

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

Under FPA Section 10(j), the Commission must analyze any terms and conditions timely recommended by fish and wildlife agencies pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act for the protection, mitigation of damages, and enhancement of fish and wildlife affected by the development, operation, and management of the proposed project. Fish and wildlife agencies are not required to submit recommendations pursuant to FPA Section 10(j) until the Commission issues a notice that the license application is ready for environmental analysis.

As a part of the BCALP for the four Projects, the participating stakeholders, including the USFWS, CDFG, and other state and federal agencies have agreed upon various environmental measures to avoid, protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife resources. These measures are included as recommended License conditions in the comprehensive resource Settlement Agreement (SCE 2007; Volume 4, SD-H (Books 20 and 25)) that is also filed with the Commission along with this APDEA. These environmental measures are evaluated in this APDEA as the Proposed Action.

Prior to the filing of the Mammoth Pool Application for New License on November 21, 2005, resource agencies participating in the Big Creek ALP made certain recommendations regarding fish and wildlife resources that they would like addressed in the APDEA. In a letter dated September 15, 2005, the CDFG, State Water Board, USFWS, and USDA-FS provided joint recommendations to SCE for minimum instream flows, channel riparian maintenance flows, decommissioning of diversions, and locations where a sediment management plan should be developed. These recommendations were revised in an email dated November 2, 2005. These recommendations were evaluated as Alternative 1 in the APDEA that was filed with the Mammoth Pool Application on November 21, 2005.

The CDFG filed a letter with the Commission on October 26, 2005, that provided separate recommended measures for certain fish and wildlife resources. Some of the recommendations were revealed for the first time in that letter, and consequently, the Mammoth Pool Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA) was unable to include an analysis of all of the specific CDFG recommendations. The CDFG recommendations are evaluated in this APDEA under the CDFG Alternative.