3.2.10 Cultural Resources

3.2.10.1 Overview

In addition to this introductory information, this cultural resources[1] section is divided into three subsections. Section 3.2.10.2 provides SSWD's records search results and findings of known cultural resources and investigations in the Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area.[2] Section 3.2.10.3 provides an overview of the prehistoric, ethnohistoric/ethnographic, and historic settings for the Project Area. Section 3.2.10.4 describes known or potential Project effects on cultural resources.

SSWD prepared this section based on its collection of existing, relevant and reasonably available information on cultural resources. Specifically, SSWD used several sources regarding cultural resources. These are listed throughout this section.

An important concept in the section is the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The APE is "*...the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historical properties, if any such properties exist*" (36 C.F.R. § 800.16[d]). Geographic areas within the APE need not be contiguous, but rather reflect one or more locations where Project-related activities may affect a historic property.[3] Under 36 C.F.R. Section 800.4(a)(1), the APE must be delineated and documented prior to the Historic Properties identification stage in consultation with SHPO. Accordingly, SSWD has initially identified the APE for this relicensing as all lands within the existing FERC Project Boundary. SSWD may revise the APE, in consultation with SHPO, as the relicensing proceeds and more information is known regarding potential Project effects on cultural resources.

3.2.10.2 Background Research

A records search and archival research were performed at State of California repositories to gather relevant and reasonably available information regarding cultural resources in the Initial Data Gathering Area. This information included previously recorded cultural resources; potential historic resources not previously recorded; and documented cultural studies. In addition to identifying cultural resources and previous studies in the Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area, this research obtained background information pertinent to understanding the prehistoric, historic, and ethnohistoric/ethnographic contexts for the Project Area. The record search was conducted during June and July 2015 at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at California State University, Sacramento (CSU, Sacramento).

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[1] For the purpose of this PAD, "*cultural resource*" refers to any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object, regardless of its NRHP eligibility.

[2] For the purpose of this PAD, the "*Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area*" refers to all lands within the existing FERC Project Boundary plus an additional 0.25-mi radius around the boundary. This area was included in the cultural literature review and records searches for PAD.

[3] For the purpose of this PAD, "*historic property*" refers to any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, or TCP included in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP [36 C.F.R. § 800.16(1)].

The records search and archival research included reviews of: 1) cultural resources records and site location maps; 2) various historic maps; 3) an up-to-date list of NRHP-listed properties; 4) the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR); 5) the Office of Historic Preservation Historic Property Directories for Yuba, Nevada, and Placer counties; 6) 1992 California Points of Historical Interest; 7) 1996 California State Historic landmarks; 8) 1976 California Inventory of Historic Resources; and 9) the Caltrans Bridge Inventory.

3.2.10.2.1 Previously Recorded Resources

SSWD identified 93 previously recorded cultural resources within the Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area. Of these, 76 were within the APE: 36 archaeological sites; 2 historic structures–Camp Far West Dam (P-31-005743) and the Camp Far West Spillway Bridge (P-58-002624); and 38 isolated finds.[4] The 36 archaeological sites consist of 23 prehistoric sites, 9 historic period sites, and 4 multi-component. The 93 previously recorded cultural resources within the Initial Cultural Data Gathering and the 76 cultural resources and the two historic structures are listed in Table 3.2.10-1.

Table 3.2.10-1. Previously recorded archaeological sites and historic structures within the Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area.

Count	Primary No.	Trinomial	Recorder / Date	Site Type	Brief Description	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
1	P-29-000165*	CA-NEV-107/H	Wood / 1970; Williams et al. / 1985	P	BRMs (x10) with 114 individual mortar cups, housepits (x5), two midden deposits, lithic scatter with flaked battered, and ground stone artifacts, fire-cracked rock, burnt faunal remains, human bone observed in 1970; 1880s homestead remains with historic structure pad, possible beehive oven, bottle glass, and a recent standing structure with associated corral. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
2	P-29-000543	CA-NEV-485H	Storm et al. / 1979/ Williams et al. / 1985	H[1]	Placer mining site with an intermittent ground sluice/ditch and rock dams/retaining walls (x3) along a seasonal drainage. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
3	P-29-002893*	CA-NEV-1790	Jensen / 1992	P/H	BRMs[2] (x10), housepit depressions (x3), lithic debitage scatter, probable midden, possible historic rock wall segment. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
4	P-29-002913*	N/A	Gallez and Lang / 1979	P	BRMs (x4). No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
5	P-29-002915	N/A[3]	Smith and Storm / 1979	H	Mining site with 14 mining pits and test pits. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
6	P-29-002917	N/A	Storm / 1979	H	Placer mining site with cut channel, test pits (x4), and stacked waste rock retainer walls. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
7	P-29-002921*	N/A	Noel and Storm / 1979	P	Housepit depressions (x5) and midden soils. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
8	P-29-002922*	N/A	Storm / 1979	H	Mining site with tailings, earthen dam, and a collapsed structure with tin sheet roofing. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated

[4] Isolated finds or 'isolates' consist of a grouping of no more than two artifacts.

Table 3.2.10-1. (continued)

Count	Primary No.	Trinomial	Recorder / Date	Site Type	Brief Description	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
9	P-29-002923*	N/A	Smith et al. / 1979	P	Housepit depressions (x5) and midden soils. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
10	P-29-004459	CA-NEV-2190	Natoli / 2013	P[4]	Bedrock mortars (x7) with 30+ more submerged; no author recommendation indicated; mostly inundated	Eligible
11	P-29-004460	CA-NEV-2191	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter of 25 flaked, battered, and ground stone artifacts; no author recommendation indicated	Not Eligible
12	P-29-004461	CA-NEV-2192	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter of 14 flaked and battered stone artifacts; no author recommendation indicated	Not Eligible
13	P-31-000664*	CA-PLA-538	Syda et al. / 1985	P	BRMs (x2) and one piece of fire-cracked rock. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
14	P-31-005743	N/A	Mead & Hunt / 2013	H	Camp Far West Dam, constructed in 1964; recommended not eligible for listing on the National and California Registers	Not Eligible
15	P-31-005744	CA-PLA-1179/H	Natoli / 2015	P/H[5]	BRMs (x2), lithic scatter; historic hard rock Dairy Farm Mine – 12 mining features (prospect pits, tailings, mine shaft, rock retaining wall, concrete foundations, concrete pads, and concrete pedestals), five historic artifact concentrations; no author recommendation indicated.	Eligible (only the prehistoric component)
16	P-31-005745	CA-PLA-1180/H	Natoli / 2013	P/H	Lithic scatter with 10 flaked and battered stone artifacts; waste rock pile, depressions (x2); no author recommendations indicated.	Not Eligible
17	P-31-005746	CA-PLA-1876/H	Natoli / 2013	P/H	Lithic scatter with 9 flaked and ground stone artifacts; fragment of SCA glass; no author recommendations indicated.	Not Eligible
18	P-31-005747	CA-PLA-1886/H	Natoli / 2013	P/H	Lithic scatter with 9 flaked stone artifacts; concrete foundation, historic glass and ceramic scatter (36 artifacts); no author recommendations indicated.	Not Eligible
19	P-31-005748	CA-PLA-1887	Natoli / 2013	P	BRM (x1); no author recommendations indicated.	Eligible
20	P-31-005749	CA-PLA-1888	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 37 flaked and ground stone artifacts. No author recommendations indicated.	Not Eligible
21	P-58-001001*	CA-YUB-983	Noel and Storm / 1979	P	BRMs (x2) with no associated artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
22	P-58-001002*	CA-YUB-984	Noel and Storm / 1979	P	BRMs (x2) with no associated artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
23	P-58-001003*	CA-YUB-985	Storm / 1979	P	BRMs (x4) with no associated artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
24	P-58-001004*	CA-YUB-986	Smith and Storm / 1979	P	BRMs (x3) with no associated artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
25	P-58-001018*	CA-YUB-1000H	Noel and Storm / 1979	H	Earthen holding reservoir/dike bisected by Camp Far West Road. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
26	P-58-001019*	CA-YUB-1001H	Storm / 1979	H	Two canal/ditch alignments. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
27	P-58-001023*	CA-YUB-1005H	Storm and Noel / 1979	H	Two parallel canal/ditch alignments, likely associated with placer mining. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
28	P-58-001024	CA-YUB-1006H	Smith and Storm / 1979	H	Possible homestead site dating to c. 1890-1910 with a dump with glass, ceramic, and metal artifacts, and a short canal segment. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
29	P-58-001025*	CA-YUB-1007H	Noel and Storm / 1979	H	Historic cabin site with barbed wire fence alignments (x2), a short canal segment, domestic locust trees, clay sewer pipe fragments, buried metal pipe fragments	Not Evaluated

Table 3.2.10-1. (continued)

Count	Primary No.	Trinomial	Recorder / Date	Site Type	Brief Description	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
30	P-58-001032	CA-YUB-1014H	Storm and Freeman / 1979	H	Mining site with numerous excavated areas and associated waste rock piles along a drainage. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
31	P-58-001039*	CA-YUB-1021H	Storm and Vesely / 1979	H	Mining site with waste rock piles (x80), a small earthen dam, and two canal segments. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
32	P-58-001043*	CA-YUB-1025H	Storm et al. / 1979	H	Military target practice area with earthen embankments (x2), earthen berms (x25), probable control station, cement bunkers (x5), roadbeds (x13) electrical power poles, electrical wires and insulators, barbed wire fence, dug-out areas, electrical conduit, wooden posts, target pullies (x5), shrapnel and assorted metal, and shell casings and bullet fragments. Also includes Mather Air Force Base Bombing Range No. 1, in use from c. 1948-1957. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
33	P-58-001235	CA-YUB-1216	Stoll et al. / 1960	P	Prehistoric habitation site with midden, cremated human remains, pestle, shell and trade beads, Martis and desert-side notched projectile points, and obsidian flakes. Inundated by reservoir. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Evaluated
34	P-58-002570	N/A	Unknown	H	Overland Emigrant Trail – portions are now McCourtney Road	Eligible
35	P-58-002624	N/A	JRP Consulting / 2003; 2013	H	Camp Far West Spillway Bridge – constructed in 1916 and relocated to present location in 1967. Determined not eligible for listing on the National and California Registers.	Not Eligible
36	P-58-002868	CA-YUB-1812H	Natoli / 2013	H	Historic artifact scatter dating to c. 1867 – 1920, including ceramic, glass, and metal domestic refuse, and one isolated chert flake. Possibility of depth. No author recommendations indicated.	Not Evaluated
37	P-58-002872	CA-YUB-1813	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 73 flaked and ground stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
38	P-58-002873	CA-YUB-1814	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 21 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
39	P-58-002874	CA-YUB-1815	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 25 flaked and battered stone artifacts in two concentrations. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
40	P-58-002875	CA-YUB-1816	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 7 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
41	P-58-002876	CA-YUB-1817	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 16 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
42	P-58-002877	CA-YUB-1818	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with nine flaked stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
43	P-58-002878	CA-YUB-1819	Natoli/2013	H	Mining site with three prospect pits and glass scatter. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
44	P-58-002879	CA-YUB-1820H	Natoli / 2013	H	Mining site with one prospect pit and waste rock pile. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
45	P-58-002880	CA-YUB-1821H	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 18 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible

Table 3.2.10-1. (continued)

Count	Primary No.	Trinomial	Recorder / Date	Site Type	Brief Description	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
46	P-58-002881	CA-YUB-1822	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 30 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
47	P-58-002882	CA-YUB-1823	Natoli / 2013	P	BRM (x1) and lithic scatter with 25 flaked and ground stone artifacts including a Martis corner-notched projectile point. No author recommendation indicated.	Eligible
48	P-58-002883	CA-YUB-1824	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 26 flaked, battered, and ground stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
49	P-58-002884	CA-YUB-1825	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with seven flaked stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
50	P-58-002885	CA-YUB-1826	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 25 flaked, battered, and ground stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
51	P-58-002886	CA-YUB-1827	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 21 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
52	P-58-002887	CA-YUB-1828	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 12 flaked, battered, and ground stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
53	P-58-002888	CA-YUB-1829	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with seven flaked stone artifacts. No author recommendation indicated.	Not Eligible
54	P-58-002889	CA-YUB-1830	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with at least 1000 flaked, ground, and battered stone artifacts. Dates to Late Middle Archaic based on 4 Martis and Sierra Contracting Stem project points. Site has possibility of depth and data potential.	Eligible
55	P-58-002890	CA-YUB-1831	Natoli / 2013	P	Lithic scatter with 11 flaked and battered stone artifacts. No subsurface depth and no data potential expected.	Not Eligible

* Outside APE
[1] H = Historic
[2] BRM = Bedrock Mortar
[3] N/A = Not Applicable
[4] P = Prehistoric
[5] P/H = Multicomponent (i.e., Prehistoric and Historic)

The 38 isolated finds consist of 35 prehistoric and three historic isolates (Table 3.2.10-2). No isolated finds were identified in the 0.25-mile buffer.

Table 3.2.10-2. Previously recorded isolated finds within the Project APE.

Count	Primary No.	Recorder / Date	Isolate Type	Brief Description
1	P-29-004475	Natoli / 2013	P[1]	Tested basalt cobble
2	P-29-004476	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
3	P-29-004477	Natoli / 2013	P	Rhyolite cobble biface/chopper
4	P-29-004478	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface
5	P-31-005750	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
6	P-31-005751	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
7	P-31-005752	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt multidirectional core
8	P-31-005753	Natoli / 2013	P	Bifacial igneous mano
9	P-31-005754	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface/chopper
10	P-31-005755	Natoli / 2013	P	Sedimentary core flake
11	P-31-005756	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
12	P-31-005757	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface/chopper and basalt tested cobble
13	P-31-005758	Natoli / 2013	P	Igneous cobble uniface

Table 3.2.10-2. (continued)

Count	Primary No.	Recorder / Date	Isolate Type	Brief Description
14	P-31-005759	Natoli / 2013	P	Metamorphic hammerstone
15	P-31-005760	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface/chopper
16	P-31-005761	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt core flake
17	P-31-005762	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface/chopper
18	P-31-005763	Natoli / 2013	P	Igneous cobble uniface
19	P-31-005764	Natoli / 2013	P	Metasedimentary cobble uniface
20	P-31-005765	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt core flake
21	P-58-001542	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
22	P-58-001606	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt unidirectional core
23	P-58-002891	Natoli / 2013	H[2]	Earthenware bowl fragment, possibly Chinese
24	P-58-002892	Natoli / 2013	H	Black/olive green bottle base
25	P-58-002893	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt charm stone fragment and chert core fragment
26	P-58-002894	Natoli / 2013	H	1960 section marker benchmark
27	P-58-002895	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble biface/chopper
28	P-58-002908	Natoli / 2013	P	Igneous core flake and metamorphic core flake
29	P-58-002909	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
30	P-58-002910	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
31	P-58-002911	Natoli / 2013	P	Igneous cobble uniface
32	P-58-002912	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt tested cobble
33	P-58-002913	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt tested cobble
34	P-58-002914	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt core flake
35	P-29-002915	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt cobble uniface
36	P-29-002916	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt core fragment
37	P-29-002917	Natoli / 2013	P	Basalt tested cobble
38	P-58-002918	Natoli / 2013	P	Metamorphic core fragment and igneous mano

[1] P = Prehistoric
[2] H = Historic

The prehistoric sites documented within the APE represent a typical cross-section of Native American occupation in the Project Vicinity prior to the presence of Euro-Americans. The prehistoric sites typically include flaked stone with and without bedrock milling stations, of which the majority appears to represent short-term occupation. However, one prehistoric site (P-58-001235), recorded in 1960, shows evidence of long-term occupation, including midden and cremated human remains. This site is now inundated by Camp Far West Reservoir. Isolated prehistoric artifacts comprise the other category of prehistoric resources, with 35 isolates recorded within the APE primarily consisting of isolated flaked and ground stone artifacts.

The historic-period components recorded within the APE largely represent the mining history typical of the Project Vicinity. Seven sites contain mining-related features, most of which appear to represent short-term placer mining operations. Historic occupation sites are less well represented. Sites P-58-001024 and P-58-002868 consist of large domestic refuse dumps with artifacts dating from the 1890s to 1910, and the 1860s to 1920s, respectively. Multi-component site P-31-005744 also has an occupation component, represented by concrete foundation pads and artifact concentrations. The Overland Emigrant Trail (P-58-002570) was also identified in the APE, which was used by emigrants traveling overland to California from the eastern U.S.

Of the 36 archaeological sites, 26 have been evaluated as ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP, 6 have been evaluated as eligible for the NRHP, and 4 have not been evaluated. The 38 isolated finds do not, in and by themselves, provide enough data relevant to understanding past events,

and therefore, do not meet any of the criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. They are considered ineligible.

Two built environment resources were found within the APE. The Camp Far West Dam (P-31-005743) was constructed in 1964. The Camp Far West Spillway Bridge (P-58-002624) was constructed in 1916, and was moved to its current location in 1967. Mead and Hunt (2013) evaluated the Camp Far West Dam as ineligible for inclusion in the CRHR and the NRHP. The eligibility status of the dam is pending SHPO concurrence. The Camp Far West Spillway Bridge was previously documented and evaluated as not eligible for listing in the CRHR or the NRHP in 2004 by Caltrans.

3.2.10.2.2 Potential Historic Sites

A review of historical 1:24,000 USGS topographic quadrangles, DOI, Bureau of Land Management General Land Office (GLO) plots, and other historic maps of the area, indicates there are approximately 53 potential historic-era sites or features within the APE, however, it is likely that a few sites may be referenced more than once on several maps (Table 3.2.10-3). SSWD did not search for historic sites in the 0.25-mile buffer zone. Potential historic-era sites or features include roads, water conveyance and energy transmission features, buildings, and mining features.

Table 3.2.10-3. Potential historic-period sites within the APE.

Historic Map	Site Type	Description	Section, Township & Range
1868 Camp Far West GLO	Bridge	"suspension bridge"	Sec 22, T14N, R6E
1868 Camp Far West GLO	Water Conveyance	Two ditches	Secs 15, 16, T14N, R6E
1868 Camp Far West GLO	Buildings	"McDonald's Flouring Mill", "McCourtney's Hotel" and "barn"	Sec 22, T14N, R6E
1868 Camp Far West GLO	Roads	Marysville Road, Grass Valley Road, "Road to Lincoln", one unnamed road	Secs 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 34, T14N, R6E
1868 Camp Far West GLO	Land Grant	Part of Johnson Rancho, Lot No. 37	Secs 30, 20, 17, T14N, R6E
1888; 1891; 1892; 1894; 1895 Camp Far West GLO 1888 Smartsville 1:125000 topographic quadrangle	Roads	One unnamed road, McCourtney's Crossing	T14N, R6E
1861 Official Map of Yuba County, California	Buildings	"Mr. Donald's Mills" – 4 buildings, "McCourtney" – 1 building, "Graham's Hotel" – 1 building, "Store" – 1 building	T14N, R6E,
1915 Camp Far West (Spenceville) 1:31680 topographic quadrangle	Roads	1 unnamed improved/unimproved dirt road, McCourtney Crossing	T14N, R6E
1915 Camp Far West (Spenceville) 1:31680 topographic quadrangle	Buildings	7 unnamed buildings	T14N, R6E
1949 Wolf 7.5' topographic quadrangle	Buildings	One unnamed building	T14N, R7E
1949 Wolf 7.5' topographic quadrangle	Roads	One unnamed unimproved dirt road	T14N, R7E
1951 Camp Far West 7.5' topographic quadrangle	Transmission line	One transmission line	T14N, R6E
1951 Camp Far West 7.5' topographic quadrangle	Buildings	11 unnamed buildings	T14N, R6E
1951 Camp Far West 7.5' topographic quadrangle	Roads	Camp Beale Highway, McCourtney Road, Unnamed medium-duty road, 2 unnamed improved dirt roads, 10 unnamed unimproved dirt roads	T14N, R6E

Historic period maps often provide a general idea of where resources may be located, but are not necessarily an accurate specific location. Today's maps and mapping standards are not always translatable to the past and plots cannot be taken as exact. Because of the disparity between historic-period maps and modern maps, it is not known if physical attributes associated with the potential sites and features listed in Table 3.2.10-3 are accessible, or if the remains are actually within the APE. As well, the presence of cultural features on an historic map does not confirm that the features still exist. Many historic features, such as town sites, mines and roads often have continued use into present times that may obliterate any historic remains. In addition, historic features can also disappear over time through natural erosion or other weathering processes. Based on the inventory of previously recorded cultural resources in the APE and the 0.25-mi Data Gathering Area, it appears that many of the historic features identified on the historic maps have not been formally recorded as archaeological sites.

3.2.10.2.3 Previous Cultural Studies

Thirteen previous cultural resource investigations were identified within the Initial Cultural Data Gathering Area (Table 3.2.10-4). Twelve of these investigations occurred 10 or more years ago, while one study was prepared for a potential amendment to the current FERC license for the Project (Mead and Hunt 2013). Many of the reports identified in the Data Gathering Area were prepared in support of subdivision development projects.

Table 3.2.10-4. Previous cultural resources investigations within the Project Data Gathering Area.

Author	Date	Title	NCIC Report No.	County	USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle
Del Cioppo, Nicholas	1991	Archaeological Survey of 125.3 Acres for the Marino Lot Split in Nevada County, California	NCIC-1451	Nevada	Wolf
Hope, Andrew and Jessica Feldman	2004	Caltrans Historic Bridges Inventory Update	NCIC-6675	Placer/ Nevada/ Yuba	Camp Far West
Jensen, Sean	1992	Archaeological Inventory Survey of the Whittlesey/Brain Proposed Subdivision Project, c. 153 Acres Adjacent to McCourtney Road	NCIC-8175	Nevada	Camp Far West
Jensen, Peter	1997	Ron Ward Subdivision and Development Project Area, 473-Acres Near Camp Far West Reservoir	NCIC-8176	Nevada	Camp Far West
Jensen, Peter M.	1998	Archaeological Inventory Survey for Auburn Indian Community's Camp Far West Subdivision Project, c. 1100 Acres, Placer County, California	NCIC-774	Placer	Camp Far West
Jensen, Peter	2002	Archaeological Inventory Survey Use Permit Application and Update for the Old Sierra Camp and Rosemary Hawthorne Property Northeast of Camp Far West Reservoir	NCIC-8177	Nevada	Camp Far West
Jensen, Sean	1991	Archaeological Inventory Survey and Site Evaluation for the Proposed Abolmoluki Subdivision Involving c. 224 Acres in Southwest Nevada County	NCIC-8178	Nevada	Camp Far West; Wolf
Johnson, Jerald J.	1972	Archaeological Survey of 73.4 Miles of Nevada Irrigation District Canals and Ditches in Placer and Nevada Counties, California	NCIC-5773	Placer/ Nevada	Auburn; Camp Far West; Chicago Park; Gold Hill; Grass Valley; Lake Combie; Lincoln; Rough and Ready; Wolf
Johnson, Jerald and Judy Tordoff	1988	Garden Bar Dam and Reservoir Water Power South Sutter Water District Project FERC No. 522	NCIC-5013	Placer/ Nevada	Gold Hill; Wolf
Mead & Hunt	2013	Cultural Resources Technical Report: Camp Far West Dam FERC License No. 2997 Amendment (DRAFT)	N/A[1]	Placer/ Nevada/ Yuba	Camp Far West; Wolf
Peak, Ann S. and Associates	1977	Cultural Resource Assessment of the Proposed Sharon Oaks Subdivision, Nevada County, CA	NCIC-224	Nevada	Camp Far West; Wolf; Rough and Ready

Table 3.2.10-4. (continued)

Author	Date	Title	NCIC Report No.	County	USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle
Rolen, Carol	1978	An Intensive Archaeological Survey for Tentative Parcel Maps Numbers 6.60 and 6.67 in Yuba County, California	NCIC-2496	Yuba	Camp Far West
Storm, Donald J.	1979	Archaeological Investigations in Southeast Yuba County Near Camp Far West Reservoir, Bear River	NCIC-445	Yuba	Camp Far West

[1] N/A = Not available

3.2.10.3 Cultural Context

Below is a brief overview of the cultural history for the Project Region, focusing on the Sacramento Valley and the adjacent Sierra foothills. The following cultural context is largely drawn from the *Supplemental Cultural Resources Inventory Report for the Yuba River Development Project Relicensin*g (YCWA 2015), located in Nevada, Yuba, and Sierra counties.

3.2.10.3.1 Prehistoric Context

3.2.10.3.1.1 Late Pleistocene/Younger Dryas/Recess Peak Advance – Paleoindian (15,000 to 10,000 B.P.)

The Clovis culture currently is identified in North America as occurring between approximately 13,500 to 13,000 Before Present (B.P.). The acquisition of date ranges for the Clovis culture from current literature is fraught with confusion due to a plethora of alternative dating schemes and dating methods. This cultural pattern is distinguished by "fluted" projectile points, percussion blades, and other distinctive artifacts. Very few Clovis sites have been identified in North America. The Clovis culture, which is the earliest well-documented cultural expression in the Americas, is linked to the medial part of this time period around 13,500 to 13,000 B.P. No diagnostic Clovis artifacts – which are distinguished by "fluting" of the proximal portion of both faces of projectile points and possibly other tools – have been found in the Project Area. However, a fluted point was found at Lake Almanor, located approximately 150 mi north in Plumas County (Kowta 1988:57). Fluted point fragments and complete specimens – typically isolated – are however, known from scattered locations throughout much of the Sierra Nevada (c.f., Dillon 2002; Moratto et al. 2011; Rondeau et al. 2007; Rondeau and Dougherty 2009). Unfortunately, few are from dated contexts.

3.2.10.3.1.2 Terminal Pleistocene/Initial Holocene (ca. 10,000 B.P.)

The transition between the Pleistocene and Holocene eras was 10,000 B.P. during a climatic warming period that peaked 9,000 years ago. The Holocene represents the latest interglacial event, marked by the retreat of Pleistocene glaciers (West et al. 2007:15-17). Complete glacial retreat had likely occurred in the Sierra Nevada by 12,000 to 13,000 years ago, leading to increased aridity and lower lake levels. Climatic conditions led to a change in the vegetative composition of the area, with incense cedar and oak species dominating the forests previously composed of pines (West et al. 2007:27). Cultural evidence from this era in the Sierra Nevada is scant, but comparatively well-established. Lindstrom et al. (2007:6) note the "Pre-Archaic/Tahoe Reach phase," marked by large stemmed points resembling weapons from the Great Basin from this era, occurred in the Truckee,

California, vicinity. Recently obtained obsidian hydration readings from throughout the Truckee vicinity provide evidence of human occupation during the Late Pleistocene to Early Holocene (Waechter and Bloomer 2009:3-6).

3.2.10.3.1.3 Early Holocene-Late Paleoindian (ca. 10,000 to 8,000 B.P.)

By the Early Holocene, evidence from numerous archaeological sites throughout California show that the state was fully explored by this time and supported a significant population. The regional climate was distinguished by a steady warming and drying trend, or a period of "relative warming" (c.f. Lindstrom et al. 2007). In the Truckee vicinity, the Alder Hill basalt quarry was actively used to procure toolstone. McGuire et al. (2006) recovered Great Basin stemmed points, datable carbon and obsidian that indicate the Alder Hill Quarry was being visited by the Early Holocene for the procurement of toolstone.

Lindstrom et al. (2007:5) also note that at site CA-ELD-180, Great Basin stemmed points were recovered, some of which likely had their origins in the western Sierra foothills, which had been manufactured from a broad range of materials, indicating considerable mobility of at least portions of the human population. In yet other areas, such as the western Sierra foothills in Calaveras County, there is evidence of extremely stable land use. For example, evidence shows continued use of the Skyrocket site over a span of approximately 2,500 years during the Early Holocene (Bieling et al. 1996; La Jeunesse and Pryor 1999). Alluvial deposition increases in the stratigraphic record by around 11,050 B.P., possibly obscuring any cultural deposits that may be present, and contributing to the lack of dated stratigraphic contexts from this time period (Moratto 2004:194; Mead and Hunt 2013:13). However, a mano was recovered from the Auburn, California, area dating to around 9,000 B.P. providing evidence of human occupation of the Central Valley during this period (Johnson and Eddy 1985:32).

3.2.10.3.1.4 Middle Holocene – Early Archaic (ca. 8,000 to 5,000 B.P.)

The Middle Holocene is poorly represented archaeologically throughout California. Lindstrom et al. (2007:8) remark on this issue, speculating that several factors may obscure middle Holocene contexts. Warming conditions arising during the early Holocene evidently continued into the mid-Holocene. Lindstrom et al. (2007) note evidence of a drought period in the northern Sierra, estimated to have lasted approximately 350 years, occurring between about 6,300 and 4,850 B.P. Effects of these changes farther west are not well documented.

Of particular interest during this period is the presence of large rock features dating between 9,400 and 7,000 B.P. consistently used by hunter-gatherers who possibly were central-based foragers focusing upon marsh resources. McGuire (2007:171) notes that Early Archaic deposits may be more difficult to recognize, due to a large degree of variability in local traits and the lack of a single projectile point chronology that can be used to identify temporally diagnostic artifacts. Large projectile points, often re-worked, typify this time period, suggesting subsistence based on large game hunting, with evidence of a diverse exploitation of small-game and aquatic resources in the faunal record (Mead and Hunt 2013:13). Seventy miles across the Central Valley west of the Project Area in the Clear Lake region, mortar and pestles with acorn residue have been identified to at least 7,000 B.P as well as in botanical samples from the nearby Sierra foothills (Arnold and

Walsh 2010: 82). These findings push the well-documented use of seed and acorn subsistence to earlier in the regional record than previously believed.

3.2.10.3.1.5 Late Holocene – Middle Archaic (5,000 to 2,000 B.P.)

The beginning of the Late Holocene is marked by climatic shifts toward a more temperate regime, and is associated with the first well-documented archaeological cultures in central and northern California. In the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region, the Windmiller culture emerged with unique traits, including an unusual mortuary pattern marked by prone interments with crania oriented in a westerly direction (Moratto 2004:201-207). Evidence of characteristic Windmiller extended burials occur throughout the Central Valley, including at the Diablo Range and at Buena Vista Lake, indicating a widespread culture pattern that may not have originated in the delta region (Rosenthal et al. 2007:154). Johnson and Eddy (1985:33) suggest that the Windmiller and Martis complexes may represent different environmental adaptations and/or differential preservation of materials from related Central Valley and Sierra populations. Site CA-ELD-15, a large limestone cave along the Middle Fork American River excavated in the early 1900s, showed evidence of burials exhibiting Windmiller characteristics, while recovered projectile points seemed to typify Martis traits. Martis-affiliated cultural materials are found from high elevation to lower foothill contexts, and may extend to the lower Bear River drainage (Johnson and Eddy 1985:33).

At this time, Sierran basalt was also being used further west in the Central Valley, suggesting an east-west oriented settlement system utilizing lowland and upland resources (McGuire 2007:171-172; Waechter 2002). Less-utilized tool stones included local metamorphic rock, chert, slate, and schist. Several Sierran sites have also yielded obsidian artifacts that have been sourced to a wide range of areas including western Nevada, North Coast Range and Bodie Hills obsidians (Bloomer and Jaffe 2009; Jackson et al. 1994; Markley and Day 1992).

The Martis complex is well-represented near the Project Area at sites such as CA-NEV-15, CA-NEV-67, CA-PLA-6, and CA-SIE-20 (Elsasser 1960). West and north of the Project, the Messilla Complex was defined at three sites in Butte County (Moratto 2004:297-299). Kowta (1988) and Moratto (2004:303), following arguments of earlier investigators (cf., Elsasser 1978; Ritter 1970a, b; Ritter and Matson 1972), including studies for the proposed Auburn Dam and Bullards Bar reflect ancestral Maiduan prehistory.

By Middle Archaic times, people of the north-central Sierra Nevada exhibit clear influences from both the Great Basin and central California. Increased residential stability is indicated by the diversification of subsistence resources available in the valley, including small game, fish, and acorn and pine nuts. Increasing botanical evidence from across the Central Valley has identified acorn use as early as 6,000 B.P and definitely into the Middle Archaic. Identification of long-term storage facilities for the seeds also lends to the idea of increased sedentism for centrally-located groups (Arnold and Walsh 2010: 82). Riverine resources in particular become significant in this period. Ground stone technology is more evident in the archaeological record, in both foothill and valley contexts, while evidence of basketry and pottery also emerges (Rosenthal et al. 2007: 153-154; Mead and Hunt 2013:14). However, associated archaeological remains cannot as yet be reliably attributed to historically-observed ethnographic groups.

3.2.10.3.1.6 Late Holocene – Late Archaic and Emergent (2,000-200 B.P.)

With the Late Archaic, the lack of discernible relations between archaeological complexes and the known material cultures of ethnographic Californian populations end. In the High Sierra, the Martis Complex gave way to the Kings Beach Complex, and in the west closer to the Project Area, analogous changes occur as the Middle Horizon is replaced by the early Augustine Pattern. The archaeological record is marked by an increase and diversification of artifact types. In the Central Valley, important subsistence changes take place, with more reliance on the acorn becoming an increasingly important staple; a process marked by abundant use of bedrock mortars. The bow appears as the preeminent weapon, marked archaeologically by an abrupt reduction in projectile point size and a significant increase in numbers of points. In the high Sierra and foothills, the bow also appears in the Kings Beach Complex, and preferred materials for weapon tips change from basalt to microcrystalline silicate materials, typically taking the form of Rose Spring and Gunther Barbed arrow points (Elston et al. 1977; Kowta 1988; Moratto 2004:302-303; McGuire 2007:174). The Sierra Contracting Stem point is considered a Martis Complex point variant that emerges in the Late Archaic. This type is typically made from local basalt sources, with a wide distribution throughout central California (Justice 2002:277-283).

The Emergent Period marks the clear appearance of historically-encountered ethnographic cultures, like the Nisenan, associated ethnographically with the Project. Permanent villages appear archaeologically during this period, as well as continued use of bedrock mortar acorn processing and arrow points for hunting (Jones 1982; Kowta 1988; Moratto 2004; Arnold and Walsh 2010: 78).

Analogous changes to those in the Sierra are seen in Central Valley populations. The Sweetwater and Shasta cultural complexes become evident in this period in the northern Central Valley, and are associated with large village settlements, semi-subterranean dwellings, increased variation in artifact types seen in burials, use of large hopper mortars, and the appearance of *Haliotis* and *Olivella* shell ornaments (Rosenthal et al. 2007:157-158; Moratto 2004:195). Prehistoric sites from throughout the Central Valley also often contain bedrock mortar features without associated midden deposits, a tendency that has been observed at sites recorded as part of the Marysville Dam and Parks Bar Dam projects in the Parks Bar, Yuba River, and Dry Creek vicinity (Rolen 1978:5).

In addition to the prevalence of bedrock mortar sites connected to food processing activities, petroglyph sites have been recorded near the Project Vicinity, including CA-YUB-994, YUB-995, and YUB-996, described by Storm (1979:9-12). These sites represent “pit and groove” or “pitted boulder” petroglyph types. This style is also known as Central Sierran Petroglyph Style (Heizer and Clewlow 1973), with an estimated age of 3,000 to 500 years old. Payen (1966) describes three styles of the Pit and Groove Tradition, which he presumes to be an older practice dating around 2,000 to 3,000 years in age (Storm 1979:30-31). This style is assumed to be related to religious and ceremonial purposes, possibly related to hunting or to their vicinity to important waterways. Ethnographically, this style is associated with Hokan-speaking groups such as the Pomo and the Shasta. This style has not been ethnographically associated with the Maidu, and thus the pitted boulder petroglyphs recorded in Yuba County and the vicinity may be associated with occupation of the area by older Hokan speaking groups which were later displaced by the Penutian-speaking Maidu. (Storm 1979:32)

3.2.10.3.2 Ethnohistoric Context

The ethnohistory of the Project Area is reflected in the documented traditions of the Nisenan, also known as the Southern Maidu. The Nisenan share a common language family and other traditions with neighboring groups, which are the Koncow (Northwestern Maidu) and Maidu to the northeast. The Bear River – the focus of the APE and immediate environs – are home to the Nisenan. The primary ethnographic sources about the Nisenan include Powers (1877), Faye (1923), Kroeber (1925, 1929), Littlejohn (1928), Gifford (1927), Beals (1933), Voegelin (1942), Uldall and Shipley (1966), Merriam (1966-7), and Wilson (1972). Collectively, these writers describe a hunter-gatherer society organized into the characteristic Californian "tribelet" (sensu Kroeber 1925) and living in small, semi-permanent villages within a more or less specified geographic territory.

3.2.10.3.2.1 Geography and Demography

At the time of the earliest historic contact, the Nisenan occupied a portion of northeastern California that, since Euro-American times, has traditionally been known as the "Gold Country," an area bordering the Sacramento River to the west and the Sierra Nevada to the east. The region includes parts of the modern counties of Yuba, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, and El Dorado. From north to south, their territory encompassed an area from either the North Yuba River or the southern fork of the Feather River down to the Cosumnes River (Wilson and Towne 1978:388; Littlejohn 1928:23). The northern boundary has traditionally been difficult to define because it appears to have been a zone where the Nisenan's northern neighbors, the Konkow, mingled linguistically and culturally with the Nisenan. On the southern bank of the Cosumnes River, lived the eastern branch of the Miwok, while just to the west were the Patwin. Ecologically, Nisenan territory encompassed a region characterized by flat river bottomland along the Sacramento River to the 10,000- and 12,000-ft elevation Sierra Nevada divide. This region experienced dramatic fluctuations in climate and temperature.

Estimates of pre-contact Nisenan population size have been notoriously difficult to define (Beals 1933; Kroeber 1925), as much of their population had been decimated prior to the Twentieth Century. Kroeber (1925) argues for a total pre-contact Maidu population of 9,000, though he admitted the figure was decidedly liberal. However, by the time Kroeber and other ethnographers began to study the Nisenan in the early Twentieth Century, there were only a reported 1,100 Nisenan and those of mixed-Nisenan heritage. This dramatic decline in population was largely the result of events unleashed primarily by the California Gold Rush. The discovery of gold in the lands of the Nisenan and the subsequent contact between whites and Native Americans, much of which was of a violent nature, played a significant role not only in reducing overall Nisenan population numbers, but also destroying the Nisenan as a viable culture.

3.2.10.3.2.2 Subsistence

Like many native Californian groups, the Nisenan engaged in a seasonal round of food gathering, which included the exploitation of a wide range of natural occurring plants and animals. In general, the division of labor in Nisenan society followed a pattern whereby men hunted and

fished and women gathered, though both sexes were apparently involved in acorn and pine nut gathering. Terrestrial game such as deer, elk, antelope, bear, wildcat, rabbit and a wide variety of birds and other small and medium animals were consumed. Deer was a major staple for the Nisenan, usually stalked individually or in communal hunts (Beals 1933:346), the latter frequently involving the participation of several villages. Individual hunters stalked deer with bows and arrows, sometimes using deer-head decoys. A communal hunt, by contrast, was the primary way to acquire deer (Beals 1933:347). Deer hides were used for blankets or clothing or were sometimes used as mats on the floors of houses. A variety of birds were hunted including quail, grouse, ducks, geese, and even blue jays. Quail were especially prized; some men specialized in the hunting of quail almost to the exclusion of other activities.

Fish formed a substantial part of the Nisenan diet, especially for those populations living along rivers and streams. They were acquired in a variety of ways, from hook-and-line to the use of natural poisons. Fishhooks were bi-pointed and typically made from the bones of rodents (Wilson 1972:35). Trout were either eaten as soon as they were caught or dried. Women pounded the dried fish into a meal that was stored in baskets. Perhaps one of the most common ways of obtaining large catches of fish was through the use of poison. Fish were also taken with bone-pointed spears, dip nets, and weirs.

Vegetal foods provided the most important sources of calories and carbohydrates for the Nisenan. Various nuts, seeds, roots, tubers, bulbs, acorns, berries, wild grapes and other greens were gathered. However, the most important vegetal food was acorns (Beals 1933:351; Wilson 1972:36-37). According to Beals (1933:351), between six or seven varieties of acorns were recognized by the Nisenan as suitable for consumption. The most prized acorn, however, belonged to the black oak. Acorn harvesting typically occurred during the fall when the acorns were ripe and the trees heavily laden. Trees that were known to provide lots of acorns were frequented over and over again and may have been owned by particular families (Wilson 1972:37, Beals 1933:363). The acorns were shelled and then ground into a flour, the latter process facilitated by the use of either bedrock or portable mortars and pestles. The flour was leached with warm water to remove the toxic tannic acid. The meal was then stored in baskets, and eventually made into soup or bread. When a crop was particularly abundant, the acorns were stockpiled in a granary and occasionally traded with other groups.

3.2.10.3.2.3 Social and Political Organization

Like many native groups in California, the Nisenan were organized into what has been termed the “tribelet.” The term and concept were derived from the writings of A.L. Kroeber, who in 1932, observed that the dizzying array of different social and political groupings in native California was far different from other parts of North America. The concept of the tribe, used with ubiquity elsewhere in North America, was simply not an adequate description of the many and varied social groupings in California. As a result, Kroeber coined the term “tribelet” to explain the basic social and political organization of a majority of California’s native peoples, including the Nisenan. The tribelet was defined as a social aggregation consisting of one or more household groups that included immediate family members (i.e., parents and children) and any associated relatives (i.e., either collateral, lineal, or affinal living together in a village or community). Sometimes, however, the tribelet included two or more villages. These households

were gathered together on the basis of a shared language, culture, and identity. Typically, tribelets defined communal territorial boundaries and engaged in regularized intergroup relations such as hunting and gathering and ritual observances. The tribelet, moreover, was autonomous, self-governing, and independent.

Relations between villages were usually friendly, though sometimes disputes would erupt over such things as trespass, hunting rights, ceremonial obligations, or accusations of sorcery. If these disputes were not resolved, feuds could easily erupt between villages. Surprise attacks and organized raids were the most common types of warfare (Beals 1933:366), though occasionally pitched battles took place. Weapons included bows and arrows, spears, clubs, and slings. Usually, however, these battles did not result in many casualties.

3.2.10.3.2.4 Religious Beliefs

Although Beals (1933:379) stressed a certain lack of uniformity in the religious beliefs of his Nisenan informants, they were nonetheless united in their belief that there existed a supernatural realm peopled by spiritual beings, some of whom possessed great powers. They also believed that all natural objects were endowed with supernatural powers.

Like other native Californian groups, the Nisenan placed great importance on shamans. There were two main types of shamans in Nisenan society, those that were specialists in native medicine and curing, and those who had direct contact with the supernatural realm. The Kuksu cult played an important role in Nisenan society. According to Kroeber (1929:312), however, only the valley Nisenan was involved in the cult; the hill Nisenan apparently did not practice Kuksu. The cult was expressed among the valley Nisenan by the existence of two separate organizations. The first of these, called *Akit*, allowed only men, while the second, called *Teme'ya*, allowed a limited number of men and women. The first organization was a general dancing society where initiates, mostly boys or young men, were taught specific dances over a period of time. The second organization involved dances where the performers impersonated spirits and wore elaborate costumes, especially the very large headdress characteristic of Kuksu performers.

3.2.10.3.2.5 Ethnohistory

Although Spain claimed Alta California as part of its New World possessions, the area north of what today is the San Francisco Bay Area witnessed little overt Spanish influence. The 21 missions, which were intended to demonstrate the claim of the Spanish empire to what is now modern-day California, only extended as far north as modern Sonoma County. In fact, Spain only had a tenuous hold on northern California, though at least a few researchers have surmised that some native inhabitants of the region, including some Nisenan, were likely forced into the Spanish mission system (see Forbes 1969:32; Angel 1882; and Wilson and Towne 1978:396). The three colonialist nations, Russia, Great Britain, and the U.S., vied with Spain, and each other, over possession of the region. Fort Ross, in modern-day Mendocino County, for example, was established by the Russians in 1812 and was considered its farthest-flung New World outpost.

When Alta California was ceded to Mexico in 1822, the far northern half of California remained in dispute. Although technically a possession of Mexico, it soon bore witness to the intrusions of many different foreign expeditions, including British and American fur trappers. These forays were done often without the knowledge or certainly the approval of the Mexican authorities. As a consequence of these and other expeditions, virulent epidemics were unleashed among the native populations of the region. Perhaps the most devastating of these occurred in 1833 and was apparently a result of either smallpox or malaria (Peterson 1977:6; Cook 1955:308). By one estimate, this epidemic may have wiped out perhaps as much as 75 percent of the valley Nisenan population (Cook 1976).

The annexation of California by the U.S. in 1849/50 resulted in continued woes for the Nisenan and neighboring groups in the area. Not only did disease take a massive toll on their population, but the violence unleashed by miners and settlers who entered their territory in the 1840s and 1850s also had a significant and devastating effect on their population. Initially, following the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in 1848, Native Americans became laborers working the gold field of the Sierras (Chamberlain and Wells 1879b). By the end of 1849, miners and settlers flooded into northern California, gradually expropriating native lands. Many of the streams and creeks the various Indian groups had used and relied upon for generations became polluted and befouled as the prospectors overran the area in their mad search to find the elusive mineral. This prompted angry responses from the region's native inhabitants, and hostilities between the two groups became commonplace. There were numerous violent incidents – raids, retaliatory killings, rapes, and outright massacres – between the two opposing groups during this time.

Despite resistance on the part of the Nisenan, the eventual outcome of this clash between European and native culture was inevitable. The Nisenan were simply no match for the superior numbers, technology, and organization of the American invaders. During the latter half of the Nineteenth Century, the native groups that had occupied the area were gradually and inexorably displaced, killed off by disease or violence, or forced into hiding and seclusion. As whites settled on their lands, the few surviving Nisenan were gradually pushed to the margins of society, where many of them were eventually absorbed into the dominant economic system. Many Nisenan found work in agriculture, logging, ranching, and domestic pursuits (Wilson and Towne 1978).

3.2.10.3.3 Historic Context

3.2.10.3.3.1 Early Regional History

Prior to 1848 and the discovery of gold in California, the central Sierra Nevada remained largely unpopulated and unexplored by Euro-Americans. Beginning in 1769, the Spanish settled along the California coast and established their chain of 21 missions between San Diego and Sonoma; however, they rarely ventured into the interior except to pursue runaway Mission Indians or escaped livestock, or to scout for future mission sites.

Hudson's Bay Company trappers began taking beaver in the local rivers during the 1820s. After Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1822, the mission lands and other territories in California were divided into large privately owned ranches, and sheep and cattle ranching

became the primary economic activities. In 1839, the first large landholdings in the region were granted to John Marsh near Mt. Diablo and John Sutter at the confluence of the American and Sacramento rivers (Jackson et al. 1982; Pittman 1995).

Soon, American explorers and traders were probing the Sierran interior, discovering passes and routes across the mountains that are still used today. In 1841, Lieutenant Charles Wilkes led the first explorers into the region from the Pacific Northwest. A group of Wilkes' men journeyed down the Sacramento River to the San Francisco Bay. In 1844, the Stevens-Townsend Party ascended the Truckee River from the Nevada desert, came over Donner Pass, and camped at Cold Creek, south of Donner Lake. In 1845-1846, Charles Fremont, on his first of four ventures into the Sierra, followed the same path as the Stevens-Townsend Party. Subsequent forays into the region discovered additional routes that facilitated the movement of a steady stream of settlers into the area (Jackson et al. 1982).

Conflicts between the Californios and the central government in Mexico City led to a series of uprisings culminating in the Bear Flag Revolt of June 1846. In November of 1846, Juan Bautista Alvarado named himself Provisional Governor and declared Alta California an independent state until Mexico restored the principles of federalism. However, Mexican control of California had effectively ended the year before, when the Californios expelled Manuel Micheltorena, the last Mexican governor.

As Jedediah Smith, John C. Fremont, and other American trappers and explorers brought news of California's favorable climate and bountiful natural resources eastward, the American government began to view California as part of its Manifest Destiny. Although the Mexican government decreed that Californios could not trade with foreigners, a thriving trade had developed between the California ranchos and New England; California sent tallow, hides, furs, and other local goods eastward in exchange for the manufactured wares of the east. The Mexican government, in a state of almost perpetual civil war, was powerless to stop the steady stream of immigrants from the east. Embroiled in the war for Texan independence, Mexico was in no position to defend California (Pittman 1995).

In the east, President Polk and the American newspapers saw this as an opportune time to take control of California. Polk's attempt to purchase the territory was unsuccessful; therefore, he was ultimately forced to declare war with Mexico. With the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on February 2, 1848, California formally became an American territory. Two years later, on September 9, 1850, California became the 31st state in the Union.

3.2.10.3.3.2 Mining

James Marshall's discovery of gold in January of 1848 at Sutter's Mill, near the Nisenan village of Colluma (i.e., present day Coloma southeast of the Project Area), triggered the California Gold Rush. By the end of that year, 80 percent of California's able-bodied men were mining in the gold fields (Robinson 1948). Initially, placer gold could be extracted by individual miners or small groups using simple hand techniques. Within a few short years, however, the easily mined placer deposits had been depleted and more complex, mechanized methods came into use.

The Gold Rush was in full swing by 1849 and an estimated 90,000 individuals made their way to the California mines by the end of 1849 (Holliday 1981). The streams flowing into the Sacramento River from the northern Sierra attracted hundreds of gold seekers. Mining along the Bear River did not attract the same intensity of activity that occurred elsewhere. While a multitude of mining bars and camps were well established along the Yuba River to the north and the American River to the south in the 1840s and 1850s, occupation surrounding the Bear River was ephemeral and intermittent. While small-scale placer mining by individuals certainly occurred in this area, permanent camps supporting large mining operations never materialized. Colfax, Marysville, and Nicolaus Ferry are the nearest settlements to the Project during the Gold Rush, linked to the extensive mining operations of the region. Colfax was established as a trading center for the surrounding mines in the 1860s, a role it maintained into the twentieth century (Gudde 1975:77). The Colfax mining district, also previously known as the Illinois district, Illinoistown, and Alder Gulch, incorporated placer mining locales along the Bear and American rivers. The large Rising Sun Mine was also a part of the district (Clark 1970:38). Nicolaus Ferry is located at the confluence of the Feather and Bear rivers. It was established in 1850 as a trading center and ferry crossing connecting to the mines on the Feather and Yuba rivers (Gudde 1975:243). Marysville was established by 1850 as a "metropolis" connected to the mines along the Feather and Yuba rivers (Gudde 1975:209).

Early miners panned for gold in stream beds, but within decades, large-scale mining operations were organized and replaced individual miners. In 1853, hydraulic mining was introduced to California (Greenland 2001; Kelley 1959, 1989; May 1970), and rapid advances in technology provided greater flexibility and movement of hoses and efficiency for displacing dirt. Hydraulic mining became more common by the 1860s and was a process whereby water is delivered to a site through a high pressure hose and sprayed onto hillsides, washing away tons of boulders, gravel, dirt, and ounces of gold. After extracting gold from long wooden sluices, miners dumped remaining gravel and debris into the mountain valleys. The Yuba and other northern rivers and streams carried the resulting flood of sediment (slickens) down into the Sacramento Valley. Hydraulic mining was prevalent along the Bear River in the 1850s and 1860s. Upstream of the Project in Colfax and surrounding vicinities, hydraulic mining was a big endeavor, leading to the deposition of large amounts of gravel deposits along the riverbed. The level of the Bear River was significantly raised as a result, and the water levels spread out across the land, encompassing the location of Camp Far West and Johnson's Rancho.

Hydraulic mining had dramatic impacts across the valley. The Bear River was overwhelmed with silt and debris from the hydraulic mining which occurred upstream in the foothills near Colfax, and along the Yuba River near Nevada City and Grass Valley. Between 1849 and 1909 255 million cu yds of mine waste were deposited in the Bear River (Hagwood 1981:21). As a result, the riverbed was raised several ft, covering the original banks of the river and causing gravel deposits to spread across adjacent farmlands. The area near Wheatland was particularly devastated, as the entire channel of the Bear River was thrown off course in this area, drowning the burgeoning agricultural scene under the resulting floods (SSWD 1985:66-68). The residents of Wheatland were among those driven to litigation by the problem, which led to a suit being filed against the Little York Mine in California State Court in 1879 (Storm 1979:37). Lawsuits by farmers curtailed hydraulic mining in 1884 with the Sawyer Decision, considered one of the seminal environmental laws in the U.S. (Baumgart 2002; Greenland 2001; Kelley 1959, 1989;

Mount 1995). However, the Caminetti Act, enacted by the U.S. Congress in 1893, allowed hydraulic mining to continue if mine operators constructed debris dams, regulated under the newly formed California Debris Commission. The Yuba, American, and Bear rivers were identified as locations where this could be done and several debris dams were constructed at various points along these rivers.

Following the Gold Rush, other industries developed in the region. Copper mining was a large industry in the Project Vicinity, as exploitation of the Sierra Nevada Copper Belt became a profitable endeavor in mid-1860s during the Civil War, as well as during World Wars I and II. The Dairy Farm Mine, located within APE and inundated by Camp Far West Reservoir, was one of the main copper mines in the Project Area. The Valley View Mine just to the south and the Spenceville Mine to the north in Yuba County were also major centers for extraction along the copper belt (Clark 1970:117-119). In the early 1900s, the Dairy Farm Mine was owned by the New York-based Dairy Farm Mining Company (Aubury 1908:208). By 1905, ownership of the mine had been taken over by the Guggenheims, who were also owners of the Selby Smelting Works (Engineering and Mining Journal 1905:751). The Guggenheim railroad transported the extracted ore from the mine to the nearby town of Sheridan. The main mining shaft was on Rock Creek, but in 1917 at least nine additional shafts and shafts had been opened in a 0.5 mi radius surrounding the main shaft, and four dikes ran through the property. A large workforce was apparently being kept employed working the mine, with plans to build structures for housing (Mining and Scientific Press 1917:561).

3.2.10.3.3.3 Settlement and Agriculture

In addition to mining, ranching and some crop production took place in the Project Area by the 1860s. Following the initial 1850s placer gold boom, entrepreneurs, disillusioned miners, and other settlers turned to agriculture as a means of providing a livelihood, profiting from the need for fresh produce by the burgeoning mining settlements in the foothills.

The Project Area falls on the east side of a large historic land grant shown on historic maps as Johnson's Rancho. Prior to Johnson's ownership, the land was under the authority of the Mexican government. Pablo Gutierrez, who had worked at John Sutter's Hock Farm, obtained a Mexican land grant for 22,000 ac in 1844, including the land that became Johnson's Rancho. Gutierrez was killed in a revolt against the provincial governor in 1845, after which the grant was auctioned off to William Johnson and Sebastian Keyer. Johnson claimed the east half of the original grant. Johnson's ranch was the first Euro-American settlement along the Bear River. (Chamberlain and Wells 1879b:79). His ranch was located on the north bank of the Bear River, about 3 mi from the town of Wheatland. The location of Johnson's Ranch became a major crossing point across the Bear River, and also a stopping point for travelers on the Emigrant Trail into California (Storm 1979:33). In 1849 the rancho again changed hands when Henry Robinson and Eugene Gillespie established the town site of Kearney in this location.

After Johnson's occupation, Burtis's Hotel was established at Johnson's Crossing. Three other hotels were built along the road from Wheatland to Smartsville. One of these was Graham's Hotel, located within the APE, the location of which is now inundated by Camp Far West Reservoir. Graham's Hotel reportedly had a more "legal reputation" than Melon's hotel, which

was also located on land formerly part of Johnson's Rancho (Storm 1979:34). The Cabbage Patch Hotel was located to the south, at the junction of the roads to Smartsville and Nevada City. Two sawmills were also located in the area. One was built by John McCourtney in 1851, in the location where Camp Far West Dam now stands. A river crossing was located on the Bear River at the point where McCourtney's sawmill was located. The river crossing and the adjacent road connecting to Grass Valley were also named after McCourtney (Storm 1979:34).

Agricultural pursuits developed in the 1850s and 1860s as the surrounding settlements grew. The primary crops early on were hay and barley, later replaced by wheat and potatoes. Large quantities of Timothy grass and red clover grew along the banks of the Bear River, and was harvested and sold to the surrounding mines, while timber was purchased and brought back to the valley for construction. Cattle were first brought to the area in 1851 by J.L. Burtis and Charles Justise. Burtis also had a barley field in cultivation located near Camp Far West. Wheat was not raised in the area until the late 1850s, but had become the main crop by 1860, with potatoes also playing a major role in local agriculture by 1862 (Chamberlain and Wells 1879b:77-78).

3.2.10.3.3.4 Military

The Project takes its name from an early military outpost that was established in 1849. Camp Far West was built on the north bank of the Bear River, and encompassed an area 1 sq mi in size. The camp was constructed with the express purpose to protect local residents and travelers from attacks by the local Native American population. However, there is no indication that such attacks had occurred. The 2nd U.S. Infantry was stationed at the camp during its existence. The only major action that occurred was in May of 1850, when two miners were found shot with arrows. This prompted a response from the 2nd, leading to a prolonged attack on local Maidu settlements, the burning of villages, and a short battle along Rock Creek. The fort was de-activated in 1852, after only 3 years of existence. Its closure was prompted by numerous ongoing problems, including disease, lack of supplies, and a dwindling purpose due to the small Indian population (Peak 1977:3; Storm 1979:34-35).

Although Camp Far West was short-lived, the area became a significant hub of military activity in the Twentieth Century. Camp Beale was established in 1942 as an army infantry post, the largest built in the Western U.S. during World War II. It was named after Nineteenth Century pioneer and militia member Brigadier General Edward Fitzgerald Beale. The base was constructed to house and train the 13th Armored Division, but the 81st and 96th Infantry Divisions also trained at Camp Beale while it was under the administration of the Army. The 13th Armored Division was deployed in 1943, and served under the command of General George Patton in Europe (Storm 1979:39). By 1943 the base included four cantonments, a sewage treatment facility, an ammunition storage facility, and 1,681 structures. The east cantonment, now the Main Base, was constructed over the existing township of Earle, and retained the design of the existing streets. During World War II, the base housed over 60,000 soldiers, and also included a hospital, an airfield, and a German prisoner-of-war camp. It was in use throughout World War II, but was deactivated in 1945 following the end of the war. In 1948 the post was again re-established as Beale Air Force Base under the command of the newly established U.S. Air Force (Quest 2014:7; Foster Wheeler and JRP 2000: 7-11) It was renamed Beale Air Force Base in

1951, the same year the Beale Bombing and Gunnery Range was constructed. There were six bombing ranges located on the base, providing training for the Bombardier Navigation School base at Mather AFB in Sacramento (Storm 1979:39). It became part of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) in 1956. Surveillance aircraft such as the Blackbird and U-2 have operated out of the base since the 1960s (Beale 2013).

Beale Air Force Base played an expanded role during the Cold War. The base was fitted with a semi-automatic ground environment (SAGE) early warning system in 1959. It was one of only two facilities in California fitted with a SAGE system, and housed one of the early IBM SAGE computers. Beale AFB obtained several significant missions related to the response to Soviet intermediate range ballistic missile (ICBM) systems in the 1950s and 1960s, and one of the earliest ICBM air force bases (Foster Wheeler and JRP 2000:4-23; Mikesell 2000: 8-6-8-10).

3.2.10.3.3.5 Water Resources

Following the discovery of gold in the Sierras, which resulted in the first large scale influx of Euro-Americans to the area, the rivers of the Sierra Nevada were utilized for industrial scale mining operations. After the decline of mining in the first half of the Twentieth Century, many of the ditches and flumes originally built for the mining industry were reused for the transmission of potable water for communities and for irrigation purposes. Additionally, these resources were also being used in the burgeoning field of hydroelectricity with early developers of hydroelectric power plants purchasing the ditches and water rights to supply water to their power plants (Ramsey Ford et al. 2012). The new industry utilized water power technology honed by the California miners who adapted to the seasonal water flows germane to the Sierra Nevada watershed. Pioneering hydropower efforts were characterized by the construction of single power plants per watershed, to service a single location. Both the original Folsom and Colgate powerplants conform to this pattern (JRP and Caltrans 2000:54). The Folsom Powerhouse, constructed on the American River by the Sacramento Electric Power and Light Company, was the first built in the Central California region. It opened in 1895 and provided electricity to the city of Sacramento and its many burgeoning industries (JRP and Caltrans 2000:58).

The 1950s witnessed the culmination of earlier efforts to establish multi-purpose water systems in California. They embraced the earlier Progressive Era's (1890-1913) multiple use ethic embodied by the Hetch-Hetchy Project approach of "the greatest good for the greatest number." Dams and watershed management evolved to provide flood control, irrigation and potable water, helped reclaim swampy land, delivered recreational opportunities, and generated hydroelectric power. The CVP initiated in 1951 focused on the Shasta and Friant dams, with their associated Delta-Mendota and Friant-Kern canals. The subsequent SWP (1957) included the California Aqueduct and Feather River Project (JRP and Caltrans 2000:73-75, 80-83).

In December 1955, excessive winter rain and snow in northern California resulted in devastating floods in the Central Valley that overpowered local levees and other flood control systems. Flooding inundated over 100,000 ac, resulted in 40 deaths, and cost millions of dollars in property damage. This resulted in both state and local initiatives to better manage flood control, resulting in the construction of numerous levees, canals, and reservoirs throughout the state.

By the early Twentieth Century, irrigation development made lands in the region suitable for the production of a large variety of new crops and the development of extensive irrigation systems was often the undertaking of organized irrigation districts, which were first permitted under California law in 1887 following passage of the Wright Act (Mead and Hunt 2013). By 1915 irrigation districts were established as a means of financing construction of large-scale irrigation systems (Mead and Hunt 2013). The CFWID was formed in 1924 for the purpose of improving water conditions in portions Yuba and Placer counties. The CFWID constructed a concrete gravity dam to provide irrigation water to surround farmlands, and was able to service approximately 4,100 ac in Yuba and Placer counties. The current Camp Far West Dam was constructed in 1964.

3.2.10.4 Known or Potential Project Effects

Provided below is a list of known or potential Project effects on cultural resources. 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:
  - Effects of any Project construction on burials (identified by UAIC).
- From SSWD:
  - Effects of Project O&M and associated Project recreation on NRHP-eligible, unevaluated, and/or undocumented cultural resources.

3.2.10.5 List of Attachments

There are no attachments to this section.