

SECTION 3.0

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action for this ESA consultation is FERC’s issuance of a new license for the Project. This section describes the existing Project and YCWA’s proposed changes to the existing Project (i.e., YCWA’s proposed Project). Additional conditions will likely be attached to any new license, because FERC has no discretion to reject certain appropriate conditions (e.g., those from federal agencies managing reservation lands occupied by the Project or state agencies with Clean Water Act section 401 implementation authority).

3.1 Existing Project Facilities

The existing Project includes three developments – New Colgate, New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow and Narrows 2 - each of which is described below. Existing Project facilities are shown in Figure 1.2-2 in Section 1.2 of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA.

The existing Project can store approximately 966,473 ac-ft of water (gross storage), and from 2008 through 2016, generated an average of 1,089,106 megawatt hours per year (MWh/yr) of power annually. The existing Project’s FERC total installed capacity is 361.9 MW and YCWA’s calculated dependable capacity is 247,331 kilowatts (kW). Table 3.1-1 and Table 3.1-2 summarize key information for Project powerhouses and reservoirs, respectively.

Table 3.1-1. Key information regarding Yuba River Development Project powerhouses.

Powerhouse	Unit	Turbine Type	Rated Head (ft)	Rated Hydraulic Capacity (cfs)		Generation Capacity (kW)		Average Annual Energy (MWh/yr) ³
				Minimum	Maximum	Nameplate Rating ¹	Dependable ²	
New Colgate	1	Pelton	1,306	0	1,715	157,500	247,261	942,278
New Colgate	2	Pelton	1,306	0	1,715	157,500		
New Bullards Minimum Flow	1	Pelton	561	0	5	150	0	1,054
Narrows 2	1	Francis	236	600	3,400	46,750	70	145,773
Total	4	--	--	--	--	361,900	247,331	1,089,106

Notes: cfs = cubic feet per second; kW = kilowatt; MWh/yr = megawatt-hours/year

¹ From Table 5.2-6 in Exhibit D of the Amended FLA.

² From Table 5.2-7 in Exhibit D of the Amended FLA (i.e., historical dependable capacity). Using its Water Balance Operations Model, YCWA estimates dependable capacity to be 230,309 kW (Table 5.2-8 in Exhibit D of the Amended FLA).

³ From Table 5.2-1 in Exhibit D of the Amended FLA (i.e., historical average annual generation from 2008 through 2016). Using its Water Balance/Operations Model, YCWA estimates average annual energy generation to be 1,418,045 MWh (Table 5.2-2 in Exhibit D of the Amended FLA for WY 2070 through WY 2010).

Table 3.1-2. Key information regarding Yuba River Development Project reservoirs and impoundments.

Project Reservoir	NMWSE ¹ (ft)	Gross Storage ² (ac-ft)	Usable Storage ² (ac-ft)	Surface Area ² (ac)	Maximum Depth ² (ft)	Shoreline Length ² (mi)	Drainage Area ³ (sq mi)
Our House Diversion Dam Impoundment	2,030	280	None	14	65	0.7	144.8
Log Cabin Diversion Dam Impoundment	1,970	90	None	5	40	0.4	29.1
New Bullards Bar Reservoir	1,956	966,103	961,103	4,790	636	71.9	466.6
Total	--	966,473	961,103	4,809	--	--	--

¹ NMWSE = Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation.

² Storage between NMWSE and the invert of the 72-inch hollow jet low level outlet.

³ At the dam, and drainage areas are not additive.

3.1.1 New Colgate Development

The New Colgate Development consists of the following features:

1. Our House Diversion Dam is a 130-ft radius, double curvature, concrete arch dam located in Sierra County on the Middle Yuba River 12.6 miles (mi) upstream of its confluence with the North Yuba River. The dam is 70 ft high with a crest length of 368 ft and a crest elevation of 2,030 ft, and has a drainage area of 144.8 square miles (sq mi). The dam (Figure 3.1-1) has a spillway, a fish release outlet valve used for releasing minimum flow requirements in the existing FERC license, and a low level (5-ft diameter) outlet valve.¹ The spillway, with an invert elevation of 2,030 ft is un-gated and has a maximum capacity of 60,000 cfs. The fish release outlet valve has an invert elevation of 1,990 ft, and an engineer’s estimated maximum capacity of 59 cfs when the pool is at the invert (2,015 ft) of the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel. The fish release outlet is controlled by a hand-operated 24-inch (in.) valve on the downstream end of the outlet. The low level outlet has an invert elevation of 1,987 ft, and an engineer’s estimated maximum capacity of 463 cfs² when the pool is at the invert of the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel. The low level outlet is controlled by a slide gate, which is operated by a two-person portable gasoline powered engine, on the upstream face of the dam.

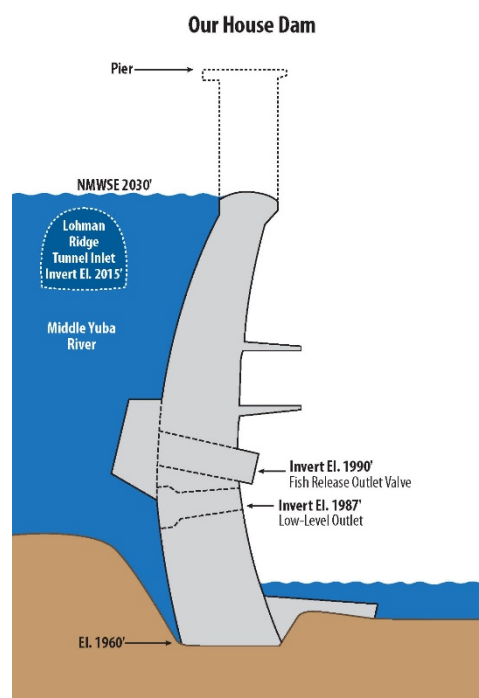


Figure 3.1-1. Our House Diversion Dam features.

¹ For the purpose of the application, the slide gate that controls the Our House Diversion Dam low level outlet is referred to as a “valve.”

² YCWA plans to rate the outlet.

2. Our House Diversion Dam Impoundment, a 280 ac-ft impoundment formed by Our House Diversion Dam.
3. Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel, a 12.5-ft high by 12.5-ft wide tunnel that conveys a maximum flow of 860 cfs through its 19,410 ft (90 percent unlined and 10 percent lined) length from the Middle Yuba River to Oregon Creek. The invert of the tunnel intake is at elevation 2,015 ft, which is 15 ft below the normal maximum water surface elevation (NMWSE) for Our House Dam (i.e., water can only be diverted through the tunnel when the impoundment's water surface elevation (WSE) is 2,015 ft or greater).

4. Log Cabin Diversion Dam is a 105-ft radius, concrete arch dam located in Yuba County on Oregon Creek 4.3 mi upstream of the confluence with the Middle Yuba River. The dam is 42.5 ft high with a crest length of 300 ft, a crest elevation of 1,970 ft, and a drainage area of 29.1 sq mi. The dam (Figure 3.1-2) has a spillway, a fish release outlet valve used for releasing minimum flow requirements in the existing FERC license, and a low level (5-ft diameter) outlet valve.³ The spillway, with an invert elevation of 1,970 ft is un-gated and has a maximum capacity of 12,000 cfs. The fish release outlet valve has an invert elevation of 1,947 ft and an engineer's estimated maximum capacity of 18 cfs when the pool is at the invert (1,952 ft) of the Camptonville Diversion Tunnel. The outlet is controlled by a hand-operated valve on the downstream end of the outlet. The low level outlet has an invert elevation of 1,935 ft, and an engineer's estimated maximum capacity of 348 cfs when the pool is at the invert of the Camptonville Diversion Tunnel. The low level outlet is controlled by a slide gate, which is operated by a two-person portable gasoline powered engine, on the upstream face of the dam.

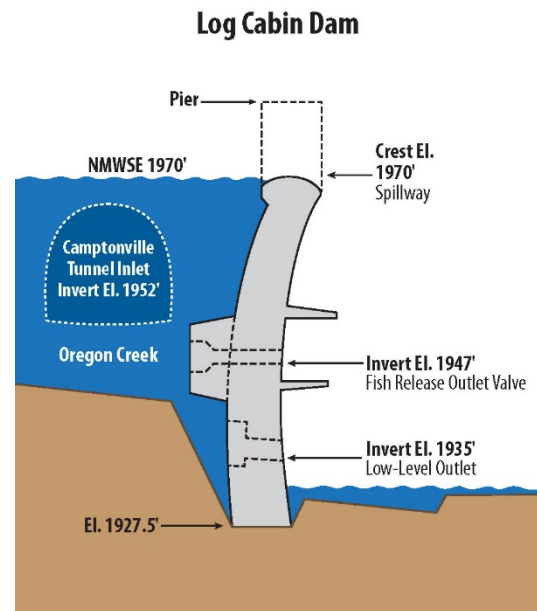


Figure 3.1-2. Log Cabin Diversion Dam features.

5. Log Cabin Diversion Dam Impoundment, a 90 ac-ft impoundment formed by Log Cabin Diversion Dam.
6. Camptonville Diversion Tunnel, a 6,107-ft long tunnel that has the capacity to convey 1,100 cfs of water from Oregon Creek to New Bullards Bar Reservoir on the North Yuba River. The first 4,275 ft of the conduit is an unlined, horseshoe-shaped tunnel 14.5 ft wide by 14.5 ft high, which (for the last 1,832 ft) becomes a lined, horseshoe-shaped tunnel 11.7 ft wide by 13 ft high. The tunnel invert elevation is 1,952 ft, which is 18 ft

³ For the purpose of the application, the slide gate that controls the Log Cabin Diversion Dam low level (5-ft diameter) outlet is referred to as a "valve."

below the NMWSE for Log Cabin Diversion Dam (i.e., water can only be diverted through the tunnel when the impoundment's WSE is greater than 1,952 ft).

7. New Bullards Bar Dam, a 1,110-ft radius, double curvature, concrete arch dam located on the North Yuba River about 2.4 mi upstream of its confluence with the Middle Yuba River. The dam is 645 ft high with a maximum elevation of 1,965 ft. The dam includes one low-level outlet – a 72-in. Hollow Jet Valve (invert elevation 1,444.5 ft) with a maximum design capacity of about 3,500 cfs at full reservoir pool, and an actual capacity of 1,250 cfs (i.e., actual release capacity is limited to 1,250 cfs because of valve vibrations at higher release rates). The dam includes an overflow-type spillway with a width of 106 ft and a crest elevation of 1,902 ft. Control gates on the spillway consist of three Tainter Gates measuring 30 ft wide and 54 ft tall, which are hoisted by 10 horsepower drum hoists. The maximum design capacity of the spillway is 160,000 cfs. Figure 3.1-3 provides a longitudinal schematic of New Bullards Bar Dam.
8. New Bullards Bar Reservoir, a storage reservoir on the North Yuba River formed by New Bullards Bar Dam. At NMWSE (1,956 ft), New Bullards Bar Reservoir extends about 15.3 river miles (RM) upstream on the North Yuba River, has an estimated gross storage capacity of 966,103 ac-ft, a surface area of 4,790 ac, a shoreline of about 71.9 mi, and a drainage area of 488.6 sq mi.
9. New Colgate Power Tunnel Intake, a structure on the upstream face of New Bullards Bar Dam composed of a curtain wall, trashrack and two intakes, one with an invert elevation of 1,808 ft and the other with an invert elevation of 1,627.5 ft. The upper intake is not used per the direction of Cal Fish and Wildlife (Figure 3.1-3)⁴.
10. New Colgate Power Tunnel and Penstock, a 5.2 mi long conveyance facility composed of four different types of conveyance structures: an unlined horseshoe-shaped tunnel 26 ft square; a lined horseshoe-shaped tunnel 20 ft wide and 14.5 ft high; a lined circular tunnel 14 ft in diameter; and 2,809 ft of steel penstock with a diameter ranging from 9 ft to 14.5 ft. The tunnel and penstock have a maximum flow capacity of 3,500 cfs (Figure 3.1-3).
11. New Colgate Powerhouse and Switchyard, a mostly underground, steel reinforced, concrete powerhouse located adjacent to the Yuba River. The powerhouse contains two vertical-shaft Voith Siemens Pelton type turbines with a total actual measured capacity of 340 MW under a design head of 1,306 ft and a measured flow of 3,430 cfs. The New Colgate Switchyard is located adjacent to New Colgate Powerhouse (Figure 3.1-3).

⁴ In 1993, YCWA convened a Temperature Advisory Committee to obtain more refined recommendations for the operation of New Bullards Bar Reservoir's multi-level intake. The committee was composed of YCWA, USFWS, and Cal Fish and Wildlife representatives. After reviewing temperature model data and the operating options, USFWS and Cal Fish and Wildlife recommended that water releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir be as cold as possible at all times. YCWA immediately implemented this recommendation and, since 1993, all controlled releases of water from New Bullards Bar Reservoir through New Colgate Powerhouse into the Yuba River have been from the deeper port (elevation 1,620 ft) of the New Bullards Bar Power Intake.

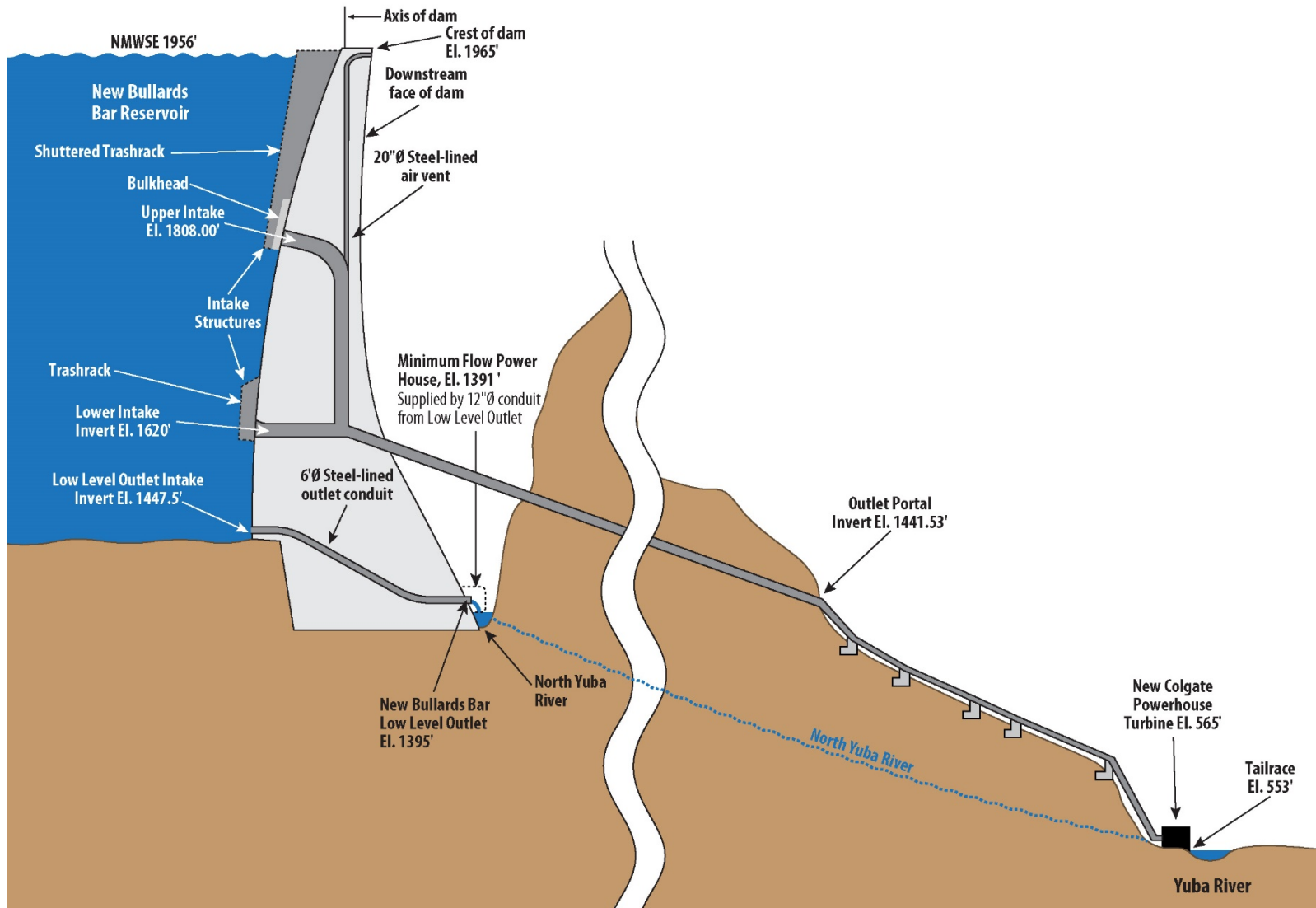


Figure 3.1-3. Longitudinal schematic of New Bullards Bar Dam on the North Yuba River and New Colgate Power Tunnel and Powerhouse on the Yuba River.

12. New Bullards Bar Reservoir Recreation Facilities, 16 recreation facilities⁵, which include: 1) Hornswoggle Group Campground; 2) Schoolhouse Campground; 3) Dark Day Campground; 4) Cottage Creek Campground⁶; 5) Garden Point Boat-in Campground; 6) Madrone Cove Boat-in Campground; 7) Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground; 8) Dark Day Picnic Area; 9) Sunset Vista Point; 10) Dam Overlook; 11) Moran Road Day Use Area; 12) Cottage Creek Boat Launch;⁷ 13) Dark Day Boat Launch⁸; 14) Schoolhouse Trail; 15) Bullards Bar Trail;⁹ and 16) floating comfort stations. All of the recreation facilities are located on NFS land, with the exception of the Dam Overlook, Cottage Creek Boat Launch and small portions of the Bullards Bar Trail, which are located on land owned by YCWA. All of the developed recreation facilities are located within the existing FERC Project Boundary, except for a few short segments of the Bullards Bar Trail to the east of the Dark Day Boat Launch.
13. Streamflow Gages, two streamflow gages, one each located downstream of Our House Diversion Dam (USGS Gage 11408880) and downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam (USGS Gage 11409400).
14. Roads, 15 existing Primary Project Road segments for a total length of 4.61 mi, and 12 recreation-related road segments for a total length of 3.84 mi (Exhibit A of the Amended FLA).

3.1.1.1 New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Development

The New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Development consists of the following facilities and features:

1. New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Powerhouse Penstock, a 70-ft long, 12-in diameter steel penstock with a maximum flow capacity of 6 cfs (Figure 3.1-3). The penstock

⁵ The names of the Project developed recreation facilities will be slightly different under YCWA's Proposed Condition RR1, *Implement Recreation Facilities Plan*, in Appendix E2 of this Amended FLA to make the naming of the facilities consistent with the Forest Service's current facility naming guidelines based on the amenities provided at each facility. For example, in the new license, the existing Dark Day Picnic Area will be Dark Day Picnic Site and Sunset Vista Point will be Sunset Vista Observation Site.

⁶ In 2010, the facility was destroyed in a fire. The only site amenities that remain are the vault restroom building and the Klamath stoves. Following extensive consultation, YCWA and the PNF determined that the area would be better utilized to meet current recreational demand for small groups (i.e., double and triple campsites). YCWA and the PNF agreed on a conceptual layout for small group campsites, to be known as the Cottage Creek Campground. The campground will be constructed in two phases: Phase 1 is planned for construction in 2017 or 2018, and Phase 2 will be constructed approximately 10 to 15 years later following re-vegetation of the more severely burned portion of this area.

⁷ Emerald Cove Marina provides visitor services at Cottage Creek Boat Launch, including houseboat and boat rentals, boat slips and moorings, fuel and a general store. The marina is operated under a lease from YCWA by a private company.

⁸ As of the time of this filing, following extensive consultation, YCWA and the Forest Service have agreed on a re-organization of the existing parking areas to increase the parking capacity by 34 spaces (14 single vehicle spaces and 20 vehicle with trailer spaces). Completion of this project is expected in the next 3 to 5 years.

⁹ The Project recreation facilities included one campground that is no longer part of the Project. Burnt Bridge Campground was closed initially by the Forest Service in 1979 due to low use levels. FERC, in an August 19, 1993 Order, which approved YCWA's Revised Recreation Plan, directed YCWA to remove all improvements and restore the Burnt Bridge Campground to the condition it was in prior to development of the facility. YCWA consulted with the Forest Service and all that remains of Burnt Bridge Campground today is the circulation road and vehicle spurs; all other facilities were removed.

bifurcates off the New Bullards Bar Dam low level outlet upstream of the 72-in. Hollow Jet Valve.

2. New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Powerhouse, a single Pelton turbine with a capacity of 150 kW at a flow of 5 cfs (Figure 3.1-3).
3. New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Transformer, a transformer located adjacent to the New Bullards Minimum Flow Powerhouse.
4. Streamflow Gages, one streamflow gage, located downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam (USGS Gage 11413517).

The New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Development does not include any recreation facilities, Primary Project Roads, or recreation roads.

3.1.1.2 Narrows 2 Development

The Narrows 2 Development consists of the following features:

1. Narrows 2 Powerhouse Penstock, a tunnel that is 20 ft in diameter and concrete lined in the upper 376 ft, and 14 ft in diameter and steel lined for the final 371.5 ft. The penstock has a maximum flow capacity of 3,400 cfs. The penstock bifurcates above the spiral case. One branch conveys water to the Narrows 2 Full Bypass, which is described below. The other branch conveys water to the Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Partial Bypass, which are described below. Figure 3.1-4 provides a longitudinal schematic of the Narrows 2 Powerhouse Penstock and Powerhouse.
2. Narrows 2 Full Bypass (Full Bypass), a valve and penstock branch off the Narrows 2 Penstock, which can discharge¹⁰ up to 3,000 cfs of water at full head into the Yuba River immediately upstream of the Narrows 2 Powerhouse through a 72-in diameter fixed-cone valve in a concrete structure. The Full Bypass was installed in 2008 to maintain minimum flows during times of full shutdown¹¹ of the Narrows 2 Powerhouse and is also used during flow transitions between the Narrows 2 Powerhouse and PG&E's Narrows 1 Powerhouse (Figure 3.1-4).

¹⁰ For the purpose of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA, "discharge" means the estimated flow through a facility at a designated location in terms of cfs. A discharge may be measured or estimated, and may also be referred to as a "release."

¹¹ For the purpose of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA, a "shutdown" refers to a facility going from some level of operations to no operations. Shutdowns may be "planned" (i.e., scheduled with some advanced planning) or "forced" or "unplanned" (i.e., results from an emergency, such as equipment failure).

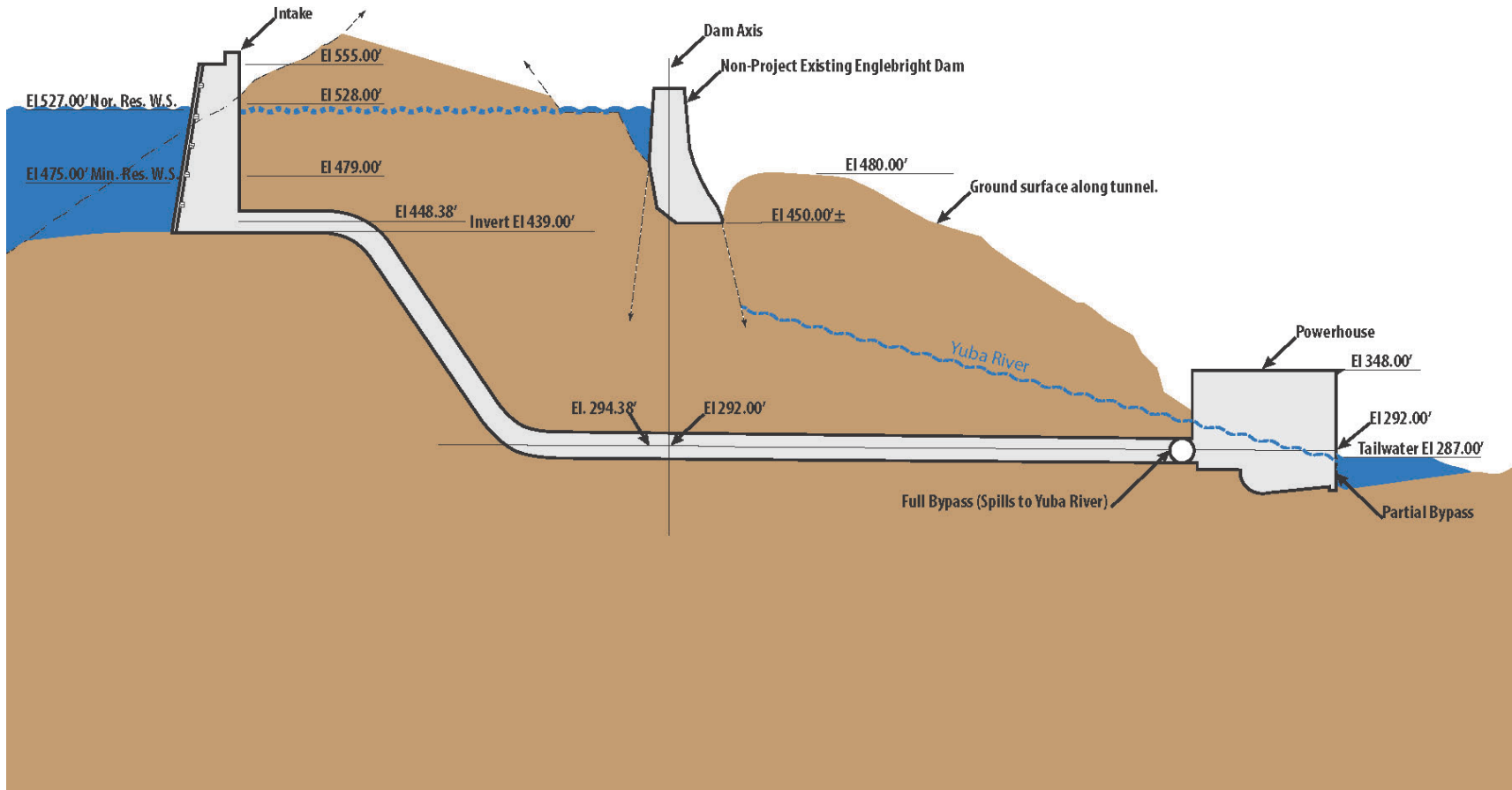


Figure 3.1-4. Longitudinal schematic of the Narrows 2 Powerhouse Penstock and Powerhouse.

3. Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Switchyard, an indoor powerhouse located about 200 ft downstream of Englebright Dam. The powerhouse consists of one vertical axis Francis turbine with a capacity of 55 MW at a head of 236 ft and flow of 3,400 cfs. Releases from the powerhouse draft tube are subsurface. The Narrows 2 Powerhouse Switchyard is located adjacent to the powerhouse.
4. Narrows 2 Partial Bypass (Partial Bypass) includes a pipe off the Narrows 2 Powerhouse turbine scroll case, which can discharge up to 650 cfs of water at full head into the Yuba River through a 36-in valve located on the downstream face of the powerhouse above the draft tube outlet. The Partial Bypass was built as part of the original design when the Narrows 2 Powerhouse was constructed.
5. Streamflow Gages, none¹².
6. Roads, four existing Primary Project Road segments for a total length of 2.27 mi.

The Narrows 2 Development does not include any recreation facilities or recreation roads.

3.1.2 Existing Project Boundary

The FERC Project Boundary is intended to consist of all lands necessary for the safe operations and maintenance of the Project and other purposes, such as recreation, shoreline control, and protection of environmental resources. For the Yuba River Development Project, the existing boundary encompasses 7,815.2 ac of land in Yuba, Nevada and Sierra counties, California. The existing FERC Project Boundary includes a zone of area that encloses all Project facilities and features. The width of the zone around a facility or feature varies depending on the type of Project facility or feature and the activities associated with it.

A total of 56.5 percent of the land (4,416.7 ac) within the FERC Project Boundary is NFS lands, and 0.2 percent (16.1 ac) is USACE lands. Three-tenths percent of the land (20.1 ac) is State of California-owned land. YCWA owns 40.3 percent of the land (3,149.3 ac) within the existing boundary. The remaining 2.7 percent of the land (213.0 ac) within the existing FERC Project Boundary is in private ownership.

3.1.3 Existing Project Safety

The Project has been operating for more than 45 years under the existing license and during this time FERC staff has conducted operational inspections focusing on the continued safety of the structure, identification of unauthorized modifications, efficiency and safety of operations, compliance with the terms of the license, and proper maintenance. In addition, the Project has been inspected and evaluated every 5 years by an independent consultant and a consultant's

¹² The Narrows 2 Development does not include any streamflow gages. YCWA uses two non-Project gages to monitor compliance with streamflow requirements. These gages are: USGS Gage 11418000, Yuba River Below Englebright Dam, Near Smartsville, and USGS Gage 1142100, Yuba River Near Marysville. The Smartsville gage is owned, operated, and maintained by PG&E. The Marysville gage is owned by YCWA and operated by USGS.

safety report has been submitted for FERC's review. YCWA has a strong commitment to employee and public safety, which is reflected in its written safety procedures and training program, and its safety record.

3.1.4 Existing Project Operations

One of YCWA's major considerations each year is anticipated water availability. YCWA begins estimating water availability each year in January and continually updates the estimate throughout the spring runoff period. When estimating available water supply, YCWA considers current reservoir storage and DWR Bulletin 120 forecasts of unimpaired flow at the Smartsville gage on the lower Yuba River and the Goodyears Bar gage on the North Yuba River. Estimates of available water supply and other water needs are compared to estimates of required releases, consumptive demands within YCWA, and target levels for fall carryover storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir.

Typically, YCWA operates New Bullards Bar Reservoir by capturing winter and spring runoff from rain and snowmelt. The North Yuba River inflow to New Bullards Bar Reservoir is augmented by diversions from the Middle Yuba River to Oregon Creek through the Lohman Ridge Tunnel, and by diversions from the Lohman Ridge Tunnel and Oregon Creek into the reservoir through the Camptonville Tunnel.¹³ Consequently, New Bullards Bar Reservoir normally reaches its peak storage at the end of the spring runoff season, and then is gradually drawn down until its lowest elevation in early to mid-winter. The reservoir does not undergo significant daily changes in elevation.

New Bullards Bar Reservoir has mandatory reserved flood storage space criteria from mid-September through the end of May that limit maximum authorized storage (See Section 3.1.5.1). The Our House and Log Cabin diversion dam impoundments have no appreciable storage, and YCWA operates them exclusively to divert water to New Bullards Bar Reservoir in the winter and spring during high flow periods.

During the spring of each year, YCWA makes a determination of anticipated runoff into New Bullards Bar Reservoir relying upon snow course measurements and forecasts of runoff provided by DWR. YCWA also makes estimates of water needs for local water deliveries and for releases to meet required instream flows for the current water year (WY). Based on these forecasts, an end-of-September storage is estimated. If the forecasted end-of-September storage is higher than a pre-determined target (650,000 ac-ft),¹⁴ releases are increased above the required flows to draw reservoir storage down to the target level. The target storage is an operational measure used to drive releases in relatively wet years, and supports water releases for out-of-basin transfers under the Lower Yuba River Accord (Yuba Accord).¹⁵

¹³ The average total inflows to New Bullards Bar Reservoir from the North Yuba River and diversions from the Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek are about 1,200,000 ac-ft per year, and annual inflow has ranged from a low of 163,000 ac-ft in 1977 to a high of 2,800,000 ac-ft in 1982.

¹⁴ An end-of-September storage of 650,000 ac-ft would ensure adequate storage to meet full irrigation demands and dry-year flow requirements for a 99 percent exceedance drought in the following year.

¹⁵ The end-of-September target storage drives New Bullards Bar Reservoir operations in 56 percent of years under the Base Case scenario.

In addition to the target storage, there is a minimum storage at the end-of-water year to provide carryover storage requirement for drought protection purposes. If forecasted end-of-September storage falls below an end-of-September carryover storage target, agricultural deliveries may be reduced to ensure adequate water supply for the following year. Reservoir carryover storage is used to make up the difference between the available surface water supply provided by the current year's runoff and system demands (e.g., diversion demands, instream flow requirements, and system operational losses) under drought conditions.

In wetter years YCWA operates New Bullards Bar Reservoir to an end-of-September target storage level for the Yuba Accord of 650,000 ac-ft, as well as other target storage levels for various times in mid-winter and spring that are parts of power generation operations and flood control operations.

The New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Powerhouse is operated as a "base load" facility where flows are set at a constant rate to provide the required instream flows downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam.

The New Colgate Powerhouse is a highly versatile facility, and is used for a combination of peaking and base generation. Depending upon energy demand, the New Colgate Powerhouse generation can be fluctuated in less than 10 minutes from a minimum of 2 MW with only one unit operating to maximum load of 340 MW with both units operating, if both units are ramped up at the same time. This ability to rapidly fluctuate generation, together with substantial storage available in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, and its central geographical location, makes the New Colgate Powerhouse important and unique to the Northern California power grid.

For most of the year, New Colgate Powerhouse is operated as a peaking facility, or to provide ancillary services such as spinning reserves or regulation. Under peaking operations, releases through the powerhouse are concentrated to hours of the day when power is most valuable or when power demand is higher (such as weekdays from mid-morning through early evening, largely corresponding to warmer times of the day and/or peak workday and early evening hours). Under ancillary services operations, the generating station is ramped upwards or downwards quickly, to respond to power system load changes on a near-real-time basis, and generating station output and flows may vary substantially minute-to-minute. The New Colgate Powerhouse also often operates under a combined peaking/ancillary service protocol, with one unit operating in peaking mode and the other unit responding to ancillary service requirements. During some of the late 1990s and early 2000s, New Colgate Powerhouse operations were focused on weekday peak generation. More recently, power generation has shifted to a schedule driven by a balance of peak period generation and providing ancillary services to the region.

At many times, New Colgate Powerhouse provides a significant percentage of the required ancillary service for grid regulation of the region, as dispatched by the California Independent System Operator (ISO), the entity responsible for maintaining grid reliability in California. Peaking operations dominate power generation operations at New Colgate Powerhouse. However, under high flow conditions, some or all of the available capacity is used for base load generation, generating inexpensive power while excess water must be moved through the system anyway.

3.1.4.1 Narrows 2 – Flow Transitions¹⁶

YCWA and PG&E coordinate releases from the Project’s Narrows 2 Powerhouse, Partial Bypass and Full Bypass and PG&E’s Narrows Project in accordance with the streamflow requirements in Article 33 in the existing license for the Yuba River Development Project. Compliance with Article 33 is measured at the Smartsville and Marysville gages.

YCWA records flow at 15-minute intervals through the Narrows 2 Penstock using an acoustic velocity meter (AVM) attached to the penstock upstream from the Full Bypass/Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Partial Bypass bifurcation, and retains flow data in its HYDSTRA database. Flow in the penstock downstream of the bifurcation is not directly measured. Rather, YCWA estimates flow through the Narrows 2 Powerhouse, Partial Bypass and Full Bypass based on: 1) recorded flow at the AVM; 2) operator logs of when the Full and Partial bypasses are opened and closed; and 3) records on Narrows 2 Powerhouse generation. Narrows 1 Powerhouse flow data are available from PG&E (YCWA does not measure flow through the Narrows 1 Powerhouse). In addition, YCWA obtains Smartsville flow gage data from PG&E.

3.1.4.1.1 Flow Transition Among Narrows 2 Development Facilities

The transition between Narrows 2 Powerhouse and the Full Bypass can be performed in response to an emergency when a forced outage occurs or during normal operations as part of shutdown of the powerhouse. The following is a description of YCWA’s standard operational practices for flow transitions. While the facilities have been operated differently on occasion and may be operated differently in the future, only normal operations are described below.

If the Narrows 2 Powerhouse is operating and a Narrows 2 Powerhouse shutdown occurs because of a forced outage (i.e., unit trip), then the powerhouse turbine wicket gates are closed automatically and there is an automatic opening of the Full Bypass so that flow through the bypass is the same as the flow was through the powerhouse before the outage. The opening is started after a 3-minute safety delay during which time a horn is sounded at the exterior of the Full Bypass to warn persons in the area of an imminent release through the Full Bypass. This operation is automated and does not require any manual actions.¹⁷ YCWA estimates the time from when a Narrows 2 Powerhouse forced outage occurs to the time the Full Bypass is fully opened to the desired level typically is about 5 minutes, depending on the flow level (i.e., 2 minutes after the warning horn stops).

Once a Narrows 2 Powerhouse outage is cleared (i.e., the powerhouse is ready to resume operation), the Narrows 2 Powerhouse unit is synchronized to the electrical grid, then the Full Bypass is closed either remotely (i.e., by PG&E from its Wise, California, Switching Center or by YCWA through its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition [SCADA] system) or manually

¹⁶ For the purpose of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA, a “transition” or “change-over” refers to decreasing or increasing the discharge from one facility in coordination with decreasing or increasing flows in another facility. A transition may include a shutdown of one facility.

¹⁷ In some cases, such as a momentary unit trip caused by a transmission line outage, YCWA’s operators are able to fully restore flow through Narrows 2 Powerhouse before the automatic system begins flow through the Full Bypass.

on-site in increments synchronized with increased load and resulting releases through the Narrows 2 Powerhouse.

If the Narrows 2 Powerhouse is operating and a planned powerhouse shutdown occurs, the transition from the Narrows 2 Powerhouse to the Full Bypass occurs as described above. This can be done either remotely by YCWA or PG&E, or manually on-site. This transition usually takes longer (i.e., 10 to 15 minutes) for a planned outage because there is no emergency and steady instream flows are maintained.

Since installation of the Full Bypass in January 2007, the Partial Bypass typically has been used only for a few specific reasons, which include: 1) maintenance on the Full Bypass when generation is not possible; 2) obtaining safe foot access upstream of the Full Bypass when generation is not possible; and 3) supplemental flow releases at lower levels than the long-term reliability operating ranges of the Full Bypass or Narrows 2 Powerhouse.

Except for flow transitions, YCWA does not operate the Full or Partial bypasses when Narrows 2 Powerhouse is operating (i.e., water is passing through the turbine and generating electricity) and, except in very rare instances, does not operate both bypasses at the same time.

3.1.4.1.2 Transition Between Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 1 Powerhouse

YCWA and PG&E have negotiated a new agreement for the coordinated operations of the Narrows 1 and Narrows 2 powerhouses for the period beginning on May 1, 2016 (after expiration of YCWA's previous power purchase agreement with PG&E on April 30, 2016). The new agreement does not make any major changes in the historic coordinated operations of the two powerhouses. A minor change is that when the required release below Englebright Dam is in the range of the full capacity of the Narrows 1 Powerhouse (about 730 cfs) to 900 cfs, rather than releasing at the full capacity of Narrows 1 Powerhouse and releasing the remainder of the flow through the Partial or Full bypass, the required downstream release is in this range the full amount of flow will be released from the Narrows 2 Powerhouse and no flow will be released from the Narrows 1 Powerhouse. This change eliminates bypasses of flow within this flow range.

Under the coordinated operations agreement, PG&E and YCWA coordinate to schedule the amounts of water that will flow through the Narrows 1 and 2 powerhouses. The flows at Narrows 2 Powerhouse can be adjusted remotely by YCWA through its SCADA system and at PG&E's Narrows 1 Powerhouse by PG&E from its Wise Switching Center, or manually on-site. Dispatching decisions are based on a number of factors, which could potentially change on an hourly or daily basis. These include: minimum flow requirements;¹⁸ water demand; conditions in the California electricity market; capacity and condition of the Narrows 2 and Narrows 1 powerhouse turbines, generators and bypasses; transmission line conditions; and a desire to minimize Englebright Reservoir and Yuba River elevation fluctuations.

¹⁸ The flow requirements in license 1404 and 2246 are not the same. Article 33 in license 2246 contains flow requirements in the Yuba River below the Narrows 2 facilities, and compliance with these requirements are monitored at the Smartsville and Marysville gages. Article 402 in license 1403 contains flow requirements for PG&E's Narrows Project, and the compliance location is the Smartsville gage.

The following is a description of YCWA's and PG&E's standard operational practices for flow transitions between the Narrows 1 and Narrows 2 powerhouses. While the facilities have been operated differently on occasion and may be operated differently in the future, only normal operations are described below.

If the Narrows 2 Powerhouse is operating, the Narrows 1 Powerhouse is not operating, and releases below the dam are to be reduced to a range where PG&E can begin to generate electricity and release the majority of the required flow at the Narrows 1 Powerhouse, then YCWA and PG&E synchronize the Narrows 1 Powerhouse unit to the electric grid, while reducing draft from Narrows 2 Powerhouse to compensate for increased releases from the Narrows 1 Powerhouse. As the Narrows 1 Powerhouse load is increased, releases from the Narrows 2 Powerhouse are decreased and the Full Bypass is opened to the flow rate, if any, that is needed to supplement the Narrows 1 Powerhouse release. If the required supplement is less than approximately 230 cfs, then the Partial Bypass is used instead of the Full Bypass. YCWA and PG&E estimate that this transition can take between 10 and 30 minutes to reach the full flow of the Narrows 1 Powerhouse.

If the Narrows 1 Powerhouse is operating, the Narrows 2 Powerhouse is not operating, and releases below the dam are to be increased, then the transition of releases from the Narrows 1 Powerhouse to the Narrows 2 Powerhouse occurs in reverse of the process described in the preceding paragraph.

The above changes can be made remotely by PG&E from its Wise Switching Center or by YCWA through its SCADA system, or manually on-site.

3.1.4.1.3 Typical Operations of Narrows 2 Facilities

Discharge can occur from the Narrows 1 and Narrows 2 powerhouses based on regulatory requirements, water demands, inflows from releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir, uncontrolled flows, management of storage levels in Englebright Reservoir, and capability of the turbines, generators and bypasses, and Yuba River flow fluctuation avoidance/minimization for the protection of fisheries and other reasons. Table 3.1-3 provides a summary of the typical current flow ranges through the Narrows 2 Powerhouse, the Partial Bypass, the Full Bypass and the Narrows 1 Powerhouse. There are a great many combinations of potential conditions that could require different operating conditions than those indicated in Table 3.1-3, but a complete description of all of them would be confusing and difficult to explain. YCWA needs to retain flexibility of operations, based on experience and familiarity with the equipment, safety, and protection of environmental resources.

Table 3.1-3. Typical distribution of flows under normal operations (i.e., excluding brief transition periods) among Narrows 2 Powerhouse (generation only), Partial Bypass, Full Bypass and Narrows 1 Powerhouse.

Range of Flow Releases to Yuba River (cfs)	Narrows 2 Powerhouse Release (generation) ¹ (cfs)	Partial Bypass Release ¹ (cfs)	Full Bypass Release ¹ (cfs)	Narrows 1 Powerhouse Release ² (cfs)
Up to 730	Typically not used	149	Typically not used	150 - 730
730 – 2,800	730-2,800	Typically not used	Used When Narrows 2 Powerhouse not available	0
2,800-4,130	2,070-3,400	Typically not used	Used When Narrows 2 Powerhouse not available	Up to 730
> 4,130	3,400	Typically not used	0	Up to 730

¹ The typical operating flow ranges of Narrows 2 facilities are limited by long-term reliability considerations, such as vibration and cavitation of the runner, and are as follows: the Narrows 2 Powerhouse between 700 and 3,400 cfs (with physical capacity to release as low as 600 cfs); the Partial Bypass between 0 and 230 cfs (with physical capacity to release as high as 650 cfs); and the Full Bypass between 150 and 3,000 cfs.

² The use of the Narrows 1 Powerhouse in this range is dependent on a number of economic and generator factors and can vary from no flow to the maximum Narrows 1 Powerhouse generation capacity. In this range, Narrows 2 Powerhouse alone or Narrows 1 Powerhouse with Narrows 2 Powerhouse may operate.

Figures 3.1-5 through Figure 3.1-14 show for each WY from 2007 through 2016, actual operations and information consisting of estimated 15-minute discharges from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 Powerhouse, Partial Bypass and Full Bypass as well as flow at Smartsville gage and spill over Englebright Dam. In these figures, Narrows 1 Powerhouse and Smartsville gage data are from PG&E, and the Narrows 2 Powerhouse, Partial Bypass and Full Bypass data are based on flow data in the Narrows 2 Penstock acoustic velocity meter and YCWA operators’ log books. Spills over Englebright Dam are based on measured Englebright Reservoir water surface elevation and PG&E’s relationship for spills and water surface elevation.

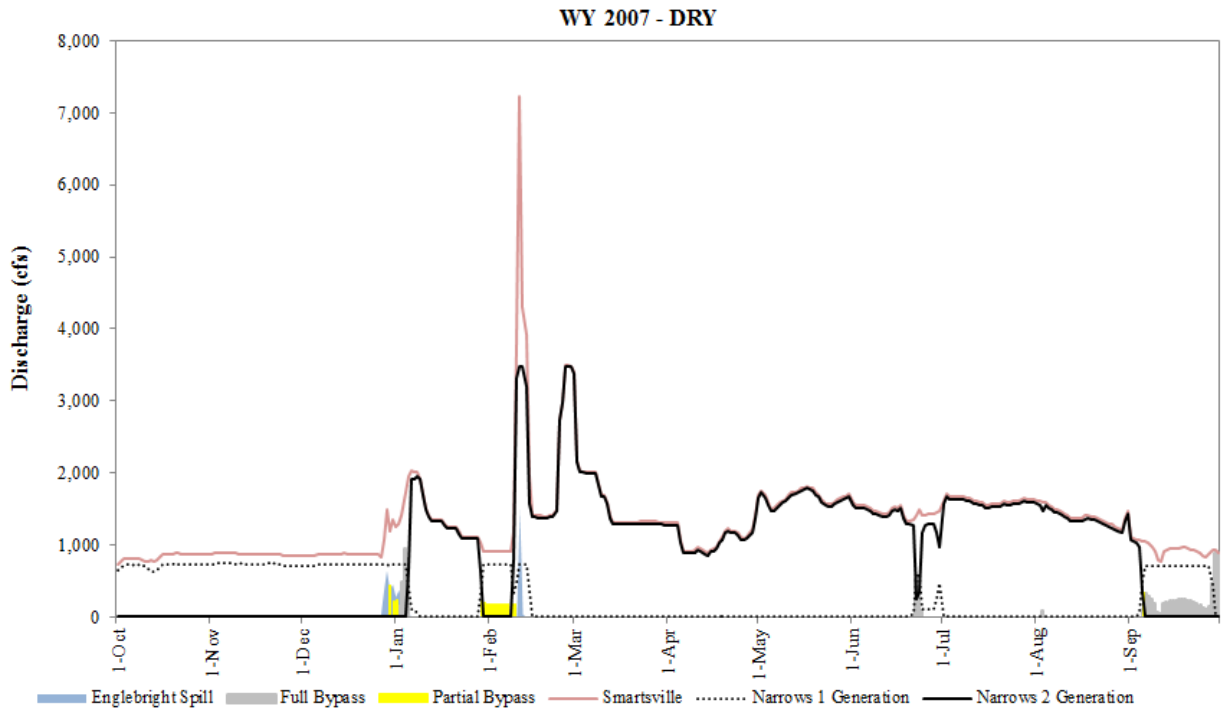


Figure 3.1-5. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2007. The Narrows 2 Powerhouse was shut down during the period of October 1 through December 30, 2006 for the installation of the Narrows 2 Full Bypass. Siphons over Englebright Dam were used to provide flow to the Yuba River in addition to Narrows 1 Powerhouse releases. Accordingly, there is a difference between the flow from the Narrows 1 Powerhouse and Smartsville gage.

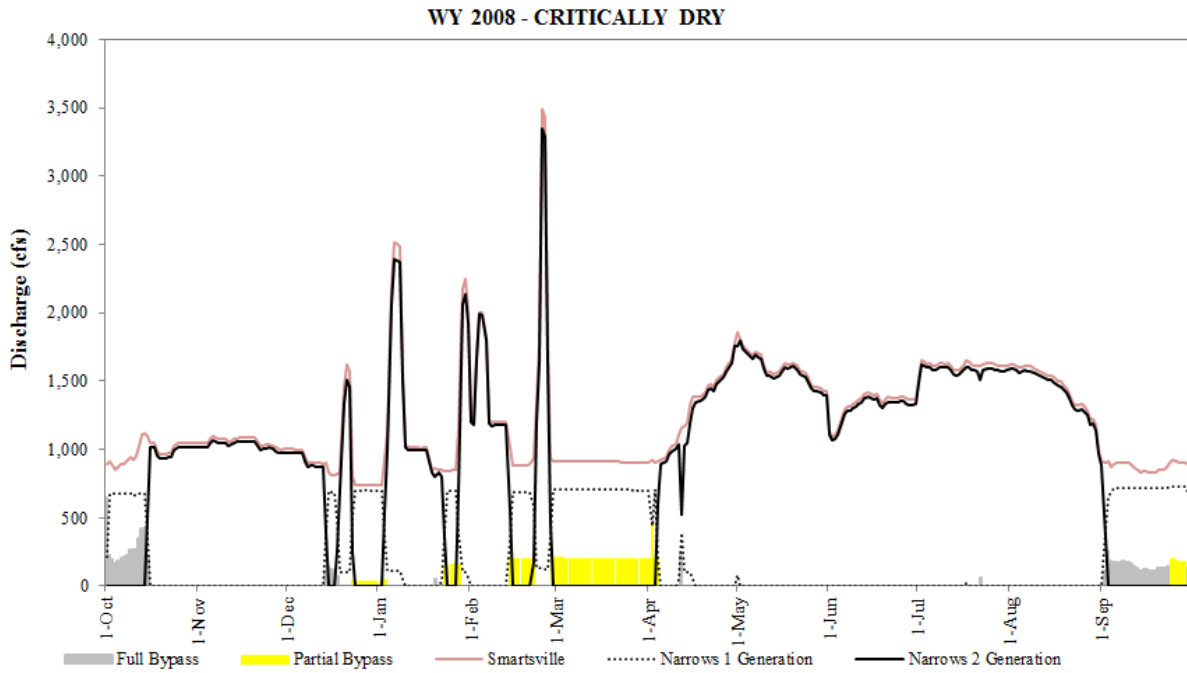


Figure 3.1-6. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2008.

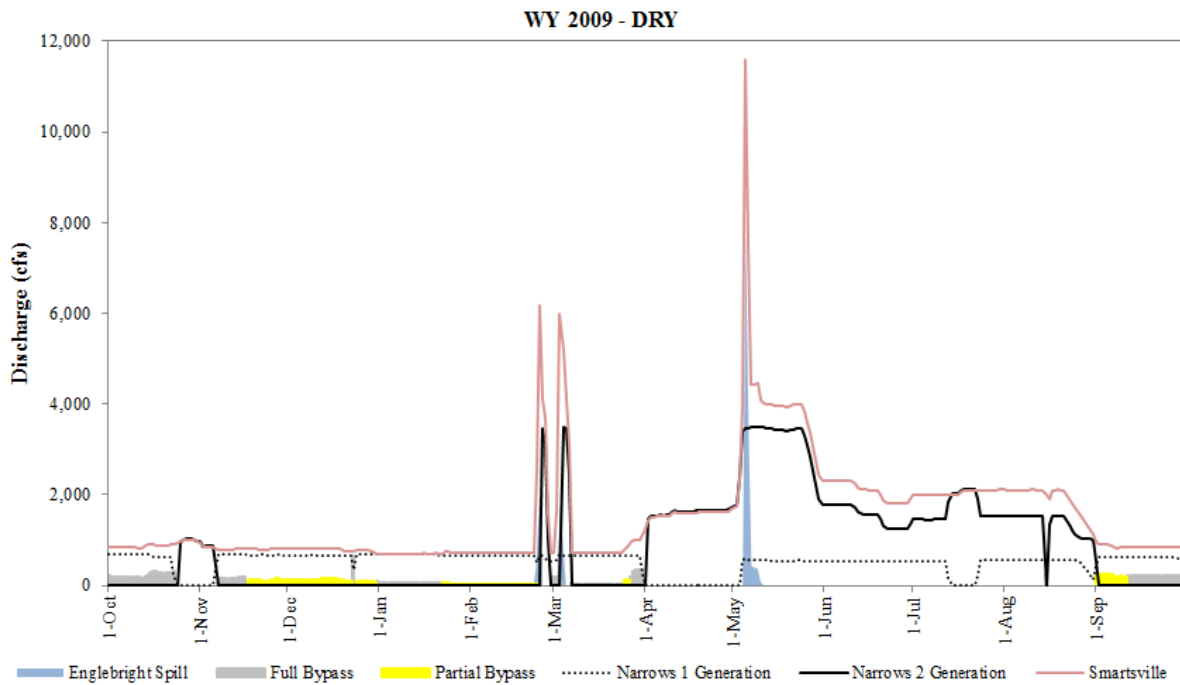


Figure 3.1-7. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2009.

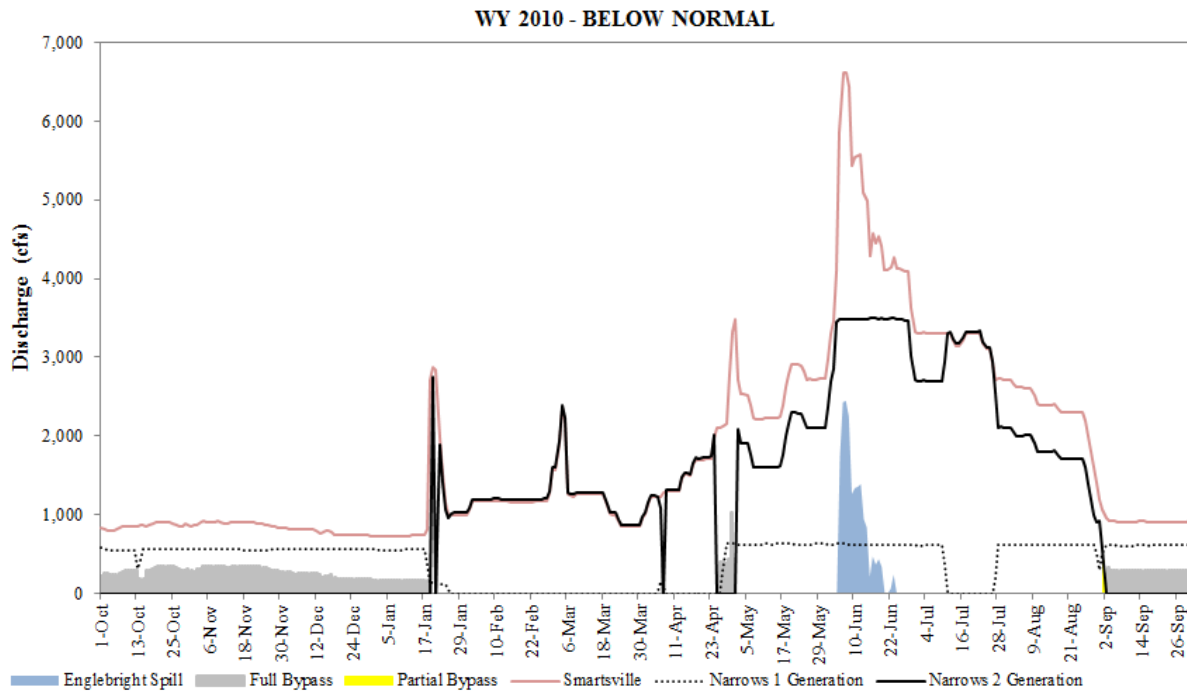


Figure 3.1-8. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2010.

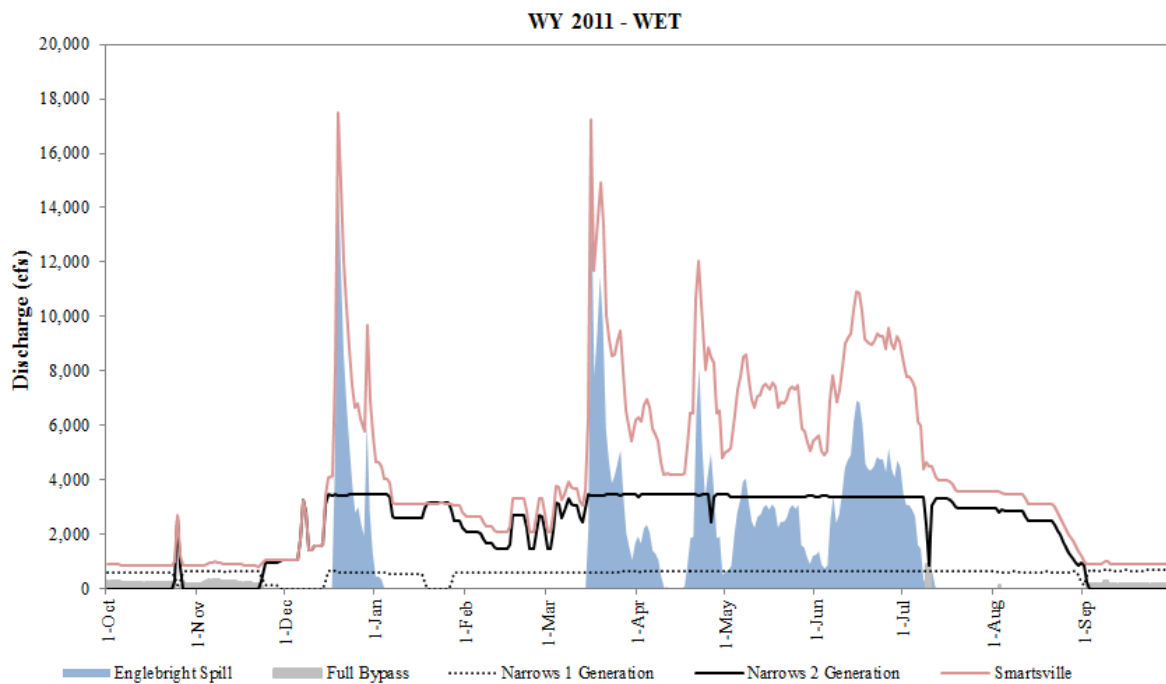


Figure 3.1-9. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2011.

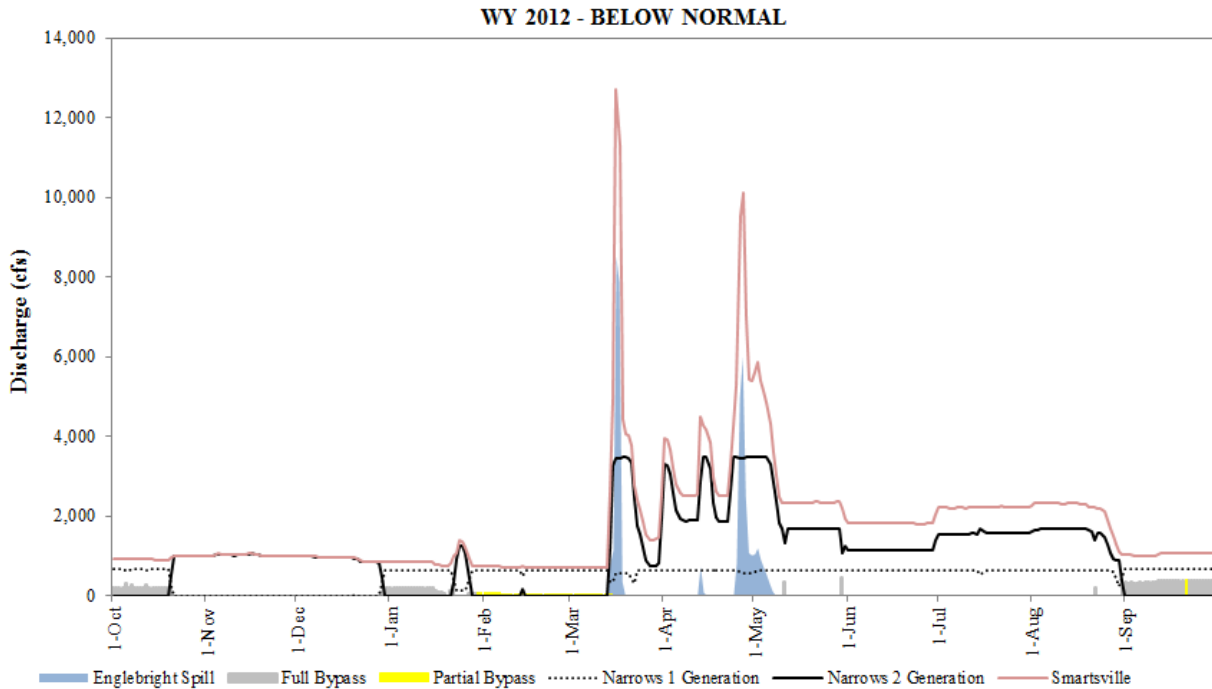


Figure 3.1-10. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2012.

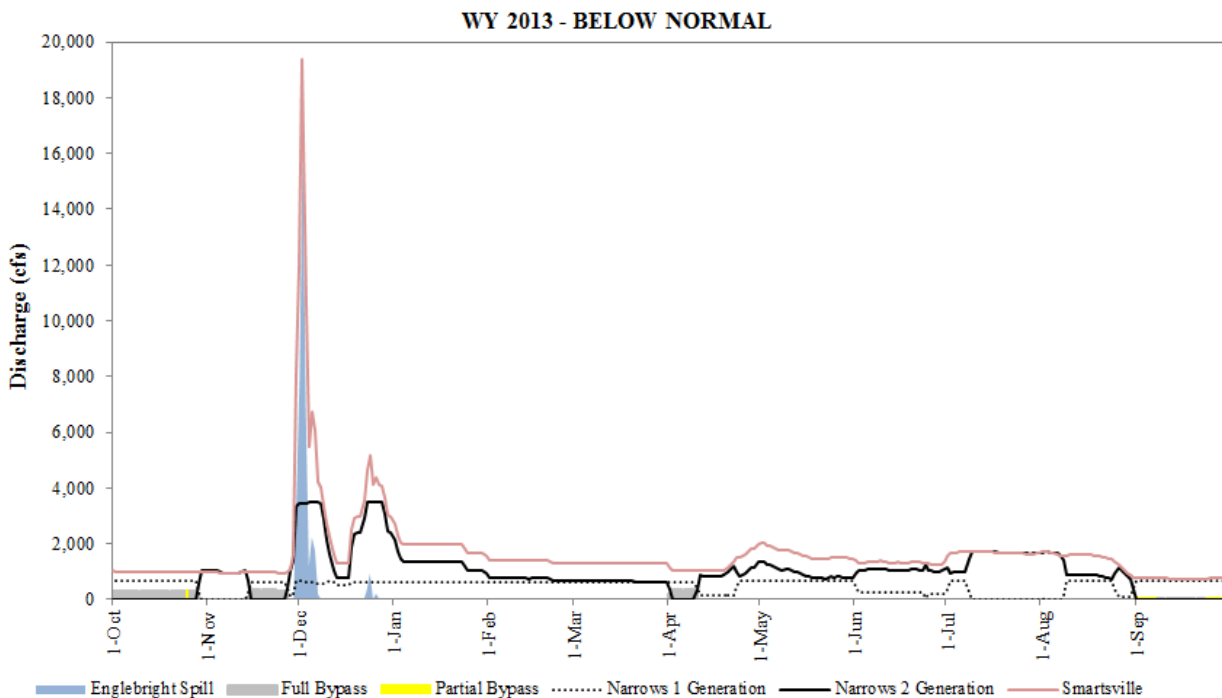


Figure 3.1-11. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2013.

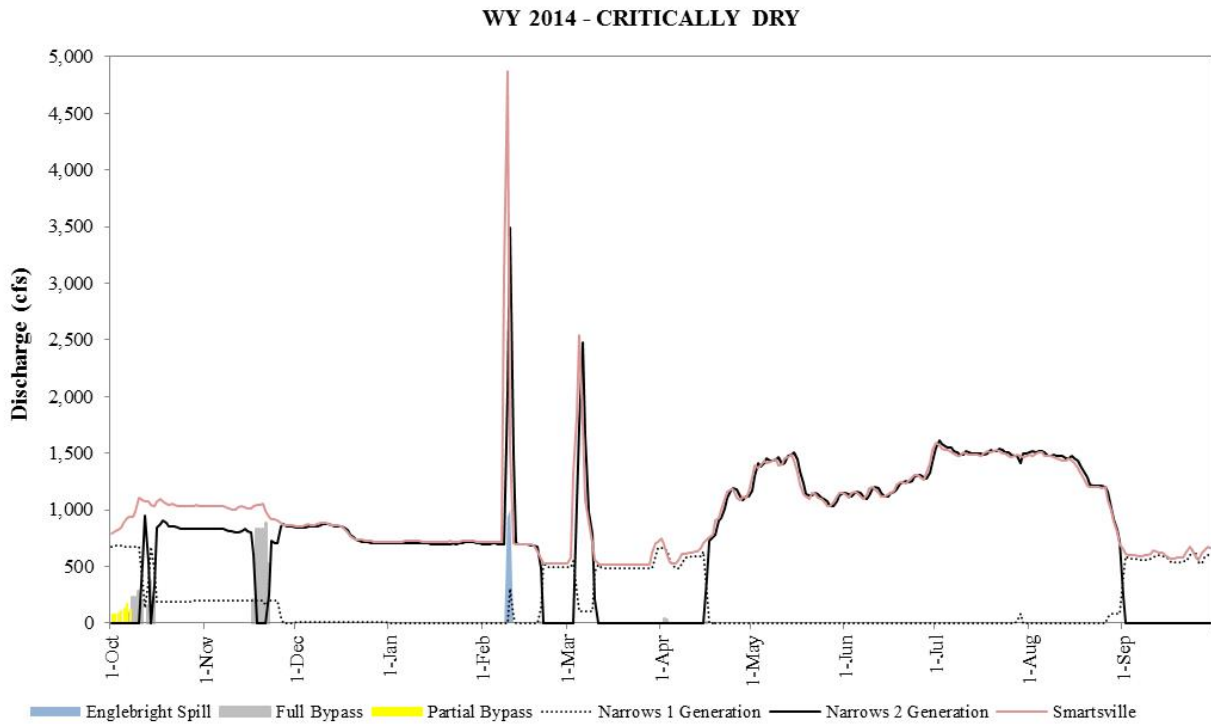


Figure 3.1-12. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2014.

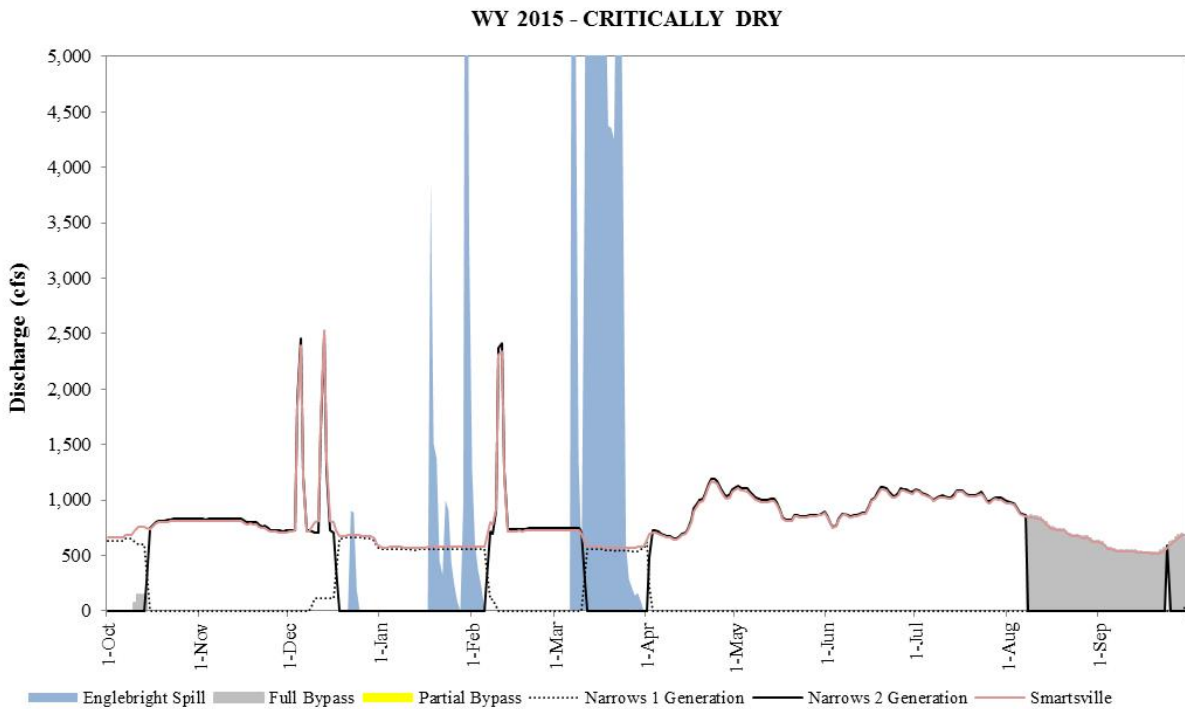


Figure 3.1-13. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2015.

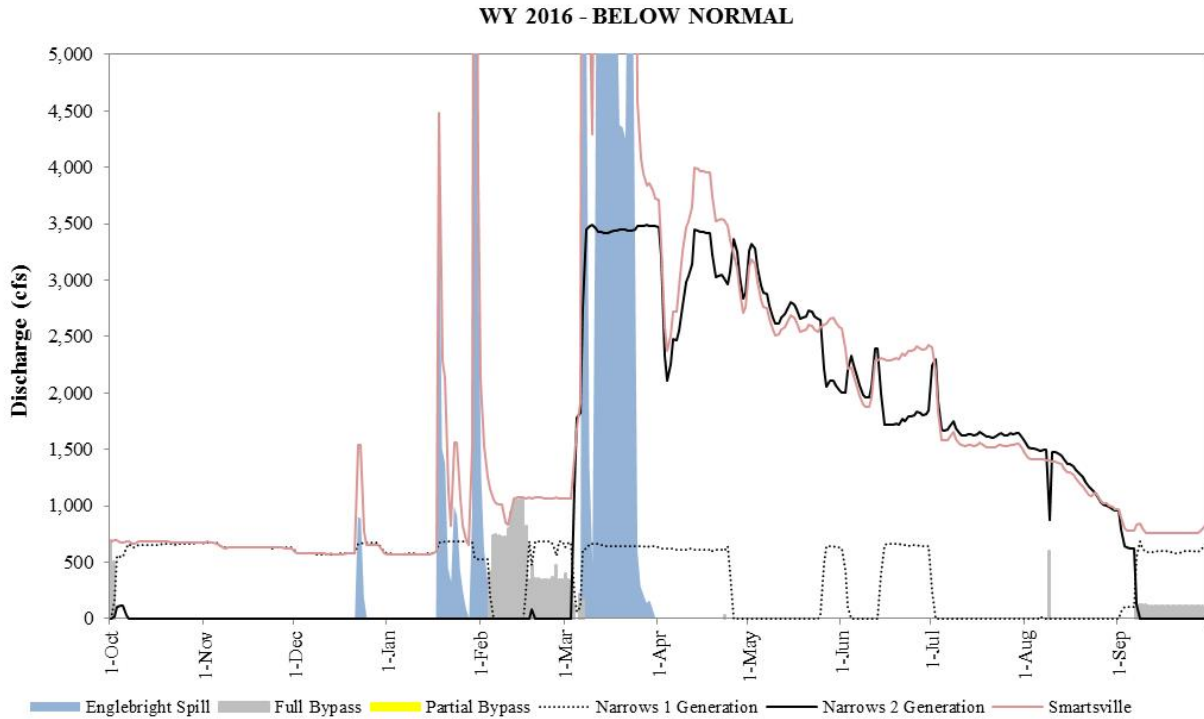


Figure 3.1-14. Historical mean daily discharge from Narrows 1 Powerhouse, Narrows 2 facilities, the Smartsville gage, and Englebright Dam spill in Water Year 2016.

3.1.5 Existing Environmental Measures

3.1.5.1 Measures in Current FERC License

The existing FERC license includes 60 articles. Of these, Licensee considers 19 articles (articles 28, 29, 30, 35, 36, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 50, 51, 52, 58, 60, 62, 65, 66, and 67), “expired” or “out of date” because each pertains to a construction activity that has been completed, a filing related to a construction activity that has been completed, or another activity that has been completed. As a result, the existing license contains 41 “active” articles. Of these, Articles 33, 34, 40, and 46 are more germane to Project operations than the other 37 articles. Each of these is provided below as it appears in the existing FERC License.

Article 33. The Licensee shall maintain the following minimum streamflow schedules for maintenance of fish life in the several streams listed:

(a)

(a) Stream	Flow (cfs) ¹	
	April 15 to June 15	June 16 to April 14
Middle Yuba (below Our House Diversion)	50	30
Oregon Creek (below Log Cabin Diversion)	12	8
North Yuba (below New Colgate Diversion)	5	5

¹ Or natural flow, whichever is less. Maximum 24-hour fluctuations of plus or minus 10 percent are permitted for flows in Middle Yuba below Our House Diversion and in Oregon Creek below Log Cabin Diversion.

(b)

(b) Stream	Flow (cfs) ¹			Measurement Point
	Jan. 1 to Jun. 30	Jul. 1 to Sept. 30	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	
Yuba River (below Daguerre Dam)	245	70	400	Over the crest of Daguerre Point Dam and through fishway

¹ Provided that these flows shall be in addition to releases made to satisfy existing downstream water rights.

(c)

Water releases for fish life as specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this article shall be subject to the following reduction in any critical dry year, defined as a water year for which the April 1 forecast of the California Department of Water Resources predicts that streamflow in the Yuba River at Smartsville be 50 percent or less of normal:

Yuba River at Smartsville streamflow forecast percent of normal	Reduction in Water Releases for Fish Life, Percent
50	15
45	20
40 or less	30

However, in no event shall releases for fish life below Daguerre Point Dam be reduced to less than 70 cfs. The critical dry year provisions herein shall be effective from the time the aforesaid forecast is available until the April 1 forecast of the following year.

(d)

In addition to maintaining winter minimum water releases for fish life in Yuba River below Daguerre Point Dam, as specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this article, the Licensee shall maintain uniform and continuous releases from Englebright Dam within the limits of the following schedule:

Period	Releases (cfs) ¹	Measurement Point
Oct. 16 to 31	600-1,050	New gaging station to be built downstream from the two Narrows powerhouses.
November	600-700	
December	600-1,400	
Jan. 1 to 15	1,000-1,850	
Jan. 16 to Mar. 31	600	

Provided that:

- A. Variations from this schedule are permissible during emergencies, uncontrollable flood flows, and critical dry year curtailments.
- B. With the exception of emergencies, releases required by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control criteria, releases required to maintain a flood control buffer or for other flood control purposes, bypasses of uncontrolled flows into Englebright Reservoir, uncontrolled spilling, or uncontrolled flows of tributary streams downstream of Englebright Dam, Licensee shall make reasonable efforts to operate New Bullards Bar Reservoir and Englebright Reservoir to avoid fluctuations in the flow of the lower Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam, and daily changes in project operations affecting releases or bypasses of flow from Englebright Dam shall be continuously measured at the USGS gage at Smartsville, and shall be made in accordance with the following conditions:
 - i. Project releases or bypasses that increase streamflow downstream of Englebright Dam shall not exceed a rate of change of more than 500 cfs per hour.
 - ii. Project releases or bypasses that reduce streamflow downstream of Englebright Dam shall be gradual and, over the course of any 24-hour period, shall not be reduced below 70 percent of the prior day's average flow release or bypass flow.
 - iii. Once the daily project release or bypass level is achieved, fluctuations in the streamflow level downstream of Englebright Dam due to changes in project operations shall not vary up or down by more than 15 percent of the average daily flow.
 - iv. During the period from September 15 to October 31, the licensee shall not reduce the flow downstream of Englebright Dam to less than 55 percent of the maximum five-day average release or bypass level that has occurred during that September 15 to October 31 period or the minimum streamflow requirement that would otherwise apply, whichever is greater.
 - v. During the period from November 1 to March 31, the licensee shall not reduce the flow downstream of Englebright Dam to less than the minimum streamflow release or bypass established under (iv) above; or 65 percent of the maximum five-day average flow release or bypass that has occurred during that November 1 to March 31 period; or the minimum streamflow requirement that would otherwise apply, whichever is greater.

Article 34. The Licensee shall maintain a minimum pool in New Bullards Bar Reservoir at Elevation 1,730 ft.

Article 40. Consistent with the primary purpose of the power intakes in the New Bullards Bar Dam, the Licensee shall operate, within limits of the project, the multiple-level power intakes in New Bullards Dam to provide water of suitable quality in the Yuba River downstream from the New Narrows Power Plant for the production of anadromous fish as may be prescribed by the Commission upon the recommendations of the Director of the CDFG and the USFWS.

Article 46. The Licensee shall operate the project reservoirs for flood control in accordance with rules prescribed by the secretary of the Army, such rules to be specified in a formal agreement between the Licensee and the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineers District, Sacramento,

California. Said agreement shall be subject to review from time to time at the request of either party; provided, however, that a different procedure of review may be prescribed by formal agreement.

For Article 46, YCWA operates New Bullards Bar Reservoir from September 16 to May 31 to comply with Part 208, *Flood Control Regulations, New Bullards Bar Dam and Reservoir, North Yuba River, California*, pursuant to Section 7 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 890). Under the contract between the United States and YCWA that was entered into on May 9, 1966, YCWA agreed to reserve in New Bullards Bar Reservoir 170,000 ac-ft of storage space for flood control in accordance with rules and regulations enumerated in Appendix A of the Report on Reservoir Regulation for Flood Control (USACE 1972). The seasonal flood storage space allocation schedule is presented in Table 3.1-4 (specified values are for the end of each month).

Table 3.1-4. New Bullards Bar Reservoir flood storage space allocation in thousands of acre-feet.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Storage Allocation	170	170	170	170	170	170	70	0	0	0	0	56

In addition to reservation of flood control space in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, the flood control regulations include rules governing ramping rates as well as target maximum flows in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam and in the Feather River downstream of the confluence with the Yuba River.

YCWA also coordinates operations with PG&E’s Narrows 1 Powerhouse downstream of Englebright Dam to use storage in Englebright Reservoir to capture winter storm freshets and reduce storm flows on the Yuba River. This operation is accomplished by evacuating storage space in Englebright Reservoir in anticipation of storm peak flows.

3.1.5.2 Measures in Other Licenses, Agreements and Contracts that Affect Operations

In addition to the current FERC license requirements, licenses, agreements and contracts include various streamflow-related requirements, which are summarized below. These licenses, agreements and contracts, and terms and conditions in them, affect Project operations, but are not part of the existing FERC license and, thus, are not part of the Proposed Action for the purposes of this ESA consultation.

3.1.5.2.1 Lower Yuba River Accord (no expiration date in SWRCB Corrected Order Water Right 2008-0014)

In 2005, YCWA and 16 other interested parties signed memoranda of understanding that specify the terms of the Yuba Accord, a comprehensive, consensus-based program to protect and enhance aquatic habitat in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam. Following environmental review, YCWA and parties executed the following four agreements in 2007, which together comprise the Yuba Accord: 1) the Lower Yuba River Fisheries Agreement, which specifies the Yuba Accord’s lower Yuba River minimum streamflows and creates a

detailed fisheries monitoring and evaluation (M&E) program; 2) the Water Purchase Agreement, under which DWR purchases water from YCWA, some of which is provided by the Yuba Accord's minimum streamflows, for CALFED's¹⁹ Environmental Water Account and SWP and CVP contractors; 3) the Conjunctive Use Agreements with seven of YCWA's member units, which specify the terms of the Yuba Accord's groundwater conjunctive-use program; and 4) amendments to the 1966 Power Purchase Contract between YCWA and PG&E.

The Yuba Accord was developed by a multi-agency resource team, including representatives from NMFS, USFWS, Cal Fish and Wildlife, YCWA and a group of NGOs. Yuba Accord flow schedules 1 and 2 were developed to optimize habitat conditions for anadromous fish during high flow years. Schedule 6 flow schedules were developed to create the best habitat conditions for these fish that are possible during very low flow years, considering available water supplies and competing demands. Flow schedules 3, 4 and 5 then were developed by the resource team by using available water supplies to create habitat conditions during the months when additional flows (over Schedule 6 amounts) will provide the greatest benefits. The Yuba Accord also specifies requirements for "Conference Years," which are the very driest years, and are predicted to occur approximately one percent of the time.

YCWA has been operating the Project to implement the Yuba Accord since 2006. The 2006, 2007, and early 2008 operations were under 1-year pilot programs that were approved by the SWRCB through its Orders WR 2006-0009, WR 2006-0010, WR 2007-0002 and WR 2007-0012-DWR. Since 2008, YCWA has been operating the Project to implement the Yuba Accord according to the authorizations and requirements in SWRCB Corrected Order WR 2008-0014.

The Yuba Accord includes a specific set of flow schedules for the Yuba River. The flow schedule that is in effect at any particular time is determined by the North Yuba Index (NYI), a hydrologic index that was developed as a part of the Yuba Accord. The flow schedules were previously shown in Section 2 (Table 2.3-1 and Figure 2.3-1) of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA.

During Conference Years, which are defined as years when the NYI is less than 500,000 ac-ft, and which are expected to occur approximately 1 percent of the time, YCWA is required: 1) to maintain minimum instream flows in the Yuba River at the levels specified in Article 33 of YCWA's existing FERC license without the reductions authorized by subsections (c) and (d) of that article; 2) to release any supplemental flows recommended by the RMT and approved by the SWRCB's Deputy Director for Water Rights or, if no such recommended flows are effective by April 11 of such a Conference Year, then to release any supplemental flows ordered by the SWRCB, after a hearing under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 767; and 3) to limit total water supply diversions at Daguerre Point Dam to 250,000 ac-ft.

As stated above, YCWA has operated the Project in compliance with the Yuba Accord since 2006.

3.1.5.2.2 YCWA's Water Rights for Power (No Expiration Date)

¹⁹ An interagency committee with management and regulatory responsibility for Bay-Delta Estuary.

YCWA holds pre-1914 appropriative rights dating from 1897 and post-1914 appropriative water rights confirmed by water-right licenses, for the purposes of operating the Project for hydroelectric power generation. Table 3.1-5 lists the post-1914 appropriative water-right licenses held by YCWA for power generation.

Table 3.1-5. Water right licenses held by YCWA for operation of the Project for power generation.

Priority (date)	SWRCB Designation (application)	SWRCB Designation (license)	Source (Waterbody)	Amount & Place of Diversion or Storage (amount & place)		Season (period)		Place of Beneficial Use (powerhouse)
2/11/1921	2197	435	North Yuba River	700 cfs at New Bullards Bar Dam		1/1 - 12/31		New Colgate Powerhouse
				5,000 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		about 12/15 to about 7/15		
9/7/1922	3026	436	North Yuba River	10,000 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		about 12/15 to about 7/15		New Colgate Powerhouse
4/30/1926	5004	777	North Yuba River	15,000 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		about 12/15 to about 7/15		New Colgate Powerhouse
7/30/1927	5631	11565	Middle Yuba River	810 cfs at Our House Dam	490,000 ac-ft/yr storage in New Bullards Bar Res	1/1-12/31 (dir. div.)	10/15 to 6/30 (stor.)	New Colgate Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Powerhouse
			Oregon Creek	240 cfs at Log Cabin Dam		1/1-12/31 (dir. div.)		
			North Yuba River	1,800 cfs at New Bullards Bar Dam		11/1-7/31 (dir. div.)		
			Yuba River	1,800 cfs at USACE's Englebright Dam		1/1- 12/31		
3/1/1939	9516	3050	North Yuba River	100 cfs at New Bullards Bar Dam		1/1 - 12/31		New Colgate Powerhouse
9/12/1941	10282	5544	North Yuba River	5,335 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		about 10/1 to about 3/1		New Colgate Powerhouse
								Narrows 2 Powerhouse
2/20/1953	15205	11566	Middle Yuba River	3,200 ac-ft/yr at Log Cabin Dam; storage in New Bullards Bar Res.		5/1- 6/30		New Colgate Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Powerhouse
			North Yuba River	245 cfs and 700 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		3/15- 6/15 (dir. div.); 5/1- 6/30 (stor.)		
			Yuba River	800 cfs at USACE's Englebright Dam		11/1-7/15		
10/2/1953	15563	11567	Middle Yuba River	30,000 ac-ft/yr at Our House Dam	all storage in New Bullards Bar Res.	10/15 - 6/30		New Colgate Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Powerhouse
			Oregon Creek	1,400 ac-ft/yr at Log Cabin Dam		10/15 - 6/30		
			North Yuba River	146,000 ac-ft/yr at New Bullards Bar Dam		10/15 - 6/30		
			Yuba River	910 cfs at USACE's Englebright Dam		11/1 - 6/30		

YCWA operates the Project consistent with the terms and conditions of the above water rights.

3.1.5.2.3 Water Supply Deliveries

Within the Project Area, YCWA pumps some water directly from New Bullards Bar Reservoir to supply water to the Cottage Creek Water Treatment Plant for domestic and recreational uses adjacent to the reservoir. The amount of this pumping averages approximately 6 ac-ft per year, which does not affect Project operations. YCWA anticipates that pumping of this small amount of water will continue during the period of the new license.

Downstream of the Project, water is diverted under YCWA’s consumptive-use water-right permits to eight water users, which are collectively referred to as the YCWA Member Units. The places of water delivery to YCWA’s Member Units are listed in Table 3.1-6. The YCWA Member Unit service areas are shown in Figure 3.1-15.

Table 3.1-6. YCWA’s annual contract amounts and places of delivery.

Member Unit	Water Right Based Supply (ac-ft)	Project Based Supply (ac-ft)	Total Contract (ac-ft)
BROWNS VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT PUMPLINE DIVERSION FACILITY			
Browns Valley Irrigation District	24,505	9,500	34,005
SOUTH YUBA CANAL			
Brophy Water District	--	86,870	86,870
South Yuba Water District	--	54,307	54,307
Dry Creek Mutual Water Company	--	17,751	17,751
Wheatland Water District	--	40,230	40,230
HALLWOOD-CORDUA CANAL			
Cordua Irrigation District	60,000	24,000	84,000
Hallwood Irrigation Company	78,000	11,208	89,208
Ramirez Water District	--	30,389	30,389
Total	162,505	274,255	436,760

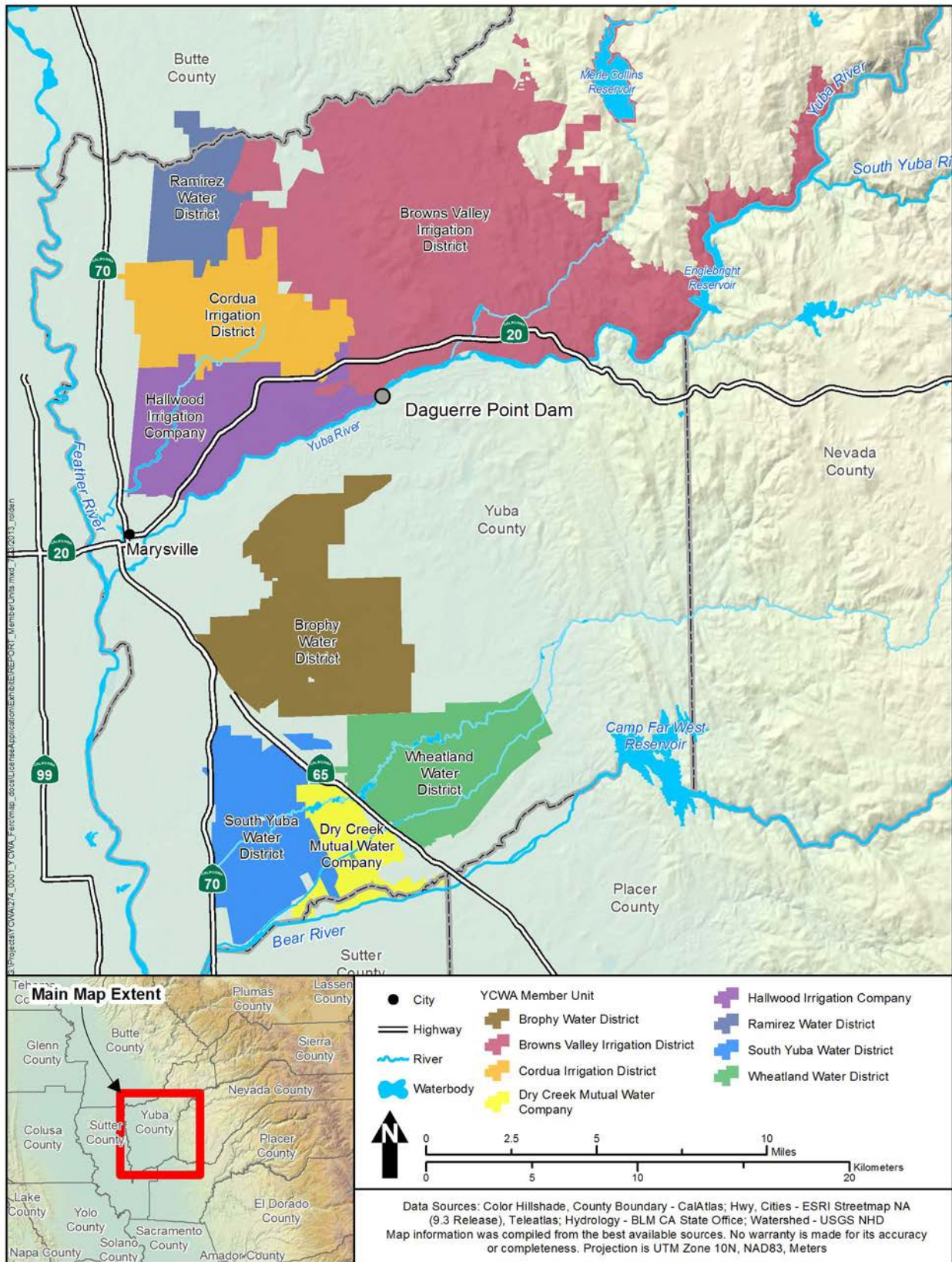


Figure 3.1-15. YCWA’s Member Unit service areas.

Browns Valley Irrigation District (BVID) receives water at the Pumpline Diversion Facility, located 1 mile upstream of Daguerre Point Dam. Brophy Water District (BWD), South Yuba Water District (SYWD), Dry Creek Mutual Water Company (DCMWC) and Wheatland Water District (WWD) receive water from the South Yuba Canal (South Canal), which begins on the south side of the Yuba River slightly upstream of the south abutment of Daguerre Point Dam. Cordua Irrigation District (CID), Hallwood Irrigation Company (HIC) and Ramirez Water District (RWD) receive water through the Hallwood-Cordua Canal (North Canal), located on the north abutment of Daguerre Point Dam.

BVID, HIC and CID have their own water rights on the Yuba River. Under settlement contracts with YCWA, BVID, HIC and CID receive surface water supplies as part of Project operations that are based on these Member Unit water rights. All eight of the Member Units receive contracted Project supplies that are not water right based. Dry year deficiency criteria in the BVID, HIC and CID contracts are different from the deficiency criteria in YCWA’s contracts with other member units. Provisions in YCWA’s water-right settlement contracts preclude deficiencies in water-right based supplies unless DWR April forecast of unimpaired runoff, as measured at the Smartsville gage, is less than 40 percent of average. No deficiencies in such deliveries may be imposed on BVID. Contract shortage provisions are presented in Table 3.1-7.

Table 3.1-7. YCWA’s water supply contract shortage provisions.

Category	Trigger for Reduced Contract Allocation ¹	Percentage of Settlement/ Contract Allocation Available
PRE-1914 RIGHTS SETTLEMENT WATER RIGHT BASED SUPPLY		
Browns Valley Irrigation District	All	100%
Cordua Irrigation District	$f \geq 40\%$	100%
Hallwood Irrigation Company	$f < 40\%$	80%
YCWA CONTRACT SUPPLY		
	$f > 85\%$	100%
	$40\% < f \leq 85\%$	75%
	$f < 40\%$	Determined annually by Licensee in its reasonable discretion considering forecasted runoff and operational conditions.

¹ April 1 DWR forecast of unimpaired Yuba River runoff near Smartsville in percentage of 50-year average.

YCWA’s contract volumes are based on the gross acreage served by each Member Unit. The maximum “Base Project Water” allocation is computed by multiplying 90 percent of the gross acreage by 2.87 ac-ft per acre. The maximum “Supplemental Water Supply” is computed by multiplying 90 percent of the gross acreage by 2.13 ac-ft per acre. For Member Units that have water rights senior to YCWA’s, their contract allocations are based on their water right amounts.

In 2009, YCWA started providing water to the WWD under a water service contract. Until then, water users within WWD relied solely on groundwater for irrigation. The Wheatland Project now conveys surface water, diverted by YCWA at Daguerre Point Dam, to WWD through the South Canal system. The Wheatland Project is being constructed in two phases. Phase 1, which was completed in 2009, provides for delivery of surface water to WWD and the immediate irrigation of approximately 7,750 ac of the approximately 9,200 ac that will be served upon the completion of both phases. Under Phase 1, WWD’s contract with YCWA provides for a total

allocation (base and supplemental) of 23,092 ac-ft per year. Phase 2, which is now mostly complete, will allow for a total allocation (base and supplemental) of 40,230 ac-ft per year.

3.1.5.2.4 YCWA Water Transfers

Water transfers are an important component of the Project operations. In the 30 years from 1987 through 2016, YCWA transferred water in 22 years, averaging about 90,950 thousand ac-ft in each transfer year. Details of individual transfers are presented in Table 3.1-8. Stored water transfers were made by YCWA from storage releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir. Groundwater substitution transfers were made by YCWA in coordination with its Member Units.

Table 3.1-8. YCWA historical sales from 1987 to 2016.

Year	Water Year Type Sacramento Valley 40-30-30 Index	Buyer	Stored Water Transfer (ac-ft)	Groundwater Substitution Transfer (ac-ft)
1987	Dry	California Department of Water Resources	83,100	--
1988	Critical	California Department of Water Resources	135,000	--
1989	Dry	California Department of Water Resources	90,000	--
		California Department of Water Resources for California Department of Fish and Game	110,000	--
1989 (cont.)	Dry (cont.)	City of Napa	7,000	--
		East Bay Municipal Utility District	60,000 ¹	--
1990	Critical	City of Napa	6,700	--
		California Department of Water Resources	109,000	--
		Tudor Mutual Water Company/Feather Water District	2,951	--
1991	Critical	State Water Bank	99,200 ²	84,840
		State Water Bank - California Department of Fish and Game	28,000	--
		City of Napa	7,500	--
1992	Critical	State Water Bank	30,000 ³	--
1994	Critical	California Department of Water Resources	--	26,033
1997	Wet	Bureau of Reclamation for Refuge Water	25,000 ⁴	--
		Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency for American River Fishery	48,857	--
2001	Dry	Environmental Water Account	50,000 ⁵	--
		California Department of Water Resources	52,912	61,140
2002	Dry	Environmental Water Account	79,742	55,248
		California Department of Water Resources	22,050	--
		Contra Costa Water District	5,000	--
2003	Above Normal	Environmental Water Account	65,000 ⁶	--
		Contra Costa Water District	5,000	--
2004	Below Normal	Environmental Water Account	100,000 ⁶	--
		California Department of Water Resources	487	--
2005	Above Normal	Environmental Water Account	60,866	--
2006	Wet	Environmental Water Account	60,000 ¹	--
2007	Dry	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	65,000 ^{6,7,8}	--
2008	Critical	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	117,212 ⁶	48,875
2009	Dry	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	91,100 ^{6,7}	88,901 ¹⁰
2010	Below Normal	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	74,179 ^{6,7}	66,211
2012	Below Normal	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	81,681 ^{6,7}	--
2013	Dry	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	112,419 ^{6,7}	64,730 ¹¹

Table 3.1-8. (continued)

Year	Water Year Type Sacramento Valley 40-30-30 Index	Buyer	Stored Water Transfer (ac-ft)	Groundwater Substitution Transfer (ac-ft)
2014	Critical	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	104,663 ^{6,7}	56,984 ¹²
2015	Critical	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	59,131	30,000
2016	Below Normal	Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants	60,000	
Total			2,108,750	582,962

¹ Sold but not delivered.

² In 1991, BVID transferred an additional 5,500 ac-ft to the State Water Bank through conservation.

³ In 1992, BVID transferred an additional 5,500 ac-ft to the State Water Bank through conservation.

⁴ In 1997, the transfer included 5,000 ac-ft from BVID.

⁵ In 2001, BVID transferred an additional 4,500 ac-ft to DWR (stored water transfer) and 3,500 ac-ft to the Environmental Water Account (EWA) (groundwater substitution pumping).

⁶ In 2002, 2003, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 BVID transferred an additional 3,100 ac-ft to the Santa Clara Valley Water District through conservation.

⁷ Transfers to the Yuba Accord Water Purchase Participants include 60,000 ac-ft of stored water for the EWA.

⁸ The 2007 transfer was under Yuba Accord Pilot Program. It also included 60,000 ac-ft of transfer to the EWA purchased in 2006.

⁹ Sacramento Valley Index as defined in SWRCB RD-1641.

¹⁰ In 2009, CID transferred an additional 8,322 ac-ft of groundwater substitution transfer to the DWR Drought Water Bank.

¹¹ In 2013, CID transferred an additional 7,774 ac-ft of groundwater substitution transfer to the DWR Drought Water Bank.

¹² In 2014, CID transferred an additional 1,976 ac-ft of groundwater substitution transfer to the DWR Drought Water Bank.

Historically, before implementation of the Yuba Accord, individual one-year stored water transfers occurred when the projected end-of-September storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir was sufficient for YCWA to reasonably ensure full local water supplies from the Project in the following year. In addition, for cross-Delta water transfers to service areas south of the Delta, the Delta must be in balanced water conditions²⁰ and available conveyance capacity must exist at the State Water Project's Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant or the Central Valley Project's C.W. Jones Pumping Plant, both located near in Tracy, to convey the transfer water to willing buyers. Stored water transfers have typically occurred from July through September. Under the Yuba Accord, transfer releases can occur throughout the year as part of the releases to meet the Accord flow schedules and end of September target storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, but transfer water is conveyed across the Delta in the summer months.

3.2 YCWA's Proposal

Provided below is a description of YCWA's proposed Project. This section describes: 1) YCWA's proposed Project facilities (Section 3.2.1); 2) YCWA's proposed FERC Project Boundary (Section 3.2.2); 3) YCWA's proposed Project operations (Section 3.2.3); and 4) YCWA's proposed environmental measures that would be part of the new FERC license (Section 3.2.4).

3.2.1 Proposed Project Facilities

YCWA does not propose to add to the Project any previously constructed, unlicensed water power structures or facilities.

²⁰ Balanced water conditions are periods when it is agreed that releases from upstream reservoirs plus unregulated flows approximately equal the water supply needed to meet Sacramento Valley in-basin uses plus required Delta outflows and exports (USBOR and DWR 1986).

3.2.1.1 Generation Facilities

3.2.1.1.1 New Colgate Powerhouse New Tailwater Depression System

Anticipated Facilities

YCWA proposes to add to the Project a new TDS at the New Colgate Powerhouse.

The New Colgate Powerhouse generators are driven by six-jet, vertical-shaft Pelton wheel turbines. The turbine runners rotate in the air of the turbine discharge chambers where water can fall freely off the turbine buckets. When the water level in the turbine discharge chamber rises, the foam and backsplash cause uneven resistance to free rotation with resulting vibration. Consequently, the rate of water release must be reduced and, at high stages, the operation of the turbines must cease.

The water level in the turbine discharge chambers rises as the water level in the Yuba River rises during flood events. The flood runoff can come from spillway releases at New Bullards Bar Dam, unregulated flow downstream of the dam and the Middle Yuba River. Above certain water levels at the powerhouse, when Yuba River flow upstream of the New Colgate Powerhouse reaches approximately 11,000 cfs (a water surface elevation of about 555 ft), there is a corresponding reduction in the permissible flow through the New Colgate Powerhouse, which allows the release of water from New Bullards Bar Reservoir through the powerhouse from the power intake, which is at a lower level than the existing spillway elevation. This in turn reduces the ability to move water, which could encroach upon the available flood storage space in the reservoir. For example, if the New Colgate Powerhouse were totally shut down for 72 hours prior to and during a period of peak flood inflow to New Bullards Bar Reservoir, there would be a loss of over 20,000 ac-ft of useable storage.

The New Colgate Powerhouse TDS will introduce compressed air into the turbine discharge chamber to lower the tailwater elevation to a level that does not interfere with turbine operation, thereby allowing continued turbine operation during high flows. The TDS will enhance the ability to regulate flood releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir and increase the production of energy.

Figures 3.2-1 through 3.2-3 are concept-level plan and profile drawings of the New Colgate Powerhouse TDS. If approved, detailed drawings would be provided to the Commission as appropriate for FERC approval. After construction is completed, detailed as-built drawings would be filed with the Commission as Project Exhibit Drawings.

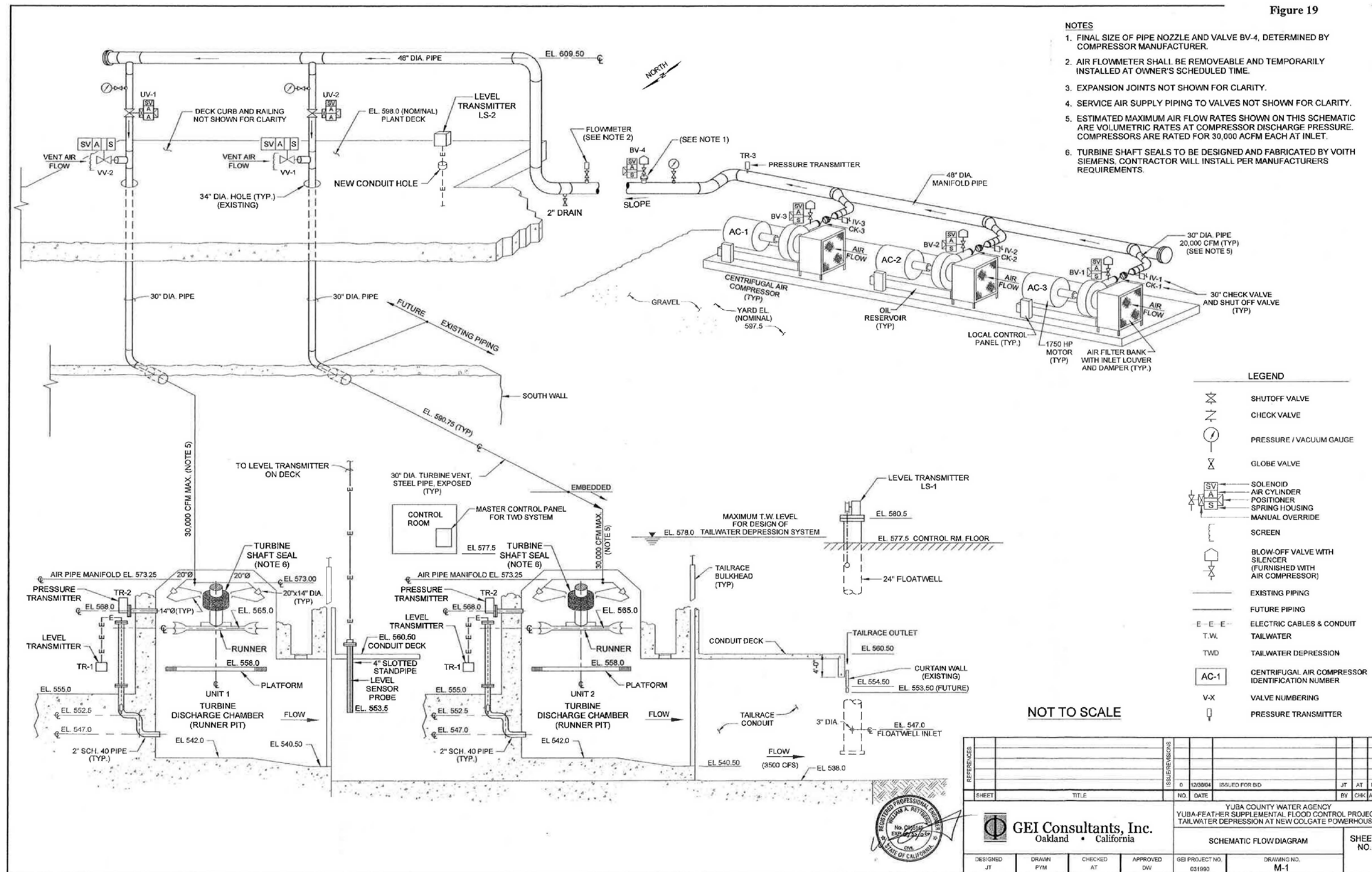
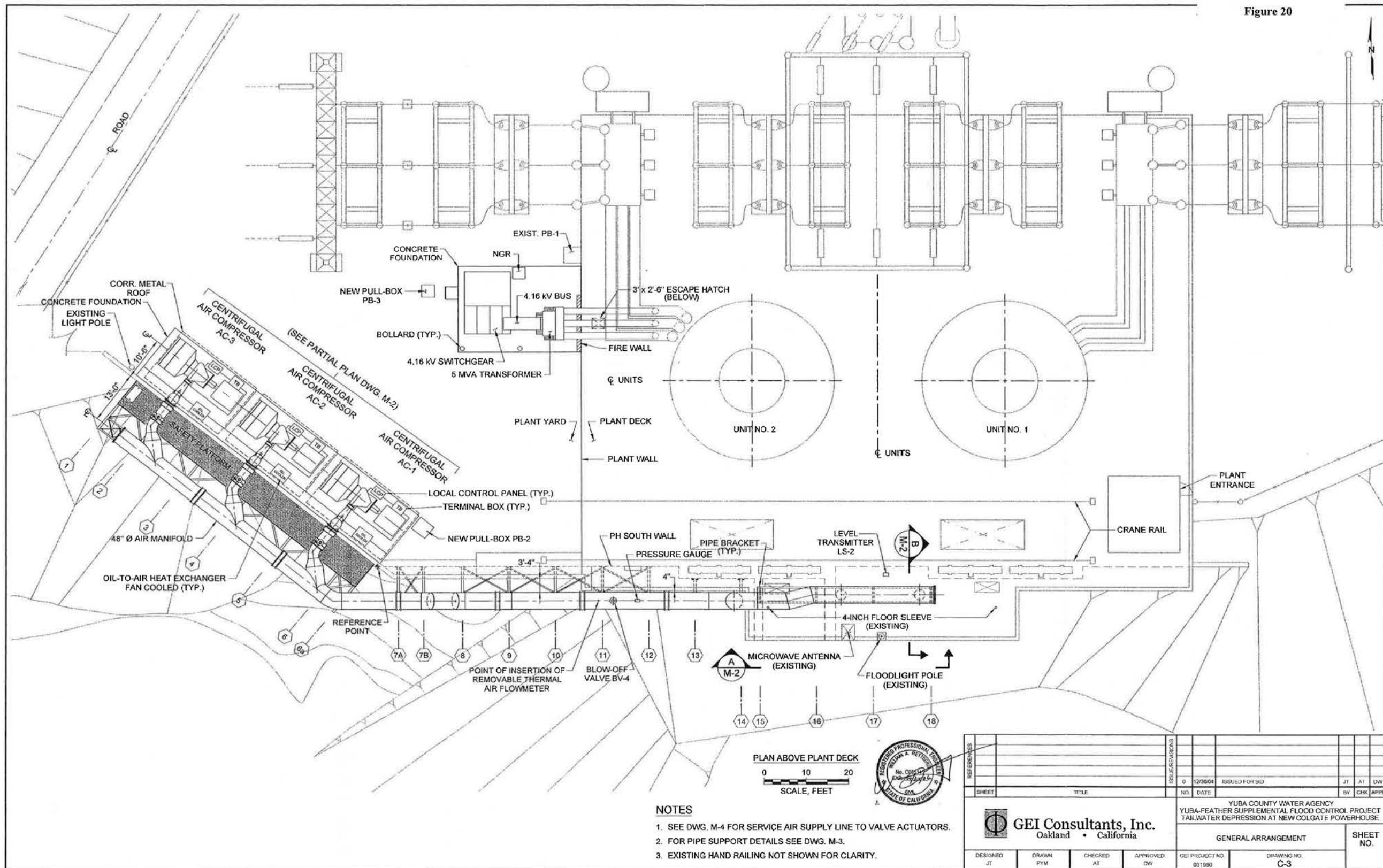


Figure 3.2-1. Concept-level plan schematic flow diagram for YCWA's proposed New Colgate Powerhouse TDS.

Figure 20



- NOTES**
1. SEE DWG. M-4 FOR SERVICE AIR SUPPLY LINE TO VALVE ACTUATORS.
 2. FOR PIPE SUPPORT DETAILS SEE DWG. M-3.
 3. EXISTING HAND RAILING NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.

		YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY YUBA-FEATHER SUPPLEMENTAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT TAILWATER DEPRESSION AT NEW COLGATE POWERHOUSE	
GEI Consultants, Inc. Oakland • California		GENERAL ARRANGEMENT	
DESIGNED: JT DRAWN: PYM CHECKED: AT APPROVED: DW	SHEET NO. 031990 DRAWING NO. C-3	NO. 0 DATE 12/30/04 ISSUED FOR BID	BY JT CHK AT APPR DW

Figure 3.2-2. Concept-level plan for general arrangement for YCWA's proposed New Colgate Powerhouse TDS.

Figure 21

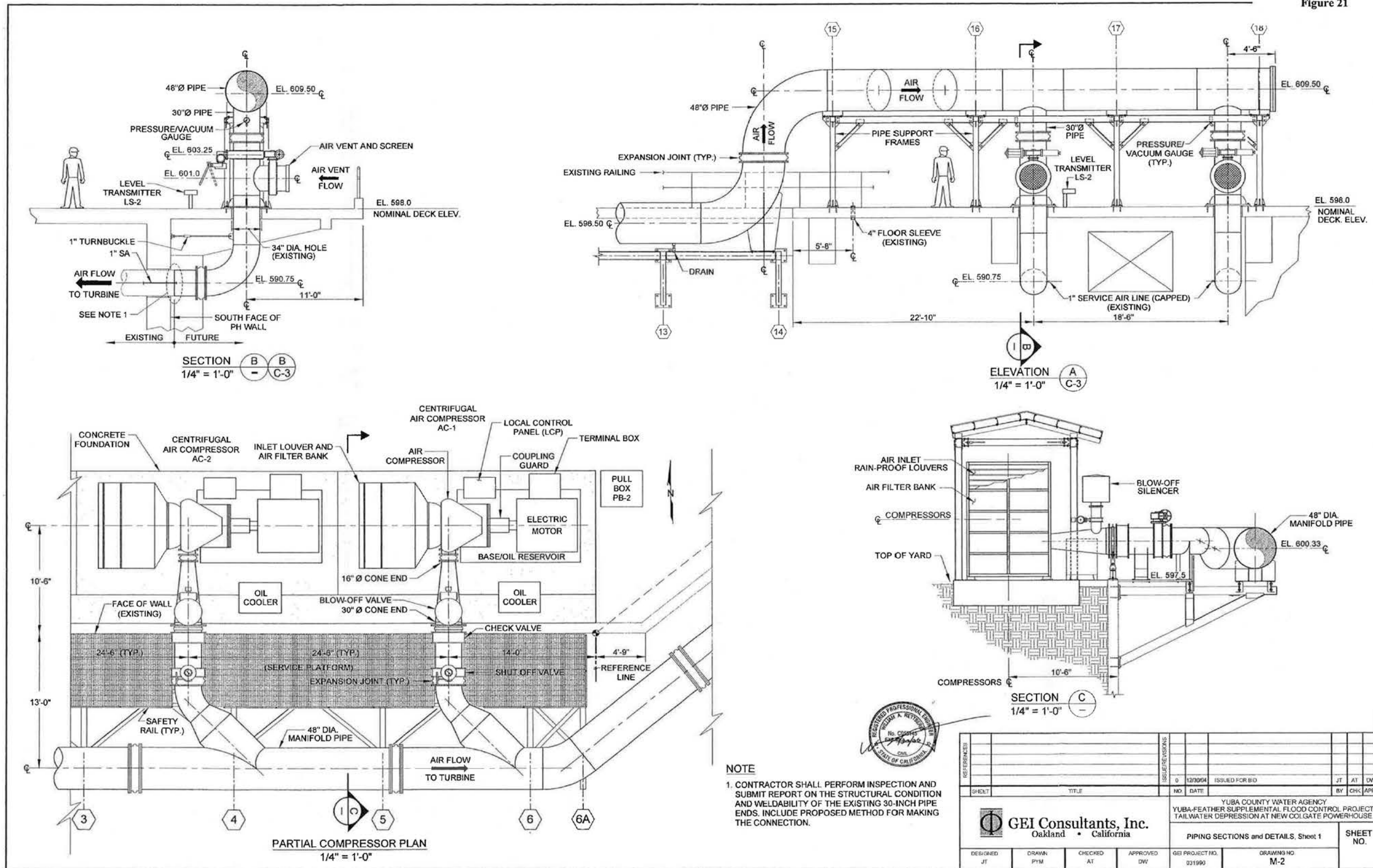


Figure 3.2-3. Concept-level plan for piping sections and details for YCWA's proposed New Colgate Powerhouse TDS.

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Anticipated Operations

The proposed TDS would only operate during high flow events, when the combined releases from New Bullards Bar and flows from the Middle Yuba River would otherwise preclude New Colgate Powerhouse operations. When the WSE of flows in the New Colgate Powerhouse tailrace rises to an elevation of 555 ft, which corresponds to approximately 11,000 cfs of flow upstream of the New Colgate Powerhouse, the first compressor would be started, and would be modulated to fully open as needed. The second compressor would be started when the water surface elevation in the tailrace reaches an elevation of 556 ft (having been lowered by the first compressor startup) and would be modulated to fully open, as needed. If necessary, the third compressor would be started when water level inside the tailrace conduit again reaches an elevation of 556 ft. Modulation of each compressor would maintain a water surface elevation in the tailrace within a range of 554 ft and 556 ft. If only one unit is running, compressed air will still be discharged into both units. If the tailwater elevation continues to rise above elevation 556 ft with all three compressors operating at maximum pressure, plant operators would either reduce unit load, or shut the units down. As the tailwater recedes, the compressors would be shut down in reverse sequence to their startup, as the tailrace elevation drops to elevations below 556 ft. Typical duration of operation of the TDS is expected to be less than or equal to the historical duration of spills at New Bullards Bar Dam, which occurs an average of approximately 21 days per year.

The compressors have been sized to allow the plant to operate under flows similar to those observed in the January 1997 flood event where the maximum river stage at the New Colgate Powerhouse was at an elevation of 578 ft. The powerhouse has been assessed as being “flood proof” for a maximum tailwater elevation of 583 ft (YCWA 2004). There were 16 generation curtailment events between 1971 and 2016 that would have benefitted from the TDS. The cumulative loss of power generation during these 16 events was nearly 250,000 MWh, or approximately 5,560 MWh per year.

Addition of the New Colgate Powerhouse TDS would have an effect on New Bullards Bar Reservoir operations during flood operations. The proposed TDS would increase New Bullards Bar Reservoir release capacity during flood events when spillway capacity is limited by allowing the New Colgate Powerhouse to continue to operate during high flow events through the injection of compressed air into the New Colgate Powerhouse tailrace when the stage of the Yuba River would otherwise prevent generation. Operating the TDS throughout a flood event would allow for increased releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir, thus reducing New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage during the flood event, and ultimately reducing the peak flood release.

Other than allowing the New Colgate Powerhouse to operate during high flow events, the proposed TDS would not affect Project operations.

The TDS would include oil containment structures around the base of the air compressors capable of capturing the entire volume of oil in the system, and a condensation system for removing oil mist from the compressed air before it is introduced into the turbine chamber.

Anticipated Construction

The anticipated total duration of the construction is 5 months, commencing after issuance of a new license from the FERC, detailed design, approval of detailed construction plans and acquisition of any additional required permits. It is anticipated that the work will not require a separate outage, but can be accomplished during planned outages. Key activities would include the following:

- Site preparation at powerhouse yard and deck, including construction of equipment foundations and relocation of the New Colgate Powerhouse pedestrian bypass
- Installation of blowers, pipe supports, roofing, air piping and valves
- Installation of power supply, including the tap of the 13.8-kilovolt isolated phase bus, transformer, switchgear and cables to the blowers
- Procurement and installation of turbine shaft seals
- Curtain wall modifications
- Installation of bulkhead shaft seal
- Installation of instrumentation and controls
- System testing and startup including construction and removal of temporary test barrier

All work will occur within the proposed FERC Project Boundary.

The construction labor force is estimated to average about 12 persons over the total construction period. Equipment will be transported to the powerhouse via Highway 20, Marysville Road, and Lake Francis Road, all of which are paved and suitable for the anticipated loads. It is anticipated that not more than 30 trailer (“low boy”) truck roundtrips will be required to bring the blower skids, transformer, other electrical gear, pipe, structural steel and other heavy materials and equipment. About 15 to 20 truckloads of ready-mixed concrete may be needed for equipment pads, foundations and curbs. No changes in road conditions are anticipated as a result of the work.

At the site, typical heavy construction equipment will include an excavator (backhoe), an air compressor, one or two trucks, two truck-mounted cranes, pickup trucks, a construction office trailer and miscellaneous equipment. Smaller equipment will include hoists and platforms, concrete placing and drilling equipment, a welding machine, pipe fitting equipment, and other miscellaneous equipment customary to the electrical, mechanical and structural crafts.

No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. It is expected that the available space within the fenced plant area will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. All work will be confined to the powerhouse, yard and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work.

3.2.1.2 Non-Generation Facilities

3.2.1.2.1 New Bullards Bar Dam New Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet

Anticipated Facilities

YCWA proposes to construct a new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet on New Bullards Bar Dam, to be located south of the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway in the upper left abutment area of the dam. The primary benefit of the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet is increased flood management. This increased flexibility in flood management would allow a significant reduction in flood flows and reduced flood stage at Marysville and the Feather River confluence. It would also anticipate potential FERC requirements for increased spillway capacity at New Bullards Bar Dam in response to Potential Maximum Flood (PMF) calculation revisions or climate change modeling. As configured at this time, the new outlet would have a discharge capacity at the bottom of the New Bullards Bar flood pool (elevation 1,918 ft) and at the NMWSE of approximately 45,000 cfs and 66,000 cfs, respectively. The outlet would include:

- An excavated approach channel to the intake structure, with right and left wing walls.
- A reinforced-concrete intake control structure at the end of the approach channel containing intake gates and hydraulic hoists. The intake would be a 70-ft-wide reinforced-concrete structure extending from the approach channel invert at elevation 1,865 ft to a deck at elevation 1,970 ft. It would be located in a rock excavation at the downstream end of the approach channel. The intake structure would have three 17-ft-wide, 30-ft-high gate openings separated by 4.5-ft wide concrete piers. The gates would be roller-type gates operated by hydraulic cylinders. The gates would be operated using hydraulic cylinders installed on the top deck.
- Intake area site works including a fenced, paved parking area adjacent to the intake structure deck, access to Marysville Road, and riprap erosion protection of the finished slopes.
- A 540-ft-long concrete-lined conveyance tunnel. The tunnel would be concrete-lined and horseshoe-shaped, with net opening dimensions of 25 ft in height by 26 ft in width.
- A concrete outlet structure including the tunnel outlet portal, a 60-ft-long open channel and 27-ft-long flip-bucket energy dissipater at the end of the open channel, which would deflect the discharging water jet away from the foundation area and toward the river canyon. The flip-bucket structure would be founded and bolted to rock to resist the hydrodynamic forces and vibrations. A cutoff would be provided to protect the flip bucket foundation from scour. The area between the flip bucket and the river would be cleared of all vegetation, overburden and loose weathered rock down to sound rock.
- A 2,900-ft-long construction access road from an existing forest road to the outlet structure.
- Power supply to the intake for operation and control of the gates.

Figure 3.2-4 shows concept-level plan and profile drawings of the new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet. If approved, detailed drawings would be provided to the Commission as appropriate for FERC approval. After construction is completed, detailed as-built drawings would be filed with the Commission as Project Exhibit Drawings.

Anticipated Operations

The proposed new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would allow for releases from New Bullard Bar Dam when the WSE is below the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway in anticipation of large storm events, and would increase New Bullards Bar Dam's exiting release capacity during high flow events. The proposed Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would be operated under two situations as follows:

- The new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would be operated if a large storm event is forecasted to occur within the near future, and the combination of New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage and the contributing watershed to New Bullards Bar Reservoir are in a state in which the storm event would necessitate very large releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir. Under this scenario, the proposed Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would be used to make releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir in anticipation of the storm event, to reduce the subsequent required peak release from the reservoir.
- If a large storm event is forecasted to occur within the near future, and there is a concern that the required peak release from New Bullards Bar Dam would coincide with the peak release from DWR's Oroville Reservoir, the proposed Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would be used to make releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir in anticipation of the storm event, so the peak flow from New Bullards Bar Reservoir would occur at an earlier time than it would otherwise would have occurred, to allow for better management of flood operations from Oroville Reservoir.

While the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet is included in the simulation of the proposed Project in the Operations Model, only its increased release capacity during spill events is included in the proposed Project simulation. YCWA flood management operations of anticipatory releases through the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet or flood management-related releases when storage is below the USACE flood reservation space are not included in modeling of the proposed Project. Those operations would be determined based on a number of real-time factors, including upstream snow-pack and forecasted storm intensity that are not included in the Operations Model. Modeling of the proposed Project to augment the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway capacity indicates the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet could be used each time New Bullards Bar Reservoir spill operations are needed, but the existing capacity is adequate for all low-to-medium intensity storm events so the release from the dam can be made through either outlet. The modeling results show that the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet additional release capacity and release capacity at a lower water-surface elevation would only be needed during very large storm events, or in roughly 8 out of 41 years. Any pre-emptive releases associated with the Forecasted Coordinated Operations program would likely be made using the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet in even fewer occurrences than the 8 in 41 years.

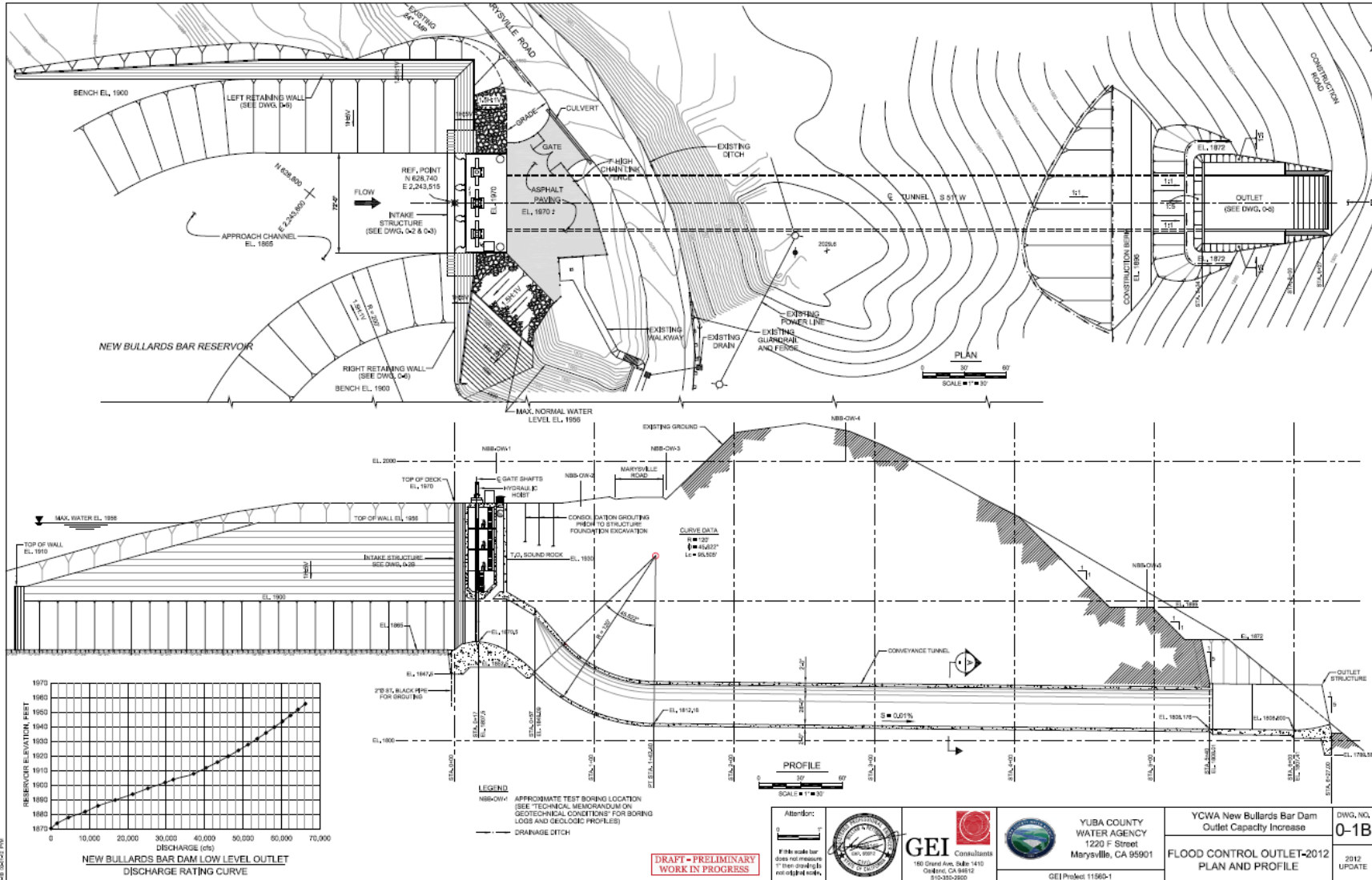


Figure 3.2-4. Concept-level plan and profile for YCWA's proposed New Bullards Bar Dam Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet.

Other than reducing the peak flow rate during storms, or shifting the peak release to an earlier time, the proposed Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would not affect Project operations.

Anticipated Construction

Outlet construction would require excavation in the upper left abutment area of the dam site. To serve tunnel construction, a construction access road would be built from the left abutment area down to the outlet area. Tunnel construction would likely start from the downstream portal and would continue toward the upstream portal using conventional, staged and drill-and-blast excavation methods. Temporary tunnel support would be installed during excavation as needed.

It is anticipated that excavation for the intake structure would be performed concurrently with access road construction and/or tunnel excavation. A natural cofferdam (i.e., *in-situ* soil and rock) would be left in place in the inlet approach channel to protect the construction work and prevent uncontrolled release of reservoir water through the excavation area and tunnel. The natural cofferdam would likely need stabilization and buttressing measures to ensure the site is adequately protected from the reservoir.

After the concrete intake structure is completed, the over-excavated areas would be backfilled with structural fill, and riprap would be placed on the slopes that may be exposed to wave erosion.

The natural cofferdam would be left in place until the tunnel and intake structure are completed and the gates installed. Removal of the cofferdam and construction of the approach channel and inlet training walls would be performed during a low reservoir period (late summer/fall).

Work on all components of the Project including the approach channel, intake structure, tunnel, and outlet structure, would be completed with only temporary disruptions of normal traffic patterns along Marysville Road due to movement of heavy construction equipment (e.g., excavators, haul trucks, concrete trucks and cranes). Some short duration (i.e., 5- to 15-minute) road closures may be required when setting up or unloading large equipment.

Construction Laydown Areas

Laydown/staging areas are temporary facilities utilized during construction activities. Temporary construction facilities would likely include construction offices, worker and equipment parking, equipment maintenance yard, warehouse, fuel tank and fueling pad, aggregate processing plant, concrete batch plant including portable plant, bulk material silos (cement, fly ash), admixtures and aggregate piles, and temporary storage of other construction materials.

Potential laydown areas include: 1) east of visitor parking area adjacent to spillway on YCWA land (~4 acres on YCWA land); 2) flat area on north side of Marysville Road west of quarry on NFS land (~15 acres on NFS land); 3) flat area on south side of Marysville Road south of quarry on private land (~20 acres on private land); 4) southeast of dam along dirt forest road on YCWA land (~16 acres on YCWA land); 5) alongside Marysville Road, east of quarry (~6 acres on YCWA and private land); 6) east side of Marysville Road, east of quarry (1.5 acres on YCWA and private land); and 7) west side of parking area on right abutment (~2 acres on YCWA land).

Construction Disposal Areas

Disposal areas will be required for the permanent placement of excess excavated materials obtained during construction activities. Material placed in the disposal areas would consist of soil and rock from required excavation, including tunnel muck. Woody debris may also be placed in disposal areas. Material not suited for onsite disposal (e.g., petroleum products, trash and waste) would be hauled to an approved offsite disposal facility.

The estimated total quantity of excavated material, including an appropriate bulking factor, is approximately 300,000 cubic yards (yd³). The materials obtained from required excavations would primarily consist of soil and metavolcanic rock. Materials from excavation may, in part, be suitable for utilization as backfill, road and yard surfacing, concrete aggregate and riprap. Some sorting, stockpiling and processing of excavated materials will be required to make them suitable for various intended uses. Excess materials, as well as materials that are unsuitable for reuse in construction, will be placed in the disposal areas.

Potential disposal areas include: 1) east of visitor parking area adjacent to spillway on YCWA land (~4 acres with a capacity of ~80,000 yd³); 2) old quarry on NFS land and private land (~8 acres and 100,000 yd³); 3) flat area on north side of Marysville Road west of quarry on NFS land (~15 acres and 100,000 yd³); 4) flat area on south side of Marysville Road south of quarry on private land (~20 acres and 100,000 yd³); and 5) southeast of dam along dirt forest road on YCWA land (~16 acres and 100,000 yd³).

Construction Traffic Considerations

The construction labor force is estimated to average about 30 to 40 persons over an assumed two-year construction period. Peak manpower could be close to double this number depending on the contractor's schedule. Personnel and equipment would reach the site via Highway 20 or 49 and Marysville Road, which are paved and suitable for the anticipated loads.

Schedule

A possible construction sequence, involving an approximately 5-year construction period is summarized below. The primary long-lead items are the fabricated steel roller gates together with the hydraulic cylinder operators and hydraulic power units. Construction would not begin until after a new FERC license is issued, final designs and construction plans are approved and all necessary permits obtained. Schedule highlights are as follows:

- At this time, it is anticipated that environmental compliance and permitting will take a total of 3 years, and the design will occur concurrently with permitting. Therefore, the total time for these 2 activities is 3 years. Actual field construction will take no more than 2 years.
- Mobilization would include the setup of construction offices, an aggregate crushing plant and a concrete batch plant; the development of disposal and laydown areas; and the construction of the access road to the outlet. It is anticipated that these activities may take about 3 months.
- The schedule assumes that YCWA would bid the roller gate package separately from the

construction package to expedite the gate procurement. However, the construction contractor could be assigned the procurement contract upon award of the construction contract. The gate procurement cycle, from prime contract award to gate delivery at the site is expected to take 14 months.

- Tunnel excavation would begin after completion of the access road, working from the downstream portal towards the inlet. Rock from tunnel excavation would be hauled to the disposal area, or to a stockpile in a laydown area for later use as concrete aggregate. It is expected that tunnel excavation may take about 4 months.
- Intake structure excavation would be conducted concurrently with construction of the access road and tunnel excavation. The intake excavation is expected to take about 2 to 3 months.
- After tunnel excavation, the reinforced-concrete tunnel lining would be constructed working from the inlet area towards the downstream portal. Once the upstream portion of the tunnel is lined, construction of the intake structure could begin, and could be constructed concurrently with the rest of the tunnel lining. It is anticipated that the tunnel lining and construction of the transition/intake structure would take about 4 to 5 months and 5 to 6 months, respectively.
- The reinforced-concrete outlet channel and flip bucket structure would be constructed after the tunnel lining is completed. This activity is anticipated to take about 3 to 4 months.
- The roller gates would be installed after completion of the intake structure construction. Gate installation is anticipated to take about 2 to 3 months to complete.
- Excavation of the approach channel would be performed once the intake structure is in an advanced stage of completion and the reservoir level is sufficiently low. After the approach channel is excavated, the reinforced concrete training walls and slope protection would be constructed. These activities would take about 4 months to complete.

The above summary schedule assumes that the financing plan for the project is in place before award of the construction contract. Also, seasonal schedule constraints that may be imposed by environmental mitigation requirements are not reflected in the summary above.

Figure 3.2-5 is a concept-level map of the construction area, as anticipated at this time.

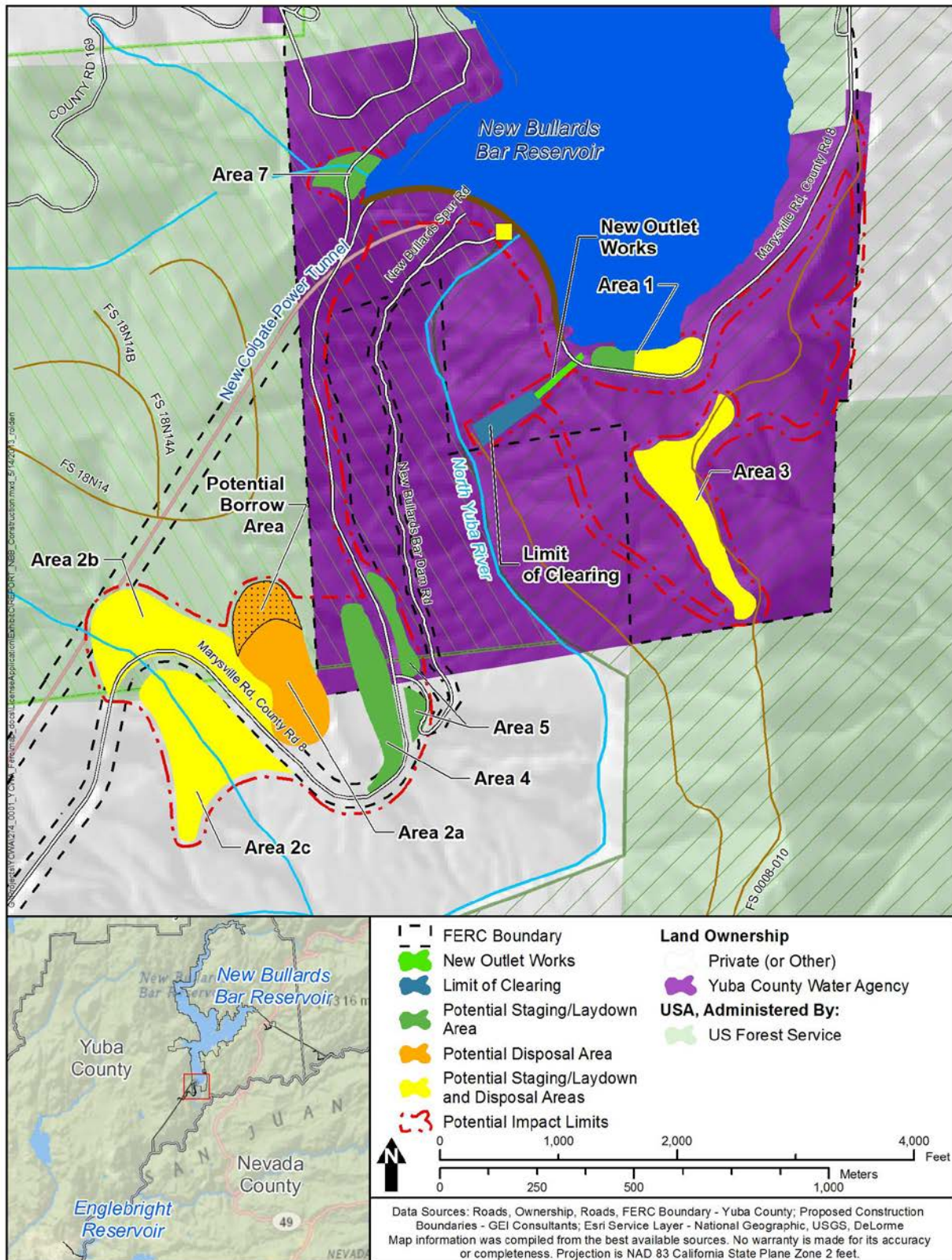


Figure 3.2-5. Concept-level map of construction area for YCWA's proposed New Bullards Bar Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet.

3.2.1.2.2 Modifications to Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam Fish Release Outlets

Anticipated Facilities

YCWA proposes to change minimum flows on the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam from the requirement in the existing license of 30 - 50 cfs to 40 - 120 cfs, and to change minimum flows on Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam from the requirement in the existing license of between 8-12 cfs to 6-43 cfs (YCWA Proposed Condition AR1, *Maintain Minimum Streamflows Below Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam*, in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA). Further, YCWA proposes to include in the new license a requirement to control spill at Our House Diversion Dam by releasing up to 600 cfs (YCWA's Proposed Condition AR2, *Control Project Spills at Our House Diversion Dam*, in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA), and to control spill at Log Cabin Diversion Dam by releasing up to 100 cfs (YCWA's Proposed Condition AR12, *Control Project Spills at Log Cabin Diversion Dam*, in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA). The proposed flows will exceed the capabilities of the existing fish release outlets (i.e., maximum existing valve capacities are 59 cfs at Our House Diversion Dam and 18 cfs at Log Cabin Diversion Dam). YCWA proposes to increase the capacity at each of these outlets to accommodate the new requirements.

At Our House Diversion Dam, a 68-inch diameter outlet pipe with control valve is proposed to be installed at the same invert elevation as the existing fish release outlet. At Log Cabin Diversion Dam, a 38-inch diameter outlet pipe with control valve is proposed to be installed at the same invert elevation as the existing fish release outlet. The new 68-inch diameter outlet at Our House Diversion Dam is expected to result in an outlet capacity of 611 cfs at minimum head (i.e. upstream water level at tunnel invert elevation of 2015.0 ft); the new 38-inch diameter outlet at Log Cabin Diversion Dam is expected to result in an outlet capacity of 106 cfs at minimum head (i.e. upstream water level at tunnel invert elevation of 1952.0 feet). The existing fish release outlets at Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams will remain in place and be able to release at their existing capacities (i.e., 59 and 18 cfs, respectively). The new fish release outlets at the dams will not affect the existing low level outlets at the dams.

Figures 3.2-6 and 3.2-7 are concept-level plan and profile drawings of the modifications to the existing fish release outlets. Construction is described in Exhibit C of the Amended FLA. If approved, detailed drawings would be provided to the Commission as appropriate for FERC approval. After construction is completed, detailed as-built drawings would be filed with the Commission as Project Exhibit Drawings.

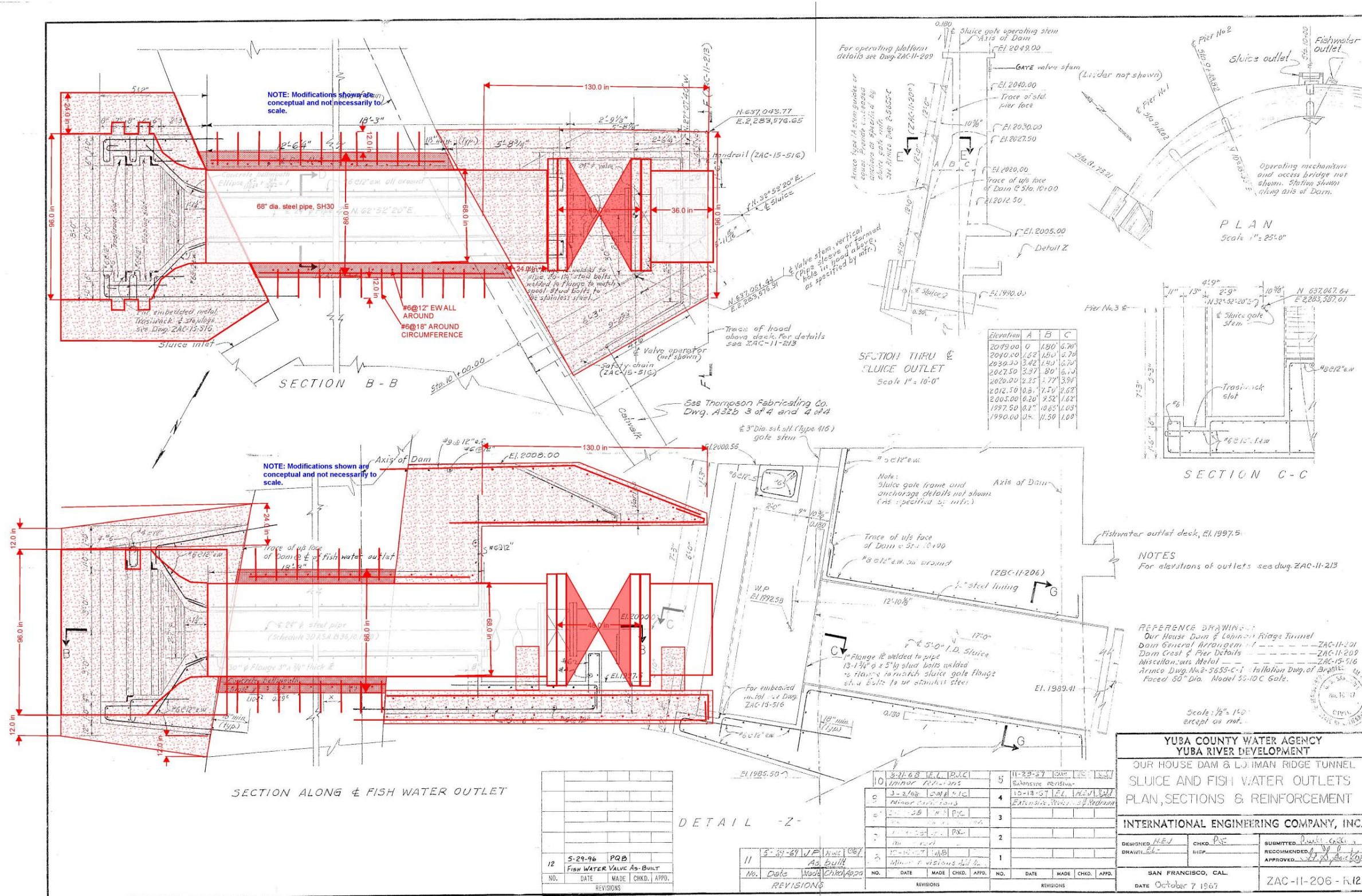


Figure 3.2-6. Concept-level profile of YCWA's proposed Our House Diversion Dam Fish Release Outlet.

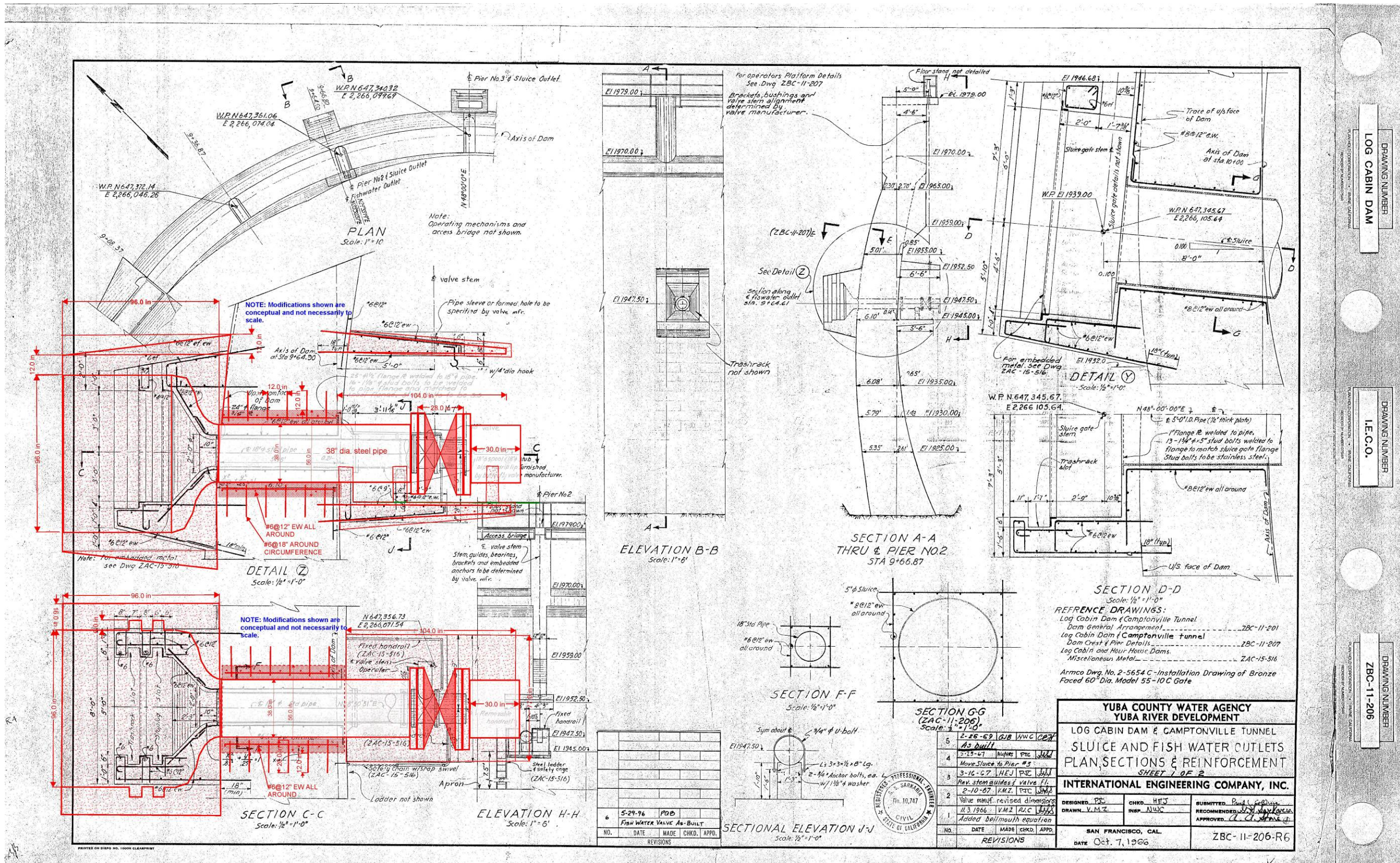


Figure 3.2-7. Concept-level profile of YCWA's proposed Log Cabin Diversion Dam Fish Release Outlet.

Anticipated Operations

YCWA anticipates that the new low level outlets would only be used to provide for controlled releases from the dams in excess of the existing fish release valves.

Anticipated Construction

All work would occur within the proposed FERC Project Boundary, where temporary facilities and laydown locations are available adjacent to each site. The work would occur in late summer when the minimum flow release from each dam is generally low and equal to inflow into the impoundment. YCWA would open the low level outlet to allow the water surface elevation in the impoundment to drop below the intake to the fish release outlet. A crane would be brought on-site and used to install temporary construction platforms and needed formwork for concrete modifications and installation of the new civil work. A new upsized fish release pipe and associated valve system would be installed at each facility, with the centerline of the new pipe at the same centerline elevation as the existing fish release outlet (i.e., no disturbance to the existing fish release outlet). The concrete facilities needed at the inlets and outlets of the new fish release outlets would be similar to those for the existing fish release outlets, upsized for the larger pipes accordingly. The penetration through the dams for the new fish release outlets would be achieved by coring multiple small diameter overlapping bores through the dam to form a circular opening large enough to accommodate the new outlet pipe and associated localized structural reinforcement rebar and plating. At the new fish release inlets, conical transition and stop-log slots would be installed; at the outlets, valve support platforms and valve stem guides would be constructed.

The construction labor force is estimated to average about 10 persons over the total construction period. Equipment will be transported to the diversion tunnel via Highway 20, Marysville Road, and Highway 49, all of which are paved and suitable for the anticipated loads. It is anticipated that not more than 10 trailer (“low boy”) truck roundtrips will be required to bring the mechanical, electrical and other heavy materials and equipment to the project site. No more than 20 truckloads of ready-mixed concrete may be needed for equipment supports and foundations. No changes in road conditions are anticipated as a result of the work.

At the sites, typical heavy construction equipment will include a crane, a concrete coring machine, air compressors, dump trucks, heavy-duty trucks, a floating barge, and miscellaneous equipment. Smaller equipment will include hoists and platforms, scaffolding, concrete placing and drilling equipment, a welding machine, and other miscellaneous equipment customary to the electrical, mechanical and structural crafts.

No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. For construction at the Log Cabin Dam, it is expected that the available space on the access roads to the dam areas will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. For construction at the Our House Dam, it is expected that the available space to the north east, adjacent to the river-right abutment to the dam will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. For both sites, all work will be confined to the dam outlet

area and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work at either sites.

At this time, it is anticipated that environmental compliance and permitting will take a total of six months for each diversion dam and the design will occur concurrently with permitting. Actual field construction will take no more than six months. While each site can be modified concurrently, the total time for these two activities is estimated to be two years.

3.2.1.2.3 Modifications to Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel Intake

Anticipated Facilities

YCWA proposes to periodically close the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel on the Middle Yuba River (YCWA's Proposed Condition AR11 in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA). There is an existing gate on the tunnel intake, but it is not appropriate for closing and opening the tunnel during high flows. YCWA proposes to replace the gate with a more efficient gate structure.

Inlet modifications necessary to add a new regulating gate and relocate the existing bulkhead gate would require the following activities:

- Extending the deck and approach walls of the existing inlet upstream 4 to 5 feet.
- Constructing a hoist deck to achieve gate and bulkhead lift clearances.
- Modifying the existing bulkhead slot to accommodate a regulating gate.
- Constructing a new bulkhead slot within the new inlet extension.
- Constructing a new trashrack and debris rake at the front of the extended inlet.

The inlet extension would be constructed to be much like the existing inlet (i.e., made of concrete). Based on using a screw-drive for the regulating gate and a wire rope hoist for the bulkhead gate, both hoists would be located on a raised platform approximately 17 ft above the inlet deck elevation or approximately 5 to 6 ft above the current upper access road elevation. Locating the hoists at this elevation allows for both gates to be lifted fully above the current deck for maintenance and inspection. A debris rake would be added to the inlet deck just above the trashrack.

Figure 3.2-8 is a concept-level plan and profile drawing of the modification. Construction is described in Exhibit C of the Amended FLA. If the proposal is approved, detailed drawings would be provided to the Commission as appropriate for FERC approval. After construction is completed, detailed as-built drawings would be filed with the Commission as Project Exhibit Drawings.

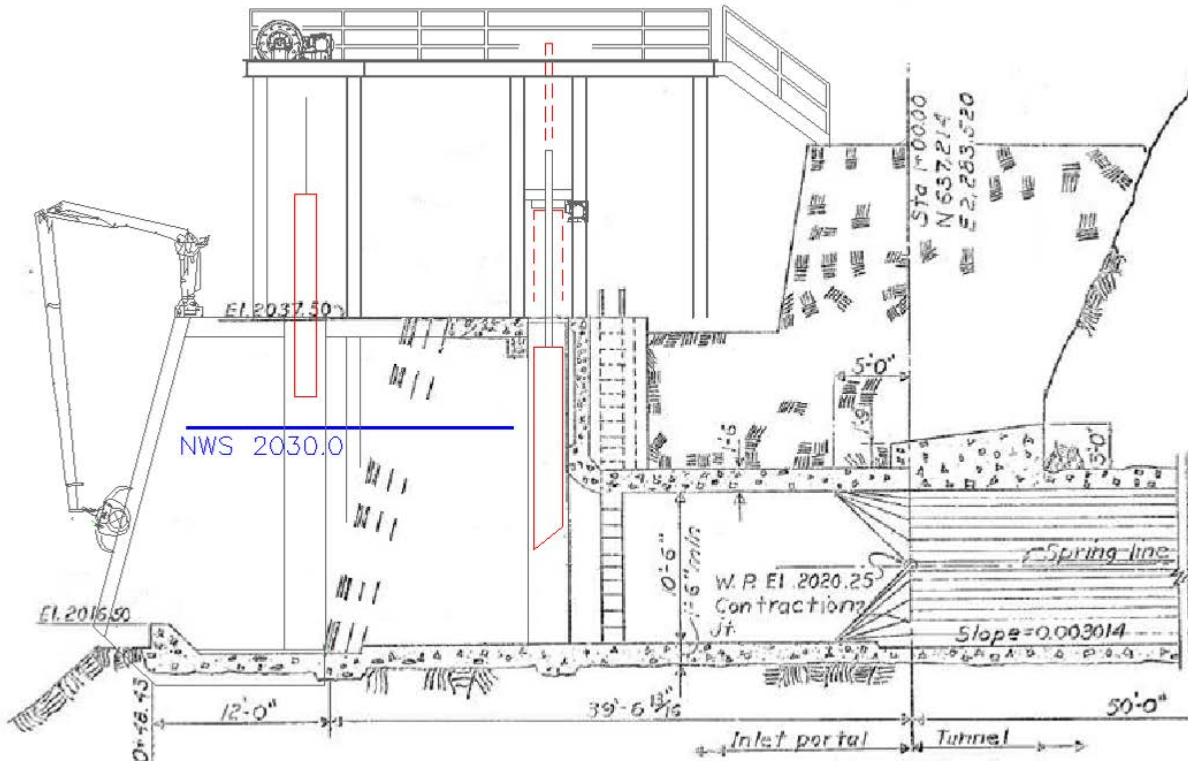


Figure 3.2-8. Concept-level details of YCWA’s proposed Lohman Ridge Inlet Control Gate and Debris Rake.

Anticipated Operations

YCWA anticipates that the new Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel Intake gage would be used to open or close the tunnel.

Anticipated Construction

All work would occur within the proposed FERC Project Boundary, where temporary facilities and laydown locations are available adjacent to the site. The work would occur in late summer when the minimum flow releases are low and equal to inflow into the impoundment. YCWA would open the low level outlet to allow the water surface elevation in the impoundment to drop below the intake to the diversion tunnel. A crane would be brought on-site and used to install temporary construction platforms and needed formwork for concrete modifications and installation of the new civil work. A new inlet control gate and debris rake would be installed. Penetrations through the existing tunnel inlet deck for the new gate and debris rack would be developed using concrete drilling and cutting tools. Mechanical and electrical control devices will be installed on the tunnel inlet deck.

The construction labor force is estimated to average about eight persons over the total construction period. Equipment would be transported to the diversion tunnel via Highway 20,

Marysville Road, and Highway 49, all of which are paved and suitable for the anticipated loads. It is anticipated that not more than 10 trailer (“low boy”) truck roundtrips would be required to bring the mechanical, electrical and other heavy materials and equipment to the project site. No more than five truckloads of ready-mixed concrete may be needed for equipment pads and foundations. No changes in road conditions are anticipated as a result of the work.

At the site, typical heavy construction equipment will include an excavator (backhoe), an air compressor, a heavy-duty truck, a truck-mounted crane and miscellaneous equipment. Smaller equipment will include hoists and platforms, concrete placing and drilling equipment, a welding machine, and other miscellaneous equipment customary to the electrical, mechanical and structural crafts.

No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. It is expected that the available space within the tunnel intake area will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. All work will be confined to the tunnel intake and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work.

At this time, it is anticipated that environmental compliance and permitting will take a total of six months and the design will occur concurrently with permitting. Actual field construction will take no more than six months. The total time for these activities is estimated to be no longer than 18 months.

3.2.1.2.4 Recreation Facilities

YCWA proposes several enhancements to the existing Project recreation facilities. When constructing Project recreation facilities, YCWA will obtain all necessary permits and approval for survey work, facility design and on-site resource evaluations, including the Forest Service on NFS land. A description of these enhancements is provided below.

Schoolhouse Campground

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- Appropriate trailhead signage on the facility entrance sign.
- Replacement of existing vault and flush restroom buildings with new restroom buildings, including septic systems.
- Conversion of all the double and triple campsites into single campsites, except for campsite #9 (double site), which will be separated into two single sites.
- An expanded, paved and striped overflow parking area for 10 vehicle plus trailer spaces and 15 single vehicle spaces.

- A native surface, non-motorized, multi-use connector trail to Schoolhouse Trail from the trailhead parking area.
- A 50-PAOT²¹ amphitheater across the road from the campground overflow and trailhead parking area with bench seating, a large group fire ring and an electrical hookup.
- Electricity at the entrance station, host site, and each restroom.
- A host site with water and electric hookups and a holding tank.
- A shower building or buildings with a total of four shower stalls.
- Campsite vehicle spurs to accommodate Recreational Vehicles (RVs), as feasible.
- RV hookups (water and electric only) at 10 existing campsites.
- Campground circulation roads to accommodate RVs up to 45 ft.

Dark Day Campground

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A new replacement two-unit vault restroom building that serves Campsites 5 through 10.
- A tent camping only facility.
- Vegetative screening between campsites.
- Campsites that meet current standards and guidelines.
- Defined campsite access routes from the parking area that avoid travel through the living spaces of other campsites.
- A one-unit vault restroom at Campsite #4.
- A two-unit flush restroom building that serves double campsites (Site #1 through 3) if the site terrain allows for a leach field. If a flush model is not feasible, then replace with a vault model.

Hornswoggle Group Campground

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A new two-unit flush restroom in place of the existing four-unit flush restroom buildings at the Manzanita and Madrone campsites, including appropriate septic systems.

²¹ PAOT = People At One Time.

- A new one-unit vault restroom in place of the existing two-unit vault restroom at the Sugarpine campsite.
- A new one-unit vault restroom in place of the existing two-unit vault restroom at the Douglas Fir campsite, including appropriate septic system.
- New one-unit flush restroom buildings, including appropriate septic systems, at the Dogwood and Ponderosa campsites (where restroom buildings do not currently exist).
- A shower building or buildings with a total of four shower stalls.
- Improved turning radii of each existing group campsite spur road to accommodate RVs up to 45-ft-long at all the group campsites, except Site No. 4 (Ponderosa), where an RV size limit will be implemented.
- One new group campsite (25 PAOT), including a paved parking area, one-unit vault restroom, and group camping area with picnic tables, food lockers, fire ring and a pedestal grill.
- Electricity at the entrance kiosk/information board and each restroom.

Cottage Creek Picnic Area

YCWA will complete the second phase of the facility reconstruction on the eastern portion of the campground that was severely burned during the 2010 fire once the area has been sufficiently re-vegetated. The development will consist of four additional small group campsites with the following specifications:

- A total of four additional campsites, including two double campsites and two triple campsites each with a paved vehicle spur and a living space and the following additional specifications:
 - A potable water system extension from the existing system consisting of underground distribution and water hydrants.
 - A two-unit vault restroom building.
 - A paved circulation road with vehicle barriers.
 - Trash facilities, including a dumpster and recycling receptacles.
 - A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
 - A two-panel interpretive display at a location with the best view down canyon within the facility.

Garden Point Boat-in Campground

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.

- A one-panel interpretive display that includes information about the gold mining history in the Yuba River drainage and the North Yuba River/Bullards Bar area.
- New vault restroom buildings in place of the existing restroom buildings with the most efficient configuration of one- and/or two-unit restroom buildings.
- At least seven new single campsites to replace lost capacity with the closure of Frenchy Point Campground.
- An additional restroom building(s) to meet the needs of the final number of new campsites.
- Solar-powered lighting at the entrance station kiosk.
- Removal of existing Klamath stove facilities and concrete bases.

Madrone Cove Boat-in Campground

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A one-panel interpretive display that includes information about the gold mining history in the Yuba River drainage and the North Yuba River/Bullards Bar area.
- A new vault restroom building in place of the existing vault restroom building.
- Improved campsites to better meet current standards.
- New campsite retaining walls with durable materials.
- Improved access routes and trails connecting the campsites to the restroom(s) and entrance station.
- Solar-powered lighting at the entrance station kiosk.
- Removal of existing Klamath stove facilities and concrete bases.

Frenchy Point Boat-in Campground

YCWA will decommission the facility due to low use and very difficult topography.

Dark Day Picnic Area

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized three-panel entrance station kiosk.
- At the western picnic site cluster:
 - A total of 10 picnic sites near the NMWSE – each with a picnic table and a concrete grill with self-contained ash box.

- Rehabilitation of any relocated picnic sites to conditions satisfactory to the Forest Service.
- Removal of the existing Klamath stoves at each picnic site.
- Outdoor recreation access routes (ORARs) to the re-located picnic sites from the parking area.
- Signage directing users from the parking area to the re-located picnic sites via the new trail access routes.
- Enhanced reservoir views at the re-located picnic sites through selective vegetation management (where practical).
- A Yuba County ordinance establishing a non-motorized boating only zone on the reservoir adjacent to the western picnic site cluster (if possible with Yuba County).
- At the northern/peninsula picnic site cluster:
 - A total of five picnic sites near the end of the peninsula – each with a picnic table and a concrete grill with self-contained ash box.
 - Rehabilitation of any relocated picnic sites to conditions satisfactory to the Forest Service.
 - Removal of the existing Klamath stoves at each picnic site.
 - ORARs to the re-located picnic sites from the parking area.
 - Signage directing users from the parking area to the re-located picnic sites via the new trail access routes.
 - Enhanced reservoir views at the re-located picnic sites through selective vegetation management (where practical).
- A new four-unit vault restroom building in place of the existing restroom building.
- A parking area with a total parking capacity of 34 single vehicle spaces.
- Trailhead signage for the Bullards Bar Trail at the parking area and along Marysville Road.

Sunset Vista Point

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized three-panel entrance station kiosk.
- Two new picnic sites, each with a picnic table and a concrete grill with self-contained ash box.
- A water hydrant near the new picnic sites.
- An upgraded existing picnic site with a new picnic table and concrete grill with self-contained ash box.

- Enhanced reservoir vistas from each picnic site by selective vegetation management.
- A new two-unit vault restroom building in place of the existing four-unit vault restroom building.
- A paved and striped parking area on the shoreline side of the road.
- A trailhead sign at the start of the Bullards Bar Trail.
- A one-panel interpretive display at the picnic sites.

Dam Overlook

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A parking area for 10 single vehicles with a gravel surface and vehicle barriers.
- A standardized three-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A one-panel interpretive display.

Moran Road Day Use Area

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A gravel car-top boat ramp with three improved existing turnarounds.
- A parking area with five new single spaces²²

Cottage Creek Boat Launch

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.

Dark Day Boat Launch

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

Overflow Parking Area

- A single, switchback trail connecting the overflow parking area to the boat ramp, including decommissioning and rehabilitation of the secondary, non-switchback trail.
- Trail signage at the start and end of the trail.

²² Expansion of the parking area may require relocating the existing one-unit vault restroom to provide the five additional single vehicle parking spaces.

- Lighting at the existing restroom.
- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.

Main Parking Area and Boat Ramp

- A standardized four-panel entrance station kiosk.
- Trailhead signage at the parking area.
- An upgraded launch ramp, including straightening, widening, lengthening and courtesy dock enhancements (as feasible).
- Lighting at the restroom, top of the launch ramp and in the parking area.
- A new four-unit vault restroom building in place of the existing four-unit vault restroom.
- A parking area with new pavement and striping.
- Removal of the accessible loading ramp.

In addition, YCWA will evaluate the need to provide additional boat launch parking at or near the Dark Day Boat Launch facility based on site-specific monitoring.

Recreational Trails (Bullards Bar and Schoolhouse Trails)

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- Appropriate trailhead identification signage at facility identification signs along Marysville Road and in the facility parking areas.
- Consistent directional signage at all Project trail junctions.

Our House Diversion Dam

YCWA will provide the following enhancements:

- A standardized three-panel entrance station kiosk.
- A temporary restroom (1 unit) every year from October 1 through June 30.
- A river access trail downstream of the diversion dam and weir.
- A wheeled-cart designed for carrying whitewater rafts behind the existing locked gate at the parking area.

New Recreation Facilities

In addition to the improvements to the existing Project recreation facilities, YCWA proposes several new Project recreation facilities. A description of these new facilities is provided below.

Kelly Ridge Campground

YCWA will construct a new campground designed to accommodate small groups (double and triple sites) and RVs on Kelly Road off of Marysville Road. The facility will have the following specific facilities, features and configurations:

- A total of 27 campsites, including 22 double campsites and five triple campsites.
- A host site designed for an RV including a water and electric hookup and a septic holding tank.
- A potable water source and delivery system.
- A shower building with four shower stalls, four flush restroom stalls and associated parking.
- Restroom buildings including (2) 2-unit vault buildings and at least one flush building.
- Paved circulation roads with vehicle barriers and gates.
- Signage including an entrance station kiosk and directional signage.

Shadow Ridge Campground

YCWA will construct a new campground designed to accommodate single families at the former Burnt Bridge Campground site. The facility will include a campground, trailhead parking area, non-motorized shoreline loop trail, a non-motorized interpretive trail and a reservoir overlook. The facility will have the following specific facilities, features and configurations:

- A total of 18 single campsites each with a paved vehicle spur and a living space, fire ring, food locker, picnic table and tent pads.
- A host site designed for an RV with water and a septic holding tank.
- A potable water system, including source (well), underground distribution and water hydrants dispersed throughout the campground.
- (2) two-unit restroom buildings (1 flush and 1 vault model).
- Paved circulation roads.
- A 30-PAOT amphitheater with bench seating and a large group fire ring.
- An entrance station kiosk.
- A trailhead parking area consisting of a gravel parking area (10 vehicles), entrance station kiosk and interpretive display.
- A non-motorized shoreline loop trail around the Shadow Ridge peninsula.
- An out-and-back, non-motorized interpretive trail.
- A reservoir overlook atop the peninsula (at the end of the interpretive trail) with 3 to 5 picnic sites; an interpretive display; and appropriate vegetation management and

clearing to enhance the views of the reservoir (Moran Cove).

Cottage Creek Picnic Site

Pending access easements from the private land owners along the access road to the site, YCWA will construct a new picnic site with the following facilities and features.

- A gravel parking area for 15 single vehicles; vehicle barriers; two-unit vault restroom; facility identification sign; directional signage; and an entrance station kiosk.
- A shoreline day use area with 10 picnic sites; an accessible shoreline access trail to the reservoir; an interpretive display and a non-motorized boating only zone in the cove accessed by the accessible shoreline trail.
- Signage including an entrance station kiosk and a facility identification sign.
- Improvements to the existing access road (Forest Service Road 18N15) from the intersection with Yuba County Road 169 to the new parking area.

Dark Day RV Dump Station

YCWA will construct a sanitary dump station for RVs on Dark Day Road. The facility will include the following facilities and features.

- A one-lane dump station with an 8,000-gallon holding tank, potable water hydrant, non-potable water tower for cleaning, an overhead light and trash facilities.
- A one-way paved circulation road with an RV-sized pullout after the dump station for exit preparation.
- A turning lane on Dark Day Road for vehicles coming from the Marysville Road direction.
- Signage including an entrance station kiosk and a facility identification sign.

Dark Day Entrance Station

YCWA will include the existing entrance station building along Dark Day Road as a Project facility that supports the Dark Day Facilities. No specific improvements to the entrance stations are planned at this time.

New Colgate Powerhouse River Access

Immediately downstream of New Colgate Powerhouse, YCWA will construct a non-motorized river access trail to the Yuba River, and install an entrance station kiosk and directional signage.

West Shoreline Trail

YCWA will develop a Class 3 shoreline trail on the west shoreline of New Bullards Bar Reservoir connecting the Cottage Creek recreation complex (boat launch, campground and picnic site) and the Shadow Ridge Campground and trails. The trail will be a Class 3 trail designed for non-motorized uses (pedestrian, mountain biking and equestrian uses). YCWA will complete this trail construction in two phases, including Phase 1 from Cottage Creek Boat

Launch to Cottage Creek Campground and Cottage Creek Picnic Site (approx. 1.1 mi); and Phase 2 from Cottage Creek Picnic Site to Shadow Ridge Campground (approx. 4.5 mi).

Anticipated Construction

YCWA's proposed Recreation Facilities Plan (Condition RR1) includes a detailed implementation schedule for major rehabilitation, near-term rehabilitation and enhancements at each existing recreation facility. It is important to understand how YCWA developed this schedule. YCWA used the replacement of the existing main line of the recreational facility water delivery system, which is almost entirely underground, as the primary driver of the major rehabilitation schedule of the recreation facilities. The rationale for this approach is primarily the efficiency of the work and to avoid doubling rehabilitation efforts and the resultant significant cost savings. Further, replacement of the underground water system is the single most impactful work project at each facility because the work would affect the most significant (and costly to replace) facilities and amenities within the recreation facilities – the circulation roads, restroom buildings and the septic and leach field systems. As such, YCWA's schedule was developed to complete the main water line replacement and then begin the process of rehabilitating the recreation facilities either concurrently or sequentially following water system replacement while still providing a phased approach to avoid the closure of multiple facilities at the same time. This avoids repeating costly facility major rehabilitation work such as re-paving recently paved roads; moving or altering recently replaced restrooms; and/or re-aligning, extending or relocating recently replaced septic systems and leach fields that might occur if the underground water system work was completed after major rehabilitation of the recreation facilities.

YCWA recognizes that this approach may not precisely align with the priority of rehabilitation work, particularly for some of the older amenities (e.g., restrooms) based on the current condition of all the facilities and that it may require enhanced minor maintenance of these facilities until the major rehabilitation of the facilities can occur. However, overall, YCWA believes this approach is ultimately the most efficient and practical approach to provide enhanced recreation facilities over the term of the license with the least disruption to the public overall (minimizes the impact and occurrence of closed facilities) and at significant cost savings to YCWA, primarily by avoiding repeated major rehabilitation efforts at the same facilities.

3.2.1.2.5 Proposed Primary Project Roads

Anticipated Facilities

YCWA proposes the following Primary Project Roads and Trails (Table 3.2-1) and Recreation Roads (Table 3.2-2).

Table 3.2-1. Primary Project Roads and Trails (non-recreation roads and trails) included in the Yuba River Development Project.

Road Name	Begin	End	Land Ownership	Mile Marker-Start	Mile Marker-End	Total Length (mi)
Our House Diversion Dam Road (TNF Rd 0180-Our House)	Ridge Road	Our House Diversion Dam	Private	0	0.79	0.79
	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	0.79	0.85	0.06
	Private	--	Private	0.85	1.12	0.27
	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	1.12	1.93	0.81
Our House Diversion Dam Road Spur	Our House Diversion Dam Road	Our House Diversion Dam	Forest Service	0	0.03	0.03
Log Cabin Diversion Dam Road	Highway 49	Log Cabin Diversion Dam	Private	0	0.15	0.15
	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	0.15	0.42	0.27
	Private	--	Private	0.42	0.50	0.08
	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	0.50	0.85	0.35
	Private	--	Private	0.85	1.09	0.24
	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	1.09	1.33	0.24
	Private	--	Private	1.33	1.37	0.04
Garden Valley Road	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	0	2.53	2.53
Sunset Vista Point Road Spur	Forest Service	YCWA's Water Storage Tanks	Forest Service	0.66	0.82	0.16
Cottage Creek Shoreline Access Road	Cottage Creek Campground Access Road	New Bullards Bar Reservoir	Forest Service	0	0.08	0.08
New Bullards Bar Dam Road	County Road 8	New Bullards Bar Dam	Private	0	1.09	1.09
New Bullards Bar Dam Road Spur	New Bullards Bar Dam Road	New Bullards Bar Dam	Private	0	0.11	0.11
New Bullards Bar Dam Compliance Flow Gage Trail	New Bullards Bar Dam Road	Stream Gage	Private	0	0.12	0.12
Colgate Tunnel Lane	County Road 139	Penstock	Private	0	0.72	0.72
Colgate Tunnel Muck Road	Colgate Tunnel Lane	Rock Pit	Private	0	0.85	0.85
Colgate Haul Road	County Road 139	Penstock	Private	0	0.23	0.23
Colgate Tunnel Penstock Road	Colgate Tunnel Muck Road	Penstock	Private	0	0.15	0.15
Penstock Access Road #1	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.23	0.23
Penstock Access Road #1 Spur	Penstock Access 1	Penstock	Private	0	0.04	0.04
Penstock Access Road #2	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.10	0.10
Penstock Access Road #3	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.10	0.10
Penstock Access Road #4	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.15	0.15
Narrows 2 Powerhouse Road	County Road 222	Narrows 2 Powerhouse	State of California	0	1.50	1.50
	USACE	--	USACE	1.50	2.07	0.57
Narrows 2 Intake Spur	Narrows 2 Powerhouse Road	Narrows 2 Intake	State of California	0	0.14	0.14
	USACE	--	USACE	0.14	0.20	0.06
Narrows 2 Compliance Flow Gage Trail	Narrows 2 Access	Stream Gage	USACE	0	0.18	0.18
	--	--	Private	0.18	0.21	0.03
Total	33 road segments					12.47 mi

Table 3.2-2. Recreation roads included in the Yuba River Development Project.

Road Name	Associated Recreation Facility	Begin	End	Land Ownership (FS Road #, if applicable)	Mile Marker-Start	Mile Marker-End	Total Length (mi)
Dark Day Access Road	Dark Day Recreation Area	0.33 mi from County Road 8 ¹	Entrance to Dark Day Boat Launch and Campground Roads	Forest Service	0	0.23	0.23
Dark Day Boat Launch Road	Dark Day Boat Launch	Forest Service	New Bullards Bar Reservoir	Forest Service	0	0.28	0.28
Dark Day Campground and Picnic Area Road	Dark Day Campground and Picnic Area	Forest Service	Campground	TNF Rd 0008-004	0	0.44	0.44
Schoolhouse Campground Loop Road	Schoolhouse Campground	County Road 8	Campground	TNF Rd 0008-005, 0008-005-001, 0008-005-002 and 0008-003	0	0.97	0.97
Hornswoggle Group Campground Road	Hornswoggle Group Campground	County Road 8	Campground	TNF Rd 0008-006	0	0.33	0.33
Moran Boat Launch Access Road	Moran Boat Launch	Moran Road	New Bullards Bar Reservoir	Forest Service	0	0.20	0.20
				YCWA	0.20	0.29	0.09
Cottage Creek Campground Road	Cottage Creek Campground	County Road 169	Campground	Forest Service	0	0.14	0.14
Cottage Creek Campground Access Road	Cottage Creek Campground	County Road 8	Cottage Creek Campground	YCWA	0	0.47	0.47
				Forest Service	0.47	0.82	0.35
				YCWA	0.82	1.16	0.34
				Forest Service	1.16	1.24	0.08
Cottage Creek Boat Launch Road	Cottage Creek Boat Launch	County Road 169	New Bullards Bar Reservoir	YCWA	0	0.15	0.15
Total			13 road segments				4.07 mi

¹ Yuba County has confirmed the first 0.33 mi is County Road 181.

The roads listed above in Tables 3.2-1 and 3.2-2 are inclusive of all Project Roads for operation and maintenance of the proposed Project.²³ For clarity regarding changes to the Project, YCWA’s proposed modifications to the existing Primary Project Roads and Trails and Recreation Roads are listed below. Table 3.2-3 shows Primary Project Roads and Trails that have been added, and Table 3.2-4 shows Recreation Roads added and removed.

²³ YCWA’s responsibilities as they relate to specific non-Project, general access roads in Yuba County are to be addressed in a Road Maintenance Agreement, which is outside relicensing, between YCWA and Yuba County. YCWA’s responsibilities as they relate to specific non-Project, general access roads on NFS land may be addressed in a Road Maintenance Agreement, which is outside relicensing, between YCWA and the Forest Service. In addition, the Road Maintenance Agreement between YCWA and Yuba County will address maintenance of County Road segments that provide primary access to Project facilities, including “driveway” entrances to Project Recreation Roads that fall within a County Road right-of-way. General access roads are maintained jointly and are not a Project facility or feature.

Table 3.2-3. Proposed additions to Primary Project Roads and Trails (non-recreation roads and trails) included in Yuba River Development Project by Development.

Road Name	Begin	End	Land Ownership	Mile Marker-Start	Mile Marker-End	Total Length (mi)
NEW COLGATE DEVELOPMENT						
Garden Valley Road	Forest Service	--	Forest Service	0	2.53	2.53
Sunset Vista Point Road Spur	Forest Service	YWCA's Water Storage Tanks	Forest Service	0.66	0.82	0.16
New Bullards Bar Dam Compliance Flow Gage Trail	New Bullards Bar Dam Road	Stream Gage	Private	0	0.12	0.12
Colgate Tunnel Lane	County Road 139	Penstock	Private	0	0.72	0.72
Colgate Tunnel Muck Road	Colgate Tunnel Lane	Rock Pit	Private	0	0.85	0.85
Colgate Haul Road	County Road 139	Penstock	Private	0	0.23	0.23
Colgate Tunnel Penstock Road	Colgate Tunnel Muck Road	Penstock	Private	0	0.15	0.15
Penstock Access Road #1	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.23	0.23
Penstock Access Road #1 Spur	Penstock Access 1	Penstock	Private	0	0.04	0.04
Penstock Access Road #2	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.10	0.10
Penstock Access Road #3	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.10	0.10
Penstock Access Road #4	County Road 1051	Penstock	Private	0	0.15	0.15
NEW BULLARDS BAR FLOW DEVELOPMENT						
None						
NARROWS 2 DEVELOPMENT						
Narrows 2 Compliance Flow Gage Trail	Narrows 2 Access	Stream Gage	USACE	0	0.03	0.03
	--	--	Private	0.03	0.21	0.18
Total	14 road segments					5.59 mi

Table 3.2-4. Proposed additions to and withdrawals of Recreation Roads associated with the New Colgate Development. YCWA does not propose any changes to Recreation Roads and Trails associated with the New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Development or the Narrows 2 Development.

Road Name	Associated Recreation Facility	Begin	End	Land Ownership (FS Road #, if applicable)	Mile Marker-Start	Mile Marker-End	Total Length (mi)
PROPOSED ADDITION							
Dark Day Access Road	Dark Day Recreation Area	0.33 mi from County Road 8 ¹	Entrance to Dark Day Boat Launch and Campground Roads	Forest Service	0	0.23	0.23
Total	1 road segment added						0.23 mi
PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL							
Burnt Bridge Campground Loop Road (PNF Rd 18N07)	Burnt Bridge Campground	County Road 129	Campground	Forest Service	0	0.77	0.77
Total	1 road segment removed						0.77 mi

¹Yuba County has confirmed the first 0.33 mi is County Road 181

3.2.2 Proposed Project Boundary

YCWA proposes several changes to the Project Boundary in order to more accurately define lands necessary for the safe O&M of the Project and other purposes, such as recreation, shoreline control, and protection of environmental resources. All proposed changes are described in detail in Section 2.0 of Exhibit G of the Amended FLA, and are summarized in Table 3.2-5.

Table 3.2-5. Summary of land ownership within the proposed Yuba River Development Project FERC Project Boundary by Project Development and difference as compared to existing FERC Project Boundary.

Development	Forest Service (ac)	USACE (ac)	State of California (ac)	YCWA (ac)	Other Private (ac)	Total	
						Acres	Percent
PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY							
New Colgate	3,413.3	0	0	2,578.8	198.7	6,190.2	99.5%
New Bullards Minimum Flow	0	0	0	<0.1	0	<0.1	0%
Narrows 2	0	11.1	19.5	1.2	0.8	32.6	0.5%
Total	3,413.3	11.1	19.5	2,580.0	199.5	6,223.4	100%
Percent	54.8%	0.2%	0.3%	41.5%	3.2%	--	--
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXISTING (AND PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY							
Difference	-1,003.4	-5.0	-0.6	-569.3	-13.5	-1,591.8	-21.7%

3.2.3 Proposed Project Operations

3.2.3.1 Changes to Conditions in the FERC License

YCWA developed proposed conditions, including associated implementation plans, for the new licenses in collaboration with Relicensing Participants. In particular, 13 of YCWA’s Proposed Conditions would modify flow requirements in the existing license and, thereby, affect future Project operations. Each of these 13 proposed conditions is summarized below.

3.2.3.1.1 Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to New Bullards Bar Dam, Our House Diversion Dam, and Log Cabin Diversion Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR2)

YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR2 includes the definition of a new hydrologic index, the “Smartsville Hydrological Index,” and associated WY types that are used to determine minimum required flows on the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam, the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam, and on Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Dam. These hydrologic year types are defined by published forecasts of annual unimpaired Yuba River flow near Smartsville and computed unimpaired flows for previous months. DWR publishes forecasts of annual volumes of unimpaired Yuba River flow near Smartsville in its Bulletin 120, Water Conditions in California, every year in early February, March, April and May. After the end of the WY (i.e., beginning of October), YCWA will use the actual annual volume of unimpaired Yuba River flow near Smartsville for the previous WY

to determine the WY type used until the next forecast is released (i.e., in early February). Table 3.2-6 shows the Smartsville Hydrological Index thresholds and associated WY types.

Table 3.2-6. Smartsville Hydrological Index Water Year Types and associated thresholds.

Water Year Type	Forecast of Total Unimpaired Runoff in the Yuba River at Smartsville in Thousand Acre-Feet or DWR Full Natural Flow Near Smartsville for the Water Year in Thousand Acre-Feet ¹
Wet	Greater than 3,240
Above Normal	2,191 to 3,240
Below Normal	1,461 to 2,190
Dry	901 to 1,460
Critically Dry	616 to 900

¹ DWR rounds the Bulletin 120 forecast to the nearest thousand acre-feet. The Full Natural Flow is provided to the nearest ac-ft, and YCWA will round DWR's Full Natural Flow to the nearest thousand ac-ft.

3.2.3.1.2 Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass (YCWA's Proposed Condition WR3)

Proposed Condition WR3 defines the calculation of the North Yuba Index, to be used to identify the required flow schedule at the Smartsville and at Marysville gages. The schedules in this proposed condition are the same as the schedules described in Exhibits 2, 4 and 5 of the Lower Yuba River Fisheries Agreement. Table 3.2-7 shows the North Yuba Index thresholds and associated WY types.

Table 3.2-7. North Yuba Index¹ Schedules and associated thresholds.

Water Year Type	Thousands of Acre-Feet
Schedule 1	Equal to or greater than 1,400
Schedule 2	Equal to or greater than 1,040 and less than 1,400
Schedule 3	Equal to or greater than 920 and less than 1,040
Schedule 4	Equal to or greater than 820 and less than 920
Schedule 5	Equal to or greater than 693 and less than 820
Schedule 6	Equal to or greater than 500 and less than 693
Conference Year	Less than 500

¹ The North Yuba Index is calculated as the active storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir on September 30 of the previous Water Year plus New Bullards Bar Reservoir inflow to date plus forecasted inflow²⁴ through September 30 of the current Water Year.

3.2.3.1.3 Minimum Flows in the Middle Yuba River Downstream of Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam (YCWA's Proposed Condition AR1)

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition AR1, there would be new flow requirements for the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam. The required flow will be determined based on the applicable Smartsville Hydrological Index Water Year type. Table 3.2-8 shows the proposed monthly required flows for the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam by WY type, as included in proposed Condition AR1.

²⁴ Based on DWR-published Bulletin 120 in each of the months of February, March, April and May, and then thereafter whenever DWR issues an update to the Bulletin 120.

Table 3.2-8. Proposed Project flow requirements for the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam by Smartsville Hydrological Index Water Year Type.

Month	Wet Water Year (cfs) ¹	Above Normal Water Year (cfs) ¹	Below Normal Water Year (cfs) ¹	Dry Water Year (cfs) ¹	Critically Dry Water Year (cfs) ¹
October 1 - 30	60	60	55	50	40
November 1-30	60	60	55	50	40
December 1 - 31	70	60	55	50	40
January 1 - 31	90	75	70	50	40
February 1- 29	90	75	70	50	40
March 1 - 31	100	90	80	55	45
April 1 - 30	120	100	90	70	60
May 1- 31	120	100	90	70	60
June 1 - 30	120	100	90	70	60
July 1 - 31	100	80	70	60	45
August 1 - 31	80	70	60	50	45
September 1- 30	70	60	55	50	45

¹ Or natural inflow if natural inflow is less.

In addition, YCWA’ Proposed Condition AR1 would establish new flow requirements for Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The required flow will be determined based on the applicable Smartsville Hydrological Index WY type. Table 3.2-9 shows the monthly required flows for Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam by WY type, as included in Proposed Condition AR1.

Table 3.2-9. Proposed Project flow requirements for Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam by Smartsville Hydrological Index Water Year Type.

Month	Wet Water Year (cfs) ¹	Above Normal Water Year (cfs) ¹	Below Normal Water Year (cfs) ¹	Dry Water Year (cfs) ¹	Critically Dry Water Year (cfs) ¹
October 1 - 30	8	8	6	6	6
November 1-30	17	15	15	10	6
December 1 - 31	17	15	15	10	6
January 1 - 31	17	15	15	10	6
February 1- 29	24	19	18	12	12
March 1 - 31	30	30	18	12	12
April 1 - 30	43	43	27	18	18
May 1- 31	43	43	27	18	18
June 1 - 30	43	43	27	18	18
July 1 - 31	25	20	15	10	6
August 1 - 31	13	10	8	6	6
September 1- 30	13	10	8	6	6

¹ Or natural inflow if natural inflow is less.

3.2.3.1.4 Minimum Flows in the North Yuba River Flow Downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR10)

Proposed Condition AR10 would require new flow requirements for the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam. The required flow will be determined based on the applicable Smartsville Hydrological Index WY type. Table 3.2-10 shows the monthly required flows for the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam by WY type, as included in Condition AR10.

Table 3.2-10. Proposed Project Flow Requirements for the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam by Smartsville Hydrological Index Water Year Type.

Month	Wet Water Year (cfs)	Above Normal Water Year(cfs)	Below Normal Water Year(cfs)	Dry Water Year(cfs)	Critically Dry Water Year(cfs)
October 1 - 30	13	13	13	13	7
November 1-30	13	13	13	13	7
December 1 - 31	13	13	13	13	7
January 1 - 31	13	13	13	13	7
February 1- 29	13	13	13	13	7
March 1 - 31	11	12	13	13	7
April 1 - 30	5	5	5	5	5
May 1- 31	5	5	5	5	5
June 1 - 30	5	5	5	5	5
July 1 - 31	11	12	13	13	7
August 1 - 31	11	12	13	13	7
September 1- 30	11	12	13	13	7

3.2.3.1.5 Control Project Spills at Our House Diversion Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR2)

Proposed Condition AR2 would require YCWA to control the rate of spill cessation for flows over Our House Diversion Dam in non-tunnel-closure years. Proposed Condition AR2 indicates that the spill cessation measure will affect flows over Our House Diversion Dam of 600 cfs or less between April 1 and July 31 in Below Normal, Dry and Critically Dry WYs, and between May 1 and July 31 in Wet and Above Normal WYs (WR2). Under these conditions, the Our House Diversion Dam low-level outlet will be used to regulate Middle Yuba River flows downstream of Our House Diversion. The low level outlet valve would be used to reduce flows by a maximum of 100 cfs every 2 days for spills between 200 cfs and 600 cfs, and by a maximum of 50 cfs for spills less than 200 cfs.

3.2.3.1.6 Control Project Spills at Log Cabin Diversion Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR12)

The Project includes Proposed Condition AR12 that would control the rate of spill cessation for flows over Log Cabin Diversion Dam. Proposed Condition AR12 indicates that the spill cessation measure will affect flows over Log Cabin Diversion Dam between 100 cfs or less between April 1 and July 31. Under these conditions, the Log Cabin Diversion Dam low-level outlet will be used to regulate Oregon Creek flows downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The low level outlet valve would be used to reduce flows by a maximum of 20 cfs every 4 days.

3.2.3.1.7 Periodically Close Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR11)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR11, if DWR’s May Bulletin 120 forecast is a Wet, Above Normal or Below Normal WY, as defined in YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR2, and the subsequent end-of-September New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage is 600,000 ac-ft or greater, the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel would close from October 1 through December 31.

In addition the condition requires that the Lohman Diversion Tunnel would be closed within 2 business days of when DWR publishes its April Bulletin 120 through September 30 if the Bulletin 120 April Forecast is for a Wet WY, as defined in YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR2, and the end-of-March New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage is 775,000 acre-feet or greater. Concurrent with the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel closure, the low level outlet and fish release valve at Log Cabin Diversion Dam will be fully opened.

3.2.3.1.8 Provide Whitewater Boating Below Our House Diversion Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition RR3)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition RR3, YCWA would provide weekend boating days from October 1 and March 31 between 600 cfs and 2,000 cfs, as measured at USGS streamflow gage 11408880, according to the schedule given in Table 3.2-11.

Table 3.2-11. Proposed Project whitewater boating flows below Our House Diversion Dam.

Water Year Type as Defined in Licensee’s Proposed Condition WR2			Number of Weekend Whitewater Boating Days from October 1 through March 31
DWR’s Full Natural Flow at Smartsville for the Full Water Year that Ended on September 30	DWR’s Bulletin 120 February Forecast	DWR’s Bulletin 120 March Forecast	
Wet, Above Normal, Below Normal or Dry	Any Water Year Type	Wet	8
Wet, Above Normal, Below Normal or Dry	Any Water Year Type	Above Normal	6
Wet, Above Normal, Below Normal or Dry	Any Water Year Type	Below Normal, Dry, or Critically Dry	4
Critically Dry	Wet or Above Normal	Any Water Year Type	2
Critically Dry	Below Normal, Dry, or Critically Dry	Any Water Year Type	0

3.2.3.1.9 Minimum Flows on the Yuba River Downstream of the Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR3)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR3, the required conference year flows for the Yuba River near Smartsville and near Marysville are slightly modified from the Yuba Accord in Conference Years. Table 3.2-12 shows the proposed required flows for the Yuba River near Smartsville and Marysville, based on the Water Year type schedules defined in YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR3.

Table 3.2-12. Proposed Project flow requirements for the Yuba River downstream of Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Flow Bypass by North Yuba Index Flow Schedule.

Month	Schedule 1 (cfs)	Schedule 2 (cfs)	Schedule 3 (cfs)	Schedule 4 (cfs)	Schedule 5 (cfs)	Schedule 6 (cfs)	Conference Year (cfs)
YUBA RIVER - BELOW NARROWS 2 POWERHOUSE/NARROWS 2 FULL BYPASS (Compliance Point: USGS Streamflow Gage 11418000)							
October 1 – 15	700	700	700	700	600	600	500
October 16 - 30	700	700	700	700	600	600	500
November 1 - 30	700	700	700	700	600	600	500
December 1 - 31	700	700	700	700	550	550	500
January 1- 15	700	700	700	700	550	550	500
January 16 – 31	700	700	700	700	550	550	500
February 1 - 29	700	700	700	700	550	550	500
March 1- 31	700	700	700	700	550	550	500
April 1 – 15	700	700	700	700	600	600	500
April 16 – 30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
May 1 – 15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
May 16 – 31	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
June 1 - 15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
June 16 – 30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
July 1 – 31	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
August 1 – 31	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
September 1 – 30	700	700	700	700	500	500	500
YUBA RIVER - BELOW NARROWS 2 POWERHOUSE/NARROWS 2 FULL BYPASS (Compliance Point: USGS Streamflow Gage 11421000)							
October 1 - 15	500	500	500	400	400	350	350
October 16 - 30	500	500	500	400	400	350	350
November 1 - 30	500	500	500	500	500	350	350
December 1 - 31	500	500	500	500	500	350	350
January 1- 15	500	500	500	500	500	350	350
January 16 – 31	500	500	500	500	500	350	350
February 1 - 29	500	500	500	500	500	350	350
March 1- 31	700	700	500	500	500	350	350
April 1 - 15	1,000	700	700	600	500	350	300
April 16 - 30	1,000	800	700	900	600	500	245
YUBA RIVER - BELOW NARROWS 2 POWERHOUSE/NARROWS 2 FULL BYPASS (Compliance Point: USGS Streamflow Gage 11421000) (continued)							
May 1 - 15	2,000	1,000	900	900	600	500	245
May 16 - 31	2,000	1,000	900	600	400	400	245
June 1 - 15	1,500	800	500	400	400	300	245
June 16 - 30	1,500	500	500	400	400	150	150
July 1 - 31	700	500	500	400	400	150	150
August 1 - 31	600	500	500	400	400	150	150
September 1 - 30	500	500	500	400	400	350	150

3.2.3.1.10 Control Project Ramping and Flow Fluctuation Downstream of Englebright Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR9)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR9, YCWA would operate New Bullards Bar Reservoir and Project facilities downstream of Englebright Dam and coordinate with PG&E on the operations of the Narrows 1 Powerhouse to avoid fluctuations in flow of the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam at the Smartsville gage and daily changes in Project operations affecting releases or bypasses of flow downstream of Englebright Dam at the Smartsville gage. Changes in Yuba River flow downstream of Englebright Dam would not increase at a rate of

greater than 500 cfs per hour, nor decrease at a rate in excess of 200 cfs per hour at any point in the year. Also, at no point in the year would flows change, either up or down, by more than 15 percent of the average daily flow once they have been established at a base rate, nor would they be reduced by more than 30 percent of the previous day’s flow.

In addition, between September 1 and December 31, and between January 1 and May 31, flow reductions under normal operations (i.e., non-spill management) would be limited according to the flows in Tables 3.2-13 and 3.2-14. In the two tables, “Base Flow” means the flows other than flows related to emergencies, required by the USACE flood control criteria, required to maintain a flood control buffer or for other flood control purposes, bypasses of uncontrolled flows into Englebright Reservoir, uncontrolled spilling, or uncontrolled flows of tributary streams downstream of Englebright Dam.

Table 3.2-13. Maximum flow reductions corresponding to the maximum 5-day average release (Base Flow) that has occurred during the period extending from September 1 through December 31.

Base Flow Range (cfs)	Maximum Allowable Flow Reduction (cfs)
450 - 549	200
550 - 849	250
850 - 1,049	300
1,050 - 1,349	350
1,350 - 1,599	400
1,600 - 1,849	450
1,850 - 2,199	500
2,200 - 2,549	550
2,550 - 2,899	600
2,900 - 3,199	650
3,200 - 3,549	700
3,550 - 4,130	750

Table 3.2-14. Maximum flow reductions corresponding to the maximum 5-day average release (Base Flow) that has occurred during the period extending from January 1 through May 31.

Base Flow Range (cfs)	Maximum Allowable Flow Reduction (cfs)
450 - 499	200
500 - 549	250
550 - 649	300
650 - 849	350
850 - 1,199	400
1,200 - 1,449	450
1,450 - 1,699	500
1,700 - 1,899	550
1,900 - 2,149	600
2,150 - 2,399	650
2,400 - 2,699	700
2,700 - 2,949	750
2,950 - 3,199	800
3,200 - 3,449	850
3,450 - 3,899	900
3,900 - 4,130	950

In addition, between April 1 through July 15, flow reductions under normal operations (i.e., non-spill management) would be limited according to the flows in Table 3.2-15. The previous day’s average flow will be based on USGS streamflow gage 11418000.

Table 3.2-15. Maximum flow reductions corresponding to the preceding day average flow that has occurred during the period extending from April 1 through July 15.

Previous Day Average Flow Range (cfs)	Maximum Flow Reduction (cfs)
400-999	79
1000-1999	150
2000-4200	200

3.2.3.1.11 Control Project Spills at New Bullards Bar Dam (YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR4)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR4, YCWA would implement a spill cessation operation, where spills of 2,000 cfs or less from New Bullards Bar Dam from May 1 through July 31 would be reduced at a rate of 250 cfs per day until spill has ceased.

3.2.3.1.12 Implement Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan (YCWA’s Proposed Condition GS2)

Under YCWA’s Proposed Condition GS2, YCWA would operate the low level outlet valves at Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams during high flow events between October 1 and March 21 to move sediment trapped behind the diversion dams to the Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek, respectively. These actions would be tied to events when inflows exceed 3,000 cfs at Our House Diversion Dam and 1,000 cfs at Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The low level outlet at each diversion dam would be opened fully for 9 days, closed half way on the 10th day, and then fully closed on the 11th day. The low-level outlet can be closed during the 11-day period if flow into the impoundment drops below the capacity of the low-level outlet, which is assumed to be 600 cfs for Our House Diversion Dam and 540 cfs for Log Cabin Diversion Dam.

3.2.3.1.13 Implement Drought Management Plan (YCWA Proposed Condition WR9)

YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR9 includes a discussion of measures YCWA might adopt to mitigate the adverse effects of future droughts, and how these measures might affect conditions in the new FERC license. Table 3.2-16 provides a list of some drought management options that may require a variance to one or more FERC license conditions.

Table 3.2-16. Drought management options that may require a variance to one or more FERC license conditions.

Drought Management Option	Conditions in FERC License For Which a Variance May be Needed to Implement the Drought Management Option
Relief from Proposed Condition AR3 minimum flow requirements when these requirements prevent appropriate management of water supplies during critical drought conditions.	YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR3 for minimum flow requirements downstream of Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass.
Relief from Proposed Condition AR9 flow reduction criteria in Tables 1 and 2 of this condition when these criteria are prohibiting flow reductions that are necessary to implement the lower WYT-dependent required minimum flows.	YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR9 for Flow Fluctuation Downstream of Englebright Dam that would prevent any flow reductions specified in Table 1 or Table 2 of this condition.

Table 3.2-16. (continued)

Drought Management Option	Conditions in FERC License For Which a Variance May be Needed to Implement the Drought Management Option
Relief from recession or ramp-down requirements at Log Cabin or Our House diversion dams and instead compliance with year type dependent required flows.	YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR2 for control of project spills at Our House Diversion and Log Cabin Diversion dams.
Relief from required minimum pool of water surface elevation 1,730 feet in New Bullards Bar Reservoir and instead draw the reservoir storage below 1,730 feet to not less than 1,650 feet to meet required instream flows and irrigation diversions. This lower elevation is three feet above the crown elevation of the lower penstock intake portal in New Bullards Bar Dam.	YCWA’s Proposed Condition WR5 to maintain a minimum pool in New Bullards Bar Reservoir at elevation 1,730 feet.
Relief from recreational flows at Our House Diversion Dam.	YCWA Proposed Condition RR3 White Water Boating flow that would require closure of the Lohman Ridge Tunnel.

The list in Table 3.2-16 is not comprehensive because YCWA cannot anticipate at this time every drought management option that may be reasonable to consider for all future droughts and whether these unknown actions may require a variance to one or more license conditions. If YCWA identifies a drought management option that requires a variance in the future and the option is not listed in Table 3.2-16, YCWA may consider that option and implement it under this Plan. Additionally, the condition describes a process under which drought relief could be swiftly implemented if needed and if all agencies agreed with YCWA’s proposal. This condition has the potential to affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.2.3.2 Changes to Measures in Other Licenses, Agreements and Contracts that Affect Operations

Section 2.1.5.2 in Exhibit E in the Amended FLA describes other licenses (i.e., not the FERC license), agreements and contracts that affect current Project operations. When FERC issues its new license, YCWA would apply to the SWRCB to modify any water rights, if necessary, to make them consistent with the new license. YCWA does not anticipate any changes to YCWA’s water delivery contracts. Further, YCWA will continue to make water transfers, when possible, and will abide by the requirements, which are unknown at this time, in a new power purchase contract.

3.2.4 Proposed Environmental Conditions

YCWA’s proposed environmental and recreational conditions are included in detail in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA, which also describes whether a proposed condition is the continuation of an existing condition or a proposed new condition. YCWA developed most of its proposed conditions, including associated implementation plans, in collaboration with Relicensing Participants. Table 3.2-17 presents YCWA’s understanding of agreement on each of the 41 conditions proposed by YCWA. The proposed conditions are listed by major resource area, and the conditions are included in their entirety in Attachment A to this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA.

Table 3.2-17. List of YCWA’s proposed conditions and the Relicensing Participants that YCWA understands agree with YCWA’s proposed conditions, as provided in Appendix E2 of the Amended FLA. A green shaded row indicates a condition that YCWA and the Forest Service have reached tentative agreement on as a FPA § 4(e) potential condition. A yellow shaded row indicates a condition that YCWA and Cal Fish and Wildlife or USFWS have reached tentative agreement on as a FPA § 10(j) potential recommendation. A white shaded row indicates a condition that has not been collaboratively agreed to between YCWA and agencies.

YCWA’s Proposed Condition			YCWA’s Understanding of Relicensing Participants That Agree With YCWA’s Proposed Condition ¹						
Designation in This Amended FLA	Replaces YCWA Proposed Condition with This Designation in YCWA’s 2014 FLA ²	Name	FS	FWS	CDFW	SYRCL	FWN	AW	SC
GENERAL									
GEN1 ³	GEN1 & TE3	<i>Organize Ecological Group and Host Meetings</i>	X	X	X		X	X	
GEN2	GEN2	<i>Annual Review of Special-Status Species Lists and Assessment of New Species on NFS Lands</i>	X				X		
GEN3 ³	GEN3	<i>Provide Environmental Training to Employees</i>	X	X	X		X		
GEN4	GEN4	<i>Develop and Implement a Coordinated Operations Plan to Assure Licensee’s Compliance with the New License for the Yuba River Development Project</i>	X	X	X		X		
GEN5	-- ⁴	<i>Special-Status Species on NFS Lands</i>	X				X		
GEN6	--	<i>Review of Improvements on NFS Lands</i>	X				X		
GEOLOGY AND SOILS									
GS1 ^{3, 5}	GS1	<i>Implement Erosion and Sediment Control Plan</i>	X		X		X		
GS2 ⁵	GS2	<i>Implement Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan</i>	X	X	X		X		
GS3 ⁵	GS3 & GS4	<i>Implement Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Woody Material Management Plan</i>	X	X	X		X		
WATER RESOURCES									
WR1 ^{3, 5}	WR1	<i>Implement Hazardous Materials Management Plan</i>	X		X		X		
WR2	WR2	<i>Determine Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to Our House Diversion Dam, Log Cabin Diversion Dam and New Bullards Bar Dam</i>	X	X	X		X		
WR3	WR3	<i>Determine Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass</i>							
WR4 ⁵	WR4	<i>Implement Streamflow and Reservoir Level Compliance Monitoring Plan</i>	X	X	X		X		
WR5	WR5	<i>Maintain New Bullards Bar Reservoir Minimum Pool</i>							
WR6	WR6	<i>Operate New Bullards Bar Reservoir for Flood Control</i>							
WR7 ⁵	TE1	<i>Implement Water Temperature Monitoring Plan</i>	X	X	X		X	X	

Table 3.2-17. (continued)

YCWA's Proposed Condition			YCWA's Understanding of Relicensing Participants That Agree With YCWA's Proposed Condition ¹						
Designation in This Amended FLA	Replaces YCWA Proposed Condition with This Designation in YCWA's 2014 FLA ²	Name	FS	FWS	CDFW	SYRCL	FWN	AW	SC
WATER RESOURCES (cont'd)									
WR8 ⁵	--	Implement Water Quality Monitoring Plan	X	X	X		X	X	
WR9 ⁵	--	Implement Drought Management Plan							
AQUATIC RESOURCES									
AR1	AR1, in part	Maintain Minimum Streamflows Below Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam	X		X		X		
AR2	AR2	Control Project Spills at Our House Diversion Dam	X	X	X	X	X	X	
AR3	AR3	Maintain Minimum Streamflows at Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass							
AR4	AR4	Control Project Spills at New Bullards Bar Dam	X		X		X		
AR5 ⁵	AR5	Implement Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan	X	X	X		X		
AR6 ⁵	AR6	Implement New Bullards Bar Reservoir Fish Stocking Plan ¹	X		X		X		
AR7 ⁵	AR7	Implement Upper Yuba River Aquatic Monitoring Plan	X				X		
AR8 ⁵	TE2	Implement Lower Yuba River Aquatic Monitoring Plan	X	X	X		X		
AR9	TE4	Control Project Ramping and Flow Fluctuations Downstream of Englebright Dam							
AR10	AR1, in part	Maintain Minimum Streamflow Below New Bullards Bar Dam							
AR11	--	Periodically Close Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel	X				X		
AR12	--	Control Project Spills at Log Cabin Diversion Dam	X	X	X	X	X	X	
TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES									
TR1 ⁵	TR1	Implement Integrated Vegetation Management Plan	X		X		X		
TR2 ⁵	TR2	Implement Bald Eagle and American Peregrine Falcon Management Plan	X	X	X		X		
TR3 ⁵	TR3	Implement Ringtail Management Plan	X	X	X		X		
TR4 ⁵	TR4	Implement Bat Management Plan	X	X	X		X		
RECREATIONAL RESOURCES									
RR1 ⁵	RR1	Implement Recreation Facilities Plan	X						
RR2	RR2	Provide Recreation Flow Information	X		X		X	X	
RR3	--	Provide Whitewater Boating Below Our House Diversion Dam	X	X	X		X		X
LAND USE									
LU1 ⁵	LU1	Implement Transportation System Management Plan	X	X	X		X		
LU2 ⁵	LU2	Implement Fire Prevention and Response Plan	X		X		X		

Table 3.2-17. (continued)

YCWA's Proposed Condition			YCWA's Understanding of Relicensing Participants That Agree With YCWA's Proposed Condition ¹						
Designation in This Amended FLA	Replaces YCWA Proposed Condition with This Designation in YCWA's 2014 FLA ²	Name	FS	FWS	CDFW	SYRCL	FWN	AW	SC
CULTURAL RESOURCES									
CR1 ⁵	CR1	<i>Implement Historic Properties Management Plan</i>	X				X		
AESTHETIC RESOURCES									
VR1 ^{3,5}	VR1	<i>Implement Visual Resource Management Plan</i>	X	X	X		X		
<i>Subtotal by Relicensing Participant</i>			34	19	27	2	33	6	1
<i>Subtotal of Tentatively Agreed to FPA § 4(e) Potential Conditions</i>			<i>29 (17 with an implementation plan)</i>						
<i>Subtotal of Tentatively Agreed to FPA § 10(j) Potential Recommendations</i>			<i>5 (3 with an implementation plan)</i>						
<i>Other YCWA Proposed Conditions</i>			<i>7 (1 with an implementation plan)</i>						
Total			41 (21 with an implementation plan)						

¹ An "X" indicates those parties that YCWA understands agree with YCWA's proposed conditions in this Amended FLA. One should not infer that if an "X" is not in the cell, the Relicensing Participant disagrees with the condition.

² The designation corresponds to the designation of a similar condition proposed by YCWA in its April 2014 FLA, which is replaced by the YCWA proposed condition in this Amended FLA.

³ YCWA understands the Forest Service will use this FPA § 4(e) potential condition instead of the Forest Service's corresponding FPA § 4(e) "standard" administrative condition.

⁴ A double dash indicates a YCWA proposed condition in this Amended FLA that does not have a corresponding YCWA proposed condition in YCWA's April 2014 FLA.

⁵ This proposed condition includes a detailed implementation plan.

Appendix A of this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA includes the full text of each condition included in YCWA's proposed Project, as well as supporting rationale for each condition. Appendix E3 to Exhibit E of the Amended FLA includes implementation plans identified in the conditions. Appendix E4 to Exhibit E of the Amended FLA includes: 1) for each facility necessary for implementation of an environmental condition, a functional design drawing; 2) a description of the operation and maintenance procedures for any proposed conditions; 3) an implementation or construction schedule for any proposed conditions or facilities, showing the interval after issuance of a new license when implementation of the condition or construction would be commenced and completed; and 4) maps showing the location of the facility or condition.

3.3 Deconstruction of the Proposed Action

NMFS uses a sequential analyses to assess the effects of proposed federal actions on endangered and threatened species and designated critical habitat (NMFS 2009b; NMFS 2016a). According to the document titled *An Assessment Framework for Conducting Jeopardy Analyses Under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act* (NMFS 2004a), one of the early steps in NMFS' evaluation process is to "deconstruct" the Proposed Action into its constituent parts. To assist NMFS in its preparation of the BO for YCWA's FERC relicensing, this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA provides such a "deconstruction". It clearly defines the constituent parts of the Proposed Action that have the potential to affect listed species or critical habitats in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam.

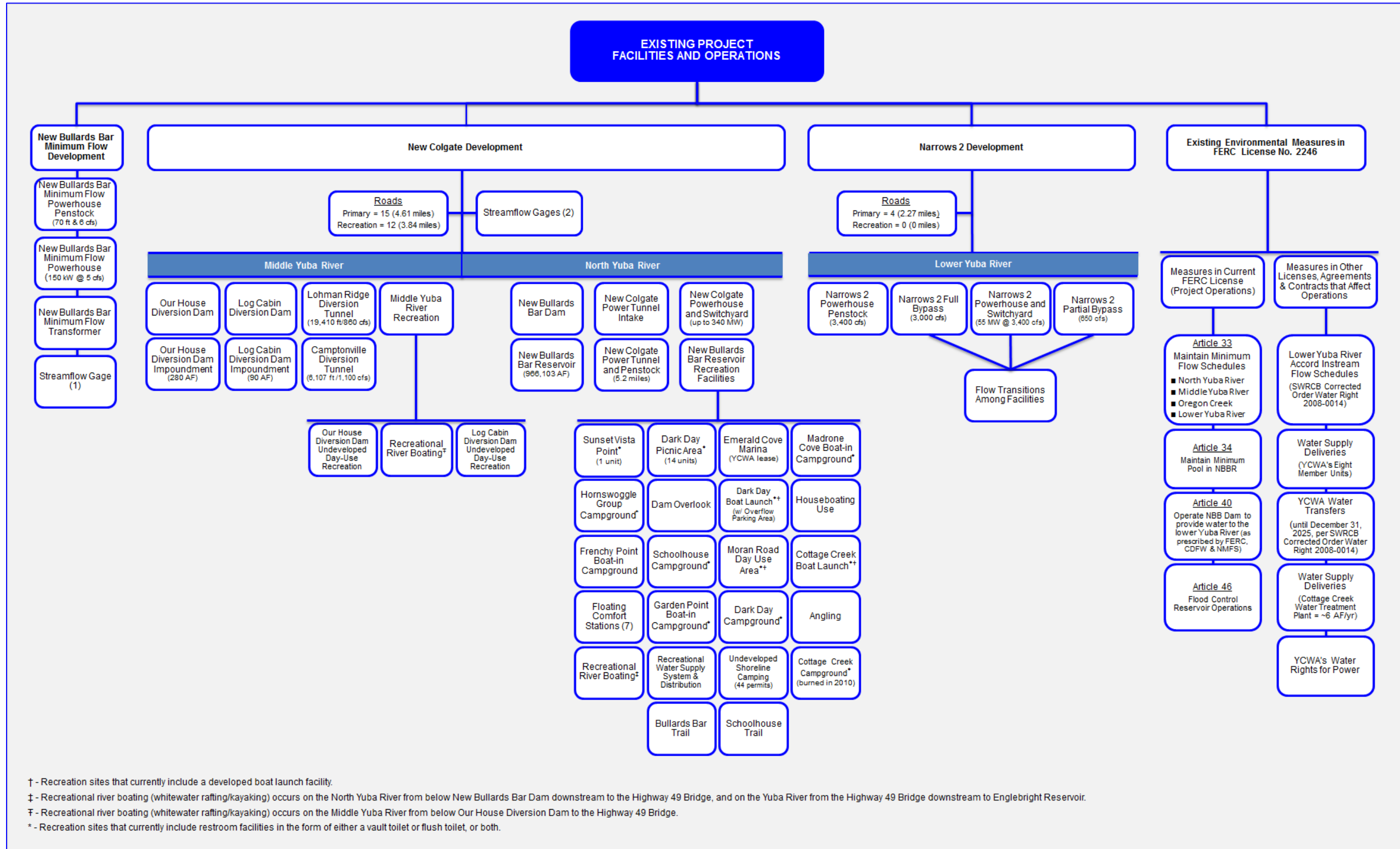
Given the suite of constituent components encompassed by the Proposed Action, the first step of the deconstruction process is to clearly identify and geographically distinguish the individual components. Figure 3.3-1 shows the existing Project facilities and operations. The constituent components shown in this figure include existing Project facilities, existing environmental measures in YCWA's current FERC license and existing measures in other licenses, agreements and contracts that affect Project operations. Figure 3.3-2 shows the constituent components of the Proposed Action. The constituent components shown in this figure include proposed changes to Project facilities, proposed new Project facilities and YCWA's proposed conditions for its new FERC license.

The second step in the deconstruction process is to examine all of the individual components and to distinguish between: 1) actions that will have no effects to listed species or their critical habitats; 2) actions that may affect but are not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats; and 3) actions that may adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats.²⁵ These three types of actions are shown in Figure 3.3-3 and each of these categories of actions in the Yuba River Basin is discussed in the following subsections. Brief summaries of the constituent components are provided, with more detail regarding the features of these actions that contribute to the categorizations of particular actions as "no effect", "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" or "may adversely affect" listed species and their critical habitats. This Applicant-Prepared Draft BA does not include future actions that will require separate ESA consultations.

²⁵ According to USFWS and NMFS 1998, "Is likely to adversely affect" is the appropriate conclusion if any adverse effect to listed species may occur as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not: discountable, insignificant, or beneficial (see definition of "is not likely to adversely affect"). In the event the overall effect of the proposed action is beneficial to the listed species, but also is likely to cause some adverse effects, then the proposed action "is likely to adversely affect" the listed species. An "is likely to adversely affect" determination requires formal section 7 consultation."

USFWS and NMFS 1998 therefore requires that any proposed action that may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat and that does not fit within the definition of "is not likely to adversely affect" must be classified as "is likely to adversely affect." However, even though some components of the Proposed Action may have some effects that are not completely discountable, insignificant or beneficial, that does not necessarily mean that each such component "is likely" to adversely affect the listed species. To the contrary, and as discussed in detail in Section 8.3 of this Applicant Prepared Draft BA, many components of the Proposed Action may have effects that, while not completely entirely discountable, insignificant or beneficial, still are not likely to adversely affect the listed species or their critical habitats. This Applicant-Prepared Draft BA therefore uses the alternative term "may adversely affect" for components of the Proposed Action that may affect listed species or their critical habitats where the potential effects are not completely discountable, insignificant or beneficial. If any component of the Proposed Action is within this "may adversely affect" classification, then formal ESA section 7 consultation will be necessary.

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† - Recreation sites that currently include a developed boat launch facility.

‡ - Recreational river boating (whitewater rafting/kayaking) occurs on the North Yuba River from below New Bullards Bar Dam downstream to the Highway 49 Bridge, and on the Yuba River from the Highway 49 Bridge downstream to Englebright Reservoir.

‡ - Recreational river boating (whitewater rafting/kayaking) occurs on the Middle Yuba River from below Our House Diversion Dam to the Highway 49 Bridge.

* - Recreation sites that currently include restroom facilities in the form of either a vault toilet or flush toilet, or both.

Figure 3.3-1. Existing Project facilities and operations.

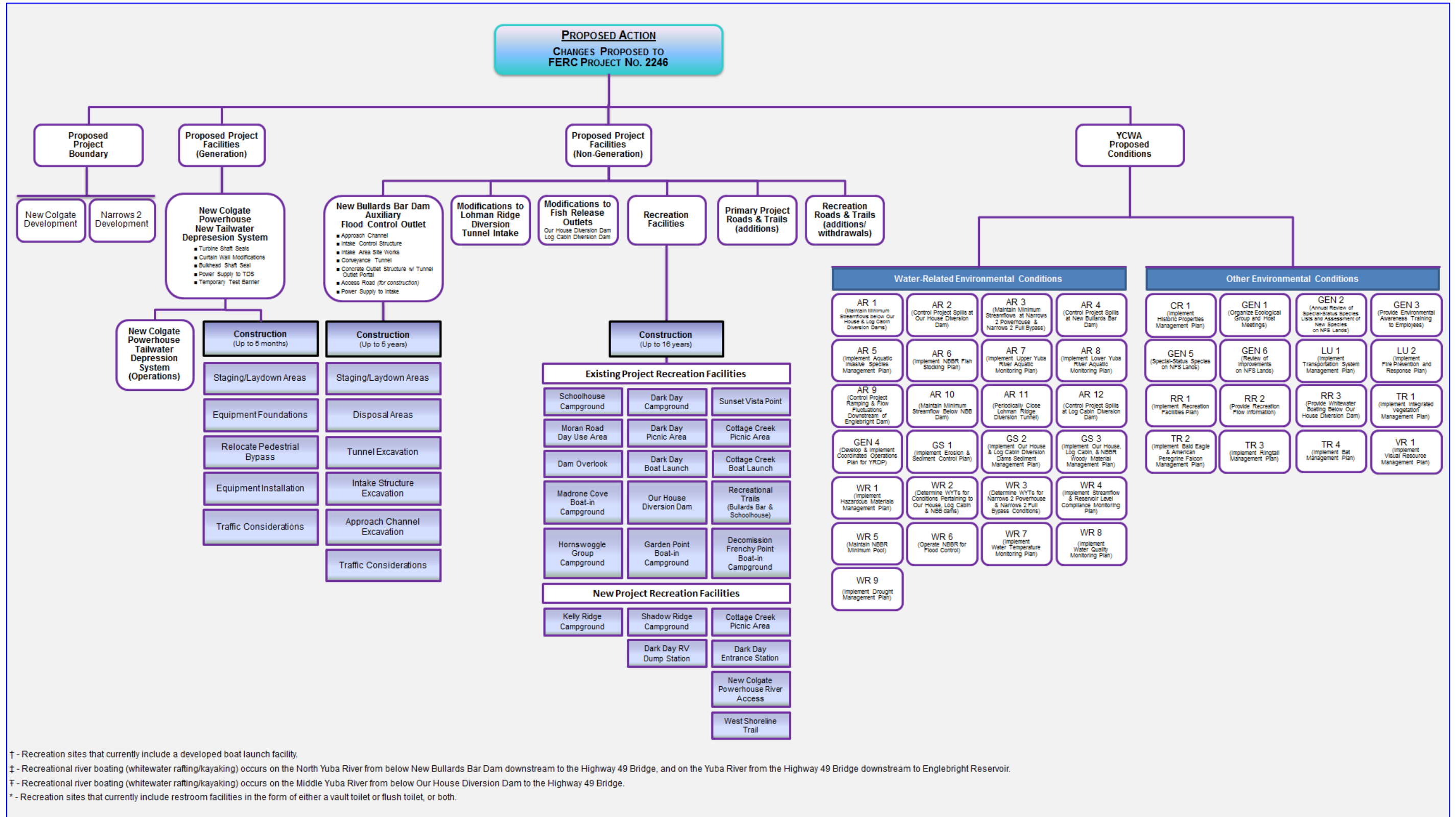


Figure 3.3-2. Constituent components encompassed by the Proposed Action.

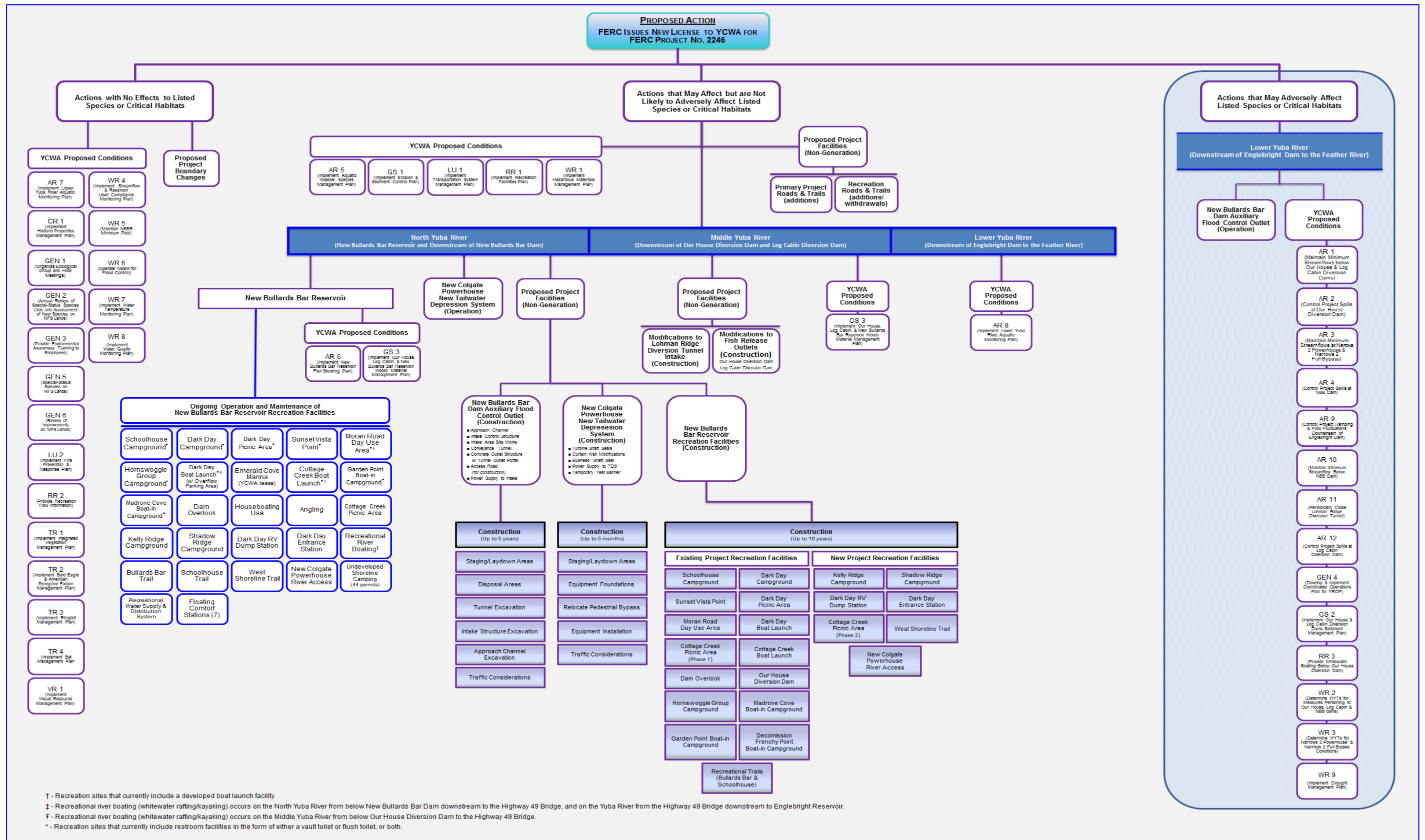


Figure 3.3-3. Deconstruction of the Proposed Action.

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3.3.1 Actions That Will Have No Effects to Listed Species or Critical Habitats

A key consideration in the deconstruction process is the need to clearly identify constituent components (i.e., actions) that will have no effects to listed species or critical habitat.

The Proposed Action includes various constituent components and activities upstream of the Action Area. These activities will be conducted in locations that are not occupied by any of the listed species addressed in this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA and are not designated as critical habitats. These activities will occur upstream of the Action Area and many of them do not have the potential to transmit effects downstream to the lower Yuba River (these activities are listed in the left column of Figure 3.3-3). Some of these constituent components are administrative in nature, and do not have the potential to adversely affect listed species or critical habitat. Others refer to implementation of management plans, many of which are terrestrial, or will be so far upstream of the Action Area that resultant effects associated with implementation of them will not be transmitted to critical habitats downstream of Englebright Dam and Reservoir. The three proposed conditions in this category that involve actions located downstream of Englebright Dam (WR4, WR7, and WR8) that will involve abiotic monitoring (of reservoir levels, flows and water temperatures) not expected to affect listed species or their critical habitats.

3.3.2 Discretionary Activities That May Affect but are Not Likely to Adversely Affect Listed Species or Critical Habitat

YCWA's proposed Project will involve discretionary actions that potentially could affect listed species and their critical habitat within the Action Area of the lower Yuba River. Each of these actions are discussed below.

3.3.2.1 Project Construction

3.3.2.1.1 New Colgate Powerhouse New Tailwater Depression System

YCWA proposes to add to the Project a new TDS at the New Colgate Powerhouse. Key construction-related activities would include the following:

- Site preparation at powerhouse yard and deck, including construction of equipment foundations and relocation of the New Colgate Powerhouse pedestrian bypass.
- Installation of blowers, pipe supports, roofing, air piping and valves.
- Installation of power supply, including the tap of the 13.8-kilovolt isolated phase bus, transformer, switchgear and cables to the blowers.
- Procurement and installation of turbine shaft seals.
- Curtain wall modifications.
- Installation of bulkhead shaft seal.

- Installation of instrumentation and control.
- System testing and startup including construction and removal of temporary test barrier.

No changes in road conditions are anticipated as a result of the work. No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. It is expected that the available space within the fenced plant area will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. All work will be confined to the powerhouse, yard and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work.

3.3.2.1.2 New Bullards Bar Dam New Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet

YCWA proposes to construct a new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet on New Bullards Bar Dam, to be located south of the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway in the upper left abutment area of the dam. Outlet construction would require excavation in the upper left abutment area of the dam site. To serve tunnel construction, a construction access road would be built from the left abutment area down to the outlet area. Tunnel construction would likely start from the downstream portal and would continue toward the upstream portal using conventional, staged and drill-and-blast excavation methods.

It is anticipated that excavation for the intake structure would be performed concurrently with access road construction and/or tunnel excavation. A natural cofferdam (i.e., *in situ* soil and rock) would be left in place in the inlet approach channel to protect the construction work and prevent uncontrolled release of reservoir water through the excavation area and tunnel. The natural cofferdam would likely need stabilization and buttressing measures to ensure the site is adequately protected from the reservoir.

After the concrete intake structure is completed, the over-excavated areas would be backfilled with structural fill, and riprap would be placed on the slopes that may be exposed to wave erosion. The natural cofferdam would be left in place until the tunnel and intake structure are completed and the gates installed. Removal of the cofferdam and construction of the approach channel and inlet training walls would be performed during a low reservoir period (late summer/fall).

3.3.2.1.3 Modifications to Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel Intake

YCWA proposes to periodically close the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel on the Middle Yuba River. There is an existing gate on the tunnel intake, but it is not appropriate for closing and opening the tunnel during high flows. YCWA proposes to replace the gate with a more efficient gate structure. Inlet modifications necessary to add a new regulating gate and relocate the existing bulkhead gate would require the following activities:

- Extending the deck and approach walls of the existing inlet upstream 4 to 5 feet.
- Constructing a hoist deck to achieve gate and bulkhead lift clearances.
- Modifying the existing bulkhead slot to accommodate a regulating gate.

- Constructing a new bulkhead slot within the new inlet extension.
- Constructing a new trashrack and debris rake at the front of the extended inlet.

Temporary facilities and laydown locations are available adjacent to the site. A crane would be brought on-site and used to install temporary construction platforms and needed formwork for concrete modifications and installation of the new civil work. No changes in road conditions are anticipated as a result of the work. No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. It is expected that the available space within the tunnel intake area will be sufficient for laydown and staging of materials and equipment. All work will be confined to the tunnel intake and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work.

3.3.2.1.4 Modifications to Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam Fish Release Outlets

YCWA proposes to increase the capacity at Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam fish release outlets to accommodate increased proposed flow requirements, which will exceed the capabilities of the existing fish release outlets.

Temporary facilities and laydown locations are available adjacent to each site. A crane would be brought on-site and used to install temporary construction platforms and needed formwork for concrete modifications and installation of the new civil work. A new upsized fish release pipe and associated valve system would be installed at each facility, with no disturbance to the existing fish release outlet.

No borrow areas are anticipated to be required because the work does not entail significant earthwork. For both sites, all work will be confined to the dam outlet area and immediate vicinity. No undisturbed areas are anticipated to be disturbed as a result of the work at either sites.

3.3.2.2 Project Roads and Trails

YCWA proposes additions to Primary Project Roads and Trails, and additions and withdrawals of Recreation Roads. YCWA's proposed modifications to the existing Primary Project Roads and Trails are associated with the New Colgate Facilities, with the exception of the proposed addition of a 0.21 mile long Narrows 2 Compliance Flow Gage Trail located adjacent to the lower Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam.

Proposed additions to and withdrawals of Recreation Roads are associated with the New Colgate Development. YCWA does not propose any changes to Recreation Roads associated with the New Bullards Bar Minimum Flow Development or the Narrows 2 Development.

3.3.2.3 Recreation-related Construction

3.3.2.3.1 Enhancements to Existing Facilities/Sites

YCWA proposes several enhancements to the existing Project recreation facilities.

Campgrounds and Picnic Areas

YCWA will implement enhancements of the following campgrounds and picnic areas:

- Schoolhouse Campground
- Dark Day Campground
- Hornswoggle Group Campground
- Cottage Creek Picnic Area
- Garden Point Boat-in Campground
- Madrone Cove Boat-in Campground
- Dark Day Picnic Area
- Sunset Vista Point

Enhancements to campgrounds and picnic areas will include features such as entrance kiosks, signage, restroom facilities, campsite and parking area improvements, vegetation management, waste facilities, picnic tables and grills, and water and electrical/solar access at some locations.

Day Use Areas and Trails

YCWA will implement enhancements of the following day use areas and trails:

- Dam Overlook
- Moran Day Use Area
- Our House Diversion Dam
- Bullards Bar and Schoolhouse Trails

Enhancements to day use areas and trails will include features such as entrance kiosks, parking, signage and trail improvements.

Boat Launches

YCWA will implement enhancements of the following boat launch facilities:

- Cottage Creek Boat Launch
- Dark Day Boat Launch

Enhancements to boat launch facilities will include features such as entrance kiosks, parking, signage, and launch ramp improvements.

3.3.2.3.2 Construction of New Recreation Facilities

In addition to the improvements to the existing Project recreation facilities, YCWA proposes several new Project recreation facilities.

YCWA will construct the following new campgrounds:

- *Kelly Ridge Campground* – 1) a total of 27 campsites, including a host site designed for an RV including a water and electric hookup and a septic holding tank; 2) a potable water source and delivery system; 3) a shower building with four shower stalls, four flush restroom stalls and associated parking; 4) restroom buildings including (2) 2-unit vault buildings and at least one flush building; and 5) paved circulation roads with vehicle barriers and gates.
- *Shadow Ridge Campground* – 1) a total of 18 single campsites each with a paved vehicle spur and a living space, fire ring, food locker, picnic table and tent pads; 2) a host site designed for an RV with water and a septic holding tank; 3) a potable water system, including source (well), underground distribution and water hydrants dispersed throughout the campground; 4) (2) two-unit restroom buildings (1 flush and 1 vault model); 5) paved circulation roads; 6) a 30-PAOT amphitheater with bench seating and a large group fire ring; 7) trailhead parking area consisting of a gravel parking area (10 vehicles), entrance station kiosk and interpretive display; 8) a non-motorized shoreline loop trail around the Shadow Ridge peninsula; and 9) a reservoir overlook atop the peninsula (at the end of the interpretive trail) with 3 to 5 picnic sites; an interpretive display; and appropriate vegetation management and clearing to enhance the views of the reservoir (Moran Cove).

In addition, YCWA will construct the following facilities:

- Cottage Creek Picnic Site
- Dark Day RV Dump Station
- Dark Day Entrance Station

YCWA also will construct trails at New Colgate Powerhouse River Access and West Shoreline Trail.

3.3.2.3.3 Construction-Related Effects Considerations

The proposed Project will involve construction-related modification or enhancement of existing Project facilities and features located in the upper watershed at and around New Bullards Bar Dam and Reservoir, or near Project facilities on the Middle Yuba River or Oregon Creek.

Although upstream construction-related activities have a remote potential for hazardous materials or other hydrocarbon-based contaminants to be released and enter New Bullards Bar Reservoir (or Englebright Reservoir), it is reasonable to expect that potential spills would be locally constrained, and the volume of contaminants resulting from a spill would be relatively minor in comparison to the total volume of water in the reservoirs. For example, one gallon of contaminant spilled into New Bullards Bar Reservoir with an estimated storage capacity of about 966,400 ac-ft gross storage, or at the end of September target carryover storage of 650,000 ac-ft, would result in a concentration of less than about 1 part per 300 billion and about 1 part per 200 billion, respectively.

Long-term sublethal effects of oil pollution refer to interferences with cellular and physiological processes such as feeding and reproduction, and do not lead to immediate death of an organism (EPA 1986). Disruption of such behavior apparently can result from petroleum product concentrations in the range of 10 to 100 ug/L (EPA 1986). In addition to sublethal effects reported at the 10 to 100 ug/L level, it has been shown that petroleum products can harm aquatic life at concentrations as low as 1 ug/L (Jacobson and Boylan 1973 in EPA 1986). For comparison purposes, 1 part per billion (ppb) is a microgram (μg), or 1/1,000,000th of a gram, of a contaminant present in one liter of water or one kilogram of soil. Therefore, a petroleum product concentration of less than 1 part per 300 billion is considerably below the EPA (1986) thresholds of: 1) 10 to 100 ug/L (i.e., 10 to 100 ppb) that has been identified as having the potential to cause sublethal (e.g., behavioral) disruptions to aquatic life; and 2) 1 ug/L (1 ppb) shown to potentially harm aquatic life.

Additional dilution would be expected to occur as water travels downstream from New Bullards Bar Reservoir from mixing with North Yuba River flows, Middle Yuba River flows, South Yuba River flows, and the additional dilution in Englebright Reservoir.

Given the above considerations, and the distance downstream to listed species occupancy and critical habitat locations, activities on or around New Bullards Bar Reservoir or the Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek that have the potential to transmit contaminants downstream are unlikely to affect listed fish species and critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

There is one proposed trail addition that is not located in the Upper Yuba River Watershed. A 0.21 mile long Narrows 2 Compliance Flow Gage Trail has been identified as a proposed addition, which would be located adjacent to the lower Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam. This addition could have the potential to affect the lower Yuba River by contributing sediment via erosion or if spills occur during construction.

Temporary erosion prevention and control measures will be implemented during construction or reconstruction of Project facilities and infrastructure. This includes, but is not limited to, reconstruction at dam sites, road reconstruction, and recreation site development, where ground disturbance and/or vegetation removal is expected. It also includes the addition of the Narrows 2 Compliance Flow Gage Trail. These measures will be based on local, state and federal permit requirements and best management practices (BMPs) for NFS land, YCWA BMP's, including the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and measures included in a 1602 Agreement, if the work requires such an agreement. Non-storm water BMPs will be

implemented by YCWA year-round for construction or maintenance activity within the FERC Project Boundary. Measures will be site-specific for each planned construction project. These BMPs are designed to minimize soil disturbance and reduce delivery of sediment to waterbodies.

With the incorporation of BMPs, erosion prevention and control measures, SWPPP and the Spill Prevention and Hazardous Materials Management Plans associated with construction, the potential effects to listed species considered in this Applicant-Prepared Draft BA would be avoided/minimized, and thereby would be insignificant. YCWA will obtain all necessary permits and approvals for the construction of Project-related facilities and features. This would be in addition the BMPs and effects avoidance measures described for construction-related activities. Consequently, these construction-related activities may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect, listed species or critical habitats in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam.

3.3.2.4 Proposed Project Facilities Operations

3.3.2.4.1 Operation and Maintenance of the New Colgate Powerhouse New Tailwater Depression System

The New Colgate Powerhouse TDS will introduce compressed air into the turbine discharge chamber to lower the tailwater elevation to a level that does not interfere with turbine operation, thereby allowing continued turbine operation during high flows. The TDS will enhance the ability to regulate flood releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir and increase the production of energy.

The proposed TDS would only operate during high flow events, when the combined releases from New Bullards Bar Dam and flows from the Middle Yuba River would otherwise preclude New Colgate Powerhouse operations. Addition of the New Colgate Powerhouse TDS would have an effect on New Bullards Bar Reservoir operations during flood operations. The proposed TDS would increase the New Bullards Bar Reservoir release capacity during flood events, when spillway capacity is limited, by allowing the New Colgate Powerhouse to continue to operate during high flow events through the injection of compressed air into the New Colgate Powerhouse tailrace when the stage of the Yuba River would otherwise prevent generation. Operating the TDS throughout a flood event would allow for increased releases from New Bullards Bar Reservoir earlier in the flood event, thus reducing New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage during the flood event, and ultimately reducing the peak flood release. The total volume of water released during the flood event and the storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir at the end of the flood event would not change with the TDS.

Consequently, operation of the New Colgate Powerhouse TDS would not affect flows or water temperatures in the lower Yuba River, and would not be likely to adversely affect listed species and critical habitat.

3.3.2.4.2 Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of New Bullards Bar Reservoir Recreation Facilities

As described in YCWA's Recreation Facilities Plan, routine maintenance is considered short-term maintenance activities and defined as repair, prevention, and cyclic maintenance, as compared to long-term maintenance (replacement and rehabilitation of facilities). Routine maintenance is discussed by "short-term" and "annual" maintenance. Long-term maintenance or major rehabilitation is addressed in YCWA's Proposed Condition RR1 (*Recreation Facilities Plan*).

Routine maintenance includes utilities, cleaning, provision of equipment (picnic tables, cooking grills, fire rings, water hydrants, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, boat docks, benches, fee collection stations, signs, and restroom/comfort stations). Annual maintenance includes activities such as: 1) lowering boat launch docks as the season progresses and removal of the docks when the ramps are no longer in the water; 2) litter and trash collection within site boundaries; 3) painting; 4) patching rodent and bird holes in wood restrooms, repairing screens; 5) returning displaced picnic tables to appropriate locations; 6) removal of human and pet waste; 7) pumping toilet vaults at boat-in access facilities and floating comfort stations; 8) pumping toilet vaults when $\frac{3}{4}$ full at vehicle accessed facilities; 9) cutting back vegetation sufficient to permit visibility to vehicles on roadway and allowing vehicles use of the entire road; and 10) conducting site inspections and safety remediation. YCWA or the Concessionaire also will complete annual maintenance activities including logging out trails, imminent danger tree removal, performing spring and fall drainage maintenance (including installing new drainage structures as needed), bridge maintenance (where applicable) and loose rock removal.

3.3.2.4.3 Operations and Maintenance of NBBR Recreation Facilities - Effects Considerations

While routine maintenance of facilities supporting activities such as houseboating use, floating comfort stations, angling and other waterborne activities in New Bullards Bar Reservoir have the potential to introduce contaminants into the reservoir, these activities are not likely to affect flows or water quality in the lower Yuba River, and thus are not likely to affect listed species or their critical habitats. Ongoing routine maintenance of other New Bullards Bar Reservoir recreation facilities will involve a suite of activities that will be terrestrial-oriented, but will have discountable or insignificant effects due to: 1) the separation in the locations of the recreation-related facilities and areas of occupancy of listed species and critical habitats; 2) the incorporation of construction BMPs, SWPPP, spill prevention and Hazardous Materials Management Plans; 3) the distance downstream and the dilution from mixing with water in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, mixing with North Yuba River flows, Middle Yuba River flows, South Yuba River flows, and the additional dilution in Englebright Reservoir. Consequently, YCWA's routine maintenance of New Bullards Bar Reservoir Recreation Facilities is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.2.4.4 YCWA's Proposed Conditions

YCWA Proposed Condition AR5 - Implement Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan

YCWA has developed an Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan to provide guidance to manage aquatic invasive species (e.g., quagga and zebra mussels, New Zealand mudsnail, Asian clam, American bullfrog, aquatic plants including Eurasian watermilfoil, hydrilla, water hyacinth, and didymo algae) within the FERC Project Boundary. Goals of the Plan are to: 1) implement activities to minimize and prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species into and throughout Project-affected waters; 2) provide education and outreach to ensure public awareness of aquatic invasive species effects and management throughout Project-affected waters; 3) implement monitoring programs to ensure early detection of aquatic invasive species; 4) ensure all Project aquatic invasive species management activities comply with federal and State of California laws, regulations, policies, and management plans, and with Forest Service directives and orders regarding aquatic invasive species.

YCWA will implement a public education program on New Bullards Bar, Log Cabin Diversion Dam and Our House Diversion Dam. Before new houseboats are placed on New Bullards Bar Reservoir, YCWA will ensure they are inspected to ensure that no aquatic invasive species are present in or on the houseboats. Additionally, houseboats will be inspected for aquatic invasive species when they are removed from the reservoir for maintenance. All persons conducting houseboat inspection will be properly trained in Cal Fish and Wildlife boat inspection protocols.

YCWA will develop BMPs for typical YCWA Project operations and maintenance and construction activities that have the potential to introduce aquatic invasive species into New Bullards Bar Reservoir, Our House Diversion Dam impoundment, Log Cabin Diversion Dam impoundment, and Project-affected stream reaches to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. YCWA also is responsible for conducting monitoring of quagga and zebra mussels and Asian clams in Project reservoirs. For quagga and zebra mussels, monitoring will be conducted according to current Cal Fish and Wildlife quagga/zebra mussel artificial substrate monitoring and plankton tow sampling protocols. For Asian clams, YCWA will conduct monitoring to determine if the distribution of clams is expanding within New Bullards Bar Reservoir according to the protocols described in the Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan. The use of these protocols at New Bullards Bar Reservoir is intended to maximize the potential detection of various lifestages of quagga and zebra mussels in the different substrates and habitats they occupy, as well as incidentally detect other aquatic invasive species of concern.

If any aquatic invasive species mollusks, other than dreissenid (quagga and zebra) mussels, are detected in the stream reaches (i.e., above the reservoir NMWSE) to be monitored (i.e., North Yuba River, Willow Creek [upstream to the outlet of the Camptonville tunnel outlet], Little Oregon Creek, Indian Creek, Mill Creek, Lost Creek, and Slate Creek) and in Log Cabin or Our House diversion dam impoundments, and if there are well documented, practical measures for control and/or eradication of the species in similar situations, YCWA will consult with Cal Fish and Wildlife, USFWS, SWRCB, and the Forest Service to develop a plan to implement control and/or eradication measures, where appropriate, to control or eliminate invasive mollusks. If zebra or quagga mussels are detected in New Bullards Bar Reservoir or Project impoundments,

YCWA will immediately notify Cal Fish and Wildlife, and in cooperation with Cal Fish and Wildlife develop measures to avoid infestation and a plan to control or eradicate dreissenid mussels pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2301.

Development and implementation of YCWA's Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition AR6 - Implement New Bullards Bar Reservoir Fish Stocking Plan

YCWA has developed a New Bullards Bar Reservoir Fish Stocking Plan to establish the fish stocking process, procedures, stocking targets and creel (i.e., angler) surveys that YCWA will follow when stocking fish in New Bullards Bar Reservoir. After consulting with Cal Fish and Wildlife and the Forest Service, it was agreed that, beginning in the first full calendar year after licensing issuance and annually thereafter, YCWA will stock New Bullards Bar Reservoir with:

- 65,000 fingerling kokanee (i.e., approximately 200 fish per pound)
- 3,000 catchable rainbow trout (i.e., approximately 2 fish per pound)

These numbers are average annual targets that may fluctuate from year to year, and these averages will be measured on a 5-year running average in order to ensure consistent stocking over the term of the new license.

YCWA's preferred approach is to contract with Cal Fish and Wildlife to raise and plant the average target number and weight of fish each year. It is not currently Cal Fish and Wildlife's preference to enter into these contracts, so if a contract cannot be established, YCWA will acquire fish from one or more State-registered private hatcheries. If fish are supplied by private hatcheries, YCWA will ensure that fish are drawn from at least one of four rotations of different strains for each species to maintain the genetic variation practiced by Cal Fish and Wildlife, including the use of triploid rainbow trout. Eagle Lake trout will be included, if available, as an additional strain of rainbow trout used for stocking.

YCWA reserves the right to deny delivery of any fish, regardless of the sources, if YCWA suspects the fish contain harmful pathogens, parasites or aquatic invasive species that could impact resident fish or other aquatic populations at New Bullards Bar Reservoir. YCWA will notify Cal Fish and Wildlife, Forest Service and FERC if a stocking allotment is rejected for these reasons.

In addition to the above considerations, it is unlikely that fish planted in New Bullards Bar Reservoir would likely survive a spill over the 645 ft high New Bullards Dam, or entrainment and passage through the 5.2 mi long penstock to New Colgate Powerhouse, through the powerhouse, down the North Yuba River and the mainstem Yuba River upstream of Englebright Reservoir, through Englebright Reservoir, spill over the 260 ft tall Englebright Dam or through the powerhouses downstream of the dam, and thereby affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River. Consequently, implementation of YCWA's Proposed Condition AR6 –

the New Bullards Bar Reservoir Fish Stocking Plan, is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition AR8 – Implement Lower Yuba River Aquatic Monitoring Plan

YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR8 would develop information regarding aquatic resources in the lower Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam in response to changes in flow conditions from the initial license to the new license. The Lower Yuba River Aquatic Monitoring Plan incorporates numerous components including:

- Passage of fish by species at USACE’s Daguerre Point Dam year-round.
- Annual spawning population abundance for spring-run Chinook salmon, fall-run Chinook salmon and steelhead.
- Temporal and spatial distributions and habitat use of spawning steelhead upstream and downstream of Daguerre Point Dam.
- Abundance, size and timing of emigrating salmonids.
- Interactions of anadromous fish with Narrows 2 Facilities and operations.
- Channel substrate and LWM.
- Riparian vegetation cover and community structure.
- BMI community structure.

Several of the activities identified in the monitoring plan would involve the handling of fish, and, thus, these activities have the potential to cause stress or injury to listed fish species. Prior to performing fieldwork, YCWA will obtain all necessary permits and approvals required to perform the fieldwork (e.g., scientific collection permits).

It is anticipated that NMFS and CDFW will issue permits that will include measures to minimize adverse effects and authorize “take” for the activities specified in the monitoring plan. Separate incidental take authorization would be required for implementation of the monitoring plan. Hence, this condition is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition GS1 - Implement Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

YCWA developed an Erosion and Sediment Management Control Plan to minimize future erosion and sedimentation related to the Project. The objectives of the plan are to describe existing YCWA and Forest Service BMPs to control site specific erosion and sedimentation impacts during routine operations, maintenance, new construction, and reconstruction of Project facilities, including emergency erosion control measures and protocols to control sedimentation during or after severe storm events.

Temporary erosion prevention and control measures will be implemented during construction or reconstruction of Project facilities and infrastructure. This includes, but is not limited to, reconstruction at dam sites, road reconstruction, and recreation site development, where ground disturbance and/or vegetation removal is expected. These measures will be based on local, state and federal permit requirements and BMP's for NFS land, YCWA BMP's, including the development of a SWPPP and measures included in a 1602 Agreement, if the work requires such an agreement.. YCWA, or its contractor(s), shall prepare and implement a SWPPP during development of detailed construction plans and drawings, and prior to initiating erosion control measures for each site larger than 1 acre. Non-storm water BMPs will be implemented by YCWA year-round for any construction or maintenance activity within the FERC Project Boundary. Measures will be site-specific for each planned construction project and could extend past the final construction inspection by up to 2 years, if re-vegetation is included for more permanent site stabilization and erosion control.

Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region BMPs will be adhered to for any routine maintenance activities on NFS land (R5 FSH 2509.22, USDA Forest Service 2011). These BMPs are designed to minimize soil disturbance and reduce delivery of sediment to waterbodies.

YCWA will be prepared to monitor for unexpected, emergency erosion control events within the FERC Project Boundary that develop in response to significant events (e.g., storms and wildfires). Erosion control measures will include the protocols for documentation of specific erosion threats, appropriate agency notifications, and short/long-term actions that can be taken to stabilize each site and address public safety.

Monitoring of erosion and sediment control plans generally includes both implementation monitoring (i.e., was the BMP installed correctly) and effectiveness monitoring (e.g., did the site revegetate to required standards). Monitoring of erosion and sediment control activities for the Project will follow the parameters of the applicable permits (e.g., Section 1602 Agreement, 404 permit and 401 permit), and/or license implementation plan.

New Bullards Bar Reservoir shoreline stability will be monitored periodically to determine if corrective actions are needed. In the first year of the license and then every five years thereafter, YCWA will conduct a reservoir shoreline survey from a boat and invite the Forest Service and Cal Fish and Wildlife to participate in their own boats. The purpose of the survey will be to identify active unstable areas that have a potential to affect resources on NFS land. If such areas are identified, YCWA will document the area including GPS locations, estimated dimensions and photographs. YCWA will discuss with the Forest Service the results of the survey at the annual meeting with the Forest Service and identify any additional actions necessary.

Development and implementation of YCWA's Erosion and Sediment Control Plan is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition GS3 - Implement Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Woody Material Management Plan

YCWA has developed an Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Woody Material Management Plan to provide guidance for YCWA's passage of woody material at Our House Diversion Dam on the Middle Yuba River and at Log Cabin Diversion Dam on Oregon Creek, and for YCWA's annual collection, storage and disposal of woody material on New Bullards Bar Reservoir on the North Yuba River. For the purposes of this plan, woody material at Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams is all sizes of natural (i.e., derived from upstream and upslope riparian and upland areas) woody material greater than 8 inches in diameter and up to 36 ft in length; and woody material at New Bullards Bar Reservoir is any untreated floating wood. YCWA will allow, provided conditions permit safe and reasonable access and working conditions, mobile instream woody material to pass the Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams into downstream reaches. With regards to Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams, the management of woody material is expected to provide downstream habitat benefits for aquatic and riparian species while ensuring public safety.

At New Bullards Bar Reservoir, woody material poses a potential hazard to the public, particularly boaters, jet skiers and water-skiers. To provide for public safety, YCWA historically removed woody material annually from the reservoir surface. No earlier than March 16, YCWA will begin to collect floating woody material by capturing portions of the material in enclosed floating log booms and dragging the woody material by boat to approved storage areas. The boats used for the collection of woody material will be placed on the reservoir at Cottage Creek Boat Launch, moored there during the work, and may be removed or moored there when the work is complete. If boats or log booms have been removed from the reservoir, prior to launching the boats and using the log booms each year, YCWA will inspect the boats and booms for aquatic invasive species and, if any signs of aquatic invasive species are found, the boats and booms will be cleaned to remove those species.

YCWA will open the skid road leading to the cove where the approved storage areas are located, and a tractor will place the woody material in the cove into piles that are roughly 30 ft in diameter and 20 ft high. YCWA will dispose the woody material stockpiled at the Primary and Secondary burn sites in the approved storage area by burning in place (September 1 - November 14), removing by truck, or other methods agreed on by YCWA and the Forest Service. In years when woody material exceeds the storage capacity of the Primary and Secondary burn sites, the woody material may be burned on the surface of the reservoir in cooperation with the Forest Service and after YCWA has obtained all necessary permits and approvals.

If woody material is to be removed from NFS lands by truck via locations other than the Dark Day Boat Ramp, YCWA will work with the Forest Service to determine the appropriate route for removal. If woody material will be removed via the Dark Day Boat Ramp, YCWA will adhere to the following procedures: 1) wood will be removed outside of the primary recreation season (i.e., the boat ramp may be used for woody material removal from September 15 through May 15 only); 2) on weekdays only; 3) notice will be provided to the public prior to the day(s) the ramp will be closed for woody material removal; 4) appropriate public safety signage will be placed at Marysville Road and on the Dark Day access road; and 5) appropriate equipment will be used

and load weight limitations will be followed to avoid damage to the boat ramp, Dark Day road, and associated public parking areas. YCWA will dispose of the material in accordance with appropriate regulations off NFS lands.

Implementation of this condition is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition LU1 - Implement Transportation System Management Plan

YCWA's Transportation System Management Plan provides guidance for the rehabilitation and maintenance of Primary Project Roads and Trails and Project Recreation Roads. The objectives of the plan are to describe the scope of improvements needed for Primary Project and Recreation Roads design, signage, construction and maintenance. YCWA's maintenance program has two components with regards to timing of road maintenance activities: short-term and long-term maintenance.

Short-term road maintenance is defined as routine annual maintenance for localized and seasonal repairs to address normal wear and tear during road use under typical annual weather conditions. Short-term maintenance of Primary Project Roads and Primary Project Trails includes annual maintenance of the travel surface such as spot treatment of asphalt paving, blading dirt roads and aggregate surfaces, filling-in pot holes, minor and major trimming of vegetation along the travel surface edge to maintain a line-of sight for safety purposes, and repairing/replacing signs and markers. Short-term maintenance also includes routine inspection and maintenance of road drainage features, such as periodically inspecting and clearing culverts and drainage ditches, rock fall cleanup, as well as landslide cleanup and repair, as needed, to mitigate erosion, stabilize hillslopes and restore proper function of drainage features.

Annual vegetation management along Primary Project and Recreation road edges is accomplished on private land with the use of herbicides by licensed herbicide applicators, and by mastication on Primary Project and Recreation roads located on NFS land, unless the Forest Service explicitly agrees to the use of herbicides. Specific measures regarding vegetation management along roads, including hazard tree management, are discussed in the Integrated Vegetation Management Plan (YCWA 2014).

Long-term maintenance is defined as repairs that are scheduled around specific events that impact the overall integrity of a given road, such as heavy-haul events or unusually heavy storm events (e.g., January 1997). Long-term maintenance of Primary Project Roads and Primary Project Trails is geared towards major repairs that occur infrequently and is usually related to road damage caused by a heavy haul project (e.g., transformer transport, hauling muck from dredging the diversion impoundments) or is due to a major flood event that caused washouts and other road related damage at a scale that is beyond the scope of the annual roads maintenance budget. Long-term road repairs have historically occurred on average about every 7-10 years, and are undertaken in addition to the short-term (annual) road maintenance.

Aquatic passage at stream crossings was not addressed within YCWA's Roads and Trails Study, which was developed in collaboration with Forest Service and other resource agencies. Culverts

and other structures at perennial stream crossings, when not designed with aquatic passage in mind, can create barriers to the movement of fish and amphibians. An understanding of the impacts of Primary Project and Recreation roads on streams and aquatic species is an important part of capturing Project impacts on the surrounding environment. The Forest Service National Inventory and Assessment Procedure (NIAP) was designed to address the following key questions: “*How and where does the road system restrict the migration and movement of aquatic organisms?*” and “*What aquatic species are affected and to what extent?*” (Forest Service 2005).

Man-made structures at road crossings can create a variety of barriers to aquatic species and their movements depending on the design of the structure and the needs of the species present. Rainbow trout and brown trout are generally blocked by excessive velocities within culverts and jumping barriers at the outlets.

YCWA’s Technical Memorandum 9-1, *Primary Project Roads and Trails* (YCWA 2013) included two Primary Project and Recreation roads on NFS land that crossed perennial streams (i.e., one perennial stream crossing at mile marker 1.37 of Our House Diversion Dam Road and one perennial stream crossing at mile marker 0.59 of Log Cabin Diversion Dam Road). Neither of the water crossings intersected fish-bearing stream channels, based on field survey data and professional judgment (e.g., stream flow regime, location in the watershed, known fish distribution and habitat, distance from perennial streams, stream channel slope upstream and downstream of the stream road crossing).

Should additional Primary Project and Recreation road stream crossings on NFS land be identified, the need for NIAP evaluation will first be addressed through analysis of available data for stream fish populations in the area above and below the noted stream crossing. YCWA will use the NIAP criteria for Primary Project and Recreation roads on NFS land for fish if the stream is identified as a fish-bearing stream and if reasonable fish habitat exists above the culvert in question.

Both short-term and long-term maintenance of Primary Project Roads and Project Trails will have discountable or insignificant effects due to: 1) the separation in the locations of the recreation-related facilities and areas of occupancy of listed species and critical habitats; 2) the incorporation of construction BMPs, SWPPP, spill prevention and Hazardous Materials Management Plans; 3) the distance downstream and the dilution from mixing with water in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, mixing with North Yuba River flows, Middle Yuba River flows, South Yuba River flows, and the additional dilution in Englebright Reservoir. Consequently, implementation of YCWA’s Transportation System Management Plan is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats in the lower Yuba River.

YCWA Proposed Condition RR1 - Implement Recreation Facilities Plan

YCWA has developed a Recreation Facilities Plan to guide management of public recreation use of the Project’s recreation facilities over the term of the new license, and minimize recreation use impacts to natural, historic, and cultural resources within the Project area. The plan includes the following objectives to help achieve this goal:

- To provide recreation facilities that meet the needs of Project recreation users and that are consistent with federal, state, and local legal requirements and guidelines.
- To monitor recreation use over the term of the license to help ensure Project recreation users achieve high quality recreation experiences and that recreation use impacts are minimized and remain within acceptable limits.
- To describe YCWA's responsibilities regarding operation, maintenance and rehabilitation of the Project recreation facilities under the new license.

At the time of replacement or reconstruction of facilities on NFS land, YCWA will address site grading and other potential site modifications including, but not limited to:

- Reconstruction, or replacement of constructed features, including - toilets, gates, table, fire rings, septic systems, water system features, barriers, retaining walls, unit markers, bulletin boards, signs, entrance and fee stations, and animal resistant food lockers.
- Evaluate opportunity to provide accessibility at all campsites and (to the degree topographically feasible) implement these opportunities. Provide Outdoor Recreation Access Routes between constructed features, campsites, toilets and spurs at Development Scale 3 or higher recreation facilities.
- Re-grading and graveling non-paved roads and spurs.
- Resurfacing paved roads, including providing asphalt treatment of roads and spurs and sufficient subgrade and, where appropriate, providing turnouts at entrance stations, toilets, trash bin pads, etc. and providing asphalt treatment of spurs when the circulation road is paved.
- Upgrade of host sites to improve public service and campground management by allowing the concessionaire to attract responsible hosts.

When replacing the restroom buildings, YCWA will also evaluate the rehabilitation needs of any associated septic systems including leach fields. YCWA assumes that all existing septic systems and leach fields will need replacement at the same time as the restrooms, but cannot be certain until the septic systems are evaluated at the time of restroom replacement.

Recreational Water Supply System

One of the major rehabilitation efforts is replacement of the recreational water supply system.

A water treatment facility²⁶ is located on the north side of New Bullards Bar Dam at the west end of the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility on YCWA land. 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) extensive, separate piping for raw water and treated water. The facility has a storage capacity of 20,000 gallons and a filter rate of 30 gallons per minute or

²⁶ 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 of New Bullards Bar Dam (north side) and under County Road 169 at the entrance to the Cottage Creek Boat Launch facility, where the source water enters the water treatment facility.

43,200 gallons per day. Treated water leaves the water treatment facility and is piped underground: 1) along the northern boundary of the facility to a storage tank near the marina storage/maintenance yard north of the boat launch parking area; and 2) across New Bullards Bar Dam (upstream face near crest) to a distribution system that serve the recreation facilities on the south side of New Bullards Bar Reservoir.

The primary below-ground infrastructure of the water system is more than 40 years old. During the license term, YCWA anticipates that all water systems will need to be upgraded at least once. Upgrading generally includes replacing the existing distribution piping, connections, and water hydrants, while maintaining the same system design and footprint, as warranted. However, during the planning for replacement of the water distribution system, YCWA will evaluate if the footprint should be reviewed to determine if there is a design or technologies that can be reasonably implemented that would better serve recreation users.

Underground water distribution lines (off the main line) and hydrants within each recreation facility will be replaced during major rehabilitation of each facility (see below) and not specifically as part of the main line rehabilitation. Replacement of the underground water system is the single most impactful work project at each recreation facility because the work would affect the most significant (and costly to replace) facilities and amenities within the recreation facilities – the circulation roads, restroom buildings and the septic and leach field systems.

YCWA's long-term maintenance or major rehabilitation maintenance of New Bullards Bar Reservoir recreation facilities is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats, given: 1) the separation in the locations of the recreation-related facilities and areas of occupancy of listed species and critical habitats; 2) the incorporation of construction BMPs, SWPPP, and spill prevention and Hazardous Materials Management Plan; 3) the distance downstream and the dilution from mixing with water in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, mixing with North Yuba River flows, Middle Yuba River flows, South Yuba River flows, and the additional dilution in Englebright Reservoir. Each of these considerations have been discussed, above.

YCWA Proposed Condition WR1 - Implement Hazardous Materials Management Plan

YCWA stores hazardous materials, hazardous material cleanup materials and equipment, and has Business Plans²⁷ for three facilities – Cottage Creek Water Treatment Plant, Narrows 2 Powerhouse and New Colgate Powerhouse. YCWA has developed a Hazardous Materials Management Plan that addresses the storage, use and transportation of hazardous materials used within the proposed FERC Project Boundary, with special emphasis on NFS land. This plan describes the standard practices that YCWA follows when storing, using, transporting, and disposing of hazardous materials used for routine O&M of the Project. The plan also addresses YCWA's approach to the storage, use, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials related to new construction activities.

²⁷ Business Plans are planning documents required when an entity stores or uses hazardous materials in amounts equal to or exceeding 55 gallons, 500 pounds, or 200 cubic feet of gas (at standard temperature and pressure). They are a tool used for communication and coordination between workers, emergency personnel and others.

Each powerhouse is equipped with an oil sump and each oil sump is equipped with an alarm and shut-off valve system. YCWA implements a rigorous program to keep oil out of the sumps - the powerhouse respective alarm and shut-off systems have never been activated for non-testing purposes. YCWA maintains its equipment to minimize and prevent leaks at the source. YCWA uses hazardous materials during routine O&M of the Project's stream gage stations, the diversion dams, the access roads and New Bullards Bar Reservoir. YCWA also transports hazardous materials, when they are to be used for periodic maintenance work, to sites located in the greater watershed.

As an example of hazardous materials used at Project facilities, gasoline and diesel fuel, paints, solvents, brake fluid, antifreeze, lubricants and petroleum products, acetylene, and compressed gas are used in Narrows 2 Powerhouse operations, including limited vehicle maintenance and machine shop. As described in YCWA's Hazardous Materials Management Plan, hazardous materials stored, used or transported for routine operation and maintenance at the Narrows 2 Powerhouse exceed 55 gallons. Because the amount of these materials used is > 55 gallons, YCWA also maintains a Business Plan for the Narrows 2 Powerhouse facility.

In addition to its own standard practices, when YCWA hires a contractor to perform any maintenance work or new construction, prior to the work, each contractor will have a work-specific spill prevention and control plan in place.

As soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the event of a reportable quantity hazardous material spill or accident, YCWA informs the appropriate federal, state and county agencies. In the rare event where spill prevention activities fail, clean-up material inventories at Cottage Creek Water Treatment Plant, Narrows 2 Powerhouse and New Colgate Powerhouse supply all Project tasks managed by YCWA. In the remote chance that the prevention practices are not successful, YCWA maintains a contract with an on-call hazardous waste cleanup contractor.

For most of the Project facilities, the potential spill of hazardous materials is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitat because of: 1) the separation in the locations of the recreation-related facilities and areas of occupancy of listed species and critical habitats; 2) the incorporation of construction BMPs, and spill prevention and Hazardous Materials Management Plan; 3) the distance downstream and the dilution from mixing with water in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, mixing with North Yuba River flows, Middle Yuba River flows, South Yuba River flows, and the additional dilution in Englebright Reservoir.

For the Narrows 2 Powerhouse, implementation of YCWA's Hazardous Materials Management Plan, and the Business Plan⁴ for the Narrows 2 Powerhouse facility, in addition to compliance with water-quality certification under Clean Water Act Section 401 from the SWRCB and the Central Valley RWQCB, are expected to avoid direct adverse impacts to listed species and their critical habitat. Consequently, implementation of WR1, YCWA's Hazardous Materials Management Plan, is not likely to adversely affect listed species or their critical habitats in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3 Proposed Action Components that May Adversely Affect Listed Species or Designated Critical Habitats

The following components of the Proposed Action all have the potential to affect flows or water temperatures in the lower Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam. Because listed species and their critical habitats exist in the lower Yuba River, these components all are classified as actions that “may adversely affect” listed species or their critical habitats. Each of these components is listed in the right column of Figure 3.3-3 and is discussed here.

3.3.3.1 YCWA’s Proposed Project Facilities Operations

3.3.3.1.1 Operation of the New Bullards Bar Dam Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet

YCWA proposes to construct a new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet on New Bullards Bar Dam, to be located south of the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway in the upper left abutment area of the dam. The primary benefit of the Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would be increased flood management capability. This increased flexibility in flood management would allow a significant reduction in flood flows and reduced flood stage at Marysville and the Feather River confluence. It also anticipates potential FERC requirements for increased spillway capacity at New Bullards Bar Dam in response to PMF calculation revisions or climate change modeling. As configured at this time, the new outlet would have a discharge capacity at the bottom of the New Bullards Bar Reservoir flood pool (elevation 1,918 ft) and at the NMWSE of approximately 45,000 cfs and 66,000 cfs, respectively.

The proposed new Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet would allow for releases from New Bullard Bar Dam when the water surface elevation is below the existing New Bullards Bar Dam spillway in anticipation of large storm events, and would increase New Bullards Bar Dam’s existing release capacity during high flow events. The proposed Auxiliary Flood Control Outlet could result in reduced peak flow rates during storms, or shifting the peak release to an earlier time. These operations would affect storage levels in New Bullards Bar Reservoir and flows in the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam, which would change the timing and volume of inflow into Englebright Reservoir and thereby potentially affect flow and water temperature regimes in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2 YCWA’s Proposed Conditions

3.3.3.2.1 YCWA Proposed Condition AR1 - Maintain Minimum Streamflows Below Our House Diversion Dam and Log Cabin Diversion Dam

YCWA’s Proposed Condition AR1 would establish new flow requirements for: 1) the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam; and 2) Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The required flows would be determined based on the applicable water year type defined by the Smartsville Hydrological Index. YCWA proposes to change minimum flows on the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam from the requirement in the existing license of 30 - 50 cfs to 40 - 120 cfs, and to change minimum flows on Oregon

Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam from the requirement in the existing license of between 8-12 cfs to 6-43 cfs. This condition would increase stream flows in the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam and in Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam, which would change the timing and volume of inflow into Englebright Reservoir and thereby potentially affect flow and water temperature regimes in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.2 YCWA Proposed Condition AR2 - Control Project Spills at Our House Diversion Dam

Proposed Condition AR2 would require YCWA to control the rate of spill cessation for flows over Our House Diversion Dam in non-tunnel-closure years. Proposed Condition AR2 indicates that the spill cessation measure will affect flows over Our House Diversion Dam of 600 cfs or less between April 1 and July 31 in Below Normal, Dry and Critically Dry water years, and between May 1 and July 31 in Wet and Above Normal water years (WR2). Under these conditions, the Our House Diversion Dam low level outlet would be used to regulate Middle Yuba River flows downstream of Our House Diversion Dam. The low level outlet valve would be used to reduce flows by a maximum of 100 cfs every two days for spills between 200 cfs and 600 cfs, and by a maximum of 50 cfs for spills less than 200 cfs. Reductions in flow would be more gradual and spill periods would be prolonged, which would change the timing and volume of inflow into Englebright Reservoir and thereby potentially affect flow and water temperature regimes in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.3 YCWA Proposed Condition AR3 - Maintain Minimum Streamflows at Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition AR3, the required conference year flows for the lower Yuba River near Smartsville and near Marysville would be slightly modified from the Yuba Accord during Conference Years. If these changes are made, then the total volume of water that will be required to flow past the USGS Marysville gage during Conference Years will increase from the 174,208 ac-ft required to meet the Yuba Accord Conference Year requirements to a new total of 197,445 ac-ft.

If implemented, then the new proposed requirements will have some significant benefits over the current Conference Year requirements. First, the proposed new requirements at the USGS Smartsville gage will be in effect for an additional 45 days during September and the first part of October, and for an additional 15 days during the first part of April. In addition, there will be fewer month-to-month changes in these requirements. At the Marysville gage, the proposed new requirements will be constant from October 1 through March 31, while the current requirements have substantial reductions beginning on January 1. These new flow schedule requirements also will result in an approximately 14 percent increase in the total volume of water that must flow past the Marysville Gage in Conference Years during the November through March period.

Second, for the July through September period, YCWA's proposed Condition AR3 would increase the minimum flow requirements during Conference Years at the Marysville gage from 70 to 150 cfs. These higher flows will require an additional 14,598 ac-ft of water to pass the

Marysville gage during these months in Conference Years, approximately a 114 percent increase for this period. YCWA believes that these higher minimum flows will provide better water temperature conditions in the Yuba River than would occur during Conference Years under the current requirements. These changes in Conference Year minimum flow requirements would result in changes to both flows and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.4 YCWA Proposed Condition AR4 - Control Project Spills at New Bullards Bar Dam

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition AR4, YCWA would implement a spill cessation operation, where spills of 2,000 cfs or less from New Bullards Bar Dam from May 1 through July 31 would be reduced at a rate of 250 cfs per day until spill has ceased. The spill cessation schedule provides for stepped reductions in spills so that down-ramping is gradual while prolonging the total length of time during which each spill event occurs. These changes could result in changes to flows and possibly water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.5 YCWA Proposed Condition AR9 – Control Project Ramping and Flow Fluctuations Downstream of Englebright Dam

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition AR9, YCWA would operate New Bullards Bar Reservoir and Project facilities downstream of Englebright Dam and coordinate with PG&E on the operations of the Narrows 1 Powerhouse to avoid fluctuations in flow of the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam at the Smartsville gage and daily changes in Project operations affecting releases or bypasses of flow downstream of Englebright Dam at the Smartsville gage. Changes in Yuba River flow downstream of Englebright Dam would not increase at a rate of greater than 500 cfs per hour, nor decrease at a rate in excess of 200 cfs per hour at any point in the year. Also, at no point in the year would flows change, either up or down, by more than 15 percent of the average daily flow once they have been established at a base rate, nor would they be reduced by more than 30 percent of the previous day's flow.

Flow ramping rates of 100 to 200 cfs corresponded to changes in stage of 0.4 to 1 inch per hour at the study sites in the lower Yuba River (B. Mitchell, ICF/JSA, pers. comm. 2012), well within the rates of stage change considered to be protective of juvenile salmonids. A rate of 1 inch per hour is generally within the range of natural rates of stage reductions in unregulated rivers (Olson and Metzgar 1987), while Higgins and Bradford (1996) state that maximum recommended stage reduction levels for gravel bars of regulated rivers are typically 2.5–5 cm (1-2 inches) per hour (Sommer et al. 2005). The changes in flow ramping and fluctuations in YCWA's Proposed Condition AR9 would be expected to minimize potential Project effects related to flow ramping and flow fluctuations on salmonids in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright Dam.

3.3.3.2.6 YCWA Proposed Condition AR10 – Maintain Minimum Streamflow Below New Bullards Bar Dam

YCWA's Proposed Condition AR10 would require new flow requirements for the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam. The required flow would be determined based on the Smartsville Hydrological Index.

Releases from the lower outlet of New Bullards Bar Dam would increase from 5 cfs up to 13 cfs, which would increase the amount of water going through the reach of the North Yuba River below New Bullards Bar Dam. If New Colgate Powerhouse is not operating, this condition could result in more flows, which could change inflows into Englebright Reservoir. Also, the additional exposure of water to ambient conditions has the potential to change water temperature inflow to Englebright Reservoir. This condition was included in the Operations Model, and modeling results indicate that this condition could change water temperatures in the lower Yuba River under certain conditions.

3.3.3.2.7 YCWA Proposed Condition AR11 - Periodically Close Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition AR11, if DWR's May B-120 forecast is for a Wet, Above Normal or Below Normal water year, as defined in YCWA's Proposed Condition WR2, and the subsequent end-of-September New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage is 600,000 ac-ft or greater, YCWA would close the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel from October 1 through December 31. Further, the proposed condition specifies that YCWA would close the Lohman Ridge Tunnel within two business days of when DWR publishes the April B-120, through September 30 when the B-120 April Forecast is a Wet water year, as defined in YCWA's Proposed Condition WR2, and the end-of-March New Bullards Bar Reservoir storage is 775,000 ac-ft or greater. Concurrent with the Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel closure, the low level outlet and fish release valve at Log Cabin Diversion Dam would be fully opened. This proposed condition has the potential to alter the inflow regime to Englebright Reservoir, and thereby affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.8 YCWA Proposed Condition AR12 - Control Project Spills at Log Cabin Diversion Dam

Proposed Condition AR12 would control the rate of spill cessation for flows over Log Cabin Diversion Dam, and would reduce the magnitude of flow changes in Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam. YCWA's proposed spill cessation schedule for Log Cabin Diversion Dam would be in effect from April through July in Below Normal, Dry and Critically Dry water years. The spill cessation schedule would provide for a stepped reduction in spills so that down-ramping would be gradual. The purpose of this condition is to reduce spills from approximately 100 cfs to the minimum flow requirement. Under these conditions, the Log Cabin Diversion Dam low level outlet would be used to regulate Oregon Creek flows downstream of Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The low level outlet valve would be used to reduce flows by a maximum of 20 cfs every four days. This proposed condition has the potential to alter the inflow

regime to Englebright Reservoir, and thereby affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.9 YCWA Proposed Condition GEN4 - Develop and Implement a Coordinated Operations Plan to Assure Licensee's Compliance with the New License for the Yuba River Development Project^{28, 29}

Both YCWA's Narrows 2 Powerhouse and PG&E's Narrows Project receive water from Englebright Reservoir and measure their compliance with flow requirements in their licenses at a streamflow gage downstream of the Projects at Smartsville. Proposed Condition GEN4 would provide that YCWA would consult with PG&E to develop a plan to assure implementation of flow requirements as required in the FERC license. The purpose of the plan will be to provide for coordinated operations of the YRDP and the Narrows Project to assure implementation of the flow-related conditions in the YRDP license, including maintenance of flow requirements during normal operations, scheduled outages and unscheduled outages. After FERC issues a new license to YCWA, the coordinated operations agreement may be different from the existing coordinated operations agreement. Changes to the coordinated operations agreement may result in changes to Narrows 1 and Narrows 2 operations, which could affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.10 YCWA Proposed Condition GS2 - Implement Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan

Under YCWA's Proposed Condition GS2, YCWA would operate the low level outlet valves at Our House and Log Cabin diversion dams during high flow events between October 1 and March 21 to move sediment trapped behind the diversion dams to the Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek, respectively. These actions would be tied to events when inflows exceed 3,000 cfs at Our House Diversion Dam and 1,000 cfs at Log Cabin Diversion Dam. The low level outlet at each diversion dam would be opened fully for nine days, closed half way on the 10th day, and then fully closed on the 11th day. The low level outlet can be closed during the 11-day period if flow into the impoundment drops below the capacity of the low-level outlet, which is assumed to be 600 cfs for Our House Diversion Dam and 540 cfs for Log Cabin Diversion Dam. Flow changes during storm periods could alter the inflow regime to Englebright Reservoir, and thereby affect flow and water temperatures downstream in the lower Yuba River.

²⁸ YCWA has not included the Coordinated Operations Plan in YCWA's Amended FLA because YCWA and PG&E, the licensee for the Narrows Project, cannot negotiate the terms of the plan until such time as each party understands the conditions of the new Yuba River Development Project license, which conditions will not be known until FERC issues the new license.

²⁹ Article 411 in the existing the existing FERC license for PG&E's Narrows Project (FERC Project No. 1403) states: "*The Licensee [PG&E] shall, for the limited purpose of coordinating operations with Project 2246 for the development of fish resources in the Yuba River downstream of Englebright dam, comply with such reasonable modifications of project operations, as may be ordered by the Commission upon the relicensing or amendment of the license for FERC Project No. 2246, after notice and opportunity for hearing.*" The existing FERC license for PG&E's Narrows Project expires in 2023.

3.3.3.2.11 YCWA Proposed Condition RR3 - Provide Whitewater Boating Below Our House Diversion Dam

Beginning in the first full calendar year after license issuance and each year thereafter, YCWA's Proposed Condition RR3 specifies that YCWA will provide a whitewater boating flow of between 600 cfs and 2,000 cfs³⁰ on weekends between October 1 and March 31. This proposed condition could result in significant flow changes on the weekends, and will alter inflows to Englebright Reservoir, which could affect flows and possibly water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.12 YCWA Proposed Condition WR2 - Determine Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to Our House Diversion Dam, Log Cabin Diversion Dam and New Bullards Bar Dam

YCWA's Proposed Condition WR2 includes the definition of a new hydrologic index, the "Smartsville Hydrological Index," and associated water year types that are used to determine minimum required flows on the North Yuba River downstream of New Bullards Bar Dam, the Middle Yuba River downstream of Our House Diversion Dam, and on Oregon Creek downstream of Log Cabin Dam. Alteration of minimum instream flow requirements would change the flow profile entering Englebright Reservoir. This proposed condition would affect storage in New Bullards Bar Reservoir, which also would affect the NYI index which, in part, determines Yuba Accord flow schedules and minimum flow requirements in the lower Yuba River. Therefore, this condition has the potential to affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

3.3.3.2.13 YCWA Proposed Condition WR3 - Determine Water Year Types for Conditions Pertaining to Narrows 2 Powerhouse and Narrows 2 Full Bypass

YCWA's Proposed Condition WR3 defines the calculation of the North Yuba Index, to be used to identify the required flow schedule at the Smartsville and at Marysville gages. The schedules in this proposed condition are the same as the schedules in Exhibits 2, 4 and 5 of the Lower Yuba River Fisheries Agreement, with the exception of the exclusion in the condition of the February index evaluation when the current water year type is a Schedule 5, 6 or Conference Year.

The purpose of this change is to avoid the potential for a one-month flow change to a higher flow schedule in drought conditions and then subsequently a flow reduction after the March evaluation is done due to the inaccuracy of the February runoff forecast. The index is determined from DWR's B-120 forecast of unimpaired flow. That forecast uses an assumption of average precipitation for future conditions. February is still early in the wet season and, in drought conditions, an assumption of average precipitation for the future condition can result a change to higher flow schedule year type that was meant for wetter conditions.

Intra-annual fluctuations in the Yuba Accord flow schedules are expected to be avoided under this proposed condition and will result in more stable flow conditions throughout the course of

³⁰ As measured at the USGS Streamflow Gage 11408880.

the year. Thus, this proposed condition has the potential to affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River during drier years corresponding to a Schedule 5, 6, or Conference Year.

3.3.3.2.14 YCWA Proposed Condition WR9 - Implement Drought Management Plan

YCWA's Proposed Condition WR9 includes a discussion of measures YCWA might adopt to mitigate the adverse effects of future droughts, and how these measures might affect conditions in the new FERC license. In addition, the condition describes a process under which drought relief could be swiftly implemented if needed and if all agencies agreed with YCWA's proposal. This condition has the potential to affect flow and water temperatures in the lower Yuba River.

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