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<p>will be identified and addressed within the TMP. The TMP will include measures to monitor smoke dispersion onto public roadways, and traffic control operations will be initiated in the event burning operations could affect traffic safety along any roadways. This SPR applies only to prescribed burn treatment activities and all treatment types, including treatment maintenance.</p>				
<b>Public Services and Utilities Standard Project Requirements</b>				
<p><b>SPR UTIL-1: Solid Organic Waste Disposition Plan.</b> For projects requiring the disposal of material outside of the treatment area, the project proponent will prepare an Organic Waste Disposition Plan prior to initiating treatment activities. The Solid Organic Waste Disposition Plan will include the amount (e.g., tons) of solid organic waste to be managed onsite (i.e., scattering of wood materials, generating unburned piles, and pile burning) and transported offsite for processing (i.e., biomass power plant, wood product processing facility, composting). If the project proponent intends to transport solid organic waste offsite, the Solid Organic Waste Disposition Plan will clearly identify the location and capacity of the intended processing facility, consistent with local and state regulations to demonstrate that adequate capacity exists to accept the treated materials. This SPR applies only to mechanical and manual treatment activities and all treatment types, including treatment maintenance.</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b> <b>Treatment Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prepare an Organic Waste Disposition Plan prior to mechanical or manual treatment activities; implement plan during mechanical or manual treatment activities</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<b>Aesthetics</b>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure AES-3: Conduct Visual Reconnaissance for Non-Shaded Fuel Breaks and Relocate or Feather and Screen Publicly Visible Non-Shaded Fuel Breaks</b></p> <p>The project proponent will conduct a visual reconnaissance of the treatment area prior to implementing non-shaded fuel breaks to observe the surrounding landscape and determine if public viewing locations, including scenic vistas, public trails, and state scenic highways, have views of the proposed treatment area. If none are identified, the non-shaded fuel break may be implemented without additional visual mitigation.</p> <p>If the project proponent identifies public viewing points, including heavily used scenic vistas, public trails, recreation areas, and state scenic highways with lengthy views (i.e., longer than a few seconds) of a proposed non-shaded fuel break treatment area, the project proponent will, prior to implementation, attempt to identify any feasible change in location of the fuel break to reduce its visibility from public viewpoints. If no feasible location changes exist that would reduce impacts to public viewers and achieve the intended wildfire risk reduction objectives of the proposed non-shaded fuel break, the project proponent will implement, where feasible, a shaded fuel break rather than a non-shaded fuel break, if the shaded fuel break would achieve the intended wildfire risk reduction objectives. With the shaded fuel break, the project proponent will thin and feather adjacent vegetation to break up the linear edges of the fuel break and strategically preserve vegetation at the edge of the fuel break, as feasible, to help screen public views and minimize the contrast between the fuel break and surrounding vegetation.</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Conduct visual reconnaissance prior to implementing non-shaded fuel breaks; implement feasible mitigation prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>
<b>Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources</b>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Protect Inadvertent Discoveries of Unique Archaeological Resources or Subsurface Historical Resources</b></p> <p>If any prehistoric or historic-era subsurface archaeological features or deposits, including locally darkened soil ("midden"), that could conceal cultural deposits, are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the resources will be halted and a qualified archaeologist will assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist will work with the project proponent to develop a primary records report that will comply with applicable state or local agency procedures. If the archaeologist determines that further information is needed to evaluate significance, a data recovery plan will be prepared. If the find is determined to be significant by the qualified archaeologist (i.e., because the find constitutes a unique archaeological resource, subsurface</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>During ground-disturbing activities</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>



Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>historical resource, or tribal cultural resource), the archaeologist will work with the project proponent to develop appropriate procedures to protect the integrity of the resource. Procedures could include preservation in place (which is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archaeological sites), archival research, subsurface testing, or recovery of scientifically consequential information from and about the resource. Any find will be recorded standard DPR Primary Record forms (Form DPR 523) will be submitted to the appropriate regional information center.</p>				
<b>Biological Resources</b>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-1a: Avoid Loss of Special-Status Plants Listed under ESA or CESA</b></p> <p>If listed plants are determined to be present through application of SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-7, the project proponent will avoid and protect these species by establishing a no-disturbance buffer around the area occupied by listed plants and marking the buffer boundary with high-visibility flagging, fencing, stakes, or clear, existing landscape demarcations (e.g., edge of a roadway), exceptions to this requirement are listed later in this measure. The no-disturbance buffers will generally be a minimum of 50 feet from listed plants, but the size and shape of the buffer zone may be adjusted if a qualified RPF or botanist determines that a smaller buffer will be sufficient to avoid killing or damaging listed plants or that a larger buffer is necessary to sufficiently protect plants from the treatment activity. The appropriate buffer size will be determined based on plant phenology at the time of treatment (e.g., whether the plants are in a dormant, vegetative, or flowering state), the individual species’ vulnerability to the treatment method being used, and environmental conditions and terrain. For example, paint-on or wicking application of herbicides to invasive plants may be implemented within 50 feet of listed plant species without posing a risk, especially if the listed plants are dormant at the time of application. Consideration of factors such as site hydrology, changes in light, edge effects, and potential introduction of invasive plants and noxious weeds may inform the determination of buffer width. If a no-disturbance buffer is reduced below 50 feet from a listed plant, a qualified RPF or botanist will provide the project proponent with a site- and/or treatment activity-specific explanation for the buffer reduction, which will be included in the PSA. After completion of the PSA and prior to or during treatment implementation, if there is any deviation (e.g., further reduction) from the reduced buffer as explained in the PSA, this will be documented in the post-project implementation report (referred to by CAL FIRE as a Completion Report) with a science-based justification for the deviation. No fire ignition (and associated use of accelerants) will occur within 50 feet of listed plants.</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment</b>  <b>Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>For species listed under ESA or CESA, if the project proponent cannot avoid loss by implementing no-disturbance buffers, the project proponent will implement Mitigation Measure BIO-1c.</p> <p>The only exception to this mitigation approach is in cases where it is determined by a qualified RPF or botanist, in consultation with CDFW and USFWS, as appropriate depending on species status and location, that the listed plants would benefit from treatment in the occupied habitat area even though some of the listed plants may be lost during treatment activities. For a treatment to be considered beneficial to listed special-status plants, the qualified RPF or botanist will demonstrate with substantial evidence that habitat function is reasonably expected to improve with implementation of the treatment (e.g., by citing scientific studies demonstrating that the species (or similar species) has benefitted from increased sunlight due to canopy opening, eradication of invasive species, or otherwise reduced competition for resources), and the substantial evidence will be included in the PSA. If it is determined that treatment activities would be beneficial to listed plants, no compensatory mitigation for loss of individuals will be required.</p>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-1b: Avoid Loss of Special-Status Plants Not Listed Under ESA or CESA</b></p> <p>If non-listed special-status plant species (i.e., species not listed under ESA or CESA, but meeting the definition of special-status as stated in Section 3.6.1 of the Program EIR) are determined to be present through application of SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-7, the project proponent will implement the following measures to avoid loss of individuals and maintain habitat function of occupied habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Physically avoid the area occupied by the special-status plants by establishing a no-disturbance buffer around the area occupied by species and marking the buffer boundary with high-visibility flagging, fencing, stakes, or clear, existing landscape demarcations (e.g., edge of a roadway). The no-disturbance buffers will generally be a minimum of 50 feet from special-status plants, but the size and shape of the buffer zone may be adjusted if a qualified RPF or botanist determines that a smaller buffer will be sufficient to avoid loss of or damaging to special-status plants or that a larger buffer is necessary to sufficiently protect plants from the treatment activity. The appropriate size and shape of the buffer zone will be determined by a qualified RPF or botanist and will depend on plant phenology at the time of treatment (e.g., whether the plants are in a dormant, vegetative, or flowering state), the individual species' vulnerability to the treatment method being used, and environmental conditions and terrain. Consideration of factors such as site hydrology, changes in light, edge effects,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b> <b>Treatment Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>and potential introduction of invasive plants and noxious weeds may inform an appropriate buffer size and shape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Treatments may be conducted within this buffer if the potentially affected special-status plant species is a geophytic, stump-sprouting, or annual species, and the treatment can be conducted outside of the growing season (e.g., after it has completed its annual life cycle) or during the dormant season using only treatment activities that would not damage the stump, root system or other underground parts of special-status plants or destroy the seedbank.</li> <li>▶ Treatments will be designed to maintain the function of special-status plant habitat. For example, for a fuel break proposed in treatment areas occupied by special-status plants, if the removal of shade cover would degrade the special-status plant habitat despite the requirement to physically or seasonally avoid the special-status plant itself, habitat function would be diminished and the treatment would need to be modified or precluded from implementation.</li> <li>▶ No fire ignition (and associated use of accelerants) will occur within the special-status plant buffer.</li> </ul> <p>A qualified RPF or botanist with knowledge of the special-status plant species habitat and life history will review the treatment design and applicable impact minimization measures (potentially including others not listed above) to determine if the anticipated residual effects of the treatment would be significant under CEQA because implementation of the treatment would not maintain habitat function of the special-status plant habitat (i.e., the habitat would be rendered unsuitable) or because the loss of special-status plants would substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a special-status plant species. If the project proponent determines the impact on special-status plants would be less than significant, no further mitigation will be required. If the project proponent determines that the loss of special-status plants or degradation of occupied habitat would be significant under CEQA after implementing feasible treatment design alternatives and impact minimization measures, then Mitigation Measure BIO-1c will be implemented.</p> <p>The only exception to this mitigation approach is in cases where it is determined by a qualified RPF or botanist that the special-status plants would benefit from treatment in the occupied habitat area even though some of the non-listed special-status plants may be killed during treatment activities. For a treatment to be considered beneficial to non-listed special-status plants, the qualified RPF or botanist will demonstrate with substantial evidence that habitat function is reasonably expected to improve with implementation of the treatment (e.g., by citing scientific studies demonstrating that the species (or similar species) has benefitted from</p>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>increased sunlight due to canopy opening, eradication of invasive species, or otherwise reduced competition for resources), and the substantial evidence will be included in the PSA. If it is determined that treatment activities would be beneficial to special-status plants, no compensatory mitigation will be required.</p>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-2a: Avoid Mortality, Injury, or Disturbance and Maintain Habitat Function for Listed Wildlife Species and California Fully Protected Species (All Treatment Activities)</b></p> <p>If California Fully Protected Species or species listed under ESA or CESA are observed during reconnaissance surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-1) or focused or protocol-level surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-10), the project proponent will avoid adverse effects to the species by implementing the following.</p> <p><u>Avoid Mortality, Injury, or Disturbance of Individuals</u></p> <p>The project proponent will implement one of the following 2 measures to avoid mortality, injury, or disturbance of individuals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Treatment will not be implemented within the occupied habitat. Any treatment activities outside occupied habitat will be a sufficient distance from the occupied habitat such that mortality, injury, or disturbance of the species will not occur, as determined by a qualified RPF or biologist using the most current and commonly-accepted science and considering published agency guidance; OR</li> <li>2. Treatment will be implemented outside the sensitive period of the species' life history (e.g., outside the breeding or nesting season) during which the species may be more susceptible to disturbance, or disturbance could result in loss of eggs or young. For species present year-round, CDFW and/or USFWS/NOAA Fisheries will be consulted to determine if there is a period of time within which treatment could occur that would avoid mortality, injury, or disturbance of the species.</li> </ol> <p>► For species listed under ESA or CESA, if the project proponent cannot avoid mortality, injury or disturbance by implementing one of the two options listed above, the project proponent will implement Mitigation Measure BIO-2c.</p> <p>Injury or mortality of California Fully Protected Species is prohibited pursuant to Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515 of the California Fish and Game Code and will be avoided.</p> <p><u>Maintain Habitat Function</u></p> <p>► The project proponent will design treatment activities to maintain the habitat function, by implementing the following:</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ While performing review and surveys for SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-10, a qualified RPF or biologist will identify any habitat features that are necessary for survival (e.g., habitat necessary for breeding, foraging, shelter, movement) of the affected wildlife species (e.g., trees with complex structure, trees with large cavities, trees with nesting platforms; dens; tree snags; large raptor nests [including inactive nests]; downed woody debris; food sources). These habitat features will be marked and treatments applied to the features will be designed to minimize or avoid the loss or degradation of suitable habitat for listed species during treatments. Identification and treatment of these features will be based on the life history and habitat requirements of the affected species and the most current, commonly accepted science.</li> <li>▪ If it is determined during implementation of SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-10 that listed or fully protected wildlife with specific requirements for high canopy cover (e.g., Humboldt marten, fisher, spotted owl, coastal California gnatcatcher, riparian woodrat) are present within a treatment area, then tree or shrub canopy cover within existing suitable areas will be retained at the percentage preferred by the species (as determined by expert opinion, published habitat association information, or other documented standards that are commonly accepted [e.g., 50 percent for coastal California gnatcatcher]) such that habitat function is maintained.</li> </ul> <p>A qualified RPF or biologist of the lead agency will determine if, after implementation of the impact avoidance measures listed above, the habitat function will remain for the affected species after implementation of the treatment. Because this measure pertains to species listed under CESA or ESA or are fully protected, the qualified RPF or biologist will consult with CDFW and/or USFWS/NOAA Fisheries regarding the determination that habitat function is maintained. If the lead agency determines after consultation that the treatment will not maintain habitat function for the special-status species, the project proponent will implement Mitigation Measure BIO-2c.</p> <p><b>Project-Specific Implementation.</b></p> <p>If California Fully Protected Species or species listed under ESA or CESA are observed during focused or protocol-level surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-10) or assumed present, the project proponent will avoid adverse effects to the species by implementing the following.</p> <p><u>California red-legged frog</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If California red-legged frogs are detected during protocol-level surveys, a 300-foot no-disturbance buffer will be implemented and the project</li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>proponent will require flagging areas for avoidance in which no treatment activities will occur, installation of exclusionary fencing, biological monitoring, or other measures recommended by USFWS as necessary to avoid injury to or mortality of California red-legged frog. If impacts would remain significant under CEQA and the project proponent determines that additional mitigation is necessary to reduce significant impacts, Mitigation Measure BIO-2c will be required, and incidental take permitting under ESA may be required pursuant to consultation with USFWS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If implementation of the limited operating period during the wet season within designated critical habitat for California red-legged frog, then the project proponent will require biological monitoring by a qualified RPF or biologist for all treatments conducted in the critical habitat during the wet season. The qualified RPF or biologist will survey the treatment area prior to all treatment activities and will walk in front of heavy equipment, conducting visual searches for adult California red-legged frogs, to ensure that inadvertent injury or mortality of frogs does not occur. Additional measures recommended by USFWS may be necessary to avoid injury to or mortality of California red-legged frog. Incidental take permitting under ESA may be required pursuant to consultation with USFWS.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other wildlife</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If foothill yellow-legged frogs or Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs are detected during focused surveys, the project proponent will require flagging areas for avoidance in which no treatment activities will occur, installation of exclusionary fencing, biological monitoring, or other measures recommended by CDFW (both species) and USFWS (Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog only) as necessary to avoid injury to or mortality of foothill yellow-legged frogs or Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog. If impacts will remain significant under CEQA and the project proponent determines that additional mitigation is necessary to reduce significant impacts, Mitigation Measure BIO-2c will be required, and incidental take permitting under CESA (both species) or ESA (Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog only) may be required pursuant to consultation with CDFW and USFWS, respectively.</li> <li>▶ If the no-disturbance buffer for giant gartersnake is determined to be infeasible, then consultation with CDFW and USFWS would be initiated, as USFWS does not accept presence/absence surveys (e.g., conducted under SPR BIO-10) as proof of absence for giant gartersnake. Through consultation with CDFW and USFWS, if Mitigation Measure BIO-2a for giant gartersnake is</li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>required, the project proponent would require flagging areas for avoidance in which no treatment activities would occur, biological monitoring, and/or other measures recommended by CDFW and USFWS as necessary to avoid injury to or mortality of these species. If impacts would remain significant under CEQA and the project proponent determines that additional mitigation is necessary to reduce significant impacts, Mitigation Measure BIO-2c would be required, and incidental take permitting under CESA and ESA may be required pursuant to consultation with CDFW and USFWS, respectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If active special-status bird nests are detected during focused surveys, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 0.5 mile will be established around active bald eagle nests; 0.25 mile for Swainson’s hawk, white-tailed kite, and great gray owl nests; and at least 100 feet around the nests of other special-status birds, and no treatment activities will occur within this buffer until the chicks have fledged as determined by a qualified RPF or biologist. Additionally, trees containing bald eagle nests will not be removed pursuant to the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.</li> </ul> <p><u>Ringtail</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If the limited operating period for ringtail is determined to be infeasible and ringtails are detected during focused surveys implemented under SPR BIO-10, then additional surveys will be required to determine whether an active ringtail den is present within the treatment area. If an active den is identified by a qualified RPF or biologist. A no disturbance buffer will be established around the den, the size of which will be determined through consultation with CDFW.</li> <li>▶ If the limited operating period for ringtail is determined to be infeasible and presence of ringtails is assumed, then the following avoidance and minimization measures will be required:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Year-Round Take Avoidance Measures.</b> During mechanical treatment activities in heavy brush habitat (e.g., dense conifer saplings, blackberry, shrubs), and after the standard equipment warm-up period, heavy machinery activities in heavy brush habitat will be conducted slowly and cautiously. For example, the head of a masticator will pause above a patch of heavy brush for several seconds before removing the brush. A qualified RPF or biologist will explain this process to contractors and will observe mechanical treatments on the first day of work to ensure that the methods are understood and implemented properly; this could be combined with other pre-activity survey or contractor awareness training requirements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>Contractors will watch for ringtail as they masticate in heavy brush. If a ringtail is observed, the contractor will direct treatment activities to halt, and the ringtail will be allowed to leave the area unharmed before treatment begins. If a ringtail is observed outside of maternity season, the qualified RPF or biologist will be contacted and will perform a sweep of the treatment area before work resumes. If the qualified RPF or biologist observes a resting ringtail or active non-maternity den, treatment activities will not occur within that day's treatment area until the ringtail leaves the area on its own. If the qualified RPF or biologist observes a ringtail or confirms the contractor's observation (i.e., based on contractor description or photograph), the occurrence will be reported to CDFW at Sandra.Jacks@wildlife.ca.gov and Kelsey.Vella@wildlife.ca.gov.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Den Surveys.</b> Within seven days prior to the start of mechanical treatments during the ringtail maternity season, a qualified RPF or biologist will conduct a den search in the treatment area to be treated the next week. The qualified RPF or biologist will search for large trees (i.e., greater than 12 inches diameter at breast height [dbh]) with appropriate cavities (i.e., holes larger than 3 inches in diameter, cavities extending approximately 12 inches down from the cavity hole). If found, the qualified RPF or biologist will inspect the cavity using a cell phone with a flash, or other tools (e.g., borescopes) to determine whether ringtails are present. Areas (e.g., large trees) with appropriate den habitat, occupied or not, will be marked (i.e., with flagging, spray paint), for inspection during future sweeps (as described below). The qualified RPF or biologist will also search for dens in dense brush habitat and will note any sightings of fleeing adult ringtails.</li> <li>• <b>Active Dens.</b> If active ringtail dens are discovered during a den survey or daily sweep, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 0.25 mile will be implemented around the den, and mechanical treatments will not proceed within the buffer until at least the end of the ringtail maternity season (June 30). The qualified RPF or biologist will confirm that the den is unoccupied before treatment activities resume. The 0.25-mile buffer will incorporate the den and an area greater than the typical ringtail home range in northern California (Wyatt, pers. comm., 2021). If an active den is discovered, CDFW (Sandra.Jacks@wildlife.ca.gov and Kelsey.Vella@wildlife.ca.gov) will be notified of the den and buffer location. CDFW will be provided an opportunity to visit the site and provide technical information on the size and shape of the den buffer.</li> </ul>				



Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Daily Sweeps, Training, and Monitoring.</b> If active ringtail dens are not discovered, the following measures will be implemented to avoid inadvertent destruction of active dens that eluded detection during the den search as well as take of adult ringtails and kits.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Daily Sweeps.</b> On the first morning of work for mechanical treatments, a qualified RPF or biologist will conduct a sweep of the area to be treated that and will search all habitat suitable for ringtails where mastication will occur that day (i.e., larger trees, heavy brush, rock piles) for active dens or adults, including the trees with cavities previously marked by the qualified RPF or biologist. On following days, a trained contractor will search all areas previously marked by the qualified RPF or biologist for active dens (see training requirements below under “Training and Monitoring”). If an active den is discovered during a daily sweep, the qualified RPF or biologist will be notified, all work will stop, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 0.25 mile will be implemented around the den, and the requirements described above under “Active Dens” will be followed.</li> <li>• <b>Training and Monitoring.</b> On the first morning of work for mechanical treatments, the qualified RPF or biologist will provide biological resource training (as required under CalVTP PEIR SPR BIO-2) for all contractors. In addition to standard biological resource training, the qualified RPF or biologist will provide additional training specific to ringtail that will include the following elements:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Description of ringtail appearance (i.e., physical features, typical size);</li> <li>○ Description of typical ringtail behavior;</li> <li>○ Description of denning habitat suitable for ringtail, particularly in that week’s treatment area. The approximate location of large trees with cavities that were previously marked will be noted;</li> <li>○ Measures required during operation, including daily sweeps of habitat suitable for ringtail where mastication will occur that day (i.e., heavy brush habitat, previously marked tree cavities), year-round take avoidance measures, and required increased vigilance when operating in heavy brush;</li> <li>○ Measures required if a ringtail is spotted (i.e., all work halts until a qualified RPF or biologist can conduct a den search and sweep; if the qualified RPF or biologist observes a ringtail or confirms the</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>contractor’s observation, the occurrence will be reported to CDFW at Sandra.Jacks@wildlife.ca.gov and Kelsey.Vella@wildlife.ca.gov);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Measures required if a ringtail den is found (i.e., 0.25-mile no-disturbance buffer and requirements described above under “Active Dens” will be followed);</li> <li>o Definition of and legal consequences for take of ringtail (i.e., \$10,000 fine for each take and/or 1 year in jail); and</li> <li>o Requirements for contacting CDFW (Sandra.Jacks@wildlife.ca.gov and Kelsey.Vella@wildlife.ca.gov), which include the following circumstances:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ringtails observed during treatment activities (notify within 3 business days);</li> <li>– active ringtail den discovered (notify within 24 hours); and</li> <li>– take of ringtail occurs (notify within 24 hours).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-2b: Avoid Mortality, Injury, or Disturbance and Maintain Habitat Function for Other Special-Status Wildlife Species (All Treatment Activities)</b></p> <p>If other special-status wildlife species (i.e., species not listed under CESA or ESA or California Fully Protected, but meeting the definition of special status as stated in Section 3.6.1 of the Program EIR) are observed during reconnaissance surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-1) or focused or protocol-level surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-10), the project proponent will avoid or minimize adverse effects to the species by implementing the following.</p> <p><u>Avoid Mortality, Injury, or Disturbance of Individuals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The project proponent will implement the following to avoid mortality, injury, or disturbance of individuals:</li> </ul> <p>For all treatment activities except prescribed burning, the project proponent will establish a no-disturbance buffer around occupied sites (e.g., nests, dens, roosts, middens, burrows, nurseries). Buffer size will be determined by a qualified RPF or biologist using the most current, commonly accepted science and will consider published agency guidance; however, buffers will generally be a minimum of 100 feet, unless site conditions indicate a smaller buffer would be sufficient for protection or a larger buffer would be needed. Factors to be considered in determining buffer size will include, but not be limited to, the species’ tolerance to disturbance; the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; baseline levels of noise and human activity; and treatment activity.</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>Buffer size may be adjusted if the qualified RPF or biologist determines that such an adjustment would not be likely to adversely affect (i.e., cause mortality, injury, or disturbance to) the species within the nest, den, burrow, or other occupied site. If a no-disturbance buffer is reduced below 100 feet from an occupied site, a qualified RPF or biologist will provide the project proponent with a site- and/or treatment activity-specific explanation for the buffer reduction, which will be included in the PSA. After completion of the PSA and prior to or during treatment implementation, if there is any deviation (e.g., further reduction) from the reduced buffer as explained in the PSA, this will be documented in the post-project implementation report (referred to by CAL FIRE as a Completion Report).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No-disturbance buffers will be marked with high-visibility flagging, fencing, stakes, or clear, existing landscape demarcations (e.g., edge of a roadway). No activity will occur within the buffer areas until the qualified RPF or biologist has determined that the young have fledged or dispersed; the nest, den, or other occurrence is no longer active; or reducing the buffer would not likely result in disturbance, mortality, or injury. A qualified RPF, biologist, or biological technician will be required to monitor the effectiveness of the no-disturbance buffer around the nest, den, burrow, or other occurrence during treatment. If treatment activities cause agitated behavior of the individual(s), the buffer distance will be increased, or treatment activities modified until the agitated behavior stops. The qualified RPF, biologist, or biological technician will have the authority to stop any treatment activities that could result in mortality, injury or disturbance to special-status species.</li> <li>▪ For prescribed burning, the project proponent will implement the treatment outside the sensitive period of the species' life history (e.g., outside the breeding or nesting season) during which the species may be more susceptible to disturbance, or disturbance could result in loss of eggs or young. For species present year-round, the qualified RPF or biologist will determine the period of time within which prescribed burning could occur that will avoid or minimize mortality, injury, or disturbance of the species. The project proponent may consult with CDFW and/or USFWS for technical information regarding appropriate limited operating periods.</li> </ul> <p><u>Maintain Habitat Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ For all treatment activities, the project proponent will design treatment activities to maintain the habitat function by implementing the following:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ While performing review and surveys for SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-10, a qualified RPF or biologist will identify any habitat features that are necessary</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>for survival (e.g., habitat necessary for breeding, foraging, shelter, movement) of the affected wildlife species (e.g., trees with complex structure, trees with large cavities, trees with nesting platforms; tree snags; large raptor nests [including inactive nests]; downed woody debris). These habitat features will be marked and treatments applied to the features will be designed to minimize or avoid the loss or degradation of suitable habitat for listed species during treatments. Identification and treatment of these features will be based on the life history and habitat requirements of the affected species and the most current, commonly accepted science.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If it is determined during implementation of SPR BIO-1 and SPR BIO-10 that special-status wildlife with specific requirements for high canopy cover (e.g., northern goshawk, Sierra Nevada snowshoe hare) are present within a treatment area, then tree or shrub canopy cover within existing suitable areas will be retained at the percentage preferred by the species (as determined by expert opinion, published habitat association information, or other documented standards that are commonly accepted) such that the habitat function is maintained.</li> <li>▶ A qualified RPF or biologist will determine if, after implementation of the impact avoidance measures listed above, the habitat function will remain for the affected species after implementation of the treatment. The qualified RPF or biologist may consult with CDFW and/or USFWS for technical information regarding habitat function.</li> </ul> <p>A qualified RPF or biologist with knowledge of the special-status wildlife species habitat and life history will review the treatment design and applicable impact minimization measures (potentially including others not listed above) to determine if the anticipated residual effects of the treatment would be significant under CEQA because implementation of the treatment will not maintain habitat function of the special-status wildlife species' habitat or because the loss of special-status wildlife would substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a special-status wildlife species. If the project proponent determines the impact on special-status wildlife would be less than significant, no further mitigation will be required. If the project proponent determines that the loss of special-status wildlife or degradation of occupied habitat would be significant under CEQA after implementing feasible treatment design alternatives and impact minimization measures, then Mitigation Measure BIO-2c will be implemented.</p> <p>The only exception to this mitigation approach is in cases where it is determined by a qualified RPF or biologist that the non-listed special-status wildlife would benefit</p>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>from treatment in the occupied habitat area even though some of the non-listed special-status wildlife may be killed, injured, or disturbed during treatment activities. For a treatment to be considered beneficial to non-listed special-status wildlife, the qualified RPF or biologist will demonstrate with substantial evidence that habitat function is reasonably expected to improve with implementation of the treatment (e.g., by citing scientific studies demonstrating that the species (or similar species) has benefitted from increased sunlight due to canopy opening, eradication of invasive species, or otherwise reduced competition for resources), and the substantial evidence will be included in the PSA. If it is determined that treatment activities would be beneficial to special-status wildlife, no compensatory mitigation will be required. The qualified RPF or biologist may consult with CDFW and/or USFWS for technical information regarding the determination that a non-listed special-status species would benefit from the treatment.</p> <p><b>Project-Specific Implementation</b></p> <p>If other (i.e., non-listed) special-status wildlife species are observed during focused or protocol-level surveys (conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-10), the project proponent will avoid or minimize adverse effects to the species by implementing the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If western spadefoot toads, southern long-toed salamanders, coast horned lizards, or western pond turtles are detected during focused surveys, the project proponent will require flagging areas for avoidance, relocation of individual animals by a qualified RPF or biologist with a valid CDFW scientific collecting permit, and/or other measures recommended by CDFW as necessary to avoid injury to or mortality of this species.</li> <li>▶ If nesting California spotted owls are identified during protocol-level surveys, a no disturbance buffer of 0.25 mile will be established around active California spotted owl nests and no treatment activities will occur within this buffer.</li> <li>▶ If active special-status bird nests are detected during focused surveys, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 0.25 mile for northern goshawk nests, 164 feet for burrowing owl, and at least 100 feet around the nests of other special-status birds will be established, and no treatment activities will occur within this buffer until the chicks have fledged as determined by a qualified RPF or biologist.</li> <li>▶ If an active American badger den is detected during focused surveys, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 500 feet will be established around the den, and no treatment activities will occur within this buffer until the den is no longer occupied as determined by a qualified RPF or biologist. Buffer size may be</li> </ul>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>reduced or adjusted if recommended by a qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If active Sierra Nevada mountain beaver dens are detected during focused surveys, a no-disturbance buffer of at least 250 feet will be established around the burrow, and no treatment activities will occur within this buffer.</li> <li>▶ If an active pallid bat, Townsend’s big-eared bat, or western red bat roost is detected during focused surveys, then a no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet will be established around the roost, and mechanical treatments, manual treatments, and prescribed burning will not occur within this buffer.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-2c: Compensate for Mortality, Injury, or Disturbance and Loss of Habitat Function for Special-Status Wildlife if Applicable (All Treatment Activities)</b></p> <p>If the provisions of Mitigation Measure BIO-2a, BIO-2b, or BIO-2d cannot be implemented and the project proponent determines that additional mitigation is necessary to reduce significant impacts, the project proponent will compensate for such impacts to species or habitat by acquiring and/or protecting land that provides (or will provide in the case of restoration) habitat function for affected species that is at least equivalent to the habitat function removed or degraded as a result of the treatment.</p> <p>Compensation may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preserving existing habitat outside of the treatment area in perpetuity; this may entail purchasing mitigation credits and/or lands from a CDFW- or USFWS- approved entity in sufficient quantity to offset the residual significant impacts, generally at a ratio of 1:1 for habitat; and</li> <li>2. Restoring or enhancing existing habitat within the treatment area or outside of the treatment area (including decommissioning roads, adding perching structures, removing existing perching structures, or removing existing movement barriers or other existing features that are adversely affecting the species).</li> </ol> <p>The project proponent will prepare a Compensatory Mitigation Plan that identifies the residual significant effects that require compensatory mitigation and describes the compensatory mitigation strategy being implemented to reduce residual effects, and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For preserving existing habitat outside of the treatment area in perpetuity, the Compensatory Mitigation Plan will include a summary of the proposed compensation lands (e.g., the number and type of credits, location of mitigation</li> </ol>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p>bank or easement), parties responsible for the long-term management of the land, and the legal and funding mechanisms for long-term conservation (e.g., holder of conservation easement or fee title). The project proponent will submit evidence that the necessary mitigation has been implemented or that the project proponent has entered into a legal agreement to implement it and that compensatory habitat will be preserved in perpetuity.</p> <p>2. For restoring or enhancing habitat within the treatment area or outside of the treatment area, the Compensatory Mitigation Plan will include a description of the proposed habitat improvements, success criteria that demonstrate the performance standard of maintained habitat function has been met, legal and funding mechanisms, and parties responsible for long-term management and monitoring of the restored habitat.</p> <p>Review requirements are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The project proponent will consult with CDFW and/or any other applicable responsible agency prior to finalizing the Compensatory Mitigation Plan in order to satisfy that responsible agency's requirements (e.g., permits, approvals) within the plan.</li> <li>▶ For species listed under ESA or CESA or a California Fully Protected Species, the project proponent will submit the mitigation plan to CDFW and/or USFWS/NOAA Fisheries for review and comment.</li> <li>▶ For other special-status wildlife species the project proponent may consult with CDFW and/or USFWS regarding the availability and applicability of compensatory mitigation and other related technical information.</li> </ul> <p>Compensatory mitigation may be satisfied through compliance with permit conditions, or other authorizations obtained by the project proponent (e.g., incidental take permit), if these requirements are equally or more effective than the mitigation identified above.</p> <p><b>Project-Specific Implementation.</b></p> <p>If the provisions of Mitigation Measure BIO-2a cannot be implemented for California red-legged frog, foothill yellow-legged frog, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog or giant gartersnake such that impacts on these species would remain significant under CEQA; and the project proponent determines that additional mitigation is necessary to reduce significant impacts on these species; then the project proponent will implement this mitigation measure.</p>				

Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-2d: Implement Protective Measures for Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (All Treatment Activities)</b></p> <p>If elderberry shrubs within the documented range of valley elderberry longhorn beetle are identified during review and surveys for SPR BIO-1, and valley elderberry longhorn beetle or likely occupied suitable elderberry habitat (e.g., within riparian, within historic riparian, containing exit holes) is confirmed to be present during protocol-level surveys following the protocol outlined in USFWS <i>Framework for Assessing Impacts to the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle</i> (USFWS 2017) per SPR BIO-10, the following protective measures will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts to valley elderberry longhorn beetle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If elderberry shrubs are 165 feet or more from the treatment area, and treatment activities would not encroach within this distance, direct or indirect impacts are not expected and further mitigation is not required.</li> <li>▶ If elderberry shrubs are located within 165 feet of the treatment area, the following measures will be implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A minimum avoidance area of at least 20 feet from the dripline of each elderberry plant will be fenced or flagged and maintained to avoid direct impacts (e.g., damage to root system) that could damage or kill the plant, with the exception of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual trimming of elderberry shrubs will only occur between November and February and will avoid removal of any branches or stems that are greater than or equal to 1 inch in diameter to avoid and minimize adverse effects on valley elderberry longhorn beetle.</li> <li>• Manual or mechanical vegetation treatment within the drip-line of any elderberry shrub will be limited to the season when adults are not active (August – February), will be limited to methods that do not cause ground disturbance, and will avoid damaging the elderberry.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ A qualified RPF or biologist, or biological technician familiar with valley elderberry longhorn beetle and its life history will monitor the work area to ensure verify the avoidance and minimization measures are implemented. The qualified RPF, biologist, or biological technician will have the authority to stop any treatment activities that could result in potential adverse effects to valley elderberry longhorn beetle.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>If the project proponent cannot implement the measures above to avoid mortality, injury, or disturbance of VELB or degradation of occupied habitat such that its function would not be maintained, the project proponent will implement Mitigation Measure BIO-2c.</p>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment</b>  <b>Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>



Mitigation Measures	Applicable? (Y/N)	Timing	Implementing Entity	Verifying/Monitoring Entity
<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-3a: Design Treatments to Avoid Loss of Sensitive Natural Communities and Oak Woodlands</b></p> <p>The project proponent will implement the following measures when working in treatment areas that contain sensitive natural communities identified during surveys conducted pursuant to SPR BIO-3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Reference the <i>Manual of California Vegetation</i>, Appendix 2, Table A2, <i>Fire Characteristics</i> (Sawyer et al. 2009 or current version, including updated natural communities data at <a href="http://vegetation.cnps.org/">http://vegetation.cnps.org/</a>) or other best available information to determine the natural fire regime of the specific sensitive natural community type (i.e., alliance) present. The condition class and fire return interval departure of the vegetation alliances present will also be determined.</li> <li>▶ Design treatments in sensitive natural communities and oak woodlands to restore the natural fire regime and return vegetation composition and structure to their natural condition to maintain or improve habitat function of the affected sensitive natural community. Treatments will be designed to replicate the fire regime attributes for the affected sensitive natural community or oak woodland type including seasonality, fire return interval, fire size, spatial complexity, fireline intensity, severity, and fire type as described in <i>Fire in California's Ecosystems</i> (Van Wagtenonk et al. 2018) and the <i>Manual of California Vegetation</i> (Sawyer et al. 2009 or current version, including updated natural communities data at <a href="http://vegetation.cnps.org/">http://vegetation.cnps.org/</a>). Treatments will not be implemented in sensitive natural communities that are within their natural fire return interval (i.e., time since last burn is less than the average time required for that vegetation type to recover from fire) or within Condition Class 1.</li> <li>▶ To the extent feasible, no fuel breaks will be created in sensitive natural communities with rarity ranks of S1 (critically imperiled) and S2 (imperiled).</li> <li>▶ To the extent feasible, fuel breaks will not remove more than 20 percent of the native vegetation relative cover from a stand of sensitive natural community vegetation in sensitive natural communities with a rarity rank of S3 (vulnerable) or in oak woodlands. In forest and woodland sensitive natural communities with a rarity rank of S3, and in oak woodlands, only shaded fuel breaks will be installed, and they will not be installed in more than 20 percent of the stand of sensitive natural community or oak woodland vegetation (i.e., if the sensitive natural community covers 100 acres, no more than 20 acres will be converted to create the fuel break).</li> <li>▶ Use prescribed burning as the primary treatment activity in sensitive natural communities that are fire dependent (e.g., closed-cone forest and woodland</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial Treatment: Y</b>  <b>Treatment</b>  <b>Maintenance: Y</b></p>	<p>Prior to and during treatment</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>	<p>Yuba FSC</p>













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