

**FERC Project No. 2426
South SWP Hydropower
Cultural Resources Study**

FIELD RESULTS AND DATA SUMMARY

August 2, 2019

Consistent with Section 5.0 of the South SWP Hydropower (Project) Revised Study Plan (RSP) and as approved in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Study Plan Determinations dated June 14, 2017, and September 7, 2018, the California Department of Water Resources and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Licensees) provide the following Field Results and Data Summary status for 4.1.12 *Cultural Resources Study* (Study), which includes work completed to date, key findings, associated data files, variances, and remaining work. Sensitive confidential information relating to the nature and location of historic properties which is not to be disclosed to the public pursuant to FERC's regulations is considered privileged information and therefore, is not included in this document.

Completed Work to Date:

The Licensees have completed the archaeological and historical built environment tasks under Step 1 (Perform Archival Research), Step 2 (Conduct Field Survey and Identify Resources), and Step 3 (Identify and Assess Potential Project Effects on Identified Cultural Resources) in the FERC-approved study plan. Also, based on the Licensees evaluation of Primary Project Roads, additional field efforts were completed in 2019 consistent with the FERC-approved study plan on segments of those Primary Project Roads that were not previously surveyed in 2018.

Key Accomplishments/Summary of Findings to Date:

Prior to fieldwork implementation, the Licensees distributed the Cultural Resources Study Plan to participating tribes and land managing agencies for review during February 2017. During that time, comments on the study plan methods were provided by the Angeles National Forest, but no comments were provided by the tribes or other agencies. Comments were addressed and the study plan was approved by reviewing parties. The Licensees held meetings in March 2017 and no additional comments were received on the study plan. The Licensees also held an initial Section 106 meeting on June 15, 2017 with the tribes and agencies to discuss the FERC-approved Cultural Resources Study Plan and the Area of Potential Effects (APE).

The Licensees requested concurrence on the APE from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on June 2, 2017, with additional clarifications provided to SHPO in a letter dated August 30, 2017. SHPO concurred with the APE in a September 21, 2017 letter. Following an evaluation of Primary Project Roads, the Licensees determined that modifications to the APE was necessary to incorporate segments of Primary Project Roads that extended outside the 2017 APE, and to administratively remove the Warne Transmission Line from the APE because it is not a primary transmission line for the Project and it is owned, operated, and maintained by Southern California Edison. The Licensees distributed the revised APE to tribes and agencies for a 30-day review period beginning on April 19, 2019. No comments were received on the proposed revised APE. The Licensees also held a Section 106 consultation meeting on May 22, 2019 where the revised APE was discussed

with tribes and agencies. On June 10, 2019, the Licensees requested SHPO's concurrence on the revised APE, and SHPO responded with its concurrence on the revised APE in a letter dated July 17, 2019.

For the 2018 survey effort conducted under the *Cultural Resources Study* (Study), approximately 1,925 acres (42 percent) of the overall 4,564.3 acres in the 2017 APE were excluded from the systematic pedestrian survey due to inundation at Quail Lake, Pyramid Lake, and Elderberry Forebay. Each of these water bodies was at its respective Normal Maximum Water Surface Elevation during the time of the field survey, thereby excluding access to lands normally inundated by the reservoirs. Of the 2,587 acres located outside of these water bodies, 212 acres (8 percent) are located over the Angeles Tunnel and were excluded from the survey because the Licensees do not perform any Project related activities on the lands in this area. An additional 1,046 acres (40 percent of the APE outside of the three water bodies) were not surveyed due to steep and inaccessible slopes, dense brush, or because they were covered by parking lots and/or other improvements and facilities. Areas partially excluded from the pedestrian survey include the dense riparian strip along the bottom of the Gorman Creek channel, the steep slopes along the Pyramid Lake and Elderberry Forebay shorelines, and the steeply incised canyons interspersed along the Castaic Transmission Line.

The remaining 1,329 acres (51 percent of the 2017 APE outside of the three water bodies and including a majority of the Primary Project Roads) were subject to an intensive, systematic pedestrian survey with transects spaced no more than 15 meters (approximately 50 feet) apart. Accordingly, the Licensees assessed the field data gathered from the records search, archival research, and fieldwork, and documented 25 newly discovered archaeological sites and 6 newly discovered isolated artifacts. Documentation was updated for 18 previously recorded archaeological sites. The archaeological resources identified in the APE consist primarily of historic period occupation and use locations, and historical access roads relating to initial construction of the Project (circa 1970). Most of the previously recorded prehistoric sites are located along the original river terraces that are inaccessible due to inundation by reservoirs.

For the additional survey effort in 2019 of the remaining Primary Project Roads segments that extend outside the 2017 APE but are within the 2019 revised APE, the same methods identified in the FERC-approved study plan were conducted. The 2019 survey coverage totaled 100 percent of the 102.6 acres that encompass the 14.1 miles of Primary Project Road segments. A total of 13 newly discovered archaeological resources were identified as well as the recordation of a 585-foot southern extension of site HDR-SSWP-SITE-017, which was previously recorded in the 2018 survey effort.

In total, the 2018 and 2019 survey efforts resulted in a survey coverage area of 1,431.6 acres. A total of 56 archaeological sites were identified during the two survey efforts conducted under the Study. One site, HDR-SSWP-SITE-023, consists of two extant stretches of the original Highway 99 and was previously evaluated as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) with concurrence from SHPO. An additional 33 of the 56 archaeological sites are recommended as not eligible for the NRHP on the basis of this Study and, therefore, do not require further management, pending Section 106 consultation. Concurrence on these findings from the SHPO will be completed outside of the Study.

Of the remaining 22 out of 56 archaeological sites, one archaeological site is recommended as eligible for listing under the NRHP based on data gathered through archival research, per Step 3 of the Study. Although the submerged prehistoric site P-19-000324 was not accessible during the survey, the site was extensively excavated in 1969-1971. The site was disturbed prior to construction but it is recommended as eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion D because the archaeological data potential of the collection may yield information important in prehistory and history. Twenty archaeological sites could not be evaluated at the survey level including 10 sites that are currently underwater at Pyramid Lake and were not physically accessible during the survey. Lastly, P-19-000990 (CA-LAN-990H and FS 05-01-53-32), was California's first highway traversing the rugged Sierra Pelona Mountains to connect Los Angeles to the San Joaquin Valley. A large segment of the road has been previously evaluated elsewhere as NRHP-eligible under Criterion A for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and Criterion C because the road embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. The remaining segments of the road located outside of the Angeles National Forest that were not part of the previous NRHP eligibility evaluation include a section within the APE that has been destroyed or buried and replaced with a modern highway segment. Other than location, this section of P-19-000990 within the APE lacks integrity and is considered a non-contributing element to the significance of the resource.

In addition to the 56 archaeological resources noted above, 13 historical built environment resources related to facilities of the Project were identified and documented. As detailed in the RSP, the State Water Project (SWP) is the largest State-owned and operated water supply system of its kind in the United States. Although the Project is a separate energy-recovery facility along the SWP, it is considered a component of the overall larger SWP as it supports the operations of the West Branch.

Seven of the 13 historical built environment resources evaluated as the South SWP Hydropower Resources are recommended eligible under NRHP Criterion A for their association with the SWP and statewide water conveyance planning and development. Six of the 13 historical built environment resources were evaluated as not meeting any of the NRHP eligibility criteria and/or not having sufficient integrity to convey their significance and therefore, are recommended as not eligible for listing under the NRHP. The Project as a whole, and all 13 resources evaluated as part of it, was also reviewed for potential national historic district eligibility. The resources do not represent a significant concentration of features united historically to be considered a historic district that would require evaluation for listing in the NRHP. Isolated artifacts by themselves are not eligible for listing in the NRHP because they lack association and context with other archaeological materials. Recording the physical description and location exhaust their research potential. Therefore, the 6 isolates are not considered "significant resources" eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Associated Data Files (All associated data can be found in the folder with this summary form. Note: confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information and Privileged information will not be posted publicly):

The Licensees have completed the main information gathering, assessments, and mapping steps of the study. All data collected during this study are confidential, and accordingly, are being treated as **Privileged**.

File Name	Data Description	File Type	File Location
20181007_HDR_P2426_SSWP_Survey_Coverage_Maps	Survey Coverage on 7.5-minute Topo Map	PDF	Privileged
20181010_HDR_P2426_SSWP_Archaeological_Site_Location_Maps	Archaeological Resource Locations on 7.5-minute Topo Map	PDF	Privileged
20181010_HDR_P2426_SSWP_HBE_Resource_Location_Maps	Historical Built Environment Resource Locations on 7.5-minute Topo Map	PDF	Privileged

Variations from Study Methods, Schedule, or Approach and Abnormalities in Expected Field Conditions:

The schedule for the FERC-approved study plan targeted July 2017 for study initiation. The study was delayed to allow for tribal and agency consultation on the study plan. This variance will have no effect on the overall study, schedule, or remaining work. Also, the additional survey effort in 2019 was conducted to ensure that resources were identified and evaluated within the revised APE (which encompasses the proposed Project boundary) consistent with the FERC-approved study plan. The Licensees do not consider this variance since the additional survey efforts were within the parameters of the FERC-approved study plan.

Remaining Work:

Remaining work includes the following:

Tribal and agency review of the Privileged National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Cultural Resources Survey and Evaluation Report and Supplemental Cultural Resources Survey and Evaluation Report that document the results of the Study, including NRHP-eligibility recommendations for all the historical built environment resources and any archaeological resources that can be evaluated at the survey and archival research level.