

PACIFICORP'S
APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT
YREKA-WEED TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE PROJECT
CPUC A.05-12-011
Addendum #1

Prepared for:
California Public Utilities Commission

November 2006



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Prepared for:
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SECTION 1

Project Description

1.1 Introduction

Pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order (GO) 131-D, the CPUC prepared an Initial Study to address the application from PacifiCorp (A.05-12-011) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) approximately 18.6 miles of 115-kilovolt (kV) single-circuit transmission line between the Yreka and Weed Junction Substations (Proposed Project). Also addressed within that CEQA review, although not included as part of PacifiCorp's original application, was a planned rebuilding of the Weed Substation and upgrade of approximately 1.5 miles of single-circuit 69-kV transmission line to a double-circuit 115kV transmission line (collectively called the Weed Segment,) which was added to the CEQA review by order of Commissioner Brown in his "Ruling Regarding Piecemealing and Substations," filed June 5, 2006. The Initial Study determined that the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) was prepared by the CPUC.

On September 1, 2006, the CPUC filed a Notice of Completion (NOC) with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse), published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and released the Draft MND for a 30-day public review period. The Draft MND was distributed to federal state, and local agency representatives, property owners within 300 feet of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, and other interested individuals. Additionally, a Public Notice was published in the two general circulation newspapers announcing the availability of the Draft MND for public review in compliance with CEQA. In accordance with Section 15105(b) CEQA Guidelines, the public review and comment period began on September 1, 2006 and ended on October 2, 2006. A public information meeting was held on September 20, 2006 in Weed, California to hear oral comments on the Draft MND. A summary of the oral comments and copies of all written comments received on the Draft MND are contained the Final MND.

A Final MND was prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines¹ which outlines all aspects of the preparation of the Draft MND and its review, as well as the subsequent steps to preparing a Notice of Decision. The Final MND incorporated comments from the applicant, public agencies,

¹ Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 – 15387 and Appendices, accessible at http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/

and the general public, and contained responses by the Lead Agency (the CPUC) to those comments. The Final MND was distributed to all parties in interest.

On October 19, 2006, the CPUC, upon review of comments and responses contained in the Final MND, adopted the document as compliant with CEQA. Also on October 19, 2006, the CPUC approved construction for a “non-controversial” northern portion of the project; construction of a “controversial” southern portion of the project was not approved and is the subject of additional evidentiary proceedings by the CPUC Administrative Law Judge.

This Addendum analyzes a slight modification to the Project proposed by PacifiCorp subsequent to adoption of the Final MND. An Addendum was determined to be appropriate under CEQA because (as documented herein) the proposed modification would neither result in any new significant environmental effects nor would it result in a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified environmental effects. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(b), there are no circumstances warranting a subsequent an EIR or a supplemental Negative Declaration or, so an Addendum is appropriate.

1.2 Project Location

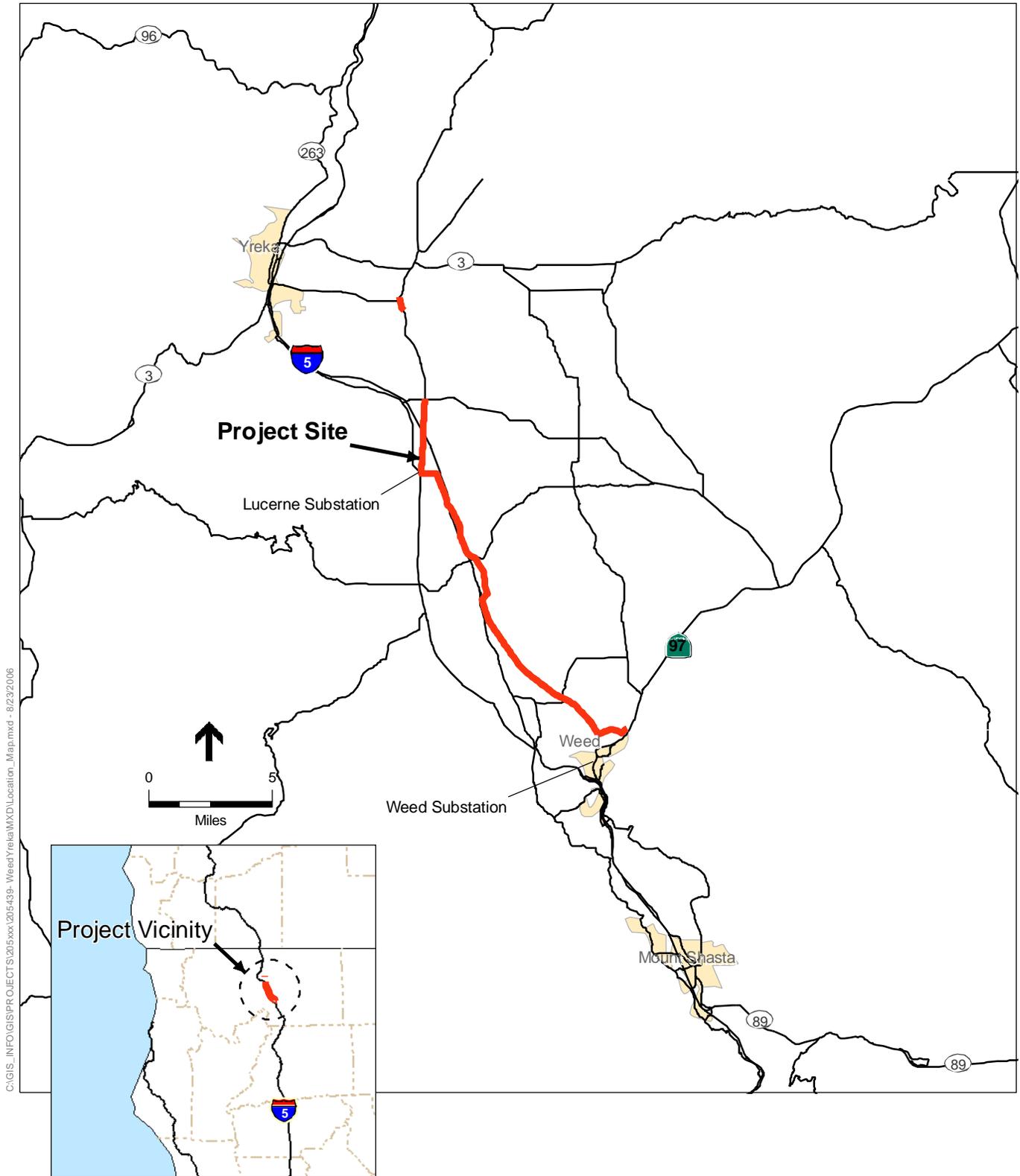
The Project is located in central Siskiyou County between the City of Yreka and the City of Weed, California (Figure 1-1). Most of the Project route traverses an existing PacifiCorp transmission line corridor generally paralleling local, county and state roads and traversing open space which includes features such as the valley floor of Mount Shasta, the Shasta River and other subalpine habitat (Figure 1-2). A 1.6-mile portion of the route would cross open space within the valley floor of Mount Shasta where no transmission line currently exists.

The Weed Segment is located near the City of Weed, California, which is located where Highway 97 and Interstate 5 meet (Figure 1-1).

1.3 PacifiCorp’s Proposed Modification

The Final MND analyzed an approximate two-acre staging area that was to be located near poles 5/36 and 6/36 just east of East Louie Road exit from Interstate 5 (Figure 1-2 and Figure 1-3). Instead, PacifiCorp now proposes to locate the staging area at a different location approximately one mile northeast of the originally-analyzed site. Originally a rock quarry that was abandoned after reaching the limits of its permitted operations (Figure 1-4a), the proposed new staging area would also be approximately two acres in size and would be used for the same activities as was previously analyzed in the Final MND (i.e., materials and equipment storage, staging of construction activities for the Project, field office and reporting location for workers, parking area for vehicles and equipment, and a site for temporary marshalling of construction materials). However, the proposed staging area would require less surface preparation and no installation of rock base. Grading would be no more than one inch in depth to remove brush for fire hazard concerns. No modifications to the existing road entrance and no gate or fence installation would

be required (Figure 1-4b). A temporary single phase distribution line from Louie Road to the site would be installed along the existing gravel access road to provide temporary electrical service to the proposed staging area.



SOURCES: ESA (2006), PacifiCorp (2006), ESRI Streetmap USA (2004)

CPUC Weed-Yreka Transmission Line . 205439

Figure 1-1
Project Vicinity and Location Map

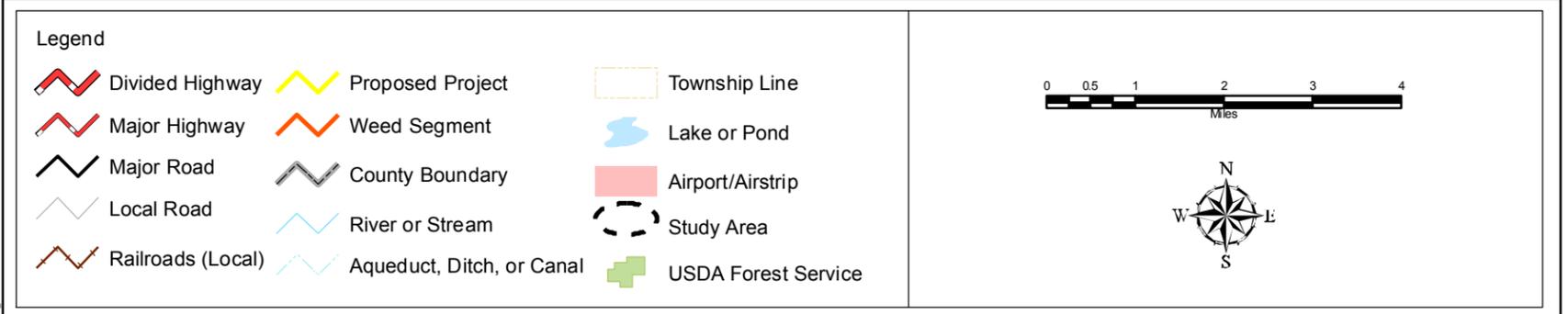
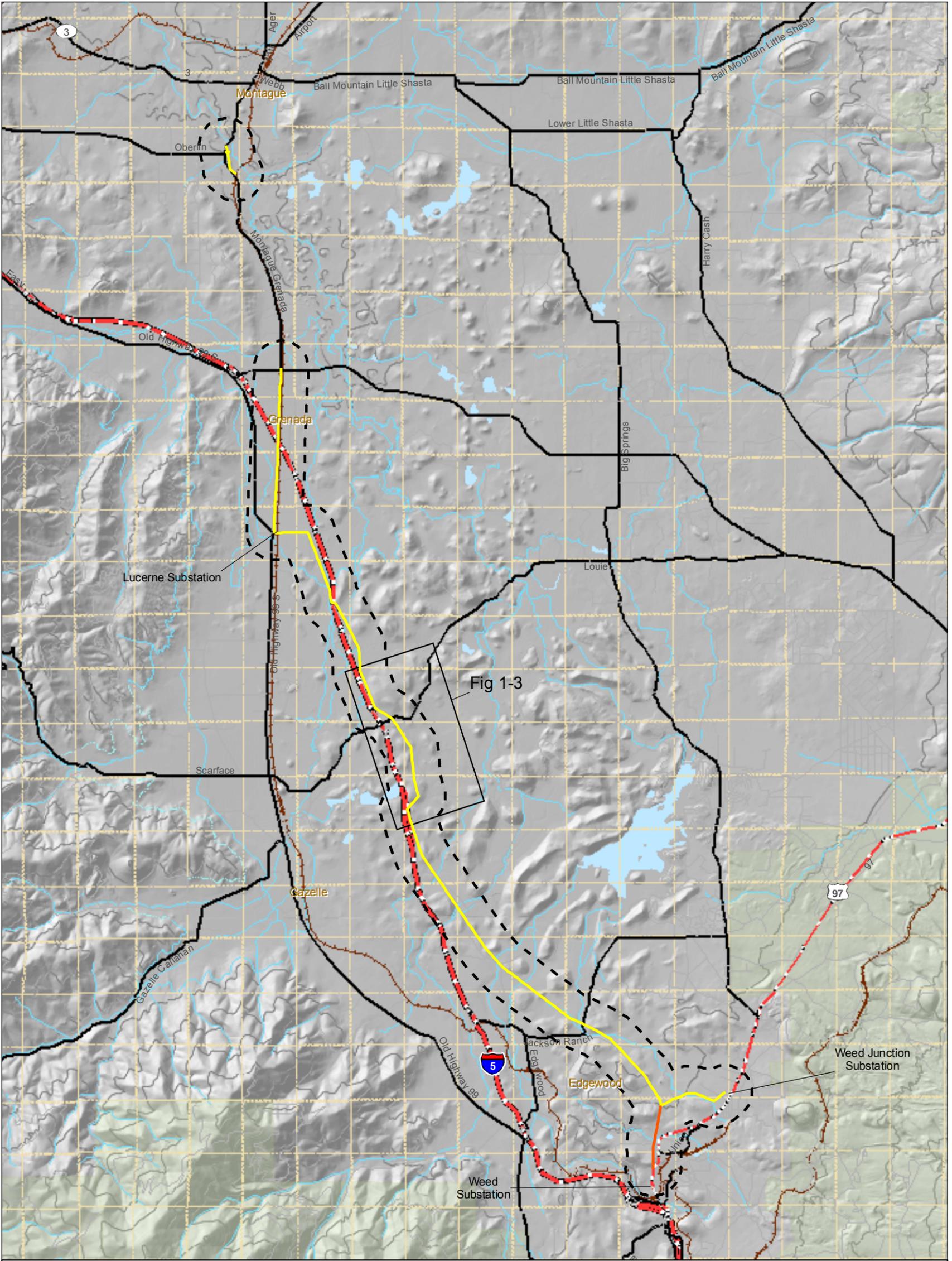


Figure 1-2.mxd - 11/20/2006

PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project . 205439
Figure 1-2
 Overview Map - Proposed Project and Weed Segment

SOURCES: USGS (2005a and 2005b), ESA (2006)

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Figure 1-3.mxd - 11/20/2006

Legend Proposed Pole Location Existing Access Road Pull/Tension Site Existing Pole Location New Access Road Proposed Staging Area Original Staging Area			
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SOURCES: ESA (2006), PacifiCorp (2006), GlobeExplorer (2006)

PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project . 205439

Figure 1-3
Proposed Staging Area



SOURCES: ESA

PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project . 205439

Figure 1-4(a)
Existing Conditions of
Proposed Site



SOURCES: ESA

PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project . 205439

Figure 1-4(b)
Existing Road

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SECTION 2

Environmental Checklist and Discussion

2.1. Aesthetics

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
1. AESTHETICS—Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.1 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed the visual impacts associated with the construction and operation of the transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. The proposed new staging area would be similar in size to, and located approximately one mile northeast of, the previously analyzed site. Relocation of the staging area, which is a temporary feature used only during construction, would not affect the visual characteristics of the site and its surroundings. The hilly terrain would screen the proposed staging area from local roads and public view. Moreover, no State Scenic Highway or designated scenic vistas are within the area. Therefore, the proposed staging area would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified. There were no aesthetics mitigation measures identified in the Final MND applicable to the original staging area, and no new measures are required for the proposed new site.

2.2 Agriculture Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
2. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES				
In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland.				
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.2 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to agricultural resources. As discussed in the Final MND, to characterize the environmental baseline for agricultural resources, Important Farmland Maps produced by the Department of Conservation’s Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) were reviewed. Based on the FMMP maps, the proposed new staging area would be located on a parcel that contains soils classified as *Grazing Land*² (Figure 2-1). The proposed new staging area would result in the temporary removal of approximately two acres of designated *Grazing Land*. This would be a less than significant impact. In addition, the agricultural designation for this site is relatively new because the site was historically used as a rock quarry until the mid-1980s, leaving the site heavily disturbed and cleared of vegetation. Since the closure of the quarry, some native species, dominated by rabbitbrush, have established on the site, along with non-native invasive weed species. The new staging area would not impact any *Prime Farmland*, *Unique Farmland*, or *Farmland of Statewide Importance*. Therefore, the new staging area would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not any increase the severity of impacts identified.

² Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation, whether grown naturally or through management, is suitable for grazing or browsing of livestock (Department of Conservation’s FMMP).

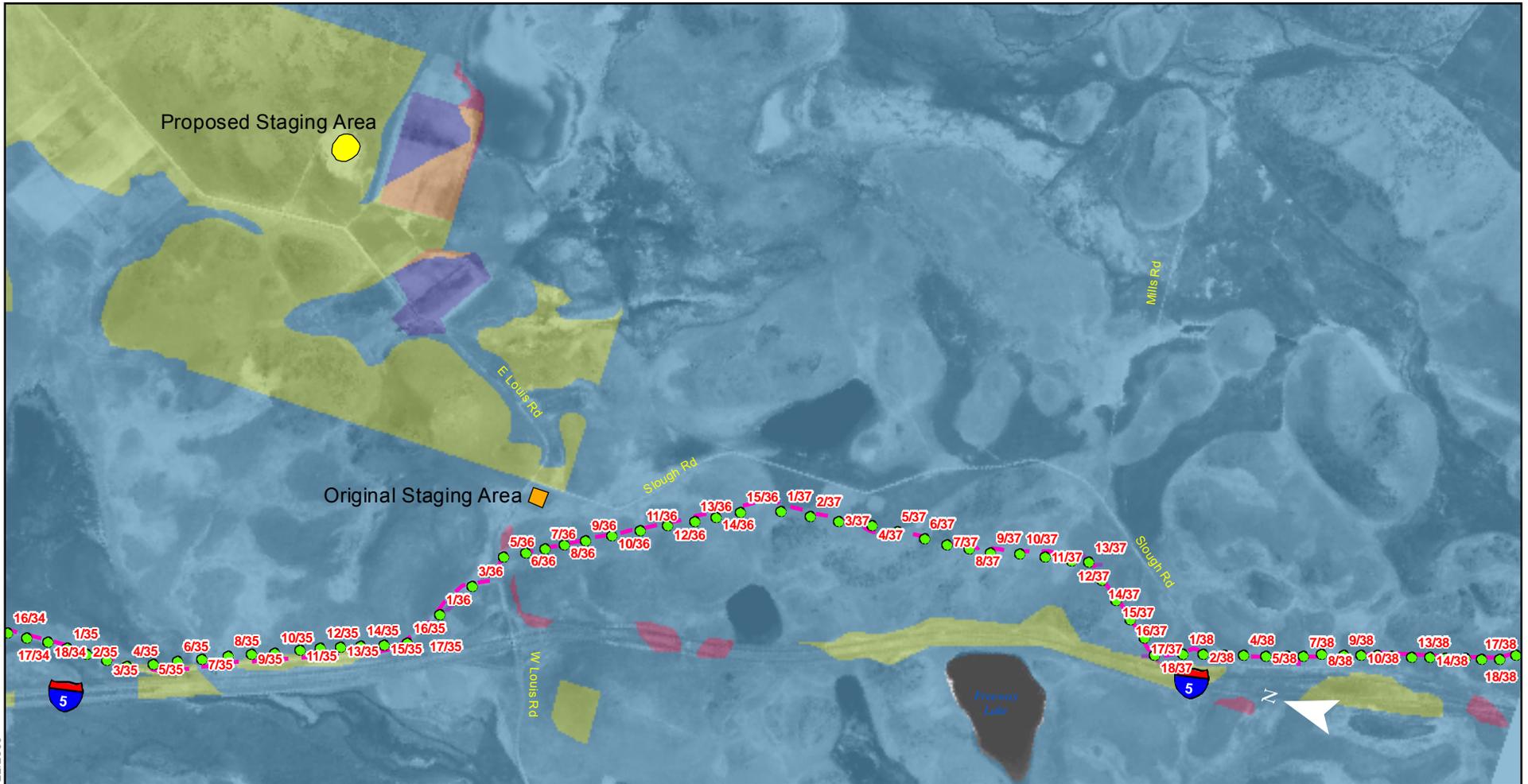
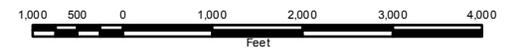


Figure2-1.mxd - 11/22/2006

Legend			
● Proposed Pole Location	 Proposed Staging Area	■ Prime Farmland	 Grazing Land
● Existing Pole Location	 Original Staging Area	■ Farmland of Local Importance	 Urban and Built-Up Land
— Existing Access Road	 Pull/Tension Site	■ Farmland of Statewide Importance	 Other Land
— New Access Road	 Unique Farmland		



SOURCES: ESA (2006), PacifiCorp (2006), GlobeExplorer (2006)

PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project . 205439

Figure 2-1
Proposed Staging Area - Agricultural Resources

2.3 Air Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
3. AIR QUALITY				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.3 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed air quality impacts related to project implementation, and identified potential impacts and mitigation measures relating to short-term construction emissions. The proposed staging area relocation would not increase excavation quantities, and, therefore, would not worsen PM10 emissions relative to the Final MND analysis. Grading would be less than one inch in depth for the proposed new staging area, which is much less surface preparation than would be required for the original staging area. General construction emission Mitigation Measure 2.3-1 from the Final MND would also be applicable to the proposed new staging area to ensure that overall construction emissions are minimized. The new staging area would require approximately one mile of additional vehicle travel in both directions. However, this would not be a substantial increase in vehicle travel compared to the assumption of 20 miles per trip analyzed in the Final MND. Therefore, staging area relocation would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified.

2.4 Biological Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES— Would the project:				
a) 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 California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.4 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to vegetation and wildlife. On October 31, 2006, Power Engineers, Inc. (POWER), conducted a biological resources assessment (Appendix A) of the proposed staging area, a former rock quarry, located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. The purpose of this report was to provide supplementary biological resources analyses to the analyses already performed in preparation of the Final MND for the Project. Based on the results of the survey and review of the available information, the biological resources assessment determined that the proposed staging area does not support any sensitive plant or animal species, designated critical habitat, Jurisdictional Waters or Wetlands of the U.S., or wildlife corridors. Therefore, use of the new staging area, including grading of the site, would not affect any sensitive or protected biological resources. The proposed staging area would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not any increase the severity of impacts identified. Implementation of Mitigation Measures 2.4-1 to 2.4-9 identified in the Final MND would ensure that impacts would be less than significant for the proposed new staging area.

2.5 Cultural Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES— Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.5 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to cultural resources. On November 3, 2006, Coyote & Fox Enterprises conducted a cultural resources assessment (Appendix B) of the proposed staging area to locate and evaluate any cultural resources on the site. Based on the results of the survey, no archaeological sites were identified, and no isolated artifact or feature locations were noted within the proposed staging area or along its access road. For unanticipated discoveries, implementation of Mitigation Measures 2.5-1 through 2.5-3 identified in the Final MND would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, the proposed staging area would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not any increase the severity of impacts identified.

2.6 Geology, Soils, and Seismicity

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
6. GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND SEISMICITY— Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.6 of the Final MND for the Project describes the geologic, seismic, and soil conditions within the project area. The proposed staging area is located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. Due to this close proximity, the proposed staging area would have the same general topographic characteristics, soils types and seismic hazards as the previously analyzed site discussed in the Final MND. In addition, the proposed staging area would require less surface preparation and no installation of rock base. Grading would be no more than one inch in depth to remove brush for fire hazard concerns. Implementation of the new staging area would not cause any new impacts; therefore, as previously shown in the Final MND for the Project, no mitigation measures are needed for potential impacts to geology, soils and seismicity associated with the new staging area.

2.7 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
7. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS				
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.7 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed potential hazardous materials impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. Because all of the staging area activities would be substantially the same and only the location would be different, all of the hazards analyzed in the Final MND for the Project would apply equally to the proposed new staging area. Grading on the proposed site would remove brush for fire hazard concerns. Implementation of health and safety measures identified in the Final MND (Mitigation Measures 2.7-1 and 2.7-2) would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level for the proposed new staging area. Therefore, staging area relocation would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified.

2.8 Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
8. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY— Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.8 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to hydrology and water quality. The Final MND identified significant impacts including water quality, soil erosion, and drainage patterns. The proposed staging area would be located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. Due to the close proximity, water resource conditions at the proposed site would be similar to those at the original staging area (i.e. not located within proximity to any watercourses, or within or very near a 100-year floodplain). Additionally, the proposed site would be located on more level terrain, thus requiring substantially less grading and application of base rock. Therefore, site preparation of the proposed site would be less likely to alter drainage pathways, cause soil erosion, or entrain sediment in overland flow. However, implementation of standard Best Management Practices (BMP) identified in the Final MND (Mitigation Measures 2.8-1 and 2.8-2) would reduce any potential impacts to a less than significant level for the proposed new staging area. Therefore, the proposed staging area relocation would not result in

any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified.

2.9 Land Use, Planning, and Policies

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
9. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING— Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.9 of the Final MND for the Project describes land uses and consistency with applicable plans and policies. The proposed staging area, which is a temporary feature used only during construction, would be substantially the same size and would be used for the same purpose as the previously-analyzed site. However, the proposed new staging area would be located approximately one mile northeast of the original site (Figure 1-3). The proposed site is located on a parcel historically used as a rock quarry until the mid-1980s and has since become overgrown with non-native vegetation.

The proposed use of the site would be consistent with the Siskiyou County General Plan (i.e., Land Use and Energy Elements). The following constraints have been identified for the proposed site: Wildfire Hazard Area, Severe Septic Tank Area, and Partially Flood Hazard Area. However, as analyzed in the Final MND, the proposed use would not directly conflict with these constraints because the General Plan identifies them as constraints to development of housing and to address human health concerns. Since the proposed use of the site would not involve development of structures that would regularly house a human population, none of these constraints would generally be applicable.

The proposed use of the site would also be consistent with the Siskiyou County Zoning Ordinance designation for the proposed site (APN 020-030-050), of *Prime Agricultural (AG-1)* and *Non-Prime Agricultural (AG-2-B-40)*³. The original site was located on lands designated as AG-2-B-40 only. The proposed staging area is also consistent with the AG-1 zoning designations because it is temporary (i.e., would be used for approximately 6 months). Use as a temporary

³ The AG-1 District is intended to be applied to land areas which are used or are suitable for use for intensive agricultural production. The AG-2 District is intended to provide an area where general agricultural activities and agriculturally related activities can occur.

staging area would not permanently affect the parcel’s potential use for long term intensive agricultural production because PacifiCorp is required by the Final MND to restore all disturbed work areas to pre-project conditions after completion of the Project.

Therefore, since the the proposed staging area would be consistent with both the Siskiyou County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance and would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, or any increase in the severity of impacts identified, no mitigation measures are necessary to reduce any potential impacts to a less than significant level for the proposed new staging area.

2.10 Mineral Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
10. MINERAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.10 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to mineral resources. The proposed staging area, which would remain substantially the same size as originally proposed, would be located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. The proposed site was previously used as a rock quarry until the mid-1980s when it was abandoned after reaching the limits of its permitted operations. The proposed staging area would be a temporary site, thus allowing for future permitted access to any possible mineral resources found at the site. Therefore, implementation of the new staging area would not cause any new impacts. As previously shown in the Final MND for the Project, no mitigation measures are needed for potential impacts to mineral resources associated with the new staging area.

2.11 Noise

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
11. NOISE—Would the project:				
a) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.11 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed noise impacts associated with the construction and operation of the transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. The proposed staging area would be located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site to an area that is more remote. One sensitive receptor (i.e., the owner of the proposed site) would be located within 2,000 feet of the site. However, implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Final MND (Mitigation Measures 2.11-1a and 2.11-1b) would reduce any potential noise impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, the proposed change would not substantially increase short-term noise levels beyond those identified in the Final MND and the proposed staging area would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, or any increase in the severity of impacts identified.

2.12 Population and Housing

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
12. POPULATION AND HOUSING— Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.12 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed population and housing impacts associated with the construction and operation of the transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. The proposed relocation of the staging area would retain its original purpose and functions. As such, it would not induce growth, require additional employees or displace any existing housing or people. Therefore, no mitigation measures are needed for potential impacts to population and housing associated with the new staging area.

2.13 Public Services

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
13. PUBLIC SERVICES— Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the 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:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.13 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed public services impacts associated with the construction and implementation of the transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. The proposed staging area would be located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. As such, due to the close proximity, the proposed site would remain in the same public service districts and, therefore, no new significant impacts or increases in the need for public services beyond the level of service identified in the Final MND for the Project are identified. Additionally, because the proposed staging area is within proximity to the original staging area and would not require any additional employees, there would be no impacts to schools, parks or other public facilities associated with the proposed site location. Therefore, no mitigation measures are needed for potential impacts to population and housing associated with the proposed site.

2.14 Recreation

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
14. RECREATION—Would the project:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.14 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed recreation impacts associated with the construction and implementation of the transmission line upgrade and associated facilities. Since the relocation of staging area would not require any additional employees there would be no increased demand on recreational facilities beyond what has been identified in the Final MND. As such, implementation of the proposed staging area would not cause any new impacts; therefore, as previously shown in the Final MND for the Project, no mitigation measures are needed for potential impacts to recreation associated with the new staging area.

2.15 Transportation and Traffic

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
15. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC—Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that would result in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., conflict with policies promoting bus turnouts, bicycle racks, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.15 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to transportation and traffic. The new staging area would be located off East Louie Road, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of its intersection with Interstate 5 and approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed site. Access to the site would be provided by a graded gravel road off of East Louie Road to the west along the northern boundary (Figure 1-3). No modifications to the road entrance and no gate or fence installation would be required. The proposed staging area location would not impede access to adjacent land uses, or increase traffic safety hazards or substantially increase traffic disruption beyond that identified in the Final MND. The proposed site would require approximately one mile of additional vehicle travel in both directions; however, this would not be a substantial increase in vehicle travel compared to the assumption of 20 miles per trip analyzed in the Final MND. Mitigation Measures 2.15-1 through 2.15-3 in the Final MND would also apply to the proposed staging area and would ensure that impacts to transportation and traffic are less than significant. Therefore, staging area relocation would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified.

2.16 Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
16. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—Would the project:				
a) Conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Contact and/or disturb underground utility lines and/or facilities during construction activities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2.16 of the Final MND for the Project analyzed impacts to utilities and service systems. The new staging area, a former rock quarry, is located approximately one mile northeast of the previously analyzed staging area and would be substantially the same size and be used for the same purposes as the previously analyzed site. A temporary distribution line would be installed, requiring ground disturbance along the access road to provide power to the proposed staging area; however, Mitigation Measure 2.16-1, identified in the Final MND, would be sufficient to reduce any impacts from the temporary distribution line to a less than significant level. Therefore, staging area relocation would not result in any new impacts beyond those previously identified in the Final MND, and would not increase the severity of impacts identified.

APPENDIX A

Biological Resources Assessment for Proposed Alternative Louie Road Material Laydown and Staging Yard

November 10, 2006
PACIFICORP

YREKA / WEED TRANSMISSION UPGRADE PROJECT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE LOUIE ROAD MATERIAL LAYDOWN AND STAGING YARD

PROJECT NUMBER:
111366

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INTRODUCTION

On October 31, 2006, Power Engineers, Inc. (POWER) biologists Mr. Thomas Herzog and Ms. Allison Carver conducted a biological resources assessment of a proposed laydown and staging yard for the Pacific Power Yreka/Weed Transmission Upgrade Project (Project) in Siskiyou County, California. The purpose of this report is to provide supplementary biological resources analyses to those analyses already performed on the Project corridor by ESA, Inc. in preparation of a CEQA Initial Study. The Study Areas were defined as follows:

- Alternative Louie Road Site (41°33'51" N, 122°27'50" W); privately owned; approximately 2 acres; former quarry site bounded by open native habitat. Access is from paved and unpaved Louie Road to an unpaved gravel private road.

Based on the results of the survey and review of available information, it is determined that the site does not support any sensitive plant or animal species, designated critical habitat, Jurisdictional Waters or Wetlands of the U.S., or wildlife corridors. Use of the site including grading of the access road and site will not affect any sensitive or protected biological resources.

METHODOLOGY

The specific scope of services summarized in this report consisted of the following tasks:

- Query the CNNDDB for special-status species' occurrences;
- Perform a reconnaissance-level site survey of the Study Areas, including photographic documentation;
- Characterize the habitat types present within the Study Areas;
- Evaluate the potential for the occurrence of special-status plant and animal species;
- Assess the property for the potential presence of a jurisdictional water resource;
- Prepare and submit a technical letter report.

The following information sources were reviewed or used for this report: USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle map and aerial photography; and the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB 2006). A complete coverage, pedestrian survey was performed.

All observed fauna and flora were noted and identified. Habitat types occurring in the Study Areas were characterized and evaluated for their potential to support regionally occurring special-status species. The Study Area was assessed for the presence of jurisdictional water features (Waters of the US), isolated wetlands, and other biologically sensitive habitats.

RESULTS

Environmental Setting

The Study Area is located within the Upper Shasta Valley in the Cascade Ranges in southern Siskiyou County, California. It is mapped in the Lake Shastina quadrangle, Township 43 North, Range 5 West, Section 19 (NE) (U.S. Geographic Services 7.5 Series Topographic Map). The site elevation is 835 m (2740 feet) above sea level.

The site is a former quarry where the allotted amount of volcanic rock was excavated. The site is terraced with 8 to 10 m (25 to 30 feet) graded and compacted side slopes on the east, west, and south sides. Soils present within the proposed site limits consist of coarse gravel and fine loam. A graded gravel road is used to access the quarry from the west along the northern site boundary. The adjacent lands support undisturbed Lithic Haploxerolls and rock outcrops with slopes to 65% (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2006).

The region is in climate Zone 2 and is characterized by warm to hot summers with a growing season approximately 5 months in length and moderately severe winters with soil freezing. The Study Area is located within the High Cascade Range geographic subregion within the Cascade Range geographic subdivision of the larger California Floristic Province. The following terrestrial vegetation communities exist in the Study Areas (see Appendix for site photos):

- Annual grassland community (CNPS California Annual Grassland Series) consists of open fields of non-native pasture grasses and weedy forbs. These annual grasslands have replaced native habitats of perennial bunchgrasses. Grazing disturbances, rather than periodic wildfires, keep this plant community from undergoing successional changes to woodland. Plant species identified in this community in the Study Area include: oats (*Avena* spp.), bromes (*Bromus* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* spp.), foxtail fescue (*Vulpia myuros*). Common forbs include broadleaf filaree (*Erodium botrys*), turkey mullein (*Eremocarpus setigerus*), bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), and popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys nothofulvus*). Non-native weedy species, especially thistles (*Centaurea*, *Salsola*, and *Cirsium*), are common.
- Mixed scrub-shrub community (CNPS Big Sagebrush Series, Mixed Sage Series) occurs on mesic and xeric soils and hillsides with volcanic substrates. Common shrubs are big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*), buckbrush and other *Ceanothus* species, rubber rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*). Western juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*) is also common, and various annual and perennial grasses and herbs are interspersed between the dominant shrubs.
- Ruderal (CNPS Ruderal Series) are disturbed or converted natural habitat that is now either in a weedy and barren (ruderal) state, plowed, or graded. Vegetation within this habitat type consists primarily of nonnative weedy or invasive ruderal species lacking a consistent community structure. Common plants in these habitats include: pasture grasses, mustards (*Brassica* spp.), Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*), clovers (*Trifolium* spp.), dock (*Rumex* spp.), thistles, and oats.

The proposed yard and access road do not cross and are not immediately adjacent to any aquatic community. The site is approximately 0.5 km (0.3 mile) north of a dry lake bed. Ephemeral streams in the area flow south to Lake Shastina.

Plants

The site supports ruderal and establishing native habitat. The site is bound by land supporting native, mixed Juniper Woodland sage scrub habitat. The site has been previously graded during the past 25 to 30 years while used as a quarry site (property owner comment). The site does not support any sensitive, protected or candidate plant species or suitable habitat.

Table 1 Observed Plants in the Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	Big Sagebrush
<i>Avena spp.</i>	Wild Oats
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Black Mustard
<i>Bromus spp.</i>	Brome
<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Italian Thistle
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow Star Thistle
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	Rubber Rabbitbrush
<i>Eremocarpus setigerus</i>	Dove Weed
<i>Juniperus occidentalis</i>	Western Juniper

Wildlife

The site supports wildlife common to the region. Table 2 lists the observed species identified during the survey. Rodent burrows are prevalent throughout the site. No trapping or night time surveys were conducted for this assessment.

The site is not expected to support any sensitive or protected wildlife species. The site may provide foraging habitat for sensitive species that occur regionally. The site and immediately adjacent habitat do not support suitable nesting or breeding habitat for any State or Federal sensitive species.

Table 2 Observed Animals in the Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Canis Latrans</i>	Coyote (scat)
<i>Odocoileus hemoinus (californicus)</i>	Mule Deer (scat) (CDFG Range Map)
<i>Lepus (sp.)</i>	Rabbit (scat)
<i>Rodentia (sp.)</i>	Rodent burrows
<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	White-crowned Sparrow
<i>Lophortyx californicus</i>	California Quail (call)

Historical Special-status Species' Occurrences

The CNDDDB (July 2006 Version) was queried spatially, and reported occurrences of special-status species were plotted in relation to the Study Area boundaries using GIS software. The CNDDDB reported 6 special-status species occurrences within the Study Area:

Alkali hymenoxys (*Hymenoxys lemmonii*), Coast fawn lily (*Erythronium revolutum*), Pickering's ivesia (*Ivesia pickeringii*), Shasta chaenactis (*Chaenactis suffrutescens*), and Western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) were reported in the buffer zone of the Shasta River riparian corridor, a small part of which intersects with the boundary of Site 2; and

wooly balsam root (*Balsamorhiza lanata*).

To determine which special-status species occurred in the vicinity of the Study Area, the CNDDDB was queried spatially within the boundary of the surrounding USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle map (Lake Shastina). Table 3 lists sensitive state and federal plant and animal species that occur within the

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
YREKA / WEED TRANSMISSION UPGRADE PROJECT**

region. The potential to occur onsite is a determination based on existing site conditions, adjacent habitat, and proximity to historical recorded occurrences.

Table 3 Special-Status Species and Potential to Occur within Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal - State Status	CNPS List	Potential to Occur
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern goshawk	None	n/a	Low – no nesting habitat
<i>Balsamorhiza lanata</i>	Woolly balsamroot	None	1B.2	Absent - disturbed
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Swainson's hawk	None / ST	n/a	Low – no nesting habitat
<i>Chaenactis suffrutescens</i>	Shasta chaenactis	None	1B.3	Absent
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	FC / SE	n/a	Absent
<i>Cordylanthus tenuis ssp. pallescens</i>	Pallid bird's-beak	None	1B.2	Absent
<i>Emys marmorata marmorata</i>	Northwestern pond turtle	None	n/a	Absent
<i>Erigeron bloomeri var. nudatus</i>	Waldo daisy	None	2.3	Absent
<i>Erythronium revolutum</i>	Coast fawn lily	None	2.2	Absent
<i>Galium serpenticum ssp. scotticum</i>	Scott Mountain bedstraw	None	1B.2	Absent
<i>Grus canadensis tabida</i>	Greater sandhill crane	None / ST	n/a	Absent
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	FT / SE	n/a	Low – no nesting habitat
<i>Hymenoxys lemmonii</i>	Alkali hymenoxys	None	2.2	Absent
<i>Ivesia pickeringii</i>	Pickering's ivesia	None	1B.2	Absent
<i>Lomatium peckianum</i>	Peck's lomatium	None	2.2	Absent
<i>Martes pennanti (pacifica)</i>	Pacific fisher	FC / None	n/a	Absent
<i>Orthocarpus pachystachyus</i>	Shasta orthocarpus	None	1B.1	Absent
<i>Phacelia greenei</i>	Scott Valley phacelia	None	1B.2	Absent
<i>Phacelia sericea var. ciliosa</i>	Blue alpine phacelia	None	2.3	Absent
<i>Rana cascadae</i>	Cascades frog	None	n/a	Absent
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Bank swallow	None / ST	n/a	Absent
<i>Sedum divergens</i>	Cascade stonecrop	None	2.3	Absent
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	American badger	None	n/a	Absent
<i>Vespericola sierranus</i>	Siskiyou Hesperian	None	None	Absent

ST – State Threatened, SE – State Endangered, FT – Federal Threatened, FC – Federal Candidate

Jurisdictional Water Resources

The site does not support any waters or wetlands that may be determined jurisdictional for Federal or State regulation. The site does not support a vernal pool or swale.

Potential for Study Areas to Support Special-status Species or Habitat

The site was previously quarried. Some native species dominated by Rabbitbrush have established on site. Other wise the graded area support gravel to loam soils and supports non-native invasive weed species. It is estimated that the site supports 30 to 50% vegetation cover. One Juniper Tree on the south edge of the site would be avoided but provides limited nesting habitat based on its location and height. Based on the site review and available data it is determined that the proposed yard and use of the access

road will not adversely affect any sensitive or protected plant or animal species, wildlife corridor, designated critical habitat, or water resource.

SUMMARY

The proposed alternative staging and laydown Louie Road yard is a disturbed site that does not support state or federal sensitive or candidate plant or animal species, designated critical habitat, protected water resource, or a distinct wildlife movement corridor. Use of the site and access road will require grading, equipment and materials movement and storage, personnel activities, and vehicle traffic with associated soil disturbance that may affect common plants and animals that occur within the planned work limits. It is, however, determined that the site is heavily disturbed and does not support habitat or substantial breeding or foraging habitat to support or affect sensitive plant or animal species that may occur in the project vicinity. The project work limits and access road do not support any sensitive plant species or suitable habitat. The project site does not cross or encompass any water resource that may be regulated state or federal law. The project will employ best management practices to control dust, soil erosion, hazardous material that will prevent adverse affect to adjacent lands and resources.

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APPENDIX A LOCATION

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
YREKA / WEED TRANSMISSION UPGRADE PROJECT**

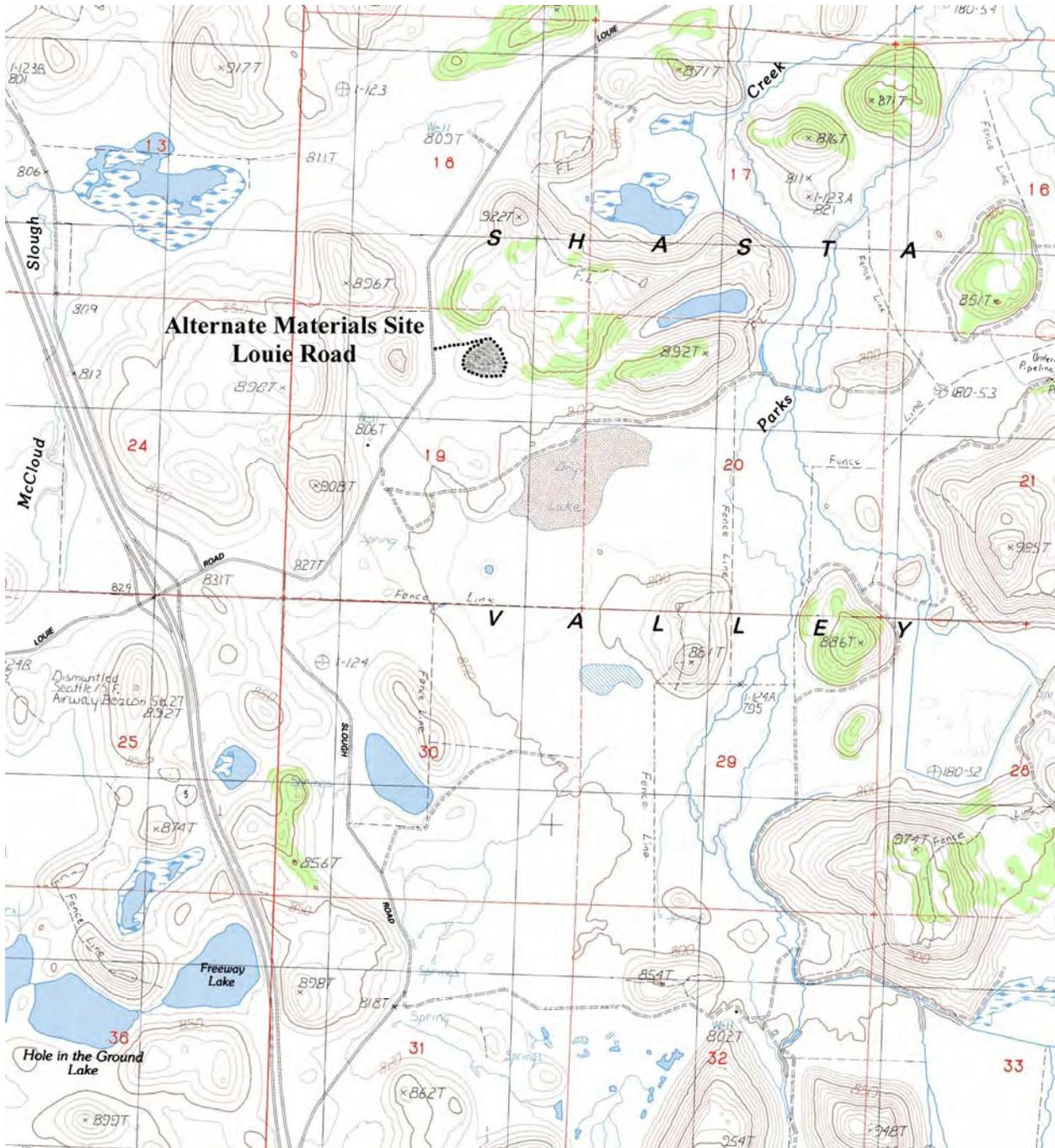


Figure A1. Geographic location of Alternative Material Laydown Site, Louie Road.

APPENDIX B – SITE PHOTOS



Figure B1. Site access road from Louie Road, looking east.



Figure B2 Louie Road Alternative Material Laydown site, looking west.



Figure B3 Louie Road Alternative Material Laydown Site, looking south.



Figure B4. Louie Road Alternative Material Laydown Site. Graded and compacted side slopes bordered by native mixed Juniper Woodland sage scrub habitat

APPENDIX B

Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed Alternative Louie Road Material Laydown and Staging Yard

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE LOUIE ROAD
MATERIAL LAYDOWN AND STAGING YARD
FOR PACIFICORP'S YREKA-WEED TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE PROJECT,
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

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November 2006

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE LOUIE ROAD
MATERIAL LAYDOWN AND STAGING YARD
FOR PACIFICORP'S YREKA-WEED TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE PROJECT,
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

An archaeological reconnaissance was conducted on November 3, 2006 for the proposed alternative Louie Road material laydown and staging yard for PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project in Siskiyou County, California. Use of this area constitutes an undertaking which could adversely affect cultural resources which might be located within the project area; and, thus, the archaeological survey was conducted in order to locate and evaluate any cultural resources, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The archaeological work described in this report was completed by Coyote & Fox Enterprises of Redding (CFE). CFE is an archaeological consulting firm which has conducted work throughout northern California since 1983. Fieldwork was completed by Trudy Vaughan, CFE Principal (M.A. Museum Studies); and all field procedures followed the guidelines of the State Historic Preservation Office and are in conformity with accepted professional standards.

During this survey, no archaeological sites were identified, and no isolated artifact or feature locations were noted within the proposed yard or along its access road. This report satisfies the requirements for archaeological reconnaissance under CEQA, with the stipulation that Mitigation Measures 2.5-1 through 2.5-3 in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for PacifiCorp's transmission line upgrade project (ESA 2006) shall also be implemented for this proposed alternative material laydown and staging yard.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

The project area is located off Louie Road approximately two miles northeast of its intersection with Interstate 5 in Township 43 North, Range 5 West, NE¼ of Section 19, Mount Diablo Base & Meridian (Figure 1: Project Location Map). This location has been proposed as a better alternative for the material laydown and staging yard for this construction project, as it will not require the site preparation needed at the originally proposed location. A temporary power line will be installed along the access road to provide power to the staging area. This graded gravel road accesses the staging area from Louie Road to the west along the northern site boundary.

The project area is located in the Cascade Range geomorphic province in upper Shasta Valley on a knoll at an elevation of 835 meters (2,740 feet) above mean sea level. The site is approximately 0.3 mile north of a dry lake bed, and ephemeral streams in the area flow south to Lake Shastina. Vegetation along the access road and surrounding the proposed staging area consists of native, mixed juniper/woodland sage/scrub habitat. The proposed staging area itself is at a former rock quarry and the area has been heavily disturbed and was cleared of vegetation. The

area has not been used as a quarry since the mid-1980s, however, and some native species dominated by rabbitbrush have established on site, along with non-native invasive weed species. One juniper tree stands on the south edge of the site.

The site is a former rock quarry and the knoll has been cut down, leveled, and terraced. According to the property owner, rock was used for the construction of Interstate 5 in the early 1960s, but, as noted above, the quarry has not been used since the mid-1980s. Soils present within the proposed site limits consist of coarse gravel and fine loam.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ETHNOGRAPHIC, AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

No additional Native American consultation was conducted for this alternative staging yard. This area has been heavily disturbed and it lies only approximately one mile northeast of the transmission line corridor and original staging yard location. No response was received from any member of the Shasta Nation with regard to this transmission line upgrade project; and no response would have been expected for this amendment, if consultation had been conducted.

The archaeological background and the ethnography, prehistory, and history of the area has been well summarized in Arrington (2006) and in the Cultural Resources section of the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for this transmission line upgrade project (ESA 2006).

Louie Road was named after August Louie, born in the Azores in 1837, who settled on his ranch land in 1859, approximately 2½ miles northeast of this project area near the Louie Road bridge crossing the Shasta River. This ranch was still occupied by the Louie family in 1987 (Nilsson and Vaughan 1987).

This historical research on the Louie family was conducted in conjunction with archaeological investigations at a prehistoric site near the Louie Ranch on the Shasta River in 1987 (Nilsson and Vaughan 1987). This site, CA-SIS-1207/H, consists of obsidian and metavolcanic tools and debitage, freshwater mussel shell, groundstone implements, and some historic artifacts; and the prehistoric component of this site was determined eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

On November 3, Vaughan met on site with Bob Regner and Gerald Turner of International Line Builders, Inc., the contractor who will be constructing this project; and they showed her the limits of the proposed material laydown and staging yard within the old quarry, as well as the proposed alignment for the temporary power line along the road. A pedestrian survey was conducted over the proposed pad (approximately 2.5 acres) in systematic transects spaced at approximately 15 to 20 meter intervals. Visibility of native soil was poor, as almost the entire area is covered in gravels, but, as noted above, this area has been cut, terraced, and leveled. Although there is no indication that there ever was an archaeological site, prehistoric or historic, on this original knoll, if there were, it has been completely cut away.

A pedestrian survey was then conducted along the access road (approximately 0.3 mile) by walking down one side of the road and up the other side, with the proposed temporary power line to be installed along the south side of the road. In this area, soil visibility was generally good, as the sage and grasses were scattered through the area and there were no large patches of dense vegetation. This survey is considered to have been thorough enough to have located any archaeological sites that may be present within the study area.

During this survey, no archaeological sites were identified, and no isolated prehistoric or historic artifact or feature locations were noted.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This alternative material laydown and staging yard is proposed within a disturbed quarry area, and no additional area will be disturbed for this project. Also, no cultural resources were noted along the access road and proposed power line corridor. No cultural resource monitoring is recommended for this project, as the likelihood of buried cultural resources within the proposed staging area or along the access road is considered very minimal.

This report satisfies the requirements for archaeological reconnaissance under CEQA, with the stipulation that Mitigation Measures 2.5-1 through 2.5-3 in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for PacifiCorp's transmission line upgrade project (ESA 2006) shall also be implemented for this proposed alternative material laydown and staging yard.

REFERENCES CITED

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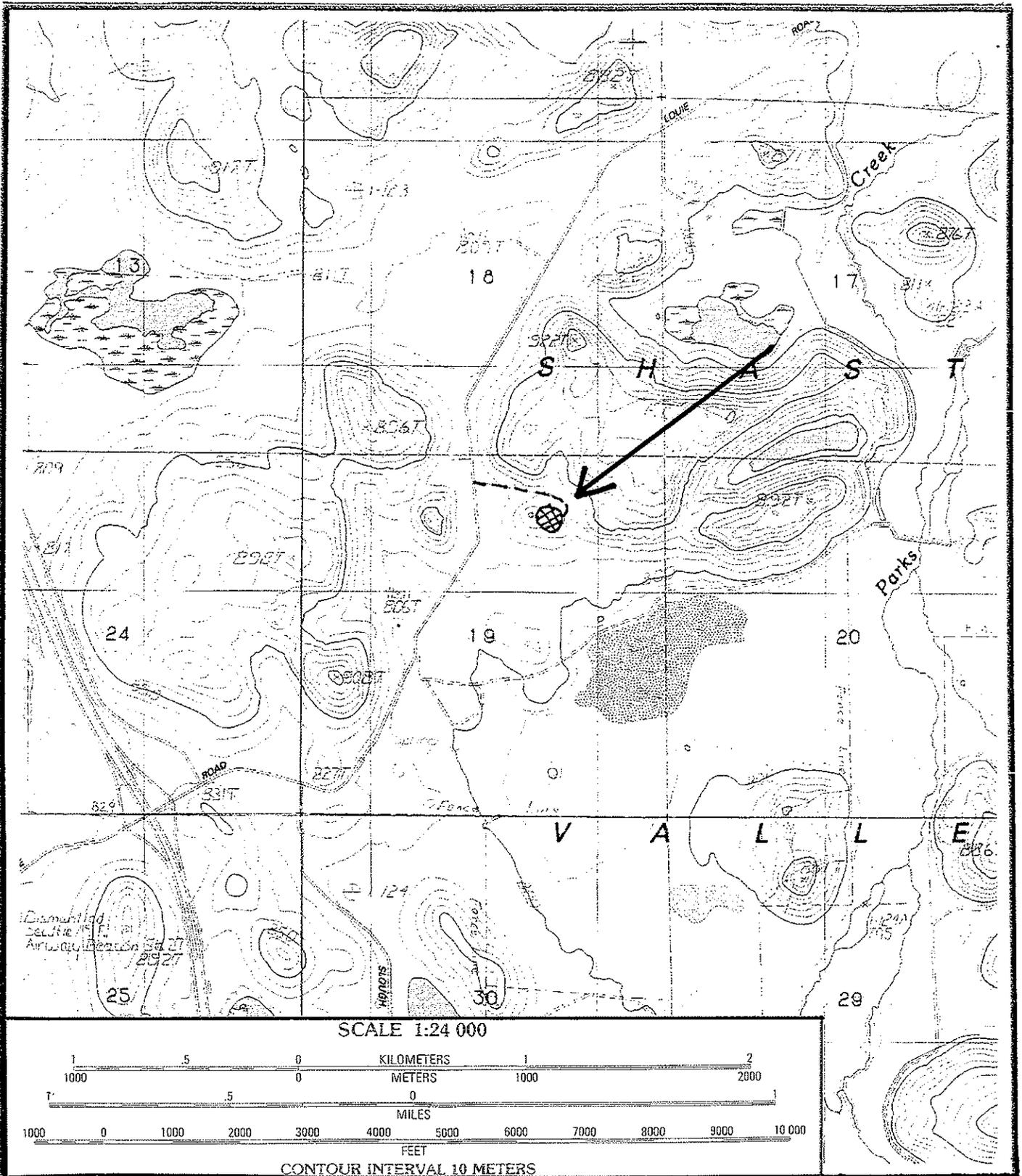


FIGURE 1: Project Location Map and Archaeological Coverage
 USGS Lake Shastina, Calif., 7.5' (1984)