

CHAPTER 1.0

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1.1 OVERVIEW

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Lytton Rancheria of California Fee-to-Trust and Residential Development Project, dated July 2009 (SCH #2009074006) was submitted to the State Clearinghouse and released for public and agency review for a 30-day comment period beginning on July 30, 2009 and ending on August 31, 2009. Additional extensions to the 30-day comment period were granted by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). This three-volume Final EA includes responses to comments received on the EA (Volume I), and a revised version of the EA to reflect the responses to comments received, with revised text shown in underline/strikeout format (Volume II). Volume III contains supporting **Appendices A** through **N**.

Since the public comment period, the Tribe has purchased an additional 32.12 acres (seven parcels) discussed in further detail in Volume II of the Final EA. These seven parcels were added to the fee-to-trust application and housing project site plan alternatives (Volume II) to provide additional flexibility for reclaimed water reuse and mitigation of potential impacts in response to comments and concerns raised during the EA public comment period. The Tribe met with the BIA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Sonoma County and the City of Windsor to discuss their concerns with the fee-to-trust application and EA.

This Final EA was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the implementing regulations developed by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), parts 1500-1508 and the BIA's NEPA handbook (59 IAM 3-H). The three-volume Final EA will be presented to the Regional Director of the BIA to determine if the environmental review process has been carried out consistent with the requirements of NEPA, and to determine whether a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be issued, or whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be prepared.

1.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT

Volume I of the Final EA contains a total of four chapters:

Chapter 1.0 Introduction. This chapter provides information on the contents and organization of the Final EA.

Chapter 2.0 Comments. Chapter 2.0 includes a list of commenters and copies of all written comments received. All comments are bracketed and annotated with individual comment numbers.

Chapter 3.0 Responses to Comments. Chapter 3.0 provides responses to all comments included in **Chapter 2.0**. Responses generally provide clarification of the original EA, and occasionally include changes in, or additions to, the text of that document.

Chapter 4.0 References. A list of references for Volume I of the Final EA (exclusive of those included in the original EA) is provided in this chapter.

Volume II of the Final EA contains the full text of the original EA, with appropriate alterations based on comments received. New text is shown by underlining, with deletions shown in ~~strikeout~~ format. New tables in the Final EA are designated in the table name as “New Table;” revised tables are designated as “Revised,” and new Appendices as “Added.”

Volume II also includes an executive summary section, including a table summarizing all project impacts and mitigation measures. The use of underlining has been disabled for the executive summary section, given that the entire section is newly added.

Volume III of the Final EA contains supporting **Appendices A** through **N**. **Appendices A** through **H** and **J** were revised for the Final EA. **Appendix F** (Cultural Resources Study and Addendum) is a confidential appendix bound under separate cover. **Appendices K** through **N** have been added with the Final EA, and **Appendix I** (Cooperative Fire Agreement) remains unchanged.

1.3 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table ES-1 in Volume II presents a summary of project impacts and mitigation measures that would avoid or minimize potential impacts. In the table, the level of significance of each environmental impact is indicated both before and after implementation of the recommended mitigation measure(s). **Table ES-1** includes impacts and mitigation measures in the original EA, as well as any additional or revised impacts and mitigation measures developed in response to comments on the project, found in **Chapter 3.0** of this document. No new significant impacts that could not be mitigated to a less than significant level were identified, nor were substantial increases in the severity of environmental impacts identified as a result of comments received on the Draft EA.