

Environmental Commitment Program

Title: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Banking and Conveyance Improvement Project Project Number: CEC-20-023 Anticipated Start Date: September 1, 2021 Approximate Duration: 8 months					[Proponent] Point of Contact: Dan Bartel, P.E. dbartel@rrbwsd.com 661-589-6045	
Project Lead: David White, dwhite@usbr.gov, 916-978-5208 Natural Resource Specialist: Rain Emerson, remerson@usbr.gov, 559-262-0335 Wildlife Biologist: Ned Gruenhagen, ngruenhagen@usbr.gov, 559-262-0343						
Resource	Summary of Environmental Commitments	Timeframe for Implementation	Verification Interval	Final Verification Date	Proponent Verification of Compliance	
					Initials	Date
Various	Implement all measure from Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program included as Attachment 1 in the CEC.	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	Prior to construction, a qualified biologist will provide an environmental awareness training session to all personnel associated with the Improvement Project. At a minimum, the training will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an overview of the regulatory requirements for the Project; descriptions of the special-status species in the Project area and the importance of these species and their habitats; the general measures that are being implemented to minimize environmental impacts; and the boundaries within which equipment and personnel would be allowed to work during construction. 	Prior to construction	Once within 5 days after survey and before construction begins			
Biological	Speed signs of 25 mph maximum (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic, to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox. Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site without ground disturbance within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction.	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	Prior to construction, a qualified biologist should conduct a preconstruction survey for the presence of listed and sensitive species no earlier than 30 days before the start of construction.	No earlier than 30 days prior to construction	Once within 5 days after survey and before construction begins			



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Biological	If sensitive species are observed within the Project site during construction or the pre-activity survey, the District will immediately contact the appropriate agency(ies) under whose jurisdiction the discovery falls to determine how to proceed and avoid take to the maximum extent practical.	Duration of Project	At time of each sighting			
Biological	During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase, any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a special-status species, or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped, will be required to report the incident immediately to the District. The District will then immediately notify Reclamation and the appropriate regulatory agency(ies) under whose jurisdiction the discovery falls to determine how to proceed and avoid take to the maximum extent practical.	Prior to Construction	At each incident			
Biological	If during the preconstruction survey any active Swainson's Hawk nests are discovered within 0.5 mile of the Project area, the District will coordinate with the appropriate agency(ies) to determine the appropriate construction setback distances. Construction-free buffers will be identified on the ground with flagging, fencing, or by other easily visible means, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged.	Duration of Project	At time of each sighting			
Biological	If construction activities are proposed during the typical nesting season (February 15 to September 15), a nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than two weeks prior to the start of construction to determine presence/absence of nesting birds within the Proposed Action Area and immediate vicinity. Reclamation and the District will be notified if nesting bird species	No more than 2 weeks prior to construction beginning within nesting season (Feb. 1 through Sept. 15)	Once after construction is completed			



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	protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act are observed during the surveys and will facilitate coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, if necessary, to determine an appropriate avoidance strategy. If raptor nests are observed within the Biological Study Area during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, the nest(s) shall be designated an Environmental Sensitive Area and protected by a minimum 500-foot avoidance buffer until the breeding season ends or until a qualified biologist determines that all young have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. Resource agencies may consider proposed variances from these buffers if there is a compelling biological or ecological reason to do so, such as protection of a nest via concealment due to site topography.					
Biological	To prevent inadvertent entrapment of San Joaquin kit fox or other animals during the construction phase of the Proposed Project, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep will be inspected and covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials. If the trenches cannot be closed, one or more escape ramps constructed of earthen-fill or wooden planks will be installed. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If at any time a trapped or injured special-status species is discovered, the District will immediately contact the appropriate agency(ies) under whose jurisdiction the discovery falls to determine how to proceed and avoid take to the maximum extent practical.	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			



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Biological	During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase, all construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures or materials that contain a hole with a diameter of 3 inches or greater and that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods will be thoroughly inspected for kit foxes and other special-status species before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If a kit fox is discovered during this inspection, the pipe or culvert shall not be disturbed (other than to move it to a safe location if necessary) until after the kit fox has escaped.	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	Prior to, during, and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase, use of pesticides or herbicides will be in compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which special-status species depend.	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	Any fencing installed during the project construction should meet the following specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand should be no closer to the ground than 12 inches. • If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8 × 12-inch openings near the ground should be provided every 100 yards. 	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	During construction, food-related trash will be placed in enclosed containers and removed at the end of each workday at the end of construction, all construction related	Duration of Project	Once at end of Project			



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	trash and debris will be removed from the work site and properly disposed.					
Biological	Prior to final inspection, should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand shall be no closer to the ground than 12 inches. • If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8 x 12-inch openings near the ground shall be provided every 100 yards. • Upon fence installation, the applicant shall notify the County to verify proper installation. Any fencing constructed after issuance of a final permit shall follow the above guidelines. 	End of Project	Once at end of Project			
Biological	A written report of the pre-activity survey(s) findings shall be transmitted to Reclamation so that they are received within five days after survey completion and prior to the start of ground disturbing activities.	Prior to construction	Once within 5 days after survey and before construction begins			
Biological	If at any time a trapped or injured kit fox is discovered, in addition to immediately contacting biologists at the Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Reclamation biological staff also shall be immediately notified at [(559) 262-0300].	Duration of Project	At time of each sighting			
Biological	For purpose of compliance with environmental commitments for Reclamation's Proposed Action, the migratory bird nesting season commences on February 1	No more than 2 weeks prior to construction	Once after construction is completed			



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	of each year. However, the end of the migratory bird nesting season remains unchanged from that described in the EIR (i.e., September 15). Therefore, if any work is to be done between February 1 and September 15, migratory bird preconstruction surveys will be required.	beginning within nesting season (Feb. 1 through Sept. 15)				
Funding: The proponent is responsible for all direct costs to implement, monitor and evaluate the environmental commitments described in the table. The proponent is also responsible for the costs incurred by Reclamation staff to monitor and evaluate the environmental commitments.						



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