

APPENDIX C

Measures to Protect Wildlife

Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plants

(Adapted from Rodeo Public Review IS MND prepared for CCSD by RBF Consulting, dated June 14, 2011)

Mitigation Measures:

- BIO-1 A wildlife biologist shall conduct surveys of the proposed pump station site and pipeline alignments for nesting birds prior to removal of any vegetation/trees, or construction within 500 feet of potential song bird nesting habitat. If any nests or nesting birds are observed, construction activities shall halt until the chicks have fledged and left the area, and the California Department of Fish and Game has been consulted. Based on consultation, additional monitoring during construction activities may be required.

- BIO-2 Pre-construction special status plant surveys shall be conducted along the pipeline alignment during the period of March through May by a qualified Botanist. The surveys shall follow guidelines developed by the CNPS and the CDFG. These surveys, as outlined in the guidelines, shall be conducted during the appropriate time of year for each species. If any special status plant species is located, its rarity and abundance shall be evaluated by a qualified Botanist to determine if the anticipated impact would be

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considered significant. If impacts are deemed less than significant, no additional measures are warranted.

If impacts to special status plant species are found to be significant, the qualified botanist shall develop a mitigation strategy plan to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. The plan may include one or more of the following actions:

- Avoid the impact to the species to the extent possible through project planning;
- Minimize impacts;
- Rectify the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment;
- Reduce or eliminate the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the project; and
- Compensate for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

As appropriate, the mitigation plan shall include the following information:

- Salvage program details;
- Replacement ratios;
- Performance criteria of 60 percent of the relocated population surviving within 5 years of planting;
- Site selection parameters to ensure there are no secondary impacts from mitigation;
- Program implementation methods within one year of grading;
- Maintenance methods for five years;
- Long-term preservation in dedicated open-space.

BIO-3 The CCSD shall comply with the following measures in order to mitigate the pipeline’s potential direct and indirect impacts on special status wildlife species with potential to occur on the pipeline alignment:

- A focused survey for special status wildlife species shall be conducted across the entire project site to confirm that these species do not occur. These surveys can be initiated in March. If special status wildlife species are found, consultation with USFWS and CDFG, would be necessary.

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- BIO-4 The CCSD shall comply with the following Best Management Practices in order to mitigate any effects of clearing or construction activities on biological resources and to protect special status resources.
- State and Federal regulations prevent disturbance to active raptor nests. A survey for active raptor nests by a qualified Biologist would be required prior to any habitat disturbance during the breeding season (generally February 1 through June 30). Any occupied nests found during survey efforts will be mapped on the construction plans. Some restrictions on construction activities may be required in the vicinity of the nest until the nest is no longer active, as determined by a qualified Biologist. Because this is a small project site, this restriction may be a constraint on development. In many circumstances, a 300- to 500-foot buffer zone is designated around an active nest to minimize disturbance to the active nest. Once the nest is no longer in use for the season, construction can proceed within the buffer zone.
 - All project activities will be limited to a well-defined area and will be fenced or staked to ensure avoidance of these areas.

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- In order to prevent construction-related debris from entering the creek, it is recommended that temporary erosion-control measures are installed along the perimeter of the construction site (i.e., silt fencing, sand bags, straw bales). For pipeline work under the Cross Town Trail Bridge area, temporary tarps are recommended to catch any debris that may fall while installing pipe hangers and pipeline.
 - To avoid impacts on nesting birds, the vegetation on the Project site should be cleared between August 16 and March 14. If vegetation clearing occurs inside the peak nesting season (between March 15 and August 15), the CCSD shall have a pre-construction survey (or possibly multiple surveys) conducted by a qualified Biologist to identify any active nesting locations. If the Biologist does not find any active nests within the impact area, the vegetation clearing/construction work will be allowed to proceed. If the Biologist finds an active nest within the construction area and determines that the nest may be impacted, the Biologist will delineate an appropriate buffer zone around the nest; the size of the buffer zone will depend on the species and the type of construction activity. Any active nests observed during the survey will be mapped on an aerial photograph. Only construction activities (if any) that have been approved by a Biological Monitor will take place within the buffer zone until the nest is vacated. The Biologist shall serve as a construction monitor during those periods when construction activities shall occur near active nest areas to ensure that no inadvertent impacts on these nests shall occur. Results of the pre-construction survey and any subsequent monitoring shall be provided to the CDFG and any other appropriate Agency.
- BIO-5 In order to avoid impacts to southern steelhead, construction at Reach 5 shall occur between April 15 and October 15.
- BIO-6 Building materials and/or construction equipment shall not be stockpiled or stored where they could be washed into the water or where they will cover aquatic or riparian vegetation.
- BIO-7 Preconstruction surveys shall be conducted to determine the presence of California red-legged frogs, southwestern pond turtles, and two-striped garter snakes. Any of these species that are found in the area prior to construction shall be relocated to a suitable area outside of the construction site by a qualified biologist with all required permits.
- BIO-8 Prior to construction, a qualified biologist shall conduct training sessions to familiarize all construction personnel with identification of California red-legged frogs, their habitat, general provisions and protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act, measures implemented to protect California red-legged frogs, and a review of the project boundaries.
- BIO-9 During construction, a qualified biologist shall monitor construction activities including, but not limited to, installation and removal of diversion structures and sediment/erosion control devices. If California red-legged frogs are found to be present during construction, all construction activities shall cease until the frogs can be moved by a qualified biologist with all required permits.

BIO-10 In order to minimize the possibility of injuring California red-legged frogs and other wildlife, herbaceous and small shrubby vegetation within the project boundaries that would be disturbed by subsequent project activities shall be removed by hand prior to the use of heavy equipment or machinery. Bullfrogs and exotic crayfish that are observed during the project shall be captured and permanently removed from the wild.

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- BIO-11 All trash shall be removed from the site daily to avoid attracting potential predators to the site. No pets shall be permitted to be at the site during construction.
- BIO-12 No heavy equipment shall operate in the live stream.
- BIO-13 An emergency response plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Department of Fish and Game prior to the start of construction. The plan shall identify the actions which will be taken in the event of spill of petroleum products, or other material harmful to aquatic or plant life, and the emergency response materials which will be kept at the site to allow the rapid containment of any spilled material.
- BIO-14 Staging/storage areas for equipment, materials, fuels, lubricants and solvents, shall be located outside of the stream's high water channel and associated riparian area. Stationary equipment such as motors, pumps, generators, compressors, and welders, located within the dry portion of the stream channel or adjacent to the stream shall be positioned over drip-pans.
- BIO-15 No litter or construction debris shall be deposited, or allowed to remain, in the riparian/stream zone. All such material shall be picked up daily.
- BIO-16 Spoil sites shall not be located within the stream channel, where spoil may be washed back into the stream, or where it will cover wetland or riparian vegetation.
- BIO-17 Building materials and construction equipment shall not be stored where materials could be washed into the water or where it will cover wetland or riparian habitat.
- BIO-18 Prior to construction, silt fencing or other suitable sediment prevention devices shall be installed to prevent sediment from entering Santa Rosa Creek. The sediment prevention devices shall be inspected daily and shall remain in sound working condition until completion of the project. If the sediment prevention devices are found to be in need of repair or not in proper working order for any reason, construction shall immediately cease until the sediment prevention devices are repaired.
- BIO-19 No phase of the project may be started if that phase and its associated erosion control measures cannot be completed prior to the onset of a storm event if that phase may cause the introduction of sediments into the stream. Seventy-two hour weather forecasts from the National Weather Service shall be consulted prior to start up of any phase of the project that may result in sediment runoff to the creek.
- BIO-20 Prior to the onset of any storm event that may impact the project site; a straw bale sediment barrier or other generally accepted sediment barrier shall be installed in a trench below the project site. The sediment barrier shall be maintained in operating condition throughout the period of construction of the project. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of accumulated silt and /or replacement of damaged bales.
- BIO-21 Special Construction Conditions. The contract documents shall include special conditions requiring that the contractor take every necessary precaution to ensure work within the main stream channel is avoided through the installation of scaffolding and tarps suspended from the existing Cross Town Trail Bridge. Provisions designed and provided by the Contractors shall ensure that no concrete, concrete products, or other construction debris would enter the stream channel. Pipeline materials and construction workers would be limited to the suspended work platform to avoid entering the stream

- channel during pipeline construction. Should any concrete chips or other debris accidentally enter the stream channel, special provisions would require such debris to be immediately removed.
- BIO-22 The disturbance or removal of vegetation shall not exceed the minimum necessary to complete operations. Understory riparian vegetation such as blackberries, willows, tules, etc., may be pruned only as needed to accommodate project activities. No vegetation shall be removed by excavation or cutting off below the soil. All pruned material shall be removed from the area and properly disposed of. Vegetated areas shall be cleared using mowers, pruners, brush saws, or other hand tools. No bulldozer/backhoe type equipment shall be used to remove vegetation.
- BIO-23 All invasive exotic plant species shall be removed from the project site. Any Vinca, Cape or German ivy, Castor bean, Arundo, or other exotic plant species shall be bagged and appropriately disposed of in a landfill. Exotic species shall not be used in composting or left otherwise exposed in or around the project site.
- BIO-24 Heavy equipment and other machinery shall be inspected for the presence of undesirable species prior to on-site use and cleaned to reduce the risk of introducing exotic plant species into the project site.
- BIO-25 If construction is scheduled to occur during the nesting season of February 15 to August 1, preconstruction surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine the presence of nesting birds in the riparian zone. If nests are found to be present, construction shall be delayed until the qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged.
- BIO-26 Debris, soil, silt, bark, rubbish, creosote-treated wood, raw cement/concrete or washings thereof, asphalt, paint or other coating materials, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances which could be hazardous to aquatic life, resulting from project related activities, shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering the waters of the state. Any of these materials, placed within or where they may enter a stream or lake, by Operator or any party working under contract, or with the permission of the Operator, shall be removed immediately.
- BIO-27 The contractor shall not dump any litter or construction debris within the riparian/stream zone. All such debris and waste shall be picked up daily and properly disposed of at an appropriate site.
- BIO-28 The CCSD shall comply with the following measure in order to mitigate any impacts to nesting raptors. The eucalyptus and pine trees on the project site have the potential to be used for nesting by raptors. Regulations prohibit activities that “take, possess, or destroy” any raptor nest or egg (CDFG Code 3503, 3503.5, and 3513).
- If construction is initiated during the raptor nesting season (February 1 to June 30), a pre-construction raptor survey shall be conducted.
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- BIO-29 The CCSD shall comply with the following measure in order to mitigate any impacts to birds subject to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA):
- If construction is initiated during the peak nesting bird season (March 15 to August 15), a pre-construction survey shall be conducted.

(Adapted from CCSD SLO County Minor Use Permit, dated December 21, 2017)

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Permanent Follow-Up Work to Emergency Water Main Repair

1. Work will be conducted along the top of the bridge deck to avoid the need to enter the streambed. Should it become necessary to enter the creek channel, work will be limited to the dry season and scaffolding will be used to avoid entering any active flow channel or surface water pool. To prevent construction-related debris from entering the creek, temporary tarps may be hung from the bridge to catch any debris that may fall while hanging the pipeline outside of the bridge handrail area during work. The District will apply for and obtain a Lake and Streambed Alteration Permit as may be required following discussions with California Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel.
2. To avoid impacts to and avoid take of federally endangered California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) and Southern California Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) the District will implement the following minimization measures:
 - A. A qualified biologist shall be onsite during work activities to survey and monitor for all special status species in the project area. The qualified biological monitor shall oversee implementation of appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, and shall be able to assert the authority to stop work or determine alternative work practices when necessary.
 - B. The qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey along the pipeline alignment, including the channel area under the pedestrian bridge for any species of concern.
 - C. The qualified biologist shall hold training sessions to familiarize all construction personnel with the following: identification of the potential special status species in the area and their habitat, general provisions and protections of listed species under the Endangered Species Act, measures implemented to protect these species, and a review of the project boundaries. This training shall also be provided upon the arrival of any new worker to the project site. The qualified biologist shall conduct a daily preconstruction survey for special status species before the start of work activities. Vehicles shall be inspected each morning before they are moved.
 - D. Mammal burrows that may provide habitat for sensitive species shall be flagged and avoided to the greatest extent feasible. The California red-legged frog is a federally-listed species that uses burrows and occurs in the project area.
 - E. Special-status plants that may occur in the area shall be flagged and avoided to the greatest extent possible.
3. Construction staging areas shall be located as far as practicable from sensitive receptors;
4. Construction areas shall receive appropriate routine maintenance to minimize unnecessary debris piles
5. Construction areas shall have appropriate erosion and dust control programs in place
6. Construction lighting shall be limited to that sufficient for safety and security, and shall be directed to minimize light and glare impacts to any adjacent sensitive receptors
7. During clearing, grading, earth moving or excavation operations, excessive fugitive dust emissions shall be controlled by regular watering or other dust preventive measures using procedures specified in the SLOAPCD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*.
8. A wildlife biologist shall conduct surveys of the proposed pipeline alignment for nesting birds prior to removal of any vegetation/trees, or construction within 500 feet of potential song bird nesting habitat. If any nests or nesting birds are observed, construction activities shall halt until the chicks have fledged and left the area, and the California Department of Fish and Game has been consulted. Based on consultation, additional monitoring during construction activities may be required.
9. Pre-construction special status plant surveys shall be conducted along the pipeline alignment during the period of March through May by a qualified Botanist. The surveys shall follow guidelines developed by the CNPS and the CDFG.
10. Silt fencing or other suitable sediment prevention devices shall be installed to prevent sediment from entering Santa Rosa Creek. The sediment prevention devices shall be inspected daily and shall remain in sound working condition until completion of the project. If the sediment prevention devices are found to be

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Permanent Follow-Up Work to Emergency Water Main Repair

- in need of repair or not in proper working order for any reason, construction shall immediately cease until the sediment prevention devices are repaired.
11. All trash shall be removed from the site daily to avoid attracting potential predators to the site. No pets shall be permitted to be at the site during construction.
 12. All construction equipment shall use available noise suppression devices and properly maintained mufflers. All internal combustion engines used in the Project area shall be equipped with the type of muffler recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. In addition, all equipment shall be maintained in good mechanical condition to minimize noise created by faulty or poorly maintained engine, drive-train and other components.
 13. Work areas shall be cordoned off with temporary fencing and signs, which shall be placed to direct pedestrians and bicyclists around construction work areas.