Glossary

100-year flood: A flood that statistically has a 1-percent chance of occurring in any given year.

Afterbay: A pool of water at the outlet of the turbines in a hydroelectric power plant.

Alluvial aquifer: Unconsolidated materials (clay, silt, sand, or gravel) deposited by water generally located in valleys where the lower elevation of the ground surface provides a location for sediment to accumulate. Groundwater is collected and stored in the pore spaces between the grains of the unconsolidated deposits.

Anadromous salmonids: Fish of the family *Salmonidae* that travel upstream to spawn in freshwater; *Salmonidae* include Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead.

Anoxic: Severely low dissolved oxygen conditions.

Attainment Area: A geographic area considered to have air quality as good as or better than the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and/or the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS).

A-weighted sound pressure level or decibel (dBA): A measurement of sound level that is similar to the way a person perceives sound. By cutting off the lower and higher frequencies that the average person cannot hear, dBA levels achieve a strong correlation for evaluating acceptable and unacceptable sound levels.

A-weighted sound pressure levels: The most common weighting that is used in noise measurement is A-weighting. Like the human ear, this effectively cuts off the lower and higher frequencies that the average person cannot hear. A-weighted measurements are expressed as dBA or dB(A).

Axial-flow pump: A pump that consists of a propeller (an axial impeller) in a pipe.

Beneficial effect: An effect that is considered an improvement of physical conditions within the area affected by a project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance.

Beneficial uses: The intended uses of a water supply, including but not limited to domestic, municipal, industrial, agricultural, and supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves.

Best management practice (BMP): A generally accepted method or technique that produces results that are superior to those achieved by other means.

Biological opinion: A formal opinion issued by the (1) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or (2) the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding whether a project is likely to jeopardize a listed species or destroy or adversely modify listed species' critical habitat.

Bore-and-jack-construction: A construction technique that requires excavation of a large pit on each side of the existing infrastructure feature and then tunneling horizontally under the structure.

CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CALFED): A long-term comprehensive program to restore the ecological health and improve water management and protect beneficial uses in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

CALSIM II: Modeling software that simulates changes in monthly river flows, exports, water deliveries, reservoir storage, water quality, and several derived variables to represent flow and salinity conditions.

Central Valley Project (CVP): A major water conservation development built to protect the Central Valley from water shortages and floods; deliver municipal, industrial, and agricultural water supplies; generate electric power; improve navigation, recreation, water quality the environment.

Central Valley Project Water Service Contractors: Water rights holders that have contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation for delivery of CVP water. Availability of water under the CVP water service contracts depends on hydrologic, regulatory, and operational conditions. CVP water service contractors have lower priority and receive available water supplies in compliance with established water rights and water quality requirements.

CEQA baseline: Analysis of project impacts requires a basis for comparison. Under CEQA, the basis of comparison is the existing conditions at the time of the Notice of Preparation, which is generally referred to as the CEQA baseline.

Circuit-mile: One mile of a single circuit, which for alternating current circuits are generally three-phase and, therefore, have three separate conductors making up a single circuit. Direct current circuits consist of two phases and, therefore, have two conductors needed per single circuit.

Cofferdam: A temporary enclosure built within, or in pairs across, a body of water and constructed to allow the enclosed area to be pumped out to create a dry work environment.

Colusa Basin Drain (CBD): A water conveyance feature that provides irrigation water and collects irrigation return flows from land on the western side of the Sacramento Valley in Glenn, Colusa, and Yolo counties. Water from the CBD discharges to the Sacramento River through a gravity flow structure at the Knights Landing Outfall to prevent the Sacramento River from flowing into the Colusa Basin.

Constituent of concern: Chemicals that are identified for evaluation during a site assessment.

Criteria pollutant: Air pollutants for which acceptable levels of exposure can be determined and for which an ambient air quality standard has been set. Criteria pollutants are ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in aerodynamic diameter, particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in aerodynamic diameter, and lead.

Cultural resources: Sites, buildings, structures, objects, and districts that may have traditional or cultural value.

Cumulative impact: An environmental effect that, on their own, may not be “significant” as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act or “considerable” as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act, but when combined with similar effects over time, result in significant or considerable effects. Cumulative impacts occur when the effects of an action are added to or interact with other effects in a particular place and within a particular time.

CVP Cross Valley Contractors: Eight agencies on the eastern side in Fresno, Kern, Tulare, and Kings counties that use the Cross Valley Canal to convey their water supply.

De minimis: Under the existing air regulations, de minimis emission levels are listed for each criteria pollutant; annual emission rates per calendar year are used. De minimis levels are considered too minor to merit consideration.

Delevan Overhead Power Line: The north-to-south power line feature under Alternative D.

Delevan Pipeline Discharge Facilities: Under Alternative B only, the structure that makes controlled releases to the Sacramento River.

Delevan Pipeline Intake/Discharge Facilities: Under Alternatives A, C, C_1, and D, facilities that include a flat-plate fish screen; forebay, pumping/generating plant and switchyard; maintenance and electrical buildings; and other electrical and mechanical features.

Delta: The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as legally defined in the Delta Protection Act.

Direct impact: An impact caused by an action and would occur at the same time and place as the action.

Distinct Population Segment (DPS): Populations of species that are discrete and significant in relation to the entire species.

Earthquake intensity: A qualitative measure of the effects a given earthquake has on people, structures, loose objects, and the ground at a specific location; typically measured using the Modified Mercalli intensity scale.

Electric and magnetic field (EMF): Electric and magnetic fields created by electric voltage (electric field) and electric current (magnetic field).

Environmental commitment: Measures, plans, and practices adopted by the project proponents to reduce or avoid adverse effects that could result from construction, operation, and/or maintenance.

Epilimnion: A warm surface water layer.

Eutrophic: A lake or other body of water condition that is rich in nutrients and supports a dense plant population, the decomposition of which kills animal life by depriving it of oxygen.

Eutrophication: When aquatic plant life is stimulated and toxicity can occur when there is an excessive growth of macrophytes, phytoplankton, or potentially toxic algal blooms that can decrease dissolved oxygen. Typically occurs at night when plants stop producing oxygen through photosynthesis but continue to use oxygen.

Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU): Populations with genetic attributes that are significant for present and future generations of the species.

[BL1]Extended Study Area: Service areas of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project that are not included in the Secondary and Primary study areas.

Farmland of Local Importance: U.S. Department of Agriculture − Land that has importance to the local agricultural economy as determined by the county board of supervisors and a local advisory committee.

Farmland of Statewide Importance: U.S. Department of Agriculture − Land that is similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. The land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

Floodplain: A strip of relatively level land bordering a stream or river subject to flooding. Floodplains build up over time by deposits of sediment carried in flood waters.

Fluvial geomorphology: The form and function of rivers and streams and the interaction between streams and the landscape.

Forebay: A pool of water in front of a larger body of water that acts as a buffer during flooding or storm surges by impounding water and for a controlled release into the larger waterbody.

Formation: A rock unit that is distinctive in appearance and can be differentiated from surrounding rock layers.

Fractured-rock aquifers: Primarily in mountainous regions where topography prevents the accumulation of significant amounts of eroded material. Groundwater collects and is stored in both the matrix (primary porosity) and fractures (secondary porosity) of the solid rock formations. Fractured-rock aquifers are generally considered to produce less groundwater and to be less predictable water sources than alluvial aquifers.

Freeboard: The distance between normal water level and the top of a structure such as dam.

Geomorphic province: An area with common geologic or geomorphic attributes.

Global warming: The increase in temperature of the earth's atmosphere caused by increased levels of greenhouse gases.

Greenhouse gas (GHG): An air constituent that traps long-wave infrared radiation emitted from the Earth's surface that would otherwise escape to space; GHGs lead to global climate change and include the following: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and hydrofluorocarbons.

Growth-inducing impact: An impact resulting from a project that could foster economic or population growth, or construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment; includes removal of obstacles to population growth.

Hazardous material: California Code of Regulations – A substance or combination of substances which, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, may either (1) cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of or otherwise managed.

Hazardous waste: California Health and Safety Code – Any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, [may either] cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious illness [or] pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Heavy metals: Metals such as iron, copper, silver, and gold, that have relatively high densities or atomic weights. Some heavy metals are relatively harmless, but can be toxic in larger amounts and others are highly poisonous.

Historic-era resources: Physical sites, structures, or built features that coincide with the advent of written records.

Hypolimnion: A bottom cold-water layer.

Important Farmlands: Include Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance.

Incidental take: An activity that would directly or indirectly kill an individual of a species. Under the California Endangered Species Act the definition includes "harm" or "harass," but the federal Endangered Species Act does not.

Indian Trust Assets: Legal interests in property held in trust by the federal government for Indian tribes and individuals, or property protected under federal law for Indian tribes and individuals.

Indirect impact: An impact caused by an action but would occur later in time or at another location.

Invasive species: A non-native species whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

Joint-use facilities: Water control facilities used by both the state and the federal government.

Lacustrine: Relating to or associated with lakes.

Lead agency: An agency that oversees implementation of a policy or action.

Less-than-significant impact: No substantial adverse change in the environment would result from implementing the alternative. No mitigation is required.

Liquefaction: A phenomenon in which the strength and stiffness of a soil are reduced by earthquake shaking or other rapid loading.

Littoral habitat: Of, relating to, or existing on a shore.

Long-term effects: Effects that relate to the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, in particular the consistency of a project with long-term economic, social, regional, and local planning objectives.

Material culture: Physical evidence of past human behavior.

Maximum contaminant level: The legal threshold limit on the amount (concentration) of a contaminant in water.

Metalimnion or thermocline: The middle layer of a thermally stratified lake or reservoir that is characterized by a rapid decrease in temperature with depth

Minority population: Persons who identify themselves as African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, or of Hispanic origin.

Mitigation measure: An action implemented to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or compensate for significant and potentially significant impacts.

Moment magnitude (M_w) scale: The most commonly used scale to quantitative measure of the strength and energy release of an earthquake

Morning glory spillway: An uncontrolled spillway with a funnel-shaped outlet that allows water to spill into the funnel rather than spilling over the dam.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System: The permit program that addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States.

Navigable waters of the United States: Waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.

No Impact: No change in the environment would result from implementing the alternative. No mitigation is required.

Nonattainment Area: A geographic area identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the California Air Resources Board as not meeting federal and state standards, respectively, for a given pollutant.

Nonattainment area: A region that does not meet the federal or state ambient air quality standards.

North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage (NODOS): Offstream surface water storage projects in the upper Sacramento River Basin.

Objective release: The maximum reservoir release rate during a flood.

Operating storage capacity: The amount of water maintained or stored in a reservoir for typical operations.

Organophosphates: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – A class of insecticides sometimes used in agriculture, homes, gardens, and veterinary practices, several of which are highly toxic and can potentially cause acute and subacute toxicity.

Other waters: Waters of the United States, including intermittent streams, that the degradation or destruction of which could affect interstate or foreign commerce.

Paleontological sensitivity: The likelihood that an area will yield identifiable, unique, or scientifically important fossils; areas are rated as having low, moderate, or high sensitivity.

Palustrine: An inland wetland that lacks flowing water, contains ocean-derived salts in concentrations of less than 0.5 parts per thousand, and is non-tidal.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment: Determines the potential for hazardous substance contamination; involves sampling and analysis to identify and characterize contamination on property considered for purchase, transfer, retirement, or sale in fee or easement for the Project.

Phase II Environmental Site Assessment: Conducts further sampling and laboratory analysis to confirm the presence of hazardous materials; determines additional site investigation needs and potential remedial actions that may be required to clean up the property.

Phase III Environmental Site Assessment: Provides a plan for design and implementation of mitigation or remediation and to identify the proper storage, handling, transport, and disposal of designated and hazardous waste, if required.

Population: The listed Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) or Distinct Population Segment (DPS) for a species.

Potentially significant impact: A potentially substantial adverse change in the physical conditions of the environment resulting from an action, based on the evaluation of project effects using specified

significance criteria. Mitigation measures are proposed, when feasible, to reduce effects on the environment.

Prehistoric resources: The material remains of human activities that predate contact with non-Native Americans.

Primary irrigation season: Early April through mid-October.

Primary Study Area: The footprint of the Project facilities, the land immediately surrounding them that could be affected by construction and/or maintenance activities (construction disturbance area), and the land parcels surrounding those areas that would be purchased as buffer lands around the Project facilities. The Primary Study Area is located entirely within Glenn and Colusa counties.

Prime Farmland: U.S. Department of Agriculture − Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is also available for these uses. Prime Farmland has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed in accordance with acceptable farming methods, including water management. In general, Prime Farmland has an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. Prime Farmland is permeable to water and air, is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period, and either does not flood frequently or is protected from flooding.

Probable maximum flood (PMF): The flood expected from the most severe combination of critical meteorological and hydrologic conditions that is reasonably possible in the drainage basin.

Project Buffer: Land that would be acquired for the Project beyond the facility footprints, out to the nearest existing parcel boundaries, to avoid potential conflicts in land uses. If the nearest parcel boundary is less than 100 feet beyond the facility footprint, the Project Buffer would extend beyond the parcel boundary to result in at least a 100-foot buffer.

Pulse flow: A flow regime that provides flow continuity between the upper and lower Sacramento River to support fish migration.

Random fill: Suitable fill material that can include various types of soil or rock that do not necessarily have the defined physical characteristics of the other categories of materials used for construction.

Record of Decision: A public document that explains the remediation plan for the cleanup of a Superfund site.

Refuge Contracts: Water supplies for federal and state wildlife refuges defined in the Central Valley Project (CVP) Improvement Act. Level 2 water supplies are provided with a higher priority than CVP water service contracts and are provided at 100 percent of the contract amount, except in drier years, subject to the Shasta Criteria.

Reservoir-triggered seismicity (RTS): A phenomenon in which earthquakes are triggered by the filling of a reservoir or by water-level changes during reservoir operation.

Riffle: A shallow, rocky section of a stream or river with rapid current that results in rough water.

Riparian habitat: Plant habitats and communities along and adjacent to river banks.

Riprap: Piled stones used as a foundation or to stabilize an easily eroded bank or slope.

Sacramento River Settlement Contractors: Senior water rights holders on the Sacramento River prior to construction of Shasta Lake. The contracts established a volume of water each contractor is allowed to divert from April through October without charge. Some agreements include a supplemental Central Valley Project supply allocated by the Bureau of Reclamation through storage in Shasta Lake.

Saddle dam: An auxiliary dam constructed to help confine a reservoir created by a primary dam to either raise the water level of the reservoir and/or to limit the extent of a reservoir. Saddle dams are constructed in low spots or "saddles" to maintain the water level in the reservoir.

Salinity: Dissolved mineral salts in the water measured as total dissolved solids or electrical conductivity.

Salt Lake: The intermittent lake formed in the Funks Creek watershed by water accumulated from underground springs along the trough of the valley the Salt Lake fault, along the slopes above the valley, and along the valley floor within the proposed inundation area of Sites Reservoir.

San Francisco Estuary: The portion of the Sacramento-San Joaquin rivers watershed downstream from Chipps Island that is influenced by tidal action and where fresh water and salt water mix.

San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors: Senior water rights holders on the San Joaquin River prior to construction of Millerton Lake and Friant Dam. Under the Exchange Contracts, the parties agreed to not exercise their San Joaquin River water rights in exchange for a substitute water supply provided by the Central Valley Project from the Delta at Mendota Pool.

Seasonal exchange: When winter-peaking utilities in the north send power south during the summer, and summer-peaking utilities in the south send power north during the winter.

Secondary Study Area: The 18-county study area that includes Central Valley Project and State Water Project reservoirs, rivers, creeks, and floodplains that could be affected by Project operations. Project operations under the action alternatives would not affect all reservoirs and streams in the Secondary Study Area.

Self-cleaning trash rack: A self-cleaning device that prevents water-borne debris (e.g., logs, boats, animals, vegetation) from entering a water conveyance system or natural watercourse.

Sensitive receptor: Areas where the occupants are more susceptible to adverse effects of exposure to noise, vibration, or toxic pollutants (e.g., hospitals, schools, daycare facilities).

Shasta Criteria: Depending on inflows to Shasta Lake during critical water years, water deliveries to Sacramento River Settlement Contractors and the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors may be reduced to 75 percent of the total contract amount.

Sheet-pile wall: A temporary or permanent wall that uses thin, interlocking steel sheets known as sheet piles.

Short-term effects: Effects that relate to the short-term uses of environmental resources during the construction of a project.

Significance criteria: Thresholds used to identify whether an impact is potentially significant.

Significant environmental effect: A substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance.

Sites Reservoir Complex: Features and facilities that are geographically or functionally associated with the Sites Reservoir, including the Sites Reservoir Inundation Area, the dams that would form the reservoir, proposed borrow areas for materials needed to construct the dams, the inlet/outlet facilities, the pumping/generating plant and associated electrical switchyards, the tunnel that would connect the pumping/generating plant to the inlet/outlet structure, the bridge, roads, recreation areas, and office/maintenance area.

Sites/Delevan Overhead Power Line: A proposed, west-to-east power line for Alternatives A, B, C, and C_1.

Special-status species: Species of flora or fauna designated as endangered or threatened; candidate species for listing as endangered or threatened; legally protected; or otherwise considered sensitive.

State Water Project (SWP): The water and power development and conveyance system built by the State of California and operated by the California Department of Water Resources to provide water for users in the state.

Stormwater pollution prevention plan: A plan that identifies (1) pollutants and their sources associated with a Project that may affect stormwater quality, (2) best management practices to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges during and after construction, (3) non-stormwater discharges, and (4) actions to mitigate or treat non-stormwater discharges.

Stream: A body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supporting wildlife, fish, or other aquatic life; includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation.

Streambed Alteration Agreement: An agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife that describes measures that will be implemented to protect affected fish, wildlife, and associated riparian resources when an activity may substantially adversely affect those resources.

Streambed alteration: Substantial diversion or obstruction the natural flow of the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; use of any material from the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake.

Tailings: Residue (typically rocks, gravel, and sand) left over from a mining process.

Tailrace: A water channel below a dam.

Temporary or short-term impact: Impacts during the construction period (which could vary by facility and in some cases could extend several years), including all activities to construct each project facility.

Threatened species: A native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of special protection and management efforts.

Total maximum daily load (TMDL): An allocation of the maximum amount of the pollutant expressed as a load (e.g., mass per time period) that can occur during the critical time period when a numeric criterion is exceeded, while still attaining the criterion.

Traditional cultural property (TCP): Cultural property that is historically rooted in a community's beliefs, customs, and practices.

Transmission line: Specifically refers to an existing power line owned by the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) or Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E).

Tribal cultural resource (TCR): Cultural resources that have specific cultural value to Native Americans.

Unique Farmland: U.S. Department of Agriculture − Land other than prime farmland that is used to produce specific high-value food and fiber crops, such as citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, and other fruits and vegetables. It has a combination of soil quality, growing season, moisture supply, temperature, humidity, air drainage, elevation, and aspect needed for the soil to economically produce sustainable high yields of these crops when properly managed. The water supply is dependable and of adequate quality. Nearness to markets is an additional consideration.

Viewer exposure: Variables that affect viewing conditions from potentially sensitive areas; attributes that characterize viewer exposure include landscape visibility, viewing distance, viewing angle, number of viewers, and duration of view.

Visual quality: The overall visual impression or attractiveness of an area as determined by the particular landscape characteristics including landforms, rock forms, water features, and vegetation or land use patterns; attributes that characterize visual resources including vividness (power or memorability of landscape components), intactness (integrity and freedom of landscape from encroaching elements), and unity (coherence and harmony of landscape as a whole) that contribute to the overall visual quality of an area.

Visual resources: Natural and artificial features that create the perceived visual character and sensitivity of a landscape; attributes that characterize visual resources include visual quality, viewer types and volumes, viewer exposure, and visual sensitivity.

Visual sensitivity: A combined measurement of the overall susceptibility of an area or viewer group to adverse visual or aesthetic impacts, given the combined factors of landscape visual quality, viewer types, and exposure conditions.

Water year: The 12-month period beginning October 1 through September 30 of the following year; water years are classified as Above Normal or Wet.

Water-dependent activities: Recreational activities that depend on water, such as boating, waterskiing, swimming, and fishing.

Water-enhanced activities: Recreational activities that are enhanced by the presence of water bodies, such as wildlife viewing, camping, hiking, and hunting.

Waters of the state: Any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of a state.

Waters of the United States: Broadly defined by the Clean Water Act as surface waters that require protection to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, or biological integrity of traditional navigable waters, interstate waters, and the territorial seas. Currently, Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Section 230.3(s) of the Clean Water Act provides a detailed regulatory definition.

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA): One of four power marketing administrations within the U.S. Department of Energy that transmit electricity from hydropower plants operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the International Boundary and Water Commission. WAPA transmits wholesale electricity to retail providers in 15 states.

Western Interconnection: The highly interconnected electric grid that includes all or parts of 14 states, 2 Canadian provinces, and part of Mexico.

Wetlands: Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions; generally, includes swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Williamson Act Contract: California Department of Conservation – Also known as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, the Williamson Act enables local governments to contract with private landowners to restrict specific lands to agricultural or related open space uses. In return, Williamson Act Contract landowners receive low property tax assessments based on farming and open space uses rather than full market value.

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