

DAVIS-WOODLAND WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

Final Environmental Impact Report

State Clearinghouse No. 2006042175

Lead Agency:
City of Davis, Public Works Department
In Association with:
UC Davis and City of Woodland

October 2007



- *With written approval of and subject to conditions determined by CDFG, an urban development permittee may transfer fee simple title or a conservation easement over Swainson's hawk foraging habitat, along with appropriate enhancement and management funds, in lieu of paying the acreage-based mitigation fee.*

Mitigation Measure 3.6-8a p. 3.6-74 is revised to read:

Mitigation Measure 3.6-8a: Prior to construction, the Project Partners shall conduct an assessment within the proposed Project area to provide the basis of a vegetation mitigation plan. A vegetation mitigation plan will be developed for submittal to CDFG. The plan shall contain species expected to be found in the vicinity of Project sites. Details about the species and their past occurrence shall be included in the plan. The Project Partners shall comply with all terms of conditions for approval, including additional mitigation provisions to be implemented. *The Project Partners would follow performance standards in developing the plan. The requirements would consist of one or more of the following provisions:*

- *Establish an oak tree conservation easement in coordination with Yolo County to protect and preserve trees commensurate with the removal of large oaks as a result of project implementation*
- *Replace and maintain trees, for seven years, at a rate of 1 tree per 1-inch of tree diameter removed as measured at diameter breast height. Because this measure would only fulfill one-half of the required mitigation for the Project, one or more of the other provisions would need to be implemented to fulfill the remaining mitigation requirements.*
- *Contribute funds to a suitable oak woodland conservation fund, as established in accordance with § 1363 of the Fish and Game Code*
- *Consult with Yolo County and CDFG to determine and agree to implement other suitable measures consistent with the Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plant 2007 and §21083.4(a) of the California Public Resources Code.*

Last paragraph p. 3.8-20, a new discussion is added to read:

An analysis of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) was conducted to determine if the Project would result in increased GHG emissions when compared to existing and future without-project conditions. This analysis indicates that operation of the Project would reduce GHG emissions when compared to both existing and future conditions where groundwater pumping provides the Project Partner's water supply.

Table 3.8-9 shows the results of a quantitative analysis that estimates GHG emissions. The results show that the Project GHG emissions (6,941 metric tons of CO₂) would be about 31 percent less than the estimated 2040 groundwater pumping GHG emissions (9,999 metric tons of CO₂) which would occur if the Project Partners continue to rely

on groundwater supplies into the future. When compared to existing 2005 GHG emissions, the Project would generate about 5 percent more GHG emissions by 2040. The increase of GHG emissions would ultimately reach 366 metric tons/yr by 2040.

These estimates include consideration of additional wells for pumping replacement water supplies to upstream water rights holders who would transfer water to the Project Partners during Term 91 periods and continued local groundwater pumping to meet peak demands.

**TABLE 3.8-9
ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

Scenario	Greenhouse Gas Emissions (CO ₂ e metric tons per year) ^a	Comments
No Project		
2005 Groundwater Pumping	6,575	Emissions limited to groundwater pumping equipment only.
2040 Groundwater Pumping	9,999	Emissions limited to groundwater pumping equipment only. No additional treatment emissions estimated.
With Project		
2040 Surface Water Pumping	4,848	Emissions associated with surface water diversion
2040 Upstream Water Replacement	606	Emissions associated with upstream groundwater replacement of surface water
2040 Groundwater Pumping	1,487	Emissions associated with future local groundwater pumping anticipated with project implementation
2040 Surface Water Pumping + Upstream Water Replacement + Local Groundwater Pumping (Total)	6,941	Total of all emissions associated with project operations

^a All scenarios assume that electricity to power the pumps is and will be from the electrical grid. Emissions from the electrical grid are considered indirect emissions since the combustion source is at the power plant. Equations and conversion factors used for the calculations are those recommended on pages 32, 35, 85, and 87 of the California Climate Action Registry Report Protocol, 2006. CO₂e refers to carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. CO₂e emissions are primarily CO₂, but also include a smaller percentage of emissions of nitrous oxide and methane gases.

Based on this analysis, it is concluded that the Project would contribute to reducing future GHG emissions and contribute to achieving the State’s goal of reducing GHG emissions to historic levels

At present, there is no GHG emission standard or limit that constitutes a defined threshold for determining a significant impact in accordance with CEQA. A recent opinion by the California Attorney General’s Office proposes using the targets, declared in the Governor’s Executive Order S-3-05 and Assembly Bill 32, as relevant benchmarks

for determining significance¹. If these targets are considered a relevant threshold, the Project would not have a significant cumulative effect on the environment because it would contribute to meeting the GHG goals by reducing future GHG emissions associated with water deliveries to the Partners by about 30 percent from the levels that would otherwise occur.

Discussion on p. 4-17 is added to read:

Yolo County General Plan

The Yolo County General Plan was adopted in July 1983 and was last amended December 2005. Several Project components would be constructed in unincorporated Yolo County and would be within the purview of this General Plan.

The Yolo County General Plan identifies key strategies to control and accommodate growth. Growth accommodation goals and policies include the following:

**TABLE 4-6
RELEVANT YOLO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GROWTH
MANAGEMENT GOALS AND POLICIES**

Objective	Objective Description
General Plan Goals	<p><i>Protect prime and other agricultural land from urban development.</i></p> <p><i>Provide for industrial growth in the County to provide employment, services, and tax base while minimizing hazards and nuisances and while conserving resources and agricultural lands.</i></p> <p><i>Discourage urban sprawl.</i></p> <p><i>Continue to improve existing urban uses and place new urban uses in existing planned urban areas.</i></p>
Land Use Policies	
LU 2 (applicable portions)	<p><u>Land Use, Basic.</u></p> <p><i>j. Supports efficient use of land.</i></p> <p><i>n. Allows development only in accord with the needs of the community and State law, not only as a result of development pressures.</i></p> <p><i>p. Restricts the extension of urban services (sewers, water, roads, electricity) into areas not identified in these adopted plans for contiguous urban growth.</i></p> <p><i>q. Induces redevelopment and reuse of existing urban cores.</i></p> <p><i>r. Requires that new development be located according to these priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>First: Renew and maintain existing urban areas.</i> ▪ <i>Second: Develop vacant land within urban areas, presently served by streets, water, sewer, and other public services.</i> ▪ <i>Third: Where necessary to develop outside existing developed urban areas, only develop land immediately adjacent to the existing urban developments.</i> ▪ <i>Fourth [sic]: Prohibit urban development in agricultural areas.</i>

¹ Greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by 2010, reduce GHG emissions to 2000 levels; by 2020, reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels; by 2050, reduce GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels. (Executive Order S-3-05 and Assembly Bill 32)