Paradise Sewer Project

Final Program Environmental Impact Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ONLY

Paradise, California

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ES1 Executive Summary

This Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) has been prepared by the Town of Paradise (Town), California, which is the lead agency for the Paradise Sewer Project (Proposed Project) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Per CEQA, the lead agency for a project is the "public agency with principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project. The Lead Agency will decide whether an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) or Negative Declaration will be required for the project and will cause the document to be prepared" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15367).

The City of Chico (City), the Butte Local Agency Formation Commission (Butte LAFCo), the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Butte County (County), and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are considered Responsible Agencies under CEQA based on their discretionary approval power over some aspects of the Proposed Project and would consider use of this PEIR for their CEQA compliance.

This PEIR addresses the potential environmental effects of construction, operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project.

ES1.1 Project Background

For a number of years, the Town has pursued a municipal solution for wastewater treatment to address failed septic systems that have degraded local groundwater quality and constrained affordable housing, essential community services, and related economic growth. Reliance on septic systems has resulted in two areas of concern: environmental impacts and economic impediment. Failed septic systems release untreated wastewater into groundwater or at the ground surface, resulting in environmental degradation and public health risk due to water contamination or exposure to untreated wastewater. Economically, the lack of a sewer system has suppressed the development of a sustainable business community by limiting the size and types of businesses that can affordably operate in the community. Development of affordable housing and workforce housing also has been hindered as larger housing facilities require more sewer treatment capacity than a traditional septic system can provide within the available parcel sizes. As a result of these concerns, the Town worked diligently for more than 50 years, even prior to its incorporation in 1979, to identify a feasible wastewater treatment solution for the community, with a priority to provide service to those commercial and densely populated residential areas with failed and failing septic systems.

Results of a Phase I wastewater management study conducted for the Town in 1983 showed evidence of high levels of fecal coliform and septic system effluent in the water supply, resulting in degradation of water quality (Montgomery 1983). This study recommended that a sewer system or centralized wastewater management facility be considered for the Town (Montgomery 1983). Since 1983, numerous wastewater management studies have been prepared for the Town. On October 25, 1990, via Town of Paradise Resolution No. 90-47, the Town Council officially formed a Wastewater Design Assessment District for the purpose of developing a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facility. The proposed sewer system was to serve only the core commercial area of the community. In a letter dated May 4, 1992, the RWQCB approved the Town's plans to establish an "Onsite Wastewater Management Zone" (zone) to address public health and environmental concerns noted in previous

studies (RWQCB 1992). The purpose of the formation of this zone, which remains in existence today, was to identify, permit, inspect, monitor, and regulate repairs and new construction of on-site wastewater systems that are required for new development (Town of Paradise 2022a). As of 2021, the zone permits and regulates more than 11,000 various wastewater systems. The collective individual septic systems vary in complexity, from standard septic tanks and absorption fields to small biological wastewater treatment systems (Town of Paradise 2022a). If the Proposed Project were implemented, the zone would remain active for those parcels that do not connect or have not yet connected to the sewer system.

In 2017, the Town completed a feasibility study, which evaluated advancing a sustainable wastewater solution for the benefit of the Town's economy, environment, and community. The *Town of Paradise Sewer Project, Alternatives Analysis and Feasibility Report: Determining a Preferred Option for Implementation* (Bennett Engineering 2017) analyzed several options, including a "No Project" option, and identified the most feasible solution and next steps. Three local options and the Chico Water Pollution Control Plant (Chico WPCP) regional connection option were analyzed to address sewer service reliability problems and select the best alternative for the Town to carry forward to district formation, preliminary design, and environmental review. The socioeconomic study projected benefits to the Town and region, including an additional 161 jobs, additional $12.8 million in sales and output to the region in all sectors, regional long-term impact of $68 million in private and public investment, and $56 million increase in the property tax base (Bennett Engineering 2017). The study also predicted a 5 to 13 percent property value increase for parcels within the sewer district. The regional connection to the Chico WPCP was recommended by the study as the best long-term solution for the Town (Bennett Engineering 2017).

On November 8, 2018, the Camp Fire severely impacted the Town. More than 26,000 Town residents were displaced; 90 percent of structures in the Town, including more than 11,000 homes and 1,000 businesses, were burned to the ground; and, most tragically, 85 people lost their lives. The 2018 Camp Fire affected the Town's business and management operations as resources were redirected toward recovery, which temporarily delayed further development of a municipal wastewater solution for the Town. Concurrently, private septic systems within the Town were found to be damaged by the fire, which in turn further degraded local groundwater quality and compounded the pre-fire sewer needs. These additional impacts from the Camp Fire again constrained affordable housing, essential community services, and overall economic growth, while the Town endeavored to rebuild without a municipal sewer system in place.

In late 2019, the Town re-evaluated the previous study performed by Bennett Engineering in 2017 to explore a wastewater collection system in light of the additional impacts resulting from the 2018 Camp Fire, including septic system replacements, re-population within the sewer service area, and sewer impacts that had continued to occur since the 2017 study.

The Town continued to study wastewater discharge and treatment alternatives, including local treatment and disposal, as well as a regional treatment alternative at the Chico WPCP. In 2020, the Town received an *Evaluation of Wastewater Treatment Plant Options, Town of Paradise, Butte County* memorandum from the RWQCB. In the memorandum, RWQCB stated that the regional option presents

an objectively more sustainable long-term solution to the Town's wastewater infrastructure needs (RWQCB 2020).

The Town performed a detailed analysis of alternatives, in coordination with the City and RWQCB, from an environmental impact, cost, and operational standpoint. In partnership with the RWQCB and City, the regional approach to providing sewer service to the Town, by connecting to the existing Chico WPCP, was pursued over alternative options to build a new stand-alone treatment facility for the Town.

During these studies, it was also determined that the estimated average wastewater conveyance and treatment need for the sewer service area would be 0.464 million gallons per day (mgd). This flow rate would accommodate current repopulation and possible future growth, consistent with the current *Town of Paradise 1994 General Plan* and *Town of Paradise 2022–2030 Housing Element Update* (Town of Paradise and Quad Consultants 2008, Town of Paradise 2022a). The Town is preparing this PEIR to determine the feasibility of a regional wastewater treatment solution to fulfill this 0.464 mgd wastewater treatment need.

ES1.2 Project Location

Paradise is within eastern Butte County, California, in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Its topography is characterized by intervening ridges and valleys sloping to the southwest, with elevations ranging from around 1,080 to 2,320 feet. The Town is bordered on the east by the western branch of the Feather River and on the west by Little Butte Creek. It is approximately 12 miles east of Chico, 20 miles northwest of Oroville, and 90 miles north of Sacramento. The Town is connected to Chico via Skyway, a Butte County roadway, and to Oroville via California State Route (SR) 191, which is known as Clark Road upon entering the Town from the south.

Chico, also in Butte County, sits on the Sacramento Valley floor, close to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada range to the east. Chico's terrain is generally flat, with increasingly hilly terrain beginning at the eastern City limits. Chico is traversed by two creeks: Big Chico and Little Chico Creeks. These waterbodies discharge into the Sacramento River. SRs 32 and 99 comprise Chico's regional transportation network. SR 32 connects Chico residents to Glenn and Plumas Counties to the west and east, respectively. SR 99 connects residents to Tehama and Sutter Counties to the north and south, respectively. Chico is the most populous city in Butte County, with a population of 102,892 in January 2022 (California Department of Finance [DOF] 2022).

The project location is shown in Figure ES-1.

ES1.3 Project Need and Objectives

Paradise is the largest town in California that relies solely on septic systems for the treatment and disposal of its wastewater (BCAG 2019a). Relying on private septic systems due to the lack of a municipal sewer collection system has a twofold implication: (1) the effect on the human and natural environment, and (2) the effect on the area's economy and recovery from the 2018 Camp Fire.

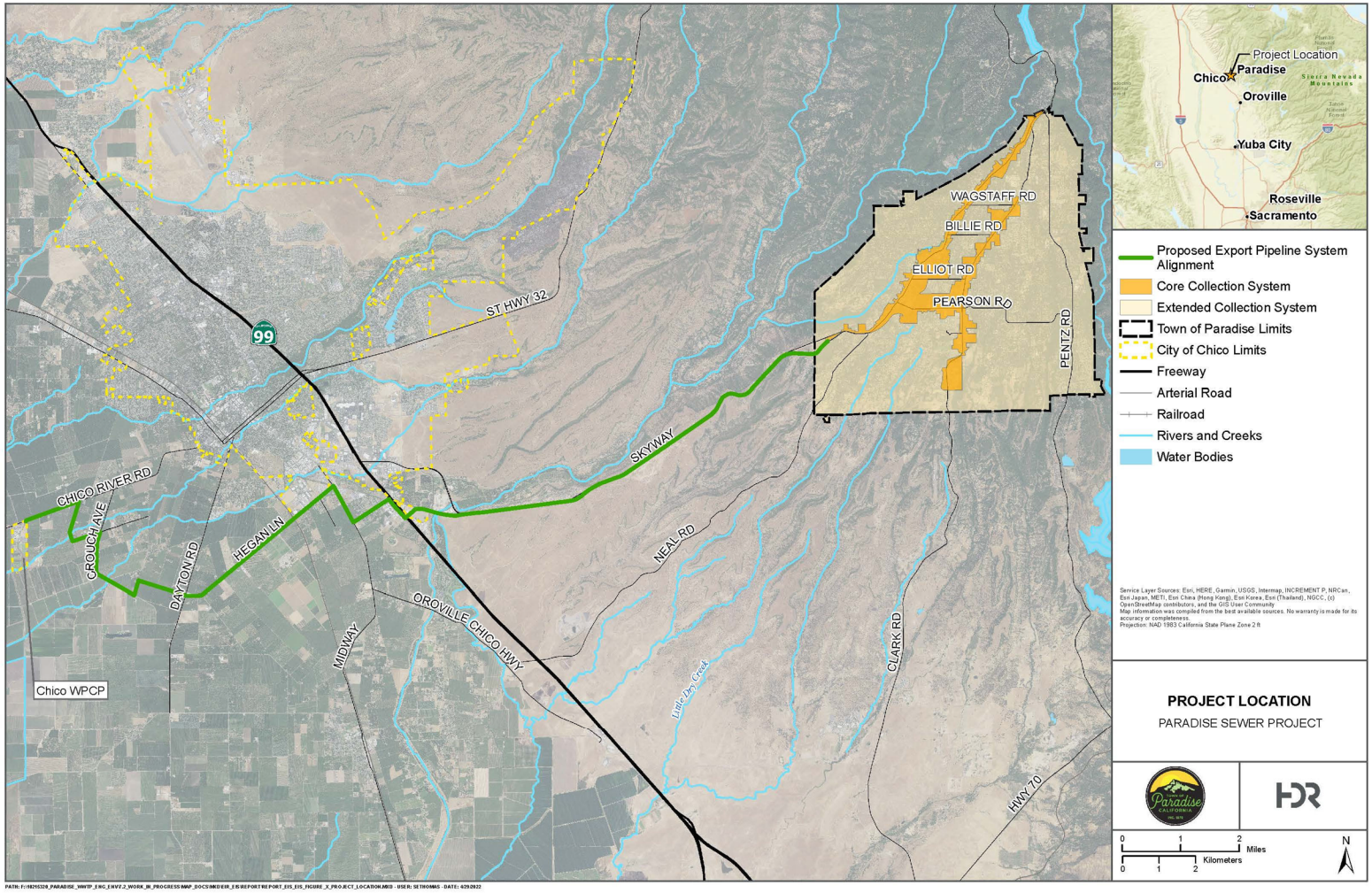

Figure ES-1. Proposed Project Location

The lack of reliable sewer infrastructure, due to the probability of failure and limitations on treatment and discharge within the current septic system network, poses an environmental threat to groundwater and surface water quality. When a septic system fails, it can either contaminate the groundwater underneath it or surface water nearby, creating environmental concerns for nearby streams and lakes as well as polluting the drinking water supply. Prior to the 2018 Camp Fire, the Town struggled to support a thriving economy, in part due to the lack of sewer availability. Conditions since the 2018 Camp Fire are amplified with even fewer businesses able to open or reopen due to septic failures or required upgrades that are cost prohibitive. Commercial parcels in Town are generally small in size and concentrated in a core commercial area that provides limited space for septic tanks and leach fields. These restrictions are compounded by siting restrictions such as high groundwater and poor drainage due to the local soil composition. As a result, existing Town businesses have been severely constrained due to their septic system discharge exceeding the available capacity of the land itself, while new businesses are often forced to open elsewhere due to the limitations placed on them to operate with an on-site septic system. Three primary objectives and associated goals drove the development of the Proposed Project:

- Provide long-term, efficient, reliable treatment of wastewater in a cost-effective, environmentally beneficial manner to current and returning Town residents, in a manner acceptable to the RWQCB and other permitting agencies:
    - Accommodate regrowth while reducing further environmental degradation of groundwater and surface water from failing septic systems
    - Reduce the public health risk associated with failing septic systems
- Generate economic recovery by eliminating septic-related capacity limitations, as well as the general burden of on-site wastewater management for businesses:
    - Promote the return or arrival of essential community services and businesses by removing restrictions caused by on-site septic systems
- Provide for the ability to construct and maintain affordable housing, specifically multi-family housing:
    - Support centralizing affordable housing to Paradise's urban core, along major evacuation routes

ES1.4 Required Permits and Approvals

The required federal, State, and local permits and approvals to move the Proposed Project forward are listed in Table ES-1.

Table ES-1. Anticipated Required Permits and Approvals

Agency and Jurisdiction	Permit, Approval, or Clearance	Relevance
Federal		
US Army Corps of Engineers: Clean Water Act	Section 404 Permit	Permanent or temporary placement and/or removal of material in waters of the US or state, including wetlands
US Fish and Wildlife Service: Endangered Species Act	Section 7 Consultation, Letter of Concurrence	Presence of federally listed plant and wildlife species and critical habitat within the impact area if unable to avoid through siting of horizontal directional drilling or temporary disturbance areas
National Marine Fisheries Service: Endangered Species Act, Magnuson Stevens Essential Fish Habitat	Section 7 Consultation, No Effect Determination	Intent to pursue no effect determination through avoidance of federally listed anadromous fish and critical habitat within the impact area
State Historic Preservation Officer: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)	Concurrence on adequacy of identification effort, National Register of Historic Places eligibility determinations, and Finding of Effect	Aligned with federal permits and consultations
Native American Tribes: • Konkow Valley Band of Maidu • Mechoopda Indian Tribe	Tribal consultation per Section 106 of the NHPA	Tribal consultation, aligned with Assembly Bill 52, Native Americans: California Environmental Quality Act (AB 52) consultation
State		
Native American Tribes: • Konkow Valley Band of Maidu • Mechoopda Indian Tribe	Tribal consultation per AB 52	Tribal consultation, aligned with the CEQA process
State Water Resources Control Board	NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit	Land disturbance exceeding thresholds
CDFW **(Responsible Agency)**	• Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit • Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Both applications require a completed CEQA clearance	• Presence of state-listed (threatened) Swainson's hawks nesting within the impact area • Three trenchless stream crossings
California Department of Transportation	Section 660 of the California Streets and Highways Code	Specific to the trenchless crossing of Highway 99 by the export pipeline
Local		
Butte County **(Responsible Agency)**	Approval for installation and operations and maintenance of the export pipeline and any appurtenant facilities located within County rights of way; **specifically, for encroachment permits within County rights of way.**	Specific to the proposed export pipeline that would be constructed within Butte County ROW

Agency and Jurisdiction	Permit, Approval, or Clearance	Relevance
Private Landowner	Permanent or temporary easements	Specific to the proposed export pipeline installation on two private parcels in City limits when pipeline would leave Skyway and to connect portions of the sewer system to each other within the Core Collection Area
City of Chico **(Responsible Agency)**	Approval to connect the sewer system to the Chico WPCP	Specific to the export pipeline connection to the Chico WPCP
RWQCB **(Responsible Agency)**	• Water Quality Certification for dredge or fill impacts • Sanitary Sewer General Order permit	• Permanent or temporary placement and/or removal of material in waters of the US or state, including wetlands; three proposed trenchless crossing could trigger the need for a Water Quality Certification due to risk of frac-out during construction. • The Town will need coverage under the General Order as an owner/operator of a collection system that is longer than 1 mile
Butte LAFCo **(Responsible Agency)**	Approval to extend the Chico sewer service area	Extension of the Chico sewer service area to include Town
Other		
Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR)	Permit or Easement Agreement	Specific to the export pipeline use of an abandoned UPRR parcel when leave Skyway and trenchless export pipeline crossing of active UPRR track

ES1.5 Proposed Project Components

The Proposed Project would consist of three primary components: Core Collection System, Export Pipeline System, and Extended Collection System. The first two components are analyzed in this PEIR at a project level because sufficient information is available about the characteristics, timing, and locations of these proposed components. Because the Extended Collection System is conceptual in definition and the characteristics, timing, and/or locations of the necessary buried gravity and pressure lines, maintenance holes, and pump stations are not available at the time of PEIR preparation, the Extended Collection System build-out is analyzed at a programmatic level in this PEIR.

Although not a physical change to the environment and, therefore, not required to be included in this PEIR (CEQA Guidelines 15064(d)), the Proposed Project would require the City and Town to enter into an inter-municipal agreement to capture the contractual terms for the provision of wastewater treatment services from the Chico WPCP to the Town (Government Code Section 56133) and a formal agreement or other mechanism for the construction and maintenance of facilities within the Butte County-maintained rights-of-way.

Approval from the Butte County LAFCo is required for the extension of services beyond the boundaries of Chico to allow the City to provide wastewater treatment services to the Town (Government Code Section 56133); therefore, this action is considered in this PEIR.

The following sections describe each of the three Project components and associated construction-related activities, where applicable.

ES1.5.1 Core Collection System

Location and Description. The infrastructure proposed to serve Paradise's sewer service area within a portion of the Town is called the Core Collection System, which aligns with what is defined as the Sewer Service Area (SSA) in the *Town of Paradise 2022 Housing Element*. The Core Collection System would support the centralized businesses and housing in Town, including approximately 1,500 parcels along the Skyway, Clark Road, and Pearson Road corridors (approximately 13 percent of the 11,500 total parcels within Town limits). Construction of the Core Collection System would disturb approximately 10.67 acres. The Core Collection System is shown in Figure ES-2.

The Proposed Project would add an additional 0.109 mgd of wastewater from the Town to the Chico WPCP influent at the time of initial connection (estimated for late 2026). The estimated maximum wastewater conveyance and treatment need for the sewer service area is 464,000 gallons per day (0.464 mgd). This accounts for current and future estimated growth consistent with the current *Town of Paradise General Plan* and *Town of Paradise 2022-2040 Housing Element Update*, and would be realized over a projected 30-year planning horizon (Town of Paradise and Quad Consultants 2008, Town of Paradise 2022a).

The Core Collection System would be sized to serve parcels within the Town's sewer service area and would consist of:

- A system of gravity sewers, which would use energy resulting from a difference in elevation to remove wastewater;
- Small pump stations used to move wastewater to higher elevations to allow subsequent transport by gravity flow;
- Force (pressurized) mains, which are pressurized sewer pipes that convey water under pressure from the discharge side of the pump and are often used where gravity is not enough to move wastewater through a sewer line; and
- A system of gravity sewers, which would use energy resulting from a difference in elevation to remove wastewater.

Most of the Core Collection System components would be constructed within the existing Town right-of-way (ROW). Temporary private easements could be required to install components of the Core Collection System, such as pipelines or pump stations. Because of the varied topography within the sewer service area, pump stations and pressurized force mains would be required to pump flows out of valleys and other low-lying areas to adjacent gravity sewers.

The Core Collection System would consist of approximately 157,000 feet of 6- to 8-inch-diameter gravity sewers, 29,000 feet of 2- to 4-inch-diameter force mains, and up to 28 pump stations. The

pipelines would be buried approximately 3 to 15 feet below the ground surface, depending on local topography and sewer system design features and constraints. At individual parcels (residential dwellings and businesses), public sewer laterals (typically 4 inches in diameter) would extend from the Core Collection System's gravity sewer main to the property line, transitioning to a private sewer lateral within the parcel, leading to the structure.

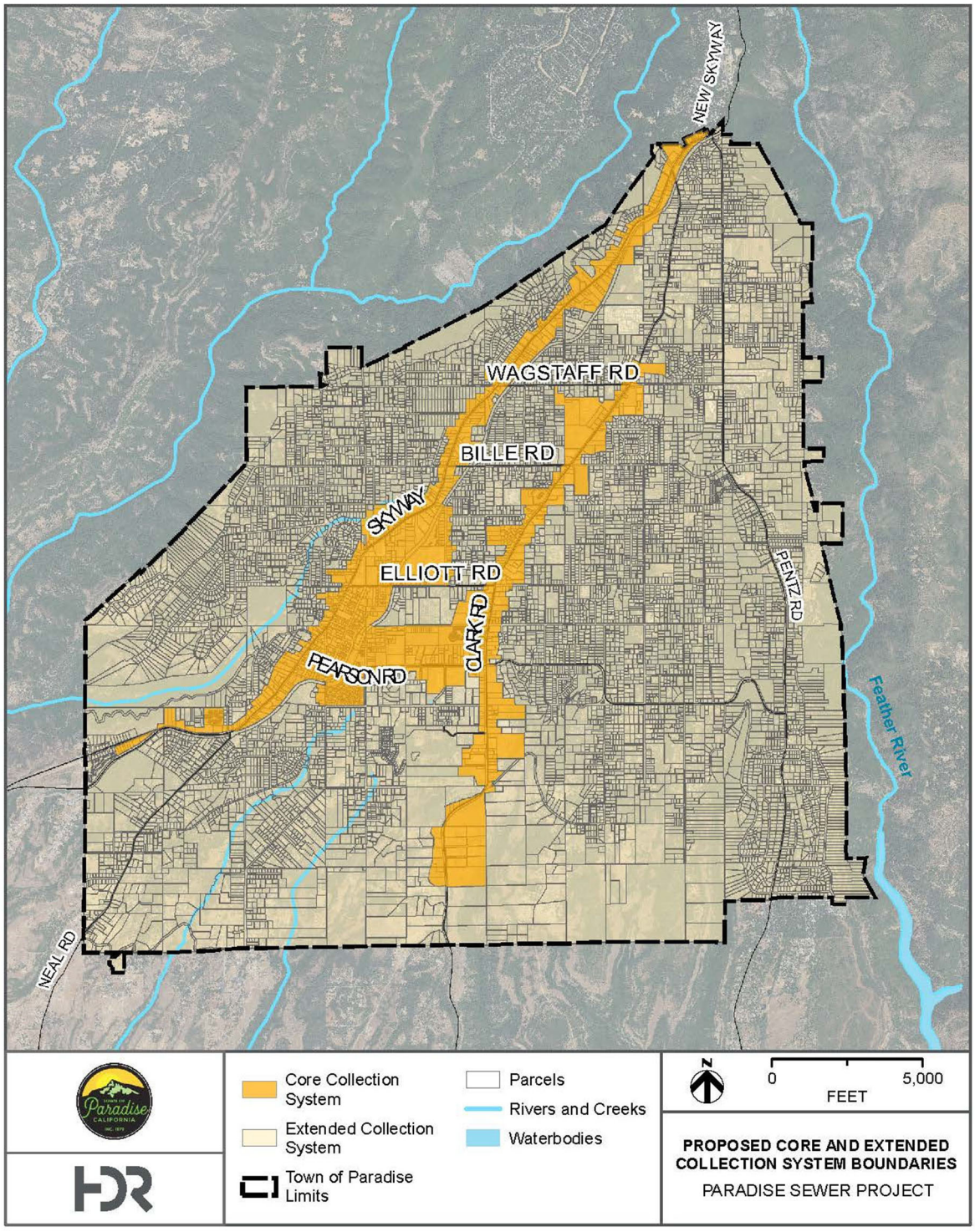

Figure ES-2. Town of Paradise Proposed Core and Extended Collection System Boundaries

Construction Methods. Construction within the Town's ROW would use open-cut trenching methods to install the pipes and structures that comprise the Core Collection System. Open cut trenching is a method of installation that requires opening up the surface of the ground to install, repair or replace a new structure, such as a pipe, conduit, or cable. Where located within public streets, portions of the Town's ROW would serve as a temporary construction zone, with restricted access to the ROW to allow trenching equipment to dig trenches. Work crews would install the pipe and structures, then backfill the excavation, restore the ground surface to its previous or better conditions and re-establish full access to the area. The required maintenance holes and pump stations would involve similar construction methods of open cut, installation, backfill, and restoration.

Materials. The following excavated and fill materials are anticipated for Core Collection System construction (HDR 2022): export of 169,400 cubic yards of soil and import of 62,600 cubic yards of fill material. Other materials that would be used in the Core Collection System construction (HDR 2022) include: polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe and miscellaneous fittings, pre-built pump stations and associated mechanical/electrical components, temporary and permanent paving (asphalt), and backfill material.

Schedule. Based on an anticipated 22-month construction period for the Core Collection System, an average of 750 round-trip truck trips distributed across an average of 11 crews working at a given time would be generated each working day during construction (HDR 2022). Based on an anticipated 22-month construction period, installation of the Core Collection System would require multiple crews to be working at the same time (HDR 2022).

Easement Requirements. The majority of the Core Collection System would be installed within the Town's ROWs (i.e., Town streets, existing public ROW). However, small segments of the Core Collection System may need to cross private parcels to install components of the Core Collection System, such as pipelines or pump stations. In those cases, easements would be acquired from the property owners.

ES1.5.2 Export Pipeline System

Location and Description. The proposed Export Pipeline System would start at the southern end of the Core Collection System as a gravity sewer line and would continue southwest approximately 18 miles to the City for connection to the Chico WPCP. In total, construction of the Export Pipeline System would disturb approximately 5.95 acres. The system would be primarily constructed within Butte County public ROW, except for approximately 5,700 feet (1.1 miles) of pipeline in southern Chico on privately owned parcels and at the connection with the Chico WPCP . In the southern Chico location, the proposed pipeline alignment leaves the Butte County public ROW at Skyway and runs first along an inactive Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR)-owned parcel before crossing two private parcels located within the City limits just east of SR 99. This segment comprising the UPRR parcel and the two private parcels in the City is the only section along the proposed Export Pipeline System that is not in the public ROW, other than the connection with the Chico WPCP. The segment for connection to the Chico WPCP would fall within the WPCP site, which is City property. Further, the crossing of the two private parcels and the final connection at the Chico WPCP are the only segments of the Proposed Project that would fall within City boundaries. Figure ES-3 shows the Export Pipeline System route.

The Proposed Export Pipeline System would include the following sub-components:

- **Ridge Gravity Section**: The Export Pipeline System begins with the Ridge Gravity Section. In this section, the wastewater flows by gravity and no pump stations would be required. To handle both the initial low wastewater flows and future build out flows, two separate gravity sewer pipes, with an accompanying fiber-optic conduit for pipeline operations, will be installed within the County ROW.
- **Transition Chamber**: The Transition Chamber would provide the necessary transition of the wastewater flow from the steep Ridge Gravity Section to the Gravity Force Main Section that runs along the flatter portions of the valley floor, connecting the Gravity Force Main Section to the Chico WPCP. The Transition Chamber would be installed along Skyway, just before the pipeline reaches the City limits. The chamber would be a below-ground (likely cylindrical) structure with a small box-like structure above ground to house electronics associated with measurement devices within the chamber.
- **Gravity Force Main Section**: Flow leaving the Transition Chamber would be pressurized based on the gravity flow from the Ridge Gravity Section, and the pipe would flow full, creating a beneficial force main based on the hydraulic behavior of the sewer, so the effluent can reach the Chico WPCP. The Gravity Force Main Section would consist of a pipe, with an accompanying fiber-optic conduit. The pipeline would be installed along existing roads within the County ROW, or within permanent sewer easements obtained from private property owners, if necessary.
- **Maintenance Holes**: Approximately 80 maintenance holes, which are required for the maintenance of the pipelines, would be placed along the Ridge Gravity and Gravity Force Main Sections.
- **Flow Control and Metering Structure**: A Flow Control and Metering Structure, located at or near the Chico WPCP, would consist of two below-ground circular chambers (or similar) next to each other. Similar to the Transition Chamber, a small, above-ground, box-like structure would house electronics associated with the flow control and measurement devices installed below ground. The first below-ground chamber would be dry (the wastewater would remain within the pipe that is exposed within the chamber) and would contain a magnetic flow meter and a pressure gauge on the pipeline. The second chamber would be wet, with the wastewater discharging into the chamber via a modulating plug valve. A modulating plug valve would keep the Transition Chamber and Gravity Force Main Sections full, to maintain the hydraulic function of the Gravity Force Main Section. In this chamber, the wastewater would travel through the modulating valve, discharge into the open chamber, and then flow by gravity from the second chamber to the existing Influent Sewer Junction Box A at the Chico WPCP. This would be the terminus of the Export Pipeline System.

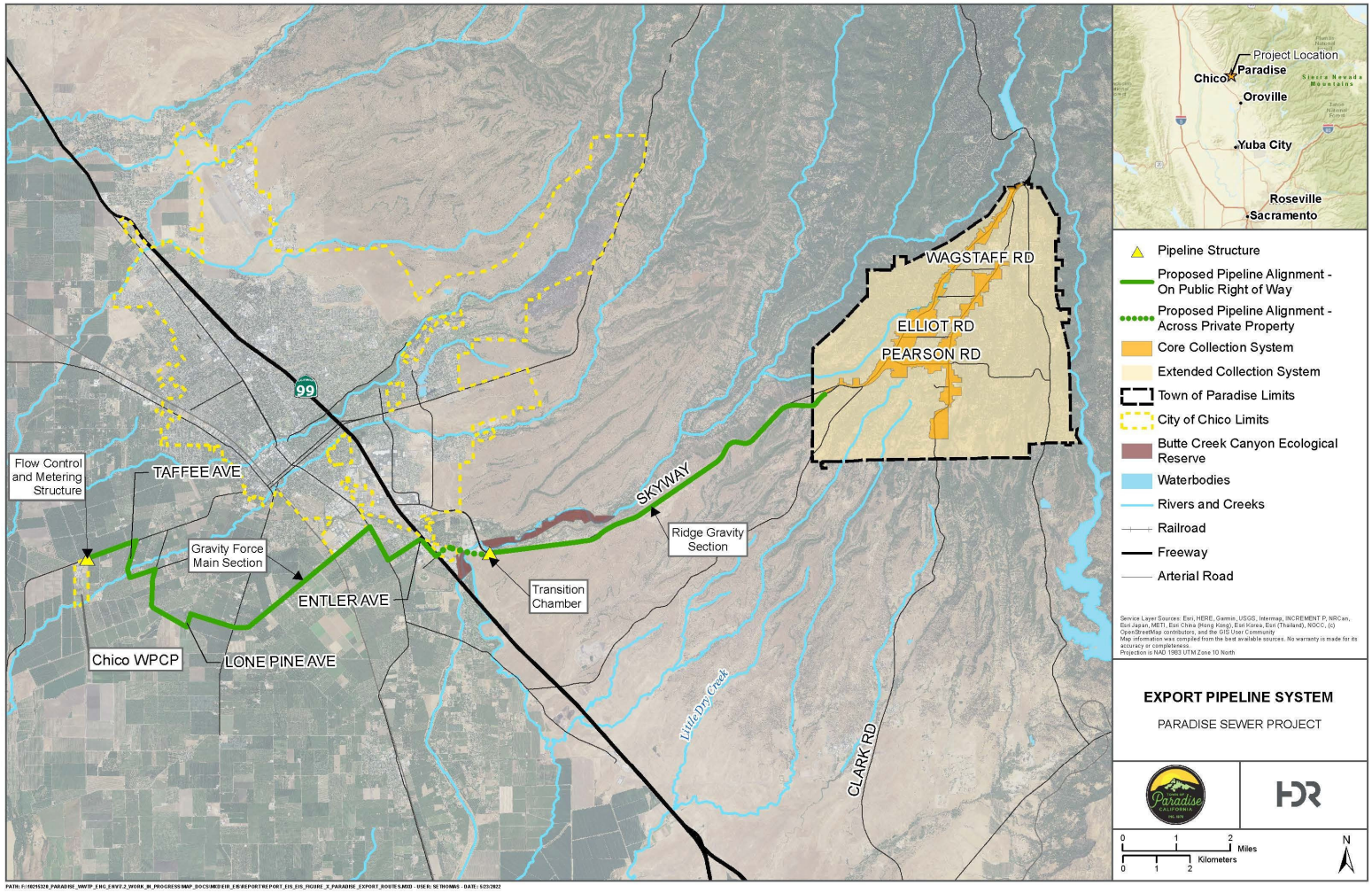

Figure ES-3. Export Pipeline System

- **Fiber-optic Conduit:** The Proposed Project includes two below-ground structures along the Export Pipeline System: a Transition Chamber and a Flow Control and Metering Structure. These two structures include instruments that would monitor various parameters of the wastewater, such as water levels, valve positions, and wastewater flow rate. To reliably communicate the signals from those electrical instruments to the Town and the Chico WPCP, the Proposed Project would include installation of a fiber-optic conduit in the same trench as the Export Pipeline System. The conduit would be made of metal, PVC, or fiberglass braiding, and would be placed above the pipelines.
- **Chico WPCP Connection**: The southern end of the Export Pipeline System would connect to the existing Chico WPCP. This connection would involve using an existing stub-out pipe or drilling a hole in an existing below-ground concrete box at the facility and connecting the new pipeline. Consistent with existing operations, the wastewater would be treated at the Chico WPCP and discharged to the Sacramento River through a submerged outfall diffuser. It is anticipated that the Town's connection would fall within the requirements of the current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Construction Methods. The Export Pipeline System would generally be constructed using open-cut methods (also known as open-trench method). The construction sequence would consist of (1) backhoe excavation; (2) shoring systems installation for trench excavation protection to achieve the excavation depth; (3) pipe installation; and (4) trench backfill placement, with subsequent shoring system removal and ground surface restoration.

A trenchless construction method is proposed at five locations (Butte Creek and Butte Creek Canyon Ecological Reserve, Comanche Creek, Little Chico Creek, SR 99, and UPRR) along the proposed Export Pipeline System route. The trenchless crossings would be constructed using either horizontal directional drilling (HDD) or microtunneling methods, depending on the feature being crossed. Both methods would involve excavated pits at either end of the crossing to allow pipe installation beneath the feature (e.g., creek, highway, railroad), and avoiding the disruption of excavation at the surface of the specific feature location.

Materials. The following excavated and fill materials are anticipated for Export Pipeline System construction (HDR 2022): export of 60,800 cubic yards of soil and import of 22,900 cubic yards of fill material. Other materials that are anticipated to be used on the Export Pipeline System construction (HDR 2022) include: PVC pipe and miscellaneous fittings, concrete maintenance holes, precast concrete cylinders, metal carrier pipe, temporary and permanent paving (asphalt), and backfill material.

Schedule. Installation of the Export Pipeline System would occur over an 18-month construction period and would require multiple crews to be working at the same time.

Easement, Encroachment, or Access Permission Requirements. The Skyway segment of the Export Pipeline System is located within the County public ROW; therefore, construction would require a form of access agreement with general and special County conditions, as well as an ongoing access agreement for maintenance activities. Once the pipeline alignment departs from Skyway to head towards the Chico WPCP, it would remain within an inactive UPRR rail corridor parcel before bisecting two private parcels, owned by a single landowner; these crossings would require ROW acquisitions

from UPRR and the private property owner. The total length of pipeline that would be on private parcels is approximately 5,700 feet (1.1 miles). For crossing the private parcels, the Town would purchase both temporary (construction) and permanent easements from the parcel owner. The construction easements would provide sufficient space to install the export pipeline as well as for construction vehicles to move across the parcels and reach public roads. The permanent easements would be necessary to allow future access to the pipelines, should maintenance work be required. The pipeline would then cross SR 99, requiring a Caltrans encroachment permit, and finally reconnect to the County public ROW at Entler Avenue. The pipeline would follow County public roads to the Chico WPCP, again requiring County permits. Along this segment, the pipeline makes a trenchless crossing of an active UPRR rail corridor, requiring an additional UPRR encroachment permit.

ES1.5.3 Extended Collection System

The Extended Collection System would be an extension of the Core Collection System that would allow collection of sewage from parcels outside the Core Collection System, within the Town limits. The Extended Collection System is shown in Figure ES-2. The flow from the Extended Collection System and Core Collection System combined would be limited to the total discharge agreed to between the Town and City, which is currently set at 0.464 mgd, the estimated build-out of the sewer service area. However, the overall purpose of the Proposed Project is not to serve the entire Town. Areas will continue to exist that are served by the existing District. Instead, the Extended Collection System will provide an opportunity for other property owners within Town limits to connect, particularly those owners with properties near the Core Collection System boundaries that aim to serve higher density uses, such as commercial or multi-family housing. In addition, no portion of the Extended Collection System would extend beyond the Town limits in any case. No sewer service connections would be considered outside the Town and pursuant to the principals of agreement with Chico, the project is not designed or intended to serve properties in unincorporated Butte County.

The Extended Collection System would consist of force mains, gravity trunk lines, and additional pump stations. It would likely be constructed as multiple smaller efforts, with geographically similar clusters of parcels within the Town limits being treated as separate individual projects. The methods and materials used to construct the Extended Collection System would be similar to the Core Collection System. If an Extended Collection System is implemented in the future, it is assumed that similar crew composition and sizes as well as construction equipment would be used, but for shorter durations.

ES1.6 Proposed Schedule

Construction of the Core Collection System would occur over approximately 22 months, with mobilization beginning in August 2024 and completion by May 2026. The Export Pipeline System would be constructed over an 18-month period beginning in August 2024 and ending in January 2026. The Core Collection System and the Export Pipeline System would go through their own individual startup periods, to confirm operation of each one individually. The entire Project would then go through a 2-month system start-up period in June and July 2026. Construction of the Extended Collection System would occur following completion of construction of the Core Collection System and Export Pipeline System, and would be expected to occur between 2026 and 2056.

The Proposed Project within the Core Collection System area would be operational in 2026, with consideration of the Extended Collection System connections through 2056. While the Proposed Project would be in place and able to receive inflow and discharge to the Chico WPCP in 2026, actual sewer flow would be discharged into the pipeline as the private properties connect to it. Initially, the Proposed Project would add 0.109 mgd of wastewater from the Town to the Chico WPCP influent. The full build-out flow of 464,000 gallons per day (0.464 mgd) may not be realized until 2057 or beyond.

ES1.7 Proposed Staging, Traffic Management, and Access Points

Figure ES-4 shows the location of the potential staging areas. Up to 11 staging areas for equipment and materials have been identified for potential use by the contractor to maximize access to work areas and store material. These areas have also been selected because they avoid effects on sensitive environmental resources. Staging areas would have temporary fencing installed to provide a secure storage area and might require minor grading to create a level work surface. No permanent paving would be done. Any unpaved areas temporarily used for construction staging would be returned to their original or better condition. If staging areas are located on public property, encroachment permits would be obtained from the public agency that owns the property. If staging areas are located on private property, temporary construction easements would be acquired from the private property owner.

No permanent road closures would result from construction of the Proposed Project. Temporary full road closures are not anticipated; however, could occur, if necessary for public safety for a short duration (approximately 2 to 4 hours). No road closures are planned within City limits. For locations where the pipeline is being installed along existing Town or County public ROW, temporary, single-lane road closures with traffic controls around the work areas could occur along the following roads:

- Skyway
- Entler Avenue
- Midway
- Hegan Lane
- Elk Avenue
- Lone Pine Avenue
- Crouch Avenue
- Chico Avenue
- Taffee Avenue
- Chico River Road

The Export Pipeline System would be primarily constructed within the County public ROW, except for approximately 5,700 feet (1.1 miles) of pipeline construction in southern Chico. Where the proposed pipeline alignment leaves the Butte County public ROW at Skyway, it would remain within an inactive UPRR corridor parcel before bisecting two private parcels located within the City limits. For all construction, trucks moving equipment in and out, hauling away excess material, and importing material would move across the parcels within boundaries outlined in temporary construction easements to reach the public roads or remain within public ROW. Trucks hauling loose materials, such as soil and gravel, would be covered to prevent damage to other vehicles.

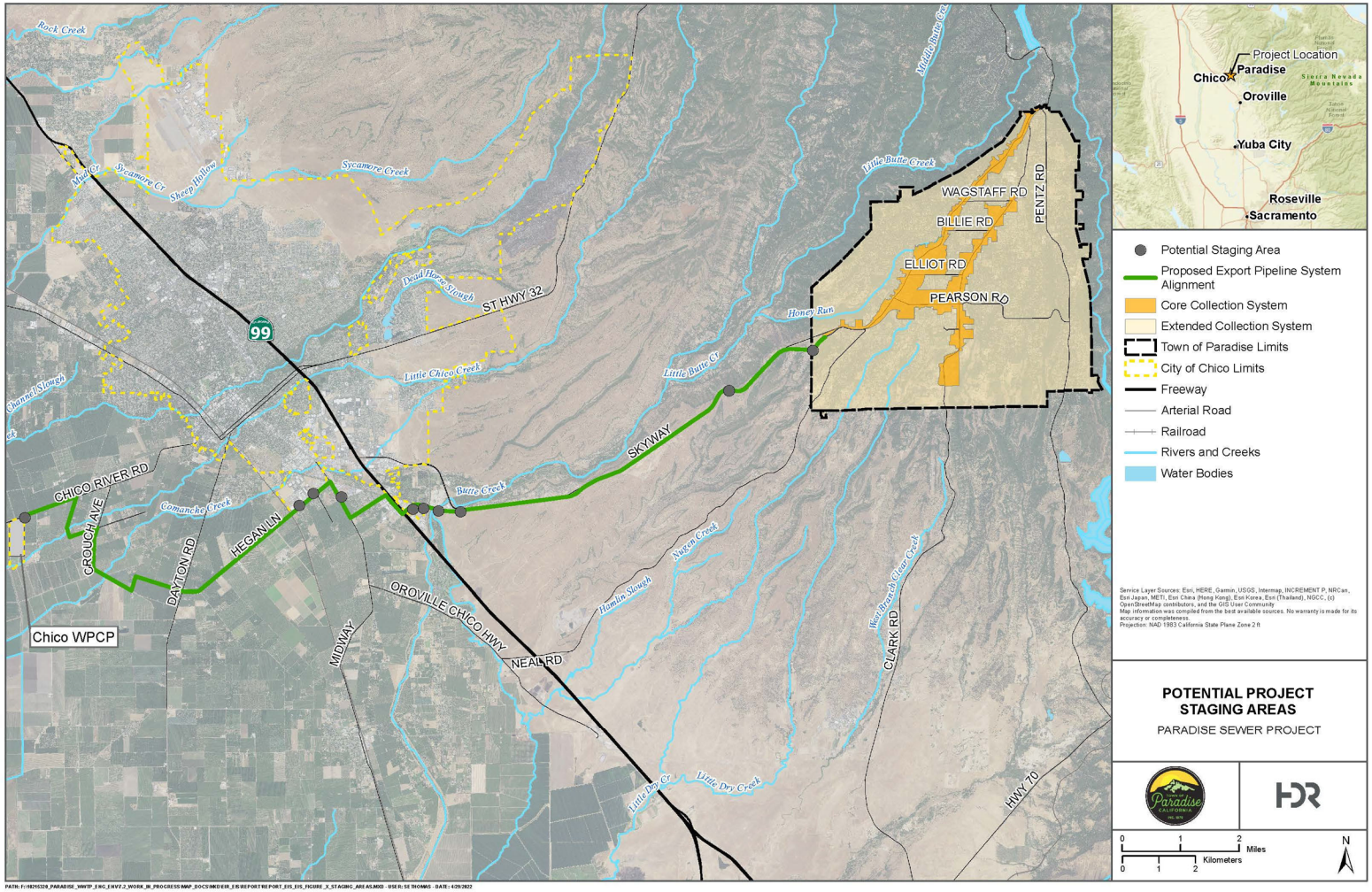

Figure ES-4. Potential Staging Areas

ES1.8 Proposed Operation and Maintenance

The Town would own, operate, and maintain the Core Collection System, Export Pipeline System and Extended Collection System. The Town may hire additional staff to handle these operation and maintenance activities. The wastewater operations team would include the following support positions, some of which may be provided by current Town staff: administrative and reception staff, accounting staff, three field crew/utility staff, and one on-site service technician. The existing Public Works director would serve in the management role over sewer functions.

The Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems (Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order, or SSSGO) was adopted by the SWRCB in May 2006 to provide a consistent statewide approach for reducing sanitary sewer overflows (including leakages). The SSSGO applies to all publicly owned sanitary sewer collection systems in California with more than one mile of sewer pipe. Since the Town's collection system will have more than one mile of sewer pipe, and the Town will own and operate the collection system, the Town will comply with the SSSGO. The RWQCB will oversee the permitting of the Town's collection system under the SSSGO. Per the SSSGO, and subject to its terms, the Town will develop a sewer system management plan. The sewer system management plan will include policies, procedures and activities covering the planning, management, operation and maintenance of the collection system. As part of this sewer system management plan, the Town must also develop and implement an overflow emergency response plan to identify measures to protect public health and the environment. Pursuant to the SSSGO, the Town will be required to report sanitary system overflows to the RWQCB using an electronic reporting system. Review and approval by the City and County of the Town's proposed sewer system management plan would be required prior to start of operations.

In addition to the sewer system management plan and related requirements, and prior to the start of operations, the Town will adopt applicable ordinances and establish internal administrative procedures to permit and regulate future property owner connections to the Proposed Project .

ES1.9 Project Alternatives

The following four alternatives were selected for comparative analysis in this PEIR:

- **No Project Alternative**: The No Project Alternative is required by CEQA and consists of the circumstances under which the Proposed Project does not proceed.
- **Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative**: Proposed Project with alternative pipeline alignment for crossing SR 99.
- **Crouch Avenue Alternative**: Proposed Project with alternative pipeline alignment for crossing Little Chico Creek.
- **Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative**: Proposed Project with alternative pipeline alignment for crossing SR 99 and alternative pipeline alignment for crossing Little Chico Creek.

The following sections describe each of the four alternatives.

ES1.9.1 No Project Alternative

Under the No Project Alternative, the Town would not construct a Core Collection System, an Export Pipeline System, or an Extended Collection System. The Town would continue to rely on private, individual septic systems for wastewater management.

ES1.9.2 Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative

The Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative would include the same Core Collection System within the Town and the same Export Pipeline System along Skyway but would provide an alternative route between Skyway and Entler Avenue (see Figure ES-5). This alternative would cross Butte Creek with trenchless HDD at the same location as the Proposed Project but would cross SR 99 north of the Proposed Project alignment, crossing the California Highway Patrol property and another private parcel. Similar to the Proposed Project, the Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative would cross SR 99 with a trenchless crossing aligned with Norfield Avenue. The pipeline would then rejoin the Proposed Project alignment along Entler Avenue. The total length of this alternative segment is approximately 2,622 feet. All other components of the Proposed Project would remain the same as defined in Section ES1.5.

ES1.9.3 Crouch Avenue Alternative

The Crouch Avenue Alternative would include the same Core Collection System within the Town and the same Export Pipeline System along Skyway but would provide an alternative route for the pipeline to cross Little Chico Creek (see Figure ES-6). After the Proposed Project alignment would cross Comanche Creek and turn north along Crouch Avenue, the Crouch Avenue Alternative would continue along Crouch Avenue to Chico River Road, crossing Little Chico Creek along the way. Little Chico Creek would be crossed using trenchless technology via HDD methods. The Crouch Avenue Alternative would then turn west to rejoin the Proposed Project alignment as it travels west along Chico River Road to the Chico WPCP. The total length of this alternative segment is approximately 7,353 feet. All other components of the Proposed Project would remain the same as defined in Section ES1.5.

ES1.9.4 Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative

The Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative would include the same Core Collection System within the Town and the same Export Pipeline System along Skyway but would provide alternative routes for the pipeline to cross Highway SR 99 and Little Chico Creek. This alternative comprises a combination of the Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue alternatives discussed above. The total length of the combined alternative segments is approximately 9,975 feet. All other components of the Proposed Project would remain the same as defined in Section ES1.5.

ES1.10 Environmental Impacts from the Proposed Project

Table ES-2 summarizes direct and indirect impacts from construction and operation of the Proposed Project.

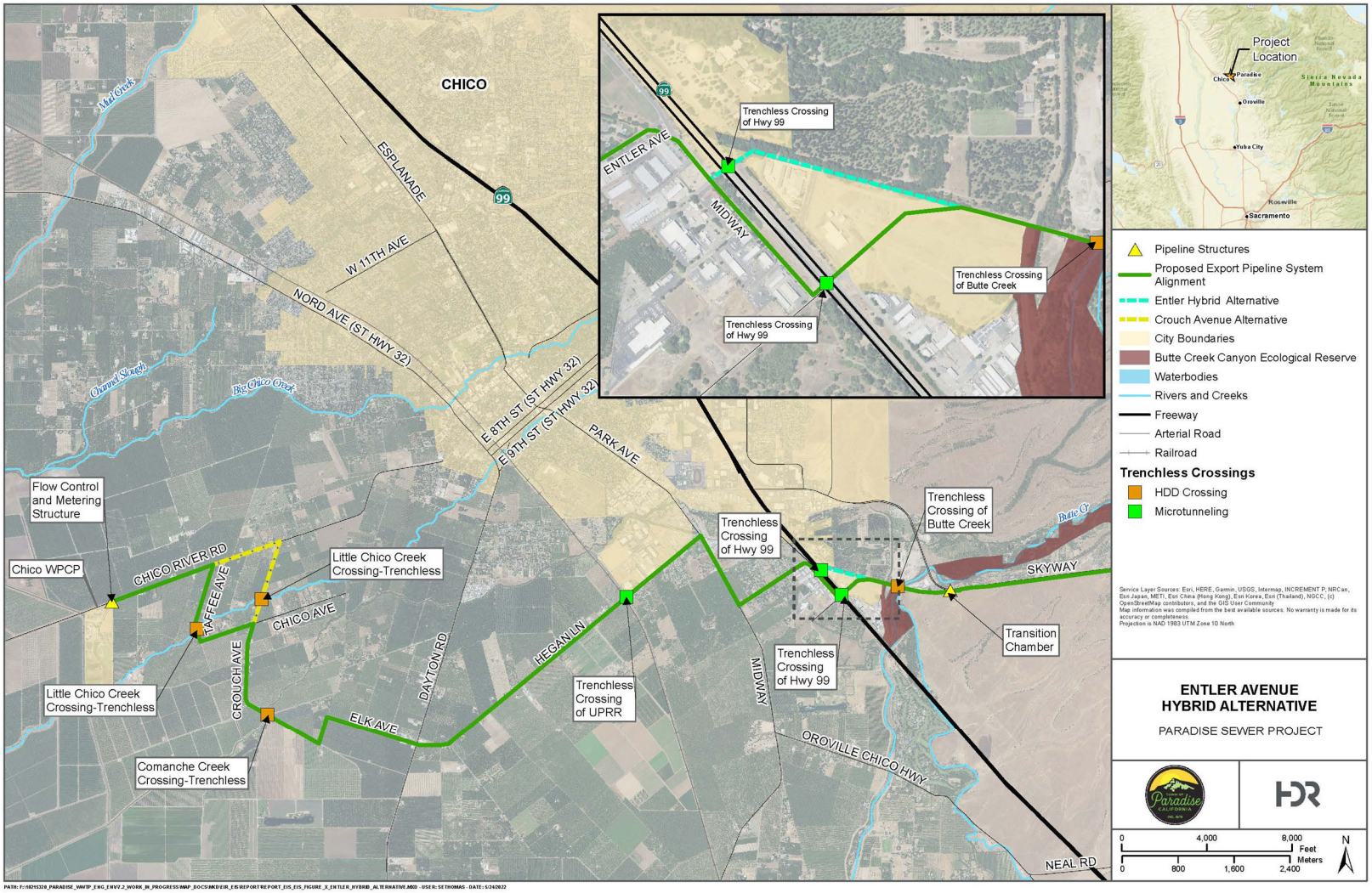

Figure ES-5. Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative

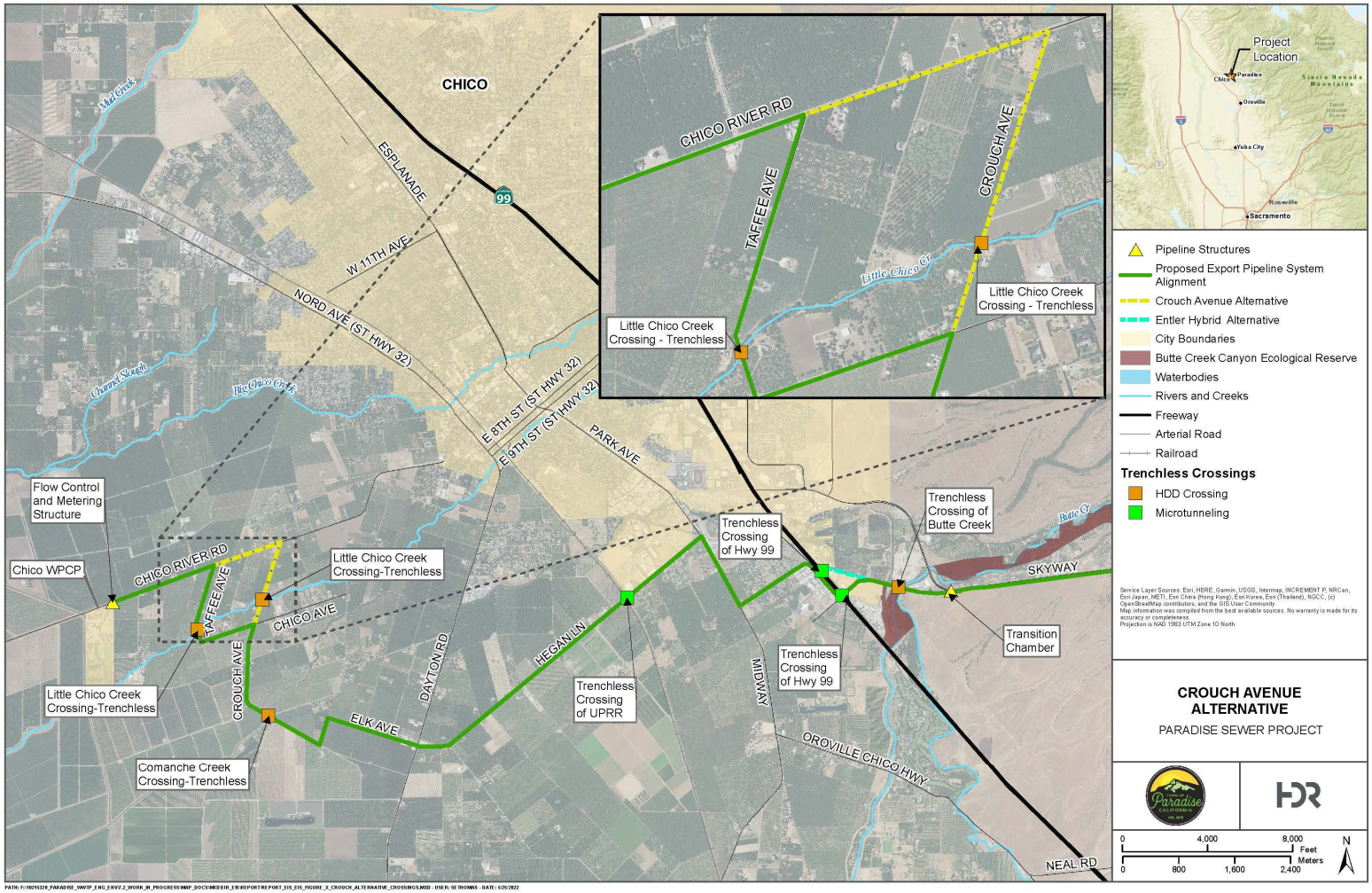

Figure ES-6. Crouch Avenue Alternative

Table ES-2. Summary of Proposed Project Impacts

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Agriculture and Forestry Resources			
Impact AG-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of 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	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact AG-2: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact AG-3: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in PRC § 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by PRC § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by California Government Code § 51104(g))	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact AG-4: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact AG-5: 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	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Air Quality			
Impact AIR-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact AIR-2: Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact AIR-3: Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact AIR-4: Result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors, adversely affecting a substantial number of people	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Biological Resources			
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Special-Status Plant Species	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-2: Special-status Plant Surveys MM-BIO-3: Special-status Plant Avoidance MM-BIO-4: Biological Monitoring and Worker Environmental Awareness Training MM-BIO-5: Restoration of Temporarily Disturbed Areas	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Vernal Pool Crustaceans	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-6: No Net Loss of Aquatic Resources MM-BIO-7: Sensitive Community Fencing MM-BIO-8: Dry Work Areas	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-9: Mapping of Elderberry Shrubs and Section 7 Consultation MM BIO-10: No Net Loss of Elderberry Shrubs MM-BIO-11: Elderberry Transplanting MM BIO-12: Avoidance Area MM-BIO-13: Chemical Use MM-BIO-14: Mowing	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Special-Status Fishes	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-15: Frac-Out Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Special-status Amphibians and Reptiles	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-6: No Net Loss of Aquatic Resources MM-BIO-7: Sensitive Community Fencing MM-BIO-8: Dry Work Areas MM-BIO-16: Western Pond Turtle Visual Encounter Surveys MM-BIO-17: Foothill Yellow-legged Frog Surveys MM-BIO-18: California Red-legged Frog Surveys. MM-BIO-19: Conduct Construction Activities during the Active Period for Giant Garter Snakes. MM-BIO-20: Minimize Potential Effects on Giant Garter Snake Habitat.	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: MBTA and FGC-Protected Birds and Raptors	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-21: MBTA and FGC-Protected Bird and Raptor Surveys MM-BIO-22: Protocol Swainson's Hawk Surveys MM-BIO-23: Nest Avoidance	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: Special-Status Bats	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-24: Bat Surveys	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS: American Badger	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-25: American Badger Detection Surveys	Less-Than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact BIO-2: Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-5: Restoration of Temporarily Disturbed Areas MM-BIO-6: No Net Loss of Aquatic Resources MM-BIO-7: Sensitive Community Fencing MM-BIO-8: Dry Work Areas	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-3: Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands	Significant Impact	MM-BIO-1: Minimize Disturbance Footprint MM-BIO-5: Restoration of Temporarily Disturbed Areas MM-BIO-6: No Net Loss of Aquatic Resources MM-BIO-7: Sensitive Community Fencing MM-BIO-8: Dry Work Areas MM-BIO-26: State or Federally Protected Wetlands Mitigation	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact BIO-4: 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 wildlife nursery sites	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact BIO-5: Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact BIO-6: 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	Not Applicable	No Impact
Cultural Resources			
Impact CUL-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to section 15064.5	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact CUL-2: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to section 15064.5	Significant Impact	MM-CUL-1: Targeted archaeological monitoring MM-CUL-2: Follow inadvertent discovery procedures	Less-Than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact CUL-3: Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Energy			
Impact ENG-1: Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction, operation, or maintenance	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact ENG-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources			
Impact GEO-1(a): 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	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact GEO-1(b): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Strong seismic ground shaking	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-1(c): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-1(d): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Landslides	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-2: Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-3: 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	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-4: Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risk to life or property	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GEO-5: 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	Not Applicable	No Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact GEO-6: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature	Significant Impact	MM-GEO-2: Inadvertent Discovery Protocol	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
Impact GHG-1: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact GHG-2: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reduction the emissions of GHG	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Hazards and Hazardous Materials			
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-1: Vehicle Equipment Access and Fueling	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HAZ-2: 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	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HAZ-3: 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	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HAZ-4: Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-2: Cypress Lane Site Specific Contaminated Soil Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HAZ-5: 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 area	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact HAZ-6: Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-3: Road Closure Restrictions MM-HAZ-4: Rapid Demobilization Plan MM-HAZ-5 : Evacuation Warning Procedures MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact HAZ-7: Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-1: Vehicle Equipment Access and Fueling MM-HAZ-7: Incorporate Fire Prevention Measures MM-HAZ-8: Incorporate Public Safety Measures MM-HAZ-9: Wildland Fire Area	Less-than-Significant Impact
Hydrology and Water Quality			
Impact HYD-1: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-1: Vehicle and Equipment Access and Fueling MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management and Treatment Plan MM-HYD-2: Construction Best Management Practices MM-BIO-15: Frac-out Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HYD-2: Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the Project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HYD-3(a): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 off-site	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management and Treatment Plan	Less-than-Significant
Impact HYD-3(b): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 off-site	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management and Treatment Plan MM-HYD-3: Flood Protection Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HYD-3(c): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management and Treatment Plan MM-HYD-3: Flood Protection Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact HYD-3(d): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: Impede or redirect flood flows	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HYD-4: In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to Project inundation	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-3: Flood Protection Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact HYD-5: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management and Treatment Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Land Use and Planning			
Impact LU-1: Physically divide an established community	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact LU-2: Cause any 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	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Noise and Groundborne Vibration			
Impact NSE-1: Generate 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 in applicable standards of other agencies	Significant Impact	MM-NSE-1: Minimize Construction Noise	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact NSE-2: Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels	Significant Impact	MM-NSE-1: Minimize Construction Noise	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact NSE-3: Be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land-use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public-use airport, expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Population and Housing			
Impact POP-1: Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact POP-2: Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Public Services			
Impact PS-1(a): 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 following public services: Fire Protection	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact PS-1(b): 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 following public services: Police Protection	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact PS-1(c): 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 following public services: Schools	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact PS-1(d): 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 following public services: Other Public Facilities	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Recreation			
Impact REC-1: 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	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact REC-2: Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Transportation			
Impact TRA-1: Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact TRA-2: Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)	Less-than-Significant Impact	Not Applicable	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact TRA-3: Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact TRA-4: Result in inadequate emergency access	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Tribal Cultural Resources			
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in PRC §21074 as either a site, feature, place, or 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 PRC § 5020.1(k), or • 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 PRC §5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC §5024.1, the lead agency will consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	Significant Impact	MM-TCR-1: Coordination with Konkow Valley Band of Maidu and Mechoopda Indian Tribe MM-TCR-2: Tribal Cultural Monitoring	Less-than-Significant Impact
Utilities and Service systems			
Impact UTIL-1: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects	Significant Impact	MM-UTIL-1: Minimize Utility and Service System Disruptions	Less-Than-Significant Impact
Impact UTIL-2: Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact UTIL-3: 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	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Impact UTIL-4: 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	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Impact UTIL-5: Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste	No Impact	Not Applicable	No Impact
Wildfire			
Impact FIRE-1: Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-3: Road Closure Restrictions MM-HAZ-4: Rapid Demobilization Plan MM-HAZ-5: Evacuation Warning Procedures MM-HAZ-6: Traffic Management Plan	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact FIRE-2: Exacerbate wildfire risks due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-1: Vehicle and Equipment Access and Fueling MM-HAZ-7: Incorporate Fire Prevention Measures MM-HAZ-8: Incorporate Public Safety Measures MM-HAZ-9: Wildland Fire Area	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact FIRE-3: 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	Significant Impact	MM-HAZ-1: Vehicle and Equipment Access and Fueling MM-HAZ-7: Incorporate Fire Prevention Measures MM-HAZ-8: Incorporate Public Safety Measures MM-HAZ-9: Wildland Fire Area	Less-than-Significant Impact
Impact FIRE-4: 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	Significant Impact	MM-HYD-1: Stormwater Management Plan MM-HYD-3: Flood Protection Plan MM-GEO-1: Minimize Geologic Hazards	Less-than-Significant Impact

ES1.11 Environmental Impacts from the Project Alternatives

Table ES-3 summarizes the impacts of the alternatives, as described in Section ES1.9, and compares it with the Proposed Project impacts.

Table ES-3. Comparison of Proposed Project Alternative Impacts

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Agriculture and Forestry Resources					
Impact AG-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact AG-2: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact AG-3: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact AG-4: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact AG-5: Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Air Quality					
Impact AIR-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact AIR-2: 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	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact AIR-3: Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact AIR-4: Result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors, adversely affecting a substantial number of people	LTS	LTS (+)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Biological Resources					
Impact BIO-1: Substantial adverse 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 CDFW or USFWS	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (+)	S/M (=)	S/M (+)
Impact BIO-2: Substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (+)	S/M (=)	S/M (+)
Impact BIO-3: Substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands	S/M	NI (-)	NI (-)	S/M (+)	S/M (+)
Impact BIO-4: 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 wildlife nursery sites	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact BIO-5: Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact BIO-6: Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Cultural Resources					
Impact CUL-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to section 15064.5	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact CUL-2: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to section 15064.5	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact CUL-3: Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Energy					
Impact ENG-1: Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact ENG-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources					
Impact GEO-1(a): 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	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact GEO-1(b): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Strong seismic ground shaking	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact GEO-1(c): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact GEO-1(d): Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Landslides	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact GEO-2: Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact GEO-3: 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	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact GEO-4: Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risk to life or property	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact GEO-5: 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	NI	SU (+)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact GEO-6: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Greenhouse Gas Emissions					
Impact GHG-1: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact GHG-2: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reduction the emissions of GHG	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Hazards and Hazardous Materials					
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HAZ-2: 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	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact HAZ-3: Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact HAZ-4: 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	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HAZ-5: 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 area	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact HAZ-6: Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HAZ-7: Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Hydrology and Water Quality					
Impact HYD-1: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality	S/M	SU (+)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HYD-2: Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the Project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact HYD-3(a): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 off-site	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HYD-3(b): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 off-site	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HYD-3(c): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including 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 that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact HYD-3(d): Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: Impede or redirect flood flows	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact HYD-4: In flood hazard, risk release of pollutants due to Project inundation	S/M	SU (+)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact HYD-5: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan	S/M	SU (+)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Land Use and Planning					
Impact LU-1: Physically divide an established community	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact LU-2: Cause any 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	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Noise and Groundborne Vibration					
Impact NSE-1: Generate 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 in applicable standards of other agencies	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (-)	S/M (=)
Impact NSE-2: Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (-)	S/M (=)
Impact NSE-3: Be 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, expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels	LTS	NI (-)	NI (-)	LTS (+)	LTS (+)
Population and Housing					
Impact POP-1: Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact POP-2: Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Public Services					
Impact PS-1(a): 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 following public services: Fire Protection	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact PS-1(b): 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 following public services: Police Protection	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact PS-1(c): 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 following public services: Schools	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact PS-1(d): 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 following public services: Other Public Facilities	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Recreation					
Impact REC-1: 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	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact REC-2: Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Transportation					
Impact TRA-1: Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact TRA-2: Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)	LTS	NI (-)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)	LTS (=)
Impact TRA-3: Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact TRA-4: Result in inadequate emergency access	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Tribal Cultural Resources					
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in PRC Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, or 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 PRC Section 5020.1(k), or • 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 PRC Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Utilities and Service Systems					
Impact UTIL-1: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact UTIL-2: Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact UTIL-3: 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	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact UTIL-4: 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	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Impact UTIL-5: Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste	NI	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)	NI (=)
Wildfire					
Impact FIRE-1: Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact FIRE-2: Exacerbate wildfire risks due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)
Impact FIRE-3: 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	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative	Crouch Avenue Alternative	Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative
Impact FIRE-4: 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	S/M	NI (-)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)	S/M (=)

Note: LTS = Less than Significant Impact, NI = No Impact, N/A = Not Applicable, SU = Significant and Unavoidable Impact, S/M = Significant Impact but Mitigable to a Less than Significant Level, (+) indicates a greater level of impacts compared to the Proposed Project; (-) indicates less impacts compared the Proposed Project; (=) indicates the same level of impacts as the Proposed Project

ES1.12 Areas of Known Controversy

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123 states that an EIR must identify areas of known controversy that may have been raised by other agencies, the public, or other stakeholders. Areas of communicated controversy related to the Proposed Project or identified in the PEIR scoping process include, but are not limited to:

- Growth-inducing impacts, specifically in the City of Chico and rural Butte County outside Town and City limits.
- Reconsideration of local treatment plant construction instead of the proposed connection to the Chico WPCP, which was evaluated in 2017 and 2020.

ES1.13 Issues to be Resolved

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123 calls for the lead agency to include issues to be resolved in the EIR, including the choice among alternatives and whether or how to mitigate significant effects. Issues to be resolved related to the Proposed Project or PEIR include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Political details of connecting the export pipeline to the Chico WPCP. The Town and the City will enter into an inter-municipal agreement that will capture the mutually determined details of the connection. SRPAC (discussed previously in Section 1.3.2) has developed a principles of agreement document, which captures the overall approaches to various aspects of the connection and will be turned into the formal inter-municipal agreement, which is being completed in parallel with this CEQA process.
- Encroachment permits and applicable agreements from Butte County, as needed, for **field investigations and** installation of the pipeline system located within County rights-of-way.
- Applicable easements from private landowners.
- Establishing Town administrative procedures to permit future connections to the Proposed Project core collection system.
- Establishing Town administrative procedures to permit future connections to the Proposed Project extended collection system.
- Establishing sewer standards and regulations for the Town, including operations and maintenance for the core wastewater collection system and export pipeline Project components, as well as the extended collection system service area within Town limits being considered programmatically in this PEIR.

ES1.14 Significant and Unavoidable Impacts

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(c) requires an EIR to discuss significant effects, including those that can be mitigated but not reduced to a level of insignificance. The CEQA Guidelines state that: “[w]here there are impacts that cannot be alleviated without imposing an alternative design, their implications, and reasons why the project is being proposed, notwithstanding their effect, should be described.”

Significant impacts would occur for the following resource topic areas: biological resources; cultural resources; geology, soils and paleontological resources; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise and groundborne vibration; public services; transportation; tribal cultural

resources; utilities and service systems; and wildfire. However, as shown in Table ES-2, all impacts could be mitigated to a less than significant level, and no significant and unavoidable impacts are anticipated.

ES1.15 Environmentally Superior Alternative

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6 requires that an "environmentally superior" alternative be selected among the alternatives that are evaluated in the EIR. Generally, the environmentally superior alternative is the alternative that would be expected to generate the fewest adverse impacts. For the purpose of this analysis, the alternatives considered are:

- Proposed Project
- No Project
- Entler Avenue Hybrid Alternative – Proposed Project with alternative pipeline alignment for crossing SR 99
- Crouch Avenue Alternative – Proposed Project with alternative export pipeline alignment for crossing Little Chico Creek.
- Entler Avenue Hybrid and Crouch Avenue Alternative – Proposed Project with alternative pipeline alignment for crossing SR 99 and alternative pipeline alignment for crossing Little Chico Creek.

Based on the results of the alternatives analysis, the Crouch Avenue Alternative would be the environmentally superior alternative because fewer impacts would occur on air quality, noise and groundborne vibration, and biological resources (special-status species and sensitive communities) when compared to the Proposed Project and other action alternatives. However, as noted above, the Crouch Avenue Alternative would also result in a greater level of impacts on state or federally protected wetlands than the Proposed Project. Since impact findings for the Proposed Project and all action alternatives with mitigation incorporated show less than significant impacts or no impacts for all resource areas, selection of any of the three action alternatives would not significantly alter the potential for effects of implementing the Proposed Project.