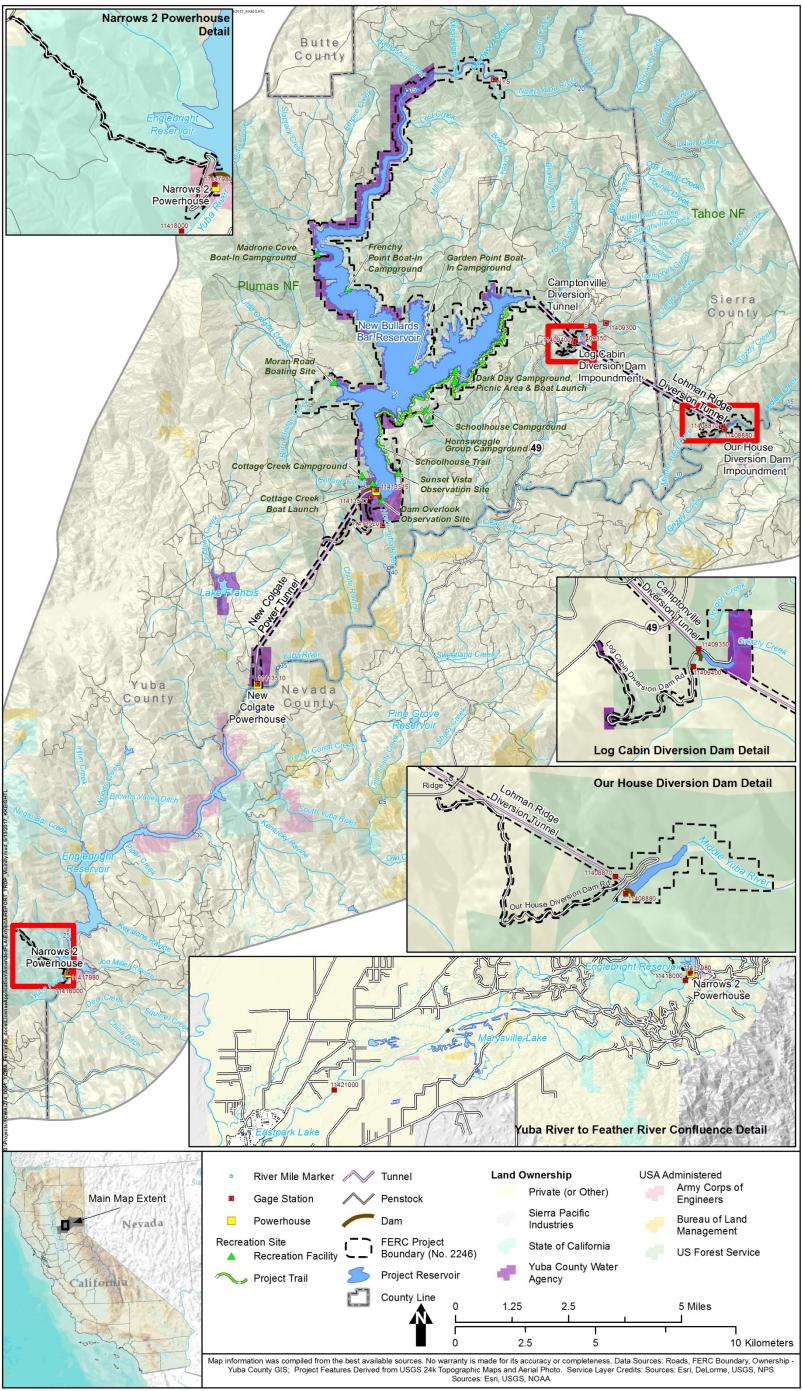


Figure 1.1-1. Yuba County Water Agency's Yuba River Development Project and Project Vicinity.

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#### 1.3 <u>Contents</u>

The Plan includes the following:

- <u>Section 1. Introduction</u>. This section includes introductory information, including the purpose and scope of the Plan.
- <u>Section 2. Current Recreation Resources.</u> This section describes existing Project recreation facilities and land ownership.
- <u>Section 3. Operation and Routine Maintenance Responsibilities</u>. This section describes the existing Project recreation facilities operation and maintenance responsibilities.
- <u>Section 4. Site Development Planning Process.</u> This section describes the site development planning process to construct the improvements at Cottage Creek Campground and the parking areas at Dark Day and Cottage Creek boat launch facilities.
- <u>Section 5. Plan Revisions.</u> This section identifies examples that would require a revision to the Plan
- Section 6. References Cited. This section identifies the references cited in this Plan.

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#### **SECTION 2.0**

### **CURRENT RECREATION RESOURCES**

#### 2.1 Background

The Project provides a variety of recreation facilities and opportunities, including family campgrounds, group campgrounds, boat-in campgrounds, day-use facilities, boat ramps, vistas and overlooks, recreational trails, and dispersed shoreline camping. The existing Facilities are identified in Table 2.1-1 and shown in Figure 1.1-1, with respect to land ownership and to the FERC Project Boundary. Table 2.1-2 identifies the Forest Service Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classifications and the associated Forest Service development scales and levels of site modification, which are applicable to Facilities on NFS lands.

Table 2.1-1. Facilities and undeveloped recreation sites.

Recreation	Recreation Facility Fee	ee Manager I	Land	Campsites						Picnic	Boat	Ramp	Parking Spaces			Restroom Buildings			Trail-	
Facility			Land	Type	Host	Total	Single	Double	Triple	Group	Sites	No.	Lanes	Total	Single	Double	Total	Vault	Flush	head
Schoolhouse Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent/RV	yes	56	43	13	0	0	0	0	0	201	201	0	5	1	4	yes
Hornswoggle Group Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent/RV	no	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	no
Dark Day Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent	no	10	6	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	yes
Cottage Creek Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent/RV	yes	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	no
Garden Point Boat-In Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent	no	16	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	no
Madrone Cove Boat-In Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent	no	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	no
Frenchy Point Boat-In Campground	yes	Forest Service	NFS	tent	no	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	no
Dark Day Main	no	Forest	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	1	3	103	39	64	1	1	0	yes
Boat Launch Overflow	110	Service	Mis	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	73	18	55	1	1	0	no
Cottage Creek Boat Launch	no	YCWA	YCWA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	1	2	209	130	79	2	2	0	no
Dark Day Picnic Site	no	Forest Service	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13	0	0	14	14	0	1	1	0	no
Sunset Vista Observation Site	no	Forest Service	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0	0	601	60¹	0	1	1	0	yes
Dam Overlook Observation Site	no	Forest Service	YCWA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	241	241	0	0	0	0	no
Moran Road Boating Site	no	Forest Service	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	1	1	8 <sup>2</sup>	8 <sup>2</sup>	0	1	1	0	no
Bullards Bar Trail	no	Forest Service	NFS/ YCWA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	n/a <sup>2</sup>	n/a <sup>2</sup>	n/a <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	yes
Schoolhouse Trail	no	Forest Service	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	n/a <sup>2</sup>	n/a <sup>2</sup>	n/a <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	yes
Floating Comfort Stations	no	YCWA	N/A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	0	no
Our House Diversion	no	n/a	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	25	25	0	0	0	0	no
Log Cabin Diversion <sup>3</sup>	no	n/a	NFS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	no
Total	-				2	110	78	26	1	6	15	3	6	536	338	198	30	24	6	

The total number of spaces at these sites are estimated since the parking area does not have striped spaces.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Trailhead parking is available where the trail intersects other existing facility parking areas, including at the Schoolhouse Campground overflow parking area (20 spaces), Sunset Vista Observation Site (20 spaces), Dark Day Picnic Site (16 spaces) and Dark Day Boat Launch (39 single spaces).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> YCWA, with the permission of the Forest Service, has installed and currently keeps a locked vehicular gate on NFS lands at the start of Log Cabin Road at Highway 49. Vehicle access to the diversion dam is restricted. Visitors may access the site by foot from the gate at Highway 49.

Table 2.1-2. Forest Service Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Classifications and the associated Forest Service Development Scales and Level of Site Modification. Applicable to Recreation Facilities on NFS lands.

ROS Class	Development Scale	Level of Site Modification
Primitive	1	Minimum site modification. Rustic or rudimentary improvements designed for protection of the site rather than comfort of the users. Use of synthetic materials excluded. Minimum controls are subtle. No obvious regimentation. Spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts between users. Motorized access not provided or permitted.
Semi-Primitive Motorized; and Semi- Primitive Non- Motorized	2	Little site modification. Rustic or rudimentary improvements designed primarily for protection of the site rather than the comfort of the users. Use of synthetic materials avoided. Minimum controls are subtle. Little obvious regimentation. Spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts between users. Motorized access provided or permitted in the Motorized class. Primary access over primitive roads. Interpretive services informal.
Roaded Natural	3	Site modification moderate. Facilities about equal for protection of natural site and comfort of users. Contemporary/rustic design of improvements are usually based on use of native materials. Inconspicuous vehicular traffic controls usually provided. Roads may be hard-surfaced and trails formalized. Development density about 3 family units per acre. Primary access may be over high standard roads. Interpretive services informal, but generally direct.
Rural	4	Site heavily modified. Some facilities designed strictly for comfort and convenience of users. Luxury facilities not provided. Facility design may incorporate synthetic materials. Extensive use of artificial surfacing of roads and trails. Vehicular traffic control usually obvious. Primary access usually over paved roads. Development density 3-5 family units per acre. Plant materials usually native. Interpretive services often formal or structured.
Urban	5	High degree of site modification. Facilities mostly designed for comfort and convenience of users and usually include flush toilets; may include showers, bathhouses, laundry facilities, and electrical hookups. Synthetic materials commonly used. Formal walks or surfaced trails. Regimentation of users is obvious. Access usually by high-speed highways. Development density about five or more family units per acre. Plant materials may be foreign to the environment. Formal interpretive services usually available. Designs formalized and architecture may be contemporary. Mowed lawns and clipped shrubs are not unusual.

Source: Forest Service Manual 2300 – Recreation, Wilderness, and Related Resource Management, Chapter 2330 – Public Managed Recreation Management (Forest Service 2006).

#### 2.1.1 New Bullards Bar Reservoir

#### 2.1.1.1 Campgrounds

#### 2.1.1.1.1 Schoolhouse Campground (NFS Lands)

Schoolhouse Campground is located between New Bullards Bar Reservoir and Marysville Road, across from the Hornswoggle Group Campground (Figure 1.1-1). The campground is approximately 0.5-mile (mi) from the reservoir shoreline on NFS lands. The campground is a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility with 57 campsites, including 43 single sites, 13 double sites and 1 host site. The single site amenities each include a picnic table, cooking grill/fire ring, food locker, site marker and vehicle parking spur with a design capacity of five people<sup>4</sup> and one vehicle. The double site amenities each include two picnic tables, a cooking grill/fire ring, two food lockers, site marker and vehicle parking spur with a design capacity of 10 people and two vehicles. The campground has five restroom buildings (four 4-unit flush and one 2-unit vault), a potable water distribution system and an undeveloped overflow parking area for 20 vehicles. The campground does not have any recreation vehicle (RV) hookups or a dump station. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Forest Service design standards for single campground units specify five people at one time (PAOT) per Forest Service Handbook 2309.13, Recreation Site Handbook, Ch. 30, pages 6-9 (Forest Service 2013). However, at the Facilities, the Forest Service allows up to six PAOT at single units, 12 PAOT at double units, and 18 PAOT at triple units.

campground has one facility identification sign at the entrance; five information boards (one 3-panel board at the entrance station and four 1-panel information boards at each restroom); 12 directional signs along the circulation roads; and 29 information/regulation signs throughout the facility.

The campground also has a trailhead for the 1.0-mi-long Schoolhouse Trail (Project trail), which connects to the 14.0-mi-long Bullards Bar Trail (Project trail); and includes two trail signs, where the trail intersects the campground. In addition, the 8 Ball Trail (non-Project trail paralleling Marysville Road) passes through the campground and leads to Dark Day Campground.

#### 2.1.1.1.2 Dark Day Campground (NFS Lands)

Dark Day Campground is located approximately 4 mi from the New Bullards Bar Dam via Marysville Road and Dark Day Road on the southeast shoreline of the Willow Creek arm of the reservoir (Figure 1.1-1). The facility is approximately 0.2-mi from the reservoir shoreline on NFS lands. The campground is a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility with 10 campsites for tent camping only, including six single sites, three double sites and one triple site. The single site amenities each include a picnic table, cooking grill/fire ring, food locker, and a vehicle parking spur with a design capacity of five people and one vehicle. The double site amenities each include two picnic tables, a cooking grill/fire ring, two food lockers and a vehicle parking spur with a design capacity of 10 people and two vehicles. The triple site amenities each include three picnic tables, a cooking grill/fire ring, three food lockers and a vehicle parking spur with a design capacity of 15 people and three vehicles. The campground has two 2-unit vault restroom buildings and a potable water distribution system. The campground has two information boards (a 3-panel and 1-panel board), nine information/regulation signs throughout the facility; and three campsite marker signs – one for each cluster of campsites (Sites 1-3, 4 and 5-10).

#### 2.1.1.1.3 Hornswoggle Group Campground (NFS Lands)

Hornswoggle Group Campground is located on Marysville Road, 2.5 mi northeast of the New Bullards Bar Dam, and 3.3 mi southwest of the Highway 49 junction (Figure 1.1-1). The facility is approximately 0.6-mi from the southeast shoreline of the reservoir on NFS lands. The facility is a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility with six group campsites, including five campsites with design capacities of 25 people-at-one-time (PAOT) each, and one campsite with a design capacity of 50 PAOT. The group site amenities each include tables, food lockers, site marker and a group fire ring/grill. The campground has four restrooms (two 4-unit flush and two 2-unit vault), a potable water distribution system, and parking areas at each campsite. The campground has one facility identification sign at the entrance; six 1-panel information boards; three directional signs along the circulation road; and seven information/regulation signs throughout the facility.

#### 2.1.1.1.4 Cottage Creek Campground (NFS Lands)

Cottage Creek Campground is located off County Road 169, approximately 0.5-mi from its intersection with Marysville Road near the dam (Figure 1.1-1). The facility is approximately 0.9-mi from the southwest shoreline of the reservoir on NFS lands. The campground is a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility with five double campsites (design capacity of 10 people per

site), each with a large group fire ring, two picnic tables, two food lockers, and a paved vehicle parking spur (2 single vehicle spaces and 2 RV spaces). The campground also has a host site with a holding tank and water hookup, a two-unit vault restroom building, a potable water distribution system, overflow parking area (9 single spaces) and trash receptacles.

Notably, after approval of final designs by the U.S. Forest Service, YCWA will reconstruct the above facilities following receipt of Commission approval. A non-Project fire in 2010 burned and destroyed virtually all of the existing facility. It is anticipated that the first phase of reconstruction will begin in 2019. A second phase of the campground will be developed on the eastern portion of the site, where the fire damage was more severe and the PNF is in the process of re-vegetating the site. The second phase will not occur until the average tree height within the re-vegetation area is 20 ft. The second phase will include four campsites (2 triple sites and 2 double sites), a two-unit vault restroom, a campground potable water system (water spigots and underground distribution), trash facilities and paved interior circulation roads.

#### 2.1.1.1.5 Garden Point Boat-in Campground (NFS Lands)

The Garden Point Boat-in Campground is accessed by boat only and is located on a peninsula on the north side of the reservoir, at the junction between the North Yuba River and Willow Creek arms of the reservoir on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). The campground is approximately 3.0 mi by boat from the Cottage Creek Boat Launch, and 1.5 mi from the Dark Day Boat Launch. The campground is a Forest Service Development Scale 3 facility with 16 campsites, which includes 12 single sites and four double sites. The single site amenities each include a picnic table, a fire ring, Klamath stove and site marker with a design capacity of five people. The double site amenities each include two picnic tables, a fire ring, Klamath stove and site marker with a design capacity of 10 people. The campground has three vault restroom buildings (2 one-unit and 1 two-unit vault) and does not have a potable water system. The campground has one facility identification sign; one 2-panel information board; one information/regulation sign and 16 campsite marker signs.

#### 2.1.1.1.6 Madrone Cove Boat-in Campground (NFS Lands)

The Madrone Cove Campground is accessed by boat only and is located along the west shore of the North Yuba River arm of the reservoir on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). By boat, the campground is approximately 7.5 mi from the Cottage Creek Boat Launch and 6.0 mi from the Dark Day Boat Launch. The campground is a Forest Service Development Scale 3 facility with 10 single campsites. Each site's amenities include a picnic table, fire ring, Klamath stove and site marker with a design capacity of five people. The campground has one 2-unit vault restroom building and does not have a potable water system. The campground has one facility identification sign; one 2-panel information board; two information/regulation signs and 10 campsite marker signs.

#### 2.1.1.1.7 Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground (NFS Lands)

Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground is used as a camping area through the dispersed shoreline camping permit system. The site is accessed by boat only and is located along the west facing shore of the North Yuba River arm of the reservoir on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). By boat, the

campground is approximately 6.0 mi from the Cottage Creek Boat Launch and 4.5 mi from the Dark Day Boat Launch. The facilities include seven campsites (6 single and 1 double). The single site amenities each include a picnic table, fire ring, Klamath stove and site marker with a design capacity of five people; and the double site amenities each include a picnic table, fire ring, two Klamath stoves and a site marker with a design capacity of 10 people. The site has one site identification sign, two 1-panel information boards, and one information/regulation sign. The site does not have a potable water system or restroom facility, but an FCS is moored in the cove near the campground access during recreation season.

#### 2.1.1.2 Day-use Facilities

#### 2.1.1.2.1 Dark Day Picnic Site (NFS Lands)

The Dark Day Picnic Site is located adjacent to Dark Day Campground on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). The picnic site is a Forest Service Development Scale 3 facility with 13 picnic sites, each with a picnic table and cooking grill/fire ring. The picnic site also has one 4-unit vault restroom building, a potable water system, and a paved and striped parking area for 14 vehicles. Trailhead access for the Bullards Bar Trail (Project trail) is located near the parking area. The facility has one facility identification sign, two 1-panel information boards, 14 information/regulation signs, two directional signs on the road, and one trailhead sign.

#### 2.1.1.2.2 Sunset Vista (NFS Lands)

This scenic overlook is located near the southeast corner of the reservoir, approximately 1.0 mi east of New Bullards Bar Dam via Marysville Road and Vista Point Road on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). The facility is a Forest Service Development Scale 3 facility with one 4-unit vault restroom building, one picnic table, animal-resistant trash receptacle, and a gravel parking area for approximately 60 vehicles. The facility also serves as a trailhead parking area for the Bullards Bar Trail (Project trail). The facility has one facility identification sign, a single 1-panel information board, four information/regulation signs, and an interpretive panel. In addition, the Bullards Bar Trailhead has three signs including a trailhead sign and two informational signs.

#### 2.1.1.2.3 Dam Overlook Observation Site (YCWA Lands)

The Dam Overlook Observation Site is located at the southeast corner of New Bullards Bar Dam on Marysville Road on YCWA-owned lands (Figure 1.1-1). The facility provides a place to park a vehicle with an unobstructed view of the dam and reservoir and consists of a gravel parking area for approximately 24 vehicles and an interpretive plaque related to the construction of New Bullards Bar Dam and the Project. The facility does not have any signs other than the interpretive plaque. The facility equates to a Forest Service Development Scale 2 facility.

#### 2.1.1.3 Boat Launch Facilities

#### 2.1.1.3.1 Cottage Creek Boat Launch (YCWA Lands)

Cottage Creek Boat Launch is located along the southwest corner of the reservoir off Cottage Creek Campground Access Road approximately 0.1-mi from its intersection with Marysville Road on YCWA-owned lands (Figure 1.1-1). The launch ramp facility consists of a 900-ft long 2-lane concrete launch ramp, two 2-unit vault restroom buildings, 1 picnic site and a paved and striped parking area for approximately 199 single spaces (3 accessible) and 112 vehicle plus trailer spaces (2 accessible). The facility has two facility identification signs and 33 information/regulation signs. The facility equates to a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility. This Amended Exhibit R shows the re-organized parking area at the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility, as proposed by YCWA in its April 26, 2017 letter, and subject to Commission approval.

#### 2.1.1.3.2 Dark Day Boat Launch (NFS Lands)

The Dark Day Boat Launch facility is located on the west side of the reservoir off Dark Day Road on NFS lands (Figure 1.1-1). The facility is a Forest Service Development Scale 4 facility with a main facility (original construction) and an overflow parking area (constructed in 2004).

#### Main Facility (Parking Area and Boat Ramp)

The main facility has a 3-lane concrete boat ramp, which decreases to 2 lanes and finally 1 lane at the bottom) with a floating courtesy dock, boat loading platform, one 4-unit vault restroom building and a paved and striped parking area for approximately 34 single spaces and 84 vehicle plus trailer spaces. Exterior, solar-powered lights are provided at the restroom and at the top of the boat ramp. This Amended Exhibit R shows the re-organized parking area at Dark Day Boat Launch facility, as proposed by YCWA in its April 26, 2017 letter, and subject to Commission approval.

#### Overflow Parking Area

The overflow parking area facility, named Dark Day Boat Launch Overflow Parking Area, has a paved and striped parking area for approximately 37 single spaces (3 accessible spaces) and 55 vehicle plus trailer spaces, and one 2-unit vault restroom building (Figure 1.1-1). Overall, the facility has two facility identification signs, one 2-panel information board, 45 information/regulation signs, and five directional signs on the access and circulation roads off Marysville Road.

#### **Entrance Station Building**

An entrance station building is located along Dark Day Road approximately 0.24-mi from the intersection with Marysville Road en route to the Dark Day Boat Launch, Campground and Picnic Site facilities. This structure is used to support operation and administration of the Dark Day recreation facilities.

#### 2.1.1.3.3 Moran Road Boating Site (NFS Lands)

The Moran Road Boating Site is located on the west shoreline of New Bullards Bar Reservoir at Moran Cove on NFS lands. The day use area is accessed by vehicle 6.4 mi from the Town of Challenge via Oregon Hill Road and Moran Road. The site is a Forest Service Development Scale 3 facility with a gravel parking area for eight vehicles, one 1-unit vault restroom, animal-resistant trash receptacle, and an informal car top boat ramp with a gravel surface. The facility has a single 1-panel information board and four information/regulation signs.

#### 2.1.1.4 Recreational Water Supply System

A schematic of the existing recreational water supply and distribution system for the Facilities are provided in Figure 2.1-1. The system consists of a water treatment facility with storage tanks and distribution piping that sends potable water to Facilities on the west side of the dam (Segment 1) and on the east side of the dam (Segment 2).

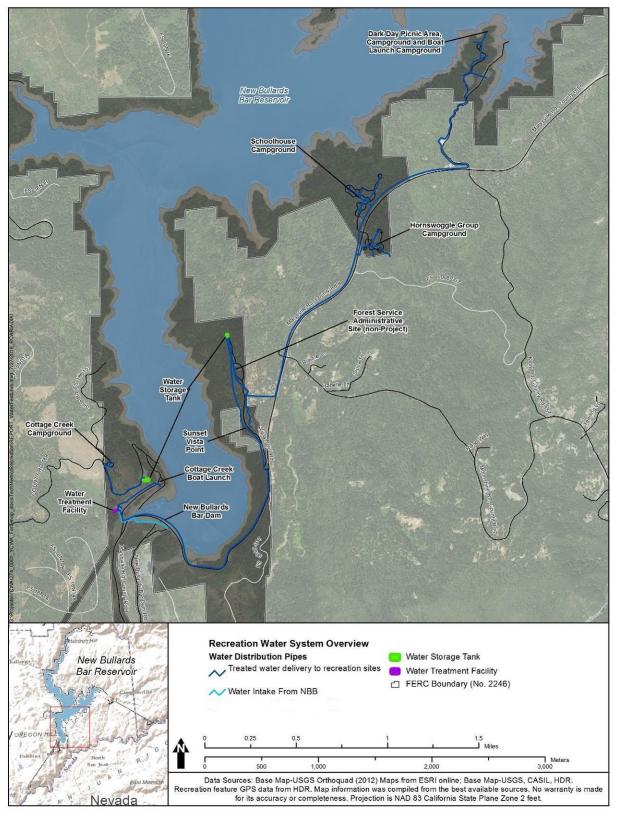


Figure 2.1-1. Schematic of the recreational water supply system.

#### 2.1.1.4.1 Water Treatment Facility (YCWA Lands)

The water treatment facility<sup>5</sup> is located on the north side of New Bullards Bar Dam, at the west end of the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility parking area on YCWA lands. The water treatment facility consists of the following primary elements: 1) a water treatment building, containing filters, valves, gages, electronics, office, pumps, and equipment; 2) two 10,000 gallon storage tanks; 3) concrete dechlorination basin; and 4) separate piping for raw water and treated water. The system has a storage capacity of 20,000 gallons and a filter rate of 30 gallons per minute or 43,200 gallons per day. The system provides water to the Facilities as described above and to non-Project facilities, including the marina and the Forest Service's administrative site buildings<sup>6</sup> located near the Sunset Vista Observation Site.

#### 2.1.1.4.2 Water Storage Tanks (YCWA Lands and NFS Lands)

Besides the two storage tanks at the water treatment plant, the water system includes two water storage tanks along the water distribution system that provide a total of 33,000 gallons of additional storage. These include a 5,000-gallon steel tank near the Cottage Creek Boat Launch maintenance yard on YCWA lands and a 28,000-gallon concrete storage tank near the Sunset Vista Observation Site on NFS lands.

#### 2.1.1.4.3 Water Distribution

#### Water Treatment Facility to Cottage Creek Boat Launch Segment (YCWA Lands)

The treated water leaves the water treatment facility and is piped underground directly to the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility, along the northern boundary of the facility parking area (Figure 2.1-1). Roughly halfway along the parking area there is a "T" junction in the piping where the piping emerges above ground; water may either be pumped up the hill to a storage tank near the Cottage Creek Boat Launch maintenance yard (north of the boat launch parking area off Cottage Creek Campground Access Road), or continue down to the marina. This segment is entirely on YCWA lands.

# Cottage Creek Boat Launch to Cottage Creek Campground Segment (YCWA Lands and NFS Lands)

The treated water piping emerges above ground on the north side of the parking lot, is pumped uphill to a storage tank near the Cottage Creek Boat Launch maintenance yard, and then goes back underground along the shoulder of Cottage Creek Campground Access Road, where it connects

The source for the recreational facility water system is raw water from New Bullards Bar Reservoir at the low level outlet of New Bullards Bar Dam. YCWA pumps and pipes the raw water up the downstream side (north side) of New Bullards Bar Dam and under Cottage Creek Campground Access Road at the entrance to the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility, where the source water enters the water treatment facility.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Forest Service administrative site is a non-Project facility used by the Forest Service for a variety of Forest Service needs, and is not open to the public. It includes a Forest Service operational headquarters, barracks, shop and residences for Forest Service fire response, as well as a single YCWA residence.

with the Cottage Creek Campground water system. This segment is mostly on YCWA land, except for a short segment on NFS lands at the entrance to the campground.

Water Treatment Facility to Sunset Vista Observation Site/Water Storage Tank Segment (YCWA Lands and NFS Lands)

Treated water that serves the Facilities on the south side of New Bullards Bar Reservoir along Marysville Road, leaves the water treatment facility, then is conveyed underground across the Cottage Creek Boat Launch parking entrance, to the upstream face of New Bullards Bar Dam (near crest); where a 2-inch pipe carries it to the south side of the dam (Figure 2.1-1). Here the pipe goes underground near the Dam Overlook Observation Site (no water facilities), along the north side of Marysville Road until it reaches the south side of the Forest Service administration site (non-project) near Sunset Vista Observation Site. The pipe then travels through the Forest Service's administrative site, mostly between the administrative site road and the reservoir, until the 2-inch pipe connects to the top of the water storage tank at the north side of the Forest Service administrative site. A water meter is located in the underground piping at Sunset Vista Observation Site facility. This segment is on YCWA and NFS lands.

The primary storage of treated water occurs near the Sunset Vista Observation Site at the 28,000-gallon concrete tank (Figure 2.1-1).

Sunset Vista Observation Site/Water Storage Tank to Schoolhouse and Hornswoggle Group Campground Segment (YCWA Lands, NFS Lands, County Lands and Private Lands

The treated water leaves the storage tank near the Sunset Vista Observation Site via the underground delivery system (8-inch pipe) to the Facilities along Marysville Road (Hornswoggle Group Campground, Schoolhouse Campground, and the Dark Day complex) (Figure 2.1-1). The 8-inch mainline pipe then turns and follows Marysville Road north, and delivers the water to the Facilities along Marysville Road.

The connection to Hornswoggle Group Campground occurs at a "T" junction in the main distribution line, several hundred ft before the Schoolhouse Campground access road (Figure 2.1-1). The treated water is diverted off the main distribution line underneath Marysville Road to the south to Hornswoggle Group Campground, where water is piped underground to the campground water facilities (e.g., flush restroom buildings, water hydrants and fire hydrant). A water meter is located after the "T" junction, where the underground piping enters the facility.

The connection to Schoolhouse Campground occurs at a "T" junction in the main distribution line several hundred feet past the Schoolhouse Campground access road near the middle of the facility complex (Figure 2.1-1). The treated water is piped underground to the campground water facilities (e.g., flush restroom buildings and water hydrants). A water meter is located after the "T" junction, where the underground piping enters the facility. This segment is on YCWA and NFS lands.

#### Schoolhouse and Hornswoggle Group Campgrounds to Dark Day Complex Segment (NFS Lands)

The connection to the Dark Day recreation complex occurs at a "T" junction in the main distribution line just before the Dark Day access road (Figure 2.1-1). The main distribution line then follows the west side of Dark Day Road, where it connects to the Dark Day Overflow Boat Ramp Parking Area, Dark Day Campground, Dark Day Picnic Site, and Dark Day Boat Launch. The main distribution line runs along the western edge of the road that accesses Dark Day Campground and Picnic Site with several "T" junctions to run treated water to the campsites and picnic site along the road; as well as east to the water hydrant at Dark Day Boat Launch facility.

#### 2.1.1.5 Project Recreational Trails

#### 2.1.1.5.1 Bullards Bar Trail (YCWA Lands and NFS Lands)

The Bullards Bar Trail is a 14-mi-long Class 3, non-motorized, multi-use trail offering an easy, relatively-level, and scenic route along the shoreline of the reservoir, from the Sunset Vista Observation Site near the dam up to Old Camptonville Road, near the Willow Creek arm of the reservoir. The trail has a native material surface, an average width of 24 in. to 48 in, and a trail slope varying based on terrain. The trail is located within the existing FERC Project Boundary, except for the eastern end of the trail (approximately 1.5 mi), which extends beyond the FERC Project Boundary along Willow Creek, ending at Old Camptonville Road. The trailheads, including parking, are located at the Sunset Vista Observation Site day-use facility, Dark Day Picnic Site and Dark Day Boat Launch. The trail is located on NFS and YCWA-owned lands and is managed by the Forest Service. The trail was constructed without accessible technical requirements prior to development of Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG).

#### 2.1.1.5.2 Schoolhouse Trail (NFS Lands)

The Schoolhouse Trail is a 0.7-mi-long Class 3, non-motorized, multi-use trail that descends approximately 250 ft steeply from Schoolhouse Campground to the Bullards Bar Trail. The trail has a native material surface and an average width of 5 ft. to 10 ft. The trailhead, including parking (nearby in the campground overflow parking area), is located at the Schoolhouse Campground. The entire trail is located on NFS lands within the existing FERC Project Boundary and is managed by the Forest Service. The trail was constructed without accessible technical requirements prior to development of FSTAG.

#### 2.1.1.6 Dispersed Shoreline Camping

Due to potential fire hazard at New Bullards Bar Reservoir, the Forest Service allows dispersed shoreline camping only when the reservoir water elevation is at or below 1,941 ft Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation (15 ft below the Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation of 1,956 ft) at undesignated locations.

#### **2.1.1.7** Floating Comfort Stations

New Bullards Bar Reservoir has seven FCS, moored at dispersed locations throughout the reservoir. Each FCS consists of two toilet stalls on a floating dock with cleats for boats to tie up to and informational signs.

# 2.1.2 Undeveloped Recreation Sites at the Diversion Dam Impoundments

The Project's Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dam impoundments do not include developed recreation facilities, but offer undeveloped recreation opportunities along the Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek, respectively. A description of the undeveloped recreation opportunities at each impoundment is provided below.

#### 2.1.2.1 Our House Diversion Dam (NFS Lands)

The Our House Diversion Dam impoundment provides undeveloped, day-use recreation opportunities. The site is located on NFS lands along the Middle Yuba River (river mile [RM] 12.6) and does not have any developed recreation facilities (Forest Service Development Scale 2 facility). Vehicle access to the diversion dam occurs via Highway 49 to Ridge Road, and then 1.8 mi along the paved Our House Dam Road. An informal parking area with large rock vehicle barriers is available for approximately 25 vehicles at the end of the Our House Dam Road, where visitors have foot access to the shoreline.

#### 2.1.2.2 Log Cabin Diversion Dam

The Log Cabin Diversion Dam impoundment is located on NFS lands along Oregon Creek (RM 4.3) and does not have any developed recreation facilities. YCWA, with the permission of the Forest Service, has installed and currently keeps a locked vehicular gate on NFS lands, at the start of Log Cabin Road at Highway 49. Vehicle access to the diversion dam is restricted.

#### 2.2 New Bullards Bar Reservoir Management Direction

#### 2.2.1 Reservoir Regulations and Ordinances

The Yuba County Sheriff boat patrol maintains safety, and enforces the State and County regulations at Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility, and within the New Bullards Bar Reservoir. Title 8 (Public Peace and Safety) of the Yuba County Code of Ordinances includes a chapter specific to New Bullards Bar Reservoir (Chapter 8.50 – Bullards Bar Recreation Area). This chapter includes the following specific subsections:

- 8.50.020 General Regulations
- 8.50.030 Traffic Regulations
- 8.50.040 Regulations of YCWA

- 8.50.050 New Bullards Bar Reservoir General Regulations
- 8.50.060 New Bullards Bar Reservoir Boating Regulations
- 8.50.070 New Bullards Bar Reservoir Houseboats, Rafts and Floats
- 8.50.080 Fire Prevention

#### 2.2.2 Reservoir Boating Carrying Capacity

#### 2.2.2.1 Existing Reservoir Boating Carrying Capacity Direction

YCWA and the Forest Service established a theoretical water surface social carrying capacity as part of the existing Exhibit R that focused on the number of boats-at-one-time (BAOT) on New Bullards Bar Reservoir. A boat is considered any motorized watercraft, which at New Bullards Bar Reservoir generally consists of houseboats, power boats (e.g., ski boats, wakeboard boats and fishing boats) and personal watercraft (i.e., jet skis). The maximum reservoir boating capacity is 420 BAOT and includes a recommended balance of 400 BAOT as shown in Table 2.2-1 (YCWA 1993). YCWA and the Forest Service developed the maximum carrying capacity of 420 BAOT based on a blend of three recreation opportunity spectrum Recreation Opportunity Spectrum class on the reservoir (Table 2.2-1).

Table 2.2-1. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum maximum capacity and recommended balance of uses. [Source: YCWA 1993]

Boati	ing Use Type	Maximum Capacity	Recommended Balance of Uses			
Houseboats	Houseboats	80	60			
Houseboats	Associated watercraft	80	60			
Inland Camping		111	111			
Boat-in Camping		74	74			
Day-use		75	95			
	Total	420	400			

#### 2.2.3 Bald Eagle Management

YCWA will, in consultation with the Cal Fish and Wildlife, Forest Service and USFWS, implement a limited operating period (LOP) for known active bald eagle nests and, as needed, install water, land barriers, and appropriate signage around the known active bald eagle nests in order to delineate a buffer for the LOP. The buffer will serve to restrict recreation activities in the vicinity of the nests. As needed, YCWA will work with the Forest Service to implement appropriate administrative closures on NFS lands to protect nests, and with Yuba County to implement closures on water.

Since 2017, four active bald eagle nesting territories have been identified at New Bullards Bar Reservoir as follows: (1) Tractor Cove near Garden Point Boat-in Campground, (2) Mill Creek, (3) Milk Ranch Road, and (4) Missouri Bar in the North Yuba River. Since 2000, YCWA, in consultation with the Cal Fish and Wildlife, Forest Service and USFWS, has implemented a LOP

from January 1 through August 31, and installed water and land barriers and appropriate signage around the Tractor Cove bald eagle nest in order to delineate a buffer for the LOP. Upon discovery of the Mill Creek nest in 2016, a buoy buffer was also installed at that site in coordination with Forest Service, CDFW and USFWS. The Milk Ranch nest is located further inland from the water's edge, and the shoreline topography is not conducive to a buoy closure. The fourth territory, Missouri Bar, was discovered in 2017, and is 0.5 mi from the water's edge.

#### 2.2.4 Reservoir Debris Management and Removal

Historically, floating material, mostly wood, begins to accumulate on the surface of New Bullards Bar Reservoir during spring runoff in April and May when the reservoir is filling. The material accumulates at the upper end of the reservoir or in coves, but can disperse throughout the reservoir based on wind direction and speed, and the dispersal pattern may change from week to week. The amount of floating material varies by year, with the most material occurring in wet years following a series of dry years. Floating logs and other material poses a potential hazard to the public, particularly boaters, jetskiers and waterskiers. To provide for public safety, YCWA has historically removed this material annually from the reservoir.

No earlier than March 16, YCWA will annually collect the floating material by capturing portions of the material in enclosed floating log booms and dragging the material by boat to the storage areas on the west bank of Garden Point peninsula. When the debris exceeds the storage areas on the west bank of Garden Point peninsula, YCWA will consult with the Forest Service on the best approach to deal with the floating material. To the extent possible, YCWA will make a good faith effort to assure that New Bullards Bar Reservoir is substantially free from floating material by the beginning of each recreation season (i.e., by the Memorial Day holiday weekend). However, it is understood that in some years, the collection of floating material will continue into the recreation season. Material that naturally settles on the shoreline as New Bullards Bar Reservoir lowers prior to collection shall remain on the shoreline and YCWA is not required to collect, store, or dispose of this material.

YCWA will continue to abide by the conditions prescribed in the USFWS' 2004 *Biological Opinion for the New Bullards Bar Reservoir Safety and Annual Maintenance Project* (BiOp) for removal and disposal of reservoir floating debris. These BiOp conditions include: 1) implementing a LOP from January 1 through August 31 for activities on land, and within expansion territories (or existing and new bald eagle territories as they are discovered), wood gathering from the water surface may still occur within 0.25 mi of territories; and 2) protect wintering bald eagles by restricting activities from November 15 through March 15 within 0.25-mi of the high water mark, and from November 1 through March 15 for areas within 0.25 mi of the dam and winter night roosts (USFWS 2004).

#### 2.2.5 Hazard Tree Management in Recreation Sites

The removal of hazard trees may occur in developed and undeveloped recreation sites, campgrounds, public access roads, special use areas, Forest Service administrative sites, day use areas, lakeshore areas, trailheads, and other areas of high recreation and visitor use. All hazard

trees will meet the guidelines as defined in the USFWS' 2004 BiOp, and be documented as required. Generally, a tree would be considered to be a hazard if it, or any part thereof, has a high potential to fall or roll onto a facility, visitor use area or roadway and cause property damage or injury. YCWA will get Forest Service approval prior to removing any hazard trees in recreation facilities on NFS land.

Hazard tree inspections will occur before the recreation facilities open each year and the hazard trees will be removed before the recreation facilities are opened to the public. To protect wildlife, YCWA will make every effort to proactively mitigate hazards outside of established LOPs. Hazard tree inspections will occur throughout the recreation open season, and if a new hazard tree is found, the site will be flagged and closed until the hazard is removed. Hazard tree removal guidelines are also outlined in the Annual Operating Agreement for Bullards Bar Recreation Area between YCWA and the Tahoe and Plumas National Forests (YCWA and Forest Service 2018).

YCWA will continue to abide by the conditions prescribed in the USFWS' 2004 BiOp for removal of hazard trees. These conditions include: 1) implementing a LOP from January 1 through August 31 for activities on land and within expansion territories; 2) protect wintering bald eagles by restricting activities from November 15 through March 15 within 0.25-mi of the high water mark, and from November 1 through March 15 for areas within 0.25 mi of the dam and winter night roosts; 3) prior to removal of hazard trees 15 in. in diameter at breast height or greater. The following steps shall be taken: a) a Field Data Form shall be completed; b) update the public use map; c) snag retention standards, as identified in the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, will be met; d) within high use foraging sites and winter night roosts multiple perching structures should be maintained; and e) retain a stump height of 3 to 4 ft for felled hazard trees that are immediately adjacent to the shoreline (USFWS 2004).

#### **SECTION 3.0**

### OPERATION AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

This section describes YCWA's responsibilities for protecting public health, safety, the environment and for ensuring delivery of quality recreation services at the non-Marina Facilities. YCWA has entered into a lease agreement with Emerald Cove Marina, under which Emerald Cove Marina operates and maintains the Marina consistent with the requirements of the lease agreement. YCWA is responsible for operating and maintaining all Project Facilities. This includes conducting routine maintenance activities to keep permanent assets in an acceptable condition and compliant with their original standards, which typically includes repairs, painting, replacement of minor parts and minor structural components. Routine maintenance, or reconditioning, neither materially adds to the value of the property nor appreciably prolongs its life. Routine maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than those originally intended. The work serves only to keep the facility in an ordinary, safe, efficient operating condition. Examples of routine maintenance activities include, but are not limited to: interior painting, repair of broken windows, light bulb and plumbing fixture replacement, cleaning, unplugging drains, greasing, servicing, inspecting, oiling, adjusting, tightening, aligning, and sweeping.

YCWA will meet annually with the Forest Service to discuss the operation and management of the Project recreation facilities on NFS land.

#### 3.1 <u>Facility Operation Responsibilities</u>

### 3.1.1 Operating Season

The Facilities will remain open with all services to be provided under the responsibility of YCWA according to the schedules by type of facility shown in Table 3.1-1.

Table 3.1-1. Operating season for each type of facility.

Type of Facility	Operatin	ng Season	Conditions			
Type of Facility	Open	Close	Conditions			
All Campgrounds	April 15	October 15	Once outside the peak season (Memorial Day to Labor Day), partial closures of the camping facilities may occur due to reduced use.			
Dark Day and Cottage Creek Picnic Sites	April 15	October 15	Access to Cottage Creek Picnic Site occurs over private lands where private timber activities may require temporary closures.			
All Other Day-use Facilities	January 1	December 31	Some Facilities may be closed during winter months due to very low use (e.g., close restroom buildings, trash facilities, water, etc.)			
Boat Ramps	January 1	December 31	As conditions permit. If ramps are out of the water, ramp may be closed or remain open but with appropriate warning signs.			
Recreational Trails	January 1	December 31	Whole or sections of trail may need to be closed temporarily due to weather or other site conditions.			

Outside of the operating season, all necessary closing and opening preparations, and any additional maintenance and repairs that were not possible during the operating season, will be the

responsibility of YCWA. When Facilities are closed, YCWA will post information in a conspicuous location at the Facilities and on YCWA's website to advise the public that the Facilities are closed and provide the information to the Forest Service for electronic posting on the their website. Reconstruction of Facilities or unforeseen damage to Facilities may require YCWA to close Facilities until construction or repairs are complete and the Facility is in safe working order.

#### 3.1.2 Dedicated Staff

#### 3.1.2.1 YCWA Liaison Officer for Facilities on NFS Lands

YCWA's primary contact and alternate regarding the Plan for Facilities on NFS lands are:

Primary ContactAlternateCurt AikensGeoff RaboneGeneral ManagerProjects ManagerYuba County Water AgencyYuba County Water Agency1220 F Street1220 F StreetMarysville, CA 95901-4226Marysville, CA 95901-4226Tel: (530) 741-5015Tel: (530) 741-5005

Email: <a href="mailto:caikens@ycwa.com">caikens@ycwa.com</a>
E-mail: <a href="mailto:grabone@ycwa.com">grabone@ycwa.com</a>

For Facilities on NFS lands within the TNF, YCWA's primary contact or alternate will liaison with:

• TNF Supervisor's Office: (530) 265-4531

o Hydroelectric Coordinator or Public Services Staff Officer

• Yuba River Ranger District: (530) 288-3231

Public Services Staff Officer

For Facilities on NFS lands within the PNF, YCWA's primary contact or alternate will liaison with:

• PNF Supervisor's Office: (530) 283-2050

Hydroelectric Coordinator or Public Services Staff Officer

• Feather River Ranger District: (530) 534-6500

Public Services Staff Officer

YCWA will promptly notify the Forest Service if its primary contact or alternate changes.

If significant problems such as major acts of vandalism or natural events that result in damage (i.e., flood, fire, and law enforcement concerns) during the Facilities' operating season, YCWA's

primary contact or alternate will contact either the TNF or PNF, depending on the forest in which the problem occurs.

#### 3.1.2.2 **Incident Notification**

YCWA is required to notify FERC of any incident related to the Project that results in a death or serious injury to an individual. If such an incident occurs on NFS lands, YCWA will copy the Forest Service on all such notifications to FERC.

With regard to non-death or injury incidents, YCWA will contact the TNF or PNF as soon as practicable, after YCWA is aware of any of the following incidents occurring on NFS lands within the FERC Project Boundary for which the Forest Service was involved; including:

- A search and rescue operation to locate a person
- Any incident that has high potential for serious personal injury or death, or for significant property, environmental, or other natural resource damage, including avalanches, landslides, flooding, fire, structural failures, and release of hazardous materials.

For any accidents that require immediate medical attention for which YCWA is the first responder, YCWA will dial 911. For any accidents that requires non-emergency medical attention for which YCWA is the first responder, YCWA will contact Plumas Emergency Command Center at (530) 283-7854 and/or Grass Valley Incident Command Center at (530)478-6111.

For the incidents described above, YCWA will document all specifics of the incident, such as when, where, and how the incident occurred, and who was present or affected by the incident. YCWA will include GPS coordinates plotted on a map, if they are available. The documentation will include a written summary report that YCWA would provide to the Forest Service within 1 week of the incident.

#### 3.1.2.3 **Operating Staff**

An Operating Staff will accomplish the operational responsibilities described in this section (3.1). The Operating Staff may be YCWA employees; contract employees; staff of a concessionaire; (if YCWA retains a concessionaire to operate all or some of the Facilities); Forest Service staff (if YCWA enters into an agreement under which the Forest Service would operate some or all of the Facilities on NFS lands); or a combination of the above. YCWA understands that if a party other than the Forest Service operates some or all of the Facilities on NFS lands, an appropriate permit must be obtained from the Forest Service. Some or all of these Operating Staff may be on-site, part-time, or full-time, when the Facilities are open to the public. Currently, YCWA has agreements with the Forest Service, which are jointly reviewed and amended annually, to operate and maintain all the non-Marina facilities.

#### 3.1.2.3.1 Public Interaction

Operating Staff will attend to the public in a positive and helpful manner to make visitors feel welcome. YCWA, at a minimum, will assure Operating Staff that have primary contact with the public have customer-relations skills to: 1) enable them to answer commonly asked questions concerning the Facilities; and, 2) achieve a standard of public-contact performance commensurate with similar recreation areas on the TNF and PNF.

#### 3.1.2.3.2 Uniforms

During normal hours of operation, Operating Staff will wear uniforms or apparel that identifies them with the responsibility of operating the Facilities. Operating Staff or other YCWA staff that occasionally visit the Facilities to perform work will not be required to adhere to this condition.

#### 3.1.2.3.3 Vehicles

During normal hours of operation, Operating Staff vehicles will include easily observed information that identifies the vehicle as a YCWA, concessionaire or Forest Service vehicle.

#### 3.1.2.3.4 Information

During the Operating Season, YCWA will have Operating Staff available from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day and from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Fridays, Saturdays and the day before a holiday to provide information with regards to camping. Operating Staff will keep current on conditions regarding the Facilities, including any restrictions such as fire that apply to the Facilities, by the Forest Service. Operating Staff will provide visitors with up-to-date conditions at the reservoir.

#### 3.1.2.3.5 Parking Assistance

Operating Staff will provide information on opportunities, rules, and regulations related to parking at Dark Day and Cottage Creek boat ramp parking areas on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays during the Operating Season. Operating Staff will also provide launching traffic control at the boat ramps.

#### 3.1.2.3.6 Water System Operation

YCWA will be responsible for the overall operation of these Facilities, as well as maintenance and repairs, such as cleaning the storage tanks, testing the water, and fixing leaks.

#### 3.1.2.3.7 Campground Host

YCWA will provide a campground host at the existing Schoolhouse and Cottage Creek Campgrounds. Campground hosts are considered Operating Staff in this Plan.

#### 3.1.3 Law Enforcement

In responding to violations of federal, state, local laws, ordinances, and regulations at the Facilities, Operating Staff have the same authority as a private citizen unless the Operating Staff is a Forest Protection Officer or Law Enforcement Officer. They cannot enforce federal, state, or local laws or regulations, including 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Prohibitions on National Forest System lands. However, Operating Staff will be knowledgeable of applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including 36 C.F.R. Part 261, and will report violations of these laws and regulations to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

To minimize confusion between criminally enforceable federal, state, local laws and operating rules established under this Plan, each will be separately posted within the campground. Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies have no authority to take enforcement action related to operating rules established under this Plan, unless the conduct giving rise to the operating rule violation also constitutes a violation of federal, state or local law. Operating rules may not allow an activity prohibited by federal, state or local laws or Forest Service orders that pertain to the Facilities area, but operating rules may be stricter than federal, state or local laws and Forest Service orders. This Plan should be consistent with any orders that apply.

YCWA is responsible to assure that Facilities operations occur in a manner consistent with federal, state and local laws. Currently, YCWA contracts with the Yuba County Sheriff for law enforcement of state and county laws and regulations at the Facilities. In particular, the Yuba County Sheriff uses boat patrols to maintain safety on New Bullards Bar Reservoir.

While the Yuba County Sheriff and the Forest Service mutually aid one another, the Forest Service retains all its authorities and responsibilities for enforcing federal laws and regulations relating to administration of NFS lands.

Operating Staff will make a good faith effort to obtain user compliance with Plan rules. This shall be done by informing the public of the rules by use of conspicuous signs and a "good host" approach, and by requesting compliance of those who do not abide with these operating rules. Usual problems include, but are not limited to:

- Dogs not on leash
- Excessive noise
- Exceeding stay limits or site capacity
- Parking or camping in non-designated areas
- Vandalism
- Improper disposal of waste water, sewage, refuse, etc.
- Use of fireworks or other contraband
- Unauthorized use of vehicles such as off highway vehicles

As stated above, if Operating Staff, through a good faith effort, cannot obtain user compliance with Plan rules, federal, state, local laws and regulations, the Operating Staff will contact either the Yuba County Sheriff or the Forest Service for assistance.

#### 3.1.4 Inspections

YCWA and the Forest Service will conduct joint inspections of the Facilities and operations on NFS lands a minimum of two times a year or as conditions dictate. In addition, if any federal, state or local agency inspectors visit the Facilities on NFS lands, YCWA's primary contact or alternate will promptly advise the Forest Service. If YCWA is invited to participate in the visit, then YCWA will request the agency invite the Forest Service to participate. YCWA will provide to the Forest Service copies of all inspection reports for Facilities on NFS lands that YCWA receives based on these inspections.

#### 3.1.5 Fees

#### **3.1.5.1** User Fees

YCWA may charge "reasonable fees to users of such facilities in order to help defray the cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining such facilities" (18 C.F.R. § 2.7), and will maintain a comparable fee structure with other NFS campgrounds in the area. Table 3.1-2 provides the existing recreation user fees for single campsites, double campsites, triple campsites, group campsites, and boat-in campsites. On NFS lands, YCWA and the Forest Service will mutually agree upon changes in fees as part of the annual operating agreement discussions.

Table 3.1-2. Existing recreation user fee schedule.

Type of Facility	Type of Use	User Fee (as of 2018)
	Single family site	\$24
	Double family site	\$48
Family Camping	Triple family site	\$72
	Each additional vehicle (over 2 per single site; 4 per double site; and 6 per triple site)	\$6
	25-person site	\$88
Group Camping	50-person site	\$155
Group Camping	Each additional vehicle (over 5 vehicles at 25-person site and over 10 vehicles at 50-person site)	\$6
Post in Comming	Single site	\$24
Boat-in Camping	Double site	\$48
Other Camping Fees	Reservation fee	Determined by the Forest Service

Further, on NFS lands, YCWA may charge for use of various Facilities (e.g., picnic facilities and boat ramps) if the Forest Service could charge for use of these facilities.

#### 3.1.5.2 Other Fees

#### 3.1.5.2.1 Firewood

Firewood may be available for sale at the Campground Host site as long as the firewood is from a private source (i.e., not obtained on NFS lands), or approved by the Forest Service.

#### 3.1.5.2.2 **Project Recreation Maps**

YCWA, as a public service, may sell Forest Service maps, maps of the Facilities and general area at a price reflecting YCWA's cost to produce and distribute the maps. Examples of such maps include: detailed campground layout maps, maps of the Facilities, including trails and trailheads or special interest features.

#### 3.1.6 **Reservations and Camping Permits**

#### 3.1.6.1 **Camping Reservation System**

Currently, recreationists can make reservations for Project recreation facilities campsites through the Marina reservation system. In the future, recreationists may make reservations for Project recreation facilities campsites through the Forest Service reservation system. As of 2018, the Forest Service nationwide was using the National Recreation Reservation Service (www.recreation.gov) for campgrounds with reservable sites. If a different system is used in the future, the Forest Service reservation system current at that time will be the system used during implementation of this Plan. Operational procedures for the NRRS, or equivalent, will be developed and placed in the annual operating plan if the Forest Service takes over the recreation facilities reservation system.

Under either agency's operation, any walk-up campsite use fee will be on the honor system (e.g. the camper drops the fee and payment form into a fee collection drop-box). Fees will be periodically collected by the operating agency and added to reservation revenues for a determination of total campground revenues.

#### 3.1.6.2 Camping Outside of Designated Campgrounds at New Bullards Bar Reservoir

When New Bullards Bar Reservoir water surface elevation is at or below 1,941 ft (i.e., 15 ft below Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation of 1,956 ft), the Forest Service may allow dispersed camping on NFS lands. The Forest Service posts information about camping at or below 1,941 ft on the TNF's and the PNF's public website. YCWA will post the information, as provided by the Forest Service, on facility kiosks.

#### 3.1.6.3 **Length of Stay and Site Capacity**

Use is limited to existing designated units. Occupancy of all campsites will be limited to 14 consecutive days. Forest Service design standards for single campground units specify five PAOT (Forest Service (2013) Handbook 2309.13, Recreation Site Handbook, Chapter 30, pp. 6-9; December 2013). However, the Forest Service allows up to six PAOT at single units and multiples of six for double and triple campground units. Thus, occupancy of family campground units will be limited to six persons, or immediate family, and a maximum of two vehicles per unit. Occupancy of double-unit campsites will be limited to 12 persons and a maximum of four vehicles. Occupancy of triple-unit campsites will be limited to 18 persons and a maximum of four vehicles.

## 3.2 Routine Maintenance Responsibilities

### 3.2.1 Routine Maintenance Tasks, Schedule and Standards

YCWA is responsible for all routine maintenance of the Facilities, and will adhere to the schedule of annual routine maintenance provided in Table 3.2-1. If YCWA or its concessionaire (i.e., anyone other than the Forest Service) is performing maintenance of Facilities on NFS lands or Facilities owned by the U.S., they will do so only with the necessary Special Use Permit from the Forest Service.

Table 3.2-1. Schedule of annual routine maintenance.

Maintenance Task	Frequency	Remarks			
Lowering boat launch docks as the season progresses and removal of the docks when the ramps are no longer in the water	<ul><li>As needed, lower when water recedes</li><li>End of season (remove)</li></ul>	May need to remove the dock if site conditions make the raunusable.			
Litter and trash collection within site boundaries	<ul> <li>Daily at hosted site</li> <li>2 times/ week at non-hosted sites.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Remove all litter observed on the grounds.</li> <li>Particular attention shall be given to the removal of all observed glass, bottles, cans and similar objects that might cause injury to site visitors.</li> <li>Do not perform litter removal in an occupied campsite.</li> <li>Trash collection shall be collected at a frequency that does not encourage animal encroachment, overflowing, or emitting offensive odors.</li> <li>Receptacles shall be animal resistant.</li> <li>Two to four yard dumpsters need to be dumped at least once a week or before they overflow.</li> </ul>			
Paint entrance signs, shields and frames	<ul> <li>Annually, prior to July</li> <li>1st</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use Forest Service approved materials</li> <li>Frames may have to be water sealed instead of painted</li> </ul>			
Remove graffiti	As needed	Remove graffiti within 48 hours of discovery or notification			
All ground steel/concrete fire pits will be maintained	<ul><li>Prior to opening</li><li>As needed during the operating season</li></ul>	Concrete fire pits will have smooth finish with minor surface exfoliation or cracking evident.  Internal grill will be securely fastened			
Patch rodent and bird holes in wood restrooms, repair/replace screens	<ul> <li>As needed, prior to opening each year</li> </ul>	Forest Service approved materials and standards			
Maintain all posters in like-new condition on bulletin boards	<ul> <li>Prior to opening</li> <li>As needed during operating season</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Posters will not be curled, 'dog-eared', rippled or faded; temporary or press-on signs will be in good condition and professional in appearance; YCWA will be responsible for providing posters.</li> <li>Forest Service will provide source; posters will be uniformly spaced on the bulletin boards, not grouped in one corner.</li> </ul>			

#### Table 3.2-1. (continued)

Maintenance Task	Frequency	Remarks
Return all displaced picnic tables to appropriate locations at all locations, anchor if necessary	<ul> <li>Prior to July 1</li> <li>Within 1 week of observance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Picnic tables will be cabled or chained in place by the leg or brace.</li> <li>Cables or chains will be of sufficient size to require a bolt cutter or similar tool for cutting.</li> <li>The cable or chain will be connected to a buried anchor that may be concrete, block or steel post or like material.</li> <li>No wood anchors shall be used.</li> <li>Anchors will be placed so they are not a tripping hazard or otherwise cause injury; tables will have all 4 legs in contact with the ground; no legs will be propped up with rocks or other objects</li> <li>No anchors will be needed if concrete models are installed.</li> </ul>
Raise picnic tables that have sunken into ground due to snow load	Prior to opening, annually	All tables seating should be at appropriate height
All campsite markers will be straight with numbers clearly visible from roadway	<ul><li>Prior to July 1, annually</li><li>Within 1 week of observance</li></ul>	Forest Service standards; Carsonite posts with reflectorized letters or numbers, or equivalent; posts and lettering will be in good physical condition.
Remove trash from road and non-road accessed primitive sites	Weekly, between     Memorial Day and Labor     Day     Twice monthly after     Labor Day until Facilities     are closed for the season	<ul> <li>Remove and dispose of trash off site</li> </ul>
Replace all metal signs (particularly, 'No Parking') when they fade	<ul> <li>Prior to opening, annually</li> <li>Within 1 week of observance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All metal signs shall be legible and clearly visible at all times.</li> <li>The signs will be replaced when sunlight or other environmental factors has caused the numbers or letterings to appear weathered, discolored or bleached.</li> </ul>
Straighten, replace, reset, improve, and reinstall barriers.	By opening date     As needed	Straighten, replace, reset, and reinstall barriers within and adjacent to all project recreation sites; along the roads surrounding the reservoir; and along Project roads and trails where there is uncontrolled vehicle use.
Remove human and pet waste	<ul><li>Regular basis</li><li>As needed</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Waste will be removed on a regular basis to maintain acceptable site conditions.</li> <li>Excess waste will be documented noting sites where this is occurring.</li> </ul>
Remove hazard trees	<ul><li>Prior to opening</li><li>As needed, during operating season</li></ul>	In compliance with Forest Service standards and Integrated Vegetation Management Plan.
Rake around fireplaces and pedestal barbecues	Prior to opening	Rake needles away from all fire units for 5 ft in all directions
Clean out inlets, outlets and inside of culvert pipes	<ul><li>At end of season</li><li>Prior to opening, as needed</li></ul>	Forest Service standards; material removed will be placed in an area outside the stream environment zone.
Sweep all areas of roads, parking lots and paved camp spurs	<ul><li>Prior to opening</li><li>As needed</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Material will not be piled;</li> <li>Material will be scattered; and</li> <li>Cones and limbs will be kept off roadways and walkways for public safety.</li> </ul>
Cut back all vegetation sufficient to permit visibility to vehicles on roadway and allow vehicles use of the entire road	<ul><li>Prior to opening</li><li>As needed during operating season</li></ul>	<ul> <li>All shrubs, limbs and brush will be trimmed back to a distance no less than 6 ft from the edge of all roadways and spurs.</li> </ul>
Maintain all restroom doors in operating condition	As needed	<ul> <li>Interior and exterior of entry door</li> <li>Must be able to close and lock doors at all times</li> <li>Facilities shall not be out of service longer than 5 days</li> <li>Use Forest Service approved materials</li> </ul>
Inspect developed boat ramps	■ Bi-monthly	<ul> <li>Inspect for obstacles, deterioration, and safety hazards.</li> <li>Safety hazards will be taken care of immediately.</li> </ul>
Maintain restroom roofs	<ul><li>Prior to opening</li><li>As needed during operating season</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Make sure pine needles are removed before season starts, and buildups do not occur during season</li> <li>To prevent structural damage, buildings must be leak proof at all times.</li> </ul>

#### Table 3.2-1. (continued)

Maintenance Task	Frequency	Remarks
Site inspections and safety remediation	<ul> <li>Inspect on a regular basis during the peak season</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hosted Facilities will be inspected on a daily basis.</li> <li>Non-hosted Facilities will be inspected bi-weekly and include one weekend day.</li> <li>All safety items identified will be remediated prior to opening and, throughout the season within 48 hours of discovery, unless the severity is such that it would dictate closing the site.</li> </ul>
Pump toilet vaults when ¾ full at vehicle accessed Facilities	Beginning of season     As needed	<ul> <li>Vaults may need to be pumped at end of the season or, if the toilet vault is subject to accumulation of water from snowmelt at the beginning of season.</li> <li>Remove any trash from vaults when pumped</li> </ul>
Pump toilet vaults as needed at boat-in access Facilities and floating comfort stations	As needed     End of season	<ul> <li>Vaults may need to be pumped at end of the season or, if the toilet vault is subject to accumulation of water from snowmelt at the beginning of season.</li> <li>Remove any trash from vaults when pumped</li> </ul>
Painting restroom buildings	<ul> <li>On a rotating basis</li> <li>Each building painted once every 3 years</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Paint interior and exterior once every three years with Forest Service approved materials</li> <li>Surfaces to be painted shall be free of dust, dirt, scale or any other substance which may interfere with the adhesion of the specified coat. This may require sanding and smoothing.</li> <li>Forest Service approved paint at full strength.</li> </ul>
Paint trash bins, food lockers, recycling centers, and gates	■ As needed	<ul> <li>Paint with Forest Service approved materials</li> <li>Surfaces to be painted shall be free of dust, dirt, scale or any other substance which may interfere with the adhesion of the specified coat. This may require sanding and smoothing.</li> <li>Forest Service approved paint at full strength.</li> </ul>
Paint roadway signs and arrows	<ul><li>Prior to July 1</li><li>As needed</li></ul>	<ul> <li>All symbols shall be in conformance with the 'Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs and Pavement Markings' available from the Federal Highway Administration (ref. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices).</li> <li>Arrows shall be 12 -ft-wide at the base; the wings shall extend 10 ft from the outside edge of the base at a point 24 ft up from the bottom of the base; and the arrow portion shall extend 24 ft from the point where the wings start.</li> <li>A high pressure air hose shall be used to clean the pavement immediately prior to painting.</li> <li>Approved white traffic paint shall be used to paint signs and arrows.</li> </ul>
Paint, stain or otherwise waterproof wooden picnic tables	<ul><li>On a rotating basis</li><li>Each table treated once every 3 years</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Forest Service Standards and approved materials; surfaces to be painted shall be free of dust, dirt, scale or any other substance which may interfere with the adhesion of the specified coat. This may require sanding and smoothing;</li> <li>Forest Service approved paint at full strength.</li> </ul>
Dismantle user created fire rings	■ Throughout season	<ul> <li>Dismantle user created fire rings at project reservoirs where camping is limited to designated sites only. Rocks will be removed from unauthorized fire rings, turned burned side down outside the campsite.</li> </ul>
Remove ashes from fire rings	■ When 2/3 full	<ul> <li>Cooled ashes will be disposed of off site at a county landfill.</li> <li>Previously disposed ashes onsite (including those disposed of onsite by users) shall be properly disposed of as described above.</li> </ul>

Standards for cleaning recreation facilities located on NFS lands will be consistent with current Forest Service national and forest-specific standards and policies, which may change over time. Currently, National Forest Service standards and policies for cleaning recreation sites are addressed in the Forest Service's *Cleaning Recreation Sites* (Forest Service 1995) and the *Recreation Sites National Quality Standards* (Forest Service 2002). YCWA will furnish all supplies, tools, and materials necessary to clean, operate, and routinely maintain the Facilities.

#### **SECTION 4.0**

## SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS

YCWA will be responsible for funding, constructing, and operation and maintenance of all major improvements to existing Facilities, as well as any additional needed environmental analysis or documentation. Major improvements to existing Facilities generally require a topographic site survey, design, engineering and permitting work and frequently result in a new site footprint. Such projects typically require multiple years to implement. Minor improvements such as the installation or replacement of signs, food lockers, or picnic tables do not need to go through this process and require minimal construction and time to complete. YCWA will obtain prior approval from FERC for all major improvements to the Facilities; and, in addition, from the Forest Service for improvements to Facilities on NFS lands.

All recreational facilities designed, constructed, reconstructed, purchased, or replaced on NFS lands are required to comply with the most stringent applicable accessibility standards/guidelines, including the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS), Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Guidelines (FSORAG), and Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG).

The FSORAG and FSTAG provide guidance for maximizing the accessibility of outdoor recreation areas and trails in the National Forest System, while protecting the unique characteristics of their natural setting. Both guidelines include conditions for an exception and general exceptions that may be applied to some specific technical requirements. Guidance and documentation in accordance to the practices described in the FSORAG and FSTAG must be followed when applying conditions for exception. Conditions for exception are considered compliant with the most stringent application of the standards and guidelines, once approved by the Forest Service.

In addition, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires that no person be denied access to a program/activity just because the person has a disability. This act requires that any existing facility on NFS lands that has to be entered by employees or the public to participate in the program/activity inside that facility is required to be in compliance with the applicable accessibility standards/guidelines.

The above statements apply to all subsections in Section 4.0 for NFS lands.

Major improvement projects generally involve a three-step planning and implementation process. Steps in this process include: 1) preparation of a Site Plan (Design Narrative and Site Concept Plan); 2) preparation of a Site Development and Construction Plan; and 3) contracting and construction for each facility. These steps, as described below, are typical and variances may occur because of the complexity or simplicity of the major improvement work.

## 4.1 <u>Three-Step Planning Process</u>

Notably, environmental analysis and permitting work does not fit clearly into any of the three planning and implementation steps below; and, in practice, can often span the first and second steps of the process. As a rule, construction (Step 3) will not occur until all environmental and permitting work is complete. YCWA will obtain all necessary permits and approvals for survey work, facility design and on-site resource evaluations, including the Forest Service on NFS lands. YCWA will perform construction on Facilities on NFS lands, and Facilities owned by the U.S. only with the necessary Special Use Permit from the Forest Service.

## 4.1.1 Step 1 - Site Planning

YCWA will conduct the planning and design in consultation with the Forest Service at Facilities on NFS lands. The planning phase consists of a Site Concept Plan and an environmental analysis/decision. The Site Concept Plan presents a preliminary graphic illustration of proposed facilities and utilities in relationship to existing site features, facilities and utilities. The Site Concept Plan communicates proposed development ideas and/or alternatives. The Site Concept Plan may include large-scale representations of the area that indicate placement and orientation of the proposed facilities. This may include the use of aerial photography or topographic maps.

## 4.1.2 Step 2 – Site Development and Construction Plans

In this step, YCWA will develop a Site Development Plan that adapts the Site Concept Plan to a detailed topographic survey that better represents actual, existing site conditions. This plan also identifies the site design details (e.g., picnic tables, fire rings, restroom buildings, signage, and road surface materials). YCWA will submit all Site Development Plans to FERC for approval regardless of land ownership. For Facilities on NFS lands, YCWA will also provide Site Development Plans to the Forest Service for review prior to submitting the plans to FERC. YCWA assumes a period of 30 days for the Forest Service to review and approve design drawings at the 30, 60, 90 and 100 percent completion (i.e., total of 120 days for review), and FERC requires 90 days to approve the final Site Development Plan design drawings. Table 4.1-1 outlines general guidelines for drawing plan sets to help aid Forest Service review.

Table 4.1-1. Content guidelines for 30, 60, 90 and 100% design drawings.

Drawing Level	Drawing Content Guidelines
	Schematic Design - represents approx. 30% of the design plan effort
	Title page
30%	Notes and index page
	Basic CAD drawings – demolition plan and site layout plan
	Basic or standard construction details
	<u>Design Development</u> - represents approx. 60% of the design plan effort
	Comments to the Schematic Design are addressed
	Refine Title, Notes and Index pages
60%	Demolition Plan and Site Layout Plan are fully developed, including:
0070	<ul> <li>Dimensions, callouts and notes are included but may not be complete</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Other plans may be included (i.e., Grading and Drainage, Erosion Control, Electrical and Lighting, and Utilities)</li> </ul>
	Basic or standard construction details are complete and site specific details are developed but may be incomplete
	Product specifications and details are included but may be incomplete
	Pre-final Design - represents approx. 90% of the design plan effort
90%	Comments to the Design Development submittal are addressed
90%	Refine and finalize all dimensions, callouts and notes
	Refine and finalize all construction details and product specifications
	Final Design - represents 100% completion of design plans
100%	Comments to the Pre-final Design submittal are addressed
	Forest Service approves and signs off on the plan set

This step also involves the development of a Construction Plan. The Construction Plan has the following elements: 1) description of the proposed improvements, construction methods, equipment, crews, access routes, and timing; 2) description of measures to avoid impacts to water quality, and sensitive resources (i.e., cultural and biological); 3) identification of permitting, and other regulatory requirements needed prior to construction; 4) identification of appropriate site-specific erosion and sedimentation control measures; and 5) identification of necessary measures to provide appropriate public and worker safety, recreation traffic, and parking during the construction.

At Facilities located on NFS lands, YCWA will submit the Site Development and Construction Plans to the Forest Service for approval. After Forest Service approval, YCWA will finalize and submit these plans to FERC for final approval. Other minor permitting processes would occur in parallel, where possible, while the Forest Service design review and approval process progresses.

## **4.1.3** Step 3 – Contracting and Construction

This step involves contracting, planning and coordination in preparation of construction activities. For improvements on NFS lands, YCWA will commence construction: 1) after consultation with the Forest Service to ensure construction activities are coordinated with Forest Service; 2) after FERC approval; and 3) after all permitting has been completed. YCWA will aim to complete as much work as possible during periods when the Facilities are normally closed (immediately before and after the open season).

## 4.2 Recreation Facility Design Standards and Guidelines

The Forest Service has developed standards, guidelines and policies for design of Forest Service recreation. These standards, guidelines and policies will be followed in the design and planning of

the Facilities and replacement of existing Facilities on NFS lands. Below is a summary of some of the most relevant guidance and policy documents that will be used for the design of new and replacement facilities, and rehabilitation of existing Facilities on NFS lands.

- Forest Service Manual 2300 Recreation, Wilderness, and Related Resource Management, Chapter 2330 – Publicly Managed Recreation Opportunities (Forest Service 2006)
- Forest Service Handbook 2309.13 Recreation Site Handbook, Chapter 10 Planning and Design of Developed Recreation Sites and Facilities (Forest Service 2018)
- The Built Environment Image Guide (BEIG)
- FSORAG and ABAAS
- Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG)
- Engineering Management 7100-15 Sign and Poster Guidelines for the Forest Service (SPGFS) to the extent these are consistent with FERC requirements regarding sign guidelines at FERC-licensed hydroelectric facilities

An overall theme of these standards and guidelines is designing facilities, modifying the site, and using materials in ways that are compatible with the designated ROS setting for the area (refer to Table 2.1-2 for ROS settings and appropriate development scales).

In addition, all new, rehabilitated, and reconstructed Facilities located on NFS lands will meet Forest Service national and regional direction, regulations, design and other applicable standards in place at the time of design, such as, but not limited to: FSORAG; Forest Service Manual (FSM) direction; Forest Service Handbooks (FSH); and official correspondence and other applicable direction. At Facilities on NFS lands, YCWA will provide the Forest Service "as-built" drawings (hard copy and electronic .dwg versions or latest software in common use) for altered, improved, new construction, or expanded Facilities when they are submitted to FERC.

As a general policy at Facilities on YCWA land, site elements will be replaced with designs that meet current, applicable accessibility standards and guidelines (USDOI 2010) at the time of design for picnic tables, fire rings, pedestal grills, water hydrants, restrooms (including FCS), and other relevant constructed features. YCWA will use the ROS as guidelines, and the generally accepted professional recreation guidelines for its facilities.

# 4.3 <u>Avoidance, Protection, and Minimizing Effects to Sensitive</u> <u>Resource Areas</u>

Major improvement projects can potentially affect sensitive resources (e.g., wetlands, culturally-sensitive sites, critical wildlife habitats, and sensitive botanical sites) at or near planned improvement sites. The Site Concept and Site Development plans for recreation sites will avoid, mitigate, and/or minimize effects to sensitive resources. This may necessitate additional surveys, consultation with resource and regulatory agencies, or analysis to prescribe appropriate mitigation.

## 4.4 <u>Implementation Schedule for Planned Improvements</u>

Currently, YCWA is in the midst of the planning process to construct improvements at Cottage Creek Campground (reconstruction), Dark Day Boat Launch (parking area expansion) and Cottage Creek Boat Launch (parking area expansion). Table 4.4-1 details the implementation schedule for these planned major improvements. This schedule assumes approval of these projects is received from the Commission in 2018. If this is not the case, these schedules may be delayed, but will generally require the same total amount of time.

Table 4.4-1. Schedule of major improvements of existing facilities.

Consider to silitar on England	Year								
Specific Facility or Feature	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cottage Creek Campground reconstruction	P	P	P	С					
Cottage Creek Boat Launch parking expansion			P	P	C				
Dark Day Boat Launch parking expansion			P	P	С				

Legend: P=planning; C=construction.

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#### **SECTION 5.0**

## **PLAN REVISIONS**

YCWA and the Forest Service will meet to discuss the need to revise the Plan if significant changes in recreation use or resources occur. A need may arise from recreation monitoring results, from day-to-day operation and maintenance of the Project, or, from other unanticipated events that may arise during the license period. Examples of events that may trigger a need to revise the Plan include:

- Revisions and updates to Forest Service or other applicable management plans.
- Substantial changes in Project recreation use on or affecting NFS lands, as revealed by the Project monitoring.
- When new Facilities have been constructed.
- Changes in road maintenance standards or similar physical factors affecting the use of the Facilities within the Project area.
- Catastrophic natural events, such as major forest fires or natural disasters.
- New federal or state policies, regulations, and laws that significantly affect recreation resources in the Project Area.
- Acquisition by Forest Service of non-YCWA private land around Project reservoirs or impoundments that would allow for improvements where there is a demand, but suitable land was previously unavailable for construction on NFS lands of such improvements.
- Documented substantial changes in demographic use patterns (e.g., increases in size or amount of RV use, changes in types of boats using the lake, lack of use at a particular location), visitor needs, recreation preferences, types or patterns of use, season of use changes (such as school schedule changes) or other social factors affecting Facilities within the Project Area.

YCWA, in consultation with the Forest Service, will revise the Plan, as needed, when significant changes occur. Any updates to the Plan will be prepared in coordination and consultation with the Forest Service. Sixty days will be allowed for the Forest Service to provide written comments and recommendations before YCWA files the revised plan with FERC for FERC's approval. YCWA will include all relevant documentation of coordination/consultation with the revised Plan filed with FERC. If YCWA does not adopt a particular recommendation by the Forest Service, the filing will include the reasons for not doing so, based on Project-specific information. YCWA will implement the Plan as approved by FERC.<sup>7</sup>

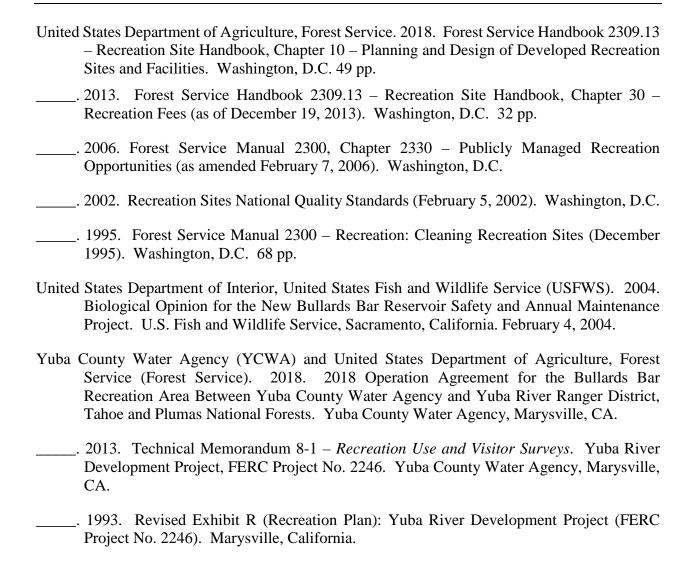
November 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Plan will not be considered revised until FERC issues its approval.

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#### **SECTION 6.0**

## REFERENCES CITED



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## **ATTACHMENT A**

# Site Plans for the Existing Project Recreation Facilities

