

## **3.2.9 Socioeconomic Resources**

### **3.2.9.1 Overview**

In addition to this introductory information, this section is divided into four subsections. Sections 3.2.9.2 through 3.2.9.4 describe socioeconomic conditions in Placer, Yuba and Nevada counties, respectively, the counties in which the Project is located. Each section describes population patterns, towns and cities, population density and housing, household income, ethnicity, education, labor force, and industry. Section 3.2.9.5 describes known or potential Project effects on socioeconomic resources.

SSWD prepared this section based on its collection of existing, relevant and reasonably available information on socioeconomic resources. Specifically, SSWD found 12 source documents regarding socioeconomic resources. These are listed below and cited throughout this section:

- CDOF 2012
- CDOF 2015
- EDD 2013
- EDD 2015a
- EDD 2015b
- Placer County 2014c
- Placer County 2015b
- U.S. Census Bureau 1990a
- U.S. Census Bureau 1990b
- U.S. Census Bureau 2010
- U.S. Census Bureau 2013
- U.S. Census Bureau 2015

### **3.2.9.2 Placer County**

#### **3.2.9.2.1 Population Size**

The 2000 census indicates the population of Placer County is 348,432. Placer County has a population density of 247.6 persons per square mi. Placer County's annual percent change in population has averaged roughly 6.7 percent, which is higher than the average of 4.2 percent population increase experienced in the state of California since 2010 (U.S Census Bureau 2015). The California Department of Finance has forecast that by the year 2020,<sup>1</sup> Placer County's population will reach close to 396,203 residents (CDOF 2015).

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<sup>1</sup> Year based on available projected information when PAD is filed.

### 3.2.9.2.2 Towns and Cities

Incorporated in 1851, the City of Auburn is the county seat of Placer County and is located at an elevation of 1,300 ft on Interstate 80. Placer County is relatively rural, with the majority of the county population residing in the greater Roseville and Auburn areas. Besides Auburn, Placer County contains five other incorporated cities: 1) Colfax; 2) Lincoln; 3) Roseville; 4) Rocklin; and 5) Loomis. The nearest major population center outside the county is Sacramento, located about 32 mi to the south and west. The closest major population center in the county, Auburn, is approximately 26.5 mi from the Project.

### 3.2.9.2.3 Population Density and Housing Distribution

With a population of 348,432 residences, a total of 155,873 housing units, and a land area of 1,407.01 sq mi, Placer County has 247.6 residents per sq mi and 110.8 housing units per sq mi. From 1990 to 2000 and 2000 to 2010, the population of Placer County increased by 43.8 and 40.3 percent, respectively. During those two same periods, the number of housing units also increased at 37.8 and 45.3 percent, respectively. From 1970 to 2010, Placer County has experienced a population and housing unit increase of greater than 400 percent (U.S. Census Bureau 2010, CDOF 2012) (Table 3.2.9-1).

**Table 3.2.9-1. Summary of Placer County population and housing units, 1970 - 2010.**

Placer County	2010	2000	1990	1980	1970
Population	348,432	248,399	172,796	177,247	77,306
Housing Units	155,873	107,302	77,879	54,014	30,441

Source: CDOF 2012, U.S. Census Bureau 1990

While not directly stated in Table 3.2.9-2, the greatest number of individuals in Placer County falls between the age of 18 and 65. The age groups within the county have a similar distribution as the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-2. Summary of population by age in Placer County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Age	Placer County	California
Population under 5 years old	20,851	2,531,133
Persons under 5 years old, percent	5.6%	6.5%
Persons under 18 years old	72,888	7,920,709
Persons under 18 years old, percent	23.3%	23.9%
Persons 65 years old and over	53,562	3,479,543
Persons 65 years old and over, percent	17.2%	12.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

### 3.2.9.2.4 Households/Family Distribution and Income

Table 3.2.9-3 summarizes household units (i.e., number of units and net change for a given period of time), homeownership rate, median home value, income and poverty for Placer County. County data are also compared to the same data available for the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-3. Summary of household units and income in Placer County and the State of California.**

Household Information	Placer County	California
Housing units, 2013	155,873	13,790,495
Homeownership rate, 2009-2013	70.6%	55.3%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2009-2013	\$342,000	\$366,400
Households, 2009-2013	132,709	12,542,460
Persons per household, 2009-2013	2.66	2.94
Median household income, 2009-2013	\$72,725	\$61,094
Per capita income, 2013	\$34,886	\$29,527
Persons below poverty, percent, 2009-2013	8.7%	15.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015

### 3.2.9.2.5 Ethnicity

When compared to the State of California, Placer County is relatively homogeneous with respect to ethnic diversity. The county is predominantly White, with persons of Hispanic or Latino origin the second largest group. Table 3.2.9-4 provides a summary of population by race for Placer County and the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-4. Summary of population by gender and race in Placer County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Gender/Race	Placer County	California
Female persons	182,215	18,932,713
Female persons, percent	51.2%	50.3%
White persons <sup>1</sup>	299,557	23,467,167
White persons, percent <sup>1</sup>	84.2%	62.3%
Black or African American persons <sup>1</sup>	4,317	2,255,372
Black or African American persons, percent <sup>1</sup>	1.2%	6.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons <sup>1</sup>	2,470	286,397
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent <sup>1</sup>	0.7%	0.8%
Asian persons <sup>1</sup>	22,356	5,005,635
Asian persons, percent <sup>1</sup>	0.7%	13.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons <sup>1</sup>	2,234	146,290
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent <sup>1</sup>	0.6%	0.4%
Persons reporting some other race <sup>1</sup>	13,892	4,870,961
Persons reporting some other race, percent <sup>a1</sup>	3.9%	12.9%
Persons reporting two or more races	15,310	1,627,359
Persons reporting two or more races, percent	4.3%	4.3%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin <sup>2</sup>	46,425	14,270,345
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent <sup>2</sup>	13.0%	37.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons reporting only one race.

<sup>2</sup> Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

### 3.2.9.2.6 Education

A total of 93.6 percent of Placer County's population is educated through high school, with 35.1 percent of the population having obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher. When compared to the State of California, Placer County has a higher percentage of high school graduates and individuals who have received a Bachelor's degree or higher (U.S. Census Bureau 2015).

### 3.2.9.2.7 Labor Force

Placer County’s settlements and their economies were based initially on the discovery of gold in the middle 1800s. Today, Placer County has a diverse economic base and labor force that includes construction, mining, manufacturing, transportation, utilities, trade, finance, insurance, real estate services, and government. According to the California Employment Development Department (EDD), the annual average unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in Placer County during 2015, which is less than the State of California’s average of 6.4 percent (EDD 2015a).

Based on average monthly labor statistics from the EDD, Placer County’s unemployment dropped to 5.2 percent during December 2014, reaching the lowest point since 2007. This rate was the twelfth lowest among California, which was 6.7 percent (Placer County 2015b).

### 3.2.9.2.8 Industry

In 2014, the following sectors were the largest employers in Placer County as shown in Table 3.2.9-5: 1) Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities (20.9%); 2) Education and Healthcare Services (15.5%); and 3) Government (14.2%). These industries combined make up almost half of Placer County’s economy (Placer County 2014c).

**Table 3.2.9-5. Summary of industry statistics for Placer County, 2014.**

Industry	Placer County	
	Number of Employees	Percent
Agriculture	400	0.3%
Construction	8,400	6.4%
Manufacturing	6,300	4.8%
Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities	27,500	20.9%
Information	2,300	1.7%
Financial Activities	10,200	7.7%
Professional & Business Services	13,900	10.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	18,700	14.2%
Education and Healthcare Services	20,400	15.5%
Other Services	5,000	3.8%
Government	18,700	14.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,800</b>	<b>100%</b>

Sources: Placer County 2014c

## 3.2.9.3 Yuba County

### 3.2.9.3.1 Population Size

The population of Yuba County was 72,155 in 2000. Yuba County’s population annual growth is approximately 2.5 percent, which is lower than the average of 4.2 percent population increase experienced in the State of California since 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau 2015). The California Department of Finance has forecasted that by the year 2020,<sup>2</sup> Yuba County’s population will reach close to 81,467 residents (CDOF 2015).

<sup>2</sup> Year based on available projected information when PAD is filed.

### 3.2.9.3.2 Towns and Cities

The city of Marysville is the county seat of Yuba County. Marysville is the largest community in the county with a population of 12,072 in 2010. The nearest major population center outside the area is Sacramento, located about 40 mi to the south. The nearest major population center in the county, Yuba City, is approximately 26 mi from the Project.

### 3.2.9.3.3 Population Density and Housing Distribution

With 72,155 residents, 27,750 housing units, and a land area of 631.84 sq mi, Yuba County has 114.2 residents and 43.9 housing units per sq mi. From 1990 to 2000 and from 2000 to 2010, the population of Yuba County increased by 3.4, and 19.8 percent, respectively. During these two periods, the number of housing units also increased at 6.5 percent and 22.6 percent, respectively. From 1970 to 2010, Yuba County experienced a housing unit increase of approximately 96.3 percent (U.S. Census Bureau 2015, 1990).

**Table 3.2.9-6. Summary of Yuba County population and housing units, 1970-2010.**

Yuba County	2010	2000	1990	1980	1970
Population	72,155	60,219	58,228	49,733	44,736
Housing Units	27,750	22,636	21,245	19,128	14,135

Source: CDOF 2012

As shown in Table 3.2.9-7, most of the Yuba County population (54,966, or 76.2%) is between the ages of 18 and 65. Age groups within the county have similar distributions to the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-7. Summary of Yuba County by age group in Yuba County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Age	Yuba County	California
Persons under 5 years old	6,217	2,531,133
Persons under 5 years old, percent	8.6%	6.5%
Persons under 18 years old	16,885	7,920,709
Persons under 18 years old, percent	23.4%	23.9%
Persons 65 years old and over	304	3,479,543
Persons 65 years old and over, percent	0.4%	12.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

### 3.2.9.3.4 Households/Family Distribution and Income

Table 3.2.9-8 summarizes household units (i.e., number of units, net change for a given period, and percent change for a given period), homeownership rate, median home value, income, and poverty for Yuba County. County data are also compared to the same data available for the state of California.

**Table 3.2.9-8. Summary of household units and income in Yuba County and the State of California.**

Household Information	Yuba County	California
Housing units, 2013	27,750	18,932,713
Homeownership rate, 2009-2013	59.1%	55.3%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2009-2013	\$171,000	\$366,400

**Table 3.2.9-8. (continued)**

Household Information	Yuba County	California
Households, 2009-2013	24,300	12,542,460
Persons per household, 2009-2013	2.93	2.94
Median household income, 2009-2013	\$44,902	\$61,904
Per capita income, 2013	\$19,244	\$29,527
Persons below poverty, percent, 2009-2013	21.6%	15.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015

### 3.2.9.3.5 Ethnicity

Yuba County is generally less ethnically diverse than the state of California. The county is predominantly White, with persons of Hispanic or Latino origin being the second largest group. Table 3.2.9-9 provides a summary of population by race for Yuba County and the State of California for the year 2000.

**Table 3.2.9-9. Summary of population by gender and race in Yuba County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Gender/Race	Yuba County	California
Female persons	2,598	18,932,713
Female persons, percent	10.7%	50.3%
White persons <sup>1</sup>	49,332	23,467,167
White persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	68.4%	62.3%
Black or African American persons <sup>1</sup>	2,361	2,255,372
Black or African American persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	3.3%	6.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons <sup>1</sup>	1,675	286,397
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	2.3%	0.8%
Asian persons <sup>1</sup>	461	5,005,635
Asian persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	6.7%	13.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons <sup>1</sup>	293	146,290
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	0.4%	0.4%
Persons reporting some other race <sup>1</sup>	8,545	4,870,961
Persons reporting some other race, <sup>1</sup> percent	11.8%	12.9%
Persons reporting two or more races	5,087	1,627,359
Persons reporting two or more races, percent	7.1%	4.3%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin <sup>2</sup>	18,051	14,270,345
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, <sup>2</sup> percent	21.9%	37.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons reporting only one race.

<sup>2</sup> Hispanics may be of any race; therefore, Hispanics are also included in applicable race categories.

### 3.2.9.3.6 Education

A total of 79 percent of Yuba County's population is educated through high school with 13.7 percent of the population having obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher. When compared to the State of California, Yuba County has lower percentages of high school graduates and individuals with a Bachelor's degree or higher (U.S. Census Bureau 2015).

### 3.2.9.3.7 Labor Force

Initially, all of Yuba County's settlements and economy were based on the discovery of gold in the middle 1800s. Today, Yuba County has a diverse economic base and labor force that

includes agriculture, mining, manufacturing, transportation, utilities, trade, finance, insurance, real estate services, and government. According to the EDD, the annual average unemployment rate for Yuba County in 2015 was about 8.7 percent, which is higher than the State of California’s average of 6.4 percent (EDD 2015b).

### 3.2.9.3.8 Industry

Yuba County is located at the northern end of California’s famed Mother Lode, which shaped the region’s economy in the mid-to late 1800s. Since the end of the California gold rush, the economic base has grown to include timber and tourism, with mining playing a greatly reduced role in the county’s economic viability. In 2014, the largest employment sectors in Yuba County were: 1) Government (37.9%); 2) Education and Health Services (18.9%); and 3) Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities (14.4%) (EDD 2015b). The Government sector had the greatest earnings for the county (Table 3.2.9-10).

**Table 3.2.9-10. Summary of industry statistics for Yuba County, 2014.**

Industry	Yuba County	
	Number of Employees	Percent
Mining, Logging and Construction	600	3.9%
Manufacturing	600	3.9%
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	2,200	14.4%
Information Services	200	1.3%
Financial Activities	300	2.0%
Professional and Business Services	900	5.9%
Education and Health Services	2,900	18.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	1,500	9.8%
Other Services	300	2.0%
Government (Federal, State and Local)	5,800	37.9%

Source: EDD 2015b

### 3.2.9.4 Nevada County

#### 3.2.9.4.1 Population Size

The population of Nevada County was 98,764 in 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau 2015). Between 2000 and 2010, Nevada County’s population grew by approximately 7.3 percent, which was lower than the 10.0 percent population increase experienced in the State of California for the same period (CDOF 2015).

#### 3.2.9.4.2 Towns and Cities

Nevada County is a rural county. There are three towns in Nevada County with populations over 3,000: Truckee, Grass Valley and Nevada City. Truckee had a population of 16,180 in 2010 and 16,165 in 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau 2015), a decrease of 0.9 percent. Grass Valley had a population of 12,860 in 2010 and 12,793 in 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau 2015), a decrease of 0.5 percent. Nevada City had a population of 3,068 in 2010 and 3,065 in 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau 2013), essentially no change. Major population centers around Nevada County are Sacramento, which is 56 mi southwest of Grass Valley; and Reno, Nevada, which is 32 mi northeast of Truckee. The nearest population center in the county, Grass Valley, is approximately 26 mi from the Project.

### 3.2.9.4.3 Population Density and Housing Distribution

With a population of 98,764 residents, 52,590 housing units, and a land area of 957,77 sq mi, Nevada County had 103.1 residents and 54.9 housing units per sq mi in 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau 2015). From 1990 to 2000 and from 2000 to 2010, the population of Nevada County increased by 26 percent, and decreased 0.16 percent respectively. During those same periods, the number of housing units increased at a rate of 18.6 percent and 18.8 percent, respectively (Table 3.2.9-11). (CDOF 2012, U.S. Census Bureau 1990.)

**Table 3.2.9-11. Summary of Nevada County population and housing units, 1970-2010.**

Nevada County	2010	2000	1990	1980	1970
Population	98,764	98,938	78,510	51,645	26,346
Housing Units	52,590	44,282	37,352	24,759	11,960

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990, CDOF 2012

Table 3.2.9-12 shows that most (58,386, or 59.1%) of the Nevada County population falls between the ages of 18 and 65. Nevada County's population is a bit older than that of the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-12. Summary of population by age group in Nevada County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Age	Nevada County	California
Population under 5 years old	4,365	2,531,133
Persons under 5 years old, percent	4.4%	6.5%
Persons under 18 years old	16,839	7,920,709
Persons under 18 years old, percent	17.1%	23.9%
Persons 65 years old and over	19,174	3,479,543
Persons 65 years old and over, percent	19.4%	12.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

### 3.2.9.4.4 Households/Family Distribution and Income

Table 3.2.9-13 summarizes household units (i.e., number of units, net change for a given period, and percent change for a given period), homeownership rate, median home value, income, and poverty for Nevada County. County data are comparable to that for the State of California.

**Table 3.2.9-13. Summary of household units, homeownership, home value, and income in Nevada County and the State of California.**

Household Information	Nevada County	California
Housing units, 2013	52,787	13,790,495
Homeownership rate, 2009-2013, percent	72.6%	55.3%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2009-2013	\$357,300	\$366,400
Households, 2009-2013	40,991	12,542,460
Persons per household, 2009-2013	2.38	2.94
Median household income, 2009-2013	\$57,353	\$61,094
Per capita income, 2009-2013	\$32,346	\$29,527
Persons below poverty, 2009-2013, percent,	12.0%	15.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015



### 3.2.9.4.5 Ethnicity

When compared to the State of California, Nevada County is relatively homogeneous with respect to ethnic diversity. The County is predominantly White, with persons of Hispanic or Latino origin being the second largest group. Table 3.2.9-14 provides a summary of population by race for Nevada County and the State of California for the year 2010.

**Table 3.2.9-14. Summary of population by gender and race in Nevada County and the State of California, 2010.**

Population: Gender/Race	Nevada County	California
Female persons	49,929	18,932,713
Female persons, percent	50.6%	50.3%
White persons <sup>1</sup>	90,233	23,467,167
White persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	91.4%	62.3%
Black or African American persons <sup>1</sup>	389	2,255,372
Black or African American persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	0.4%	6.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons <sup>1</sup>	1,044	286,397
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	1.1%	0.8%
Asian persons <sup>1</sup>	1,187	5,005,635
Asian persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	1.2%	13.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons <sup>1</sup>	14	146,290
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons, <sup>1</sup> percent	<1.0%	0.4%
Persons reporting some other race <sup>1</sup>	122	4,870,961
Persons reporting some other race, <sup>1</sup> percent	0.1%	12.9%
Persons reporting two or more races	2,379	1,627,359
Persons reporting two or more races, percent	2.4%	4.3%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin <sup>2</sup>	4,756	14,270,345
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, <sup>2</sup> percent	4.8%	37.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons reporting only one race.

<sup>2</sup> Hispanics may be of any race; therefore, Hispanics are also included in applicable race categories.

### 3.2.9.4.6 Education

A total of 94.3 percent of Nevada County’s population is educated through high school with 32.3 percent of the population having obtained a Bachelor’s degree or higher. When compared to the State of California, Nevada County has a higher percentage of both high school graduates and individuals with a Bachelor’s degree or higher. (U.S. Census Bureau 2015.)

### 3.2.9.4.7 Labor Force

Initially, all of Nevada County’s settlements and economy were based on the discovery of gold in the mid-1800s. Today, the county has a small, yet diverse, economic base and labor force that includes construction, mining, manufacturing, transportation, utilities, trade, finance, insurance, real estate services and government. According to the EDD, the annual average unemployment rate was 9.4 percent for Nevada County during 2012 (EDD 2013). Comparatively, the average unemployment rates for 2005 and 2009 were, respectively, about 4.8 percent and 10.5 percent (EDD 2013). These rates are comparable than those for the State of California, which had an approximately 5 percent unemployment rate for the year 2005, 11 percent for the year 2009, and 10 percent for 2012 (EDD 2013).

### 3.2.9.4.8 Industry

Table 3.2.9-15 shows that in 2012, the largest employment sectors in Nevada County were: 1) Government (22.1%); 2) Education and Health Services (16.5%); and 3) Leisure and Hospitality (15.1%) (EDD 2015a).

**Table 3.2.9-15. Summary of industry statistics for Nevada County, March 2015.**

Industry	Number of Employees	Percent
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,868	9.1%
Manufacturing	1,430	4.5%
Wholesale Trade	370	1.1%
Retail Trade	3,800	12.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	460	1.5%
Information	290	0.9%
Financial Activities	1,340	4.3%
Professional and Business Services	23,150	6.9%
Education and Health Services	5,160	16.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,730	15.1%
Other Services	1,730	5.5%
Government	6,940	22.1%

Source: EDD 2015a

### 3.2.9.5 Project-Specific Information

#### 3.2.9.5.1 Staffing

SSWD is headquartered in Trowbridge, California and has nine full-time employees, two of which work directly on the Project on a day-to-day basis, and are dispatched from Trowbridge.

#### 3.2.9.5.2 Annual Fees

SSWD pays almost \$100,000 each year to federal, State, and local governments for Project-related support services. Table 3.2.9-16 provides a list of these annual fees.

**Table 3.2.9-16. Federal, State, and local agencies Licensee pays annually for Project-related services.**

Agency	Description	Approximate Annual Payment
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Administration	\$8,555
United States Geological Survey	Stream Gaging	\$3,800
California Division of Safety of Dams	Dam Safety	\$31,196
California Department of Water Resources	Water Rights	\$27,730
California State Water Resources Control Board	Annual Fees	\$1,996
Regional Water Quality Control Board	Reservoir	\$22,393
Penn Valley Fire Department	Fire	\$35
Nevada County	Property Tax	\$1,792
Placer County	Property Tax	\$1,730
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$99,227</b>

### **3.2.9.6 Known or Potential Project Effects**

Provided below is a list of known or potential Project effects on socioeconomics. The list was developed based on responses to SSWD's PAD Information Questionnaire and SSWD's current understanding of the issues.

- From Responses to SSWD's PAD Information Questionnaire:
  - Respondents to SSWD's Questionnaire did not identify any specific known or potential effects of the Project on socioeconomics.
- From SSWD:
  - Effects of Project on local infrastructure, including law enforcement and fire protection, if SSWD proposes significant additions to the Project.

### **3.2.9.7 List of Attachments**

There are no attachments to this section.

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