

**GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA**

**There will be a regular meeting held by the Garberville Sanitary District Board of Directors at the
GSD District Office
919 Redwood DR. Garberville, CA**

**Date of Meeting: Tuesday, December 19th 2023
5:00 p.m. – Open Public Session**

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 919 Redwood Dr. during normal business hours.

NOTE: The Board of Directors may require staff and the public to participate, via teleconference or otherwise electronically. This meeting is compliant with AB361 which allows for a deviation of Teleconference rules required by the Brown Act during a proclaimed state of emergency.

I. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Rio Anderson___, Doug Bryan___, Julie Lyon_____, Dan Thomas_____, Richard Landes_____

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Action to add or delete items from any portion of the agenda or to discuss any consent agenda items must be taken prior to adoption of the agenda.

IV. THE BOARD WILL ENTER CLOSED SESSION AT END OF MEETING

V. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Up to fifteen minutes of this portion of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Board on items not listed on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the GSD Board. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. The GSD Board is prohibited by law from taking action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the GSD Board does not respond to public comment at this time.

General Public / Community Groups

Remote Public Comments:

- 1. Submit public comments in writing or by Email to the Garberville Board of Directors and Staff prior to meeting, so Board and staff have time to review the information provided. All public Comments sent to office or by email, must be received prior to 1:00PM on day of meeting.**

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS – Routine report of activities, operations, meetings / conferences held and/or attended by Board members, Staff, and General Manager

Operations Staff: (Brian and Dan) River Levels—Operational Demands

Office Staff: (Mary Nieto) Customer Concerns, Delinquent Service Payments

Board Members:

Correspondence:

General Manager: Ralph Emerson Pg. 5

Government Code Section 54954.3 provides that the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on any item described on a regular or special meeting before consideration of that item. The Board reserves the right to limit the time of presentation by individuals and groups

VII. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Any member of the public may address the Board on scheduled public hearing items. The Chair may regulate the order of such presentations and reserves the right to limit the time allowed for each person to speak.

A. Water Tank Replacement Project– Public Hearing for Comment and Possible Action on Draft IS/MND.
Presentation by: Jennie Short and Stein Coriell

- i. The Board will consider adoption of the GSD Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project Final Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration - SCH#2023100664 prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and adoption of Resolution 23-015.

Motion: Second: Vote:

VIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

IX. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Notice to the Public

All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial, require no discussion and are expected to have unanimous Board support and may be enacted by the Board by one motion and voice vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, before the Board votes on the motion to adopt, members of the Board may request that specific items be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action. Any items will be considered after the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as time permits.

- A.1 Approve Financials Date No Financials
- A.2 Approve November 14th 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes - pg. 6-8
- A.3 Operations Safety Report- pg. 9-11

Motion: Second: Vote:

B. GENERAL BUSINESS – Action items

Notice to the Public

The Board of Directors will allow public comment on agenda items at the time the agenda item is considered. However We ask that any person who wishes to speak on an agenda item submit a request prior to the meeting being called to order. You will be given 3 minutes on each agenda item that you wish to comment on and the Board of Directors will discuss the item amongst themselves with no other public comment.

- B.1 Board Member Officers-Assignments pg. 12-13
(discussion—action required)

Nomination of Chairperson

Motion: Second: Vote:

Nomination of Vice Chairperson

Motion: Second: Vote:

Nomination of Secretary---Ralph Emerson

Motion: Second: Vote:

Nomination of Treasurer

Motion: Second: Vote:

Authorized Signatures to Sign For District

Motion: Second: Vote:

- B.2 Approve Board Calendar 2024 pg. 14
(discussion-possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- B.3 Update on Tank Replacement Project pg. 15-164
(discussion-possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- B.4 Meadows Aerial Water Line Project Update
(discussion-possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- B.5 Clean California Dump Day pg. 165-172
(discussion-possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**

C. POLICY REVISION / ADOPTION

- C.1 Damage to Water System Facilities Sec 7.3 pg. 173
(discussion—no action) 1st reading
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- C.2 Waiver and Release of Liability Waiver Application pg. 174
(discussion—possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- C.3 Drought Preparedness Plan pg. 175-177
(discussion-possible action)
Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**
- C.4 Emergency Preparedness Plan pg. 178-183
(discussion—no action) 1st reading
- C.5 Sec 14.1 Filling Pools and Tanks pg. 184-185
(discussion-no action) 1st reading

X. THE BOARD WILL ENTER CLOSED SESSION

XI. Questions or Comments about Closed Session Items

1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code § 54956.8):

Property: Approximately (undetermined) acres of land and is a portion of the parcel designated as Assessor’s Parcel Numbers APN 032-211-011, APN 032-211-035, APN 032-211-021

Garberville Sanitary District Negotiating Team with Jennie Short and Dan Thomas. Russ Gans (GSD attorney) will participate. Under negotiation: Property Acquisition Negotiation, Price and/or terms of payment/conditions for, Easement Agreement and/or Grant Deeds.

(discussion—possible action)

Motion: **Second:** **Vote:**

2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Gov. Code Section, 54956.9(d)(2), (e)(3)): One Claim, Claimant: (Richard and Hope Lamb).**

(discussion—possible action)

Motion:

Second:

Vote:

XII. Return to Open Session

Report of actions taken in closed session

XIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

January 23rd, 2024

1. Drought Planning
2. Tank Replacement Project
3. In-House Projects
4. Emergency Preparedness Plan
5. Filling Pools and Tanks

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The GSD Board meeting agenda will be posted at the District Office no later than. Date: Saturday, December 16th 2023. The agenda will be on the GSD website and is emailed to the local newspapers and those who have requested an agenda in writing or e-mail.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need a special accommodation to participate, please contact the Garberville Sanitary District Office at (707)923-9566 at least 48 hours in advance.

Garberville Sanitary District

PO Box 211

Garberville, CA. 95542

(707)923-9566

remerson@garbervillesd.org

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Date: December 19th 2023

This month has been filled with multiple customer related issues, such as leaks, high water use, late payments and change in ownership or renters. Mary, Dan & Brian have done a very good job in working through these issues and maintaining respect for the customers.

There have been multiple meetings regarding the tank replacement project with SHN, legal counsel and other participants involved with land agreements, design, financing and construction. We will discuss some of these items on the agenda, while continuing work throughout the month.

As we enter the rain season, we are working on projects that will ensure safe and effective operational environment for all staff. I cant Thank staff enough for always helping each other, no matter what time or what day that assistance is needed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ralph Emerson

**GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, November 14th 2023
5:00 p.m. – Closed Session with Open Public Session to Follow

I. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Doug Bryan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Rio Anderson- Present
Doug Bryan- Present
Julie Lyon- Present
Dan Thomas- Present
Richard Landes- Present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Julie Lyon Second: Dan Thomas Vote: 5-0

IV. THE BOARD WILL ENTER CLOSED SESSION (5:01pm)

IVa. Questions or Comments about Closed Session Items

1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code § 54956.8):

Property: Approximately (undetermined) acres of land and is a portion of the parcel designated as Assessor's Parcel Numbers APN 032-211-011, APN 032-211-035, APN 032-211-021

Garberville Sanitary District Negotiating Team with Jennie Short and Dan Thomas. Russ Gans (GSD attorney) will participate. Under negotiation: Property Acquisition Negotiation, Price and/or terms of payment/conditions for, Easement Agreement and/or Grant Deeds.

(discussion—possible action)

V. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board returned to open session at 5:25 p.m. Doug Bryan announced that no action was taken in closed session.

VI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No audience

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Operators--Dan and Brian- Water Leaks—Meter Replacements—River Level

Office----Mary Absent-Ralph gave an update on payment plans with customers and Arrearage funding that is available.

Board Members- 0

Correspondence- 0

General Manager—Ralph Emerson Pg. 4

Mir Holmes introduced herself to the board. She is a new employee with the District that has her water treatment license. The operators have been teaching Mir how to read meters and log the water plant.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A.1 Approve Financials Date August 2023 - pg.5-18

A.2 Approve October 24th, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes - pg.19-21

A.3 Operations Safety Report- pg. 22-24

Motion: Dan Thomas Second: Richard Landes Vote: 5-0

B. GENERAL BUSINESS

B.1 Tank Replacement Project Update pg. 25-28
(discussion—possible action)

(Jennies Report) Since the last Board Meeting, the Project Team has:

- Completed the 60% Engineer’s Estimate
- Produced the initial draft of the project specifications excluding technical
- Completed the Humboldt County General Plan Conformance and Special Permit (for SMA) application
- Modified DWR Invoice #2 in the amount of \$64,291.73 (they have a 10% retention until the project is complete) to remove markups and limits for lodging per diem
- Submitted DWR quarterly report #3
- Submitted DFA quarterly report #6
- Met with PG&E representative for new/relocated service applications
- Coordinated with CDFW for 1600 Notification for construction project and intake
- Coordinated with NCRWQCB for WDR permit
- Contracted for lead and asbestos survey for project elements

B.2 Meadows Aerial Water Line Project Update
(discussion-possible action)
The planning application should be complete by December 2023.

B.3 GSD Financial Policy pg. 29-70
(discussion-possible action) resolution 23-012
Motion: Richard Landes Second: Rio Anderson Roll Call Vote: 5-0

The Resolution number was updated from 23-012 to 23-014. The board jumped back to this item after B.4 to make a motion on Resolution 23-014.

B.4 Web-Site Presentation
(discussion—info only) Laura
Laura has been updating the districts website and making it more user friendly.

B.5 Clean California—Large Item Dump Day pg. 71-79
(information only)

Caltrans Clean CA proposed partnering with Garberville Sanitary District to hold a Dump Day. At this time, Caltrans is in discussion with the County of Humboldt to determine the partners, roles and best course of action to host the event.

B.6 Funding Opportunities and Resources pg. 80-83
(discussion-no action)

The District is researching all kinds of available funding.

C. POLICY REVISION / ADOPTION

C.1 Use Ordinance---Work Performed on Private Property Sec 4.10a, Sec 7.3a pg. 84-87
(discussion-action requested) Resolution #23-013
Motion: Dan Thomas Second: Julie Lyon Roll Call Vote: 5-0

The board made an update to the ordinance and resolution during the meeting. A motion was made to adopt the ordinance and resolution with the edits made.

IX. ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING----- December 19th, 2023

1. Drought Planning Changes
2. Meadows Aerial Line Project
3. Project Update
4. Clean California Dump Day
- 5.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Doug Bryan ended the meeting at 6:24 p.m.



SAFETY TRAINING SIGN-IN SHEET

District Name: Garberville Sanitary District Trainer: Ralph Emerson
Training Topic: Employee Wellness Training Date: 12/13/23

EMPLOYEE NAME	SIGNATURE
Mary Nieto	Mary Nieto
Bmi Miller	BRIAN Miller
Daniel Arceguin	Dan Arceguin
Laura Sweet	LAURA SWEET
Ralph Emerson	by Email

Employee Wellness

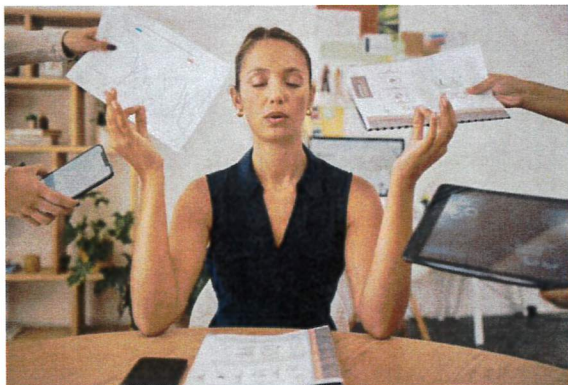
There are several components to employee wellness, but stress management is the primary component. This Safety Talk provides tips to reduce stress whether on or off the clock.

What is Stress

Stress is a state of mental tension and is a natural human response prompting our bodies to release certain hormones (primarily cortisol but also adrenaline) boosting our physical and cognitive ability. From an evolutionary perspective, stress helps us respond to dangerous situations (think fight or flight).

In low sporadic doses, stress can be a positive motivating force encouraging us to push outside our comfort zone to solve a problem or quickly react to danger in the immediate environment. However, if stress continues over an extended period, it becomes chronic stress which negatively impacts your health and well-being.

The modern-day dilemma is that our body responds to life/death threats the same as perceived/imaginary threats.



Signs of Stress

Stress makes it hard for us to relax and can come with a range of emotions, including anxiety and irritability. When stressed, we may find it difficult to concentrate. We may experience headaches or other body pains, an upset stomach or trouble sleeping. We may find we lose our appetite or eat more than usual. Chronic stress can worsen pre-existing health problems and may increase our use of alcohol, tobacco and other substances.

Stressful situations can also cause or exacerbate mental health conditions, most commonly anxiety and depression. When we suffer from a mental health condition, it may be because our symptoms of stress have become persistent and have started affecting our daily functioning, including at work.

Stress Relief Strategies

Stress is a natural human response, but when you recognize elevated stress levels, start with a breathing technique to hopefully afford enough relief so you can address the cause.

Stress Management Techniques

Cyclic Sighing. Have you ever cried to the point where you are out of breath and then gasped and found yourself inhaling sharply followed by another deep inhale, then a slow exhale? Our bodies instinctively know how to relieve stress. Stanford researchers have studied this and coined it cyclic sighing. It is reported to be one of the best breathing techniques for both immediate and long-term stress management.

To perform this breathing exercise, take two sharp but deep inhales, followed by a slow long exhale. Researchers recommend doing for this up to five minutes to help with short term stress management. If performed daily, the effects are magnified over time and your body becomes more resilient.

Box Breathing. Other breathing techniques that are effective include box breathing. This technique uses equal amounts of inhale, exhale, and holding your breath. Then repeating the pattern of inhale-hold-exhale-hold. For example, a four second inhale, followed by a four second exhale, then hold your breath for four seconds. Repeat for up



Other Tips

Learn what triggers your stress and experiment with different stress management techniques. The below activities may help:

- Keep a journal.
- Download an app that provides relaxation exercises (such as deep breathing or visualization) or tips for practicing mindfulness, which is a psychological process of actively paying attention to the present moment.
- Exercise, and make sure you are eating healthy, regular meals.
- Stick to a sleep routine, and make sure you are getting enough sleep.
- Avoid drinking excess caffeine such as soft drinks or coffee.
- Identify and challenge your negative and unhelpful thoughts.
- Reach out to your friends or family members who help you cope in a positive way.

Seek Help

If you are struggling to cope or stress symptoms will not go away, talk to a professional. SDRMA agencies participating in SDRMA's Health Benefit Program may offer an Employee Assistance Plan. Talk to your employer. The EAP typically provides a few complimentary sessions with a licensed counselor.

This *Safety Talk* provides awareness level training on Employee Wellness.
If this information is unclear or if you have any additional questions, please talk to you supervisor.



Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood Dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

2024
BOARD MEMBER OFFICERS--DUTIES

BOARD CHAIRPERSON:

BOARD VICE CHAIRPERSON:

BOARD SECRETARY: Ralph Emerson

BOARD TREASURER:

BOARD CLERK: Ralph Emerson

BUDGET COMMITTEE: BOARD MEMBER _____

RATES: BOARD MEMBER _____

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: BOARD MEMBER _____

BOARD MEMBER _____

WATER ORDINANCE BOARD MEMBER _____

COMMITTEE: BOARD MEMBER _____

BOARD MEMBER AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES:

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

Signatory _____

BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION

December 19, 2023

1. Richard Landes----- Term Begins (2022)----Term Expires (2026)
2. Doug Bryan-----Term Began (2014)-----Term Expires (2026)
3. Dan Thomas-----Appointment by supes 2020----Term Expires (2024)
4. Rio Anderson-----Term Began (2011)----Term Expires (2024)
5. Julie Lyon -----Term Began (2018)----Term Expires (2026)



Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood Dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

2024 BOARD CALENDAR

JANUARY 23RD—BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 27TH--BOARD MEETING

MARCH 26th—BOARD MEETING

APRIL 23rd—BUDGET MEETING (3:00)

APRIL 23RD—BOARD MEETING

MAY 21st—BOARD MEETING (**Memorial day 27th**)

JUNE 25TH—BOARD MEETING

JULY 23RD—BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 27TH—BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 24TH—BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 22ND—BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 19TH—BOARD MEETING (**Thanksgiving 28th**)

DECEMBER 17TH—BOARD MEETING (**Christmas 25th**)



GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 211 • GARBERVILLE, CA 95542 • (707) 923-9566

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: December 19, 2023
To: Board of Directors
From: Jennie Short, Consultant Project Manager
Subject: Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project

PROJECT MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

1. Receive a staff report from the GSD staff and SHN.
2. Open the item for public comment and receive testimony.
3. Consider all aspects of the project as proposed including the CEQA IS/MND and ask any questions of GSD staff and SHN.
4. Adopt Resolution No. 23-015 adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project.

SUMMARY

The Garberville Sanitary District (GSD) proposes to implement the Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project. It would replace the existing 180,000-gallon, in-ground, concrete, finished water storage tank (Hurlbutt/Main Tank), the existing 50,000-gallon in-ground concrete tank (Robertson Tank) and a 20,000-gallon, failing, redwood drinking water storage tank (Wallan Tank) with two new increased capacity tanks. The failing Robertson Tank, which has been taken out of service, would be demolished. The new Main Tank would be an in-ground, approximately 550,000-gallon, pre-stressed concrete tank located on an adjacent parcel (APN 032-211-021) and similar elevation to the existing tank. The existing Wallan Tank would be replaced with an approximately 77,000-gallon bolted steel tank. Both of the existing tanks in operation are leaking and they lack sufficient storage capacity for maximum daily consumption and fire suppression; they also do not meet current seismic design standards. In addition, the District proposes to replace or upgrade three booster pump stations (Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Station, and Wallan Pump Station). The existing Upper Maple Lane Pump Station is located in the existing Hurlbutt Tank and would be demolished when the Hurlbutt Tank is demolished. A new Upper Maple Lane Pump Station would need to be constructed at the site of the new Main Tank. The existing Arthur Pump Station is in poor condition and has operational deficiencies that would be improved when this pump station is replaced by the Alderpoint Pump Station. The Wallan Pump Station is in poor condition and requires upgrades to meet the operational requirements of the new Wallan Tank. Replacement backup generators would be installed at each replaced or upgraded booster pump station and at the Tobin Well.

Some new segments of distribution piping would need to be installed as part of this project in order to connect the new tanks and pump stations to the existing distribution system (see Figures 5-5E in Attachment 1 – Final IS/MND). Regarding operations, the proposed project would alter the location of some of GSD’s water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations.

This project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and GSD is the Lead Agency under CEQA for the proposed project. Due to the scale and nature of the proposed improvements, the project does not qualify for an exemption under CEQA. As such, an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared and is proposed for adoption pursuant to the current State CEQA Guidelines (Attachment 1 – Final IS/MND). The IS/MND identifies mitigation for impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, and noise (Attachment 2 – Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program). The potential impacts that require mitigation are related to short-term construction and long-term operation of the proposed improvements. With the implementation of the mitigation measures required for the proposed project, it has been determined that impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level.

As required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15073(d), the CEQA document prepared for the project was sent to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research CEQA State Clearinghouse and was circulated for review from October 25, 2023 through November 24, 2023 (State Clearinghouse # 2023100664). As required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15072(a), a “Notice of Availability of a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration” was provided to the public, responsible agencies, trustee agencies, mailed to adjacent property owners, and posted at the County Clerk-Recorder’s Office. GSD received and gave due consideration to seven comment emails and two comment letters received during the 30-day public review period. Attachment 3 contains the public comments received as well as GSD’s responses. As reflected in Attachment 3, within each comment email/letter, comments about the contents of the Draft IS/MND are identified with marginal lines on the right side of each page. Comment responses follow. As a result of the public comments, several minor revisions to the Draft IS/MND were made, as reflected in the Final IS/MND (Attachment 1). The revisions included in the Final IS/MND are noted using strikethrough to denote deletions and underline to denote additions.

- On page 2 of the Final IS/MND, the list of “Other public agencies whose approval is required” has been updated to include the “State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water – Water supply permit amendment is required after construction is completed.”
- On page 8 of the Final IS/MND, the status of GSD’s CDFW permit for surface water diversion has been corrected (expired but currently being renewed under a Notification submitted to CDFW on November 22, 2023 as Environmental Permit Information Management System number 45945).
- On page 8 of the Final IS/MND, GSD’s maximum permitted surface water diversion has been corrected from 542.2 acre-feet per year to 245.5 acre-feet per year.
- On page 24 of the Final IS/MND, additional information was provided regarding the proposed generators compared to the existing ones.
- On pages 96 and 97 of the Final IS/MND, additional support for a less-than-significant operational noise impact from generators was provided.

None of the minor revisions made to the Final IS/MND to respond to comments constitute a “substantial revision” of the IS/MND that would require recirculation of the document. As defined under CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5, a “substantial revision” shall mean:

1. A new, avoidable significant effect is identified, and mitigation measures or project revisions must be added in order to reduce the effect to insignificance, or
2. The lead agency determines that the proposed mitigation measures or project revisions will not reduce potential effects to less than significance and new measures or revisions must be required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
2. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
3. Responses to Comments Received on Draft IS/MND
4. Resolution No. 23-015

Attachment 1

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIAL STUDY

**FINAL INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST
PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Garberville Sanitary District
Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project
State Clearinghouse #2023100664**

Prepared by:
SHN
1062 G Street, Suite I
Arcata, CA 95521

October Revised December 2023

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AB	Assembly Bill	HWMA	Humboldt Waste Management Authority
ACM	asbestos-containing materials	IDA	International Dark-Sky Association
AE	Agriculture Exclusive	IS	Initial Study
AHERA	Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act	LBP	Lead-based paint
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number	LCSC	Lead-containing surface coatings
BMP	best management practice	LSA	Lake and Streambed Alteration
CAC	Certified Asbestos Consultant	LUST	leaking underground storage tank
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model	MCAQMD	Mendocino County Air Quality Management District
CALFIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	MDD	maximum day demand
Cal/OSHA	California Division of Occupational Safety and Health	MMTCO2e	million metric tons of CO2 equivalent
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation	MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
CAP	Climate Action Plan	MTCO2e/yr	metric tons of CO2 equivalent per year
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association	N2O	nitrous oxide
CARB	California Air Resources Board	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
CBC	California Building Code	NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
CCE	Community Choice Energy	NCAB	North Coast Air Basin
CCR	California Code of Regulations	NCRWQCB	North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
CDFW	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	NCUAQMD	North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act	NEMA	National Electrical Manufacturers Association
CESA	California Endangered Species Act	NESHAP	National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
CFC	chlorofluorocarbon	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
cfs	cubic feet per second	NO2	nitrogen dioxide
CGP	Construction General Permit	NOA	naturally-occurring asbestos
CGS	California Geological Survey	NOI	Notice of Intent
CH4	methane	NOx	nitrous oxides
CMP	corrugated metal pipe	NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
CO	carbon monoxide	NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
CO2	carbon dioxide	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources	NWIC	Northwest Information Center
CWA	Clean Water Act	O3	Ozone
DDW	SWRCB Division of Drinking Water	OHWM	Ordinary High-Water Mark
District	Garberville Sanitary District	OPR	Governor's Office of Planning & Research
DOC	California Department of Conservation	PF	Public Facility
DOORS	Diesel Off-Road Online Reporting Systems	PFC	perfluorocarbon
DPM	diesel particulate matter	PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control	PLC	programmable logic controller
DWR	Department of Water Resources	PM2.5	Particulate Matter smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter
EIR	environmental impact report	PM10	Particulate Matter smaller than 10 microns in diameter
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	ppm	parts per million
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act	PRC	Public Resources Code
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone	PRV	pressure reducing valve
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map	PVC	polyvinyl chloride
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program	QSD	Qualified SWPPP Developer
GFPD	Garberville Fire Protection District	RCEA	Redwood Coast Energy Authority
GHG	greenhouse gas	ROG	reactive organic gases
gpm	gallons per minute	ROW	right-of-way
GSD	Garberville Sanitary District	RS	Residential Suburban
H2S	Hydrogen sulfide		
HBGS	Humboldt Bay Generating Station		
HFC	hydrofluorocarbon		
HP	horsepower		

Abbreviations and Acronyms (cont'd)

SB	Senate Bill	THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
sf	square feet	TNW	Traditional Navigable Waterway
SF6	hexafluoride	TP	Test Pit
SMA	Streamside Management Area	USACE	United States Army Corp of Engineers
SMAQMD	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District	USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
SO2	sulfur dioxide	USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
SRA	State Responsibility Area	USFWS	United States Fish & Wildlife Service
SSC	Species of Special Concern	USGS	United States Geological Survey
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	VMT	vehicle miles traveled
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board	VOC	volatile organic compounds
SWTP	surface water treatment plant	WRA	William Rich & Associates
TAC	toxic air contaminants	WSE	water surface elevation
TDH	total dynamic head		

Garberville Sanitary District

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. **Project Title:** Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**

Garberville Sanitary District
P.O. Box 211
Garberville, CA 95542
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Jennie Short – Project Manager, 707-923-9566 (office), 707-223-4567 (cell)
4. **Project Location:** The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District (GSD; the District) in the unincorporated community of Garberville in northern California, approximately 52 miles south-southeast of Eureka along the south fork of the Eel River and adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 in Humboldt County (Figure 1; United States Geological Survey [USGS] Garberville 7.5-minute Quadrangle, Township 4 South, Range 3 East, Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, Sections 18 and 19, Humboldt Meridian). The project is located in several separate areas in and around the town of Garberville:
 - the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
 - the Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
 - the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site (Figures 1 and 2),
 - the Robertson Tank site (Figure 1), and
 - the Tobin Well site (Figure 1).
5. **Applicant's Name and Address:**

Garberville Sanitary District
P.O. Box 211
Garberville, CA 95542
6. **General Plan Designation:** See Table 1 in Section 2.1 Project Location and Setting.
7. **Zoning:** Residential Suburban (RS-B-5(5)), Agriculture Exclusive (AE-B-6), Residential One Family (R-1), etc. See Table 1 in Section 2.1 Project Location and Setting.
8. **Existing Facilities and Use:** The District serves the unincorporated town of Garberville and surrounding area with sewer, wastewater, and water services. The District was formed in 1932 for the purpose of providing sanitary sewer services. After purchasing the privately held Garberville Water Company in 2004, the District began providing drinking water to customers in the district. The District owns, operates, maintains, and manages the public drinking water system (CA1210008), which includes two drinking water sources, water treatment facilities, three finished water storage tanks currently in service, multiple pumping stations, and a distribution piping network. The District's service area covers 581 acres, and the water system serves approximately 1,200 people in the Garberville community through approximately 470 service connections. The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has jurisdiction over the District's drinking water system. For further detail of the project site's existing condition, see Section 2.0 Project Description.
9. **Description of Project:** The District proposes to replace the existing 180,000-gallon, in-ground, concrete, finished water storage tank (Hurlbutt/Main Tank) and a 20,000-gallon, failing, redwood drinking water storage tank (Wallan Tank) with two new increased capacity tanks. In addition, the failing Robertson Tank, which has been taken out of service, would be demolished. The new Main Tank would be an in-ground, approximately 550,000-gallon, pre-stressed concrete tank located on an adjacent parcel and similar elevation to the existing tank. The existing Wallan Tank would be replaced with an approximately 77,000-gallon bolted steel tank. Both of the existing tanks in operation are leaking and lack sufficient storage capacity for maximum daily consumption and fire suppression; they also do not meet current seismic design standards.

In addition, the District proposes to replace or upgrade three booster pump stations (Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Station, and Wallan Pump Station). The existing Upper Maple Lane Pump Station is located in the existing Hurlbutt Tank and would be demolished when the Hurlbutt Tank is demolished. A new Upper Maple Lane Pump Station would need to be constructed at the site of the new Main Tank. The existing Arthur Pump Station is in poor condition and has operational deficiencies that would be improved when this pump station is replaced by the Alderpoint Pump Station. The Wallan Pump Station is in poor condition and requires upgrades to meet the operational requirements of the new Wallan Tank. New backup generators would be installed at each replaced or upgraded booster pump station and at the Tobin Well.

Some new segments of distribution piping would need to be installed as part of this project in order to connect the new tanks and pump stations to the existing distribution system.

Regarding operations, the proposed project would alter the location of some of GSD's water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations. For further detail of the proposed project, see Section 2.0 Project Description.

10. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: The project is located in several separate areas in and around the town of Garberville:

- the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Robertson Tank site (Figure 1), and
- the Tobin Well site (Figure 1).

The project is located east of the South Fork Eel River and U.S. Highway 101. The Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by timberlands to the east, the urbanized Garberville downtown to the north, and U.S. Highway 101 to the west and south. The Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses. The Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations sites are developed with the existing Arthur Pump Station and a California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) station respectively and are surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses as well as forested areas. The Robertson Tank site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses, as well as forested areas. The Tobin Well site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by single-family residential development.

11. Other public agencies whose approval is required (for example, permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): GSD as Lead Agency for the proposed project has discretionary authority over the primary project proposal. To implement this project, the applicant may need to obtain, at a minimum, the following discretionary permits/approvals from other agencies:

- California Department of Water Resources – Financing Approval
- California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance – Financing Approval
- Humboldt County – General Plan Conformance Review, Special Permit, Encroachment Permit
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Section 404 Water Quality Permit
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board – Section 401 Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) – Encroachment Permit
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board – Construction General Permit
- North Coast Air Quality Management District – Authority to Construct, Permits to Operate
- California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water – Water supply permit amendment is required after construction is completed

- 12. Tribal Consultation:** The District requested a list of regional tribes from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Under Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the District sent notification letters to local Native American tribes on July 25, 2023 (Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, and Wailaki Tribe). No responses were received.

- 13. Purpose of this Document:** This document only seeks to analyze the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the proposed Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project.

SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction and Regulatory Guidance

This document is an Initial Study (IS) that summarizes the technical studies prepared for the proposed Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project and provides justification for a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). This document has been prepared in accordance with the current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines. The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Robertson/Wallan/ Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project in the unincorporated community of Garberville. Mitigation measures have been proposed to avoid or minimize any significant impacts that were identified.

1.2 Lead Agency

The Lead Agency is the public agency with primary responsibility for implementing a proposed project. Accordingly, GSD is the CEQA Lead Agency.

1.3 Purpose of the Initial Study

CEQA requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of projects over which they have discretionary authority before acting on those projects. A CEQA IS is a public document used by the decision-making lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant impact on the environment. If the agency finds that the proposed project may have a significant impact on the environment, but that these impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level through revisions to the project and/or implementation of specific mitigation measures, an MND shall be prepared.

This IS/MND is a public information document that describes the proposed project, existing environmental setting at the project site, and potential environmental impacts of construction and operation of the proposed project. It is intended to inform the public and decision-makers of the proposed project's potential environmental impacts and to document the lead agency's compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

1.4 Review Process

This IS/MND is being circulated for public and agency review as required by CEQA. Because state agencies will act as responsible or trustee agencies, the District will circulate the IS/MND to the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research for distribution and a 30-day review period.

During the review period, written comments may be submitted to:

Jennie Short, Project Manager
Garberville Sanitary District
P.O. Box 211, Garberville, CA 95542

jmshort@garbervillesd.org

SECTION 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Location and Setting

Regional Setting

The Garberville Sanitary District is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in northern California, approximately 52 miles south-southeast of Eureka along the south fork of the Eel River and adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 in Humboldt County (Figure 1; USGS Garberville 7.5-minute Quadrangle, Township 4 South, Range 3 East, Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, Sections 18 and 19, Humboldt Meridian). Garberville has a temperate Mediterranean climate characterized by mild, wet winters and warm, dry summers.

Project Location

The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District (GSD; the District) in the unincorporated community of Garberville in northern California, approximately 52 miles south-southeast of Eureka along the south fork of the Eel River and adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 in Humboldt County (Figure 1; USGS Garberville 7.5-minute Quadrangle, Township 4 South, Range 3 East, Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, Sections 18 and 19, Humboldt Meridian). The project is located in several separate areas in and around the town of Garberville:

- the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site (Figures 1 and 2),
- the Robertson Tank site (Figure 1), and
- the Tobin Well site (Figure 1).

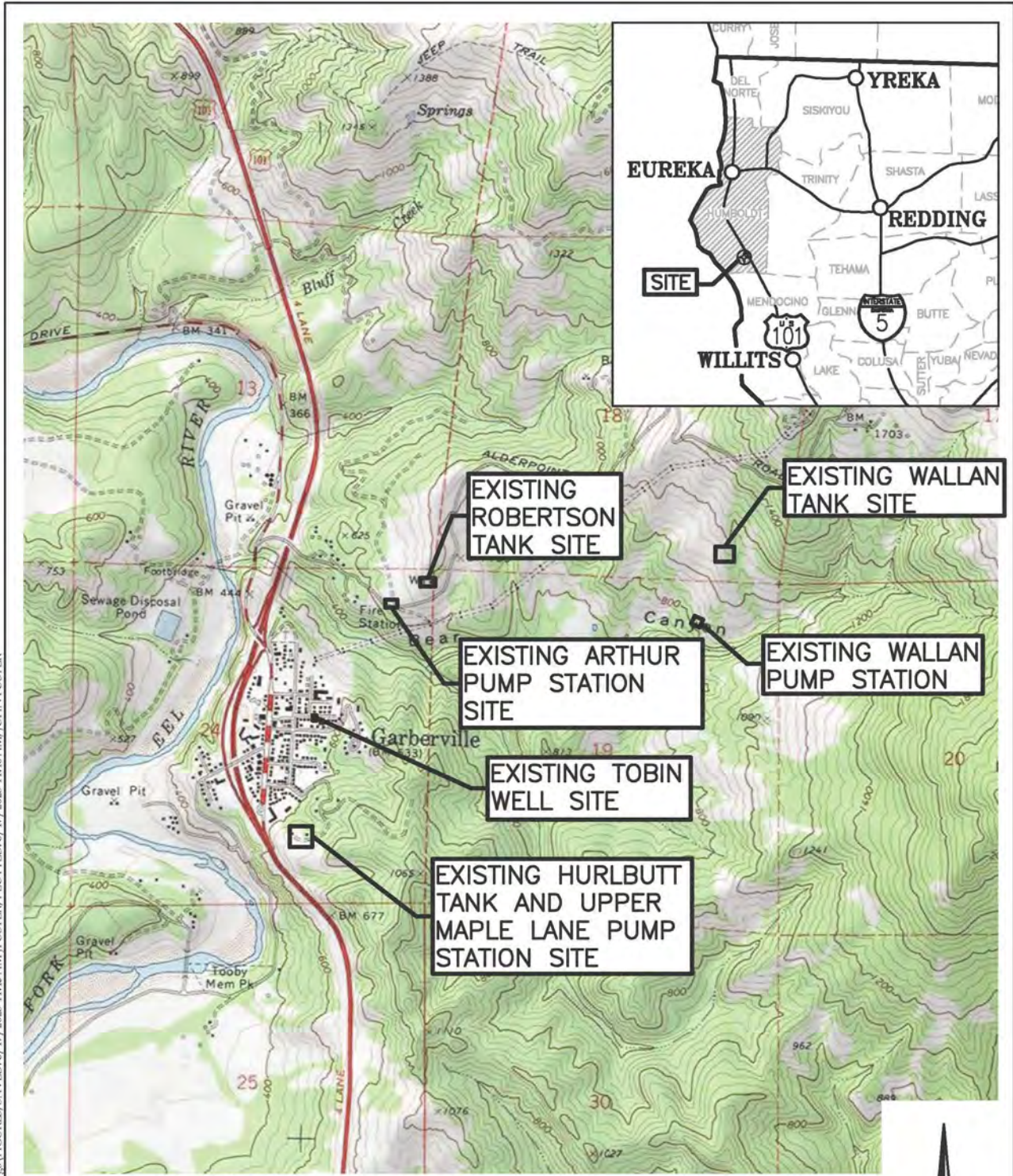
See Table 1 for the project location Assessor’s parcel numbers (APNs).

Table 1. Assessor’s Parcel Numbers, General Plan, Zoning Designations

Proposed Project Component	APN	General Plan Designation ^a	Zoning Designation ^b
Storage: Existing Main Tank	032-211-011	P	RS-B-5(5)
Storage: Proposed Main Tank	032-211-021	RL	RS-B-5(5)
Storage: Existing Wallan Tank	223-191-006	RE1-5	AE-B-6
Storage: Proposed Wallan Tank	223-191-006	RE1-5	AE-B-6
Storage: Existing Robertson Tank	223-181-020	RA5-20	AE-B-6
Pumping: Existing Upper Maple Lane Pump Station	032-211-011	P	RS-B-5(5)
Pumping: Existing Arthur Pump Station	223-181-025	RA5-20	AE-B-6
Pumping: Proposed Alderpoint Pump Station	223-183-003	PF	AE-B-6
Pumping: Existing Wallan Pump Station	223-191-011	RA40	AE-B-6
Electrical Upgrades: Standby Generators	Various	Various	Various
Standby Generator: Proposed Upper Maple Lane Pump Station	032-211-021	RL	RS-B-5(5)
Standby Generator: Proposed Alderpoint Pump Station	223-183-003	PF	AE-B-6
Standby Generator: Existing Wallan Pump Station	223-191-011	RA40	AE-B-6
Standby Generator: Existing Tobin Well	032-135-002	P	R-1
Instrumentation and Controls Improvements	Various	Various	Various
Distribution Piping	Various	Various	Various

a: General Plan Designations:
P: Public Lands
RL: Residential Low Density
RE: Residential Estates
RA: Residential Agriculture
PF: Public Facility

b: Zoning Designations:
RS: Residential Suburban
AE: Agriculture Exclusive
R-1: Residential One Family



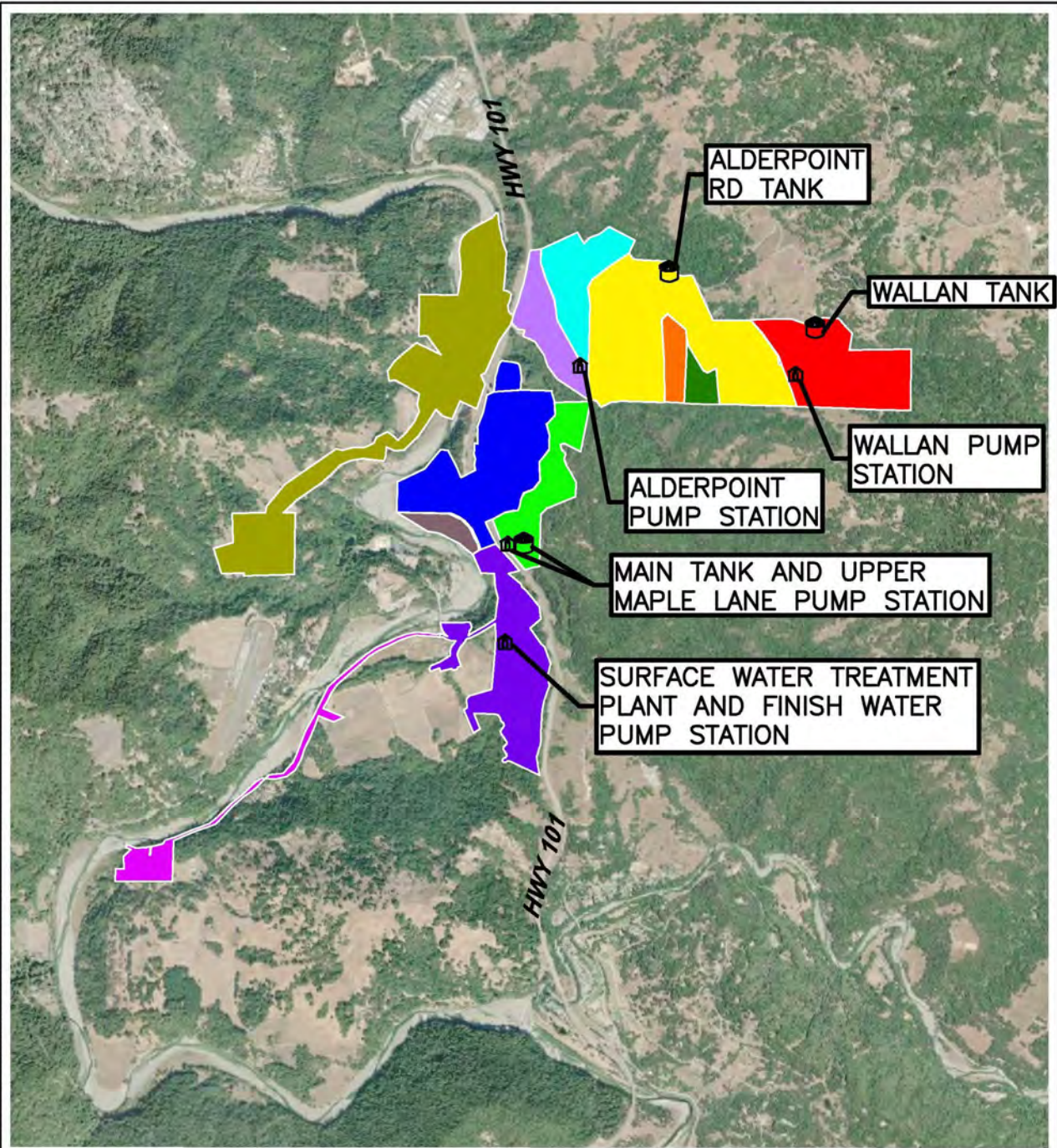
SOURCE: GARBERVILLE USGS 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE



P:\Eureka\2022\022067-CSD-Water\Drawings\FIGURES, SAVED: 8/17/2023 11:48 AM [FOSTER, PLOTTED: 8/17/2023 11:46 AM, JOHN FOSTER

	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California		Site Location Map Existing Features SHN 022067
	August 2023	022067-SITE-LCTN	Figure 1

\\shn-enr.com\shn-ms\p-projects\Eureka\2022\022067-CSD-Water\Drawings\FIGURES_SAVED\3/23/2023 10:06 AM FOSTER, PLOTTED\3/23/2023 1:17 PM JOHN FOSTER



EXPLANATION

	TANK		ZONE 1D		ZONE 4B
	PUMP STATION		ZONE 1E		ZONE 5
	ZONE 1		ZONE 2		
	ZONE 1A		ZONE 3		
	ZONE 1B		ZONE 4		
	ZONE 1C		ZONE 4A		



	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California	Water System Pressure Zone Map SHN 022067
	March 2023	022067-WTR-SYST-PRESS-ZONE

Surrounding Land Uses and Existing Setting

The project is located east of the South Fork Eel River and U.S. Highway 101. The Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by timberlands to the east, the urbanized Garberville downtown to the north, and U.S. Highway 101 to the west and south. The Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses. The Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations sites are developed with the existing Arthur Pump Station and a CALFIRE station respectively and are surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses as well as forested areas. The Robertson Tank site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses as well as forested areas. The Tobin Well site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by single-family residential development.

2.2 Existing Conditions

Overview

The Garberville community is located in northern California, approximately 52 miles south-southeast of Eureka on the south fork of the Eel River and adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 in Humboldt County (Figure 1). Garberville has a population of 818 people according to the 2020 Decennial Census Program estimate.

The District serves the unincorporated town of Garberville and surrounding area with sewer, wastewater, and water services. The District was formed in 1932 for the purpose of providing sanitary sewer services. After purchasing the privately held Garberville Water Company in 2004, the District began providing drinking water to customers in the district. The District owns, operates, maintains, and manages the public drinking water system (CA1210008), which includes two drinking water sources, water treatment facilities, three finished water storage tanks currently in service, multiple pumping stations, and a distribution piping network. The District's service area covers 581 acres, and the water system serves approximately 1,200 people in the Garberville community through approximately 470 service connections. The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has jurisdiction over the District's drinking water system.

Water System Facilities

Sources

South Fork Eel River Infiltration

The South Fork of the Eel River Infiltration Gallery, located at N 19222330 E 6059360 CCS83, serves as the primary water source for the District. Originally installed in 1940, the river intake system consists of perforated pipes that run horizontally below the surface of the riverbed. These pipes feed into a 16-inch-diameter steel and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe casing within a vertically oriented 4-foot-diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) over 40 feet in height, which extends above the 100-year flood level on the east riverbank. Situated within the 16-inch steel casing are two 20-horsepower (HP) variable speed vertical submersible turbine pumps, each with a rated capacity of 350 gallons per minute (gpm) at 153 feet total dynamic head (TDH). The bottom of the pumps sits at an elevation of 289 feet and they discharge to a common 6-inch pipeline that transports raw water to the District's surface water treatment plant (SWTP) on Tooby Ranch Road. The current raw water pumps were installed in 2014 and only one pump operates at a time. A permanent backup generator at the raw water intake can power the pumps during a utility power outage.

Surface water supply capacity for the District is permitted through both a State Water Resources Control Board Right to Divert and Use Water License 3404 (Permit 5487, Application 9686) and Permit 20789 (Application 29981). Together, these allow the District to divert up to 0.75 cubic feet per second (cfs) and, based on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Notification No 1600-2012-0030-R1 (expired but currently being renewed under a Notification submitted to CDFW on November 22, 2023 as Environmental Permit Information Management System number 45945), is further limited to no more than 10% of stream flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) gauge station number 11476500 at Miranda. The total quantity of water permitted to be diverted on an annual basis is ~~542.2~~ 245.5 acre-feet per year.

Tobin Well

The Tobin Well, located at 510 Pine Lane, serves as a backup water source for the District and provides water during periods when the Eel River exhibits high turbidity. In 2014, the District installed a duplex variable speed pump system designed to supply 100 gpm at 173 feet TDH. Level controls vary the pump's output to maintain a preset water surface elevation, based on the recharge capacity of the well. Significant drawdown has been noted in the past. Disinfection of the well water is achieved via 12.5% sodium hypochlorite injection drip dosed of 0.5-1.0 milligrams per liter. This source is used very infrequently, primarily during emergencies, such as in late 2017 when the underground chlorine contact chamber failed at the treatment plant.

Treatment

The District's SWTP is located on Tooby Ranch Road at a finished floor elevation of 388 feet. The SWTP began operating in 2014 to replace the aging water treatment plant that was previously located next to the Hurlbutt finished water storage tank at an elevation of approximately 700 feet. SWTP treatment processes include flocculation, direct filtration, and chlorination, followed by finished water pumping into the distribution system. Polymer is injected as a coagulant and filter aid into the raw water supply pipe upstream of the 5,500-gallon, baffled flocculation tank, which is an 8-foot-diameter, 14-foot-long, horizontal cylindrical pressure tank rated for 150 pounds per square inch, gage.

Downstream of the flocculator are two Loprest 9-foot-diameter vertical pressure filters with 6-foot straight shell length. The filters contain 18 inches of filter sand and 12 inches of anthracite with two grades of media support gravel and include associated piping, valves, controls, and accessories. The filtration system requires periodic backwashing of the filter media with finished water. The spent backwash water is stored in a 35,000-gallon, 18-foot diameter welded steel storage tank. Two backwash recycling pumps draw clearwater from the spent backwash water storage tank and inject it back into the treatment system upstream of the filters. Sediment is periodically pumped from the spent backwash tank and trucked to a disposal site.

After exiting the filters, treated water is disinfected using liquid sodium hypochlorite, which is injected upstream of the chlorine contact chamber. That chamber provides chlorination detention time prior to the water entering the distribution system. Originally, the SWTP was constructed with an underground chlorine contact chamber of 30-inch serpentine pipe. That pipe failed in November 2017 and was replaced in 2018 with an aboveground, 20,000-gallon, steel baffled pressure vessel, which provides disinfection contact time.

Duplex finished water pumps located downstream of the chlorine contact tank operate in series with the raw water pumps and deliver finished water to the distribution system and to the Hurlbutt Tank, which is the main finished water storage tank in the District's water system.

The SWTP has a 60-kilowatt, permanently mounted, diesel generator with a fuel tank capacity that will allow for 72 hours of continuous operation. This generator can power the entire SWTP facility during utility power outages.

Distribution and Storage Facilities

The current distribution system includes three active booster pump stations, three operating finished water storage tanks, and five main pressure zones that supply water to customers throughout the District.

Pressure Zones and Booster Stations

After leaving the treatment plant, finished water is pumped into the distribution system through an 8-inch main that runs up Sprowl Creek Road to the downtown distribution piping network where it also connects to an 8-inch pipe that runs to the Hurlbutt finished water storage tank. The Hurlbutt Tank is located on Assessor's parcel number (APN) 032-211-012 at an elevation of approximately 700 feet. The Hurlbutt Tank supplies water to pressure Zones 1 and 2, which accounts for approximately 85.1% of the District's service connections. The tank gravity feeds Zone 1 connections, including those in the downtown core area and a few subzones at lower elevations, which are fed through pressure reducing valves (PRVs). Two vertical submersible Upper Maple Lane Booster Pumps mounted within the Hurlbutt Tank supply water to Zone 2 customers, which consist of residences on Hillcrest Drive and Maple Lane located at elevations above the Hurlbutt Tank.

Previously, the Oak Street Pump Station pumped water to Zone 2 connections. The corrugated metal pump house for the Oak Street Pump Station is now in very poor condition.

The Hurlbutt Tank also gravity feeds the Arthur Pump Station. Situated at an elevation of 659 feet adjacent to Alderpoint Road near the intersection of Arthur Road, the Arthur Pump Station transfers water to the Alderpoint Tank, sited at a base elevation of 915 feet on the north side of Alderpoint Road. The Alderpoint Tank feeds Zone 3 (through a pressure reducing station) and Zone 4 connections. Zones 3 and 4 account for 13.4% of the District’s water service connections. The Alderpoint Tank also supplies water to the Wallan Pump Station, at an elevation of 866 feet on the south side of Wallan Road. The Wallan Pump Station pumps water up to the Wallan Tank, the highest tank in the system at an elevation of 1,155 feet. The Wallan Tank serves Zone 5 customers, which account for the remaining 1.5% of service connections in the District’s service area.

Table 2 summarizes the five major pressure zones that supply drinking water to service connections throughout the District’s service area. Refer to Figure 2 for a map of the District’s service area and pressure zones.

Table 3 lists the three booster pump stations in service within the District’s distribution system.

Table 2. Pressure Zones and Associated Parameters, Garberville Sanitary District

Pressure Zone	No. of Connections ^a	Elevation Range ^b of Connections (feet)	Portion of Total Water Consumed	Associated Storage Tank	Notes
1	379	Downtown: 497-614; With PRVs: 326-386	80.98%	Hurlbutt	This zone includes all customers that are served by gravity feed from the Hurlbutt Tank, including sub-zones that have PRVs to decrease the pressure. Zone 1 includes sub-zones 1, 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, and 1E.
2	21	666-725	2.74%	Hurlbutt	This zone is supplied water from the vertical pumps and pneumatic tanks at the Hurlbutt Tank and includes the houses along Hillcrest Drive and Upper Maple Lane.
3	20	677-688	3.84%	Alderpoint	This zone includes customers located primarily on Arthur Road. The Robertson Tank supplied this zone until spring 2022 when the District removed the tank from service and installed a pressure reducing valve (PRV) at the intersection of Alderpoint Rd and Arthur Rd so this zone could be served by Alderpoint Tank.
4	43	627-870	8.31%	Alderpoint	This zone includes the majority of the residences on the north side of Bear Canyon, and includes sub-zones 4, 4A, and 4B.
5	7	868-1108	4.13%	Wallan	This is the highest-pressure zone in the system.
Total	470	326 - 1108	100.00%		

- a. Number of connections were tallied based on unique addresses from 2021 usage data.
- b. Elevation ranges are approximated based on Google Earth elevation data for residences in each pressure zone.

Table 3. Existing Distribution System Booster Pump Stations in Operation

Pump Station	Type & No. of Pumps	Number & Duty	Rated capacity (gpm ^a)	Rated TDH ^b (feet)	Station elevation (feet)	Water Transfer Destination
Upper Maple Lane	Vertical turbine submersible	2 x 100%	60	175	703	Zone 2 connections
Arthur	Horizontal end suction	2 x 100%	70	330	659	Alderpoint Tank
Wallan	Horizontal inline	2 x 100%	50	300	866	Wallan Tank

- a. gpm: gallons per minute
b. TDH: total dynamic head

Water Storage Tanks

Storage capacity for the District’s drinking water system is currently provided by three water storage tanks located at varying elevations in the District’s service area. With the exception of Zone 2, all service connections are supplied by gravity feed from the storage tanks. The Hurlbutt Tank is the main and oldest finished water storage tank in operation. The below-ground concrete tank has a capacity of approximately 180,000 gallons. This tank is located adjacent to a private residence owned by the Swaffar/Hurlbutt family, which owned and operated the Garberville Water Company before selling it to the District in 2004. The Alderpoint Tank is a 200,000-gallon capacity welded steel tank installed in 2015. The Wallan tank is a 20,000-gallon redwood tank constructed in 1978. The Wallan Tank is leaking, and the District lowered its operating water surface elevation (WSE) in order to minimize leakage. The District installed a vertical polyethylene tank adjacent to the Wallan Tank to serve as temporary backup until a replacement tank can be installed.

Table 4 provides details for the District’s three in-service water storage tanks.

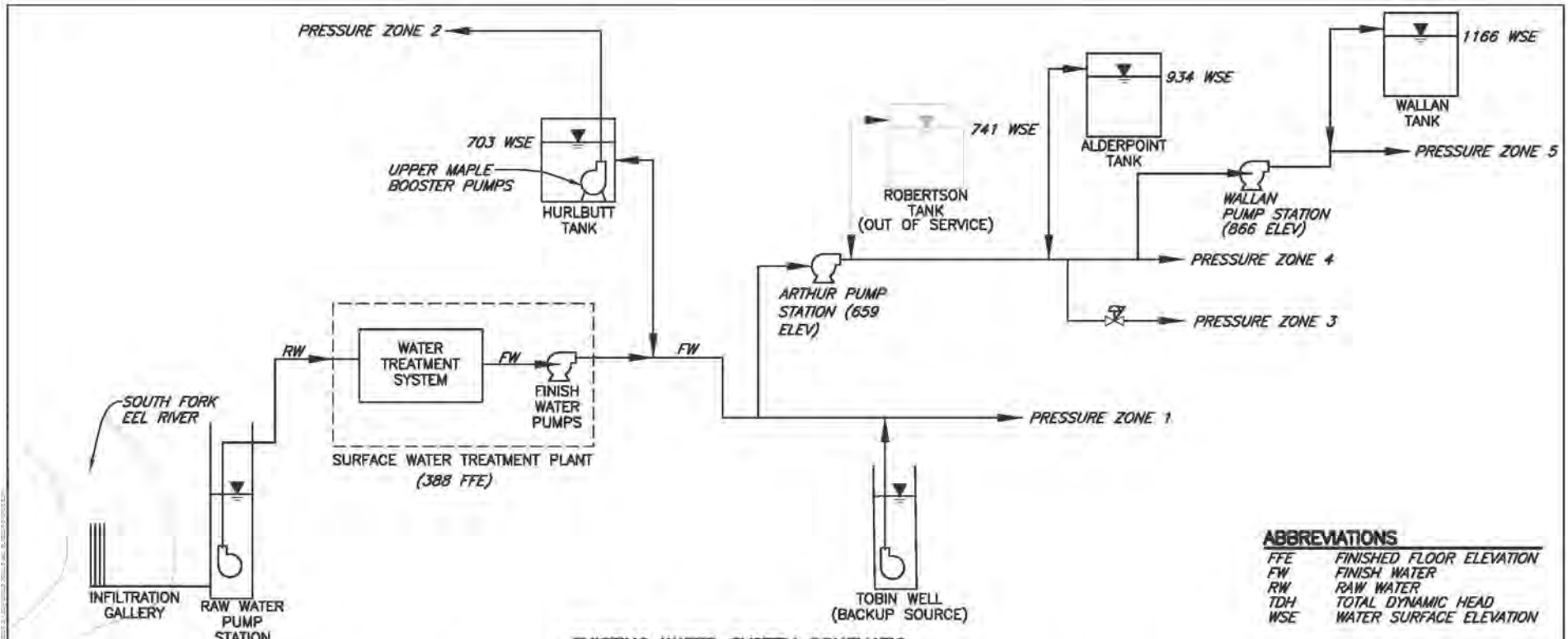
Table 4. Existing Water Storage Tanks Currently in Service

Tank Name	Tank Type	Base Elevation (feet)	Maximum WSE ^a (feet)	Capacity (gallons)	Pressure Zone(s) Served	Comments
Hurlbutt (Main)	In-Ground Concrete	692	703	180,000	1 & 2	Constructed in 1940. Primary storage from treatment plant. All water in the system is stored in this tank prior to being pumped to higher elevation zones.
Alderpoint	Welded Steel	915	934.3	200,000	3 & 4	Installed in 2015. Water for Zone 5 connections passes through this tank before it is transferred to Wallan Tank.
Wallan	Redwood	1,155	1,165.5	20,000	5	Constructed in 1978, operating at reduced water level due to leak. Adjacent poly tank has been installed as temporary backup.
Total Current Storage Tank Capacity				400,000	All	

- a. WSE: water surface elevation

A fourth water storage tank, the Robertson Tank, is a partially buried 50,000-gallon concrete tank installed in 1922 that served pressure Zone 3. The Robertson Tank was taken out of service in February 2022 due to tank failure and slope stability issues adjacent to the tank, and in response to a compliance order from the State Water Resources Control Board. The tank is slated to be demolished as part of the proposed Tanks Replacement Project. The Alderpoint Tank now serves pressure Zone 3 through a PRV. With the Robertson Tank permanently out of service, the District has a total current finished water storage capacity of 400,000 gallons.

Figure 3 provides an overall schematic of the District's water system facilities. In general, records for the distribution piping network are very lacking. Neither a map of the distribution system nor an accurate record of pipe materials, sizes, and conditions exists for the District's distribution system.



ABBREVIATIONS

FFE	FINISHED FLOOR ELEVATION
FW	FINISH WATER
RW	RAW WATER
TDH	TOTAL DYNAMIC HEAD
WSE	WATER SURFACE ELEVATION

EXISTING WATER SYSTEM SCHEMATIC
NTS

RAW WATER PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	SUBMERSIBLE VERTICAL TURBINE
CAPACITY	350 GPM
TDH	153 FEET
DRIVE	VARIABLE SPEED
POWER	20 HP, 480V 3 PHASE

FINISH WATER PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	VERTICAL IN-LINE CENTRIFUGAL
CAPACITY	350 GPM
TDH	332 FEET
DRIVE	VARIABLE SPEED
POWER	50 HP, 480V 3 PHASE

UPPER MAPLE LANE BOOSTER PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	HORIZONTAL INLINE CENTRIFUGAL
CAPACITY	80 GPM
TDH	175 FEET
DRIVE	CONSTANT
POWER	5 HP, 240V 3 PHASE

WALLAN BOOSTER PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	HORIZONTAL INLINE CENTRIFUGAL
CAPACITY	50 GPM
TDH	300 FEET
DRIVE	CONSTANT
POWER	7.5 HP

TOBIN WELL PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	SUBMERSIBLE VERTICAL TURBINE
CAPACITY	100 GPM
TDH	173 FEET
DRIVE	VARIABLE SPEED
POWER	7.5 HP

ARTHUR BOOSTER PUMPS	
QUANTITY	2
TYPE	HORIZONTAL END SUCTION CENTRIFUGAL
CAPACITY	70 GPM
TDH	330 FEET
DRIVE	CONSTANT
POWER	15 HP

HURLBUTT TANK	
TYPE	CONCRETE
SIZE	52' DIA x 11' SWD
CAPACITY	~180,000 GALLON

ALDERPOINT TANK	
TYPE	WELDED STEEL
SIZE	42' DIA x 26' H
CAPACITY	200,000 GALLON

WALLAN TANK	
TYPE	REDWOOD
SIZE	18' DIA x 12' H
CAPACITY	20,000 GALLON

	Garberville Sanitary District Tanks Replacement Project Garberville, California	Existing Water System Schematic SHN 022067
	March 2022	022067-WTR-SYST-SCHEM

Electrical and Controls System

The tank sites in the District’s system communicate to pump stations via radio signal. The Hurlbutt Tank calls for water by sending a signal to the SWTP on Tooby Ranch Road, which in turn signals to the raw water and finish water pumps to turn on. Alderpoint Tank and Wallan Tank similarly communicate via radio to their respective pump stations to turn on/turn off based on pre-set tank water levels.

The water treatment plant has a permanent backup generator, which has the capacity to provide full electrical backup of the treatment plant during utility outages. The raw water pump station also has a permanently installed backup generator. No other pump stations have a stationary backup generator. The District has a single trailer-mounted generator that the operations staff moves from location to location to back up the other pump stations in the system during power outages.

Water Demand and Required Tank Storage

Existing Water Demand

The District provided monthly water usage data for all water system connection from June 2014 through December 2021 for each pressure zone. From this data, average monthly water usage was calculated by zone and for the total system, as shown in Figure 4. The bar colors in Figure 4 represent water consumption by pressure zone, with Zone 1 connections consuming the majority of the District’s water use.

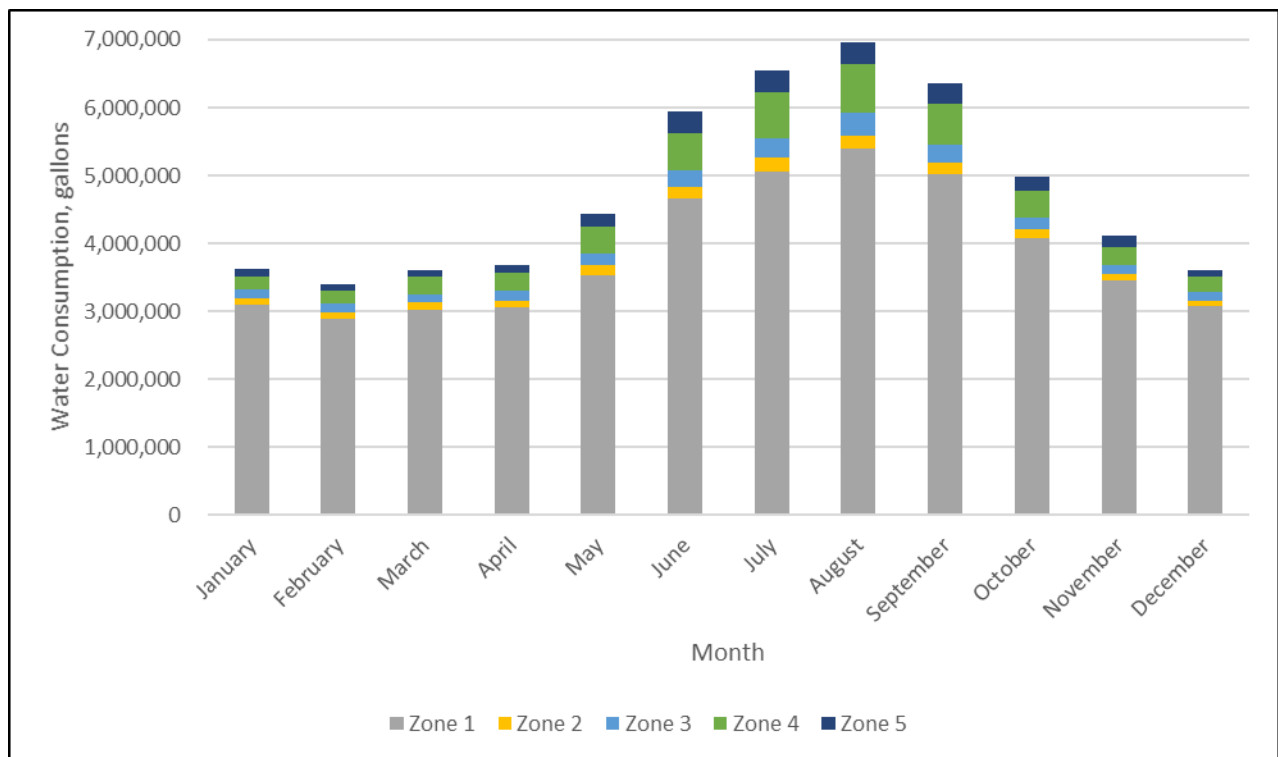


Figure 4. Average Monthly Water Usage, Garberville Sanitary District, 2014-2022.

From the 2014-2021 customer water usage data, maximum month demand was selected for the month of the highest consumption for each pressure zone. Maximum day demand (MDD) was determined using procedures outlined in 22 CCR § 64554, by dividing the maximum monthly usage by number of days in the month and multiplying by a peaking factor of 1.5, the minimum provided in the statute. Table 5 provides the MDD for each of the District’s five pressure zones. The total MDD for all five zones combined is 410,585 gallons.

Table 5. Maximum Day Demand for Each Pressure Zone

Pressure Zone	Maximum Monthly Usage (gallons)	Month of Maximum Usage	Peaking Factor	Maximum Day Demand (gallons)
1	6,056,498	June 2014	1.5	302,825
2	253,867	September 2020	1.5	12,693
3	473,392	August 2017	1.5	22,906
4	962,153	August 2017	1.5	46,556
5	512,092	June 2014	1.5	25,605
Total				410,585

The District does not have any industrial customers. Commercial customers like hotels and restaurants have a significant seasonal variation in their consumption. The District increases the flow rate at the raw water intake and SWTP pumps to increase the treatment flow rate during the summer to accommodate the increased demand.

Fire Water Requirements

Pressure Zone 1 includes mixed commercial and residential connections. Zones 2-5 are residential. For residential zones, the Garberville Fire Department requires 1,500 gpm of fire flow for 2 hours, or 180,000 gallons of storage. For commercial facilities, the Fire Department requires 3,500 gpm for 3 hours, which equates to 630,000 gallons of storage for Zone 1.

Required Water Tank Storage Capacity

To determine necessary water storage capacity, the maximum day demand for all zone service connections served by a tank is added to the estimated fire flow requirement. Because the District does not anticipate an increase in population served, growth projections were excluded from tank sizing. Table 6 shows the total storage demand for the Hurlbutt, Alderpoint, and Wallan tanks, which includes MDD plus fire flow requirements.

Table 6. Tank Sizing based on Maximum Day Demand and Fire Protection Requirements

Tank	Zones Served	Maximum Day Demand (MDD) (gallons)	Fire Protection Requirement (gallons)	Combined Capacity (gallons)	3 x MDD (gallons)
Hurlbutt	1 & 2	315,518	630,000	945,518	946,554
Alderpoint	3 & 4	69,462	180,000	249,462	208,386
Wallan	5	25,605	180,000	205,605	76,815

The existing Alderpoint Tank has 200,000 gallons working storage capacity.

Water System Operations & Maintenance Practices

The District’s water system operations and maintenance (O&M) practices include weekly visual inspections of tank exteriors and periodic preventative pump maintenance, backwash tank cleaning, filter media replacement at the SWTP, solar panel maintenance, and battery replacement. Instrument calibration is performed at fixed intervals. Raw and finished water turbidimeters are calibrated every 3 months; pH, temperature, and chlorine analyzers are calibrated every 6 months. Operations staff also periodically flush the pumps at the Tobin Well.

The District’s maintenance decisions are heavily influenced by available finances, which determine how and when maintenance is completed. Repairs to and replacement of waterlines are generally performed in response to emergencies. Water meters are replaced when they are older and/or broken.

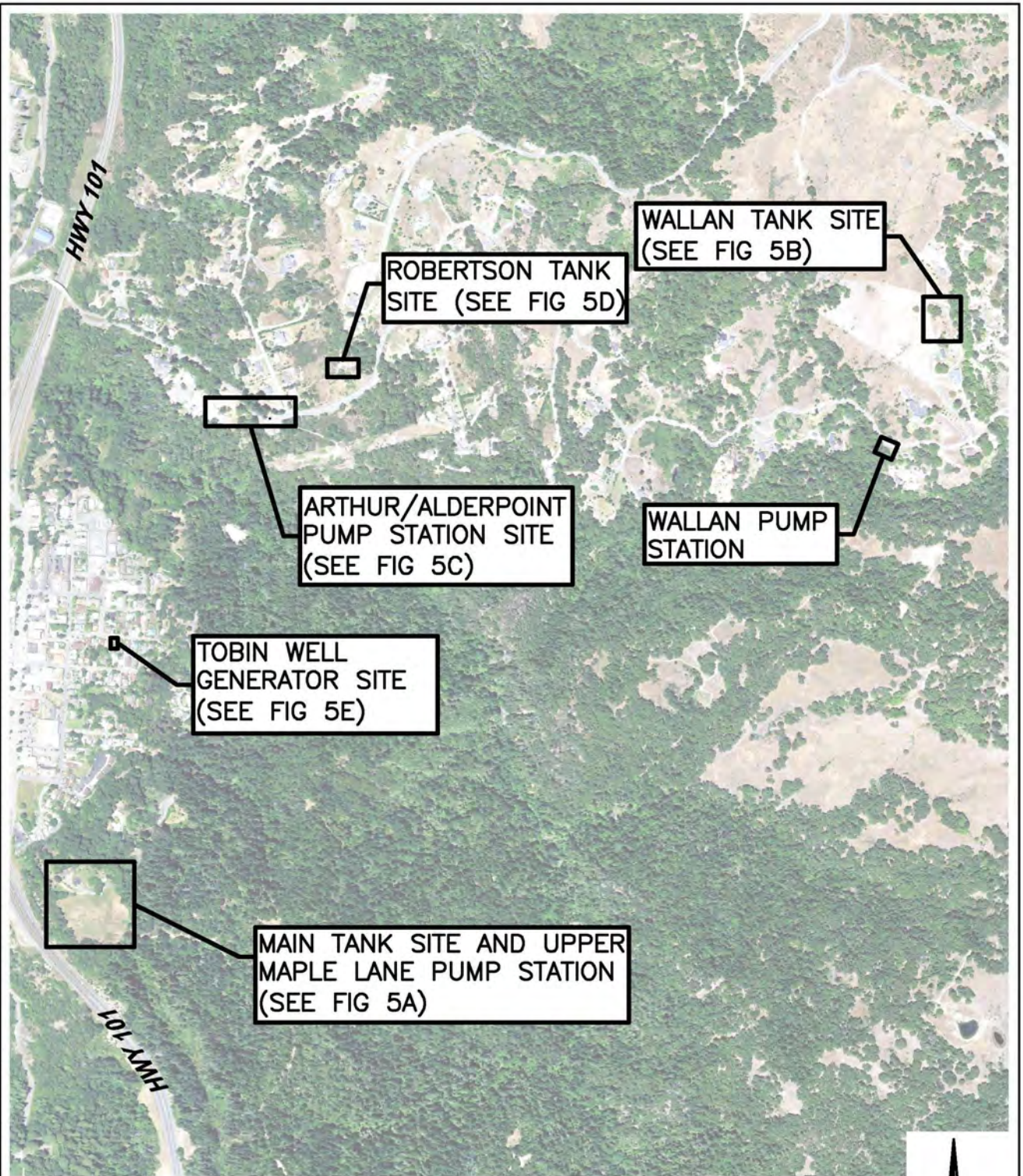
2.3 Proposed Project

Description of Proposed Construction Project

The selected construction project includes the components listed in Table 7 (SHN, 2023a). An overall map of the selected project components is provided in Figure 5. Figures 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, and 5E show specific project components.


Table 7. Proposed Project Components

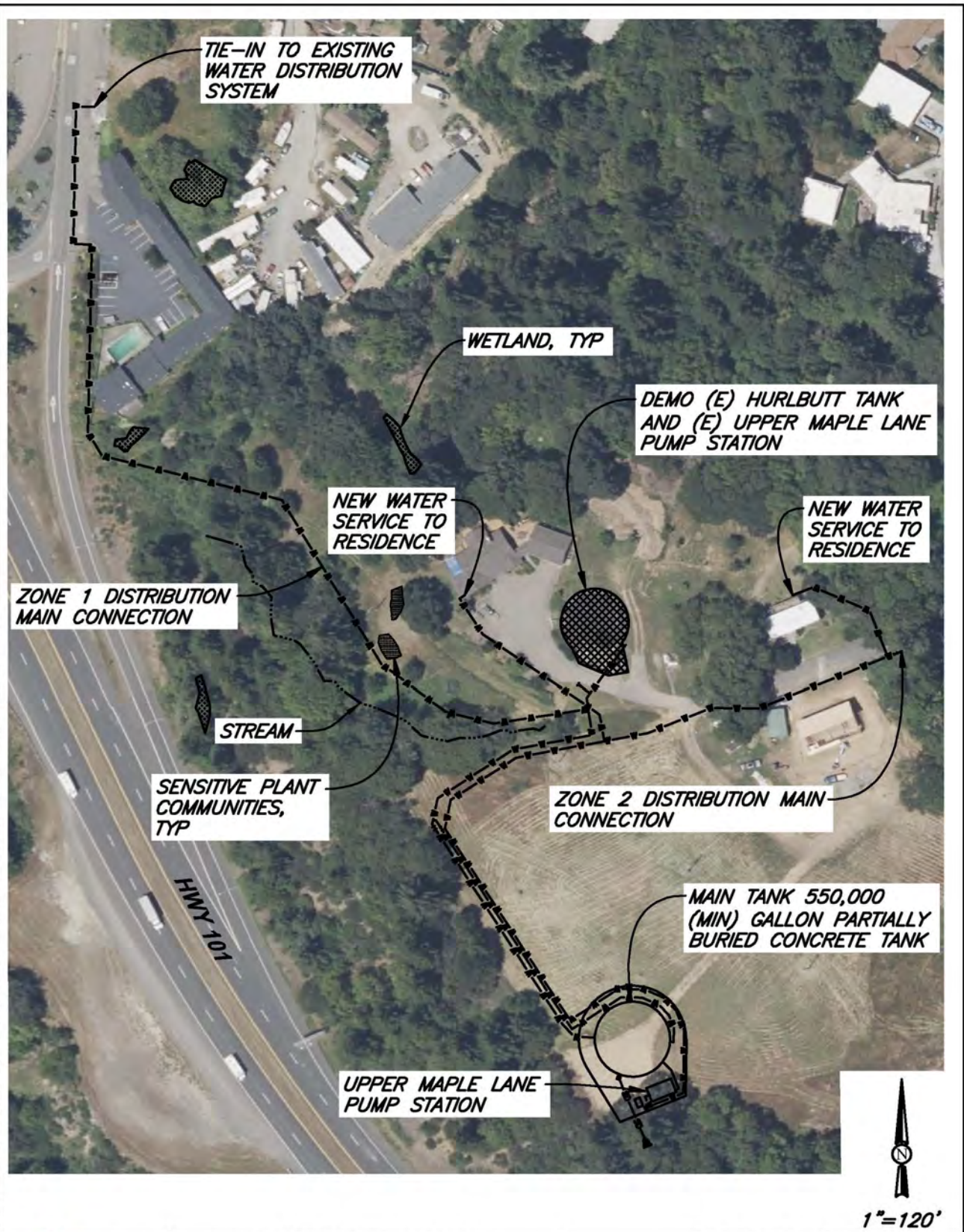
Proposed Project Component	Description
Storage: Main Tank	See Figure 5A. Replace the existing, partially underground, 180,000-gallon, concrete storage tank with new, partially underground, 550,000-gallon (approximate) pre-stressed concrete tank at new site approximately 350 feet south of the existing tank. New tank level instrumentation would be installed. The existing Hurlbutt Tank would be demolished as part of this project component. Also, the installation of the new Main Tank would require the installation of a new segment of Zone 1 water main.
Storage: Wallan Tank	See Figure 5B. Replace the existing 20,000-gallon leaking redwood water storage tank with a new, 77,000-gallon, bolted steel, water storage tank at the same site. A new pressure transducer, floats, and radio tower would be installed. The existing redwood tank would be demolished as part of this project component. Also, the installation of the new Wallan Tank would include the installation of a new segment of water main.
Storage: Robertson Tank	See Figure 5D. Existing retired 50,000-gallon concrete storage tank would be demolished along with electrical components, piping, and other appurtenances. The site would be restored to match adjacent ground surfaces. The demolition of this tank would require that a segment of the distribution main near the tank be routed around the tank to maintain service.
Pumping: Upper Maple Lane Pump Station	See Figure 5A. Replace the existing booster pump station with a new pump station at the new Main Tank site. New pumps would include variable speed drives, upgraded bladder tank(s), new electrical service, new pump control panel, and control building. The existing Upper Maple Lane Pump Station would be demolished as part of this project component. Also, the installation of the new Upper Maple Lane Pump Station would require the installation of a new segment of Zone 2 water main and a new service connection to the nearby residence.
Pumping: Alderpoint Pump Station	See Figure 5C. Replace the existing pump station with a new pump station at a lower elevation. A new building with new electrical service would house new higher capacity variable speed drive pumps, new piping, and new motor control panel. The existing Arthur Pump Station would be demolished. Installation of the new Alderpoint Pump Station would require the installation of a new segment of water main and would modify existing radio antenna and/or install an approximately 40-foot-tall unlit communications tower.
Pumping: Wallan Pump Station	Upgrade the existing pump station in the existing building. Upgrades would include new pumps, new pump control panel, and some limited new piping.
Electrical Upgrades: Standby Generators	Appropriately sized, new, permanent, diesel-powered, backup generators would be installed at the Tobin Well (Figure 5E), the Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, and the Alderpoint Pump Station. A trailer-mounted generator would be provided for the Wallan Pump Station.
Instrumentation and Controls Improvements	New instrumentation would be installed at new tanks and pump stations; programmable logic controllers (PLCs) would be replaced or reused, where possible, for system-wide monitoring and controls at the SWTP; radio telemetry would be provided to communicate tank levels to pump stations.




P:\Eureka\2022\022067-CSD-Water\Drawings\FIGURES, SAVED: 10/4/2023 10:57 AM CNEWELL, PLOTTED: 10/4/2023 10:59 AM, NEWELL, CHRIS

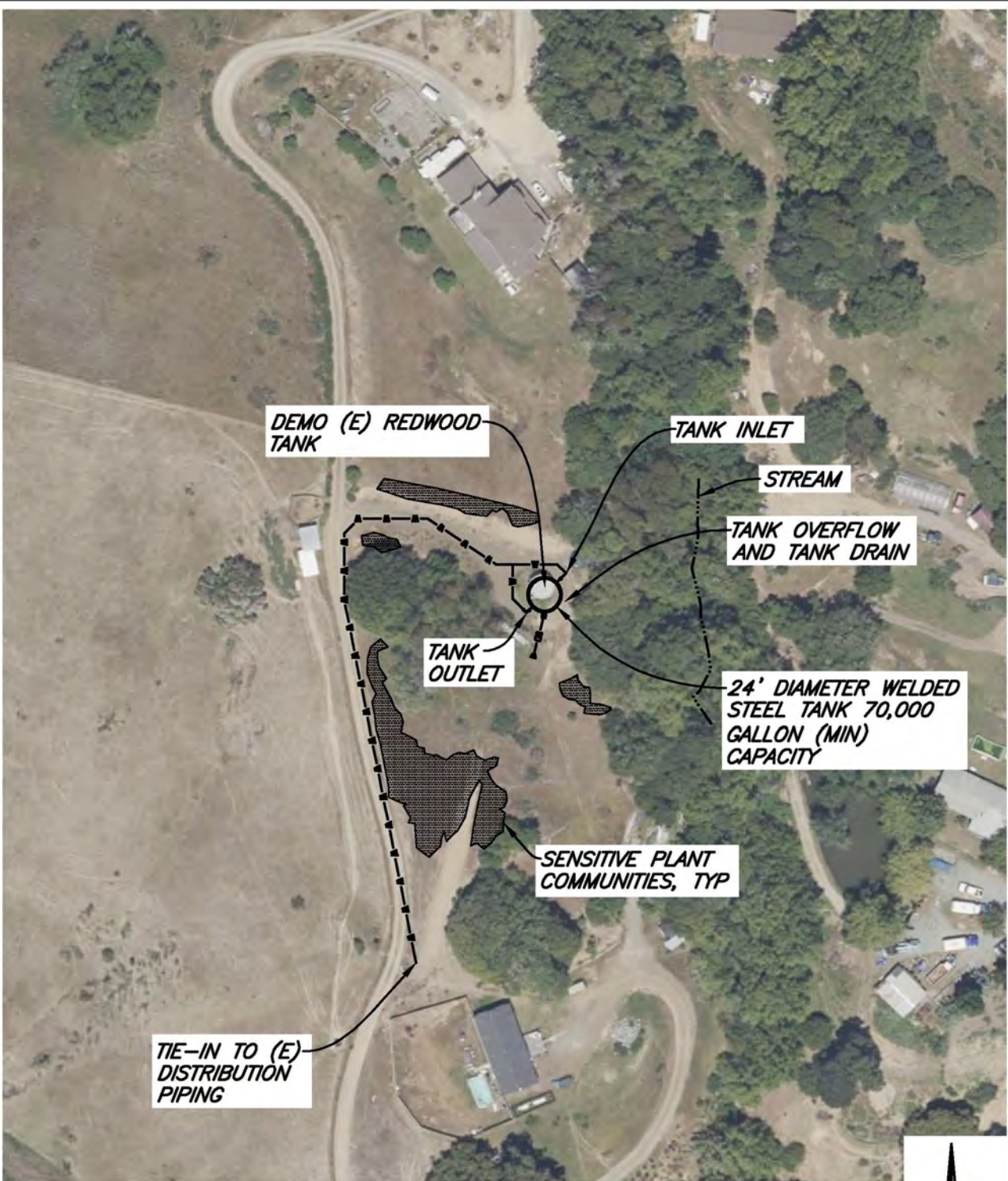


	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California	Project Overview SHN 022067
	October 2023	022067-PROJ-OVER-FIG




F:\Eureka\2022\022067-GSD-Water\Drawgs\FIGURES\SAVED: 10/4/2023 10:57 AM\CNEWELL, PLOTTED: 10/4/2023 11:00 AM, NEWELL, CHRIS

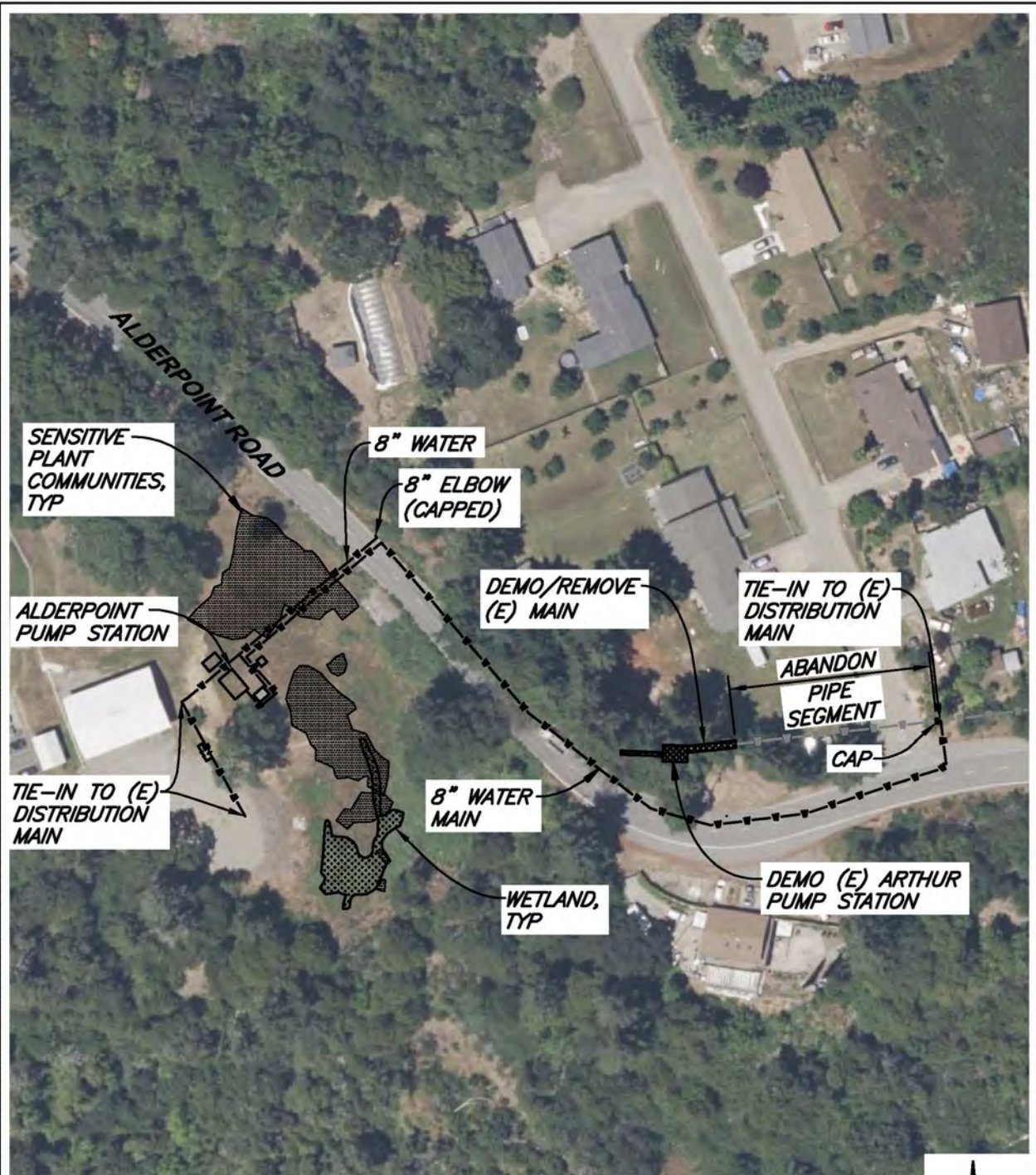
	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California	Main Tank Site & Upper Maple Lane Pump Station SHN 022067
	October 2023	022067-PROJ-OVER-FIG



P:\Eureka\2022\022067-CSD-Water\Draws\FIGURES, SAVED: 10/4/2023 10:57 AM CNEWELL, PLOTTED: 10/4/2023 11:00 AM, NEWELL, CHRIS




	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California	Wallan Tank Site SHN 022067
	October 2023	022067-PROJ-OVER-FIG

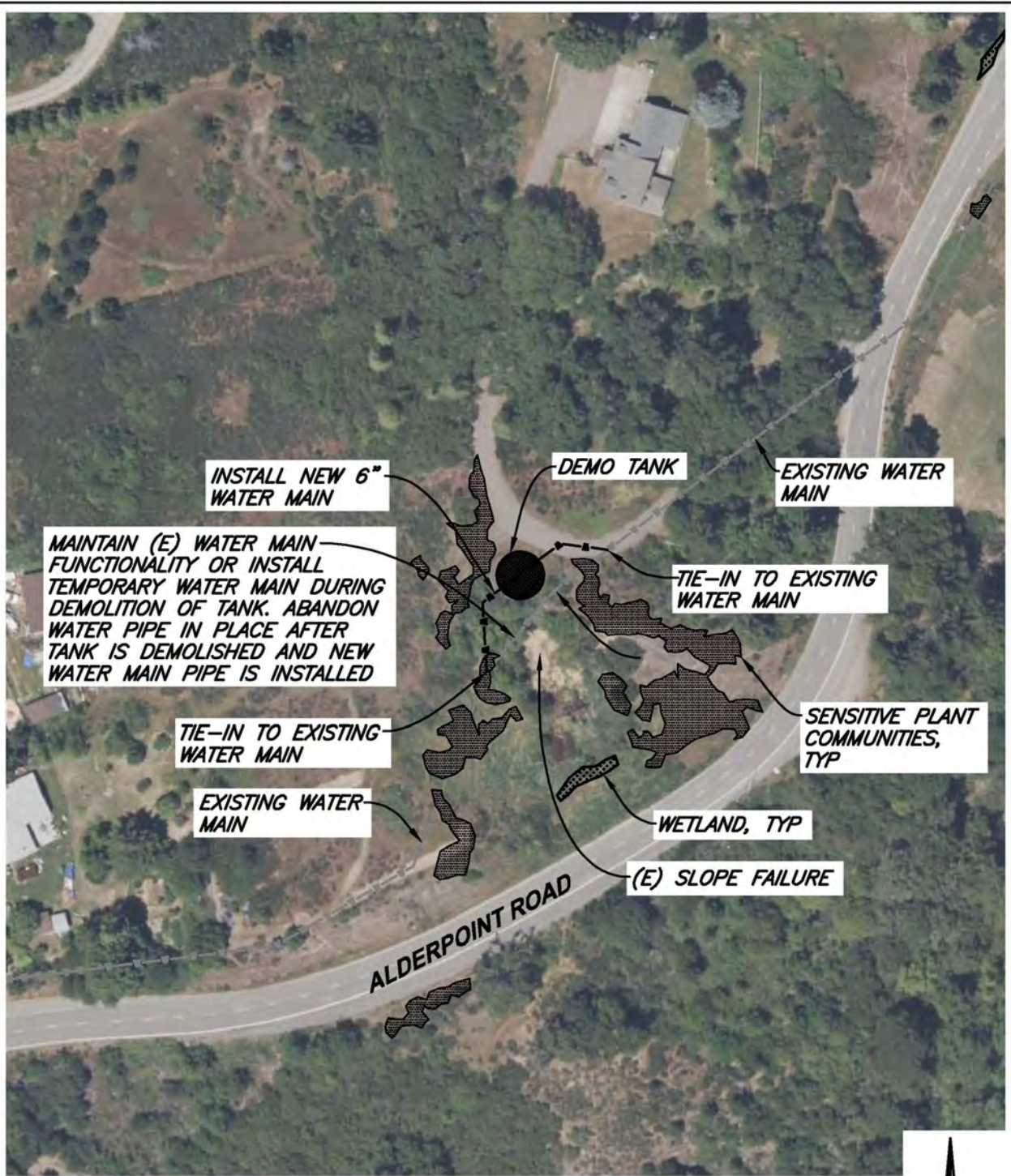


P:\Eureka\2023\022067-CSD-Water\Drawings\FIGURES_SAVED-10/11/2023 9:19 AM\FOSTER_PLOTTED-10/11/2023 9:19 AM.JOHN FOSTER



	Garberville Sanitary District Garberville Water System Improvements Garberville, California	Arthur/ Alderpoint Pump Station Sites SHN 022067
	October 2023	022067-PROJ-OVER-FIG

P:\Eureka\2023\022067-CSD-Water\Drawings\FIGURES_SAVED\10/14/2023 11:01 AM\CNEWELL_PLOTTED: 10/14/2023 11:01 AM_NEWELL_CHRIS



Garberville Sanitary District
 Garberville Water System Improvements
 Garberville, California

October 2023

Robertson Tank Site

SHN 022067

Figure 5D

P:\Eureka\2022\022067-GSD-Water\Drawgs\FIGURES\SAVED_8/17/2023 11:40 AM\FOSTER, PLOTTED:8/17/2023 11:53 AM, JOHN FOSTER



Garberville Sanitary District
Garberville Water System Improvements
Garberville, California

Tobin Well Generator Site
SHN 022067

August 2023

022067-PROJ-OVER-FIG

Figure 5E

Construction Scope of Work for Selected Project

Main Tank

Scope of work at the new Main Tank site includes the following:

- Prepare site and excavate for new partially underground tank.
- Prepare foundation subgrade.
- Construct new prestressed concrete tank.
- Leak test, disinfect, and perform bacteriological testing on tank to prepare for service.
- Install yard piping, overflow, and tank appurtenances.
- Install new 12-inch piping along new access road to Hillcrest Drive, down the slope to U.S. Highway 101 off-ramp and tie to existing line at Redwood Drive.
- Install new 4" piping along new access road and tie to existing line in Hillcrest Drive.
- Backfill excavation.
- Grade site, re-seed disturbed areas, and install screening vegetation.
- Construct new tank access driveway.
- Install security fencing.
- Install level sensing and remote telemetry panel with radio antenna.

Wallan Tank

Scope of work at the new Wallan Tank site includes the following:

- Demolish existing Wallan Tank, foundation, and appurtenances.
- Prepare site for new tank.
- Excavate and construct new tank foundation.
- Construct new bolted steel tank with appurtenances, cathodic protection, and tank coating.
- Leak test, disinfect, and perform bacteriological testing on tank to prepare for service.
- Install yard piping, valves, and overflow/drain outlet.
- Install new piping along access road and tie to existing piping.
- Install security fencing.
- Install new level sensing equipment, and remote telemetry panel with radio antenna.

Upper Maple Lane Pump Station

Scope of work at the new Upper Maple Lane Pump Station at the new Main Tank site includes the following:

- Construct new pump station and controls building.
- Install new pump station and hydropneumatic tanks.
- Install yard piping and valving associated with pump station.
- Install new electrical service and utility meter, stationary standby diesel generator, and automatic transfer switch (ATS).
- Install tank and pump station instrumentation, PLC, motor control panel, building electrical, and remote telemetry panel with radio antenna to communicate with FW pumps at SWTP.

Alderpoint Pump Station

Scope of work for the new Alderpoint Pump Station, which would replace the Arthur Pump Station, at the proposed CALFIRE site includes the following:

- Install new pump station building and building foundation.
- Install new electrical service and utility meter, stationary standby diesel generator, and ATS.
- Install customized duplex pump system with controls.
- Install station piping and valves.
- Install pump station instrumentation and building electrical; modify existing remote telemetry panel; modify existing radio antenna and/or install an approximately 40-foot-tall unlit communications tower. The existing PLC control panel would be reused to control the pump station.
- Install pump station driveway.

Arthur Road Pump Station

Scope of work at the existing Arthur Road Pump Station, which would be replaced by the new Alderpoint Pump Station, includes the following:

- Demolish existing pump station mechanical and electrical equipment.
- Demolish existing building and foundation.
- Cap existing water lines.
- Restore site to match surrounding surface cover and vegetation.

Wallan Pump Station

Scope of work at the existing Wallan Pump Station building includes the following:

- Demolish existing pumps and control panel.
- Install new metal roof, replace siding with fiber cement lap siding, and repaint building exterior.
- Install new pumps.
- Replace limited piping and valves.
- Install pump station instrumentation, pump motor control panel, and building electrical; modify existing remote telemetry panel and radio antenna; reuse existing Allen-Bradley PLC.
- Provide new portable diesel generator.
- Install new manual transfer switch.

Electrical and Control System Upgrades

Generators

In order to increase the reliability of the District's water system, the following generators are proposed to be included with this project. Generators would be sized to provide backup power in the event of electric utility outages. The backup generators are only turned on 1) for emergency use during an emergency power loss, and 2) for regular weekly testing which occurs for 30 minutes/week during daylight hours. The proposed generators are anticipated to be of comparable size or smaller than the existing trailer-mounted generator because the new generators will be sized to meet the pumping requirements of an individual facility rather than being large enough to meet the needs of all the various facilities at which a backup generator is currently used.

- Alderpoint Pump Station Generator—This would be a permanent generator (80 KW) with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)-rated enclosure. The proposed permanent generator would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator that is not in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure.
- Upper Maple Lane Pump Station Generator—This would be a permanent generator (30 KW) with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure. The proposed permanent generator would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator that is not in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure.
- Wallan Pump Station Generator—The existing pump station would be provided with a connection for a temporary (trailer-mounted) generator, a trailer-mounted generator, and a manual transfer switch. The proposed new trailer-mounted generator (25 KW) would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator.
- Tobin Well Generator—The existing well station would be provided a permanent generator with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure. The proposed permanent generator (15 KW) would replace the existing use of an existing trailer-mounted generator that is not in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure.

Controls Upgrades

The new pumps and tanks would be provided with control features that would be able to be integrated into the District's overall control system. Tank levels would typically be communicated via radio telemetry to pump stations.

Distribution System Piping Replacement

New segments of distribution piping would need to be installed in order to connect the new facilities to the existing distribution system:

- Installation of a new transmission pipe to supply water to/from the distribution system and the new Main Tank. This alignment would run along the proposed access road for the new Main Tank, continuing along the western boundary of the site, descending the slope on the east side of the U.S. Highway 101 offramp, and then running along Redwood Drive to tie-in to the distribution system on the southern end of downtown. This alternative alignment is preferred over the existing transmission main alignment because the alignment of the existing transmission main runs cross country through a steep forested area on the north end of the site and passes under residential trailers in the trailer park at the bottom of the hill. The existing alignment is largely inaccessible, making it difficult to detect leaks and make repairs. Depending on the contractor bids and the timing of project funding, a temporary alternative alignment for the transmission main may be necessary. This alternative would run along the proposed access road for the new Main Tank, cross the existing driveway, and tie-in to the existing distribution main near the existing Hurlbutt Tank, which would be demolished.
- Zone 2 main from Upper Maple Lane Booster Pump Station. Install a new section of distribution pipe between the new Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, located at the new Main Tank site, and tie into the existing Zone 2 main in Hillcrest Drive.
- Transmission main around the Robertson Tank. Prior to the demolition of the Robertson Tank, a new segment of water main would need to be installed around the north side of the tank so that water service can be maintained while the tank is being demolished. Routing the segment of water main around the north side of the tank would also set it back further from an existing slope failure on the south side of the tank, which would help to ensure the long-term reliability of the water main in this area.
- Transmission main for new Alderpoint Pump Station. A new segment of water main would be needed to connect the new Alderpoint Pump Station to the distribution system. The alignment for the new main would be routed from the proposed new pump station location at the CALFIRE facility, along Alderpoint Road, and tie-in to the existing main at the intersection of Alderpoint Road and Arthur Road. Pipe routing would be finalized during the engineering design phase.
- New transmission main to/from the Wallan Tank site. A new segment of transmission main is proposed to be installed along the alignment of the driveway that leads up to the tank to replace the 50-year-old existing tank supply pipe that has minimal to no cover.

Installation of new distribution piping shall include the following:

- Clearing and grubbing
- Trench preparation and backfill
- Pipe installation with tracer wire and warning tape
- Reconnection of impacted services and hydrants
- Addition of air release and blow off valves where appropriate
- Surface restoration

Demolition of Tank Sites

Hurlbutt Tank Site Demolition

Scope of work at the existing Hurlbutt Tank site includes:

- Demolish roofing and appurtenances
- Demolish existing Hurlbutt Tank walls to 3 feet below grade; drill holes through tank foundation to provide for drainage and backfill with drain rock to 3 feet below finish grade.
- Demolish all surrounding concrete flatwork.
- Remove a select portion of the buried yard piping.
- Remove existing Upper Maple Lane Pump Station and pump controls and panels.
- Demolish fence, shed, piping, equipment, and electrical service.
- Backfill with excavation spoils from the new Main Tank in the lower sections and topsoil for the upper 2 feet, regrade, and restore site with vegetation to match surrounding area.

Robertson Tank Site Demolition

Robertson Tank site demolition shall include the following:

- Demolish roofing and appurtenances.

- Remove tank concrete walls to 3 feet below grade; drill holes through remaining tank floor to allow for drainage.
- Dispose of tank roof, concrete (lead/asbestos testing for materials).
- Backfill with drain rock and/or spoils from construction.
- Restore site and vegetation to match surrounding area.

Construction Equipment and Access

Equipment for construction of the project would include cranes, excavators, backhoes, loaders, small skid-steer loaders, flatbed semi-trucks, dump trucks, hydraulic lifts, personnel transport vehicles, service trucks, cement trucks, compaction equipment, and paving equipment. Construction access for the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site would be from Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, Redwood Drive, and the private driveway serving that property. Construction access for the Wallan Tank site and Wallan Pump Station site would be from Wallan Road and the private driveway serving that property. Construction access for the Arthur and Alderpoint Pump Station sites would be from Alderpoint Road and Arthur Road as well as from CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station. Construction access for the Robertson Tank site would be from Alderpoint Road and the private driveway serving the tank. Construction access for delivering the backup generator at the Tobin Well site would be from Pine Lane.

Land Requirements

New or modified easements and/or property acquisition would be required at the following sites:

- New Main Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station—The District currently owns the parcel where the existing Hurlbutt Tank is located, so the transfer of ownership and easements associated with replacing the Hurlbutt Tank with the new Main Tank would need to be coordinated between the District and the landowner. The parcel for the existing Hurlbutt Tank would be swapped for a similar parcel at the new Main Tank location.
- New Main Tank Distribution Main—With the installation of the transmission main alignment that encroaches into the Caltrans right of way, new easements and Caltrans approval would be required for the new distribution piping from the Main Tank and down to the shoulder of the U.S. Highway 101 offramp to tie-in to the existing distribution system. Replacement of the water main in areas where there is already existing infrastructure, such as in the downtown area, is not expected to require additional easements, just an encroachment permit from the County.
- New Alderpoint Pump Station and Distribution Main—New easements would be required for the new pump station at the CALFIRE site and an encroachment permit from the County for the new segment of distribution main along Alderpoint Road.

Timing of Construction

The District plans to construct the proposed project as soon as the applicable authorizations are approved. Construction activities are anticipated to occur over approximately 19 months in 2024 and 2025 and would occur between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, with no work on holidays.

Best Management Practices and Avoidance and Minimization Measures

The following construction best management practices (BMPs) and avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented during project construction:

- Limit ground disturbance and vegetation clearing to the minimal extent necessary to accomplish project goals.
- If rainfall is forecasted during the time construction activities are being performed, all onsite stockpiles of soil, gravel, and construction debris shall be covered and secured before the onset of precipitation.
- Stabilize exposed soils at the end of the job, using mulch or other erosion control measures.
- All trash shall be removed from the work site and disposed of on a regular basis.
- All spoils and construction debris will be hauled offsite and disposed of at an appropriately permitted upland disposal facility (landfill or recycling plant).

- All equipment used during construction shall be free of oil and fuel leaks at all times.
- All equipment fueling shall be performed more than 100 feet from any wetlands. BMPs for leak protection and fuel handling/storage shall be maintained.
- Hazardous materials management equipment, including oil containment booms and absorbent pads shall be available and immediately on hand at the project site. A registered first-response, professional, hazardous materials clean-up/remediation service shall be locally available on call. Any accidental spill shall be contained rapidly and cleaned up. In the event of a spill, GSD shall notify the appropriate regulatory agencies immediately.
- To minimize wildlife entanglement and plastic debris pollution, any temporary rolled erosion or sediment control products used (such as fiber rolls, erosion control blankets, and mulch control netting) shall either be netting-free, or shall contain plastic-free biodegradable natural-fiber netting (such as jute, sisal, or coir fiber). Degradable plastic netting is not an acceptable alternative. When no longer required, temporary erosion and sediment control products shall be promptly removed.
- To avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, one of the following shall be implemented:
 - Conduct vegetation removal and other ground-disturbance activities associated with any construction activities between September and mid-March, when birds are not typically nesting, or
 - If vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activity is to take place during the nesting season (March 15 to August 31 for most birds), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey. Pre-construction surveys for nesting pairs, nests, and eggs shall occur within the construction limits and within 100 feet (200 feet for raptors) of the construction limits. If active nests are encountered, species-specific measures shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in consultation with the USFWS and CDFW and implemented to prevent abandonment of the active nest.
- Where project construction activities occur within close proximity (50 feet) to special-status resources, these resources shall be demarcated by high-visibility construction fencing or flagging during the project construction period in a manner sufficient to avoid unintentional impacts.
- Fully implement all conditions of approval required by permit terms.

Water Efficiency

- Water Loss Reduction
 - Tank Replacement—This project would replace the existing in-ground concrete finished water storage tank (Hurlbutt/Main Tank) and the existing redwood drinking water storage tank (Wallan Tank). Both of these existing tanks are significantly leaking, which results in water losses in the distribution system and additional diversions of water from the South Fork of the Eel River. By replacing these tanks with new tanks, the water losses associated with leaking tanks would be eliminated from the system and would leave more water in the river.
 - Distribution System Upgrades—This project would replace a portion of the existing water distribution piping in the system. The existing distribution piping is nearing the end of its useful life and has experienced breaks and leaks. By replacing the aged distribution piping, water losses associated with leaks and water main breaks would be significantly reduced in areas where new distribution piping is installed and would eliminate the additional diversion of water from the river associated with these leaks.
- Reduced Demand for Raw Water— The South Fork of the Eel River contains protected salmonid species and is a wild and scenic river. By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the water storage tanks and distribution piping, the demand for raw water from the river would be reduced, since less water would be wasted through leaks and breaks in the system.

Energy Efficiency

- Reduced Treatment Requirements—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described above, the demand on the water treatment plant would be reduced because less treated water would be wasted

through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with operating the surface water treatment plant.

- **Reduced Pumping Efforts**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described above, the demand on the pumping systems would be reduced because less treated water would be wasted through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with pumping raw and treated water.
- **Energy Efficient Infrastructure**—The new pump stations and pump station modifications associated with this project are expected to result in less energy consumption because they would include equipment that is more energy efficient, such as modern pumps with variable frequency drives.

Adaptative Measures for Climate Change

The recommended project includes the following adaptive measures in response to climate change vulnerabilities:

- All new tanks for the project would be constructed of steel and concrete with no wood materials.
- The new Alderpoint Pump Station would be constructed of fire-resistant materials.
- As part of the construction project, as much clearing and grubbing would be completed around any new pump station structures.
- The increased storage capacity provided by the new tanks would improve firefighting capacity and also improve availability of water for the community during times of drought.
- The project would replace segments of the distribution system with new pipe that would be in better condition than the existing pipe; this would reduce the amount of water that is lost to leaks in the distribution system and generally conserve water, which is particularly important during times of drought.
- The District participates in the Enersponse demand response program.

Operations

The proposed project would alter the location of and improve GSD's water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations nor increase the water service area, water withdrawals, or water entitlements.

SECTION 3.0

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

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

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project COULD have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project COULD have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Printed name

Garberville Sanitary District

For

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (for example, the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (for example, the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take into account the whole action involved, including offsite as well as onsite, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, Less Than Significant with mitigation, or less-than-significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less-than-significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less-than-significant level (mitigation measures from Section 21, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addresses. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyze in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,”: describe the mitigation measures which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (for example, general plan, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats, however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue identifies:
 - a) The significant criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less-than-significant.

I. AESTHETICS: <i>Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			X	
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?		X		

Setting: The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District in the unincorporated community of Garberville. The project is located in several separate areas in and around the town of Garberville:

- the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5A),
- the Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5B),
- the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site and (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5C),
- the Robertson Tank site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5D), and
- the Tobin Well site (Figures 1, 5, 5E).

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project components, Assessor’s parcel numbers, and parcel zoning and land use designations are shown in Table 1. Regarding operations, the proposed project would alter the location of some of GSD’s water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations. The total project footprint is approximately seven acres in size.

The existing visual character of the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5A) and its surroundings primarily include an existing 180,000-gallon below-ground concrete finished water storage tank with wooden roof that was installed in 1940, rural residential development, pasture, and forested surroundings. The site is not visible from public vantagepoints, although some of the associated water distribution main to be constructed along Redwood Drive would be visible during construction.

The existing character of the Wallan Tank site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5B) and its surroundings primarily include an existing 20,000-gallon redwood tank that was built in 1978, a temporary polyethylene tank adjacent to the main tank, rural residential development, pastures, and a forested drainage to the east. The Wallan Tank site has little to no visibility from Wallan Road.

The existing character of the Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5B) and its surroundings primarily include an existing approximately 96-square-foot pump station building constructed in 1978 of concrete masonry units with wood frame construction adjacent to Wallan Road, rural residential development, pastures, and forested areas.

The existing character of the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site and (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5C) and its surroundings primarily include the existing approximately 96-square-foot Arthur Pump Station building constructed in 1978 of wood frame

construction near the corner of Arthur Road and Alderpoint Road, rural residential development, and forested areas. The site of the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station is on a parcel developed with CALFIRE's Northern Region Garberville Station and visible from Alderpoint Road.

The existing character of the Robertson Tank site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5D) and its surroundings primarily include the existing, partially buried 50,000-gallon concrete tank with a wooden roof that was installed in 1922 and was taken out of service in February 2022 due to tank failure and slope stability issues adjacent to the tank, rural residential development, pastures, and forested areas.

The existing Tobin Well site is located in the downtown Garberville area and the surrounding parcels are developed with single-family residential uses. The Tobin Well site is currently developed District water system infrastructure including a well pump house (Figures 1, 5, 5E).

Lighting at the District's existing surface water treatment plant includes exterior building lighting at each door that is shielded to minimize light spillover onto adjacent properties and streets or upward into the night sky. The existing pump stations have interior lighting but no exterior lighting. The existing tanks have no lighting.

There are no designated scenic vistas in the project vicinity. Additionally, there are no designated state scenic highways in the project vicinity (Caltrans, 2023).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

For this analysis, a "scenic vista" is considered a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a scenic resource. The Scenic Resources section (Chapter 10.7) of the Humboldt County General Plan (Humboldt County, 2017) includes the following when discussing scenic resources: forests, open space, agricultural lands, scenic roads, rivers, and various features associated with the coastline.

There are no scenic vistas immediately surrounding the project sites; however, some of the project sites are visible from public roadways, including some of the proposed distribution water main alignment to be constructed between the Main Tank site and the downtown Garberville area, the Wallan Pump Station, some of the proposed water main alignment to be constructed by Wallan Tank, the existing Arthur Road Pump Station, the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station and associated water main, the Robertson Tank site, and the Tobin Well site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5A-5E). In some of these sites, existing vegetation and surrounding development partially screen the project site from a person viewing it from public roadways. Existing visual barriers would not be substantially impacted by the project. The project would not have substantial impacts to forests, open space, agricultural lands, scenic roads, rivers, or coastal features.

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. Therefore, the proposed project would result a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) *Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?* No Impact

California's Scenic Highway Program was created by the State Legislature in 1963. The project site is located directly adjacent to U.S. Highway 101. U.S. Highway 101 is listed as an eligible State scenic highway but is not officially designated. The project would not affect any trees, rock outcroppings, historic buildings, or other identified scenic resources that would be visible from a scenic highway (Caltrans, 2023).

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

c) *In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in*

an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?
Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project is located within non-urbanized and urbanized areas. Some of the project sites are visible from public roadways, including some of the proposed distribution water main alignment to be constructed between the Main Tank site and the downtown Garberville area, the Wallan Pump Station, some of the proposed water main alignment to be constructed by Wallan Tank, the existing Arthur Road Pump Station, the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station and associated water main, the Robertson Tank site, and the Tobin Well site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5A-5E). In some of these sites existing vegetation and surrounding development partially screen the project site from a person viewing it from public roadways.

Construction

During the construction activities for the proposed water system improvements, views of the project sites would include construction equipment, graded surfaces and stockpiles, staging areas, and truck traffic. Public views of the proposed construction sites are described above in subsection a) and are mostly from Redwood Drive, Alderpoint Road, and Wallan Road. Public views of other proposed construction sites are limited or absent.

Construction is anticipated to occur over 19 months and would be a short-term impact consistent with other construction activity in the County. Considering that the project sites are currently developed with existing District water system infrastructure and with CALFIRE's Northern Region Garberville Station, it is not anticipated that the proposed construction activity would substantially degrade the visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings.

Operation

Following construction, the only changes in visual character due to the project would be from minor temporary vegetation impacts due to construction and the construction of the new water storage tanks, pump stations, and associated appurtenances, some of which would be visible from public roadways. Due to the existing visual character of the surrounding land uses, public views, and the nature of the project, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. The project does not conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality.

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings, or conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*
Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Light pollution occurs when nighttime views are diminished by an over-abundance of ambient light. Proper light design and orientation, and landscaping are commonly used to reduce light pollution generated from lighting by blocking the distribution of light toward unintended areas. As discussed in the Setting, the District's existing water tanks and pump stations have no exterior lighting.

Construction

Project construction activities would only occur during daytime hours (between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.). As such, construction of the proposed project would not introduce any source of nighttime lighting or glare.

Operation

The proposed pump stations would have exterior security lighting. Lighting is not proposed at the proposed water tanks. To prevent a potentially significant impact (new source of substantial light which could adversely affect nighttime views in the area), **Mitigation Measure AES-1** will be implemented. **Mitigation Measure AES-1** requires that all new outdoor lighting fixtures shall comply with the International Dark-Sky Association's (IDA) requirements for reducing waste of ambient light (be "dark sky compliant"). This includes, but is not limited to, requirements for acceptable fixture types and maximum color temperature. Compliance with IDA recommendations for the proposed

security lighting will significantly reduce lighting spillover on adjacent residential properties and natural areas. The IDA recommendations can be found on their website at the following address: <https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-for-citizens/lighting-basics/> (IDA, 2023).

With the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure AES-1**, the project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this category of environmental effect.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact on *Aesthetics*, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

Mitigation Measure AES-1 (International Dark-Sky Association Compliance): All new outdoor lighting fixtures shall comply with the International Dark-Sky Association's (IDA) requirements for reducing waste of ambient light (that is, shall be "dark sky compliant"). This includes, but is not limited to, requirements for acceptable fixture types and maximum color temperature. The IDA recommendations can be found on their website at the following address: <https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-for-citizens/lighting-basics/>.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES: <i>In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural, Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Mode (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?			X	
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?			X	
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g), timberland (as defined by PRC section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?			X	

Setting: The project is located within the unincorporated community of Garberville. See Table 1 for zoning of the project areas, which includes Residential Suburban and Agriculture Exclusive. The Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by timberlands to the east, the urbanized Garberville downtown to the north, and U.S. Highway 101 to the west and south. The Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses. The Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations sites are developed with the existing Arthur Pump Station and a CALFIRE station respectively and are surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses as well as forested areas. The Robertson Tank site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses as well as forested areas. The Tobin Well site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by single-family residential development.

The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Department of Conservation (DOC) has not yet mapped farmland in Humboldt County (DOC, 2023a). However, the underlying soils in the study areas have the USDA-NRCS soil map unit designations of 311- Urban land-Garberville complex, 5 to 15% slopes; 461-Tannin-Burgsblock-Rockyglen complex, 30 to 50% slopes; the 667—Dryfield-Yorknorth-Witherell complex, 5 to 30% slopes; and the 673-Coolyork-Yorknorth Complex, 30 to 50% slopes, which are not classified as “prime farmland” (NRCS, 2023).

The site is not subject to a Williamson Act or Timberland Production contract (Humboldt County, 2023).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

Appendix G to the CEQA Guidelines suggests a finding of significance if a project would convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps for the FMMP by the DOC, to non-agricultural uses. The FMMP of the DOC has not yet mapped farmland in Humboldt County (DOC, 2023a). However, the underlying soils in the study areas have the USDA-NRCS soil map unit designations of 311- Urban land-Garberville complex, 5 to 15% slopes; 461-Tannin-Burgsblock-Rockyglen complex, 30 to 50% slopes; the 667—

Dryfield-Yorknorth-Witherell complex, 5 to 30% slopes; and the 673-Coolyork-Yorknorth Complex, 30 to 50% slopes, which are not classified as “prime farmland” (NRCS, 2023).

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

See Table 1 for zoning of the project areas, which includes Agriculture Exclusive (AE), Residential Suburban (RS), and Residential One Family (R-1). Per Humboldt County Code Section 314-58.1 (Public Uses), “Public uses as defined in this Code, shall be permitted in any zone without the necessity of first obtaining a Use Permit. However, the locations of proposed public uses shall be submitted to the Planning Commission for recommendation at least thirty (30) days prior to the acquisition of sites or rights-of-way for the public use.” The project would require a general plan conformance review to ensure zoning/general plan consistency and the locations of proposed public uses would be submitted to the County as part of that process.

None of the parcels are subject to a Williamson Act contract (Humboldt County, 2023).

For the reasons explained above, the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act Contract. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

c) *Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g), timberland (as defined by PRC section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?* No Impact

The project site does not contain forestry or timberland resources and is not zoned for Timberland Production. The project sites are developed with rural residential uses, a CALFIRE station, and existing District water system infrastructure.

The proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) section 12220(g), timberland (as defined by PRC section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)). Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

d) *Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?* No Impact

Portions of the project parcels contain forested areas, and some trees would be removed during project construction. However, the condition of the project sites and immediate surroundings (for example, agricultural and residential areas and existing District water infrastructure) is not typical of forest land and is not suitable for timber production. As such, the development of the project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

e) *Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project would not produce significant growth-inducing or cumulative impacts that would result in the conversion of farmland or forest land. Growth-inducing impacts are generally caused by projects that have a direct or indirect effect on economic growth, population growth, or land development. The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. However, the project would not increase the water service area, water withdrawals, or water entitlements. There are farmlands adjacent to the project; however, there is no reason to believe that upgrading the community’s water storage and conveyance infrastructure would result in the conversion of farmland or forest land in the project

area to other unrelated uses. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures require implementation for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Agriculture and Forestry Resources*.

III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significant criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?		X		
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X	
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?		X		
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

Setting: Garberville is located in the North Coast Air Basin (NCAB), which extends for 250 miles from Sonoma County in the south to the Oregon border. The climate of the NCAB is influenced by two major topographic units: the Klamath Mountains and the Coast Range provinces. The climate is moderate with the predominant weather factor being moist air masses from the ocean. Predominant wind direction is typically from the northwest during summer months and from the southwest during winter storm events.

Sensitive receptors (for example, children, senior citizens, and acutely or chronically ill people) are more susceptible to the effect of air pollution than the general population. Land uses that are considered sensitive receptors typically include residences, schools, parks, childcare centers, hospitals, convalescent homes, and retirement homes. The nearest known potential sensitive receptors to the project site are the residences in close proximity to the project. At the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figure 5A), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 50 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Tank Site (Figure 5B), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 60 feet from the proposed tie-in to existing distribution piping. At the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Station site (Figure 5C), the nearest sensitive receptors are two residences located approximately 50 feet from the existing Arthur Pump Station to be demolished and the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station to be constructed. At the Robertson Tank site (Figure 5D), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 250 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Pump Station site (Figure 5), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 200 feet from the existing booster pump station. At the Tobin Well site (Figure 5E), the nearest sensitive receptors are the surrounding residences (directly adjacent). The nearest schools to the project are Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool, which are located approximately two miles northwest of the project.

Regulatory Framework: Activities affecting air quality in Humboldt County are subject to the authority of the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The NCUAQMD is a regional environmental regulatory agency which has jurisdiction over Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties in Northern California. The NCUAQMD is listed as "attainment" or "unclassified" for all the federal and state ambient air quality standards with the exception of the state 24-hour particulate (PM10) standard in Humboldt County only (CARB, 2018, 2019a). In 1995, the NCUAQMD prepared a Draft Particulate Matter (PM10) Attainment Plan to identify the primary sources of PM10 in the District and recommend control measures (NCUAQMD, 1995). In the Draft Plan, the largest source of particulate matter is fugitive dust emissions from vehicular traffic on unpaved roads.

Criteria Air Pollutants: Regulated air pollutants are known as criteria air pollutants. Criteria air pollutants are regulated by the NCUAQMD, CARB, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Exposure to criteria air pollutants can cause myriad adverse health effects in humans. Human health effects of criteria air pollutants are summarized below in Table 8.

Table 8. Summary of Criteria Air Pollutants

Criteria Air Pollutant	Major Sources	Human Health Effects
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	An odorless, colorless gas formed when carbon in fuel is not burned completely; a component of motor vehicle exhaust (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).	Reduces the ability of blood to deliver oxygen to vital tissues, affecting the cardiovascular and nervous system. Impairs vision, causes dizziness, and can lead to unconsciousness or death (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	A reddish-brown gas formed during fuel combustion for motor vehicles and industrial sources. Sources include motor vehicles, electric utilities, and other sources that burn fuel (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).	A respiratory irritant; aggravates lung and heart problems. A precursor to ozone. Contributes to global warming and nutrient overloading, which deteriorates water quality. Causes brown discoloration of the atmosphere (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).
Ozone (O ₃)	A colorless or bluish gas (smog) formed by a chemical reaction between reactive organic gases (ROGs) and nitrous oxides (NO _x) in the presence of sunlight. Common sources of these precursor pollutants include motor vehicle exhaust, industrial emissions, gasoline storage and transport, solvents, paints, and landfills (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).	Irritates and causes inflammation of the mucous membranes and lung airways; causes wheezing, coughing, and pain when inhaling deeply; decreases lung capacity; aggravates lung and heart problems. Damages plants; reduces crop yield (CAPCOA, 2011, 2020a).
Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5})	Produced by power plants, chemical plants, unpaved roads and parking lots, wood-burning stoves and fireplaces, automobiles, and others (CAPCOA, 2011).	Increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing, or difficulty breathing; asthma; chronic bronchitis; irregular heartbeat; non-fatal heart attacks; and premature death in people with heart or lung disease. Impairs visibility (CAPCOA, 2011).
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	A colorless gas formed when fuel containing sulfur is burned and when gasoline is extracted from oil. Examples are petroleum refineries, cement manufacturing, metal processing facilities, locomotives, and ships (CAPCOA, 2011).	Respiratory irritant. Aggravates lung and heart problems. In the presence of moisture and oxygen, sulfur dioxide converts to sulfuric acid which can damage marble, iron, and steel. Damages crops and natural vegetation. Impairs visibility. Precursor to acid rain (CAPCOA, 2011).
Hydrogen Sulfide (H ₂ S)	A colorless gas with the odor of rotten eggs. The most common sources of H ₂ S emissions are oil and natural gas extraction and processing, and natural emissions from geothermal fields. It is also formed during bacterial decomposition of human and animal wastes and is present in emissions from sewage treatment facilities and landfills. Industrial sources include petrochemical plants, coke oven plants, and kraft paper mills (CARB, 2020b).	Can induce tearing of the eyes and symptoms related to overstimulation of the sense of smell, including headache, nausea, or vomiting. A few studies suggest that asthmatics may be at increased risk of exacerbation of their asthma symptoms (CARB, 2020b).
Lead	Metallic element emitted from metal refineries, smelters, battery manufacturers, iron and steel producers, use of leaded fuels by racing and aircraft industries (CARB, 2020b). Common applications also include Lead Based Paint (LBP) and Lead Containing Surface Coatings (LCSC; CARB, 2020c).	Anemia, high blood pressure, brain and kidney damage, neurological disorders, cancer, lowered IQ. Affects animals, plants, and aquatic ecosystems (CARB, 2020c).

Criteria Air Pollutant	Major Sources	Human Health Effects
Sulfate	A sub-fraction of ambient particulate matter. Emissions of sulfur-containing compounds occur primarily from the combustion of petroleum-derived fuels (for example, gasoline and diesel fuel) that contain sulfur. A small amount of sulfate is directly emitted from combustion of sulfur-containing fuels, but most ambient sulfate is formed in the atmosphere (CARB, 2020d).	Much like health effects of PM2.5, sulfate can cause reduced lung function, aggravated asthmatic symptoms, and increased risk of emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and death in people who have chronic heart or lung diseases (CARB, 2020d).
Vinyl Chloride	A colorless gas with a mild, sweet odor. Most vinyl chloride is used in the process of making polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic and vinyl products, thus may be emitted from industrial processes. Vinyl chloride has been detected near landfills, sewage treatment plants, and hazardous waste sites, due to microbial breakdown of chlorinated solvents (CARB, 2020e).	Short-term exposure to high levels (10 ppm or above) of vinyl chloride in air causes central nervous system effects, such as dizziness, drowsiness, and headaches. The primary non-cancer health effect of long-term exposure to vinyl chloride through inhalation or oral exposure is liver damage. Inhalation exposure to vinyl chloride has been shown to increase the risk of angiosarcoma, a rare form of liver cancer in humans (CARB, 2020e).
Visibility Reducing Particles	These particles vary greatly in shape, size, and chemical composition, and come from a variety of natural and manmade sources. Some haze-causing particles are directly emitted to the air such as windblown dust and soot. Others are formed in the air from the chemical transformation of gaseous pollutants (for example, sulfates, nitrates, and organic carbon particles) which are the major constituents of fine PM. These fine particles, caused largely by combustion of fuel, can travel hundreds of miles causing visibility impairment (CARB, 2020f).	Haze not only impacts visibility, but some haze-causing pollutants have been linked to serious health problems and environmental damage as well. Exposure to particles up to 2.5 (PM2.5) and 10 microns (PM10) in diameter in the ambient air can contribute to a broad range of adverse health effects, including premature death, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits for worsened heart and lung diseases (CARB, 2020f).

Toxic Air Contaminants: In addition to the criteria pollutants discussed above, toxic air contaminants (TACs) are another group of pollutants of concern. According to Section 39655 of the California Health and Safety Code, a TAC is "an air pollutant which may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious illness, or which may pose a present or potential hazard to human health." To date, the CARB has designated nearly 200 compounds as TACs. Additionally, CARB has implemented control measures for a number of compounds that pose high risks and show potential for effective control. TACs are considered either carcinogenic or noncarcinogenic based on the nature of the health effects associated with exposure to the pollutant. For regulatory purposes, carcinogenic TACs are assumed to have no safe threshold below which health impacts would not occur, and cancer risk is expressed as excess cancer cases per one million exposed individuals. Noncarcinogenic TACs differ in that there is generally assumed to be a safe level of exposure below which no negative health impact is believed to occur. These levels are determined on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis.

There are many different types of TACs, with varying degrees of toxicity. Sources of TACs vary, but typically include industrial processes, such as petroleum refining; commercial operations, such as gasoline stations and dry cleaners; and motor vehicle exhaust. Public exposure to TACs can result from emissions from normal operations, as well as from accidental releases of hazardous materials during upset conditions. The health effects associated with TACs are quite diverse and generally are assessed locally rather than regionally.

Asbestos: Asbestos particles and fibers are naturally occurring in some rock and soil formations, but because of its strength and heat resistance, asbestos has been used in a variety of building materials. If asbestos-containing materials (ACM) are disturbed, for example during demolition of a structure, asbestos particles and fibers may be released into the air. Three of the major health effects associated with asbestos exposure are:

- Lung cancer
- Mesothelioma, a rare form of cancer that is found in the thin lining of the lung, chest and the abdomen and heart
- Asbestosis, a serious progressive, long-term, non-cancer disease of the lungs (USEPA, 2018).

The disturbance, abatement, and demolition of the structures containing ACM would require compliance with USEPA Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), USEPA National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), and California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) regulations regarding asbestos in construction.

Lead: As described in Table 8, exposure to lead can lead to harmful health effects in humans. If LBP and LCSC are chipped or deteriorating, lead particles may become airborne as dust, chips, and suspended particles. The disturbance of any materials containing any amount of lead would require compliance with Cal/OSHA Lead Construction Standards (Title 8 CCR 1532.1) for worker protection, and compliance with the California Code of Regulations Title 17, CCR 35000-36100.

Diesel Particulate Matter: CARB has identified diesel particulate matter (DPM) as a toxic air contaminant. Diesel engines emit a complex mixture of air pollutants, including both gaseous and solid material. The solid material in diesel exhaust is known as DPM. More than 90% of DPM is less than 1 micrometer in diameter, and thus is a subset of particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}). DPM is typically composed of carbon particles and numerous organic compounds, including over 40 known cancer-causing organic substances. Examples of these chemicals include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, benzene, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acrolein, and 1,3-butadiene. Diesel exhaust also contains gaseous pollutants, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x). The chemical composition and particle sizes of DPM vary between different engine types (heavy-duty, light-duty), engine operating conditions (idle, accelerate, decelerate), fuel formulations (high/low sulfur fuel), and the year of the engine. Some short-term (acute) effects of diesel exhaust include eye, nose, throat, and lung irritation. Diesel exhaust can also cause coughing, headaches, light-headedness, and nausea. Due to their extremely small size, these particles can be inhaled and eventually become trapped in the lungs' bronchial and alveolar regions. Because it is part of PM_{2.5}, DPM also contributes to the same non-cancer health effects as PM_{2.5} exposure (CARB, 2020a).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?* Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

The project is located in Humboldt County, which is located in the NCAB and is subject to the jurisdiction of the NCUAQMD. The NCUAQMD is listed as "attainment" or "unclassified" for all the federal and state ambient air quality standards with the exception of the state 24-hour particulate (PM₁₀) standard in Humboldt County only (CARB, 2018, 2019a). Construction of the proposed project would include demolition, site preparation, grading, water tank and building construction, trenching, paving, architectural coating, and revegetation. These include activities and equipment which may result in the emission of PM₁₀, for which Humboldt County is non-attainment under state ambient air quality standards. As stated previously, the NCUAQMD prepared a Draft Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) Attainment Plan in May 1995. The Draft Plan includes a description of the planning area, an emissions inventory, general attainment goals, and a listing of cost-effective control strategies. The NCUAQMD's Attainment Plan established goals to reduce PM₁₀ emissions and eliminate the number of days in which State standards are exceeded.

Construction

Construction of the proposed project has the potential to temporarily contribute to PM₁₀ concentrations from dust generation. NCUAQMD's Regulation 1 prohibits nuisance dust generation, such as that generated by construction activity (NCUAQMD, 2015). The following standard conditions for controlling dust emissions during construction will be required as **Mitigation Measure AQ-1** in order to provide consistency with the Draft Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) Attainment Plan.

- All active construction areas (for example, parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered a minimum of two times per day during the dry season;
- Hydroseed or apply non-toxic soil stabilizers to inactive construction areas;
- Dust-generating activities shall be limited during periods of high winds (over 15 mph);
- Suspend excavation and grading activity when winds exceed 25 mph;

- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material, likely to give rise to airborne dust, shall be covered;
- All vehicle speeds shall be limited to 15 miles per hour within the construction area;
- Promptly remove earth or other tracked out material from paved streets onto which earth, or other material has been transported by trucking or earth-moving equipment; and
- Conduct digging, backfilling, and paving of utility trenches in such a manner as to minimize the creation of airborne dust.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure AQ-1**, the proposed project's construction activity would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Draft Plan.

Operation

The Draft Particulate Matter (PM10) Attainment Plan includes three areas of recommended control strategies to achieve attainment status: transportation, land use, and burning. The project aligns with control measures identified in the PM10 Attainment Plan appropriate to this type of project, such as stop-and-go traffic, which accounts for a large portion of vehicular related PM10 emissions. This is especially true with heavy duty diesel-fueled vehicles (NCUAQMD, 1995). The project site is located nearby to highway access and the existing GSD water system infrastructure. The close proximity to the highway and existing GSD water system infrastructure minimizes stop-and-go traffic for haul trucks and reduces potential vehicular PM10 emissions. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with the PM10 Attainment Plan.

Land Use. The project is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in close proximity to the town center, highway access, and the existing GSD water system infrastructure. Therefore, the project would not increase vehicle miles traveled or associated vehicular emissions for GSD's drinking water system operators.

Burning. The project does not propose the burning of materials as a part of operations nor the use of structural heating sources such as woodstoves or fireplaces, which would minimize associated PM10 emissions generated during long-term operation of the project.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure AQ-1** and based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- b) *Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

As discussed in the Setting, the project is located in Humboldt County, which is located in the NCAB and is subject to the jurisdiction of the NCUAQMD. The NCUAQMD's primary responsibility is to achieve and maintain federal and State air quality standards, subject to the powers and duties of the CARB. Humboldt County is listed as being in "attainment" or "unclassified" for all the federal and state ambient air quality standards except for the state 24-hour particulate matter (PM10) standard (NCUAQMD, 2023).

The proposed project has the potential to generate PM10 emissions during both construction and operation. During construction activities, PM10 emissions would primarily be generated from fugitive dust from ground-disturbing activities and vehicle/equipment exhaust. During operation of the proposed project, minimal PM10 emissions would be generated, primarily from activities with the potential to generate fugitive dust (for example, site maintenance involving ground-disturbing activity) and vehicle/equipment exhaust.

Both construction and operational emissions for the proposed project were estimated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod; CAPCOA, 2022), which is a statewide land use emissions computer model designed to provide a uniform platform for government agencies to quantify potential criteria pollutant emissions associated with both construction and operation of a variety of land use projects. The model applies inherent default values for various land uses, including trip generation rates based on the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Manual, vehicle mix, trip length, average speed, etc. However, where project-specific data is available, such data should be

input into the model. Project-specific information input into the model was derived from project description at the beginning of this document, from the Preliminary Engineering Report (SHN, 2023a), and from supplemental information provided by the project engineer related to the size of proposed structures and equipment, area of grading and site preparation, equipment that would be used for construction, number of days for each construction activity, the quantity of materials that would be imported and exported, and information on the proposed standby generator. Otherwise, where project-specific information was not available, the model default values were used for estimating emissions from the project. Due to the PM10 attainment status for Humboldt County, PM10 is the primary focus of the emissions estimates and analysis in this section. For information purposes only, emissions estimates are also provided for other common air pollutants including ROG, CO, NOx, SOx, and PM2.5.

Tables 9 and 10 below provide the maximum daily construction and operations emissions estimates (unmitigated) from CalEEMod as compared to the significance threshold for PM10 in NCUAQMD Rule 110. As discussed in the Setting, although not directly applicable to land use projects, the Rule 110 significance thresholds provide a reference point for levels of emissions that would trigger requirements for best available control technology and/or mitigation off-sets. As such, these thresholds reflect the best available expert judgment regarding what constitutes significant levels of air pollution within the NCAB and Humboldt County. For the purposes of this analysis, PM10 emissions from construction and operation of the proposed project would be cumulatively considerable if they exceed the Rule 110 significance threshold (NCUAQMD, 2015).

Table 9. Maximum Daily Construction Emissions (Unmitigated)

Criteria Pollutants	Emissions (pounds per day)					
	ROG	NOx	CO	SOx	PM10	PM2.5
Maximum Daily Emissions ^a	0.59	5.09	5.33	0.01	0.29	0.22
Significance Threshold ^b	50	50	500	80	80	50
Exceeds Significance Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	No

^a CAPCOA, 2020

^b NCUAQMD, 2015

Table 10. Maximum Daily Operational Emissions (Unmitigated)

Criteria Pollutants	Emissions (pounds per day)					
	ROG	NOx	CO	SOx	PM10	PM2.5
Maximum Daily Emissions ^a	0.42	0.69	1.46	<0.1	0.17	<0.1
Significance Threshold ^b	50	50	500	80	80	50
Exceeds Significance Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	No

^a CAPCOA, 2020

^b NCUAQMD, 2015

As indicated in Tables 9 and 10, the maximum daily construction and operational emissions from the proposed project would be below the NCUAQMD Rule 110 significance threshold for PM10. Additionally, the construction and operation of the proposed project would not exceed the significance thresholds for ROG, CO, NOx, SOx, and PM2.5. As such, the proposed project is not anticipated to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10.

Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the NCUAQMD is non-attainment under an applicable federal or State ambient air quality standard.

- c) *Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?* Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

This discussion addresses whether the proposed project would expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of criteria air pollutants or toxic air contaminants during construction activity including naturally-occurring asbestos, lead- and asbestos-containing materials, fugitive dust (PM2.5 and PM10), and DPM.

As noted in the Air Quality Setting, high concentrations of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants can result in adverse health effects to humans. Some population groups are considered more sensitive to air pollution than others; in particular, children, elderly, and acutely or chronically ill persons, especially those with cardio-respiratory diseases such as asthma and bronchitis. Land uses that generally house more sensitive people include residences, schools, parks, childcare centers, hospitals, convalescent homes, and retirement homes. The nearest known potential sensitive receptors to the project site are the residences in close proximity to the project. At the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figure 5A), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 50 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Tank Site (Figure 5B), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 60 feet from the proposed tie-in to existing distribution piping. At the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Station site (Figure 5C), the nearest sensitive receptors are two residences located approximately 50 feet from the existing Arthur Pump Station to be demolished and the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station to be constructed. At the Robertson Tank site (Figure 5D), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 250 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Pump Station site (Figure 5), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 200 feet from the existing booster pump station. At the Tobin Well site (Figure 5E), the nearest sensitive receptors are the surrounding residences (directly adjacent).

The NCUAQMD has not adopted guidance for health risk assessments or health risk significance thresholds. However, the NCUAQMD recommends on their website the use of the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) guidance document entitled “Health Risk Assessment for Proposed Land Use Projects” to assist lead agencies with the requirements of CEQA when projects may involve exposure to toxic air contaminants (NCUAQMD, 2015). The document primarily focuses on addressing long-term public health risk impacts from and to proposed land use projects. The document does not provide guidance on how risk assessments for construction projects should be addressed in CEQA (CAPCOA, 2009).

Air quality issues occur when sources of air pollutants and sensitive receptors are located near one another. As discussed in the CAPCOA guidance document (CAPCOA, 2009, Pg. 4), there are basically two types of land use projects that have the potential to cause long-term public health risk impacts:

- Land use projects with toxic emissions that impact receptors. Examples of these types of projects include combustion-related power plants, gasoline dispensing facilities, asphalt batch plants, warehouse distribution centers, and quarry operations.
- Land use projects that would place receptors in the vicinity of existing toxic sources. This would occur when residential, commercial, or institutional developments are proposed to be located in the vicinity of existing toxic emission sources such as stationary sources, high traffic roads, freeways, rail yards, and ports.

The following analysis evaluates whether the project would result in construction- or operational-related impacts to sensitive receptors.

Construction

Criteria Air Pollutants: The construction activities proposed by the project would result in the emission of criteria air pollutants. As indicated in Table 9, the construction emissions from the proposed project are well below the NCUAQMD stationary source thresholds. These thresholds were developed by the NCUAQMD, and approved by the CARB and USEPA, to ensure that stationary sources would not contribute to an exceedance of federal and state ambient air quality standards in the region. As discussed in the Air Quality Setting, the USEPA has concluded that the current National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) protect the public health, including the at-risk populations, with an adequate margin of safety. Because the construction emissions from the proposed project would not exceed the NCUAQMD thresholds, the project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of criteria air pollutants.

Naturally-Occurring Asbestos: The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS, 2011) has published mapping identifying areas that are known to contain naturally occurring asbestos (NOA). The California Department of Conservation (DOC, 2000) has also published mapping of area more likely to contain naturally-occurring asbestos. These mapping sources indicate

that there are several locations within Humboldt County that are known to contain NOA. The project site is located in Garberville and is not identified as an area that is known to contain or likely to contain NOA. The closest areas containing NOA are located approximately 9 miles northwest of the project (USGS, 2011; DOC, 2000). As such, the project site does not contain NOA that could be released during construction activities such as site preparation, grading, and trenching.

Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM): The project proposes the demolition of the existing Hurlbutt, Wallan, and Robertson Tanks, and the Upper Maple Lane, Wallan, and Arthur Pump Stations. Asbestos-containing materials may be present within these existing structures. Therefore, the disturbance, abatement, and demolition of the materials containing asbestos would require compliance with USEPA AHERA, USEPA NESHAP, and Cal/OSHA regulations regarding asbestos in construction. In summary, these regulations require the following procedures:

- *Survey by a California State Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC) of the areas proposed for disturbance for asbestos-containing material.*
- *Documentation of the asbestos survey results in a signed report from the CAC.*
- *Notification to the NCUAQMD at least 10 working days prior to any demolition.*
- *Employing the use of proper work practices outlined in the NESHAP asbestos regulations.*
- *Complying with Cal/OSHA worker safety requirements.*

All asbestos-containing materials to be removed by demolition activities must be done by a registered asbestos abatement contractor, as an asbestos abatement project. The construction contractor must maintain all records of compliance with the NESHAP asbestos regulations and NCUAQMD rules including, but not limited to, the following: 1) evidence of notification to the NCUAQMD; 2) contact information for the asbestos abatement contractor and asbestos consultant; and 3) receipts (or other evidence) of offsite disposal of all asbestos-containing materials. These records shall be made available to the District and NCUAQMD upon request.

The implementation of existing regulatory requirements for the removal and disposal of ACM would reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Lead: As described above, the project proposes the demolition of the existing Hurlbutt, Wallan, and Robertson Tanks, and the Upper Maple Lane, Wallan, and Arthur Pump Stations. The demolition of the existing structures has the potential to expose people to LBP and LCSC. Therefore, in compliance with existing law, all project renovation or demolition work that disturbs building components containing any amount of lead is to be conducted as lead-related construction work. Demolition activities associated with the proposed project must comply with Title 17, California Code of Regulations Division 1, Chapter 8 (Lead-Based Paint Regulations), which addresses requirements for the removal of components painted with lead-based paint during site clearing and demolition of existing structures. The construction contractor shall be required to comply with these provisions. The removal of all lead-based paint materials shall be conducted by a certified lead supervisor or certified lead worker, as defined by §35008 and §35009 of the Lead Based Paint Regulations.

The implementation of existing regulatory requirements for the removal and disposal and LBP and LCSC would reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Diesel PM: The use of diesel-powered equipment during construction activity would generate DPM, which is a known carcinogen. The majority of heavy diesel equipment used during construction activity would occur during grading of the project site. However, construction activities would be transitory, occurring intermittently over the entire construction site and over a short timeframe of approximately 19 months. Residents and other sensitive receptors located within the vicinity of the project site would be exposed to construction contaminants only for the duration of construction activity. These brief exposure periods would substantially limit exposure to hazardous emissions.

In addition, any relevant vehicle or equipment use associated with construction of the project would be subject to CARB standards. The CARB In-Use-Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation applies to certain off-road diesel engines, vehicles, or equipment greater than 25 horsepower. The regulations: 1) imposes limits on idling, requires a written idling policy, and requires a disclosure when selling vehicles; 2) requires all vehicles to be reported to CARB (using the

Diesel Off-Road Online Reporting System, DOORS) and labeled; 3) restricts the adding of older vehicles into fleets starting on January 1, 2014; and 4) requires fleets to reduce their emissions by retiring, replacing, or repowering older engines, or installing Verified Diesel Emission Control Strategies (such as, exhaust retrofits). The requirements and compliance dates of the Off-Road regulation vary by fleet size, as defined by the regulation.

Due to the short duration of construction activity requiring heavy diesel equipment, and in compliance with CARB regulations, construction of the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of diesel PM.

Fugitive Dust: Fugitive dust has the potential to be generated during construction from activities including site preparation, grading, and trenching. Construction-related dust emissions typically vary from day to day, depending on the level and type of activity, silt content of construction site soil, and weather conditions. Fugitive dust generated from construction activity can result in nuisances and localized health impacts. Considering the type of project and the area that would require site preparation, grading, and trenching, there is a potential for the generation of significant quantities of fugitive dust. To reduce potential impacts from fugitive dust generation during construction activity, **Mitigation Measure AQ-1** has been included for the project, which requires the implementation of fugitive dust control measures.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure AQ-1**, the limited duration of construction activities, and the distance of the project site from known sensitive receptors, the proposed project construction would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of fugitive dust.

Operation

The project proposes improvement of the District's water storage and distribution system. This infrastructure is not generally considered to be a land use that emits substantial quantities of toxic emissions. Any emissions currently being emitted by operation of the existing water system would be considered part of the existing baseline conditions. Because the proposed project would not increase the amount of water treated or used, it would not result in any significant increases in operational emissions.

Also, as indicated in Table 10, the operational emissions from the proposed project are well below the NCUAQMD stationary source thresholds. These thresholds were developed by the NCUAQMD, and approved by the CARB and USEPA, to ensure that stationary sources would not contribute to an exceedance of federal and state ambient air quality standards in the region. As discussed in the Air Quality Setting, the USEPA has concluded that the current NAAQS protect the public health, including the at-risk populations, with an adequate margin of safety. Because the operational emissions from the proposed project would not exceed the NCUAQMD thresholds, operation of the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

Based on the project location, design, and implementation of **Mitigation Measure AQ-1**, construction and operation of the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Therefore, impacts from the proposed project would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

- d) *Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?*
Less-Than-Significant Impact

Construction

The construction phase of the proposed project would include the repaving of areas along Redwood Drive and Alderpoint Road disturbed by installation of new water main, which would include the application of hot asphalt. Project construction would also involve the use of a variety of gasoline- or diesel-powered equipment that emits exhaust fumes. Odors from hot asphalt and exhaust fumes may be considered objectionable; however, these odors would be isolated to areas immediately surrounding their sources and would dissipate rapidly. The land uses surrounding the project sites are primarily rural residential, agricultural, and forested areas, with few residents present in the immediate vicinity. Therefore, a substantial number of people would not be adversely affected by construction of the proposed project. Furthermore, the generation of odors would be temporary and subside once project construction is concluded.

Operation

Operation of a water storage and distribution system is not a type of land use that would generally be considered to result in significant emissions, such as those leading to odors, that would affect a substantial number of people. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Air Quality*, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

Mitigation Measure AQ-1. Fugitive Dust Control Measures: Compliance with these requirements shall be required to minimize dust generation during construction activity.

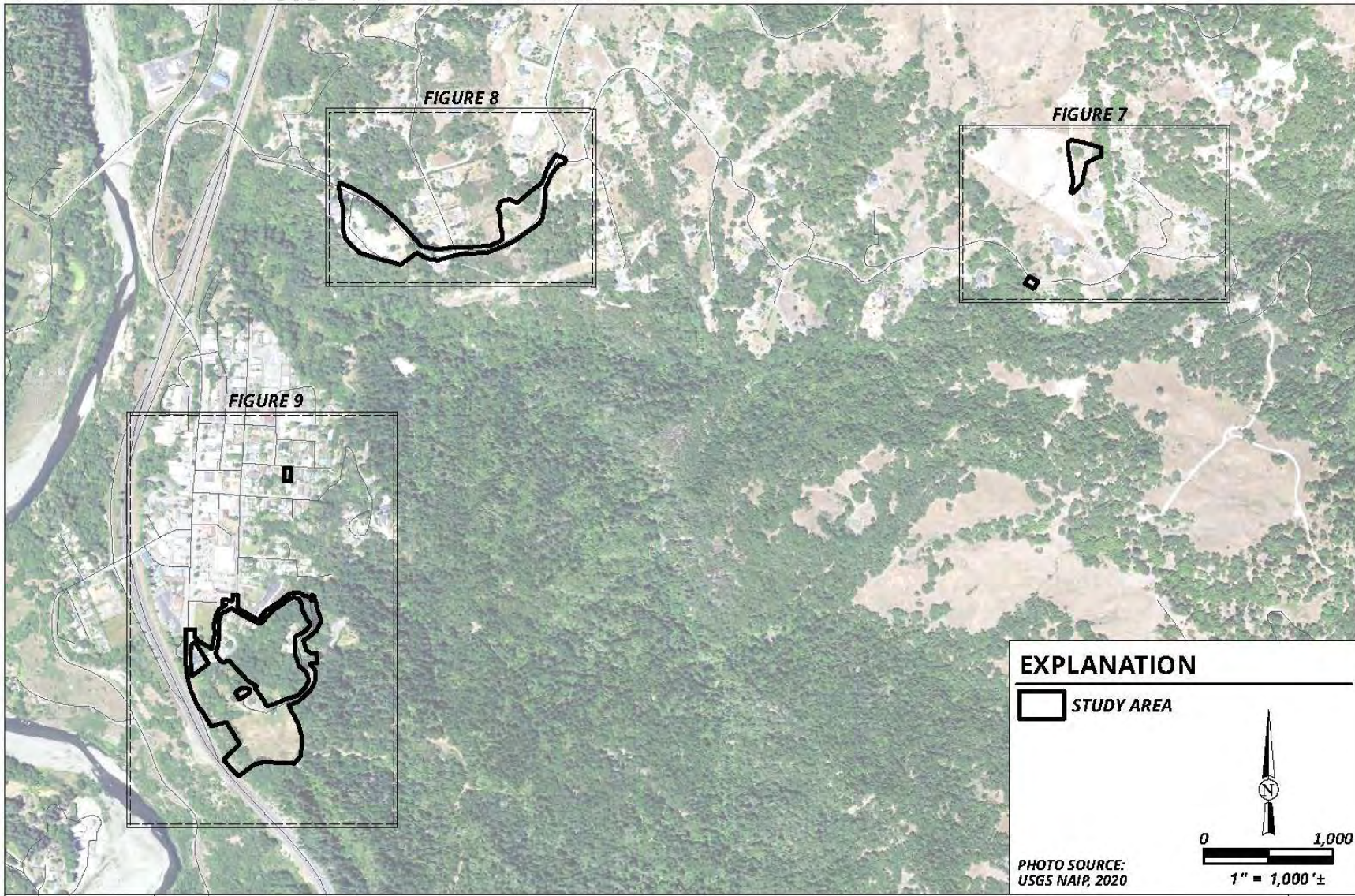
- All active construction areas (for example, parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered a minimum of two times per day during the dry season;
- Hydroseed or apply non-toxic soil stabilizers to inactive construction areas;
- Dust-generating activities shall be limited during periods of high winds (over 15 mph);
- Suspend excavation and grading activity when winds exceed 25 mph;
- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material, likely to give rise to airborne dust, shall be covered;
- All vehicle speeds shall be limited to 15 miles per hour within the construction area;
- Promptly remove earth or other tracked out material from paved streets onto which earth, or other material has been transported by trucking or earth-moving equipment; and
- Conduct digging, backfilling, and paving of utility trenches in such a manner as to minimize the creation of airborne dust.

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

Setting: The setting and analysis in this section is based on the Biological and Wetland Assessment (SHN, 2023b) that was prepared for this project.

SHN biologists conducted biological and botanical surveys for special-status species within the project’s area of potential effects in several locations around Garberville (Figure 6) on April 12, 15, 27, and July 1, 2022, and May 9, 10, and July 5 and 6, 2023. The term “Special-status Species” is used collectively to refer to species that are State or federally listed, species that are State or federal candidates for listing, and all species listed by the California Natural Diversity Database. This term is consistent with the biological resources that need to be assessed pursuant to CEQA. A wetland delineation was conducted in conjunction with the biological and botanical surveys by SHN’s wetland ecologist and soil scientist, which documents potential wetland conditions within the project areas on April 12, 15, and 27, 2022 and February 17, May 9, and May 10, 2023. The study area covered the same locations as the biological and botanical surveys (Figure 6). Section 1 covers the Wallan Tank and Pump Station off Wallan Road; Section 2 is located along Alderpoint Road near the existing Robertson Tank and Arthur Pump Station and includes portions of the CALFIRE Station; and Section 3 covers the Tobin Well site, Hurlbutt Tank site with pressure tank and pump system, and the proposed Main Tank site (Figures 7 through 9).

Section 1 of the study area (Figure 7) includes the Wallan Tank site and Wallan Pump Station. The Wallan Tank site and corresponding Pump Station are characterized by sparsely forested slopes in an area of rural development northeast of the town of Garberville. The Wallan Tank is positioned upslope of Wallan Road and just west of a narrow strip of mixed hardwood and conifer woodland along the steep slopes of a ravine. Historically disturbed areas within the Wallan Tank site are dominated by nonnative annual grasses and forbs, such as large quaking grass (*Briza maxima*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), silver hairgrass (*Aira caryophyllea*), and yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*).



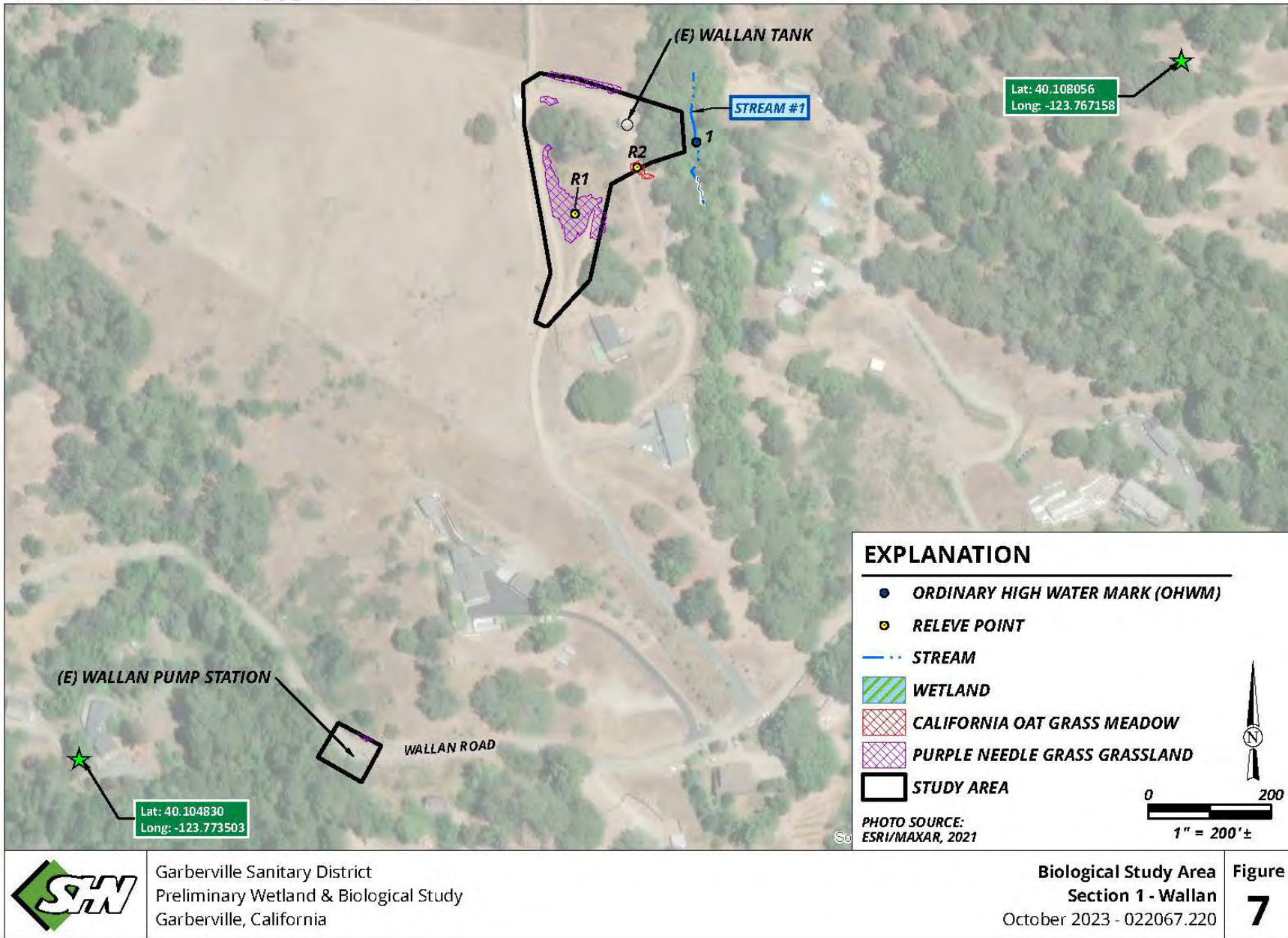
Biological Study Area Vicinity Map **Figure**

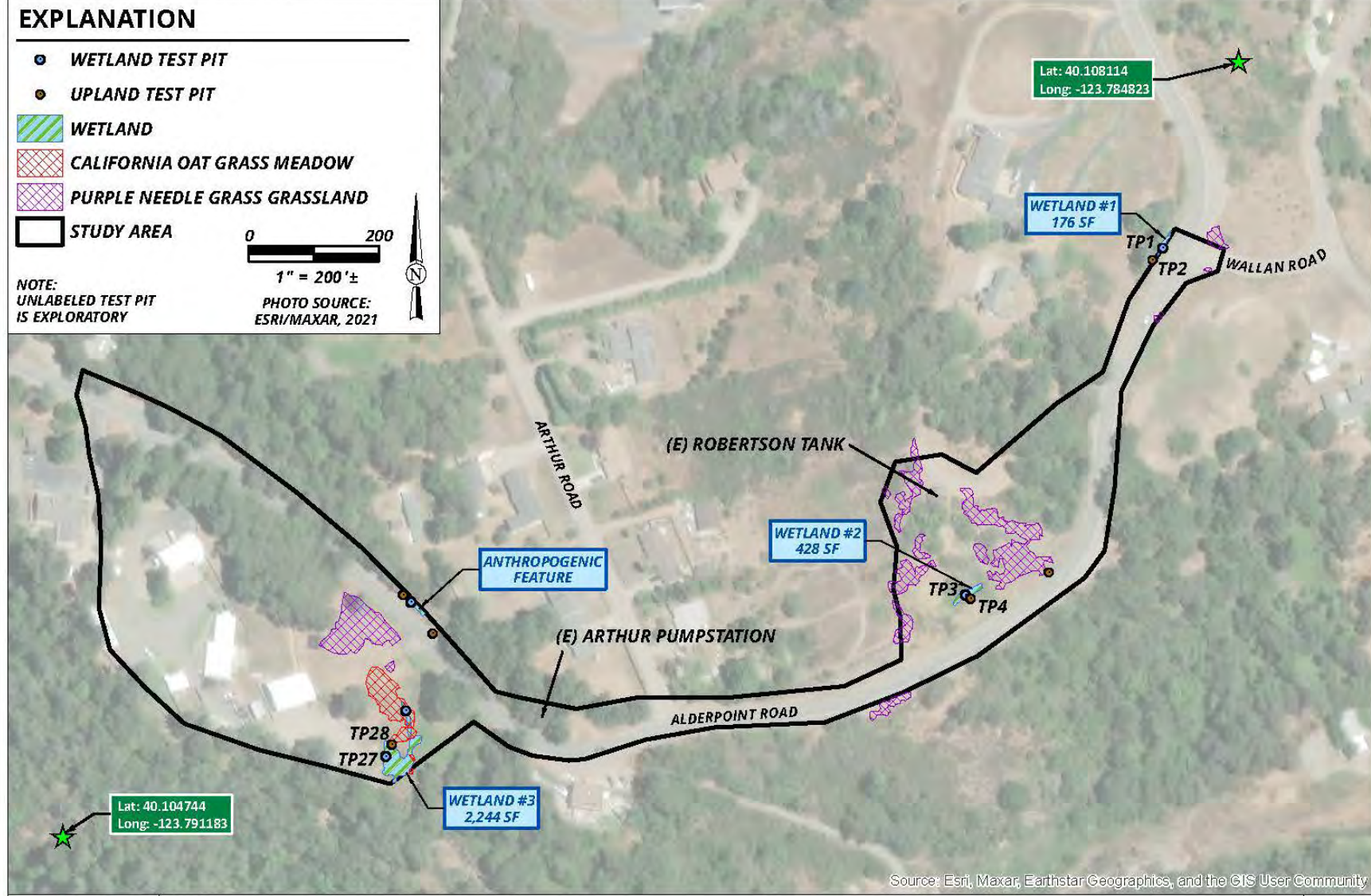
October 2023 - 022067.220

6



Garberville Sanitary District
Preliminary Wetland & Biological Study
Garberville, California





	<p>Garberville Sanitary District Preliminary Wetland & Biological Study Garberville, California</p>	<p>Biological Study Area Section 2 - Alderpoint/Robertson October 2023 - 022067.220</p>	<p>Figure 8</p>
--	---	---	-----------------------------------



The Wallan Pump Station is located south of Wallan Road at the edge of a mixed hardwood and conifer forest, which extends along the south of Wallan Road.

Section 2 of the study area (Figure 8) includes the Robertson Tank site, the Arthur Pump Station, Alderpoint Road, and the CALFIRE Station. The Robertson Tank is located atop a steep south-southwest-facing slope north of Alderpoint Road in an area of rural development northeast of Garberville. The tank is partially below ground within a grassland adjacent to a mixed hardwood and conifer woodland that extends down the slope.

The Arthur Pump Station is located just north of Alderpoint Road within a stand of Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) between Alderpoint Road and residential development. Across Alderpoint Road, mixed hardwood/Douglas fir forest extends south of the Arthur Pump Station toward the town of Garberville.

The CALFIRE Station is located immediately south and downslope from Alderpoint Road on a large hillside bench that ranges from moderately steep to mostly flat. Flat portions of the area are developed with the CALFIRE Station infrastructure and this area is dominated by non-native species including landscaping and other cultivated plants. Undeveloped portions of the area are dominated by mixed conifer and hardwood forest specifically on the perimeter of the station area and in the northern portion of the area along Alderpoint Road. The undeveloped southeastern portion of the CALFIRE Station area is dominated by native and non-native grassland.

Section 3 of the study area (Figure 9) includes the existing Tobin Well site, the existing Hurlbutt Tank site, and proposed Main Tank site. Vegetation at the Tobin Well site consists of nonnative grasses and herbs, as well as ornamental trees and shrubs. The Hurlbutt/Main Tanks site is accessed from the southeastern end of downtown Garberville via Melville Road and Hillcrest Drive. The access roads pass through mixed hardwood/conifer woodlands, connecting to a large, expansive forested area dominated by mature Douglas fir to the south and east of Garberville. The study area encompasses the existing Hurlbutt Tank, a residence, and several other associated structures accessed from a paved driveway northwest of a large gently sloping, mowed, non-native grassland. The proposed location of the new Hurlbutt Tank is on the southwestern edge of the sloping mowed pasture. The residence, existing Hurlbutt Tank, proposed Main Tank, and the mowed pasture are surrounded by mixed hardwood-conifer forests. The southwestern edge of the study area includes a steep cut slope dominated by young forest and shrubland between the mowed pasture and U.S. Highway 101. Dominant species within the forested area include Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), and Douglas fir, which have a well-developed understory with native herbaceous and woody species dominant. Within the mowed pasture dominant species were non-native species common within managed pasture and grassland, including subterranean clover (*Trifolium subterraneum*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), hairy oatgrass (*Rhizodesperma penicillatum*), California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), velvet grass (*Holcus lanatus*), and creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*).

Special-Status Plant Species

Based on a review for special-status plant species, 46 special-status plant species were identified as occurring within the Garberville and surrounding USGS quadrangles. A total of 11 special-status plant species were determined to have a moderate or high potential of occurring within the study area. Species with a moderate or high potential for occurrence within the study area are discussed below under subsection a). Seasonally appropriate surveys of the study area did not locate any special-status plant species.

Special-Status Animal Species

Based on a review for special-status animal species, 37 special-status animal species have been reported from the region consisting of the Garberville quadrangle and surrounding quadrangles. Of the 37 special-status animal species reported from the region consisting of the Garberville quadrangle and surrounding quadrangles, 27 animal species are considered to have no or low potential to occur at the project site and 10 species have a moderate to high potential to occur at the project site. Species with a moderate or high potential for occurrence within the study area are discussed below under subsection a).

Sensitive Natural Communities

Two sensitive vegetation communities as defined by the Manual of California Vegetation or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Natural Communities list occur within the study area (Figures 7, 8, and 9). These include purple needlegrass grassland (*Stipa* spp. Herbaceous Alliance) and California oatgrass grassland (*Danthonia californica* Herbaceous Alliance) and appropriate species associations. These sensitive natural communities are discussed below under subsection b).

Wetlands and Jurisdictional Drainages

Wetland field investigations were conducted on April 12, 15, and 27, 2022, and February 17, May 9 and 10, 2023. Ten wetland features and five streams (as delineated by ordinary high-water mark [OHWM]) were mapped within or near the study area (see Figures 7 through 9). A small anthropogenic feature with three wetland parameters was found along the north side of Alderpoint Road near the CalFire Station (Figure 8). Exploratory pits were used to investigate this feature. It was determined not to be jurisdictional as the three-parameters are due only to its use as a stormwater conveyance feature for Alderpoint Road. It is actively maintained with regular mowing. There are tire tracks through it from road use. The substrate is composed of compacted gravel and asphalt. The results from the wetland investigation within each of the study area sections are discussed below under subsection c).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Have a substantial effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Surveys of the site were conducted in preparation of a Biological and Wetland Assessment (SHN, 2023b), which addresses special-status biological resources present or potentially occurring within the site, evaluates project-related impacts, and recommends appropriate avoidance and minimization measures. Special-status plant and animal species present within the study area are described below.

Special-Status Plant Species

As noted in the Biological Resources Setting, 11 special-status plant species were determined to have a moderate or high potential of occurring within the study area. Species with moderate or high potential of occurring within the study area are listed below:

- northern clustered sedge (*Carex arcta*)
- Humboldt County fuchsia (*Epilobium septentrionale*)
- streamside daisy (*Erigeron biolettii*)
- coast fawn lily (*Erythronium revolutum*)
- bristly leptosiphon (*Leptosiphon acicularis*)
- broad-lobed leptosiphon (*Leptosiphon latisectus*)
- heart-leaved twayblade (*Listera cordata*)
- white-flowered rein orchid (*Piperia candida*)
- North Coast semaphore grass (*Pleuropogon hooverianus*)
- Siskiyou checkerbloom (*Sidalcea malviflora* ssp. *patula*)
- Methuselah's beard lichen (*Usnea longissima*)

However, seasonally appropriate surveys of the study area did not locate any special-status plant species. Although potential habitat exists for several special-status plant species, existing and surrounding development, and continuing and historical disturbance associated with roadsides, urban development, and water distribution maintenance make it unlikely that special-status plant species exist within the study area. Therefore, there would be a less-than-significant impact on special-status plant species.

Special-Status Amphibian Species

The red-bellied newt (*Taricha rivularis*) is not listed under either the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) or the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) but is considered a Species of Special Concern (SSC) by CDFW and has heritage ranks of G2/S2. This species breeds in streams and adults live in terrestrial environments within coniferous and riparian forests and woodlands. There is suitable terrestrial habitat available for adults and juveniles within the forested portions of the study area. Logs were turned within the study area to search for amphibians. This species was not observed during site visits, although the ephemeral drainages within the study area may provide dispersal habitat for this species. With the incorporation of the recommendation to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands/waters (see subsection c) below), this species is not expected to be affected by the project.

Special-Status Bird Species

The American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) is delisted under FESA and CESA and has heritage rankings of G4T4/S3S4. This species occurs in forested areas, open areas with rocky outcroppings, and often near water bodies. They nest on cliff ledges, sometimes in hollow or broken snags or large trees, and also use ledges of buildings, bridges, or other structures. Portions of the study area provide urban nesting habitat for this species while the surrounding landscape provides higher quality nesting and foraging habitat. This species was not observed during site visits. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1** for minimizing or avoiding impacts on nesting birds.

The cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) is not listed under FESA or CESA but it is on the Watch List by CDFW and has heritage rankings of G5/S4. This species occurs in forested habitats, including cismontane woodlands and riparian forests. Cooper's hawk prefers open, interrupted, or marginal forests, allowing for increased foraging opportunities. Nest sites are usually in deciduous forested riparian areas. Suitable nesting habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area, although no nests of this species were observed during site visits. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1** for minimizing or avoiding impacts on nesting birds.

The olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) is not listed under FESA or CESA, but it is a SSC by CDFW and has heritage rankings of G4/S3. This species occupies various forest and woodland habitats, including mixed coniferous-deciduous forest, and wetland/riparian forested areas. Nest sites are usually in coniferous trees, often with nearby large dead snags. Suitable nesting habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1** for minimizing or avoiding impacts on nesting birds.

The osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) is not listed under FESA or CESA but is on the Watch List by CDFW and has heritage rankings of G5/S4. This species can be found within riparian forests, shores, bays, lakes and larger streams. They build large nests on broken treetops or human-made structures within 15 miles of a fish-bearing body of water. Suitable nesting habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area, where some broken treetops were observed, although no nests of this species were observed during site visits. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1** for minimizing or avoiding impacts on nesting birds.

Without mitigation, there is the potential for significant impacts to nesting birds during construction. With the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1**, which requires avoidance of potential impacts to nesting birds either through a seasonal restriction on vegetation removal/ground disturbance or through pre-construction nesting bird surveys, impacts to special-status bird species or nesting birds would be reduced to less than significant.

Special-Status Fish Species

There are no special-status fish with potential to occur within the study area due to lack of suitable stream connectivity and seasonal, ephemeral water flows.

Special-Status Insect Species

There are no special-status insects with moderate or high potential to occur within the study area due to lack of adequate suitable habitat.

Special-Status Mammal Species

The North American porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*) is not listed under either FESA or CESA, but has a heritage ranking of G5/S3. This species is a generalist herbivore found in a wide variety of coniferous and mixed woodland habitat. They are commonly found on the ground or in trees. Denning can occur in rocky areas, or if not available, in hollowed-out trees. This species was not observed during site visits, although suitable habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area. Due to project activities being focused on existing infrastructure replacement within developed areas, this species is not expected to be affected by the project.

The pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) is not listed under FESA or CESA and has heritage rankings of G4/S3. This species inhabits a variety of forested habitats such as broadleaf upland forest, cismontane woodland, closed-cone conifer forest, lower and upper montane conifer forest, and north coast conifer forest. They are most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. A focused bat presence survey was not conducted, although limited suitable roosting habitat is available within the portions of the study area away from town. The Biological and Wetland

Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-2** for minimizing or avoiding impacts to roosting bats.

The fringed myotis (*Myotis thysanodes*) is not listed under either FESA or CESA but is considered a sensitive species by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and has a heritage ranking of G4/S3. This species feeds on beetles, moths, flies, leafhoppers, lacewings, crickets, spiders, harvestmen, and other invertebrates. The fringed myotis roosts in rock crevices, caves, buildings, and mines as well as large snags generally in small clusters of females. Males roost alone or in small separate colony. A focused bat presence survey was not conducted, although suitable habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area and adjacent buildings. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-2** for minimizing or avoiding impacts to roosting bats.

The long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*) is not listed under either FESA or CESA but is considered a sensitive species by the BLM and has a heritage ranking of G5/S3. This species feeds on a variety of arthropods including moths, flies, spiders, and especially beetles. The long-eared myotis roosts singly, or in small groups in buildings, crevices, spaces under bark and snags. Caves are used primarily as night roosts. A focused bat presence survey was not conducted, although suitable habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area and adjacent buildings. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-2** for minimizing or avoiding impacts to roosting bats.

The Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*) is not listed under either FESA or CESA but is considered a sensitive species by the BLM and has a heritage ranking of G5/S4. This species is found in a variety of western lowland habitats, from arid thorn scrub to coniferous forest, but always close to standing water such as lakes and ponds. This species may roost in a variety of places such as buildings and bridges, trees, and rocks. A focused bat presence survey was not conducted. Suitable habitat is available within the forested portions of the study area and adjacent buildings, although standing water is limited. The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-2** for minimizing or avoiding impacts to roosting bats.

Without mitigation, there is the potential for significant impacts to special-status bat species during construction through the removal or modification of vegetation or structures and due to ground disturbance. With the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-2**, which requires avoidance of potential impacts to special-status bats through pre-construction habitat surveys (and subsequent impact prevention measures if bat presence is confirmed or assumed), impacts to special-status bat species would be reduced to less than significant.

Special-Status Reptile Species

No special-status reptiles have potential to occur within the study area due to lack of suitable habitat.

Although potential habitat exists for a number of special-status animal species, existing and surrounding development, and continuing and historic disturbance in the majority of the study area make it unlikely that any special-status animal species exist within the project footprint. With the implementation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2**, and based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not have a substantial effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Sensitive vegetation communities, with a rank of S3 or lower, require CEQA analysis if potential impacts may occur. Two sensitive vegetation communities as defined by the Manual of California Vegetation or CDFW Natural Communities list occur within the study area (Figures 7, 8, and 9). These include purple needlegrass grassland (*Stipa* spp. Herbaceous Alliance) and California oatgrass grassland (*Danthonia californica* Herbaceous Alliance) and appropriate species associations (SHN, 2023b).

Purple needlegrass grassland occupies approximately 26,977.9 square feet (0.62 acre) within the study area. The majority of the purple needlegrass grassland is in Section 2 with multiple occurrences totaling 19,484.67 square feet (0.45 acre; Figure 8). Four well-developed, intact purple needlegrass grassland occurrences exist in Section 1, for a

total of 7,493.20 square feet (0.17 acre; Figure 7). The purple needlegrass grasslands observed within the study area are further described to the association level. Within Section 1, all purple needlegrass grasslands were best described as having the *Stipa pulchra* association, which is characterized by high cover and dominance by purple needlegrass. Purple needlegrass grasslands within the study area displayed up to 80 percent cover by purple needlegrass, most of which was flowering at the time of the survey. Common associated species included large quaking grass, coast heron's bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), California oatgrass, rose clover (*Trifolium hirtum*), and purple sanicle (*Sinicola bipinnatifida*), among others. Purple needlegrass grassland within the study area is generally on open, herbaceous-dominated south-facing slopes in locations with a history of minimal recent disturbance. More disturbed areas display much higher cover by non-native annual grasses, including an off-highway vehicle trail that nearly bisects the purple needlegrass grassland immediately south of the Wallan Tank site. Purple needlegrass grassland has a global heritage rank of G3G4 and a State heritage rank of S3S4, and the *Stipa pulchra* association has an additional rarity ranking of S3, therefore qualifying for consideration under CEQA Guidelines checklist IVb.

California oatgrass grassland occupies approximately 5,063.86 square feet (0.11 acre) within the study area. The majority of the California oatgrass grassland is in Section 2 with three distinct occurrences totaling 4,005.15 square feet (0.09 acre; Figure 8). One California oatgrass grassland occurrence is in Section 1 with a total of 446.07 square feet (0.01 acre; Figure 7) and two California oatgrass grassland occurrences are in Section 3 with a total of 612.64 square feet (0.01 acre; Figure 9). The majority of the California oatgrass grassland occurrences do not meet an association level description, however the largest California oatgrass grassland mapped within the study area (Section 2, Figure 8) is best described using the *Stipa pulchra* association, as there is a low percentage of purple needlegrass present within the grassland dominated by California oatgrass. California oatgrass within the study area displayed a wide range of dominance by California oatgrass. High quality examples exhibited up to 70 percent cover by California oatgrass, however most were less than 50 percent cover by California oatgrass. Common associated species included smooth cat's ear (*Hypochaeris glabra*), large quaking grass, ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and Purdy's iris (*Iris purdyi*), among others. California oatgrass grassland within the study area is generally on open, herbaceous-dominated slopes with varied aspects, primarily in areas with some amount of irregular mowing. California oatgrass grassland does not have a global rarity rank (GNR), but has a State heritage rank of S3, therefore qualifying for consideration under CEQA Guidelines checklist IVb.

The actual limits of construction have yet to be finalized. Mapped sensitive natural communities would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. However, the project may potentially require vegetation removal that would impact the purple needlegrass grassland and/or California oatgrass grassland habitat (such as near the Wallan Tank [Figure 7], the Robertson Tank and Alderpoint Pump Station [Figure 8], and between the Hurlbutt Tank and Redwood Drive [Figure 9]). Therefore, the impact on sensitive natural communities is considered potentially significant.

The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-3** to avoid impacts to sensitive natural communities through project design, marking sensitive natural communities as equipment exclusion zones in construction documents, and installing temporary fencing to prevent accidental incursion. In case impacts to sensitive natural communities cannot be completely avoided, the Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-4** to mitigate for any unavoidable impacts to mapped sensitive natural vegetation communities through restoration or compensation in consultation with CDFW.

With the incorporation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-3 and BIO-4**, and based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

As described in the Biological and Wetland Assessment (SHN, 2023b), wetland field investigations were conducted on April 12, 15, and 27, 2022, and February 17, and May 9 and 10, 2023. Ten wetland features and five streams (as delineated by OHWM) were mapped within or near the study area (see Figures 7 through 9).

Wetlands ranged between 176 and 2,244 square feet in open herbaceous-dominated or forested settings for a total of 6,538 square feet of wetlands mapped, of which 5,838 square feet occurs within the study area (see Table 11). Of the 10 wetlands occurring within the study area, 3 are palustrine emergent (herbaceous dominated), 6 are palustrine forested, and 1 is palustrine shrub-scrub wetland. All wetlands displayed some form of historical or on-going anthropogenic disturbance mostly related to road development, reflecting the proximity of the study area to roadsides. Four of the wetlands (Wetlands #1, #2, #5, and #6) have aboveground connectivity to a Traditional Navigable Waterway (TNW); the remaining six wetlands appear to be isolated with no aboveground connectivity to additional wetlands or other waters. Wetlands with aboveground connectivity to a TNW have a total area of 1,178 square feet.

Table 11. Wetland and Stream (OHWM) Delineation Results

Wetland	Cowardin Type	Latitude/Longitude	Area Mapped (Sq ft)	In Study Area (Sq ft)
Wetland #1	PEM1Bx0n ^a	40.107323° / -123.785221°	176	26
Wetland #2	PEM1Bx0n ^a	40.105844° / -123.786265°	428	428
Wetland #3	PEM1B0n ^b	40.105112° / -123.789426°	2,244	2,198
Wetland #4	PFO1Bx0n ^c	40.097241° / -123.791494°	564	564
Wetland #5	PFO1Bx0n ^c	40.097097° / -123.791654°	189	70
Wetland #6	PFO4Dx0n ^d	40.097741° / -123.792289°	385	0
Wetland #7	PFO1Bx0n ^c	40.096789° / -123.794666°	1,362	1,362
Wetland #8	PFO1+3D0n ^e	40.096128° / -123.793953°	483	483
Wetland #9	PSS1Bx0n ^f	40.096135° / -123.794846°	306	306
Wetland #10	PFO4Bx0n ^g	40.095418° / -123.794582°	401	401
Total Wetland Area			6,538	5,838

Stream	Cowardin Type	Latitude/Longitude	Segment Mapped (feet)	In Study Area (feet)
Stream #1	R4SB3+4 ^h	40.107649°, -123.769978°	191	0
Stream #2	R4SB3+5 ⁱ	40.097571°, -123.791894°	255	110
Stream #3	R4SB3+4 ^h	40.096173°, -123.792022°	84	0
Stream #4	R6SB4+5 ^j	40.095392°, -123.793482°	160	428
Stream #5	R4SB3+4 ^h	40.093909°, -123.793151°	853	0
Total Stream Segments Mapped			1,543	538

^a PEM1Bx0n: Palustrine emergent persistent seasonally saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^b PEM1B0n: Palustrine emergent persistent seasonally saturated, freshwater, mineral soils

^c PFO1Bx0n: Palustrine forested broad-leaved deciduous seasonally saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^d PFO4Dx0n: Palustrine forested needle-leaved evergreen continuously saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^e PFO1+3D0n: Palustrine forested broad-leaved deciduous seasonally and continuously saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^f PSS1Bx0n: Palustrine scrub-shrub broad-leaved deciduous seasonally saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^g PFO4Bx0n: Palustrine forested needle-leaved evergreen seasonally saturated, excavated, freshwater, mineral soils

^h R4SB3+4: Riverine, intermittent, streambed cobble-gravel and sand

ⁱ R4SB3+5: Riverine, intermittent, streambed cobble-gravel and mud

^j R6SB4+5: Riverine, ephemeral, streambed sand and mud

A total of five streams were mapped within the study area and the immediate vicinity of the study area (Figures 7 through 9 and Table 11). Of the five streams, four are seasonal intermittent (Streams #1, #2, #3, #5) and one of the streams is ephemeral (Stream #4). Of the five streams, two do not enter the study area, but flow within the immediate vicinity of the study area. These were mapped for planning and setback purposes. Streams #2 and #4 have portions of the stream within the study area for a total of 538 linear feet of stream occurring within the study area. A total of 1,543 linear feet of streams have been mapped within and immediately adjacent to the study area.

Table 12 lists all test pits excavated within the study area and includes the location and wetland parameters observed. Table 11 includes all wetlands and streams observed within or immediately adjacent to the study area, including a center point coordinates and Cowardin classification.

Table 12. Parameters at Each Wetland Test Pit

TP Number	Parameters Present	Parameter Type	Latitude/Longitude
TP1	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.107328°/ -123.785234°
TP2	1	Hydrology	40.107276°/ -123.785288°
TP3	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.105849°/ -123.786279°
TP4	0	None	40.105832°/ -123.786248°
TP5	2	Hydrophytic Vegetation, Hydrology	40.100379°/ -123.792372°
TP6	0	None	40.095421°/ -123.793278°
TP7	2	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydrology	40.097236°/ -123.791489°
TP8	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.097243°/ -123.791494°
TP9	0	None	40.097868°/ -123.791623°
TP10	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.097096°/ -123.791654°
TP11	0	None	40.097116°/ -123.791507°
TP12	2	Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.097742°/ -123.792291°
TP13	0	None	40.097752°/ -123.792331°
TP14	0	None	40.095442°/ -123.793774°
TP15	0	None	40.095160°/ -123.792261°
TP16	2	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydrology	40.094943°/ -123.792644°
TP17	0	None	40.094654°/ -123.793137°
TP18	0	None	40.095018°/ -123.793193°
TP19	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.095418°/ -123.794582°
TP20	0	None	40.095396°/ -123.794566°
TP21	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.096789°/ -123.794666°
TP22	0	None	40.096873°/ -123.794747°
TP23	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.096128°/ -123.793953°
TP24	0	None	40.096152°/ -123.793930°
TP25	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.105112°/ -123.789426°
TP26	1	Hydric soils	40.105163°/ -123.789394°
TP27	3	Hydrophytic vegetation, Hydric soils, Hydrology	40.096135°/ -123.794846°
TP28	1	Hydric soils	40.096109°/ -123.794837°

The actual limits of construction have yet to be finalized. Mapped wetlands and streams would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable; however, the project may potentially require temporary disturbance of wetlands and/or streams within the construction area (such as a wetland near the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station on the CALFIRE property [Figure 8] and/or the stream near the Hurlbutt Tank [Figure 9]). In addition to these potential direct impacts, construction activities have the potential to indirectly impact downslope wetlands and streams through the discharge of sediment and/or other pollutants. Therefore, the impact to wetlands and other jurisdictional waters is considered potentially significant.

The Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of Mitigation Measure BIO-5 to avoid impacts to wetlands and other jurisdictional waters through the avoidance to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans, identification of wetlands/waters as equipment exclusion zones in construction documents, and placement of suitable perimeter control best management practices (BMPs). In case the fill of wetlands and other jurisdictional waters cannot be completely avoided, the Biological and Wetland Assessment recommends the incorporation of Mitigation Measure BIO-6 to

compensate for any loss of wetland habitat so there is no net loss of wetlands, through development and implementation of a Mitigation and Monitoring Plan to be prepared in coordination with the jurisdictional agencies.

With the incorporation of Mitigation Measures BIO-5 and BIO-6, and based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Project construction and operations do not include in-water work or any other activity that might impede fish migration. Terrestrial project construction and operations do not include construction of any barriers to wildlife migration (such as extensive fencing, highly developed roadway, or large structures). Deterrence of migratory and nesting birds associated with noise is addressed in subsection a) above with **Mitigation Measure BIO-1** to ensure the potential impact to migratory and nesting birds would be less than significant.

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The Open Space and Conservation Element of the Humboldt County General Plan (Humboldt County, 2017) summarizes policies germane to the protection of biological resources. Applicable policies include:

- BR-P5: Streamside Management Areas,
- BR-P6: Development within Streamside Management Areas,
- BR-P7: Wetland Identification,
- BR-S4: Sensitive Habitat Defined,
- BR-S5: Streamside Management Areas Defined,
- BR-S6: Development within Stream Channels,
- BR-S7: Development within Streamside Management Areas,
- BR-S8: Required Mitigation Measures,
- BR-S9: Erosion Control,
- BR-S10: Development Standards for Wetlands, and
- BR-S11: Wetlands Defined.

Policy BR-S7 allows for development within Streamside Management Areas (SMAs) including that allowed under BR-S6 which includes "I. Other essential projects... provided they are the least environmentally damaging alternative, or necessary for the protection of the public's health and safety." Policy BR-S10 established that development standards for wetlands shall be consistent with the standards for SMAs. The SMA width applied to wetlands is designated as 50 feet for seasonal wetlands and 150 feet for perennial wetlands. The setback begins at the edge of the delineated wetland. The project is anticipated to potentially require a Special Permit for ground disturbance and tree removal within SMAs, such as for the new Zone 1 distribution main to be installed between the Main Tank and the existing Zone 1 water main along Redwood Drive (Figure 5A) and for the new water line serving the CALFIRE site (Figure 5C).

Humboldt County regulates tree removal for trees larger than 12 inches in diameter that are in residential zones through a Special Permit. The only project areas that have a residential zoning type are 1) the Tobin Well site which is zoned Residential One-Family (R-1), and 2) the area containing the existing Hurlbutt Tank, proposed Main Tank, and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station which is zoned Residential Suburban (RS-B-5(5)). No tree removal is proposed at the Tobin Well site (Figure 5). Removal of trees would occur during construction of the proposed Main Tank and the new Zone 1 distribution main to be installed between the Main Tank and the existing Zone 1 water main along Redwood

Drive (Figure 5A), potentially including trees larger than 12 inches in diameter. If so, a Special Permit would be obtained from Humboldt County.

The project would be required to obtain a General Plan Conformance Review and possibly a Special Permit from Humboldt County, and would be required to be consistent with all applicable provisions of the Humboldt County General Plan. No conflicts with policies or ordinances protecting biological resources have been identified.

For the reasons explained above, the proposed project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- f) *Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community, Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan? No Impact*

The proposed project is not located within the boundaries of an adopted habitat conservation plan; natural community conservation plan; or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. As such, the project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Biological Resources*, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

Mitigation Measure BIO-1. Nesting Bird Surveys: To avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, one of the following shall be implemented:

- Conduct vegetation removal and other ground disturbance activities associated with any construction activities between September and mid-March, when birds are not typically nesting, or
- If vegetation removal, structure modification or removal, or ground-disturbing activity is to take place during the nesting season (March 15 to August 31 for most birds), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey. Preconstruction surveys for nesting pairs, nests, and eggs shall occur within the construction limits and within 100 feet (200 feet for raptors) of the construction limits. If active nests are encountered, species-specific measures shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in consultation with the USFWS and CDFW and implemented to prevent abandonment of the active nest.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2. Protect Special-status Bats: Within two weeks prior to construction, a qualified bat biologist shall conduct habitat surveys for special-status bats. Survey methodology shall include visual examination of suitable habitat areas and signs of bat use. Trees, water tanks, pump stations, and other potential bat habitats within at least 100 feet of construction activities shall be examined. If habitat exists, species presence and site use patterns shall be documented by using ultrasonic detectors to determine if special-status bat species are present on site. Bat presence in the project area may vary seasonally and annually. Surveys shall be conducted in a manner to detect the presence of hibernating or torpid bats, reproductive colonies and/or migratory stop-over roosts. If no bat utilization or roosts are found, then no further study or action is required. If bats are found to be present within an area of potential impact, or presence is assumed, a bat specialist shall be engaged to advise the best method to prevent impact. This may include, but would not be limited to:

- Consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine appropriate measures for protecting bats with young if present, and for implementing measures to exclude non-breeding bat colonies during construction process.
- For trees, phased removal of trees where selected limbs and branches not containing cavities are removed on the first day, with the remainder of the tree removed on the second day.
- For structures, gradual modification of the habitat itself discouraging continued roosting by any bats that may be present, followed by installing physical barriers to prevent bats from entering the structure(s).

Mitigation Measure BIO-3. Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Sensitive Natural Communities: The District shall implement the following avoidance and protection measures for sensitive natural communities (purple needlegrass grassland and California oatgrass grassland) that would not be impacted during project construction:

1. The District shall attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive natural communities to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans.
2. Sensitive natural communities shall be clearly identified in the construction documents and reviewed by the District prior to issuing for bid to ensure they are clearly marked as equipment exclusion zones during construction.
3. Prior to construction, temporary fencing shall be installed between the sensitive vegetation communities and the project if construction activities will occur within 50 feet of the sensitive vegetation community, to prevent accidental incursion.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4. Mitigation for Sensitive Natural Communities: Construction within mapped sensitive natural communities (purple needlegrass grassland and California oatgrass grassland) shall be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. If impacts are unavoidable and mapped purple needlegrass grassland or California oatgrass grassland is removed or detrimentally impacted, mitigation would occur. A Mitigation and Monitoring Plan shall be prepared in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Plan shall be acceptable to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and include the following elements: proposed mitigation ratios; description and size of the restoration or compensatory area; site preparation and design; plant species; planting design and techniques; maintenance activities; plant storage; irrigation requirements; success criteria; monitoring schedule; and remedial measures. The ratio and conditions of mitigation would be negotiated in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Plan shall be implemented by the District.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5. Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters: The District shall implement the following avoidance and protection measures for Waters of the United States and Waters of the State that would not be impacted (filled or excavated) during project construction:

1. The District shall attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands/waters to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans.
2. Wetlands/waters shall be clearly identified in the construction documents and reviewed by the District prior to issuing for bid to ensure they are clearly marked as equipment exclusion zones during construction.
3. Suitable perimeter control BMPs, such as silt fences, or straw wattles shall be placed below all construction activities at the edge of surface water features to intercept sediment before it reaches the waterway. These BMPs shall be installed prior to any clearing or grading activities.

Mitigation Measure BIO-6. Mitigation for Loss of Wetlands and Waters: The District shall avoid fill of jurisdictional wetlands and waters to the extent feasible. If fill cannot be avoided, the District shall compensate for the loss of wetland habitat so that there is no net loss in wetlands. The District shall compensate for impacts to identified wetlands through restoration, rehabilitation, and/or creation of wetland at a ratio of no less than 1:1. A Mitigation and Monitoring Plan shall be prepared in coordination with the NCRWQB, the USACE and CDFW. Compensation for wetlands shall occur so there is no net loss of wetland habitat at ratios to be determined in consultation with the NCRWQCB. The Plan shall be acceptable to the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands and waters and include the following elements: proposed mitigation ratios; description and size of the restoration or compensatory area; site preparation and design; plant species; planting design and techniques; maintenance activities; plant storage; irrigation requirements; success criteria; monitoring schedule; and remedial measures. The Plan shall be implemented by the District.

The District shall also compensate for impacts to other waters by obtaining required permits from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and/or the California Department of Fish and Game which shall be received prior to the start of any on-site construction activity. The District shall ensure any additional measures outlined in the permits are implemented.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?		X		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?		X		
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		X		

Archaeological and other resources can be damaged through uncontrolled public disclosure. Archeological site locations and culturally sensitive information is considered confidential and public access to such information is restricted by State and federal law, therefore this information has been redacted for use in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). Professionally qualified individuals, as determined by the California Office of Historic Preservation, may contact the lead agency in order to inquire about its availability.

Information regarding the location, character, or ownership of a historic resource is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 470w-3 (National Historic Preservation Act) and 16 U.S.C. § 470hh (Archaeological Resources Protection Act) and California State Government Code, Section 6254.10.

Setting: A Cultural Resources Investigation was completed for the proposed project by William Rich and Associates (WRA). The purpose of this cultural resources investigation was to document the presence of historical and precontact era sites and other cultural resources, that according to Section 15064.5 of CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act would qualify as either an historic property or an historical resource and therefore be eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The methods used to complete this investigation included a record search of existing survey reports and resource records at the Northwest Information Center; a review of archaeological and historical literature pertinent to the project area and general region; correspondence with Native Americans and other knowledgeable individuals regarding the history of the area; and a pedestrian field survey of the project area and adjacent terrain (WRA, 2023).

According to the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) files, one previously documented historic building complex, the Garberville Forest Fire Station (P-12-000930) was documented on the CALFIRE parcel where the Alderpoint Pump Station is proposed. The Garberville Forest Fire Station contains buildings that are either considered eligible or have potential to become eligible by the state agency CALFIRE. Because these buildings are not proposed for any alterations, nor is the immediate view around the buildings, or in the station in general as part of the current project - their current condition was not assessed nor were they re-evaluated. Utilizing the rear of the property for project elements as proposed was determined to not impact the ability for this site to convey significance now or in the future.

The Cultural Resources Investigation identified the Hurlbutt Tank, Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, and Robertson Tank as being more than 50 years of age. However, they were recommended not eligible under the significance criteria set forth for built environment resources. These structures did not appear to be the work of a master craft person, utilize unique or outstanding materials, and did not appear to be otherwise associated with important individuals. No further recommendations were given for the demolition of these structures. The Cultural Resources Investigation found that no recommendations were needed for the Wallan Tank, Arthur Pump Station, or Wallan Pump Station.

The Cultural Resources Investigation found that no other archaeological or historic period cultural resources, that for the purposes of CEQA (15064.5 (a)) would be considered an historical resource, or an historic property as defined under 36 CFR Part 800.16, exist in the direct limits of the proposed project areas. It considered it unlikely, given the project setting, background research, intensive field survey, and scope of undertaking, that significant cultural resources would be discovered during project implementation.

Although discovery of cultural resources during project construction was not anticipated, the Cultural Resources Investigation offered recommendations to follow in that event. These recommendations were designed to ensure that potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels.

Provided that the recommended inadvertent discovery protocols are implemented, the investigation resulted in a finding of no historic properties affected (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)) and no substantial adverse change to an historical resource (CEQA 15064.5 (a)). Additionally, it found that tribal cultural resources (PRC 21074) do not appear to be present.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*

As described in the Cultural Resources Setting, a Cultural Resources Investigation was prepared for the proposed project (WRA, 2023). One previously documented historic building complex, the Garberville Forest Fire Station (P-12-000930) was documented on the CALFIRE parcel where the Alderpoint Pump Station is proposed. The Garberville Forest Fire Station contains buildings that are either considered eligible or have potential to become eligible by the state agency CALFIRE. Because these buildings are not proposed for any alterations, nor is the immediate view around the buildings, or in the station in general as part of the current project, their current condition was not assessed nor were they re-evaluated. Utilizing the rear of the property for project elements as proposed was determined to not impact the ability for this site to convey significance now or in the future.

The Cultural Resources Investigation identified the Hurlbutt Tank, Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, and Robertson Tank as being more than 50 years of age. However, they were recommended not eligible under the significance criteria set forth for built environment resources. These structures did not appear to be the work of a master craft person, utilize unique or outstanding materials, and did not appear to be otherwise associated with important individuals. No further recommendations were given for the demolition of these structures. The Cultural Resources Investigation found that no recommendations were needed for the Wallan Tank, Arthur Pump Station, or Wallan Pump Station.

Although discovery of cultural resources (including historical resources) during project construction was not anticipated, the Cultural Resources Investigation offered recommendations to follow in that event. These recommendations were designed to ensure that potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels.

Provided that the recommended inadvertent discovery protocols are implemented, the investigation resulted in a finding of no historic properties affected (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)) and no substantial adverse change to an historical resource (CEQA 15064.5 (a)). For this reason, Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources have been included as **Mitigation Measure CR-1** for the proposed project. This measure was designed to ensure that the potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1** and for the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

b) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*

As described in the Cultural Resources Setting, a Cultural Resources Investigation was prepared for the proposed project (WRA, 2023). Other than the Garberville Forest Fire Station (P-12-000930) discussed above in subsection a), the Cultural Resources Investigation found that no other archaeological or historic period cultural resources, that for the purposes of CEQA (15064.5 (a)) would be considered an historical resource, or an historic property as defined

under 36 CFR Part 800.16, exist in the direct limits of the proposed project areas. It considered it unlikely, given the project setting, background research, intensive field survey, and scope of undertaking, that significant cultural resources would be discovered during project implementation.

Although discovery of cultural resources during project construction was not anticipated, the Cultural Resources Investigation offered recommendations to follow in that event. These recommendations were designed to ensure that potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels. For this reason, Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources have been included as **Mitigation Measure CR-1** for the proposed project. This measure was designed to ensure that the potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels.

Provided that the recommended inadvertent discovery protocols are implemented, the investigation resulted in a finding of no historic properties affected (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)) and no substantial adverse change to an historical resource (CEQA 15064.5 (a)).

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1** and for the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

c) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?* Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

The Cultural Resources Investigation did not find evidence of human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. However, there is a possibility that human remains and historic burial sites could exist in the area and may be uncovered during project development. Therefore, Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources have been included as **Mitigation Measure CR-1** for the proposed project. This measure was designed to ensure that the potential project impacts on inadvertently discovered cultural resources are eliminated or reduced to less than significant levels.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1** and for the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Cultural Resources*, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

Mitigation Measure CR-1. Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources: If cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, all onsite work shall cease in the immediate area and within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist will be retained to evaluate and assess the significance of the discovery, and develop and implement an avoidance or mitigation plan, as appropriate. For discoveries known or likely to be associated with Native American heritage (precontact sites and select historic period sites), the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) and Council Members for the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council, and the Wailaki Tribe are also to be contacted immediately to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the project proponent, the County, and consulting archaeologist, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided. Precontact materials which could be encountered include: obsidian and chert debitage or formal tools, grinding implements, (e.g., pestles, handstones, bowl mortars, slabs), locally darkened midden, deposits of shell, faunal remains, and human burials. Historic archaeological discoveries may include nineteenth century building foundations, structural remains, or concentrations of artifacts made of glass, ceramics, metal, or other materials found in buried pits, old wells, or privies.

VI. ENERGY: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X	

Setting: In Humboldt County, energy is used as a transportation fuel and as electrical and heat energy in homes, businesses, industries, and agriculture. The majority of energy used in Humboldt County is imported, with the exception of biomass energy. Although the majority of electricity is generated in the county, a large portion of it is generated using natural gas. The county imports about 90% of its natural gas; the rest is obtained locally from fields in the Eel River Valley (Schatz Energy Research Center, 2005). Essentially all of the county’s transportation fuels are imported.

Humboldt County is remotely located at the end of the electrical and natural gas supply grids, and this limits both energy supply options and system reliability. Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) owns the natural gas and electricity transmission and distribution systems in Humboldt County. There is one major natural gas supply line that serves the county and four electrical transmission circuits (Schatz Energy Research Center, 2005).

Prior to May 2017, electricity to the project parcels was provided by the PG&E Humboldt Bay Generating Station (HBGS) which is located just south of the City of Eureka along Humboldt Bay. The HBGS began commercial operation in 2010 and normally runs on natural gas, with ultra-low sulfur diesel as its backup fuel. As indicated on the PG&E website (www.pge.com), the HBGS is 33 percent more efficient than the previous Humboldt Bay Power Plant (HBPP) fossil fuel units.

Beginning in May 2017, electricity service for Humboldt County transitioned to the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) Community Choice Energy (CCE) program. The CCE program allows city and county governments to pool (or aggregate) the electricity demands of their communities in order to increase local control over electric rates, purchase power with higher renewable content, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and reinvest in local energy infrastructure. The electricity continues to be distributed and delivered over the existing power lines by PG&E (RCEA, 2023a). The CCE program procures approximately 47% of its power from renewable sources (RCEA, 2023b). In addition, customers can choose to opt up to a premium service called Repower+, which is 100% renewable energy at only \$0.01 more per kilowatt hour (kWh) (RCEA, 2023a). RCEA is pursuing the following procurement goals which would further increase the percentage of power from renewable resources for all of its customers – 100% carbon-free electricity by 2025 (RCEA Board goal adopted in 2019) and 100% local carbon-free electricity by 2030 (Board goal adopted in 2016) (RCEA, 2023c).

Aside from the raw water pump station and the surface water treatment plant, the District has no permanently installed backup generators in the water system. Hurlbutt, Arthur, and Wallan Pump Stations can be powered by the portable trailer-mounted generator the District uses during grid power outages. Permanently mounted backup generators provide increased reliability during power outages.

Various electrical components at the booster pumping stations have exceeded their useful design life and require replacement. These include:

- The existing pump control panel, remote telemetry panel, and pumps at the Upper Maple Lane Pump Station
- The existing radio antennae and pumps at the Alderpoint and Wallan Pump Stations
- Most of Wallan Pump station’s electrical equipment, including the pump control panel, building electrical and pump station instrumentation

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Construction

During construction of the proposed project, energy would be consumed in the form of petroleum-based fuels used to power off-road construction vehicles and equipment, construction worker and delivery truck travel to and from the project site, and to operate generators to provide temporary power for electronic equipment.

There are no unusual project characteristics that would need construction equipment or practices that would be less energy efficient than at comparable construction sites in the region or state. Construction activity would be temporary and fuel consumption associated with construction activities would cease once construction is completed. Furthermore, various equipment would be supplied by onsite generators, and would not require permanent connections to or otherwise burden local utilities. Due to the temporary nature of construction activities, the fuel and energy needed during construction would not be considered a wasteful or inefficient use of energy. Therefore, it is expected that construction energy consumption associated with the project would be comparable to other similar construction projects, and would therefore not be inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary.

Operation

Energy use during operation of the water system would relate primarily to water treatment and pumping. The project would result in improved water efficiency through the following:

- **Water Loss Reduction**
 - **Tank Replacement**—This project would replace the existing in-ground concrete finished water storage tank (Hurlbutt/Main Tank) and the existing redwood drinking water storage tank (Wallan Tank). Both of these existing tanks are significantly leaking, which results in water losses in the distribution system and additional diversions of water from the South Fork of the Eel River. By replacing these tanks with new tanks, the water losses associated with leaking tanks would be eliminated from the system and would leave more water in the river.
 - **Distribution System Upgrades**—This project would replace a portion of the existing water distribution piping in the system. The existing distribution piping is nearing the end of its useful life and has experienced breaks and leaks. By replacing the aged distribution piping, water losses associated with leaks and water main breaks would be significantly reduced in areas where new distribution piping is installed and would eliminate the additional diversion of water from the river associated with these leaks.
- **Reduced Demand for Raw Water**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the water storage tanks and distribution piping, the demand for raw water from the river would be reduced since less water would be wasted through leaks and breaks in the system.

The project would result in improved energy efficiency through the following:

- **Reduced Treatment Requirements**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described above, the demand on the water treatment plant would be reduced because less treated water would be wasted through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with operating the surface water treatment plant.
- **Reduced Pumping Efforts**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described above, the demand on the pumping systems would be reduced because less treated water would be wasted through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with pumping raw and treated water.
- **Energy Efficient Infrastructure**—The new pump stations and pump station modifications associated with this project are expected to result in less energy consumption because they would include equipment that is more energy efficient, such as modern pumps with variable frequency drives.

For the reasons explained above, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) *Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

As described under subsection a) above, the project would not result in the inefficient or wasteful use of energy. The project would result in improved energy efficiency through reduced treatment requirements, reduced pumping efforts, and the use of energy efficient infrastructure. This is not a type of project that would have the potential to conflict with or obstruct state or local plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

Based on the information provided above, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact on *Energy*.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a.i) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake, fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publications 42.			X	
a.ii) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?		X		
a.iii) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?		X		
a.iv) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides?		X		
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?		X		
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?		X		
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		X		

Setting: An Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report was prepared for the project (SHN, 2023c). The report focuses on characterization of the geologic conditions (geohazards) at the proposed water tanks, water lines, and pump station sites, and development of geotechnical recommendations relative to the construction of new water storage tanks and associated infrastructure. Specifically, elements of the project requiring geotechnical consideration include the following:

- Construction of a partially buried, approximately 550,000-gallon water storage tank (Main Tank), pump station (Maple Lane Pump Station), generator, and waterlines
- Installation of a buried waterline at the Main Tank site
- Replacement of the Wallan Tank with an aboveground steel tank
- Construction of a new pump station (Alderpoint Pump Station) across Alderpoint Road from the existing Arthur Road Pump Station. The new Alderpoint Pump Station would replace the existing Arthur Road Pump Station

- Visual evaluation of the stability of the Wallan Pump Station
- Demolition of the Robertson Tank.

The project area is located within the western portion of the Coast Range Geomorphic Province in southern Humboldt County, California. The site is located in a complex and dynamic geologic environment, approximately 40 miles southeast of Cape Mendocino. Cape Mendocino marks the intersection of three crustal plates known as the Mendocino Triple Junction and is characterized by active tectonic deformation and high rates of seismicity.

Geologic mapping of the area (Figure 10) shows that the water system is primarily underlain by bedrock associated with the Quaternary-Tertiary-aged undifferentiated Wildcat Group. Bedrock associated with the Broken Formation of the Cretaceous-Jurassic aged Franciscan Complex is located directly east of the Wallan Tank in the northeastern part of the project area. The two geologic units are separated along a northwest-trending contact, which is interpreted as a relict bedrock fault. Portions of the project vicinity are underlain by alluvial terrace deposits associated with the ancestral Eel River (shown by Qt on Figure 10). These alluvial terraces typically consist of an abrasion platform cut across Wildcat sediments, with terrace sediments consisting of terrestrial alluvial deposits (sand, silt, and gravel). Bedrock of the undifferentiated Wildcat group is described as mudstone, shale, sandstone, siltstone, and minor amounts of conglomerate with highly variable degrees of consolidation. Specific descriptions of the geologic units within the project vicinity are presented on Figure 10A.

Geologic mapping shows areas of landsliding (Qs on Figure 10) in the project vicinity; these occur as translational/rotational and earthflow slides. Areas of “disrupted ground” are shown throughout the project vicinity, which are described as:

“Irregular ground surface caused by complex landsliding processes resulting in features that are indistinguishable or too small to delineate individually at the map scale; also may include areas affected by downslope creep, expansive soils, and/or gully erosion; boundaries are usually indistinguishable.” (Spittler, 1984)

The water distribution system is within the Garberville-Briceland fault zone. The Garberville-Briceland fault zone is a discontinuous series of north-northwest trending lineaments that extend south-southeast from Bull Creek, through Garberville, to just north of Laytonville. There is no documented recent (Holocene) activity on the Garberville fault, nor are there mapped faults crossing the water system. The Garberville-Briceland fault zone is not zoned as active by the State of California (California Geological Survey [CGS], 2018).

The Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report assessed potential geologic/geotechnical hazards for the site including seismic ground shaking, surface fault rupture, and slope instability. The results are discussed below.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a.i)** *Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake, fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?*
Less-Than-Significant Impact

Seismically induced ground rupture is defined as the physical displacement of surface deposits in response to an earthquake’s seismic waves. The magnitude and nature of fault rupture can vary for different faults or even along different strands of the same fault. Surface rupture can damage or collapse buildings, cause severe damage to roads and pavement structures, and cause failure of overhead as well as underground utilities. Although the project site resides in a seismically active area with the potential for strong earthquakes and strong ground shaking, the project site is not located in a state-mandated Earthquake Fault Zone (CGS, 2018). The nearest known active fault is the San Andreas fault, which is approximately 15 miles southwest of the project site. The San Andreas fault is a northwest-trending strike-slip fault. During the field visit for the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report, SHN did not observe any geomorphic evidence suggesting recent surface rupture in the project area (SHN, 2023c).

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a

known earthquake, fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact.

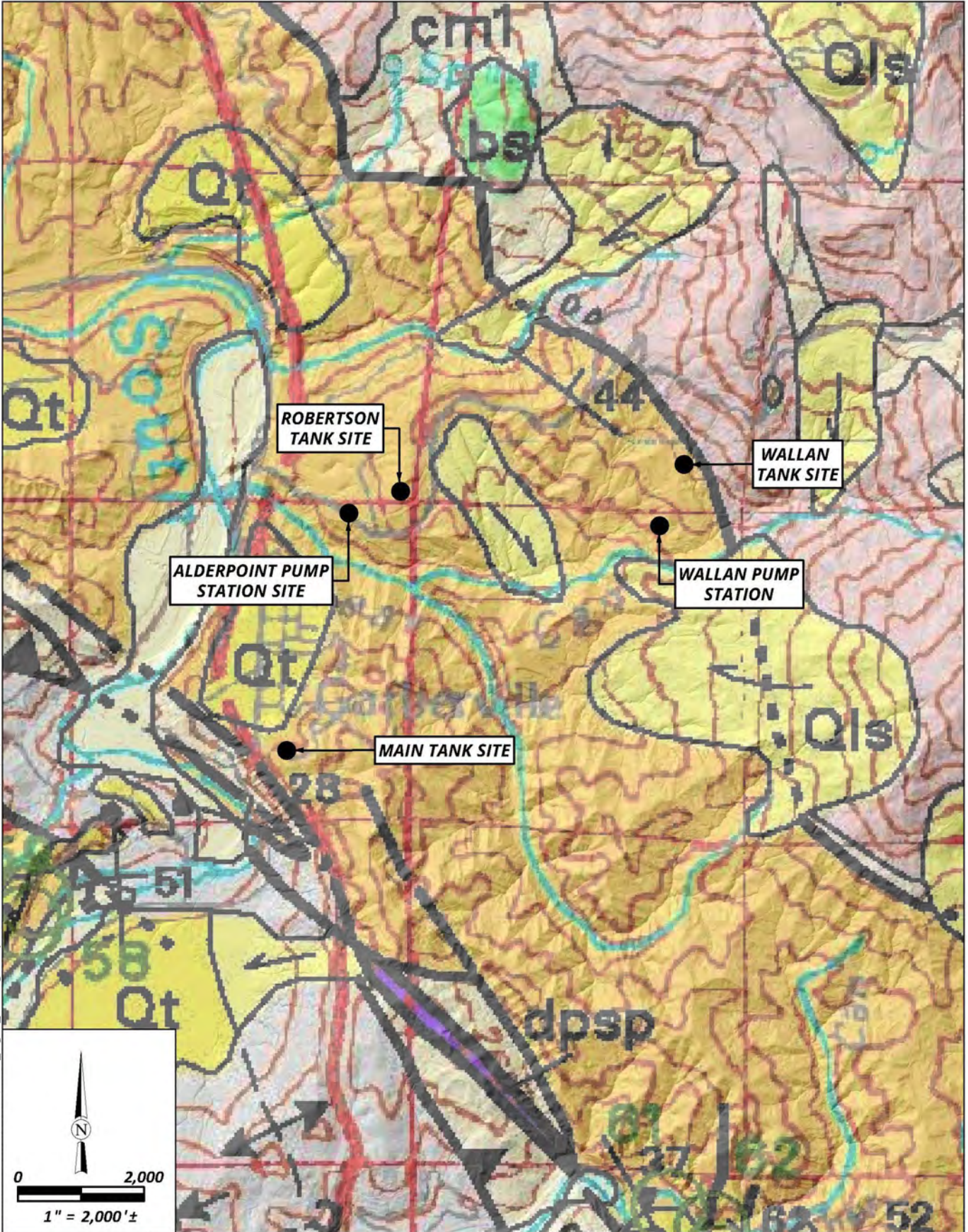
a.ii) *Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

The project site is in a seismically active area with the potential for strong earthquakes and strong ground shaking and is within the Garberville-Briceland fault zone. This fault zone is not considered active by the State of California (CGS, 2018). The project site is located approximately 15 miles northeast of the northern most extent of the San Andreas fault. As discussed under subsection a.i), the project site is not located in a state-mandated Earthquake Fault Zone. Strong seismic ground shaking should be expected during the lifespan of the proposed water storage tanks and associated infrastructure. The intensity of ground shaking from earthquakes would depend on several factors, including the distance from the site to the earthquake focus, the magnitude and duration of the earthquake, and the response of the underlying soil. At a minimum, it will be necessary to design and construct the proposed structures in accordance with the earthquake-resistant provisions of the governing code (SHN, 2023c).

Based on the results of the field and laboratory investigation, the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report found that construction of the water storage tanks and pump stations at the project sites is feasible from a geohazard and geotechnical standpoint, if the report's recommendations are implemented during design and construction. The major geotechnical considerations for development of the proposed water storage tanks and pump stations are the potential for strong seismic ground shaking and the proximity to steep, locally unstable slopes (SHN, 2023c).

Therefore, adherence to the recommendations of the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) shall be required as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from strong seismic ground shaking.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** and based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.



P:\Eureka\2022\022067-GSD-Water\GIS\CEQA_Fig10_GeologicMap.mxd USER: mrose DATE: 8/24/23, 7:27AM



Garberville Sanitary District
 Garberville Water System Improvements
 Garberville, California

Geologic Map
 McLaughlin, 2000
 August 2023 - 022067

Figure
10

QUATERNARY AND TERTIARY OVERLAP DEPOSITS

Qt

Undifferentiated nonmarine terrace deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene)-Dissected and (or) uplifted gravel, sand, silt, and clay, deposited in fluvial settings. In western Eureka quadrangle (Sheet 1) unit includes minor shallow marine intertongues and warped and tilted beds of late Pleistocene Hookton and Rohnerville Formations of Ogle (1953). In addition to younger late Pleistocene and Holocene fluvial terrace units a few feet to a few tens of feet higher than normal modern high-water level.

Qls

Landslide deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene)-Unsorted clay- to boulder-size debris and broken rock masses that have moved downslope in debris flows, earth flows, and as more-or-less intact rotational or translational blocks, largely from Pleistocene to present. Only large landslides, occupying tens to hundreds of acres, are depicted here.

QTw

Marine and nonmarine overlap deposits (late Pleistocene to middle Miocene)-Thin-bedded to massive, weakly lithified siltstone, fine- to medium-grained sandstone, silty to diatomaceous mudstone and locally soft, scaly mudstone. Locally includes lenses of pebble to boulder conglomerate, carbonate concretions, abundant molluscan fossils, woody debris, and horizons of rhyolitic volcanic ash that are greater than 1 meter thick in some areas. Includes the Wildcat Group (Ogle, 1953), the Bear River beds (Haller, 1980), and related outlier Neogene deposits isolated along faults near Briceland, Garberville, Benbow, Piercy, Bridgeville and northeast of Weott. Unit also includes minor fault-bounded blocks along or near the coast between Bear River and the Mattole River that are incorporated into melange of the Coastal terrane; the Neogene Falor Formation northeast of Eureka (Manning and Ogle, 1950); and equivalent deposits in the offshore area deposited in shelf, slope, and slope basin settings. A few poorly exposed erosional remnants of shallow marine to brackish water strata mapped along high ridge crests overlying the Franciscan Complex in the 1:24,000 Zenia quadrangle are tentatively assigned to this unit. South of this map, unit correlates with valley-fill, perched gravel and shallow marine to nonmarine coal-bearing sedimentary rocks of Quaternary and Tertiary age in the Round Valley area of Covelo 1:100,000 quadrangle (Jayko and others, 1989).

COAST RANGES PROVINCE
FRANCISCAN COMPLEX
Coastal Belt

Yager terrane (Eocene to Paleocene?)

Sedimentary rocks of the Yager terrane (Eocene to Paleocene?)-Argillite and arkosic sandstone rhythmically interbedded, thin to medium bedded; massive to thickly bedded arkosic sandstone with minor interbeds of argillite; and minor lenses of polymict boulder to pebble conglomerate. Southwest of Garberville, unit highly folded, but locally may be penetratively sheared or broken. Argillite and interbedded fine-grained sandstone is commonly calcareous and may have abundant plant debris in places. Sandstone characteristically contains prominent detrital muscovite. Based on fossil dinoflagellates and on spores and pollen from carbonate concretions in argillite, age of terrane is late to middle Eocene. Locally the lower beds of the terrane may be as old as Paleocene (McLaughlin and others, 1994). The Yager terrane is divided into 3 subunits based principally on topographic expression in aerial photographs and outcrop data:

y1

Sheared and highly folded mudstone-Includes minor rhythmically interbedded sandstone, locally with lenses of conglomerate. Exhibits irregular topography lacking a well-incised system of sidehill drainages

Central belt

Melange of the Central belt (early Tertiary to Late Cretaceous)

Consists of a matrix of clayey, penetratively sheared argillite and fine-grained sandstone, locally with intercalated green tuff and hard elliptical carbonate concretions armored with scaly black argillite. Includes blocks up to several kilometers across, of diverse lithologies and ages. Age range of the Central belt is based on the paleontologic and isotopic age range of rocks in the melange and on inferred range in age of penetrative shearing, boudinage, and related deformation that occurred during melange formation. Components of the Central belt melange include:

Unnamed Metasandstone and meta-argillite (Late Cretaceous to Late Jurassic)

Arkosic lithic metasandstone and meta-argillite, reconstituted to textural zones 1 to 2A (Jayko and others, 1989) and metamorphosed to pumpellyite and lawsonite grade, with less than 1/2 percent K-feldspar (fig. 5). Unit locally includes cobble- to pebble-size polymict conglomerate or monomict chert-pebble conglomerate. Locally, the metasandstone and meta-argillite depositonally overlie radiolarian chert in composite melange blocks. In some places in blocks metasandstone is imbricated or structurally interleaved with chert and basalt. Fossils from unnamed metasandstone and meta-argillite range in age from Late Cretaceous to Late Jurassic. Carbonate concretions and local, thin, silty, hemipelagic chert beds and lenses in melange matrix contain radiolaria and dinoflagellates ranging in age from Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous (Tithonian to Aptian or Albian). Some metasandstone and conglomerate in composite blocks depositonally overlie chert with a Late Cretaceous (Cenomanian) radiolarian assemblage. The unnamed metasandstone and meta-argillite is divided into subunits of melange and broken formation based principally on topographic expression in aerial photographs and outcrop data:

cm1

Melange-Predominantly penetratively sheared, locally tuffaceous, scaly meta-argillite and less abundant blocks of metasandstone. Exhibits rounded, poorly incised, lumpy and irregular topography

cm2

Broken formation-Consists of bedded to massive, locally folded, rarely conglomeratic metasandstone and meta-argillite, with only minor amounts of highly sheared rocks. Exhibits sharp-crested topography with regular, well-incised sidehill drainages

br

Basaltic rocks (Cretaceous and Jurassic)-Includes pillowed and non-pillowed flows, flow breccias, submarine tuff, and diabase. Basalt commonly is alkalic (high TiO2 content). Basalt may be overlain by radiolarian chert or foraminiferal limestone. Age of locally overlying limestone indicates some basalt to be as young as Middle Cretaceous (Aptian); where overlain by radiolarian chert, basalt is no younger than Early Jurassic. Basalt is metamorphosed to low greenschist grade

jspp

Serpentinite melange (Jurassic?)-Partially to completely serpentinized ultramafic rocks (harzburgite, dunite), locally highly sheared, and includes minor masses of cumulate gabbro, diabase or basalt. Present beneath diabase and (or) basalt of the Benbow and Bear Buttes areas (Sheet 3). Contact with overlying ophiolitic rocks probably is an attenuation fault. Unit is partially equivalent to some serpentinite interspersed with and assigned to Central belt of Franciscan Complex

P:\Eureka\2022\022067-GSD-Water\GIS\CEDA_Fig10a_GeologicMapLegend.mxd USER: mrose DATE: 8/24/23 7:30AM



Garberville Sanitary District
Garberville Water System Improvements
Garberville, California

Geologic Map Legend
McLaughlin, 2000
August 2023 - 022067

Figure
10A

a.iii) *Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction: Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*

As noted in the Geology and Soils Setting, there is a high level of seismicity in the north coast region of California. The entire northern California region is subject to the potential for moderate to strong seismic shaking due to local or distant seismic sources. According to the Humboldt County GIS system, the project is within areas of moderate and high slope instability (Humboldt County, 2023).

Liquefaction is a phenomenon whereby unconsolidated and/or near-saturated soils lose cohesion and are converted to a fluid state as a result of severe vibratory motion. The relatively rapid loss of soil shear strength during strong earthquake shaking results in temporary, fluid-like behavior of the soil. Soil liquefaction causes ground failure that can damage roads, pipelines, underground cables, and buildings with shallow foundations. The Humboldt County GIS system did not identify any areas of potential liquefaction in the project area. The Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report did not identify any areas of potential liquefaction in the project area.

Design and construction of the project would incorporate appropriate engineering practices to ensure seismic stability as required by the California Building Code (CBC). In addition, the proposed project shall adhere to the recommendations of the Geologic Hazard and Geotechnical Investigation (SHN, 2023c) relating to the design and construction of the proposed project. This requirement has been included as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from seismic hazards.

In compliance with existing laws and regulations, with the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-1**, and based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

a.iv) *Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*

Slope failures, commonly referred to as landslides, include many phenomena that involve the downslope displacement and movement of material, either triggered by static (such as, gravity) or dynamic (such as, earthquake) forces. Earthquake motions can induce significant horizontal and vertical dynamic stresses in slopes that can trigger failure. Earthquake-induced landslides can occur in areas with steep slopes that are susceptible to strong ground motion during an earthquake. The youthful and steep topography of the coast range is known for its potential for landslides.

According to the Humboldt County GIS system, the project is within areas of moderate and high slope instability (Humboldt County, 2023). The Humboldt County GIS system also shows a historic landslide near the Wallan Tank where water piping is to be replaced.

Numerous landslides and areas of unstable ground are shown on available geologic maps. The type and concentration of landsliding is relative to the underlying bedrock; more slides are mapped in areas underlain by Broken Formation bedrock, which does not underlie the improvement sites. Relatively few are mapped (or observed) in areas underlain by Wildcat Group sediments. The Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report did not document any features related to recent landsliding (tension cracks, seeps, springs, rills, or gullies) at the proposed new infrastructure sites, although unstable ground is mapped in the site vicinity. Failures occur along roads within the service area (Alderpoint Road, for example), but these appear related to construction methods (unsupported side cast fills on steep slopes) rather than underlying slope instability in the native soils. Due to the site location in a seismically active area and the potential for strong seismic ground shaking to occur at the site, there is an ongoing potential for localized co-seismic landsliding to occur along steep slopes throughout the project area (SHN, 2023c).

Therefore, adherence to the recommendations of the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) shall be required as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from landslides.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** and based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects,

including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

b) *Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Construction of the improvements proposed by the project would include grading, excavation, trenching, and other ground-disturbing activities that have the potential to result in soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. However, the project description includes various best management practices (Section 2.3 – Proposed Project) which would serve to avoid and minimize potential water quality impacts. Also, because construction is anticipated to involve work in or near jurisdictional waters (Stream #4 ordinary high-water mark near proposed Main Tank and/or a wetland near proposed Alderpoint Pump Station), the proposed project would require a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), a Section 401 Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements from the NCRWQCB, and/or an LSA Agreement from CDFW, and would need to comply with all permit conditions. Permit conditions would include measures and protocols to minimize erosion and siltation.

Additionally, because the project would involve more than one acre of ground disturbance, construction of the proposed project would be subject to the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) Construction General Permit (CGP). The CGP requires the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a certified Qualified SWPPP Developer (QSD) and incorporation of BMPs for construction, including site housekeeping practices, erosion control, inspections, maintenance, worker training in pollution prevention measures (see Section X [Hydrology and Water Quality]).

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact.

c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?* Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

According to the Humboldt County GIS system, the project is within areas of moderate and high slope instability (Humboldt County, 2023). The Humboldt County GIS system also shows a historic landslide near the Wallan Tank where water piping is to be replaced.

Numerous landslides and areas of unstable ground are shown on available geologic maps. The type and concentration of landsliding is relative to the underlying bedrock; more slides are mapped in areas underlain by Broken Formation bedrock, which does not underlie the improvement sites. Relatively few are mapped (or observed) in areas underlain by Wildcat Group sediments. The Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report did not document any features related to recent landsliding (tension cracks, seeps, springs, rills, or gullies) at the proposed new infrastructure sites, although unstable ground is mapped in the site vicinity. Due to the site location in a seismically active area and the potential for strong seismic ground shaking to occur at the site, there is an ongoing potential for localized co-seismic landsliding to occur along steep slopes throughout the project area (SHN, 2023c).

Neither the Humboldt County GIS system nor the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report identified any areas of potential liquefaction in the project area.

Design and construction of the project would incorporate appropriate engineering practices to ensure seismic stability as required by the CBC. In addition, the proposed project shall adhere to the recommendations of the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) relating to the design and construction of the proposed project. This requirement has been included as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from geologic hazards, including in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.

In compliance with existing laws and regulations, with the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-1**, and based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- d) *Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Expansive soils are those that undergo a change in volume when exposed to fluctuations in moisture, causing shrinking when dry and swelling when moist. Such change in volume can distort structural elements and damage structures. Typically, soils with high clay contents are most susceptible to these processes.

According to the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c), geologic mapping shows areas of landsliding (QIs on Figure 10) in the project vicinity; these occur as translational/ rotational and earthflow slides. Areas of “disrupted ground” are shown throughout the project vicinity, which are described as:

“Irregular ground surface caused by complex landsliding processes resulting in features that are indistinguishable or too small to delineate individually at the map scale; also may include areas affected by downslope creep, expansive soils, and/or gully erosion; boundaries are usually indistinguishable.” (Spittler, 1984)

Therefore, adherence to the recommendations of the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) shall be required as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from expansive soils.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** and based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not create substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property by being located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994). Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- e) *Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?* No Impact

The project does not include the placement of a septic tank or alternative disposal system. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

- f) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

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

It is unlikely but possible that project construction would impact potentially significant paleontological resources. In the unlikely event that fossils or other paleontological resources are encountered during construction (i.e., bones, teeth, or unusually abundant and well-preserved invertebrates or plants), construction activities would be diverted away from the discovery within 50 feet of the find, and a professional paleontologist would be notified to document the discovery as needed, to evaluate the potential resource, and to assess the nature and importance of the find. This inadvertent discovery protocol is incorporated as **Mitigation Measure GEO-2**. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-2** would reduce the impact of construction activities on potentially unknown paleontological resources by addressing discovery of unanticipated buried resources and preserving and/or recording those resources consistent with appropriate laws and requirements.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-2** and based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Geology and Soils*, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

Mitigation Measure GEO-1. Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations: Adherence to all project specific recommendations in the SHN Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) shall be required during design and construction of the proposed project. Project specific recommendations pertain to topics such as Site Preparation and Grading, Wet Weather Subgrade Protection, Select Engineered Fill, Excavations and Temporary Shoring, Utility Trench Backfill, Soil Corrosion Potential, Foundations, and Retaining Walls.

Mitigation Measure GEO-2. Inadvertent Discovery Protocol – Paleontological Resources: In the event that fossils or other paleontological resources are encountered during construction (i.e., bones, teeth, or unusually abundant and well-preserved invertebrates or plants), construction activities shall be diverted away from the discovery within 50 feet of the find, and a professional paleontologist shall be notified to document the discovery as needed, to evaluate the potential resource, and to assess the nature and importance of the find. Based on the scientific value or uniqueness of the find, the paleontologist may record the find and allow work to continue, or recommend salvage and recovery of the material, if it is determined that the find cannot be avoided. The paleontologist shall make recommendations for any necessary treatment that is consistent with currently accepted scientific practices. Any fossils collected from the area shall then be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution where they will be properly curated and preserved.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X	

Setting: Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are gases in the atmosphere that absorb and emit radiation. The greenhouse effect traps heat in the troposphere through a three-fold process, summarized as follows: short wave radiation emitted by the sun is absorbed by the Earth, the Earth emits a portion of this energy in the form of longwave (thermal) radiation, and GHGs in the upper atmosphere absorb and emit this longwave radiation into space and toward the Earth. This “trapping” of the longwave radiation emitted back toward the Earth is the underlying process of the greenhouse effect. Other than water vapor, the primary GHGs contributing to global climate change include the following gases:

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂), primarily a byproduct of fossil fuel combustion in stationary and mobile sources;
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O), a byproduct of fuel combustion and also associated with agricultural operations such as the fertilization of crops;
- Methane (CH₄), commonly created by off-gassing from agricultural practices (for example, livestock), wastewater treatment, and landfill operations;
- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which were used as refrigerants, propellants, and cleaning solvents, although their production has been mostly prohibited by international treaty;
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are now widely used as a substitute for chlorofluorocarbons in refrigeration and cooling; and
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) emissions, which are commonly created by industries such as aluminum production and semiconductor manufacturing.

Global climate change is not confined to a particular project area and is generally accepted as the consequence of GHG emissions from global industrialization over the last 200 years. A typical project, even a very large one, does not generate enough GHG emissions on its own to influence global climate change significantly; hence, the issue of global climate change is, by definition, a cumulative environmental impact.

California passed Assembly Bill 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act) in 2006, mandating a reduction in GHG emissions and Senate Bill 97 in 2007, evaluating and addressing GHG emissions under CEQA. On April 13, 2009, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) submitted to the Secretary for Natural Resources its proposed amendments to the state CEQA Guidelines for GHG emissions, as required by Senate Bill 97 (Chapter 185, 2007) and they became effective March 18, 2010. As a result of these revisions to the CEQA Guidelines, lead agencies are obligated to determine whether a project’s GHG emissions significantly affect the environment and to impose feasible mitigation to eliminate or substantially lessen any such significant effects. A lead agency is not responsible for wholly eliminating all GHG emissions from a project; the CEQA standard is to mitigate to a level that is “less-than-significant” or, in the case of cumulative impacts, less than cumulatively considerable (Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District [SMAQMD], 2018).

The Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) also directed CARB to develop the Climate Change Scoping Plan (Scoping Plan), which outlines a set of actions to achieve the AB 32 goal of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and to maintain such reductions thereafter. CARB approved the Scoping Plan in 2008 and first updated it in May 2014. The second update in November 2017 also address the actions necessary to achieve the further GHG emissions reduction goal of reducing GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, as described in Senate Bill 32 (SB 32). In addition, the 2017 Scoping Plan looks forward to the reduction goal of reducing emissions 80 percent under 1990 levels by 2050, as described in Executive Order S-3-05 (EO-S-3-05; CARB, 2017).

In 2018, the State had already met the AB 32 goal of reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 approximately four years early (CARB, 2019b). As stated in the Executive Summary of the 2019 Edition of the California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 2000-2017:

“The inventory for 2017 shows that California’s GHG emissions continue to decrease. In 2017, emissions from GHG emitting activities statewide were 424 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (MMTCO₂e), 5 MMTCO₂e lower than 2016 levels and 7 MMTCO₂e below the 2020 GHG Limit of 431 MMTCO₂e.” (CARB, 2019b).

GSD has not adopted quantitative thresholds for determining the significance of GHG emissions, nor has GSD adopted a qualified plan, policy, or regulation to reduce emissions that qualifies for tiering in CEQA documents (per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(a)).

The project site is located in the NCAB and is under the jurisdiction of the NCUAQMD. The NCUAQMD has also not adopted quantitative thresholds for determining the significance of GHG emissions, nor has the NCUAQMD adopted a qualified plan, policy, or regulation to reduce emissions that qualifies for tiering in CEQA documents (per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(a); NCUAQMD, 2015). In the absence of quantitative thresholds or a Climate Action Plan from GSD, Humboldt County, or NCUAQMD, thresholds and guidance adopted by other air districts in the State are used for the purposes of this analysis.

In the NCAB, the closest air district to the proposed project that has adopted GHG significance thresholds is the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD). MCAQMD has adopted an operational emissions threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO₂e per year (MTCO₂e/yr; MCAQMD, 2010). This threshold is also recommended for use by the SMAQMD. The SMAQMD also recommends use of this threshold for analyzing GHG emissions from construction activity. This threshold was developed to ensure at least 90 percent of new GHG emissions would be reviewed and assessed for mitigation, thereby contributing to GHG emissions reduction goals of AB 32, SB 32, the Scoping Plan, and Executive Orders (SMAQMD, 2018). As such, this threshold has been adopted for use in the NCAB and is one of the most used thresholds in the State for analyzing the potential impacts of construction and operational GHG emissions. For the reasons noted above, the threshold of 1,100 MTCO₂e/yr is used to evaluate the proposed project’s construction and operational GHG emissions. If the threshold is exceeded, then the project would have a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative environmental impact and would conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing GHG emissions.

In January 2012, as part of the General Plan Update, Humboldt County prepared a Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) to reduce GHG emissions in the unincorporated County (Humboldt County, 2012). The Plan contains GHG reduction strategies designed to achieve the target of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 emissions levels by 2020. The 2012 Draft CAP also set an additional target to achieve no net increase of GHG emissions compared to building-as-usual emissions from the 1984 General Plan for new residential development within the County by the year 2025. To comply with SB 32, the County is in the process of preparing county-wide GHG emissions targets for the year 2030 (and possibly also 2040) as part of a Regional Climate Action Plan that will incorporate an updated 1990 GHG Inventory.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. Any GHG emissions currently being emitted by operation of the existing water system would be considered part of the existing baseline conditions. Because the proposed project would not increase the amount of water treated or used, it would not result in any significant increases in operational GHG emissions. The proposed project would generate both direct and indirect GHG emissions. Direct GHG emissions include emissions from construction activities, area sources, and mobile (vehicle) sources. Indirect GHG emissions include emissions from energy consumption, solid waste, and water demand.

Both construction and operational GHG emissions for the proposed project were estimated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod; CAPCOA, 2022), which is a statewide land use emissions computer model

designed to provide a uniform platform for government agencies to quantify potential criteria pollutant emissions associated with both construction and operation of a variety of land use projects. The model applies inherent default values for various land uses, including trip generation rates based on the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Manual, vehicle mix, trip length, average speed, etc. However, where project-specific data is available, such data should be input into the model. Project-specific information input into the model was derived from project description at the beginning of this document, from the Preliminary Engineering Report (SHN, 2023a), and from supplemental information provided by the project engineer related to the size of proposed structures and equipment, area of grading and site preparation, equipment that would be used for construction, number of days for each construction activity, the quantity of materials that would be imported and exported, and information on the proposed backup generators. Otherwise, where project-specific information was not available, the model default values were used for estimating emissions from the project.

Table 13 presents the estimates of unmitigated annual GHG emissions from construction and operation of the proposed project as compared to the 1,100 MTCO₂e/yr threshold of significance.

Table 13. Annual GHG Emissions (Unmitigated)

Project Phase	GHG Emissions (MTCO ₂ e/yr)	Threshold of Significance (MTCO ₂ e/yr)	Significant Impact?
Construction	171	1,100	No
Operation	57	1,100	No

Source: CAPCOA, 2022; MCAQMD, 2010; SMAQMD, 2020

As shown in Table 13, the construction and operational GHG emissions from the proposed project are well below the threshold of significance. Therefore, the proposed project would not generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that would have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The proposed project would result in GHG emissions from construction and operation. A GHG impact would be significant if the project would conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. As noted in the Air Quality Setting, a CAP that is consistent with SB 32 has not yet been adopted by Humboldt County.

The proposed project is subject to myriad State and local regulations applicable to project design, construction, and operation that would reduce GHG emissions, increase energy efficiency, and provide compliance with the CARB Climate Change Scoping Plan (CARB, 2017). The State of California has the most comprehensive GHG regulatory requirements in the United States, with laws and regulations requiring reductions that affect project emissions. Legal mandates to reduce GHG emissions from vehicles, for example, reduce project-related vehicular emissions. Legal mandates to reduce per capita water consumption and impose waste management standards to reduce methane and other GHGs from solid wastes are all examples of mandates that reduce GHGs. It is noted that according to CARB, in 2019, emissions from GHG-emitting activities statewide were 418.2 MMTCO₂e, 7.2 MMTCO₂e lower than 2018 levels and almost 13 MMTCO₂e below the 2020 GHG limit of 431 MMTCO₂e (CARB, 2021).

As discussed above under subsection a), GHG emissions from the proposed project’s construction and operational activity are well below the threshold of significance of 1,100 MTCO₂e/yr that is used by several air districts in the state to determine the significance of impacts from GHG emissions. As such, construction and operational emissions from the proposed project would be less-than-significant and would not conflict with any plans policies, or regulations related to GHG emissions.

Additionally, the project would result in improved energy efficiency through the following:

- **Reduced Treatment Requirements**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described in the Energy section of this document, the demand on the water treatment plant would be

reduced because less treated water would be wasted through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with operating the surface water treatment plant.

- **Reduced Pumping Efforts**—By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the system, as described above, the demand on the pumping systems would be reduced because less treated water would be wasted through leaks and breaks. This would result in reduced energy consumption associated with pumping raw and treated water.
- **Energy Efficient Infrastructure**—The new pump stations and pump station modifications associated with this project are expected to result in less energy consumption because they would include equipment that is more energy efficient, such as modern pumps with variable frequency drives.

These energy efficiency improvements represent a substantial reduction in the existing waste of energy for pumping water (as well as energy used during water treatment) and would reduce indirect GHG emissions generated by electricity consumption during project operation.

Therefore, the proposed project as designed and in compliance with existing laws and regulations, would not generate GHG emissions that would conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project site?			X	
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?			X	

Setting: The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

Hazards are those physical safety factors that can cause injury or death, and while by themselves in isolation may not pose a significant safety hazard to the public, when combined with development of projects, they can exacerbate hazardous conditions. Hazardous materials are typically chemicals or processes that are used or generated by a project that could pose harm to people, either working at the site or in adjacent areas. Many of these chemicals can cause hazardous conditions to occur should they be improperly disposed of or accidentally spilled as part of project development or operations. Hazardous materials are also those listed as hazardous pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) maintains a list of hazardous substances and contaminated sites around the State as part of its Envirostor database. According to the DTSC Envirostor database, the project site is not identified as containing hazardous materials contamination or the storage of hazardous materials (DTSC, 2023). The SWRCB maintains a list of leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites and other cleanup sites around the State as part of its Geotracker database. Geotracker shows approximately 14 LUST sites in the Garberville area. All are listed with a status as “Completed - Case Closed” except for one. Ed’s Texaco at 822 Redwood Drive, Garberville is a LUST cleanup site (T0602300396) with a status of “Open - Verification Monitoring” as of January 6, 2012 (NCRWQCB Case # 1THU520) (SWRCB, 2023). However, no work is proposed within 500 feet of this site. There are no other known sites containing hazardous materials contamination in the project area that would have the potential to impact the project site.

The nearest schools to the project are Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool which are located approximately two miles northwest of the project. No existing or proposed school is located within one-quarter mile of the project.

The only public airport or public use airport within two miles of the project is Garberville Airport. The project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of Garberville Airport but is not within the boundaries of the airport land use plan (Humboldt County, 2023). No use or height limitations related to the airport apply to the project.

The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Fire Protection District (GFPD; Humboldt County, 2023). The GFPD station is located at 680 Locust Street, approximately 0.1 mile from the project. In addition to being served by the GFPD, the community of Garberville is within a CALFIRE State Responsibility Zone (SRA). CALFIRE's Northern Region Garberville Station is located at 324 Alderpoint Road, on one of the project parcels (APN 223-183-003 where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed).

CALFIRE designates lands in three general classifications, "Moderate", "High" and "Very High" Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs). CALFIRE assigns FHSZs based on existing vegetation, topography, weather, crown fire potential, ember production and movement, and the likelihood of a site to burn over a 30 to 50-year time period. CALFIRE delineates most of the project locations as "Very High" FHSZ and delineates the Wallan tank site as "High" FHSZ (CALFIRE, 2023). The District's service area includes state wildland urban interface areas where structures intermingle with undeveloped wildlands.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

Construction

Construction of the project would require the temporary use and transport of paints, fuels, oils, solvents, and other chemicals used during construction activities. Improper use and transportation of hazardous materials could result in accidental releases or spills, potentially posing health risks to workers, the public, and the environment. These activities are controlled by state and federal regulations. Throughout the transport, use, or disposal of potentially hazardous materials, the contractor is required to employ standard cleanup and safety procedures to minimize the potential for public exposure from accidental releases of such substances into the environment. Additionally, construction activities at the project site would require implementation of a SWPPP that would incorporate BMPs for construction, including site housekeeping practices, hazardous material storage, inspections, maintenance, worker training in pollution prevention measures, and secondary containment of releases to prevent pollutants from being carried offsite via runoff. These measures would reduce the risk of transporting, using, and disposing of hazardous construction materials.

Operation

During the operation of the proposed project, maintenance, cleaning, and landscaping products may be stored and used at the project site that contain toxic substances (for example, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and cleaning products). However, the use of these products is part of the baseline conditions, as they are periodically used during the existing operation of the site. These products are typically low in concentration and used in small quantities that would not pose a significant risk to humans or the environment during transport and use at the project site. Furthermore, these products would be used in adherence to warning labels and storage recommendations from the individual manufacturers.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- b) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

Construction

As noted above, construction of the project would require the temporary use and transport of paints, fuels, oils, solvents, and other chemicals used during construction activities. Improper use and transportation of hazardous materials could result in accidental releases or spills, potentially posing health risks to workers, the public, and the environment. These activities are controlled by state and federal regulations. Throughout the transport, use, or disposal of potentially hazardous materials, the contractor is required to employ standard cleanup and safety procedures to minimize the potential for public exposure from upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Additionally, construction activities at the project site would require implementation of a SWPPP that would incorporate BMPs for construction, including site housekeeping practices, hazardous material storage, inspections, maintenance, worker training in pollution prevention measures, and secondary containment of releases to prevent pollutants from being carried offsite via runoff. With appropriate storage, handling, and application practices, it is unlikely that any hazardous materials used during construction activity would be released in a manner that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

Operation

As previously noted, the proposed project would alter the location of some of the District’s water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations. Operation of the proposed project would require the storage and use of maintenance, cleaning, and landscaping products that contain toxic substances (for example, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and cleaning products). However, the use of these products is part of the baseline condition, as they are periodically used in association with existing water system operations. These products are typically low in concentration and used in small quantities that would not pose a significant risk to humans or the environment during use at the project site. Furthermore, these products would be used in adherence to warning labels and storage recommendations from the individual manufacturers to reduce the risk of upset and accident conditions. With appropriate storage, handling, and application practices, it is unlikely that any hazardous materials used during operation of the project would be released in a manner that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The nearest schools to the project are Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool, which are located approximately two miles northwest of the project. No existing or proposed school is located within one-quarter mile of the project.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?* No Impact

The California DTSC maintains a list of hazardous substances and contaminated sites around the State (Cortese List, Government Code Section 65962.5) as part of its Envirostor database. According to the DTSC Envirostor database, the project site is not identified as containing hazardous materials contamination or the storage of hazardous materials (DTSC, 2023). The SWRCB maintains a list of LUST sites and other cleanup sites around the State as part of its Geotracker database. Geotracker shows approximately 14 LUST sites in the Garberville area. All are listed with a status as “Completed - Case Closed” except for one. Ed’s Texaco at 822 Redwood Drive, Garberville is a LUST cleanup site

(T0602300396) with a status of “Open - Verification Monitoring” as of January 6, 2012 (NCRWQCB Case # 1THU520) (SWRCB, 2023). However, the nearest proposed work is over 500 feet from this site. There are no other known sites containing hazardous materials contamination in the project area that would have the potential to impact the project site.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

- e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project site? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

The only public airport or public use airport within two miles of the project is Garberville Airport. The project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of Garberville Airport but is not within the boundaries of the airport land use plan (Humboldt County, 2023). No use or height limitations related to the airport apply to the project.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise from an airport for people residing or working in the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- f) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

The project proposes improvement of the community of Garberville’s water system. This type of project is not of the nature to substantially impact emergency response or evacuation. Development of the proposed water system improvements would not involve any new permanent encroachments within County rights-of-way (ROWs). Project construction would require temporary encroachments at a number of locations within County ROWs. Encroachment permits would be required for any work completed within County ROW. Construction of the Zone 1 distribution main connection between the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site and the downtown area (Figure 5A) would also require temporary encroachment within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) ROW. An encroachment permit would be required for any work completed within the Caltrans highway ROW. The encroachment permit application(s) for Caltrans and Humboldt County require preparation of traffic control plans for work that would block the right-of-way, and plans for re-routing of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians, as needed. Implementation of traffic controls would be required in accordance with Caltrans and County standards, and contractors would be required to comply with the general conditions of the encroachment permits, including restoration of any damage to ROW improvements.

Through compliance with Caltrans and County requirements, and for the reasons explained above, construction activities would not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- g) *Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

As noted in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials Setting, CALFIRE delineates most of the project locations as “Very High” FHSZ and delineates the Wallan tank site as “High” FHSZ (CALFIRE, 2023). The District’s service area includes state wildland urban interface areas where structures intermingle with undeveloped wildlands. As discussed in Section XX (Wildfire), the proposed project is not of the nature to exacerbate or expose people/structures to wildland fires and would result in an overall benefit to public services including fire protection by replacing substandard water storage and distribution infrastructure with new updated infrastructure. As such, the proposed project would not expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?			X	
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c.i) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or offsite?			X	
c.ii) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding or- or offsite?			X	
c.iii) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			X	
c.iv) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff which would impede or redirect flood flows?			X	
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				X
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			X	

Setting: The project site is located 13 miles east of the Pacific Ocean and 650 feet east of the South Fork Eel River. The Wallan Tank site is atop a steep south-southwest-facing slope approximately 1,150 feet above sea level, and the Wallan Pump Station is on a moderately steep south-southwest facing slope approximately 855 feet above sea level. The Robertson Tank site is atop a south-facing steep slope approximately 780 feet above sea level, uphill from the Arthur Road Pump Station, which is on a generally-level hillside bench approximately 615 feet above sea level. The proposed Alderpoint Road Pump Station is downslope from the Arthur Road Pump Station on a larger hillside bench, between 550 and 600 feet above sea level. The existing Hurlbutt Tank and proposed Main Tank site is on a west-facing moderately steep slope approximately 700 feet above sea level. The Tobin Well site is in downtown Garberville on a west-facing hillside bench with a gentle slope approximately 550 feet above sea level within an urban residential area.

The project site is located in the Eel River Hydrologic Unit, South Fork Eel River Watershed, and North Coast Region. The NCRWQCB adopts and implements the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the North Coast Region, which identifies beneficial uses and recognizes water quality problems unique to the region. The South Fork Eel River Watershed is listed as impaired for sediment and temperature (NCRWQCB, 2023).

The proposed project and the District’s water source are located in the Garberville Town Area (1-032) Groundwater Basin. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has ranked the basin as a “Very Low” priority groundwater basin

because of the condition of the basin and the minimal risk of overdraft and other impacts indicating that the basin is not at risk of overdraft (DWR, 2023).

Flood zones are geographic areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has defined according to varying levels of flood risk. These zones are depicted on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Each flood zone reflects the anticipated type of flooding in the area. According to FIRM Panel 06023C1985F, the project site is located in an area of minimal flood hazard, (Zone X; FEMA, 2023).

A Biological and Wetland Assessment was prepared for this project (SHN, 2023b), which mapped ten wetland features and five streams within or near the study area. See Figures 7 through 9 and Tables 11 and 12 in Section IV Biological Resources for wetland and stream locations, wetland test pit (TP) data, and wetland and stream (ordinary high-water mark) delineation results.

The ten wetlands ranged in size between 176 and 2,244 square feet in open herbaceous-dominated or forested settings for a total of 6,538 square feet of wetlands mapped, of which 5,838 square feet occurs within the study area (Table 11). Of the 10 wetlands occurring within the study area, 3 are palustrine emergent (herbaceous-dominated), 6 are palustrine forested, and 1 is palustrine shrub-scrub wetland. All wetlands displayed some form of historical or on-going anthropogenic disturbance mostly related to road development, reflecting the proximity of the study area to roadsides. Four of the wetlands (Wetlands #1, #2, #5, and #6) have aboveground connectivity to a Traditional Navigable Waterway (TNW). The remaining six wetlands appear to be isolated with no aboveground connectivity to additional wetlands or other waters. Wetlands with above-ground connectivity to a TNW have a total area of 1,178 square feet.

A total of five streams were mapped within the study area and the immediate vicinity of the study area (Figures 7 through 9 and Table 11). Of the five streams, four are seasonal intermittent (Streams #1, #2, #3, and #5), and one of the streams is ephemeral (Stream #4). Of the five streams, two do not enter the study area, but flow within the immediate vicinity of the study area. These were mapped for planning and setback purposes. Streams #2 and #4 have portions of the stream within the study area for a total of 538 linear feet of stream occurring within the study area. A total of 1,543 linear feet of streams have been mapped within and immediately adjacent to the study area.

The District provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services to the town of Garberville and the surrounding area. However, this project does not involve wastewater collection, treatment, or disposal.

Limited constructed stormwater facilities exist within the project sites. Several drainage inlets were mapped during the wetland delineation between the Hurlbutt/Main Tank sites and U.S. Highway 101 (Figure 9).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The surface water features on the project site include ten wetland features and five streams, as described in the Hydrology and Water Quality Setting. Water quality in the South Fork Eel River watershed is influenced by stormwater runoff from a variety of land uses. The South Fork Eel River Watershed is listed as impaired for sediment and temperature (NCRWQCB, 2023).

Construction

Construction of the proposed project would include demolition, site preparation, grading, water tank and building construction, trenching, paving, architectural coating, and revegetation activities, which have the potential to result in water quality pollutants such as silt, debris, chemicals, paints, and other solvents. The release of such pollutants would adversely affect water quality. In addition, stormwater discharge may include debris, particulate, and petroleum hydrocarbons as a result of improper storage of construction materials, improper disposal of construction wastes, discharges resulting from construction dewatering activities, and spilled petroleum products. As such, short-term water quality impacts have the potential to occur during construction of the proposed project in the absence of any protective and avoidance measures.

However, the project description includes various best management practices (Section 2.3 – Proposed Project) which would serve to avoid and minimize potential water quality impacts.

Also, because construction is anticipated to involve work in or near jurisdictional waters (Stream #4 ordinary high-water mark near proposed Main Tank and/or Wetland #3 near proposed Alderpoint Pump Station), the proposed project would require a CWA Section 404 Permit from the USACE, a Section 401 Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements from the NCRWQCB, and/or an LSA Agreement from CDFW, and would need to comply with all permit conditions. Permit conditions would include measures and protocols to minimize the degradation of surface water and groundwater quality.

Additionally, because the project would involve more than one acre of ground disturbance, GSD would need to obtain coverage under State Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (General Permit). In compliance with the NPDES requirements, a Notice of Intent (NOI) would be prepared and submitted to the NCRWQCB, providing notification and intent to comply with the State of California Construction General Permit (CGP). In addition, a Construction SWPPP would be prepared for pollution prevention and control prior to initiating site construction activities. The Construction SWPPP would identify and specify the use of appropriate BMPs for control of pollutants in stormwater runoff during construction-related activities, and would be designed to address water erosion control, sediment control, offsite tracking control, wind erosion control, non-stormwater management control, and waste management and materials pollution control. A sampling and monitoring program would be included in the Construction SWPPP that meets the requirements of the NCRWQCB to ensure the BMPs are effective. A Qualified SWPPP Practitioner would oversee implementation of the SWPPP, including visual inspections, sampling and analysis, and ensuring overall compliance. Implementation of the SWPPP, as required by law, would ensure that water quality is protected during construction activities.

Adherence to the SWRCB regulatory requirements of the CGP, the BMPs included in the project description, and the permit conditions would ensure construction of the proposed project would not result in substantial degradation of surface or ground water quality.

Operation

The proposed project would alter the location of and improve the District's water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations nor increase the water service area, water withdrawals, or water entitlements. Development of the new tanks would include energy dissipators for the tank drains and overflow pipes and would be designed for appropriate stormwater drainage. The proposed project would not involve the use of septic systems or alternative wastewater disposal systems, nor would it affect the community's wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems.

The proposed project would result in a small increase in impervious surface area associated with tank removals and replacements. Three water tanks would be removed, and two water tanks would be constructed, resulting in an increase of approximately 1,125 square feet (sf) of impervious surface area. The associated increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible. The project would also decrease non-stormwater runoff because it would replace the existing Hurlbutt and Wallan Tanks, which are both currently leaking (SHN, 2023b). This would improve water quality in those locations by reducing sedimentation/siltation.

During the operation of the proposed project, maintenance, cleaning, and landscaping products may be stored and used that contain toxic substances (for example, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and cleaning products). However, the use of these products is part of the baseline condition, as they are periodically used in association with existing operations. These products are typically low in concentration and used in small quantities that would not pose a significant risk to humans or the environment during transport and use at the project site. Furthermore, these products would be used in adherence to warning labels and storage recommendations from the individual manufacturers.

In compliance with the SWRCB regulatory requirements of the CGP, the BMPs included in the project description, and the permit conditions, the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- b) *Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?* No Impact

The District's primary water source is surface water from the South Fork Eel River and a backup water source is groundwater from the Tobin Well. Garberville and its water sources are located in the Garberville Town Area (1-032) Groundwater Basin. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has ranked the basin as a "Very Low" priority groundwater basin because of the condition of the basin and the minimal risk of overdraft and other impacts indicating that the basin is not at risk of overdraft (DWR, 2023). The proposed project would reduce water losses associated with leaks and water main breaks. As such, it would not interfere with the implementation of a sustainable groundwater management plan. The proposed project is not of the nature to substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

- c.i) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or offsite?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The surface water features on the project site include ten wetland features and five streams, as described in the Hydrology and Water Quality Setting. The proposed project does not propose an alteration of the course of a stream or river, although it does involve temporary disturbance in or near Stream #4 for water line construction (Figure 9). The proposed project would result in a small increase in impervious surface area associated with tank removals and replacements. Three water tanks would be removed, and two water tanks would be constructed, resulting in an increase of approximately 1,125 sf of impervious surface area. The associated increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible. The project would also decrease non-stormwater runoff because it would replace the existing Hurlbutt and Wallan Tanks, which are both currently leaking (SHN, 2023b). This would improve water quality in those locations by reducing sedimentation/siltation. Construction of the proposed project has the potential to result in erosion and discharge of sediment to nearby drainage features. However, the project description includes various best management practices (Section 2.3 – Proposed Project) which would serve to avoid and minimize potential water quality impacts.

Also, because construction is anticipated to involve work in or near jurisdictional waters (Stream #4 ordinary high-water mark near proposed Main Tank and/or Wetland #3 near proposed Alderpoint Pump Station), the proposed project would require a CWA Section 404 Permit from the USACE, a Section 401 Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements from the NCRWQCB, and/or an LSA Agreement from CDFW, and would need to comply with all permit conditions. Permit conditions would include measures and protocols to minimize erosion and siltation.

Additionally, because the project would involve more than one acre of ground disturbance, GSD would need to obtain coverage under State Water Resources Control Board NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (General Permit). In compliance with the NPDES requirements, a NOI would be prepared and submitted to the NCRWQCB, providing notification and intent to comply with the State of California CGP. In addition, a Construction SWPPP would be prepared for pollution prevention and control prior to initiating site construction activities. The Construction SWPPP would identify and specify the use of appropriate BMPs for control of pollutants in stormwater runoff during construction-related activities, and would be designed to address water erosion control, sediment control, offsite tracking control, wind erosion control, non-stormwater management control, and waste management and materials pollution control. A sampling and monitoring program would be included in the Construction SWPPP that meets the requirements of the NCRWQCB to ensure the BMPs are effective. A Qualified SWPPP Practitioner would oversee implementation of the SWPPP, including visual inspections, sampling and analysis, and ensuring overall compliance. Implementation of the SWPPP, as required by law, would ensure that construction of the proposed project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

Adherence to the SWRCB regulatory requirements of the CGP, the BMPs included in the project description, and the permit conditions would ensure construction of the proposed project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c.ii)** *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project does not propose an alteration of the course of a stream or river. The proposed project would result in a small increase in impervious surface area associated with tank removals and replacements. Three water tanks would be removed, and two water tanks would be constructed, resulting in an increase of approximately 1,125 sf of impervious surface area. The associated increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible. The project would also decrease non-stormwater runoff because it would replace the existing Hurlbutt and Wallan Tanks, which are both currently leaking (SHN, 2023b). This would improve water quality in those locations by reducing sedimentation/siltation.

As such, the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c.iii)** *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project does not propose an alteration of the course of a stream or river. The proposed project would result in a small increase in impervious surface area associated with tank removals and replacements. Three water tanks would be removed, and two water tanks would be constructed, resulting in an increase of approximately 1,125 sf of impervious surface area. The associated increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible. The project would also decrease non-stormwater runoff because it would replace the existing Hurlbutt and Wallan Tanks, which are both currently leaking (SHN, 2023b). This would improve water quality in those locations by reducing sedimentation/siltation. Limited constructed stormwater facilities exist within the project sites. Several drainage inlets were mapped during the wetland delineation between the Hurlbutt/Main Tank sites and U.S. Highway 101 (Figure 9). The project does not propose drainage alterations that would substantially affect existing stormwater facilities.

As such, the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site in a manner that would create or contribute runoff which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c.iv)** *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff which would impede or redirect flood flows?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project does not propose an alteration of the course of a stream or river. According to FIRM Panel 06023C1985F, the project site is located in an area of minimal flood hazard, (Zone X; FEMA, 2023). The proposed project would result in a small increase in impervious surface area associated with tank removals and replacements. Three water tanks would be removed, and two water tanks would be constructed, resulting in an increase of approximately 1,125 sf of impervious surface area. The associated increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible. Therefore, the potential for the proposed project to impede or redirect flood flows is negligible.

For the reasons explained above, it has been determined the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff which would impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- d)** *In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?* No Impact

According to FIRM Panel 06023C1985F, the project site is located outside of a regulated flood hazard zone (FEMA, 2023). The California Department of Conservation's Tsunami Hazard Area Map shows the project site as being located outside of a tsunami hazard zone (DOC, 2023b). There is no body of water near the project site that has the potential for the generation of a seiche. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the release of pollutants due to project inundation.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined the proposed project would not be located in a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone, and would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

- e) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

Water Quality Control Plan

The project site is located in the Eel River Hydrologic Unit, South Fork Eel River Watershed, and North Coast Region. The NCRWQCB adopts and implements the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the North Coast Region, which identifies beneficial uses and recognizes water quality problems unique to the region. The South Fork Eel River Watershed is listed as impaired for sediment and temperature (NCRWQCB, 2023).

As discussed under the subsections above, potential water quality impacts from construction and operation of the proposed project would be less than significant due to the project design elements, compliance with existing regulatory requirements (SWRCB CGP), and compliance with the permit conditions from the USACE, North Coast RWQCB, and/or CDFW. See subsections a), c.i), and c.iii) for further information. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct a water quality control plan.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan

The DWR has ranked the Garberville Town Area (1-032) Groundwater Basin as a "Very Low" priority groundwater basin because of the condition of the basin and the minimal risk of overdraft and other impacts indicating that the basin is not at risk of overdraft (DWR, 2023). As discussed under subsection b), the proposed project would result in a negligible (approximately 1,000 sf) increase in impervious surface area. This has little to no potential to alter existing groundwater recharge patterns. The project would not affect the implementation of a sustainable groundwater management plan as it would not change the type of ongoing operations nor increase the water service area, water withdrawals, or water entitlements. As such, the proposed project would not interfere with the implementation of a sustainable groundwater management plan.

The proposed project and GSD's water source are located in the Garberville Town Area (1-032) Groundwater Basin. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has ranked the basin as a "Very Low" priority groundwater basin because of the condition of the basin and the minimal risk of overdraft and other impacts indicating that the basin is not at risk of overdraft (DWR, 2023). No increase in the permitted or actual amount of diversion from the South Fork Eel River is proposed. Therefore, the proposed project would not interfere with the implementation of a sustainable groundwater management plan.

For the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Hydrology and Water Quality*.

XI. <u>LAND USE AND PLANNING</u> : <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?		X		

Setting: The project is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in Humboldt County, east of U.S. Highway 101. The Humboldt County General Plan (Humboldt County, 2017) serves as the basis for land use planning within this portion of Humboldt County. See Table 1 for zoning of the project parcels, which includes Residential Suburban, Agriculture Exclusive, and Residential One-Family. Table 1 also provides the general plan land use designations of the project parcels, which include Public Lands, Residential Low Density, Residential Estates, Residential Agriculture, and Public Facilities. The Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by timberlands to the east, the urbanized Garberville downtown to the north, and U.S. Highway 101 to the west and south. The Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site is developed with rural residential uses and existing District water system infrastructure. It is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses. The Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations sites are developed with the existing Arthur Pump Station and a CALFIRE station respectively and are surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses, as well as forested areas. The Robertson Tank site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by rural residential and agricultural uses, as well as forested areas. The Tobin Well site is developed with existing District water system infrastructure and is surrounded by single-family residential development.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Physically divide an established community?* No Impact

The project is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in Humboldt County, east of U.S. Highway 101. The project parcels are developed with rural residential uses, a CALFIRE station, and existing District water infrastructure, and are surrounded by the land uses described above in Setting. Access to the project sites is provided by existing roadways including U.S. Highway 101, Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, Redwood Drive, Wallan Road, Alderpoint Road, Arthur Road, and Pine Lane. The project does not propose large infrastructure improvements (for example, highway, canal, etc.) that have the potential to physically divide the community of Garberville. The proposed project would improve water storage and distribution infrastructure that is an integral part of the local community.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not physically divide an established community. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

b) *Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?* Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

See Table 1 for zoning of the project areas, which includes Agriculture Exclusive (AE), Residential Suburban (RS), and Residential One Family (R-1). Per Humboldt County Code Section 314-58.1 (Public Uses), “Public uses as defined in this Code, shall be permitted in any zone without the necessity of first obtaining a Use Permit. However, the locations of proposed public uses shall be submitted to the Planning Commission for recommendation at least thirty (30) days prior to the acquisition of sites or rights-of-way for the public use.” The project would require a General Plan Conformance Review from Humboldt County to ensure zoning/general plan consistency and the locations of proposed public uses would be submitted to the County as part of that process. As discussed under Section IV (Biological

Resources), the project is anticipated to potentially require a Special Permit from Humboldt County for work within a streamside management area and/or for removing trees greater than 12 inches diameter within a residential-zoned parcel. The project would need to comply with all permit conditions to ensure zoning and general plan consistency.

Additionally, because construction is anticipated to involve work in or near jurisdictional waters (stream ordinary high-water mark near proposed Main Tank and/or wetland near proposed Alderpoint Pump Station), the proposed project would require a CWA Section 404 Permit from the USACE, a Section 401 Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements from the NCRWQCB, and/or an LSA Agreement from CDFW, and would need to comply with all permit conditions.

As discussed throughout this document, the project has been designed and mitigated to comply with local, State, and federal regulatory requirements, including those of the Humboldt County General Plan (Humboldt County, 2017). In all instances where potentially significant impacts have been identified, mitigation is provided to reduce each impact to less-than-significant levels. This was necessary in the following sections of the document: Aesthetics (Section I), Air Quality (Section III), Biological Resources (Section IV), Cultural Resources (Section V), Geology and Soils (Section VII), and Noise (Section XVIII). As designed and mitigated, the proposed project would not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of any agency with jurisdiction over the project.

With the implementation of mitigation measures included in other sections of this document and for the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures have been required in other sections of this document, so that when implemented, the proposed project will have a less significant impact:

Mitigation Measure AES-1 (International Dark-Sky Association Compliance)

Mitigation Measure AQ-1 (Fugitive Dust Control Measures)

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Nesting Bird Surveys)

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Protect Special Status Bats)

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Mitigation for Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters)

Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Mitigation for Loss of Wetlands and Waters)

Mitigation Measure CR-1 (Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources)

Mitigation Measure GEO-1 (Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations)

Mitigation Measure GEO-2 (Inadvertent Discovery Protocol – Paleontological Resources)

Mitigation Measure NO-1 (Construction Noise Limitations)

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Setting: A mineral resource is land on which known deposits of commercially viable mineral or aggregate deposits exist. The designation is applied to sites determined by the California Geological Survey as being a resource of regional significance and is intended to help maintain any quarrying operations and protect them from encroachment of incompatible uses.

Mineral resources in the vicinity of Garberville are primarily aggregate deposits found along the Eel River (outside the project area). Areas along the Eel River are currently used for aggregate resource extraction (gravel). Other than instream aggregate, no locally important mineral resources have been identified in the vicinity of the project site.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State?* No Impact

There are no known deposits of commercially viable mineral or aggregate on the project site.

For these reasons, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

- b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, specific plan or other land use plan?* No Impact

There are no known deposits of commercially viable mineral or aggregate on the project site.

For the reasons discussed above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Mineral Resources*.

XIII. NOISE: <i>Would the project result in:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?		X		
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?		X		
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project site to excessive noise levels?			X	

Setting: Noise impacts are those that exceed noise standards developed to provide reasonable control of noise to residences, parks, open spaces, and other specific designated sites. Noise can be generated by a number of sources, including mobile sources such as automobiles, trucks, and airplanes, and stationary sources such as construction sites, machinery, and industrial operations.

The Humboldt County General Plan (Humboldt County, 2017) Noise Element identifies prominent sources of noise in Garberville as being from vehicle traffic along U.S. Highway 101, the Garberville Airport, and gravel operations. In the vicinity of the project, other noise generating sources include vehicle traffic along Alderpoint Road, Wallan Road, Redwood Drive, and other local roadways, day-to-day activities at CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station (324 Alderpoint Road, on one of the project parcels [APN 223-183-003] where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed), and nearby agricultural and rural residential land uses. The only airport or airstrip within two miles of the project is Garberville Airport. The project is located approximately 1-mile northeast of Garberville Airport but is not within the boundaries of the airport land use plan (Humboldt County, 2023). No use or height limitations related to the airport apply to the project. Airports are not a source of excessive noise levels affecting the project site.

Residential uses, schools, hospitals, churches, and libraries are typically considered sensitive noise receptors as these are locations where people sleep or expect low noise levels. The nearest known potential sensitive receptors to the proposed project are residences in close proximity to the project. At the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figure 5A), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 50 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Tank Site (Figure 5B), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 60 feet from the proposed tie-in to existing distribution piping. At the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Station site (Figure 5C), the nearest sensitive receptors are two residences located approximately 50 feet from the existing Arthur Pump Station to be demolished and the proposed Alderpoint Pump Station to be constructed. At the Robertson Tank site (Figure 5D), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 250 feet from the existing tank. At the Wallan Pump Station site (Figure 5), the nearest sensitive receptor is a residence located approximately 200 feet from the existing booster pump station. At the Tobin Well site (Figure 5E), the nearest sensitive receptors are the surrounding residences (directly adjacent).

The nearest schools to the project are Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool which are located approximately two miles northwest of the project.

The Humboldt County General Plan Noise Element (Chapter 13) contains noise compatibility standards, which are found in Table 13-C (Land Use/Noise Compatibility Standards). The noise standards in Table 13-C are based on the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) or Day-Night Noise Level (Ldn). CNEL is a 24-hour energy equivalent level derived from a variety of single-noise events, with weighting factors of 5 and 10 A-weighted Decibels (dBA) applied to the evening (7 p.m. to 10 p.m.) and nighttime (10 p.m. to 7 a.m.) periods, respectively, to allow for the greater sensitivity to noise during those hours. Ldn is the average sound level in decibels, excluding frequencies beyond the range of the human ear, during a 24-hour period with a 10 dB weighting applied to nighttime sound levels. Since CNEL and Ldn are a daily average, allowable noise levels can increase in relation to shorter periods of time. Table 13-C provides the maximum interior and exterior noise levels by land use category. For single-family residences, 60 dBA CNEL/Ldn is considered a normally acceptable exterior noise level. As

stated on page 13-6 of the Noise Element, “A standard construction wood frame house reduces noise transmission by 15 dBA. Since interior noise levels for residences are not to exceed 45 dBA, the maximum exterior noise level for residences is 60 dBA without requiring additional insulation” (Humboldt County, 2017).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?*

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

Construction

Construction of the project would temporarily increase noise in the immediate vicinity of the project’s various construction sites over an approximately 19-month period due to the use of construction equipment as well as from increased traffic as construction workers commute to and from the project site. Noise impacts resulting from construction would depend upon the noise generated by various pieces of construction equipment, the timing and duration of noise-generating activities, and the distance between construction noise sources and noise sensitive areas. Construction noise impacts primarily result when construction activities occur during noise-sensitive times of the day (for example, early morning, evening, or nighttime hours), the construction occurs in areas immediately adjoining noise sensitive land uses or habitats, or when construction lasts over extended periods of times. Construction activities generate considerable amounts of noise, especially during earthmoving activities when heavy equipment is used.

Equipment for construction of the project would include cranes, excavators, backhoes, loaders, small skid-steer loaders, flatbed semi-trucks, dump trucks, hydraulic lifts, personnel transport vehicles, service trucks, cement trucks, compaction equipment, and paving equipment. Construction access for the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site would be from Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, the private driveway serving that property, and Redwood Drive. Construction access for the Wallan Tank site and Wallan Pump Station site would be from Wallan Road and the private driveway serving that property. Construction access for the Arthur and Alderpoint Pump Station sites would be from Alderpoint Road and Arthur Road as well as from CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station at 324 Alderpoint Road. Construction access for the Robertson tank site would be from Alderpoint Road and the private driveway serving the tank. Construction access for delivering the backup generator at the Tobin Well site would be from Pine Lane.

Based on a review of the equipment anticipated, construction noise levels are anticipated to be up to 85 dBA Leq at 50 feet during construction (Federal Highway Administration [FHWA], 2006). These levels were used as conservative levels to assess impacts on nearby land uses. Sound from a point source is known to attenuate at a rate of -6 dB for each doubling of distance. For example, a noise level of 85 dB Leq as measured at 50 feet from the noise source would attenuate to 79 dB Leq at 100 feet from the source, to 73 dB Leq at 200 feet from the source, to 67 dB Leq at 400 feet from the source, to 61 dB Leq at 800 feet from the source, and to 55 dB Leq at 1,600 feet from the source to the receptor.

Noise from construction activities would be transitory (occurring intermittently over the construction period), temporary (occurring over an overall timeframe of approximately 19 months), and the location of work at any given time would vary as portions of the project construction get completed. Given its transitory and temporary nature, construction activities would result in a short-term noise impact in the vicinity of the project site. To mitigate the noise impacts from short-term construction activities, **Mitigation Measure NO-1** has been required for the proposed project. **Mitigation Measure NO-1** limits construction activities to the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Additionally, construction activity would not be allowed to occur on holidays. With implementation of **Mitigation Measure NO-1**, impacts to nearby sensitive receptors from construction activities would be less than significant.

Operation

After construction is complete, noise levels from operation of the District’s water system would be similar to pre-construction levels. The proposed generators are anticipated to be of comparable size or smaller (and hence equal to or quieter than) than the existing trailer-mounted generator(s) because the new generators will be sized to meet the pumping requirements of a specific individual facility rather than being large enough to meet the needs of all the

various facilities at which a backup generator is currently used. The proposed permanent generators would be located at an equal or greater distance from sensitive receptors as the existing trailer-mounted generator (and hence be equal to or quieter than existing conditions). The new permanent Upper Maple Lane backup generator (30 KW) would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator ~~Upper Maple Lane backup generator on the same parcel.~~ The new generator would be located approximately 450 feet from the nearest sensitive receptor (residence at APN 032-211-035) compared to the existing generator location, which is approximately 50 feet from the nearest sensitive receptor (residence at APN 032-211-035). The new permanent Alderpoint Pump Station generator (80 KW) would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator ~~one to be removed~~ at the Arthur Pump Station nearby. The new generator would be located approximately 350 feet from the nearest sensitive receptors (residences along Arthur Road) compared to the existing generator location, which is approximately 50 feet from the nearest sensitive receptor (residences along Arthur Road). The new permanent Tobin Well generator (15 KW) would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator in the same location and with the same distance to sensitive receptors (residences on adjacent parcels). The new trailer-mounted generator (25 KW) at the Wallan Pump Station would replace the use of an existing trailer-mounted generator in the same location and with the same distance to sensitive receptors (residence located approximately 200 feet from the booster pump station). All proposed backup generators would be sized to provide backup power in the event of electric utility outages. As with the existing backup generators, the proposed backup generators ~~are~~ will only be turned on 1) for emergency use during an emergency power loss, and 2) for regular weekly testing which occurs for approximately 30 minutes once per week during daylight hours. The permanent outdoor generators would be provided in sound-attenuated National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)-rated enclosures. The NEMA-rated enclosures are anticipated to result in quieter generator operation than existing trailer-mounted backup generator(s), which have more limited noise shielding. The short duration and intermittent timing of the noise from backup generators, the generally equivalent or smaller-sized generators, and the equal or greater distance from sensitive receptors would not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels above current levels.

With the adoption of **Mitigation Measure NO-1** and based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in the generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated.

b) *Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*

The proposed project's construction activity has the potential to result in minor groundborne vibration and noise. The nearest land uses potentially impacted by groundborne vibration and noise are the residences located approximately 50 feet from the proposed construction. Ground vibrations from construction activities do not often reach the levels that can damage structures. Pile-driving and blasting generate the highest levels of vibration; however, neither of these activities would occur during construction of the proposed project. As discussed under subsection a), construction activity must comply with the requirements in **Mitigation Measure NO-1**, which place limitations on the days and hours of construction activity, to ensure that nearby land uses are not disturbed by early morning or nighttime construction activity. In addition to reducing construction noise levels, compliance with these requirements also minimizes the potential impacts of vibration on persons adjacent to the project site. Construction activities would occur for a short duration and during daytime hours and would not result in groundborne noise levels that are excessive.

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure NO-1** and for the reasons discussed above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in the generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation.

c) *For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project site to excessive noise levels? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

The only airport or airstrip within two miles of the project is Garberville Airport. The project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of Garberville Airport but is not within the boundaries of the airport land use plan (Humboldt County, 2023). No use or height limitations related to the airport apply to the project. Due to the distance from the project site, airports are not a source of excessive noise levels affecting the project site. As such, the proposed project would

not expose people residing or working in the project site to excessive noise levels. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: In order for the proposed project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Noise*, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

Mitigation Measure NO-1. Construction Noise Limitations: The following measures will be implemented during construction activities to reduce noise levels:

- Construction activities shall be restricted to the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Construction activity will not occur on holidays.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?			X	
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Setting: Garberville has a population of 818 people according to the 2020 Decennial Census Program estimate. Section 2.2 Existing Conditions includes a subsection describing the District’s Water Demand and Required Tank Storage. Additional information on this topic is included in the Preliminary Engineering Report prepared for the proposed project (SHN, 2023a). To determine necessary water storage capacity during preliminary design, the maximum day demand for all zone service connections served by a tank was added to the estimated fire flow requirement. Because the District does not anticipate an increase in population served, population growth projections were excluded from tank sizing.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

As discussed under Setting, because the District does not anticipate an increase in population served, population growth projections were excluded from tank sizing. The project does not propose new housing, businesses, or other infrastructure that would have the potential to induce substantial population growth. For these reasons, it has been determined that the proposed project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?* No Impact

The project does not include modification or construction of housing. The proposed project would not displace people or housing or otherwise affect housing.

For these reasons, it has been determined that the proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Population and Housing*.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES: <i>Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Fire Protection?			X	
b) Police Protection?			X	
c) Schools?			X	
d) Parks?			X	
e) Other public facilities?			X	

Setting: The project site is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in Humboldt County, which has the following public facilities and services.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement services in Garberville are provided by the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Department. The Garberville Sub-Station of the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Department, located approximately 0.1 mile from the project at 715 Cedar Street, serves the communities of Garberville, Redway, Shelter Cove, Miranda, Phillipsville, Weott, Myers Flat, and Alderpoint.

Fire Protection

The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Fire Protection District (GFPD; Humboldt County, 2023). The GFPD station is located at 680 Locust Street, approximately 0.1 mile from the project. In addition to being served by the GFPD, the community of Garberville is within a CALFIRE State Responsibility Zone (SRA). CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station is located at 324 Alderpoint Road, on one of the project parcels (APN 223-183-003 where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed).

Schools

Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool are the nearest schools and are located approximately two miles northwest of the project in Redway. Miranda Junior High School and South Fork High School are located approximately nine miles north of the project in Miranda.

Parks

The nearest park to the project is Tooby Memorial Park, located on the opposite side of U.S. Highway 101 from the project, approximately 0.4 miles away from the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site.

Other Public Facilities

Other public facilities in Garberville include library services. The Garberville branch of the Humboldt County Library is located approximately 0.1 mile from the project at 715 Cedar Street.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Fire Protection District (GFPD; Humboldt County, 2023). The GFPD station is located at 680 Locust Street, approximately 0.1 mile from the project. In addition to being served

by the GFPD, the community of Garberville is within a CALFIRE State Responsibility Zone (SRA). CALFIRE's Northern Region Garberville Station is located at 324 Alderpoint Road, on one of the project parcels (APN 223-183-003 where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed).

The project would result in an overall benefit to public services including fire protection by replacing substandard water storage and distribution infrastructure with new updated infrastructure. The proposed water system improvements would put the District on more stable footing to more reliably provide customers in their service area with the water needed for fire protection. The new water storage tanks would comply with current seismic and structural codes and provide the District with a more secure source of water storage for the foreseeable future, including water for fire protection. The project would not result in an increase in population or result in the need to increase staffing. As such, the proposed project does not require new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for fire protection. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- b) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for police protection?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Law enforcement services in Garberville are provided by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department. The Garberville Sub-Station of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, located approximately 0.1 mile from the project at 715 Cedar Street, serves the communities of Garberville, Redway, Shelter Cove, Miranda, Phillipsville, Weott, Myers Flat, and Alderpoint. The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project would not result in an increase in population or result in the need to increase staffing. The proposed project would not significantly increase the demand for law enforcement services to the extent that new or physically altered facilities would be required.

For the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not require new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for police protection. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for schools?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Redway Elementary School, Redway Head Start, and Little Redwoods Preschool are the nearest schools and are located approximately two miles northwest of the project in Redway. Miranda Junior High School and South Fork High School are located approximately nine miles north of the project in Miranda. The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project would not result in an increase in population, result in the need to increase staffing, or affect the provision of public education services. The proposed project is not expected to result in an increase in the number of school-age children within the school district. As such, the proposed project does not require new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for schools. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- d) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for parks?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The nearest park to the project is Tooby Memorial Park, located on the opposite side of U.S. Highway 101 from the project, approximately 0.4 miles away from the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site. The project proposes improvements to the

District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project would not result in an increase in population or result in the need to increase staffing and would have a limited impact on the provision of parks and recreational services. As such, the proposed project does not require new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for parks. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- e) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for other public facilities?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project would not result in an increase in population or result in the need to increase staffing. The project would not result in an increase in population and would have a limited impact on the provision of other public facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Public Services*.

XVI. <u>RECREATION</u> :	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

Setting: The project site is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville in Humboldt County. Parks and recreational facilities in Garberville include Tooby Memorial Park, located on the opposite side of U.S. Highway 101 from the project, approximately 0.4 miles away from the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?* No Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The project does not propose the development of housing and would not result in an increase in population growth. As such, the proposed project is not of the nature to increase the use of recreational facilities in the Garberville area such that substantial physical deterioration of these facilities would occur or be accelerated. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

- b) *Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which would have an adverse physical effect on the environment?* No Impact

The project proposes improvements to the District’s community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/ upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. The proposed project would not include the development of recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are required for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to Recreation.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION: <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			X	
b) Would the project conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			X	
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (for example, sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (for example, farm equipment)?			X	
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?			X	

Setting: The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District in the unincorporated community of Garberville in Humboldt County, approximately 52 miles south-southeast of Eureka and east of U.S. Highway 101 (Figure 1). The project is located in several separate areas in and around the town of Garberville:

- the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5A),
- the Wallan Tank and Wallan Pump Station site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5B),
- the Arthur/Alderpoint Pump Stations site and (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5C),
- the Robertson Tank site (Figures 1, 2, 5, 5D), and
- the Tobin Well site (Figures 1, 5, 5E).

Construction access for the Main/Hurlbutt Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station site would be from Melville Road (County Road Number 6B110; classification Local), Hillcrest Drive (no County Road Number or classification), Redwood Drive (County Road Number C6B105; classification Major Collector), and the private driveway serving that property. Construction access for the Wallan Tank site and Wallan Pump Station site would be from Wallan Road (County Road Number 6B166; classification Local) and the private driveway serving that property. Construction access for the Arthur and Alderpoint Pump Station sites would be from Alderpoint Road (County Road Number F6B165; classification Major Collector) and Arthur Road (County Road Number 6B161; classification Local), as well as from CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station at 324 Alderpoint Road. Construction access for the Robertson tank site would be from Alderpoint Road and the private driveway serving the tank. Construction access for delivering the backup generator at the Tobin Well site would be from Pine Lane.

As with the District’s existing water tanks, proposed water tanks would be protected by security fencing and locked gates.

New or modified easements would be required at the following sites:

- New Main Tank and Upper Maple Lane Pump Station—The District currently owns the parcel where the existing Hurlbutt Tank is located, therefore, the transfer of ownership and easements associated with replacing the Hurlbutt Tank with the new Main Tank would need to be coordinated between the District and the landowner.
- New Main Tank Distribution Main—With the installation of the transmission main alignment that encroaches into the Caltrans right of way, new easements and Caltrans approval would be required for the new distribution piping from the Main Tank and down to the shoulder of the U.S. Highway 101 offramp to tie-in to the existing distribution system. Replacement of the water main in areas where there is already existing infrastructure, such as in the downtown area, is not expected to require additional easements, just an encroachment permit from the County.
- New Alderpoint Pump Station and Distribution Main—New easements would be required for the new pump station at the CALFIRE site and an encroachment permit from the County for the new segment of distribution main along Alderpoint Road.

The project would not result in an increase in population or result in the need to increase staffing. The District’s water system is operated by a Water-Wastewater Treatment Operator and a Chief Plant Operator.

There are currently little to no pedestrian or bicycle facilities in the community of Garberville, other than in the urbanized town center area where sidewalks are common. No specific plans are known for improvements to the roadways in the vicinity of the project. Redwood Transit System provides transit service to Garberville, with several bus stops located along Redwood Drive.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Construction

Construction traffic for the proposed project would result in a short-term increase in construction-related vehicle trips on U.S. Highway 101, Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, Redwood Drive, Wallan Road, Alderpoint Road, Arthur Road, Pine Lane, and other local roadways. Construction would result in vehicle trips by construction workers, haul-truck trips for delivery, and disposal of construction materials and spoils to and from construction areas. Development of the proposed water system improvements would not involve any new permanent encroachments within County rights-of-way (ROWs). Project construction would require temporary encroachments at a number of locations within County ROW. Encroachment permits would be required for any work completed within County ROW. Construction of the Zone 1 distribution main connection between the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site and the downtown area (Figure 5A) would also require temporary encroachment within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) ROW. An encroachment permit would be required for any work completed within the Caltrans highway ROW. The encroachment permit application(s) for Caltrans and Humboldt County require preparation of traffic control plans for work that would block the ROW, and plans for re-routing of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians, as needed. Implementation of traffic controls would be required in accordance with Caltrans and County standards, and contractors would be required to comply with the general conditions of the encroachment permits, including restoration of any damage to ROW improvements. Through compliance with Caltrans and County requirements, construction activities would not result in substantial adverse effects or conflicts with the circulation system.

Operation

Transportation related to project operation would be essentially the same as the existing conditions. As with the current water system operation, the District's water operators would continue to make regular operation- and maintenance-related visits to the water system facilities. No increase in operations-related traffic is anticipated. Vehicular access to the facilities would be substantially similar. Pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access to the project site would be unaffected.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- b) *Would the project conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The amended CEQA Guidelines (Section 15064.3) have replaced level of service (LOS) with vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as the most appropriate measure of a project's transportation impacts. For a land use project, VMT exceeding an applicable threshold of significance may indicate a significant impact. At this time, Humboldt County has not adopted thresholds to determine VMT impacts as a result of land use projects. If existing models or methods are not available to estimate VMT for the project being considered, a lead agency may analyze the project's VMT qualitatively (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3[b][3]). Due to the absence of existing models or methods for analyzing VMT impacts in Humboldt County, this section includes a qualitative analysis of VMT impacts from the proposed project.

Construction

Construction traffic for the project would result in a minor, short-term increase in construction-related vehicle trips on U.S. Highway 101, Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, Redwood Drive, Wallan Road, Alderpoint Road, Arthur Road, and other local roadways. Construction would result in vehicle/truck trips by construction workers and haul-truck trips for

delivery and disposal of construction materials to and from construction areas. Because construction of the proposed improvements would be temporary, construction activities would not be expected to result in significant impacts related to VMT.

Operation

As described under a) above, transportation related to project operation would be essentially the same as the existing conditions. As with the current water system operation, the District's water operators would continue to make regular operation- and maintenance-related visits to the water system facilities. No increase in operations-related traffic is anticipated.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b). Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c) *Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (for example, sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (for example, farm equipment)?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project does not include any element that would change roadway geometrics that could increase hazards related to design features. The project would not change the existing land uses of the site in a way that would result in use of vehicles or equipment, such as farm equipment or tractors, that would be incompatible with existing land uses in the surrounding area.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- d) *Result in inadequate emergency access?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project would be accessed by way of U.S. Highway 101, Melville Road, Hillcrest Drive, Redwood Drive, Wallan Road, Alderpoint Road, Arthur Road, and other local roadways during construction and operation. Construction of the project would temporarily generate additional traffic on the existing area roadway network. These vehicle trips would include construction workers traveling to the site and delivery trips associated with construction equipment and materials. Delivery of construction materials to the site would likely require oversize vehicles that may travel at slower speeds than existing traffic.

As the proposed project includes improvements within the Humboldt County ROW (along Melville Road, Wallan Road, Alderpoint Road, Arthur Road, etc.) and Caltrans ROW (along U.S. Highway 101), the proposed project would require encroachment permits from Humboldt County and Caltrans. The encroachment permit applications require preparation of traffic control plans for work that would block the public ROW, and plans for re-routing of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians, as needed. Implementation of traffic controls would be required in accordance with County and State standards, and contractors would be required to adhere to approved traffic control plans, which would minimize conflicts related to emergency access and circulation. Contractors would be required to have ready at all times the means necessary to accommodate access by emergency vehicles, such as plating over excavations, and travel lane closures would be managed, such as keeping one travel lane open at all times to allow alternating traffic flow in both directions along affected roadways. Through compliance with County and State requirements, construction activities would not result in inadequate emergency access.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures require implementation for the project to result in a less-than-significant impact to *Transportation*.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES: <i>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		X		
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		X		

Archaeological and other resources can be damaged through uncontrolled public disclosure. Archeological site locations and culturally sensitive information is considered confidential and public access to such information is restricted by State and federal law, therefore this information has been redacted for use in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). Professionally qualified individuals, as determined by the California Office of Historic Preservation, may contact the lead agency in order to inquire about its availability.

Information regarding the location, character, or ownership of a historic resource is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 470w-3 (National Historic Preservation Act) and 16 U.S.C. § 470hh (Archaeological Resources Protection Act) and California State Government Code, Section 6254.10.

Setting: CEQA requires lead agencies to determine if a proposed project would have a significant effect on tribal cultural resources. The CEQA Guidelines define tribal cultural resources as: 1) a site, feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe that is listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources, or on a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k); or 2) a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant according to the historical register criteria in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c), and considering the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

A Cultural Resources Investigation was completed for the proposed project by William Rich and Associates (WRA). The purpose of this cultural resources investigation was to document the presence of historical and precontact era sites and other cultural resources, that according to Section 15064.5 of CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act would qualify as either an historic property or an historical resource and therefore be eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The methods used to complete this investigation included a record search of existing survey reports and resource records at the Northwest Information Center; a review of archaeological and historical literature pertinent to the project area and general region; correspondence with Native Americans and other knowledgeable individuals regarding the history of the area; and a pedestrian field survey of the project area and adjacent terrain (WRA, 2023). The Cultural Resources Investigation found that tribal cultural resources (PRC 21074) do not appear to be present.

The District requested a list of regional tribes from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Under Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the District sent notification letters to local Native American tribes on July 25, 2023 (Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, and Wailaki Tribe). No responses were received.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

As discussed above under Tribal Cultural Resources Setting, the Cultural Resources Investigation (WRA, 2023) found that tribal cultural resources (PRC 21074) do not appear to be present.

The District requested a list of regional tribes from the NAHC. Under Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the District sent notification letters to local Native American tribes on July 25, 2023 (Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, and Wailaki Tribe). No responses were received.

As such, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in a significance of a known tribal cultural resource. However, there remains the possibility that tribal cultural resources could exist in the area and may be uncovered during project development. To prevent potential impacts to unknown tribal cultural resources at the project site, Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources have been included as **Mitigation Measure CR-1** for the proposed project (see Section V – Cultural Resources).

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1**, it has been determined that the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k). Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- b) *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1.?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

As discussed above under Tribal Cultural Resources Setting, the Cultural Resources Investigation (WRA, 2023) found that tribal cultural resources (PRC 21074) do not appear to be present.

The District requested a list of regional tribes from the NAHC. Under Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the District sent notification letters to local Native American tribes on July 25, 2023 (Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, and Wailaki Tribe). No responses were received.

As such, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in a significance of a known tribal cultural resource. However, there remains the possibility that tribal cultural resources could exist in the area and may be uncovered during project development. To prevent potential impacts to unknown tribal cultural resources at the project site, Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources have been included as **Mitigation Measure CR-1** for the proposed project (see Section V – Cultural Resources).

With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1**, it has been determined that the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures have been required in other sections of this document, so that when implemented, the proposed project will have a less significant impact:

Mitigation Measure CR-1 (Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources) – See Cultural Resources (Section V)

XIX. <u>UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</u> : <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?		X		
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and or reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?			X	
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			X	
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X	

Setting: The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District in the unincorporated community of Garberville. The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls.

Electricity

Electricity in Garberville is provided through the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) Community Choice Energy (CCE) program. The electricity is distributed and delivered over the existing power lines by PG&E (RCEA, 2023a). The water treatment plant has a permanent backup generator, which has the capacity to provide full electrical backup of the treatment plant during utility outages. The raw water pump station also has a permanently installed backup generator. No other pump stations have a stationary backup generator. The District has a single trailer-mounted generator that the operations staff moves from location to location to back up the other pump stations in the system during power outages.

Wastewater

The project does not include any wastewater facilities.

Water

The project site includes existing water storage and distribution infrastructure, including existing water storage tanks, booster pump stations, and appurtenances as well as water main piping.

Stormwater

Limited constructed stormwater facilities exist within the project sites. Several drainage inlets were mapped during the wetland delineation between the Hurlbutt/Main Tank sites and U.S. Highway 101 (Figure 9). The project does not propose drainage alterations that would substantially affect existing stormwater facilities.

Solid Waste

Active permitted in-County transfer stations include the Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA) facilities in Eureka or Samoa, California and the Recology Transfer Station in Redway, California. Large recyclable materials (scrap metal, wood, and concrete) and hazardous materials (washers, dryers, televisions, tires, etc.) are pulled from the waste stream at the Eureka facility, and the remaining solid waste is shipped to the Dry Creek Landfill in Medford, Oregon, and the Anderson Landfill in Anderson, California. There are also recycling drop off centers at Humboldt Sanitation in McKinleyville, Eel River Resource Recovery in Samoa, and HWMA in Eureka.

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

The project proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls. These water infrastructure improvements would result in physical impacts to the surface and subsurface of the project site. These impacts are considered to be part of the project's construction phase and are evaluated in other sections of this document including, but not limited to Aesthetics (Section I), Air Quality (Section III), Biological Resources (Section IV), Cultural Resources (Section V), Geology and Soils (Section VII), and Noise (Section XVIII). In instances where significant impacts have been identified, mitigation measures are included to reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. No additional mitigation measures beyond those already identified would be required.

With the implementation of mitigation measures included in other sections of this document and for the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in significant environmental effects from the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated on this resource category.

- b) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and/or reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed project would update and improve the District's water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations nor increase the water service area, water withdrawals, or water entitlements. As described in Section 2.3 Proposed Project and the subsection regarding Water Efficiency, this project would replace the existing Hurlbutt/Main Tank and the existing Wallan Tank. Both of these existing tanks are significantly leaking, which currently results in water losses in the distribution system and additional diversions of water from the South Fork of the Eel River. By replacing these tanks with new tanks, the water losses associated with leaking tanks would be eliminated from the system and would leave more water in the river. Also, by replacing aged distribution piping, water losses associated with leaks and water main breaks would be significantly reduced in areas where new distribution piping is installed and would eliminate the additional diversion of water from the river associated with these leaks. By eliminating or reducing sources of water loss in the water storage tanks and distribution piping, the demand for raw water from the river would be reduced since less water would be wasted through leaks and breaks in the system. The primary upper constraint to the District's water system capacity are the limitations associated with the water diversion permit from the State Water Resources Control Board for appropriation of water from the South Fork Eel River, which the project would not change. As such, the project would not affect the amount of water supply available to the District. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?* No Impact

No wastewater facilities are existing or proposed at the project site. As such, it has been determined that the proposed project would not result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no impact on this resource category.

- d) *Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The proposed water system improvements would generate solid waste, primarily during construction.

Construction

Construction of the project would result in a temporary increase in solid waste disposal needs associated with demolition and construction wastes. Waste generated from construction activities may include substandard soil/surface materials from grading, materials and spoils from demolition (such as fencing, building materials, etc.), and excess construction materials. To the greatest extent possible, construction materials existing onsite would be recycled and repurposed, which would significantly reduce the volume of construction waste. For materials that could not be reused or recycled, construction wastes would include, but not be limited to, excavated soils and materials resulting from the demolition of existing structures, and excess construction materials. Construction waste with no practical reuse or that cannot be salvaged or recycled would be legally disposed of at a local transfer station. Active permitted in-County transfer stations include the HWMA facilities in Eureka or Samoa, California and the Recology Transfer Station in Redway, California. Solid waste generated by the project would represent a small fraction of the daily permitted tonnage of these facilities. Disposal of waste materials generated during construction activities would be required to comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Solid waste generated by construction of the project would be similar to other comparable construction projects in the region or state. There are no unusual project characteristics that would result in the generation of solid wastes in excess of state or local standards or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure. Due to the temporary nature of the proposed construction activity, it would not have the potential to impair attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

Operation

Following construction, minimal solid waste would be generated by project operation, associated with maintenance and operation of the new water tanks and pump stations and incidental trash from staff. Proposed solid waste generation rates are assumed to be consistent with the existing solid waste generation rates. A less-than-significant operational impact would occur.

For the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

e) *Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? Less-Than-Significant Impact*

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Public Resources Code Division 30), enacted through Assembly Bill (AB) 939 and modified by subsequent legislation, required all California cities and counties to implement programs to divert waste from landfills (Public Resources Code Section 41780). Compliance with AB 939 is determined by the California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle). State law (SB 1018) mandates recycling for all businesses that generate four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week, which does not apply to the project.

The construction and operational activities from the proposed project would be required to comply with all federal, State, and local statutes related to solid waste, including AB 939. This would include compliance with recycling, hazardous waste, and composting programs in the County to comply with AB 939. Solid waste from the District's operational activities is delivered by District staff to the Recology Redway Transfer Station.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures have been required in other sections of this document, so that when implemented, the proposed project will have a less significant impact:

Mitigation Measure AES-1 (International Dark-Sky Association Compliance)

Mitigation Measure AQ-1 (Fugitive Dust Control Measures)

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Nesting Bird Surveys)

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Protect Special Status Bats)

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Mitigation for Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters)

Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Mitigation for Loss of Wetlands and Waters)

Mitigation Measure CR-1 (Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources)

Mitigation Measure GEO-1 (Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations)

Mitigation Measure GEO-2 (Inadvertent Discovery Protocol – Paleontological Resources)

Mitigation Measure NO-1 (Construction Noise Limitations)

XX. WILDFIRE: <i>If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			X	
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?			X	
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?		X		

Setting: The proposed project is located in the unincorporated community of Garberville, east of the South Fork Eel River and U.S. Highway 101. The project parcels are zoned Agriculture Exclusive with Special Building Site combining zone (AE-B-6) and Residential Suburban with Special Building Site combining zone (RS-B-5(5)). Land use in the project vicinity is characteristic of agricultural and rural residential areas, as well as forested areas and the urbanized Garberville town area. A CALFIRE facility is located on the parcel where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed. The Wallan Tank site is atop a steep south-southwest-facing slope approximately 1,150 feet above sea level, and the Wallan Pump Station is on a moderately steep south-southwest-facing slope approximately 855 feet above sea level. The Robertson Tank site is atop a south-facing steep slope approximately 780 feet above sea level, uphill from the Arthur Road Pump Station, which is on a generally level hillside bench approximately 615 feet above sea level. The CALFIRE station is downslope from the Arthur Road Pump Station on a larger hillside bench between 550 and 600 feet above sea level. The Wallan and Robertson Tank sites and the CALFIRE station are located within a rural residential area northeast of the town of Garberville. The existing Hurlbutt Tank and proposed Main Tank site are on a west-facing moderately steep slope approximately 700 feet above sea level. This site includes a residence and several associated structures south of the town of Garberville. Downtown Garberville is on a west-facing hillside bench with a gentle slope approximately 550 feet above sea level within an urban residential area.

The climate in Humboldt County is moderate, with the predominant weather factor being moist air masses from the ocean. Average annual rainfall in the area is approximately 48 inches with the majority falling between October and April. Predominant wind direction is typically from the northwest during summer months and from the southwest during storm events occurring during winter months. Temperatures in Garberville range from an average low of 39 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in December to an average high of 89°F in July/August; extremes in temperatures are relatively uncommon due to the regional maritime influence.

The project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Fire Protection District (GFPD; Humboldt County, 2023). The GFPD station is located at 680 Locust Street, approximately 0.1 mile from the project. In addition to being served by the GFPD, the community of Garberville is within a CALFIRE State Responsibility Zone (SRA). CALFIRE’s Northern Region Garberville Station is located at 324 Alderpoint Road, on one of the project parcels (APN 223-183-003 where the new Alderpoint pump station is proposed).

CALFIRE designates lands in three general classifications, “Moderate”, “High” and “Very High” Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs). CALFIRE assigns FHSZs based on existing vegetation, topography, weather, crown fire potential, ember production and movement, and the likelihood of a site to burn over a 30 to 50-year time period. CALFIRE delineates most of the project locations as “Very High” FHSZ and delineates the Wallan tank site as “High” FHSZ (CALFIRE, 2023). The District’s service area includes state wildland urban interface areas where structures intermingle with undeveloped wildlands.

Both of the existing water tanks in operation (Hurlbutt/Main Tank and Wallan Tank) are leaking, at the end of their useful life, and lack sufficient storage capacity for maximum daily consumption and fire suppression; they also do not meet current

seismic design standards. The existing Wallan Tank is vulnerable to wildfires because it is constructed of redwood and is currently operated at reduced capacity to decrease water loss from holes in the side of the tank. The Wallan Tank is within the state wildland interface area. Both the existing Hurlbutt and Robertson Tanks are below-ground concrete tanks that are vulnerable to wildfire because their roof structures consist of old dry redwood. The Hurlbutt Tank site is on the edge of the developed portion of town and is immediately adjacent to hundreds of acres of privately-owned open grasslands and old timber lands. The Wallan Pump Station is constructed of partial wood walls, wood siding, and wood roofing structures. It is surrounded by manzanita, brush, and larger trees that are on private property, and the District is not able to remove them and maintain a 100-foot defensible space around the pump station, as is recommended by California Public Resources Code 4291. The Arthur Road Pump Station consists of completely wood walls, wood siding, and wood roof structures that are overhung by large fir trees that are on private property. The District is not able to maintain a 100-foot defensible space around the pump station. Overall, the District does not have sufficient water storage to meet the drinking water and fire protection demands of the District (SHN, 2023a).

Discussion: Based on a field review with GSD staff, existing information available to GSD, and observations made on the project site and in the vicinity, the following findings can be made:

a) *Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

The project proposes improvement of the community of Garberville's water system. The project would be designed to meet emergency access standards and accommodate the onsite maneuvering of emergency vehicles as required. This type of project is not of the nature to substantially impact emergency response or evacuation. Development of the proposed water system improvements would not involve any new permanent encroachments within County rights-of-way (ROWs). Project construction would require temporary encroachments at a number of locations within County ROW. Encroachment permits would be required for any work completed within County ROW. Construction of the Zone 1 distribution main connection between the Main/Hurlbutt Tank site and the downtown area (Figure 5A) would also require temporary encroachment within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) ROW. An encroachment permit would be required for any work completed within the Caltrans highway ROW. The encroachment permit application(s) for Caltrans and Humboldt County require preparation of traffic control plans for work that would block the ROW, and plans for re-routing of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians, as needed. Implementation of traffic controls would be required in accordance with Caltrans and County standards, and contractors would be required to comply with the general conditions of the encroachment permits, including restoration of any damage to ROW improvements.

For the reasons explained above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

b) *Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Slopes, prevailing winds, and climate are described above in Setting. The project does not include habitable structures, and there would be no project occupants. Occupation of the site would be short-term for operation and maintenance purposes. Further, construction and operation of the project would not exacerbate wildfire risks. The project would improve the community of Garberville's fire protection and response capabilities by replacing substandard water storage infrastructure with new updated infrastructure. The project would solve multiple problems in the District's water system. Two new water storage tanks would be constructed in place of three smaller tanks, which have reached the end of their useful life and are leaking. The project would both remove these leaks from the system, leaving more river water in the river during low flow events, and would more than double the system's existing storage capacity of 400,000 gallons to a new overall storage capacity of approximately 827,000 gallons. This would provide the District with adequate storage for maximum day demand and would also substantially increase fire water storage. The leaking redwood Wallan Tank would be replaced with a 77,000-gallon, bolted steel tank. The leaking 180,000-gallon concrete Hurlbutt Tank would be replaced with a new, 550,000-gallon, pre-stressed concrete Main Tank at a new location on the adjacent property. The construction materials for the new tanks would be substantially more fire-resistant than their predecessors.

All three of the District's distribution system booster pump stations would be upgraded as part of this project.

Permanent backup generators would be installed at the Upper Maple Lane and Alderpoint Pump Stations, and the Tobin Well. Wallan Pump Station would have an electrical connection for a mobile generator. These would substantially increase the reliability of the water system during electric utility power outages.

The proposed water system improvements would put the District on more stable footing to more reliably provide customers in their service area with the water needed for fire protection.

Also, as described in Section 2.3 Proposed Project, the project includes the following adaptive measures in response to climate change vulnerabilities, including wildfire:

- All new tanks for the project would be constructed of steel and concrete with no wood materials.
- The new pump stations would be constructed of fire-resistant materials.
- As part of the construction project, as much clearing and grubbing would be completed around any new pump station structures.
- The increased storage capacity provided by the new tanks would improve firefighting capacity and also improve availability of water for the community during times of drought.
- The project would replace segments of the distribution system with new pipe that would be in better condition than the existing pipe; this would reduce the amount of water that is lost to leaks in the distribution system and generally conserve water, which is particularly important during times of drought.

As such, the project would not, due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this resource category.

- c) *Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?* Less-Than-Significant Impact

Approximately 500 feet of new gravel access road would be constructed to provide vehicle access to the new Main Tank. The project does not propose any fuel breaks or emergency water sources. As discussed in Section 2.3 – Proposed Project, installation of utility infrastructure (for example, electrical service, water main, telecommunications etc.) is proposed to serve the new water tanks and booster pump stations.

The infrastructure improvements proposed by the project would result in physical impacts to the project site, which have been previously analyzed under the appropriate resource sections of this document. The project has been designed and mitigated to reduce construction and operational impacts to less than significant. Mitigation was required for the proposed project as discussed in the following resource sections of this document:

- Aesthetics (Section I)
- Air Quality (Section III)
- Biological Resources (Section IV)
- Cultural Resources (Section V)
- Geology and Soils (Section VII)
- Noise (Section XIII)

No additional mitigation measures beyond those already identified would be required for the proposed project.

Therefore, the proposed project would not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on this category of environmental effect.

- d) *Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Slope characteristics of the project area are described above in Setting. The project site is situated between approximately 550- and 1,160- foot elevation, with the highest elevations represented at the Wallan Tank site and the lowest elevations represented at the Tobin Well site. According to FIRM Panel 06023C1985F, the project site is located in an area of minimal flood hazard (Zone X; FEMA, 2023).

As discussed in Section X – Hydrology and Water Quality, the proposed project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site. The proposed project would result in a small (1,125 sf) increase in impervious surface area with the removal of the 54-foot diameter Hurlbutt Tank, the 18-foot diameter Wallan Tank, and the 33-foot diameter Robertson Tank, and the addition of the 72-foot diameter Main Tank and the 24-foot diameter Wallan Tank.

This increase in impervious surface area has minimal potential to increase the rate or amount of surface runoff. Also, the existing Hurlbutt and Wallan Tanks are significantly leaking, which results in existing surface water runoff. By replacing these tanks with new tanks, the water losses and surface water runoff associated with leaking tanks would be eliminated.

According to the Humboldt County Geographic Information System (GIS) system, the project is within areas of moderate and high slope instability. The Humboldt County GIS system shows no historic landslides in or directly adjacent to the project areas with the exception of a portion of the proposed replacement water line that would tie in the new Wallan tank to the existing distribution piping (Humboldt County, 2023). As discussed in Section VII – Geology and Soils, subsection c), numerous landslides and areas of unstable ground are shown on available geologic maps. The type and concentration of landsliding is relative to the underlying bedrock; more slides are mapped in areas underlain by Broken Formation bedrock, which does not underlie the improvement sites. Relatively few are mapped (or observed) in areas underlain by Wildcat Group sediments. The Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report did not document any features related to recent landsliding (tension cracks, seeps, springs, rills, or gullies) at the proposed new infrastructure sites, although unstable ground is mapped in the site vicinity. Due to the site location in a seismically active area and the potential for strong seismic ground shaking to occur at the site, there is an ongoing potential for localized co-seismic landsliding to occur along steep slopes throughout the project area (SHN, 2023c). Design and construction of the project would incorporate appropriate engineering practices to ensure seismic stability as required by the CBC. In addition, the proposed project shall adhere to the recommendations of the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) relating to the design and construction of the proposed project. This requirement has been included as **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** to minimize potential risks from geologic hazards, including in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.

Based on the information provided above, it has been determined that the proposed project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact to this resource category.

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures have been required in other sections of this document, so that when implemented, the proposed project would have a less significant impact to *Wildfire*:

Mitigation Measure GEO-1 (Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations)

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

Discussion: The project information provided for each of the topics above has been reviewed for all actions associated with the proposed project during both temporary construction and long-term operation. Based on the description of the proposed project and its location, the project would not result in any significant impacts with the incorporated project design elements, mitigation measures, as well as compliance with the standards and requirements of other regulating resource agencies. Based on the analysis undertaken as part of this Initial Study, the following findings can be made:

- a) *Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

All impacts to the environment, including impacts to habitat for fish and wildlife species, fish and wildlife populations, plant and animal communities, rare and endangered plants and animal species, and historical and prehistorical resources were evaluated as part of the analysis in this document. Where impacts were determined to be potentially significant, mitigation measures have been imposed to reduce those impacts to less-than-significant levels. In other instances, the project design and compliance with existing laws and regulations would reduce impacts of the project to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, the proposed project as designed, mitigated, and in compliance with existing regulatory requirements, would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment and impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Mitigation:

All Mitigation Measures discussed in this document shall apply.

- b) *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

As discussed throughout this document, implementation of the proposed project has the potential to result in impacts to the environment that are individually limited, but are not cumulatively considerable, including impacts to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, and Noise. In most instances where the project has the potential to result in individually limited significant impacts to the environment (including

the resources listed above), mitigation measures have been imposed to reduce the potential effects to less-than-significant levels. In other instances, the project design and compliance with existing laws and regulations would reduce impacts of the project to less-than-significant levels.

Therefore, the proposed project as designed, mitigated, and in compliance with existing regulatory requirements, would not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Mitigation:

All Mitigation Measures discussed in this document shall apply.

- c) *Does the project have potential environmental effects which may cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?* Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

The proposed project's potential to result in environmental effects that could adversely affect human beings, either directly or indirectly, has been discussed throughout this document. In instances where the proposed project has the potential to result in direct or indirect adverse effects to human beings, including impacts to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, and Noise, mitigation measures have been applied to reduce the impact to below a level of significance. With required implementation of mitigation measures identified in this document, construction and operation of the proposed project would not involve any activities that would result in environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, impacts would be Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.

Mitigation:

All Mitigation Measures discussed in this document shall apply.

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures have been required in other sections of this document, so that when implemented, the proposed project will have a less-than-significant impact:

Mitigation Measure AES-1 (International Dark-Sky Association Compliance)

Mitigation Measure AQ-1 (Fugitive Dust Control Measures)

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Nesting Bird Surveys)

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Protect Special Status Bats)

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Mitigation for Sensitive Natural Communities)

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters)

Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Mitigation for Loss of Wetlands and Waters)

Mitigation Measure CR-1 (Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources)

Mitigation Measure GEO-1 (Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations)

Mitigation Measure GEO-2 (Inadvertent Discovery Protocol – Paleontological Resources)

Mitigation Measure NO-1 (Construction Noise Limitations)

References

The following documents were used in preparation of this Initial Study. The reference documents are available from Garberville Sanitary District upon request. Please contact the District's General Manager by e-mail at remerson@garbervillesd.org.

California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA). (2009). *Health Risk Assessments for Proposed Land Use Projects*. July.

---. (2011). *Health Effects*.

---. (2022). *California Emission Estimator Model (CalEEMod)*. Version 2022.1.1.16. Model Run on 8/9/23. [Online]: <http://www.caleemod.com/>.

California Air Resources Board (CARB). (2017). *California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan*.

---. (2018). *Area Designations for National Ambient Air Quality Standards*.

---. (2019a). *Area Designations for State Ambient Air Quality Standards*.

---. (2019b). *California Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for 2000-2017: Trends of Emissions and Other Indicators*.

---. (2020a). *Diesel Exhaust and Health*.

---. (2020b). *Hydrogen Sulfide and Health*.

---. (2020c). *Lead and Health*.

---. (2020d). *Sulfate and Health*.

---. (2020e). *Vinyl Chloride and Health*.

---. (2020f). *Visibility Reducing Particles and Health*.

---. (2021). *California Greenhouse Gas Emissions from 2000 to 2019, Trends of Emissions and Other Indicators*. July 28. https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/cc/ca_ghg_inventory_trends_2000-2019.pdf.

California Department of Conservation (DOC). (2000). *A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California - Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos*. [Online]: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5126473.pdf.

---. (2023a). *California Important Farmland Finder*. [Online]: <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>.

---. (2023b). *Tsunami Hazard Area Map*. [Online]: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps>.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE). (2023). *Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer*. [Online]: <https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/>.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). (2023). *Envirostor – Viewer*. [Online]: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/your-envirostor/>

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). (2023). *Officially Designated and Eligible Scenic Highways*. [Online]: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>.

California Department of Water Resources (DWR). (2023). *Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Statewide Basin Prioritization Dashboard*. [Online]: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/final/>.

California Geological Survey (CGS). (2018). "Earthquake Fault Zones: A Guide for Government Agencies, Property Owners/Developers, and Geoscience Practitioners for Assessing Fault Rupture Hazards in California., Special Publication 42, Revised 2018." Sacramento, CA:Department of Conservation.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2023). *Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Map Number: 06023C1985F*.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). 2006. *FHWA Highway Construction Noise Handbook*. August.

Humboldt County. (2012). *Climate Action Plan – A Strategy for Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Adaptation to Global Climate Change*. [Online]: January 2012 Draft. <https://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1870/U-Draft-Humboldt-County-Climate-Action-Plan-DEIR-PDF>.

- . (2017). *Humboldt County General Plan, Adopted October 23, 2017*. [Online]: <https://humboldt.gov/205/General-Plan>.
- . (2023). *Humboldt County Web GIS system*. [Online]: <http://webgis.co.humboldt.ca.us/HCEGIS2.0/>.
- Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD). (2010). *Adopted Air Quality CEQA Thresholds of Significance*.
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). (2023). *Custom Soils Map*.
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB). (2023). *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region*. [Online]: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/.
- North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD). (1995). *Draft Particulate Matter (PM10) Attainment Plan*. [Online]: <https://ncuaqmd.specialdistrict.org/files/6f1ad639b/NCUAQMD+Attainment+Plan+5-95.pdf>.
- . (2015). *Regulation I - General Provisions, Permits & Prohibitions*.
- . (2023). *NCUAQMD Website – General Air Quality Information in the North Coast and Air Quality Planning & CEQA*. [Online]: www.ncuaqmd.org.
- Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA). (2023a). *Website – Community Choice Energy Program*. [Online]: <https://redwoodenergy.org/about-community-choice/>.
- . (2023b). *PG&E – RCEA Comparison, Electric Power Generation Mix*. [Online]: https://www.pge.com/pge_global/common/pdfs/customer-service/other-services/alternative-energy-providers/community-choice-aggregation/RCEA_ElectricPowerGenerationMix.pdf.
- . (2023c). *Power Procurement Policy - Integrated Resource Plan*. [Online]: <https://redwoodenergy.org/power-procurement/>.
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). (2018). *CEQA Guide: Chapter 6 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions*.
- . (2020). *SMAQMD Thresholds of Significance Table*. [Online]: <https://www.airquality.org/LandUseTransportation/Documents/CH2ThresholdsTable4-2020.pdf>.
- Schatz Energy Research Center Humboldt State University. (2005). *Humboldt County Energy Element Background Technical Report, Administrative Draft*. July.
- SHN. (2023a). *Preliminary Engineering Report*. June 2023.
- . (2023b). *Biological and Wetland Assessment – Revision 1 – Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project*. October 2023.
- . (2023c). *Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report*. August 2023.
- Spittler, T.E., (1984). *Geology and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding, Briceland 7.5-minute Quadrangle, Humboldt County, California*. California Department of Conservation. California Geologic Survey. OFR 84-10 S.F.
- State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB). (2023). *Geotracker – Viewer*. [Online]: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>.
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). (2018). *Learn About Asbestos*.
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). (2011). *Reported Historic Asbestos Mines, Historic Asbestos Prospects, and Other Natural Occurrences of Asbestos in California*. [Online]: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2011/1188/>.
- William Rich and Associates (WRA). (2023). *A Cultural Resources Investigation for the Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/ Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project, Humboldt County, California*.

Attachment 2

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that when a lead agency adopts an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), it must also adopt a mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for all required mitigation measures (CEQA Guidelines Section 15097). This MMRP identifies the monitoring program for mitigation measures identified by the IS/MND to reduce or avoid impacts associated with implementing the proposed Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project. The MMRP shall be maintained by Garberville Sanitary District (GSD, the District).

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Phase	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Level of Significance After Mitigation	Verification of Compliance		
					Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>AES-1: International Dark-Sky Association Compliance All new outdoor lighting fixtures shall comply with the International Dark-Sky Association's (IDA) requirements for reducing waste of ambient light (that is, shall be "dark sky compliant"). This includes, but is not limited to, requirements for acceptable fixture types and maximum color temperature. The IDA recommendations can be found on their website at the following address: https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-for-citizens/lighting-basics/.</p>	GSD with the Project Engineer and Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing AES-1 during design and construction.	GSD shall be responsible for confirming compliance following construction and ongoing during project operation	GSD	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>AQ-1: Fugitive Dust Control Measures Compliance with these requirements shall be required to minimize dust generation during construction activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All active construction areas (for example, parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered a minimum of two times per day during the dry season; • Hydroseed or apply non-toxic soil stabilizers to inactive construction areas; • Dust-generating activities shall be limited during periods of high winds (over 15 mph); • Suspend excavation and grading activity when winds exceed 25 mph; • All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material, likely to give rise to airborne dust, shall be covered; • All vehicle speeds shall be limited to 15 miles per hour within the construction area; • Promptly remove earth or other tracked out material from paved streets onto which earth, or other material has been transported by trucking or earth-moving equipment; and • Conduct digging, backfilling, and paving of utility trenches in such a manner as to minimize the creation of airborne dust. 	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing AQ-1 during construction activities.	GSD with Construction Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring AQ-1 during construction activities.	North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD)	Less-Than-Significant			

**Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project**

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Phase	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Level of Significance After Mitigation	Verification of Compliance		
					Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>BIO-1: Nesting Bird Surveys</p> <p>To avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, one of the following shall be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct vegetation removal and other ground disturbance activities associated with any construction activities between September and mid-March, when birds are not typically nesting, or • If vegetation removal, structure modification or removal, or ground-disturbing activity is to take place during the nesting season (March 15 to August 31 for most birds), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey. Preconstruction surveys for nesting pairs, nests, and eggs shall occur within the construction limits and within 100 feet (200 feet for raptors) of the construction limits. If active nests are encountered, species-specific measures shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in consultation with the USFWS and CDFW and implemented to prevent abandonment of the active nest. 	GSD with the Construction Contractor and a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for implementing BIO-1 prior to and during any construction activities proposed during the nesting bird season.	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-1 during construction activities.	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>BIO-2: Protect Special-status Bats</p> <p>Within two weeks prior to construction, a qualified bat biologist shall conduct habitat surveys for special-status bats. Survey methodology shall include visual examination of suitable habitat areas and signs of bat use. Trees, water tanks, pump stations, and other potential bat habitats within at least 100 feet of construction activities shall be examined. If habitat exists, species presence and site use patterns shall be documented by using ultrasonic detectors to determine if special-status bat species are present on site. Bat presence in the project area may vary seasonally and annually. Surveys shall be conducted in a manner to detect the presence of hibernating or torpid bats, reproductive colonies and/or migratory stop-over roosts. If no bat utilization or roosts are found, then no further study or action is required. If bats are found to be present within an area of potential impact, or presence is assumed, a bat specialist shall be engaged to advise the best method to prevent impact. This may include, but would not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine appropriate measures for protecting bats with young if present, and for implementing measures to exclude non-breeding bat colonies during construction process. • For trees, phased removal of trees where selected limbs and branches not containing cavities are removed on the first day, with the remainder of the tree removed on the second day. • For structures, gradual modification of the habitat itself discouraging continued roosting by any bats that may be present, followed by installing physical barriers to prevent bats from entering the structure(s). 	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for implementing BIO-2 within two weeks prior to construction.	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-2 prior to and during construction activities.	CDFW	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>BIO-3: Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p>The District shall implement the following avoidance and protection measures for sensitive natural communities (purple needlegrass grassland and California oatgrass grassland) that would not be impacted during project construction:</p>	GSD with the Project Engineer and a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-3	CDFW	Less-Than-Significant			

**Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project**

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Phase	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Level of Significance After Mitigation	Verification of Compliance		
					Initials	Date	Remarks
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The District shall attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive natural communities to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans. Sensitive natural communities shall be clearly identified in the construction documents and reviewed by the District prior to issuing for bid to ensure they are clearly marked as equipment exclusion zones during construction. Prior to construction, temporary fencing shall be installed between the sensitive vegetation communities and the project if construction activities will occur within 50 feet of the sensitive vegetation community, to prevent accidental incursion. 	implementing BIO-3 during design, bidding, and prior to construction.	during construction activities.					
<p>BIO-4: Mitigation for Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p>Construction within mapped sensitive natural communities (purple needlegrass grassland and California oatgrass grassland) shall be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. If impacts are unavoidable and mapped purple needlegrass grassland or California oatgrass grassland is removed or detrimentally impacted, mitigation would occur. A Mitigation and Monitoring Plan shall be prepared in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Plan shall be acceptable to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and include the following elements: proposed mitigation ratios; description and size of the restoration or compensatory area; site preparation and design; plant species; planting design and techniques; maintenance activities; plant storage; irrigation requirements; success criteria; monitoring schedule; and remedial measures. The ratio and conditions of mitigation would be negotiated in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Plan shall be implemented by the District.</p>	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for implementing BIO-4 prior to, during, and after construction activities.	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-4 prior to, during, and after construction activities.	CDFW	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>BIO-5: Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters</p> <p>The District shall implement the following avoidance and protection measures for Waters of the United States and Waters of the State that would not be impacted (filled or excavated) during project construction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The District shall attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands/waters to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans. Wetlands/waters shall be clearly identified in the construction documents and reviewed by the District prior to issuing for bid to ensure they are clearly marked as equipment exclusion zones during construction. Suitable perimeter control BMPs, such as silt fences, or straw wattles shall be placed below all construction activities at the edge of surface water features to intercept sediment before it reaches the waterway. These BMPs shall be installed prior to any clearing or grading activities. 	GSD with the Project Engineer and a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for implementing BIO-5 during design, bidding, and prior to construction.	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-5 during construction activities.	GSD, CDFW, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB)	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>BIO-6: Mitigation for Loss of Wetlands and Waters</p> <p>The District shall avoid fill of jurisdictional wetlands and waters to the extent feasible. If fill cannot be avoided, the District shall compensate for the loss of wetland habitat so that there is no net loss in wetlands. The District shall compensate for impacts to identified wetlands through restoration, rehabilitation, and/or creation of wetland at a ratio of no less than 1:1. A</p>	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for implementing BIO-6 prior to, during, and	GSD with a Qualified Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring BIO-6 prior to, during, and	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), NCRWQCB, CDFW	Less-Than-Significant			

**Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project**

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Phase	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Level of Significance After Mitigation	Verification of Compliance		
					Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>Mitigation and Monitoring Plan shall be prepared in coordination with the NCRWQB, the USACE, and CDFW. Compensation for wetlands shall occur so there is no net loss of wetland habitat at ratios to be determined in consultation with the NCRWQCB. The Plan shall be acceptable to the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands and waters and include the following elements: proposed mitigation ratios; description and size of the restoration or compensatory area; site preparation and design; plant species; planting design and techniques; maintenance activities; plant storage; irrigation requirements; success criteria; monitoring schedule; and remedial measures. The Plan shall be implemented by the District.</p> <p>The District shall also compensate for impacts to other waters by obtaining required permits from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and/or the California Department of Fish and Game which shall be received prior to the start of any on-site construction activity. The District shall ensure any additional measures outlined in the permits are implemented.</p>	after construction activities.	after construction activities.					
<p>CR-1: Protocols for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources</p> <p>If cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, all onsite work shall cease in the immediate area and within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist will be retained to evaluate and assess the significance of the discovery, and develop and implement an avoidance or mitigation plan, as appropriate. For discoveries known or likely to be associated with Native American heritage (precontact sites and select historic period sites), the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) and Council Members for the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council, and the Wailaki Tribe are also to be contacted immediately to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the project proponent, the County, and consulting archaeologist, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided. Precontact materials which could be encountered include: obsidian and chert debitage or formal tools, grinding implements, (e.g., pestles, handstones, bowl mortars, slabs), locally darkened midden, deposits of shell, faunal remains, and human burials. Historic archaeological discoveries may include nineteenth century building foundations, structural remains, or concentrations of artifacts made of glass, ceramics, metal, or other materials found in buried pits, old wells, or privies.</p>	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing CR-1 during construction activities.	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring CR-1 during construction activities.	GSD and the THPOs and Council Members for the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council, and the Wailaki Tribe.	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>GEO-1: Adherence to Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report Recommendations</p> <p>Adherence to all project specific recommendations in the SHN Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report (SHN, 2023c) shall be required during design and construction of the proposed project. Project specific recommendations pertain to topics such as Site Preparation and Grading, Wet Weather Subgrade Protection, Select Engineered Fill, Excavations and Temporary Shoring, Utility Trench Backfill, Soil Corrosion Potential, Foundations, and Retaining Walls.</p>	GSD with the Project Engineer and Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing GEO-1 prior to and during construction activities.	GSD with the Project Engineer and Construction Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring GEO-1 prior to and during construction activities.	GSD	Less-Than-Significant			

**Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Garberville Sanitary District - Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project**

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Phase	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Level of Significance After Mitigation	Verification of Compliance		
					Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>GEO-2: Inadvertent Discovery Protocol – Paleontological Resources</p> <p>In the event that fossils or other paleontological resources are encountered during construction (i.e., bones, teeth, or unusually abundant and well-preserved invertebrates or plants), construction activities shall be diverted away from the discovery within 50 feet of the find, and a professional paleontologist shall be notified to document the discovery as needed, to evaluate the potential resource, and to assess the nature and importance of the find. Based on the scientific value or uniqueness of the find, the paleontologist may record the find and allow work to continue, or recommend salvage and recovery of the material, if it is determined that the find cannot be avoided. The paleontologist shall make recommendations for any necessary treatment that is consistent with currently accepted scientific practices. Any fossils collected from the area shall then be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution where they will be properly curated and preserved.</p>	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing GEO-2 during ground-disturbing activities.	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring GEO-2 during ground-disturbing activities.	GSD	Less-Than-Significant			
<p>NO-1: Construction Noise Limitations</p> <p>The following measures will be implemented during construction activities to reduce noise levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction activities shall be restricted to the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. • Construction activity will not occur on holidays. 	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for implementing NO-1 during construction activities.	GSD with the Construction Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring NO-1 during construction activities.	GSD	Less-Than-Significant			

Attachment 3

Responses to Comments Received on Draft Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration

Comments Received

GSD received seven comment emails and two comment letters during the 30-day public review period, which began October 25, 2023 and ended November 24, 2023. The respondents were:

- 1) Ed Voice (emails dated 10/25/23, 10/25/23, 10/26/23, 10/27/23, 10/30/23, 10/31/23, and 11/3/23)
- 2) Tina Bartlett, California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDWF) (letter dated 11/17/23)
- 3) Lori Schmitz, SWRCB Division of Financial Assistance, Special Project Review Unit (letter dated 11/27/23)

The comment emails and letter and are included herein (following). Within each comment email/letter, comments about the contents of the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) are identified with marginal lines on the right side of each page. Comment responses are provided below. None of the comments or resulting revisions documented in the Final IS/MND constitute “substantial revision” of the IS/MND as defined under CEQA Guidelines 15073.5.

Comment Responses

1) Comment Emails from Ed Voice

- 1-1. The four proposed new standby generators were mentioned or discussed on the following pages of the public review Draft IS/MND – pages 2, 5, 16, 23-24, 26, 31, 36, 43, 66-67, 69, 79-80, 82-84, 92, 96-98, 100-103, 108-109, and 114. Plan sheets E101, E501, and E701 (available during public review) show the generator electrical specifications for the Upper Maple Lane pump station, Alderpoint pump station, and Tobin well generators, respectively. Plan sheet E401 shows the Wallan pump station electrical diagram. On page 24 of the Final IS/MND, additional information has been provided regarding the proposed generators compared to the existing ones. On pages 96-97 of the Final IS/MND, additional support for a less-than-significant operational noise impact from generators has been provided.
- 1-2. See response 1-1.
- 1-3. See response 1-1. The project’s potential effects on Air Quality, including generator use, are discussed on pages 38-47 of the public review Draft IS/MND. As discussed on page 46 and shown in Table 10, the CalEEMod air quality modeling showed that the operational emissions from the proposed project are well below the NCUAQMD stationary source thresholds. These thresholds were developed by the NCUAQMD, and approved by the CARB and USEPA, to

ensure that stationary sources would not contribute to an exceedance of federal and state ambient air quality standards in the region. The project's potential effects on Noise, including generator use, are discussed on pages 95-97 of the public review Draft IS/MND and on pages 95-98 of the Final IS/MND. The potential noise effects were determined to be less than significant and consistent with Humboldt County noise standards because the proposed generators are anticipated to be of comparable size or smaller than the existing trailer-mounted generator because the new generators will be sized to meet the pumping requirements of an individual facility rather than being large enough to meet the needs of all the various facilities at which a backup generator is currently used; the proposed generators will be located at an equal or greater distance from sensitive receptors compared to the existing generator locations; the backup generators are only turned on 1) for emergency use during an emergency power loss, and 2) for regular weekly testing which occurs for approximately 30 minutes once per week during daylight hours; and the permanent outdoor generators would be provided in sound-attenuated National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)-rated enclosures whereas the existing trailer-mounted backup generator has more limited noise shielding. As discussed on page 95, the Humboldt County General Plan Noise Element contains noise compatibility standards that are based on the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) or Day-Night Noise Level (Ldn). Because CNEL and Ldn are a daily average, allowable noise levels can increase in relation to shorter periods of time without exceeding the County noise standard, as is expected with this project due to the brief scheduled run times (30 minutes per week) and otherwise just emergency use. The project's potential effects on Biological Resources are discussed on pages 48-62 of the public review Draft IS/MND and the project incorporated all the recommendations of the Biological and Wetland Assessment as CEQA mitigation measures (there were none regarding the need to mitigate for operational noise impacts to biological resources). The project's potential effects on Wildfire are discussed on pages 112-115 of the public review Draft IS/MND. As described on page 16, the generators would be diesel-powered. All proposed generators would be installed and operated consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

- 1-4. GSD submitted a Notification for coverage under Fish and Game Code section 1602 for GSD's water diversion on 11/22/23 (Environmental Permit Information Management System [EPIMS] number 45945). This information has been inserted in page 8 of the Final IS/MND.
- 1-5. a) GSD is in the process of getting fully compliant with the NCUAQMD requirements for the existing generators (current permits to operate). The existing generators are not part of the current project. All proposed generators will be installed and operated consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

b) See response 1-3 for a summary of the operational noise analysis.

- c) GSD does not maintain a log documenting the amount of time the existing backup generators run per year. The frequency and duration of backup generator testing that is provided in the Draft IS/MND are based on GSD's estimates.
 - d) GSD's backup generators are tested for approximately 30 minutes per week.
 - e) The existing backup generator used at Upper Maple Lane and Arthur pump station is diesel-powered.
 - f) The existing backup generator used at Upper Maple Lane and Arthur pump station is trailer-mounted with a built-in metal housing.
- 1-6. See response 1-3 regarding operational noise and wildfire analyses. All proposed generators will be installed and operated consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Consistent with CEQA Guidelines 15072(b), GSD satisfied the CEQA public notice requirements by 1) Publishing the "NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION" (NOA) at kymkemp.com on 10/23/23, 2) posting the NOA physically at the Garberville library, post office, and GSD office, and 3) direct mailing to owners and occupants of property contiguous to the project.
- 1-7. a) This comment does not appear to pertain to a CEQA issue.
- b) GSD submitted a Notification for coverage under Fish and Game Code section 1602 for GSD's water diversion on 11/22/23 (EPIMS number 45945). See page 8 of the Final IS/MND. GSD submitted a Notification for coverage under Fish and Game Code section 1602 for the water tanks replacement project on 11/16/23 (EPIMS number 45723).

2) Comment Letter from CDFW

- 2-1. In accordance with CDFW's comment, GSD submitted a Notification for coverage under Fish and Game Code section 1602 for GSD's water diversion on 11/22/23 (EPIMS number 45945). This information has been inserted in page 8 of the Final IS/MND.
- 2-2. This minor error has been corrected in page 8 of the final IS/MND. The correct maximum permitted diversion is 245.5 acre-feet per year.

3) Comment Letter from SWRCB

- 3-1. The list of "Other public agencies whose approval is required" has been updated to include the "State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water – Water supply permit amendment is required after construction is completed" as reflected on page 2 of the Final IS/MND.

3-2. As published in the “NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION” (NOA) dated 10/25/23, “The Draft-IS/MND and related reference documents will be available for review on the GSD website at the following address: <https://www.garbervillesd.org/robertson-hurlbutt-wallan-tanks-replacement-project>. These documents will also be available for review during normal business hours at GSD’s office at 919 Redwood Drive, Garberville, CA 95542.” The documents available on the GSD website and at the GSD office include the Engineering Geologic and Geotechnical Investigation Report and the Biological and Wetland Assessment. As noted in the Draft IS/MND (pages 63 and 106), “Archaeological and other resources can be damaged through uncontrolled public disclosure. Archeological site locations and culturally sensitive information is considered confidential and public access to such information is restricted by State and federal law, therefore this information has been redacted for use in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). Professionally qualified individuals, as determined by the California Office of Historic Preservation, may contact the lead agency in order to inquire about its availability.”

3-3. At Wallan Tank: This tank site already has a second poly tank that has been plumbed into the system and will remain online for continuity of service to all customers for the entire time that the new steel tank is constructed. Once the new tank is in service and fully operational, that poly tank will be removed from the site and delivered to GSD for future use elsewhere. Sheet C3.1 shows the location of the existing redwood tank that will be demolished so that the new tank can be built. It also shows the poly tank that will ultimately be disconnected and delivered to GSD.

At Main Tank: The existing Hurlbutt Tank will remain operational and provide service to the town while the new Main Tank is being constructed. Once the new tank is in service and fully operational, the existing concrete tank will be decommissioned and demolished. Sheet C1.1 clearly shows the footprint of the new tank and existing tank that will be demolished. Sheet C1.2 details how the extent and manner of demolition and grading at the existing tank.

3-4. As reflected in the 60% plans dated 11/16/23, the project will involve work near jurisdictional waters but not within them. Therefore, the project does not propose the alteration of the course of a stream or river. The 11/16/23 update to the 60% plans is consistent with Mitigation Measure BIO-5 – Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Project Wetlands/Waters, item 2 of which states “The District shall attempt to avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands/waters to the greatest extent feasible in the final design plans.”

1) Comment Emails from Ed Voice

From: jmshort <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Stein Coriell
Subject: Fw: Garberville Sanitary District NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

For Your Files

Thanks, Jennie

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Voice <evoice@mchsi.com>
To: Jennie Short <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Cc: Ralph Emerson <remerson@garbervillesd.org>, m nieto <m.nieto@garbervillesd.org>, Alejandra Nunez <Alejandra.Nunez@waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: Garberville Sanitary District NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Sent: 2023-11-21 12:52pm

Dear Garberville Sanitary District,

Since there is no State Clearing House number for this CEQA IS/MND, the following emails below are my public comments to the following public notice:

https://www.garbervillesd.org/files/88edfebe6/NOA-NOI_GSD-Tanks_Draft++IS-MND_18Oct2023.pdf

And the following GSD project IS/MND:

<https://www.garbervillesd.org/files/4394cc895/20231019-Public-Draft-IS-MND-GSD.pdf>

If you have any questions or feel my public comments are inappropriate, please contact me as soon as possible.

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>
To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Cc: "Ralph Emerson" <remerson@garbervillesd.org>, "m nieto" <m.nieto@garbervillesd.org>, "Alejandra Nunez" <Alejandra.Nunez@waterboards.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 4:54:44 PM

Subject: Re: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND

I have a couple questions concerning what is incorrectly stated in the GSD Draft IS/MND.

1. For example, under "2.2 Existing Conditions". page 8 it states in part"

The District was formed in 1932 for the purpose of providing sanitary sewer services. After purchasing the privately held Garberville Water Company in 2004, the District began providing drinking water to customers in the district.

If GSD did purchase the Garberville Water Company in 2004, they did it without the the authority or approval of the California Public Utilities Commission, which did take place on November 30, 2006, not 2004 (see CPUC attachment).

1-7a

2. Another example, page 2; Item 11. Other public agencies whose approval is required (for example, permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): it names the California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement. Any reference to the GSD LSAA in this IS/MND would be moot, given the fact the GSD LSAA from CDFW has been expired since 2017 and was not extended.

1-7b

Thank you,
Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>

To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>

Cc: "Ralph Emerson" <remerson@garbervillesd.org>, "m nieto" <m.nieto@garbervillesd.org>, "Emma Blankenship" <Emma.Blankenship@waterboards.ca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 8:42:36 AM

Subject: Re: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND New ICE Generator Use

Since this project proposes to include three (3) new outdoor, permanently mounted and one (1) trailer mounted generators, with 3 using fully integrated automatic transfer switch's and 1 using a manual transfer switch. Were the property owners within 300 feet of these four new pump station and backup/standby generators site locations sent, by US Mail, public notices disclosing the construction and new usage of 4 new internal combustion engines with fuel storage tanks, that will be operating near their property and or home and maybe able to feel/hear ground-borne vibration or worse, create the threat of fire (as it did on July 11, 2023 at the GSD water treatment plant)? These 4 proposed new standby generators could run morning, noon or night, when ever the PG&E power is off, for an unknown amount of time, until PG&E is restored?

1-6

GSD might want to read up on noise and nuisance disclosure laws, if these property and home owners were not sent a public notices concerning this project?

Thank you,
Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>
To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Cc: "Ralph Emerson" <remerson@garbervillesd.org>, "m nieto" <m.nieto@garbervillesd.org>, "Emma Blankenship" <Emma.Blankenship@waterboards.ca.gov>, "support" <support@ncuaqmd.org>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 1:17:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND New ICE Generator Use

In Section VIII Noise, bottom page 96 to top page 97, under the heading of "Operation", it states:

Operation

After construction is complete, noise levels from operation of the District's water system would be similar to preconstruction levels. The new Upper Maple Lane backup generator would replace the existing Upper Maple Lane backup generator on the same parcel. The new Alderpoint Pump Station generator would replace the one to be removed at the Arthur Pump Station nearby. All proposed backup generators would be sized to provide backup power in the event of electric utility outages. The backup generators are only turned on 1) for emergency use during an emergency power loss, and 2) for regular weekly testing which occurs for approximately 30 minutes once per week during daylight hours. The permanent outdoor generators would be provided in sound-attenuated National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)-rated enclosures. The short duration and intermittent timing of the noise from backup generators would not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels above current levels.

<https://www.garbervillesd.org/files/4394cc895/20231019-Public-Draft-IS-MND-GSD.pdf>

Question 1; If that statement is true, that GSD has existing backup generators in use at the Upper Maple Lane and Arthur Pump Stations; then why was the NCUAQMD not shown the location of those two generators when GSD was inspected by David Huffman on May 9, 2023 with the NCUAQMD? The NCUAQMD inspection and field reports state (see attachments), on May 9, 2023, Mr. Huffman met with Dan Arreguin and shown GSD generators and equipment at the GSD WWTP, Raw Water Pump Station and SWTP. If GSD had existing backup generators being used up in Garberville (Upper Maple Lane) and the Meadows Subdivision (Arthur Pump Station), why wasn't NCUAQMD shown those generators on May 9, 2023 when GSD was inspected by the NCUAQMD?

1-5a

2. If GSD is using two existing backup generators at two current pump station locations, why did GSD not conduct day-night ambient noise level test at these existing backup generator sites, running and not running, at those locations? How could GSD conclude; ***"the noise from backup generators would not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels above current levels."*** If those day-night ambient noise level testing was not conducted at the existing backup generator locations?

1-5b

3. Does GSD know the amount of run time the existing backup generators have on them per year at either the Upper Maple Lane or Arthur Pump Stations site locations?

1-5c

4. Were the existing backup generators at the Upper Maple Lane and Arthur Pump Stations also being tested on a regular weekly basis for 30 minutes each, like the new backup generators?

1-5d

5. What is the fuel source for either existing backup generator at either the Upper Maple Lane or Arthur Pump Stations, Gas, Propane or Diesel?

1-5e

6. How are the current existing backup generators at Upper Maple Lane and Arthur Pump Stations housed and enclosed?

1-5f

Thank you,
Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>
To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 5:08:09 PM
Subject: Re: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND

At the bottom of page 8, it states:

Surface water supply capacity for the District is permitted through both a State Water Resources Control Board Right to Divert and Use Water License 3404 (Permit 5487, Application 9686) and Permit 20789 (Application 29981). Together, these allow the District to divert up to 0.75 cubic feet per second (cfs) and, based on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Notification No 1600-2012-0030-R1, is further limited to no more than 10% of stream flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) gauge station number 11476500 at Miranda. The total quantity of water permitted to be diverted on an annual basis is 542.2 acre-feet per year.

Did GSD know its LSAA No.1600-2012-0030-R1 expired 6 years ago and was never extended before it expired? Which would make the GSD CDFW LSAA 1600 agreement null and void or another way of saying it, not legally valid.

1-4

Thank you,
Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>
To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 2:38:51 PM
Subject: Re: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND

On page 24, under the heading of "Electrical and Control System Upgrades Generators", it states:

In order to increase the reliability of the District's water system, the following generators are proposed to be included with this project. Generators would be sized to provide backup power in the event of electric utility outages. The backup generators are only

turned on 1) for emergency use during an emergency power loss, and 2) for regular weekly testing which occurs for 30 minutes/week during daylight hours.

• **Alderpoint Pump Station Generator**—This would be a permanent generator with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)-rated enclosure.

• **Upper Maple Lane Pump Station Generator**—This would be a permanent generator with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure.

• **Wallan Pump Station Generator**—The existing pump station would be provided with a connection for a temporary (trailer-mounted) generator, a trailer-mounted generator, and a manual transfer switch.

• **Tobin Well Generator**—The existing well station would be provided a permanent generator with a fully integrated automatic transfer switch. The outdoor generator would be provided in a sound-attenuated NEMA-rated enclosure.

Where are the spec's for all these generators, the size, load rating, make, model, fuel type, fuel tank size, what is the noise rating from exhaust, what is the overall noise level while running under full load and RPM, how will the sound, exhaust fumes and noise made by these generators effect surrounding wildlife habitat and human population, will the new generator enclosures have an automatic fire extinguisher systems or automatic fire sprinkler system?

1-3

Early on, back on September 26, 2022, I emailed GSD about these 4 new Generators and never got any answers concerning CEQA. Now that these generators are included in this CEQA IS/MND, the questions I asked back in September 2022 are still unanswered (see attachment).

Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>

To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 11:39:02 PM

Subject: Re: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND

Sorry, I forgot one more, page 16, Table 7:

Electrical Upgrades: Standby Generators Appropriately sized, new, permanent, diesel-powered, backup generators would be installed at the Tobin Well (Figure 5E), the Upper Maple Lane Pump Station, and the Alderpoint Pump Station. A trailer-mounted generator would be provided for the Wallan Pump Station.

1-2

Need more information than that.

Ed Voice

From: "Ed Voice" <evoice@mchsi.com>

To: "Jennie Short" <jmshort@garbervillesd.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 11:08:05 PM

Subject: Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND

Question,

In the Garberville Sanitary District Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project IS/MND, at the bottom of page 5, in Table 1 "Assessor's Parcel Numbers, General Plan, Zoning Designations", it shows 4 new standby generators being used on on the following APN's:

Standby Generator: Proposed Upper Maple Lane Pump Station 032-211-021

Standby Generator: Proposed Alderpoint Pump Station 223-183-003

Standby Generator: Existing Wallan Pump Station 223-191-011

Standby Generator: Existing Tobin Well 032-135-002

On page 14, it states:

The water treatment plant has a permanent backup generator, which has the capacity to provide full electrical backup of the treatment plant during utility outages. The raw water pump station also has a permanently installed backup generator. No other pump stations have a stationary backup generator. The District has a single trailer-mounted generator that the operations staff moves from location to location to back up the other pump stations in the system during power outages.

My question, is GSD planning to include 4 new standby generators as shown in Table 1 for this project?

The reason for my question, there is nothing mentioned or disclosed about using 4 new standby generators for this project in the IS check list. There is no information concerning the size, make, model, fuel type, fuel tank size, noise level Day/Night, ground disturbance, or exhaust/air quality.

If GSD is going to include these 4 new standby generators, where generators have never been used before, all the information should be included in the IS/MND.

Thank you,
Ed Voice

1-1



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 Northern Region
 601 Locust Street
 Redding, CA 96001
 www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



2) Comment Letter from CDFW

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

November 20 2023

November 17, 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Jennie Short, Project Manager
 Garberville Sanitary District
 P.O. Box 211
 Garberville, CA 95542
jmshort@garbervillesd.org

**SUBJECT: ROBERTSON/WALLAN/HURLBUTT TANKS REPLACEMENT
 PROJECT (SCH [2023100664](#))**

Dear Jennie Short:

On October 25, 2023, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received Garberville Sanitary District's (District; Lead Agency) Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project (Project). CDFW understands the Lead Agency will accept comments on the Project through November 28, 2023.

As the Trustee Agency for the State's fish and wildlife resources, CDFW has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and the habitat necessary to sustain their populations (Fish and Game Code, §§ 1801 and 1802). As a Responsible Agency, CDFW administers the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and other provisions of the Fish and Game Code that conserve the State's fish and wildlife public trust resources. CDFW offers the following comments and recommendations in our role as Trustee and Responsible Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; California Public Resource Code §21000 *et seq.*). These comments are intended to minimize Project impacts on public trust resources.

Project Description

The Project is located within the boundaries of the Garberville Sanitary District, in the unincorporated community of Garberville, Humboldt County, California. The District's service area covers 581 acres and provides sewer, wastewater, and water services to approximately 1,200 people. The public drinking water system consists of two water sources (South Fork Eel River Infiltration Gallery and Tobin Well), water treatment facilities, three finished water storage tanks, multiple pumping stations, and distribution lines.

Jennie Short, Project Manager
Garberville Sanitary District
November 17, 2023
Page 2

The District proposes to replace Hurlbutt Tank, a 180,000-gallon in-ground, concrete water storage tank, with a new in-ground, 550,000-gallon, pre-stressed concrete tank (Main Tank) on an adjacent parcel. Wallan Tank, a failing 20,000-gallon redwood water storage tank, will be replaced with a 77,000-gallon bolted steel tank at the same site.

The Project will also demolish the failing Robertson Tank, which has been taken out of service, and replace or upgrade three booster system pump stations and backup generators. To connect new tanks and associated pump stations to the existing distribution system, the Project will also install new segments of distribution piping.

CDFW Consultation History

In 2012, CDFW executed a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (hereafter, LSAA; Notification #1600-2012-0030-R1) authorizing diversion of water from the South Fork Eek River, as well as construction of or upgrades to the water infiltration gallery, treatment facility, and distribution systems. The term of the agreement was five years. CDFW has informally consulted with the District regarding the need to notify pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602.

CDFW Recommendations

CDFW appreciates the need to replace essential infrastructure and supports the Project's goal of increasing water storage capacity and reducing water loss. CDFW also understands the District does not intend to increase its service area or water withdrawal and entitlements. However, Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW of any project that may adversely affect fish and wildlife resources, including activities that substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake. Although the District had an LSAA for water diversion, its term expired in 2017 and was not renewed. Ongoing use of the diversion requires continuous coverage under Fish and Game Code section 1602. CDFW therefore recommends the District notify to obtain authorization for water diversion pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602. The [Lake and Streambed Alteration Program website](#) provides additional information about notification, as well as a link to the online permitting portal. CDFW would also like to point out a minor error in the IS/MND's description of water rights, which currently suggests a maximum permitted diversion of 542.2 acre-feet per year. The Amended License 3404, dated October 4, 2023, states "*the maximum amount of water diverted under this right and the right pursuant to Application 29981 shall not exceed 245.5 acre-feet per year.*"

2-1

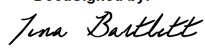
2-2

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposed Project and look forward to working with the District to bring its diversion into compliance with Fish and Game Code.

Jennie Short, Project Manager
Garberville Sanitary District
November 17, 2023
Page 3

If you have any questions, please contact Environmental Scientist Kathryn Rian by email at Kathryn.Rian@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

1D82ADE7303A474...

Tina Bartlett, Regional Manager
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

ec: State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research
state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Rebecca Garwood, Michael van Hattem, Kathryn Rian, Monty Larson
CEQACommentLetters@wildlife.ca.gov



State Water Resources Control Board

Ms. Jennie Short
Garberville Sanitary District
919 Redwood Drive,
Garberville, CA 95542

Dear Ms. Jennie Short:

(IS/MND) INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT (WATER SYSTEM); ROBERTSON/WALLAN/HURLBUTT TANKS REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PROJECT); HUMBOLT COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2023100664

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT AMENDMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to review the IS/MND for the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board, DDW) is responsible for issuing water supply permits pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act. This Project is within the jurisdiction of DDW Klamath District. DDW Klamath District issues domestic water supply permit amendments to the public water systems serviced with a new or modified source of domestic water supply or new domestic water system components pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 CCR chapter 16 et. seq.). A public water system requires a new water supply permit amendment when changes are made to a domestic water supply source, storage, or treatment and for the operation of new water system components- as specified in the Waterworks Standards. The Water System will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for this Project.

Waterworks Standards state, "The water supplier shall submit to the State Water Board for review the design drawings and specifications for each proposed distribution reservoir prior to its construction" (CCR, Title 22, chapter 16, article 6, section 64585[b]). Please send the tank designs to the State Water Board, DDW's Klamath District for review prior to the start of the Project construction.

FUNDING

We understand that the Water System has acquired Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) financing for this Project (DWSRF No. C-06-1210008-008P). As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following water quality comments on the IS/MND circulating for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the DWSRF Program (Program). The primary purpose for the Program is

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for drinking facilities improvements to provide clean potable drinking water, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state.

All applicants seeking funding must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provide appropriate documents to the State Water Board so that it can fulfill its CEQA responsibilities, see [CEQA Requirements](#). For additional Program information, the complete environmental application package and instructions, please visit:

[Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Forms and Instructions](#).

Following are specific comments on the Water System’s draft IS/MND:

- Under the Environmental Checklist Form, Number “11. Other public agencies whose approval is required” please include “State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water- Water supply permit amendment is required after construction is completed.” 3-1
- Please attach the technical reports prepared and referenced (e.g., Geotech Investigation Report, Biological and Wetland Assessment, Cultural Resources Investigation, ex cetera) to the document. Documents incorporated by reference must be made publicly available (CCR Title 14. Section 15150 [b]). 3-2
- Please discuss how service to customers will be maintained. If outages will occur, discuss how outages will be managed and the estimated durations of the outages. (e.g., The Wallan Tank that serves zone five will be demolished and rebuilt in the same location. Will temporary infrastructure be installed?) 3-3
- The document indicates that construction is anticipated to involve work in or near jurisdictional waters (PDF page 75), but also indicates the proposed project does not propose the alteration of the course of a stream or river (PDF page 90).” These two statements appear to conflict with one another. Please clarify. 3-4

If an application for construction funding will be submitted, please upload to Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool the following applicable documents for the proposed Project: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and MMRP, (3) all comments received during the review period and the Water System’s response to those comments, and (4) the Notice of Determination filed with the Humboldt County Clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

If funding will not be pursued, please forward the above requested documents with your permit amendment application to the State Water Board, DDW Klamath District Office at DWPRedding@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Water System's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 449-5285, or by email at Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov or contact Mrs. Bridget Binning at (916) 449-5641, or by email at Bridget.Binning@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz
Environmental Scientist
Division of Financial Assistance
Special Project Review Unit
1001 I Street, 16th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

cc: State Clearinghouse

Bridget Binning, Division of Financial Assistance

Alejandra Nunez, Division of Financial Assistance

Scott Gilbreath, Division of Drinking Water

Barry Sutter, Division of Drinking Water



GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 211 • GARBERVILLE, CA 95542 • (707) 923-9566

RESOLUTION NO. 23-015

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT ADOPTING AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR THE GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT ROBERTSON/WALLAN/HURLBUTT TANKS REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Garberville Sanitary District (the "District") proposes improvements to the District's community water system including replacing water tanks, replacing/upgrading booster pump stations, installing new segments of distribution piping, and replacing/upgrading backup generators, instrumentation, and controls ("Robertson/Wallan/Hurlbutt Tanks Replacement Project" or "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the Project involves the use of State funds (State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance - Proposition 68; Department of Water Resources (DWR) Small Community Drought Relief Program) and requires discretionary approval by GSD; and

WHEREAS, the District is the CEQA lead agency and, with the assistance of its retained consultant SHN, has performed an analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the Project; and

WHEREAS, the District has prepared the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) dated December 2023, which is the Draft IS/MND that was circulated for review and comment, and supplemented based upon the comments received; and

Findings

The Board of Directors of the Garberville Sanitary District hereby finds and determines as follows:

1. The District proposes to adopt the Final IS/MND for the Project.
2. A Draft IS/MND and a Final IS/MND were prepared for this Project by a qualified consultant (SHN) under the direction of District staff. The Draft IS/MND and Final IS/MND were prepared to meet the requirements of CEQA (California Public Resources Code § 21000, *et seq.* and the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA (Title 14, Cal. Code of Regs., § 15000 *et seq.*).
3. The IS/MND concluded that the Project could result in potentially significant impacts to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, and noise, and that the potentially significant effects can be avoided or reduced to less than significant with the addition of mitigation measures.

4. A Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) was prepared for the Project.
5. The Draft IS/MND was properly prepared using the current Initial Study checklist (CEQA Appendix G), so as to evaluate the potential for potentially significant environmental impacts under CEQA. It was advertised and circulated for public review for the required 30 days in accordance with CEQA (from October 25 through November 24, 2023). The District caused the "Notice of Availability of a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration" to be circulated as follows:
 - a. Circulated through the Governor's Office of Planning and Research CEQA State Clearinghouse for the required 30 days (filed on October 23, 2023; State Clearinghouse Number 2023100664);
 - b. Filed at the Humboldt County Clerk Recorder's Office (on October 25, 2023);
 - c. Mailed to all contiguous property owners surrounding the Project sites (mailed on October 20, 2023);
 - d. Mailed to applicable state and local public agencies and known interested parties (mailed on October 20, 2023);
 - e. Advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in the project area (published online at kymkemp.com on October 23, 2023);
 - f. Posted physically at the Garberville library, post office, and GSD office and online on GSD's website (on October 24, 2023),
6. Written comments were received by the District in response to the Draft IS/MND (seven comment emails and two comment letters).
7. Responses to those comments were prepared by SHN and considered by the Board.
8. The Board of Directors conducted a public hearing for the Project on December 19, 2023 to consider adoption and approval of the Final IS/MND.
9. The Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the Final IS/MND, MMRP, public notice, correspondence, staff reports, any comments received at the public hearing or in writing, and responses to comments, which together constitute the whole record for this project.
10. The Final IS/MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board of Directors.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Garberville Sanitary District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Directors hereby finds that the Final IS/MND was prepared pursuant to CEQA;

2. The Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the Final IS/MND, together with all comments received during the public review process and information provided in response to those comments, prior to adopting the Final IS/MND;
3. The Board of Directors hereby finds that, based on the whole of the record before it, including all documents and comments, there is no substantial evidence the Project will have a significant effect on the environment with the incorporation of the mitigation measures included therein;
4. The Board of Directors hereby finds that, based on the whole of the record before it, there is substantial evidence that no new information was added to the record after circulation of the Draft IS/MND and "Notice of Availability of a Draft IS/MND and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration" that warrants revision and recirculation;
5. The Board of Directors adopts the Final IS/MND;
6. The Board of Directors adopts the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program for the Project. District Staff is directed to implement the mitigation measures adopted in the Final IS/MND. This is to be accomplished by coordinating with the North Coast Air Quality Management District, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, State Water Resources Control Board, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, selected construction contractor(s), and District Staff to ensure that the mitigation measures are implemented.
7. District Staff is directed to maintain the documents which constitute the record of proceedings for approving this Project, which are located at the office of the Garberville Sanitary District, 919 Redwood Drive, Garberville, CA 95542.
8. District Staff is directed to file a Notice of Determination for the project within five (5) days.

Passed and adopted by the Garberville Sanitary District's Board of Directors on **December 19, 2023** during a regular meeting, by the following vote:

AYES:	Directors	_____
NOES:	Directors	_____
EXCUSED:	Directors	_____

Doug Bryan, Chair of the Board

ATTEST:

_____,
Ralph Emerson
Clerk of Board of Directors

DUMP DAY EVENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made this _____ day of _____, 20__, by and between the State of California, acting by and through the Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as CALTRANS; and the City/County of _____, hereinafter referred to as “LOCAL AGENCY”; and collectively referred to as “PARTIES.”

The Clean California initiative is a multiyear clean-up effort led by CALTRANS to keep roads and waterways free of litter, create thousands of jobs, and transform state and local public spaces through beautification efforts. As part of the litter collection component, CALTRANS is proposing free dump day events where the public can dispose of household waste safely and properly for free (Dump Day events).

CALTRANS and LOCAL AGENCY, agree to provide free Dump Day events for LOCAL AGENCY’s residents as part of the Clean California initiative.

PARTIES are authorized to enter into an agreement for improvements to the State Highway System per the California Streets and Highways Code, Sections 114 and 130.

PARTIES MUTALLY AGREE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. PARTIES shall publicize Dump Day events by informing the public that they may dispose of certain household waste items safely and properly for free, at the following locations and dates:
 - *(Date)* between *(event hours)* at the *(Transfer/Landfill name and address)*
 - *(Date)* between *(event hours)* at the *(Transfer/Landfill name and address)*
 - *(Date)* between *(event hours)* at the *(Transfer/Landfill name and address)*

¹Dates and times in the locations identified above is to be determined and mutually agreed upon in writing (sample attached as Exhibit A) by authorized representatives of the PARTIES.
2. CALTRANS agrees to reimburse the LOCAL AGENCY ___% **(one hundred percent)** of cost for, including but not limited to **labor, equipment and/or dumping fees** expended for Dump Day events (Dump Day Costs) up to the maximum Contract Sum stated in this Agreement.
3. CALTRANS has agreed to reimburse LOCAL AGENCY, an amount not to exceed **(\$X,XXX,XXX)** to fulfill its obligations under this AGREEMENT.
4. CALTRANS’ obligations under this AGREEMENT are subject to the appropriation of resources by the Legislature and the State Budget Act authority.

¹ Remove language if dates and times are determined at the execution of the agreement. This language is to only be used if dates and times are to be determined after the execution of this agreement.

² Any specific item highlighted that will not be reimbursed by Caltrans can be removed. Additional language CANNOT be added, and existing language CANNOT be changed, only removed.

5. Based on the amount of trash collected during the Dump Day events, LOCAL AGENCY shall send its invoices to CALTRANS within 45 days of the Dump Day event for the latter's share of the Dump Day Costs.
6. LOCAL AGENCY shall send invoices to the Caltrans District Clean CA District (xx) Coordinator. The itemized invoice shall contain the following:
 - (a) STATE's Clean California Program Code: CLEANCADMP;
 - (b) AGREEMENT number;
 - (c) Date(s) of services;
 - (d) Location of services;
 - (e) Number of hours and hourly rates;
 - (f) Receipts for trash disposal;
 - (g) Receipts for equipment, materials, and supplies; and
 - (h) LOCAL AGENCY's Performance Report that includes tonnage and/or cubic yard measurement of litter/debris disposed.

CALTRANS

«Caltrans contact name », «Caltrans contact title»

«Caltrans contact street address»

«Caltrans contact city», CA «Caltrans contact ZIP code»

Office Phone: «Caltrans contact phone»

Mobile Phone: «Caltrans contact mobile phone»

Fax Number: «Caltrans contact fax»

Email: «Caltrans contact email address»

LOCAL AGENCY contact is the following:

«Party contact name», «Party contact job title»

«Party contact street address»

«Party contact city», «Party contact state MC» «Party contact ZIP code»

Office Phone: «Party contact phone»

Mobile Phone: «Party contact mobile phone»

Fax Number: «Party contact fax»

Email: «Party contact email address»

7. Upon review and approval of invoice by the District Clean California Coordinator, CALTRANS shall pay LOCAL AGENCY within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt

of invoices. Payment will be made in accordance with the CA Prompt Payment Act, and within the time specified in Chapter 4.5, sections 927-927.13 of the Government Code.

8. When publicizing the Dump Day events, PARTIES shall inform the public that no hazardous materials will be accepted at the Transfer Stations/Landfills. However, if LOCAL AGENCY accepts hazardous materials, it shall do so at its own risk and responsibility and CALTRANS shall not pay disposal fees for such hazardous material.
9. Participating members of the public will be responsible for legally transporting waste to the Dump Day event.
10. LOCAL AGENCY shall provide the necessary equipment, tools, personal protective equipment, materials, supplies and products necessary to perform the services under this AGREEMENT including refuse intake inspection by staff qualified to identify hazardous materials, transportation, loading and unloading, and handling of Dump Day refuse.
11. CALTRANS does not accept nor take any responsibility for generation of any waste streams, including hazardous materials, associated with the Dump Day event(s).
12. All services performed by LOCAL AGENCY pursuant to this AGREEMENT are intended to be performed in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and LOCAL AGENCY laws, ordinances, and regulations. In case of a conflict between Federal, State and LOCAL AGENCY laws, ordinances, or regulations, the order of precedence applicability of these laws shall be Federal, State and then LOCAL AGENCY laws and regulations, respectively.
13. The total amount CALTRANS will reimburse to LOCAL AGENCY pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall not exceed **[\$X,XXX,XXX]** (“Contract Sum”). Costs incurred by LOCAL AGENCY for PROJECT work under this AGREEMENT in excess of the Contract Sum will be borne by LOCAL AGENCY. It is understood and agreed that this AGREEMENT fund limit is an estimate, and that CALTRANS will only reimburse the actual cost of services rendered as authorized by the CALTRANS Contract Manager or designee at or below the fund limitation amount set forth in this AGREEMENT.
14. This AGREEMENT may only be amended or modified by mutual written agreement of the PARTIES.
15. This AGREEMENT will end on June 30, 2024. This AGREEMENT may be terminated by the PARTIES upon mutual written agreement. In the event of a termination CALTRANS will reimburse LOCAL AGENCY all allowable, authorized, and non-cancellable obligations and costs incurred by LOCAL AGENCY prior to the termination.
16. Neither CALTRANS nor any officer or employee thereof is responsible for any injury, damage, or liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by LOCAL AGENCY, its contractors, sub-contractors, general public, and/or its agents under or in connection with any work (including hazardous materials), authority, or jurisdiction conferred upon LOCAL AGENCY under this AGREEMENT. It is understood and agreed that LOCAL AGENCY, to the extent permitted by law will

defend, indemnify, and save harmless CALTRANS and all of its officers and employees from all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind, and description brought forth under, but not limited to, tortious, contractual, inverse condemnation, or other theories and assertions of liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by LOCAL AGENCY, its contractors, sub-contractors, general public, and/or its agents under this AGREEMENT. PARTIES will continue to work together to plan future events.

PARTIES are authorized to enter into this AGREEMENT and have delegated to the undersigned the authority to execute this AGREEMENT on behalf of the respective agencies and hereby covenant to have followed all the necessary legal requirements to validly execute this AGREEMENT. By signing below, the PARTIES each expressly agree to execute this AGREEMENT electronically.

XXXXXX
Deputy District Director Maintenance
Caltrans District *(xx)*

Date

XXXXXX
(Local Agency name)

Date

DRAFT

EXHIBIT A

DUMP DAY Locations and Schedule

- *(Date) between (event hours) at the (Transfer/Landfill name and address)*

<i>(Name)</i> <i>(Caltrans Authorized Representative Title)</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>(Name)</i> <i>(City Authorized Representative Title)</i>	<i>Date</i>
--	-------------	--	-------------

DRAFT



CLEAN CA - LARGE ITEM DUMP DAY PLANNING

Caltrans District One Clean CA Program invites your community to partner on a Large Item Dump Day event. The purpose for these events is to support communities in reducing road-side litter and illegal dumping by providing a framework for a Dump Day event. The hope is that with Caltrans assistance, communities will learn how to hold similar events for the future betterment of our communities.

Below is an event timeline followed by more in-depth information on the responsibilities of Caltrans and Community Partners.

EVENT SCHEDULING AND TIMELINE:

- ✓ 4 months in advance:
 - Community partner review items noted below and present Caltrans with:
 - Secured location
 - Available equipment and operators
 - Workers compensation coverage
 - List of available staff or volunteers for event
 - Approval to move forward with draft Dump Day Agreement
- ✓ 3 months advance:
 - Caltrans and partner execute Dump Day Agreement
 - Caltrans confirms tire and mattress trailers and provides partner with contact info for billing
 - Community partner provides logos for advertising
 - Caltrans provides draft flyer and other promotional material to partner for review
- ✓ 6 weeks in advance:
 - Caltrans schedules site-visit to plan day-of logistics
 - Partner, equipment operators and garbage hauler to attend site-visit
 - Review staffing plan
 - Caltrans releases advertising materials

CALTRANS PROVIDES:

- Event organization and planning:
 - Schedule meetings with stakeholders
 - Secure garbage hauler through bid process in accordance with allotted budget
 - Assist in developing list of items to be disposed of
- Advertising:



- Promotes partners with logos on print materials
- Banners to hang in town
- Flyers to post and hand-out
- PSA radio ads
- Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Fiscal Agreement to reimburse community partner for costs incurred (garbage hauler, tire trailers, metal recyclers)
- Site visit with land-owner, equipment operators and garbage hauler to develop layout plan for traffic queue and garbage bin spacing
- Day-of logistics:
 - Signage to location
 - Cones for traffic
 - Porta-potty if other restroom access is not available
 - Station signs (Metal, recycling, freon appliances, etc.)
 - PPE for partners (vests, gloves, safety glasses)
 - Radios for communication during the event
 - Check-in and data collection station with pop-up tent.
- Day-of staffing:
 - Operations manager to oversee event and provide tailgate safety talk
 - Traffic handling and incidental support
 - Route traffic through lines and to dump areas
 - Public Information Officer
 - CHP presence if requested

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROVIDES:

- Location for event: large open area with plenty of room for traffic to queue without impacting side-streets, residents, or other businesses. Ideally the location will be paved to prevent tripping and to assist in easy clean-up.
- Mechanism for payment to vendors, to be reimbursed by Caltrans in arrears.
- Advertising: use Caltrans materials to promote within community, tag Caltrans with partner social media accounts.
- Equipment and operators: various forms of equipment will suffice depending on area and items being accepted. 3 pieces is ideal in most situations: a loader with a 4:1 bucket, a mini-excavator, and a backhoe with a thumb and/or 4:1 bucket. Water trucks if the area is gravel.
- Staffing Liability Coverage – event insurance or other workers compensation coverage for any non-Caltrans employees working the event
- Event Staffing - depends on size and location of event, 5-15 people to assist with:
 - Routing traffic
 - Collecting surveys



- Unloading vehicles
- Clean-up after event
- Load mattresses into trailers (if mattresses are accepted). 2 staff per mattress trailer
- Load tires into trailers (if tires are accepted). 4 staff per tire trailer
- Other incidental support as needed

CALTRANS CONTACTS:

District Clean CA Coordinator:

- Julia Peterson 707-497-9027; julia.peterson@dot.ca.gov

District Field Coordinator:

- Brenda Rose 707-572-7266 brenda.rose@dot.ca.gov

Public Information Officer:

- Rhiannon Montgomery 707-601-9913 rhiannon.montgomery@dot.ca.gov

MEDIA:

Facebook: [@CaltransD1](https://www.facebook.com/CaltransD1),

Twitter: [@CaltransDist](https://twitter.com/CaltransDist),

Instagram: [@CaltransDist1](https://www.instagram.com/CaltransDist1)

RESOURCES

[Caltrans District 1 Clean CA Website](#)

[Klamath Large Item Dump Day video](#)

[Covelo Large Item Dump Day video](#)

Sec 7.3 Damage to Water System Facilities. The customer shall be liable for any damage to the service facilities **or equipment** when such damage is from causes originating on the premises by an act of the customer or his tenants, agents, employees, contractors, licensees or permittees, including the breaking or destruction of locks by the customer or others on or near a meter. **and any damage to a meter that may result from hot water or steam from a boiler or heater on the customer's premises.** The District shall be reimbursed by the customer **or property owner** for any such damage promptly on presentation of a bill. **Failure to pay for damages or enter into payment plan with GSD, may result in termination of water/sewer service along with being subject to legal recourse.**

Sec 7.3a Water-Sewer Pipe Damage and Responsibility. The District is not responsible for damage to water/sewer pipes on private property and will not enter property for inspection without approval from property owner/tenant and General Manager. When District employees assist a customer on private property, they will not be responsible for damage, now or in the future. No work will be performed on public/private property, without completing an approved liability/damage waiver.

Approved: November 14th, 2023

Resolution #23-013



Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

OWNER OR PROPERTY MANAGER:

Address: _____ Date: _____

Name of Business: _____

Owner or Property Manager Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless, Garberville Sanitary District, Employee's and necessary Contractors, against any and all claims, suits or actions of any kind whatsoever for liability or damages, because of work performed on the property, business or residence listed above. This includes any cost incurred from work performed and necessary repairs caused from damage while assisting property owner, tenant, or customer.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS "WAIVER AND RELEASE" AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY. I EXPRESSLY AGREE TO RELEASE AND DISCHARGE GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT AND ALL OF ITS BOARD MEMBERS, MANAGERS, EMPLOYEES AND AUTHORIZED CONTRACTORS, FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION, AND I AGREE TO VOLUNTARILY GIVE UP OR WAIVE ANY RIGHT THAT I OTHERWISE HAVE TO BRING A LEGAL ACTION AGAINST GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.

Received By: _____ Date: _____

GSD Representative

Signature: _____

Owner or Property Manager

Sec 14.5 Drought Contingency Plan.

During drought conditions as identified by the State of California, Humboldt County or Garberville Sanitary District, the Drought Contingency Plan will go into effect immediately.

This plan will be implemented by Garberville Sanitary District and the public will be made aware of this plan through the media and customer outreach.

Customers will be required to conserve water including but not limited to gallons per day water usage and non-compliance may result in water discontinuance with a \$100 reconnection fee.

Customers will be required to conserve water including but not limited to gallons per day water usage and if they don't comply, may be fined for gallons of water used above the maximum allowed.

Customers that require water for agricultural or outdoor use during Summer months will be required to have adequate water storage to meet their demands, in the event of a drought or repairs because on (Phase 2) of the Drought Contingency Plan, water will be disconnected or restricted for outdoor use.

Those Customers who choose not to have water storage may have water disconnected during drought events or repairs to distribution system which is why it is recommended to have enough storage for your personal use.

Customers who disregard the drought phases will be in violation and subject to fines which begin at \$100 per occurrence/day beginning with (phase 2-4) and can result in water disconnection with a \$1,000 reconnection fee for continued violations over 5 days. The fine will be determined by the General Manager or designee under the direction of the Governing Board. Any enforcement action can be appealed to the GSD Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled meeting.

1. 1st phase—All customers voluntarily reduce water consumption. Reduce outdoor watering. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches **10cfs. 15cfs**
2. 2nd phase---Stop all outdoor watering except for animals, vegetables or fruit. No watering lawn, washing cars, sidewalks, etc. Commercial Agriculture Customers use alternative water source. Takes effect when S.Fork Eel River reaches **7 cfs. 10cfs**
3. 3rd phase---Water use on specific days, designated by GSD. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches **5cfs. 7cfs**
4. 4th phase---Water for personal health and safety only with no allowance for outside watering. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches **4cfs 5cfs**
5. Continual updates to customers will educate and inform of conditions
6. Ongoing: develop alternative water sources including, wells, springs, shared water with neighboring water districts including water hauling.
7. Ongoing: gray water education for irrigation
8. Ongoing: educate customers on personal water storage opportunities and conservation measures

9. Ongoing: leak monitoring and repairs
10. Ongoing: build additional water storage tanks or ponds
11. Identify all diversions from the river or GSD distribution system and report to law enforcement.

Ongoing: Participate in all drought planning forums to share ideas and planning strategies while developing partnerships on collaborative water projects and funding opportunities

Updated 10/27/2020



Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood Dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

WATER CONSERVATION PLANNING
DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS
August 2022

As we enter the final months of summer and river levels continue to decrease, it is once again time to plan for drought conditions and water conservation measures. The river level is a key factor in determining the amount of water for use, so as the flow decreases, we will begin (drought contingency measures).

River conditions are on this site and all drought phases are based on the cubic feet per second (CFS) of the South Fork Eel River.

[USGS Current Conditions for USGS 11476500 SF EEL R NR MIRANDA CA](https://www.usgs.gov/monitoring-reports/nr/11476500-sf-eel-r-nr-miranda-ca)

1. 1st phase—All customers voluntarily reduce water consumption. No agricultural irrigation. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches (3 days at) **10cfs. 15cfs**
2. 2nd phase---Stop all outdoor watering except for animals, vegetables or fruit. Takes effect when S. Fork Eel River reaches (3 days at) **7cfs. 10cfs**
3. 3rd phase---Phase 2 water use on even days for even addresses and odd days for odd addresses. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches (3 days at) **5cfs. 7cfs**
4. 4th phase---Water for personal health and safety only with no outside watering. Takes effect when the S. Fork Eel River reaches (3 days at) **4cfs 5cfs**

We recommend that you begin storing water required for your personal use, so that when conditions worsen, you have enough water to sustain you until river flow increases.

The normal daily water use for a single family home is 200gpd, while less water is required for health and safety. So plan accordingly.

The drought plan with phases of action is located on our web site.

<https://www.garbervillesd.org>

Please call our office for more information and we will notify you as river conditions change.

Ralph Emerson

General Manager
Garberville Sanitary District



Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood Dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Garberville Sanitary District is committed to providing the best service possible for our customers but we also want to provide leadership, a remediation plan and assistance in surviving and escaping emergencies which may arise.

Southern Humboldt is vulnerable to a host of hazards and natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, winter storms, landslides, droughts and fires; which is why Garberville Sanitary District is providing this Emergency Operational Plan, to assist in protecting our environment and customers.

Garberville is located in an area which has had many natural disaster emergencies over the years and because Cal-Trans, Cal-Fire, Sheriff's Office, PG&E, Humboldt County Road Department, The Hospital, Water District and the Garberville Fire Department are all located within the GSD boundaries, we must work together and coordinate effectively to survive any emergency.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Call 911

Garberville Sanitary District—(707)923-9569
<https://garbervillesd.specialdistrict.org/>

Office of Emergency Services—(707)445-7251
<https://humboldt.gov/356/Office-of-Emergency-Services>

Sheriff's Office--(707)923-2761
<https://humboldt.gov/2350/Sheriffs-Office-Newsroom>

Cal Fire—(707)923-2645
<https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/>

Humboldt County Road Department—(707) 445-7491
<https://humboldt.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=14>

Cal-Trans—(707)923-9374
<https://roads.dot.ca.gov/roadscell.php>

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Humboldt County Public Health—(707)445-6200
<https://humboldt.gov/330/Public-Health>

PG&E—(800) 743-5000
<https://www.pgecurrents.com/>

Hospital—(707)923-3921

KMUD News— (707)-923-2605
<https://kmud.org/>

Redwood Rural Health Center—(707)923-2783

Garberville Fire Department—(707)923-3196

Search & Rescue—911

Humboldt County Evacuation and Information Center—(707)268-2500
<https://humboldt.gov/374/Emergency-Operations-Plan>

Emergency Alert Notification-- <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085616405/login>

Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club— <http://www.sharc-ca.org> , info@sharc-ca.org
Patte Rae: 707-223-1560

Redheaded Black Belt News Online
<https://kymkemp.com/>

Lost Coast Outpost News
<https://lostcoastoutpost.com/>

USGS River Conditions
https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis/uv?site_no=11476500

ARE YOU PREPARED

1. Have a 72 hour emergency preparedness kit
2. Know your escape routes
3. Have contact list with you that include names, phone numbers, email info and addresses
4. Have a location identified with family and friends where they can meet you
5. Ensure that you have additional fuel, food, water, heat and batteries for lights stored
6. You may lose all contact so be prepared and if necessary have a survival manual
7. Be prepared to treat your own water by boiling, filtration or disinfectant
8. Have additional water available in case water service is disrupted
9. Remove all fuel which may start a fire and endanger your house
10. Notify somebody immediately if danger approaches, so they know your circumstances
11. First Aid Kit and know how to use it

ACTION TAKEN FOR EMERGENCIES

Fires

1. Don't try to be a hero
2. Be prepared to survive or get out
3. Fires can happen at any time for a variety of reasons so be aware of the conditions.
 - a) Call 911
 - b) Lightening is notorious for starting multiple fires that can halt escape
 - c) Debris and anything flammable is an accelerant so remove it from around house
 - d) Fires typically move faster uphill and slower downhill but wind blows fire everywhere
 - e) As fire becomes close, wet yard, house and roof while removing anything flammable
 - f) Grass fires move quickly but generate less heat than brush and heavy timber
4. Store water and a fire backpack with spray nozzle along with fire extinguisher
5. Always have a fire retardant blanket or clothing available if unable to get out
6. Garberville Sanitary District will make water available to anyone in danger during a fire
7. We will keep our website updated with current conditions of the emergency so continue to check in for road closures and updates www.garbervillesd.org
8. You can call our emergency number at (707)923-9569

Floods

There have been floods in the past which have closed roads, destroyed buildings and property, along with causing mass destruction, including death so although floods are a minimal risk, we must plan for the unexpected.

As the South Fork Eel River rises, you can check the Garberville Sanitary District website for local flood concerns, along with the emergency contacts above. You can also check river conditions on your own by going to the USGS Water Information Center - https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis/uv?site_no=11476500

Flood stage for the Eel River is 33ft, so being prepared for road closures and flood damage is important for all people living near the river or along the highway 101 corridor from Leggett to Fortuna.

Assuming the water will not affect you is the wrong plan for survival because once the water has breached the banks and closed roads, you are at the mercy of the flood so best practice is to leave the area before road closes and seek higher ground to ensure your safety.

ARE YOU PREPARED

1. Have a 72 hour emergency preparedness kit
2. Know your escape routes
3. Have contact list with you that include names, phone numbers, email info and addresses
4. Have a location identified with family and friends where they can meet you
5. Ensure that you have additional fuel, water, food, heat and batteries for lights stored
6. You may lose all contact so be prepared and if necessary have a survival manual
7. Be prepared to treat your own water by boiling, filtration or disinfectant
8. Have additional water available in case water service is disrupted
9. Remove all fuel which may start a fire and endanger your house
10. Notify somebody immediately if danger approaches, so they know your circumstances
11. Have portable submersible pump available with hose
12. Have emergency floatation devices for everyone in your home or business
13. Boats will not help during a flood so do not try to leave in a boat
14. Have security ropes, cables or lines attached to anything you want to secure as water rises.
15. First Aid Kit and know how to use it

Earthquake

Earthquakes are difficult to prepare for because unlike fires and floods, they can happen at any time and with no warning, weather or environmental indicators or rain which causes river to rise. An earthquake can destroy everything within the area impacted so being prepared or surviving an earthquake requires knowing how to protect yourself quickly.

Have a place to go where you can quickly be safe from falling objects, broken glass and other objects that can move and cause harm. Make sure that where you go for safety, there is access to a phone or device to contact others and that you protect your face and vital organs from moving objects

ARE YOU PREPARED

1. Have a 72 hour emergency preparedness kit
2. Know your escape routes
3. Have contact list with you that include names, phone numbers, email info and addresses
4. Have a location identified with family and friends where they can meet you
5. Ensure that you have additional fuel, water, food, heat and batteries for lights stored
6. You may lose all contact so be prepared and if necessary have a survival manual
7. Be prepared to treat your own water by boiling, filtration or disinfectant
8. Have additional water available in case water service is disrupted
9. Remove all fuel which may start a fire and endanger your house
10. Notify somebody immediately if danger approaches, so they know your circumstances
11. First Aid Kit and knowledge of use

ROAD CLOSURES

You know how to access your property, business or home during normal conditions but you need to know how to access or leave property quickly and safely in the event of emergencies, disasters or road closures.

Have an escape route with all possibilities and a map in your car and programmed on your phone.

The roads might be closed so locate the escape routes which may require a river or overland escape. Are you prepared to leave by boat if required or do you have a survival backpack, clothing and shoes to walk to safety?

RIVER CONTAMINATION

When the South Fork of Eel River or convergent tributary has been contaminated or potentially contaminated by a known or unknown toxic substance, a boil water order will be issued immediately by robocall, media and website.

- 1. Turn off water treatment plant until water is determined to be safe.**
- 2. Turn on Tobin well and test water entering distribution system.**
- 3. GSD Operators will do an inspection and test water quality.**
- 4. Contact Media, Humboldt County OES, Sheriff, Environmental Health and Board Members.**
- 5. Determine what contaminant may have entered the water and work with environmental agencies to ensure contaminant is removed or able to be treated to safe drinking water level.**
- 6. Update website with what has taken place and what GSD is doing to ensure safe potable water.**
- 7. When water is determined safe, turn on the water treatment plant and turn off the Tobin well.**
- 8. Update the website and make a robocall, that water is safe to drink and notify the media.**
- 9. Write a report of timeline, when notified and what actions were taken.**
- 10. General Manager and staff will work on report for Board Meeting**

GARBERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY

NOTIFY CUSTOMERS

Garberville Sanitary District will notify all customers of local disasters and emergencies through our Call system and we will give updates as we get them, which include escape routes, road closures, evacuation centers and all pertinent information to assist our customers. We will have all emergency and preparedness information updated hourly during all local disasters and emergency events.

ESCAPE ROUTES

Know your escape routes and check our website frequently because we will maintain the most current information about what is happening with the disaster or emergency.

We will keep you informed on road closures as well as alternative routes that can be taken to help you leave the area safely and expediently.

ARTICLE 14 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec 14.1 Pools and Tanks. When an abnormally large quantity of water is desired for filling a swimming pool or other purposes, arrangements must be made with the District prior to taking such water. Permission to take water in unusual quantities will be given only if it can be safely delivered through the District's facilities and if other consumers are not inconvenienced thereby.

A copy of procedures will be given along with permission. **(See Section 15.7)**

- a. Filling pools must be completed by July 1st or application will be denied.
- b. Filling pools will be denied when drought plan is in place.

Sec 15.7 Fee for Filling Pools. Any person wanting to fill a swimming pool, must fill out an application at the GSD Office (no cost). This application will be on file with customer account and used to verify the gallons required.

- a. Fee for filling pools will be less than regular potable water use and based on gallons used.
- b. The fee will be calculated by the units of water used (748 gallons = 1 unit).
- c. The units of water will be multiplied by the 2nd tier of customer water rate.
- d. When pool is filled after July 1st, customer will pay full consumption charge.

Garberville Sanitary District
PO Box 211
919 Redwood dr.
Garberville, CA. 95542
Office(707)923-9566 Fax(707)923-3130

APPLICATION FOR FILLING POOLS

Property and Contact Details:

Property to be served: APN # _____

Applicant Details: (if not the owner)

Full Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Work# _____ Cell Phone# _____

Email Address: _____

Residential Home or Apartment

Commercial

Pool Details:

a. Location _____

b. Gallons _____

Sec 15.7 Fee for Filling Pools. Any person wanting to fill a swimming pool, must fill out an application at the GSD Office (no cost). This application will be on file with customer account and used to verify the gallons required.

a. Fee for filling pools will be less than regular potable water use and based on gallons used.

b. The fee will be calculated by the units of water used (748 gallons = 1 unit).

c. The units of water will be multiplied by the 2nd tier of customer water rate.

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the information given on this application is true and correct. I am authorized to make this application in the name of the legal owner and in so doing, accept the conditions of the Garberville Sanitary District for compliance with pool Ordinance. Sec 14.1 and 15.7

Name _____ Date _____