**Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #:

Project Title: Turlock Irrigation District Harding and Nielson Fish Barrier Projects

Lead Agency: Turlock Irrigation District

Contact Name: Philip Govea

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Project Location: n/a Merced and Stanislaus Counties

*City County*

**Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).**

The proposed Project includes placing two fish barriers on the river side of the levees to prevent fall run Chinook Salmon from entering TID’s canal system via the Harding Drain Culverts and Nielson Drain Culverts during the spawning season. These barriers will only be in place during the spawning season.

The barrier at the Harding Drain Project site will be a metal picket fence with removable sections to allow for cleaning/maintenance, including periodic vegetation and debris removal.

The barrier at the Nielson Drain Project site may be a swinging picket weir or a metal picket fence with removable sections. The swinging picket weir is a hinged picket fence hanging over a long crested weir. As debris pass over the weir, the picket fence is allowed to swing outwards to pass the debris while still blocking passage over the weir. Alternately, the barrier at the Nielson Drain Project site may be a metal picket fence with removable sections and motorized rotating trash screens on the upstream side to prevent vegetation and debris from plugging the picket fence.

Site preparation for both proposed Projects includes vegetation removal to facilitate the work.

At the Harding Drain Project site only, construction of concrete lining in the area between the culvert outlets and the new fish barrier as well as a permanent vehicle access path is needed to facilitate construction and on-going maintenance. It is assumed that a permanent vehicle path will not be constructed for the Nielson Drain Project site, as the existing levee slope is sufficient to allow for construction and maintenance access.

**Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.**

Biological Resources – Potential impacts to special-status species and their habitats.

Mitigation measures include minimizing loss of habitat and take of special-status fish species, preconstruction surveys for western pond turtles, preconstruction surveys for special-status birds and nesting birds regulated by the MBTA and Fish and Wildlife Code, an on-site tree replacement plan for riparian trees removed as part of the proposed project, and requiring obtainment of a Section 404 permit and a 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement, restoration of all areas with temporary impacts, and compensatory mitigation at a 1:1 ratio for unavoidable losses of waters of the U.S.

Cultural Resources – Inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources.

Mitigation measure requires that work halt in the vicinity of a find until a qualified archaeologist can inspect the find and make further recommendations.

Cultural Resources – Inadvertent discovery of human remains.

Mitigation measure requires the County coroner be contacted and, if the remains are determined to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission be contacted to assign a Most Likely Descendant.

Geology and Soils – Potential impacts to a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

Mitigation measures would require a qualified paleontologist to conduct construction worker paleontological resources sensitivity training prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. Full-time paleontological resources monitoring shall be conducted for all project ground-disturbing activities at depths that could disturb the Modesto Formation; therefore, the monitoring should occur for ground-disturbing activities at depths of 5 feet or greater. If construction or other Project personnel discover any potential fossils during construction, regardless of the depth of work or location, work at the discovery location shall cease in a 50-foot radius of the discovery until the qualified paleontologist has assessed the discovery and made recommendations as to the appropriate treatment.

Greehouse Gas Emissions - Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly that may have a significant impact on the environment. Or conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Mitigation measure requires that the Project applicant and/or its contractor implement best performance standards for construction emissions.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials - Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through routine transport or reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving hazardous materials.

Mitigation measure requires implementation of construction BMPs and a spill prevention plan.

Hydrology and Water Quality – Potential impacts to water quality, groundwater supplies

Mitigation measure requires implementation of a spill prevention plan and construction BMPs for off-channel staging, and storage of equipment and vehicles to minimize the risk of contaminating the waters of the San Joaquin River by spilled materials. BMPs will also include minimization of erosion and stormwater runoff, as appropriate.

Tribal Cultural Resources – Inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources.

Mitigation measure requires that work halt in the vicinity of a find until a qualified archaeologist can inspect the find and make further recommendations.

Tribal Cultural Resources – Inadvertent discovery of human remains.

Mitigation measure requires the County coroner be contacted and, if the remains are determined to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission be contacted to assign a Most Likely Descendant.

**If applicable, describe any of the project’s areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.**

N/A

**Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.**

US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Cal OSHA, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Merced County, Stanislaus County