BDCP
BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

Agenda Item 14
Attachment 1

Bay Delta Conservation Plan EIR/EIS Debrief

Protecting the Delta as an Evolving Place
Delta Stewardship Council Presentation

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December 19, 2013

Key Points

- The BDCP would result in impacts in several resource areas as discussed in the EIR/EIS.
- Construction impacts are localized and will be mitigated
- Footprint for water facilities optimized in response to consultation with numerous Delta stakeholders and interest groups.
- DWR is committed to continue working with Delta residents to further optimize the project and protect the character of Delta communities
- The BDCP would also provide benefits to the Delta
  - Construction-related employment
  - Ecosystem improvements
  - Increased open space for recreation
  - Improved infrastructure

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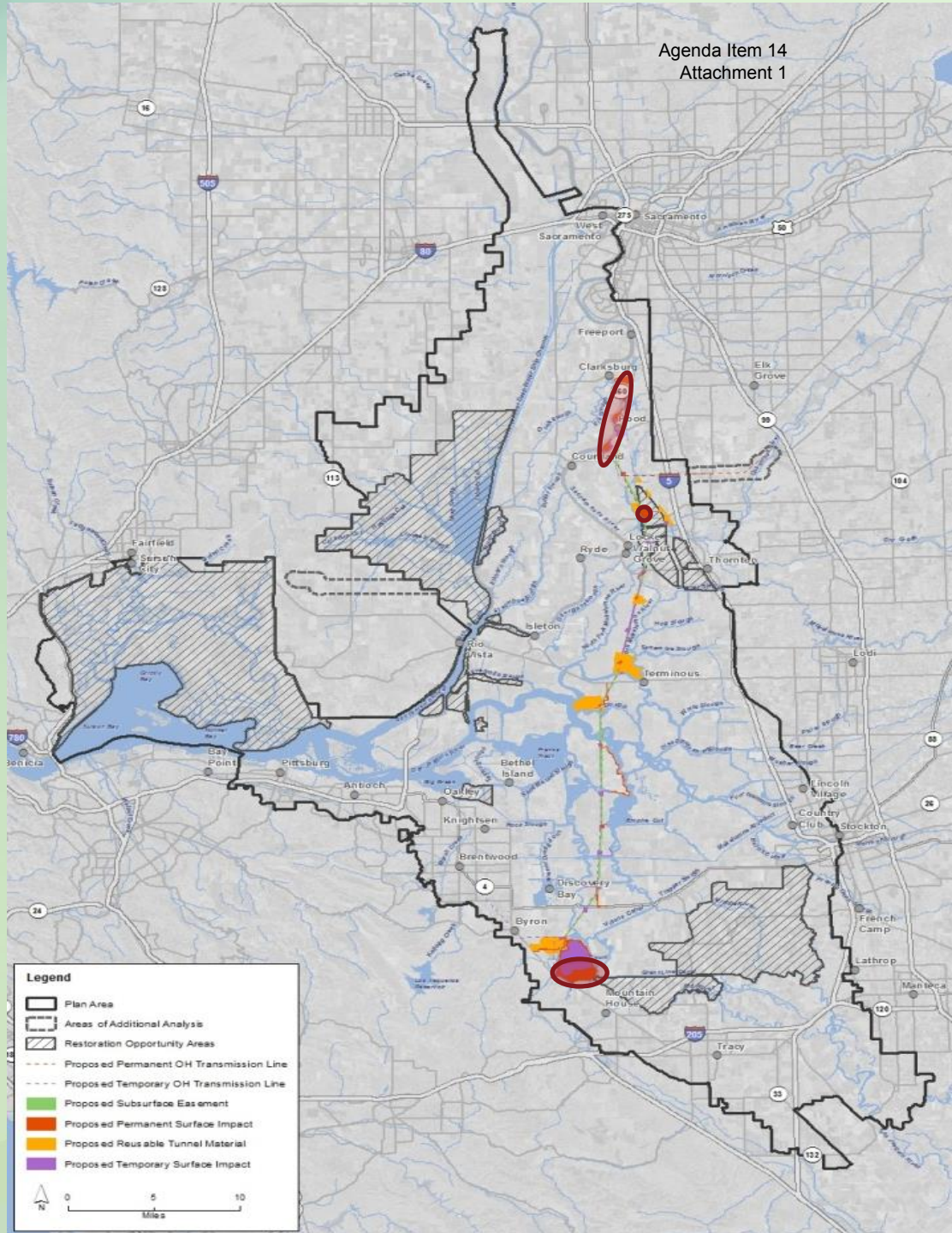
Alternative 4 – Construction Areas



Impacts to Delta Environment

- Construction Impacts (air quality, noise, visual, traffic, groundwater)
- Agricultural Conversion and Productivity
- Recreation Resources
- Archaeological Resources and Historic Properties Impacts

Construction Impact: Air Quality

- Localized generation of air quality pollutants
- Impacts will be mitigated through onsite and offsite mitigation programs to offset construction-generated criteria pollutant emissions so no exceedance of threshold caused by BDCP construction
- Environmental Commitments including:
  - Electrification of heavy-duty off-road equipment
  - Fugitive Dust Control Measures (AMM35)
  - Best Management Practices (proper engine maintenance and idling restrictions)

Construction impact: Roadways

- Localized temporary impacts
  - Level of Service
  - Pavement Conditions

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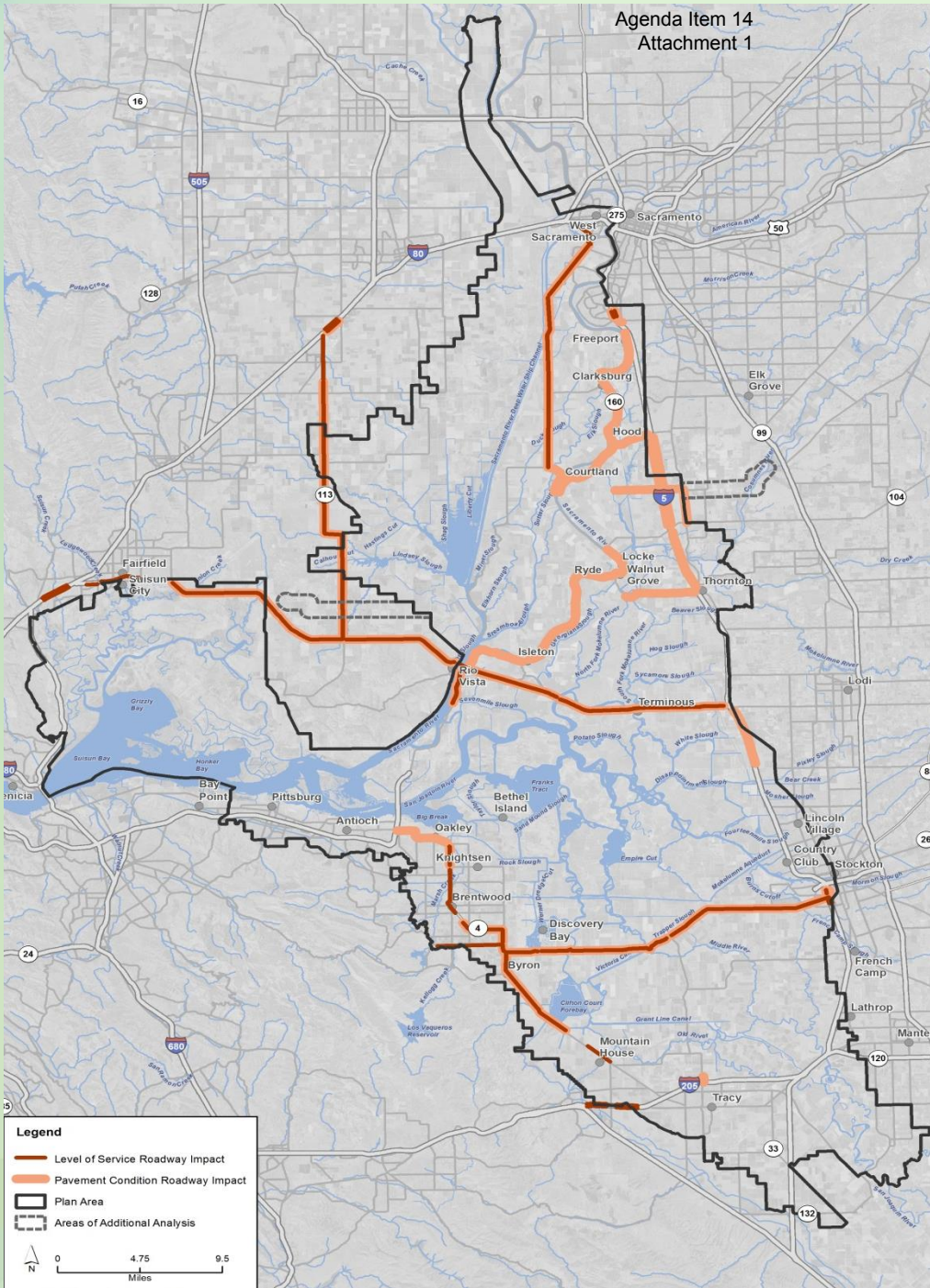
Alternative 4 – Construction Haul Routes

LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) EFFECTS:

- Effects on 11 roadways (36 segments out of 114 segments studied) on 126 miles (out of 332 miles studied).
- 23 of these segments would exceed LOS in the future EVEN WITHOUT the project.

PAVEMENT CONDITION EFFECTS:

- Effects on 18 roadways (42 out of 114 segments studied) on 166 miles (out of 332 miles studied).
- All of these ALREADY have deficient conditions under the baseline, but the project would be adding traffic to them, so it is recorded as an effect.



Roadways - Mitigation

- Will be mitigated by:
  - Implementing a traffic management plan
  - Limitations on when and where construction activity can occur
  - Work with relevant agencies to enhance capacity of congested roadway segments and improve condition of physically deficient segments

Construction impact: Visual character

- Intakes, conveyance facilities and buildings
- Will be mitigated through
  - Location of facilities
  - Restoration of sites
  - Visual barriers
  - Minimize removal of trees and shrubs
  - Designs that are compatible with visual character of the Delta
  - Spoil/borrow and RTM area management plan

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Visual Character - mitigation

Example Architectural Design - Membrane treatment plant in Utah

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Visual Character - mitigation

Example Architectural Design – Stockton Delta Water Supply Treatment Plant

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Visual Character - mitigation

Example Architectural Design – Crescent City Water Treatment Plant

Visual Character - mitigation

Example Architectural Design – Klineline Pump Station

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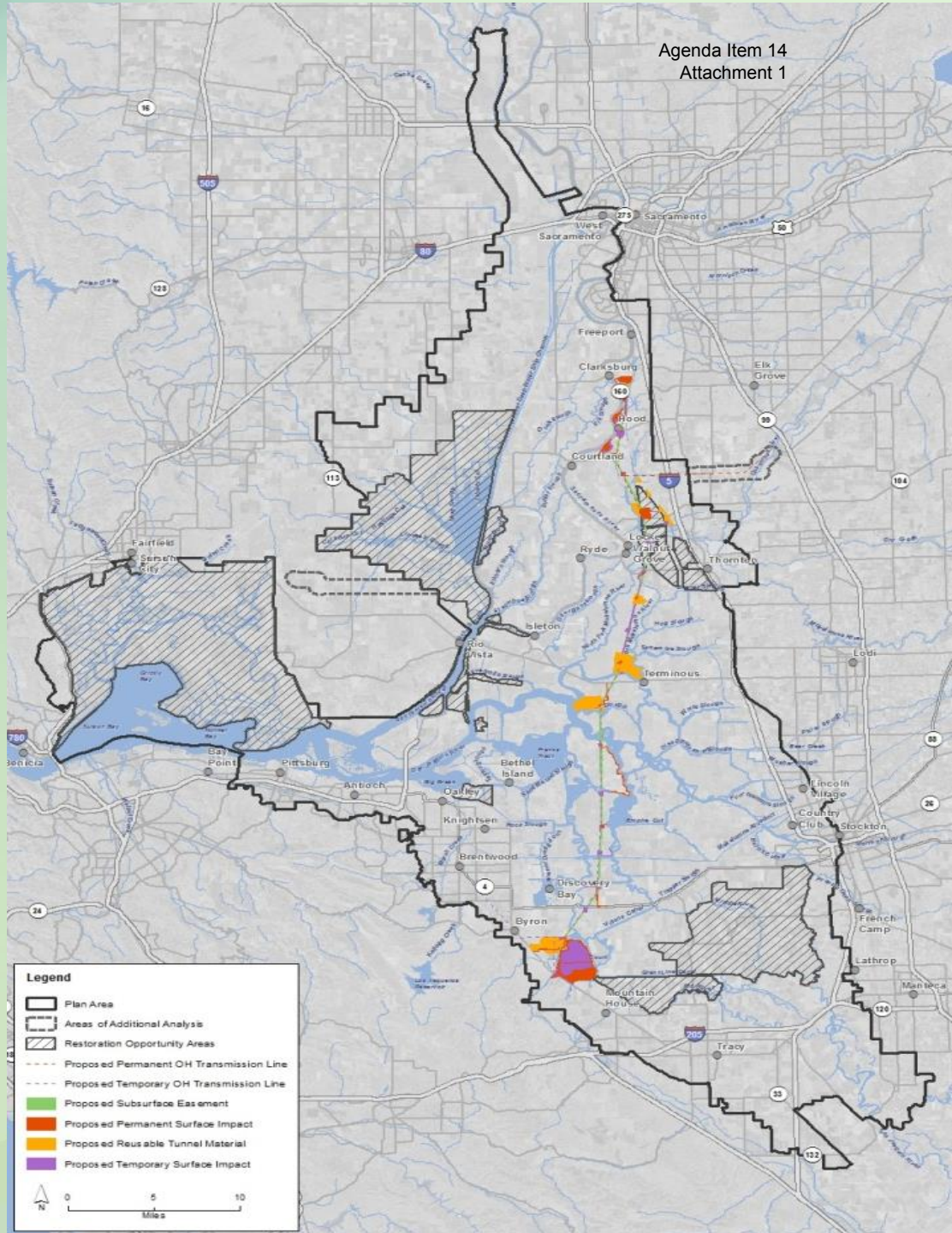
Alternative 4 – Spoil and RTM Areas

- Priority is beneficial reuse
- EIR/S assumes on-site storage



Visual Character - mitigation

Spoil and RTM Management

- Priority to identify beneficial reuse options in-lieu of on-site storage
- Identify site-specific measures to return storage sites to agriculture or native habitat
- Prevent visual discordance from native landscape
- Where appropriate, incorporate recreational use at restored sites

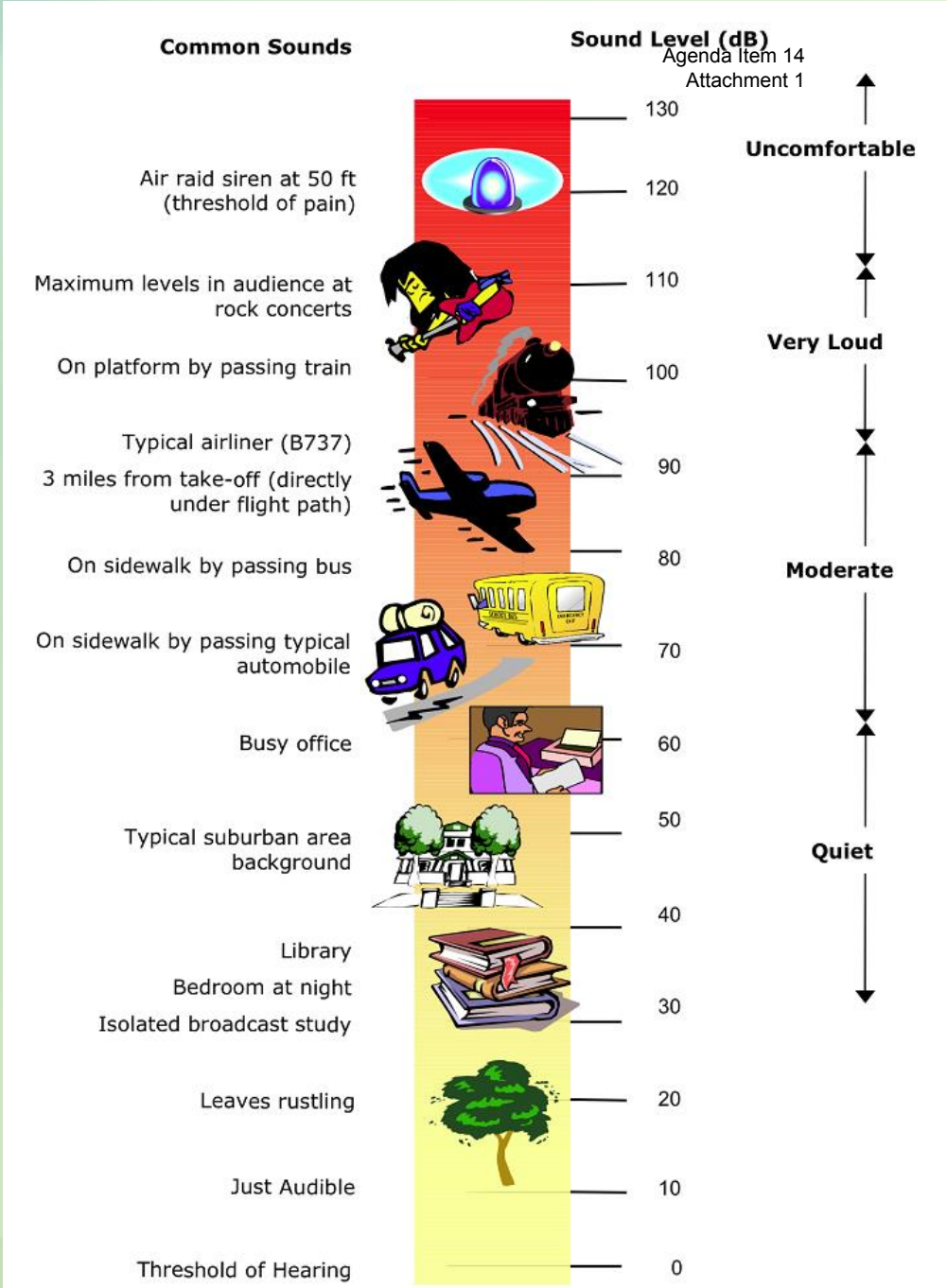
Visual Character - mitigation

Construction impact: Noise and vibration

- Some temporary localized exposure near residences, schools and parks
- *Pre-mitigation* effects from construction of intakes and conveyance facilities
  - Sacramento County (~120 residences day/night)
  - Yolo County (~9 residences day and ~95 night)
  - San Joaquin County (~8 residences day and ~18 night)

Impact Assessment

- 60 dBA daytime (or increase ambient noise level by 5 dB where baseline noise level over 60 dBA)
- 50 dBA night (or increase ambient noise level by 5 dB where baseline noise level over 50 dBA)



Source: Handbook of Environmental Acoustics, James P. Cowan, 1994

Noise and vibration - mitigation

- Mitigation through state of the art noise and vibration reducing construction practices
- Noise Complaint/Response tracking program – designated noise coordinator before and during construction

Construction impact: Groundwater

- Potential temporary impacts
  - Dewatering – temporary; effects anticipated in the vicinity of intake pumping plants and Clifton Court Forebay
  - Operations – seepage effects in the vicinity of intermediate forebay and Clifton Court Forebay

Groundwater - mitigation

- Mitigation:
  - Monitoring prior to and during construction – anticipate impacts before they happen
  - Ensure domestic and agricultural water supplies are maintained during construction or provide an alternate source of water
    - Deepening or modifying existing wells
    - Securing a temporary alternative water supply

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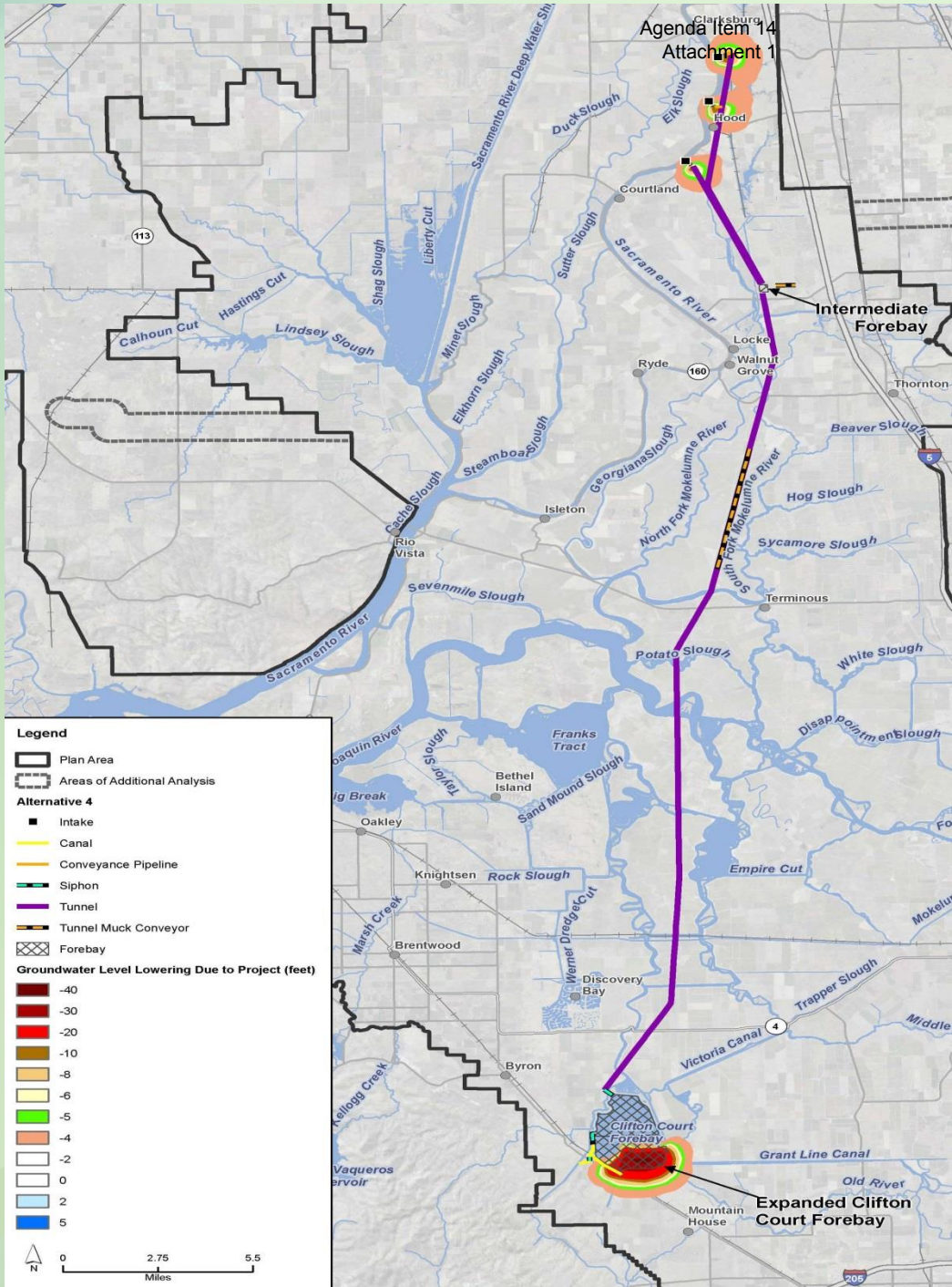
Groundwater Effects



Agricultural Resources

- Optimized alignment designed to reduce impacts on agricultural resources
- Effects on Important Farmland
  - Permanent effects on ~5,000 acres (CM1)
  - Temporary effects on ~1,300 acres (CM1)
  - Total = 1.2% of Important Farmland in the study area affected by CM1
  - Additional effects associated with restoration and protection
- Direct physical impacts
- Changes in salinity levels
- Disruption to on-farm drainage or irrigation facilities
- Increased frequency of inundation (Yolo Bypass)

Agricultural Resources - Mitigation

Develop agricultural land stewardship plans

- Preserve agricultural productivity on site (includes reworking irrigation/drainage facilities that are affected) and
- acquisition of agricultural conservation easements (1:1 target ratio as proposed by the Delta Stewardship Council)
- or implementation of agricultural stewardship strategies;
- Avoid and minimize impacts

Agricultural Resources - Mitigation

Agricultural land stewardship strategies

- Potential strategies to help maintain farming in the Delta
- Potential strategies that provide incentives for conservation on farmland
- Potential strategies to manage land for purposes other than conventional crop production
- Potential strategies that provide for economic development and other benefits

Recreation Resources

- Minor Direct Effects
  - Portions of Cosumnes River Preserve (Staten Island, McCormack-Williamson Tract, and proposed power line along Lambert Road)
  - Clifton Court Forebay
- Indirect Effects
  - Access, noise and visual disturbances during construction
- Conservation measures benefiting recreation:
  - CM11 would allow recreation to occur on approximately 61,000 acres of lands in the BDCP reserve system, including 170 miles of trails (25 new miles), 4 picnic areas, 15 new trailhead facilities and one updated boating facility, as well as a new boat launch facility within the footprint of the north Delta diversion facilities.
  - CM13 (*Invasive Aquatic Vegetation Control*) would provide for the control of invasive aquatic vegetation throughout the Plan Area. (Enhanced ability to control invasive vegetation would lead to increased recreation opportunities by providing a recreational opportunity downstream/upstream in the same area for the same regional recreational users).

Recreation Resources

- Fishing and hunting access
- Boating – Minimal impacts on passage and navigation from construction
  - NO channel closures
  - Intakes and barge loading facilities
    - Over water impacts 1-2 years
    - Temporary speed zones
  - Operable barriers and Italian Slough siphon
    - Work done in stages to avoid closures
  - All work will be coordinated with USCG

Recreation Resources

- Mitigation:
  - Providing alternative recreational opportunities to replace those impacted
  - Mitigation for other related resource areas (Traffic Management Plan)
  - Enhanced public access to the Sacramento River in the vicinity of the proposed intakes (including fishing access)
  - Funding efforts to carry out the recreation recommendations adopted in the Delta Protection Commission's Economic Sustainability Plan
  - Funding the CA Department of Boating and Waterways Programs for Aquatic Weed Control

Archaeological and Historic Resources

- Some Direct and Indirect Effects
  - prehistoric and historic archaeological resources
    - 10 previously recorded resources
  - Architectural/built-environment resources
    - 9 built-environment resources have the potential to be directly or indirectly affected
- Impacts will be avoided and mitigated through
  - Further surveys to identify resources
  - Development of data recovery plans
  - Working with relevant agencies and landowners to develop and implement treatment plans

Delta Benefits (mentioned in the EIR/EIS)

- Improved ecosystem conditions for fish and wildlife
- ~80,000 acres expanded open space/habitat areas which adds to Delta aesthetics and recreation
- Minimized permanent conversion of property from tunnels
- Improved Delta roadways
- Creates 4 to 6 thousand construction jobs and 200 permanent operations and maintenance workers to be filled from the local labor pool
- Increased barging activities could provide economic benefits to Ports of Stockton and West Sacramento

Environmental Commitments

- Perform Geotechnical Studies
- Conform with Applicable Design Standards and Building Codes
- Transmission Line Design and Alignment Guidelines
- Transmission Line Pole Placement
- Develop and Implement Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans
- Develop and Implement Erosion and Sediment Control Plans
- Develop and Implement Fish Rescue and Salvage Plans
- Develop and Implement a Barge Operations Plan
- Construction Equipment Exhaust Reduction Plan
- DWR Construction Best Management Practices to Reduce GHG Emissions
- Develop and Implement Noise Abatement Plan
- Develop and Implement Hazardous Materials Management Plans
- Develop and Implement Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasure Plans
- Develop and Implement a Fire Prevention and Control Plan
- Prepare and Implement Mosquito Management Plans
- Conduct Environmental Training
- Provide Construction Site Security
- Fugitive Dust Control
- Disposal and Reuse of Spoils, Reusable Tunnel Material (RTM), and Dredged Material
- Provide Notification of Maintenance Activities in Waterways
- Selenium Management
- CEQA and NEPA Compliance for BDCP-related Conservation Projects

Next Steps

- Take stakeholder input on EIR/EIS impacts and mitigation measures
- Project level environmental assessment of individual restoration actions and other projects proposed under Conservation Measures 2-22.
- Continued outreach to stakeholders to refine mitigation measures in MMRP

Public Comment Period – Ways to Participate

- Review the Draft BDCP and Draft EIR/EIS
  - Online or at local libraries
- Attend a Public Meeting and make a formal comment
- 120-day public comment period from December 13, 2013 to April 14, 2014
- Formal comments received during the public comment period on both the Draft BDCP and Draft EIR/EIS will be responded to in the Final BDCP and Final EIR/EIS, and will be used in the decision-making process.

More information at www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com

Questions?

Alternative 4 – Summary of Impact Conclusions

- Total of 615 impact mechanisms
  - Beneficial: 71
  - No Impact: 60
  - Less Than Significant: 430
  - Significant and Unavoidable: 52
  - No Determination: 2