

DONNER SUMMIT Public Utility District



Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project

Joint Public Scoping Meeting with Donner Summit Public Utilities District (DSPUD) and the U.S. Forest Service (Tahoe National Forest)

Outline

- ❖ Meeting Objectives
- ❖ CEQA/NEPA Process Overview (including Public Participation)
- ❖ Project Needs and Objectives
- ❖ Existing System
- ❖ Environmental Constraints Analysis
- ❖ Proposed Project
- ❖ Preliminary Studies/Results
- ❖ What Next?



Overall Meeting Purpose

- ❖ Provide information about the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process
- ❖ Give an update about the status of the resource surveys
- ❖ Receive input from the public about potential environmental impacts

Meeting Purpose *(cont.)*

❖ This IS –

- ◆ An Initial NEPA Scoping Meeting and a preliminary CEQA Scoping Meeting (DSPUD wants to be proactive and include/address public concerns even if the project is covered by an EA/ISMND.)

❖ This is NOT –

- ◆ The official CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP) and NEPA Notice of Intent (NOI) and Scoping meeting. Those occur only if Lead Agencies deem an EIR/EIS level analysis applicable.

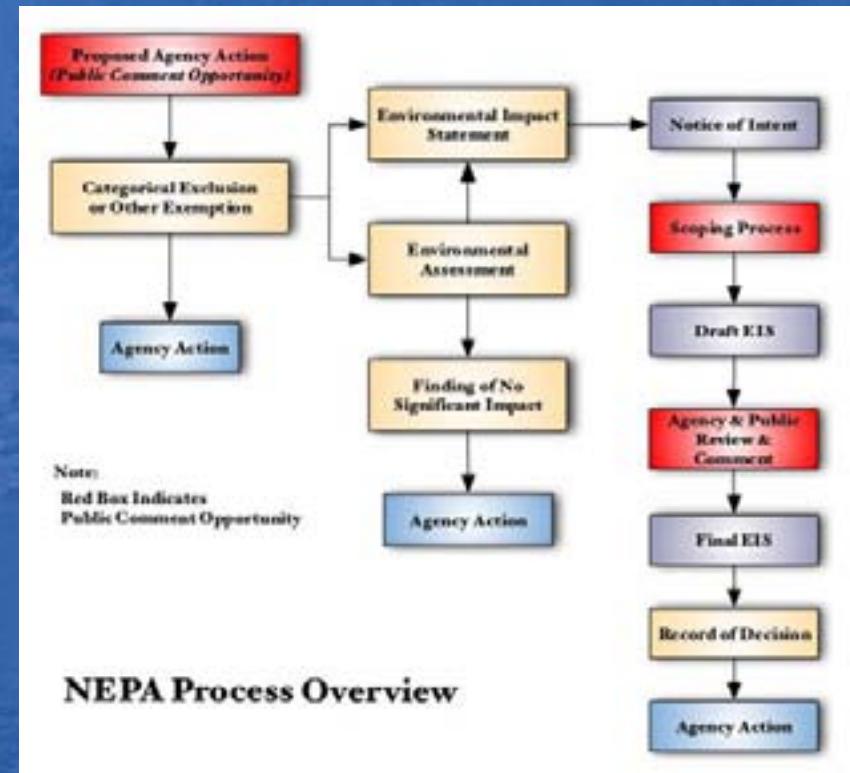


CEQA/NEPA Process Overview (including Public Participation)



Environmental Process Overview National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

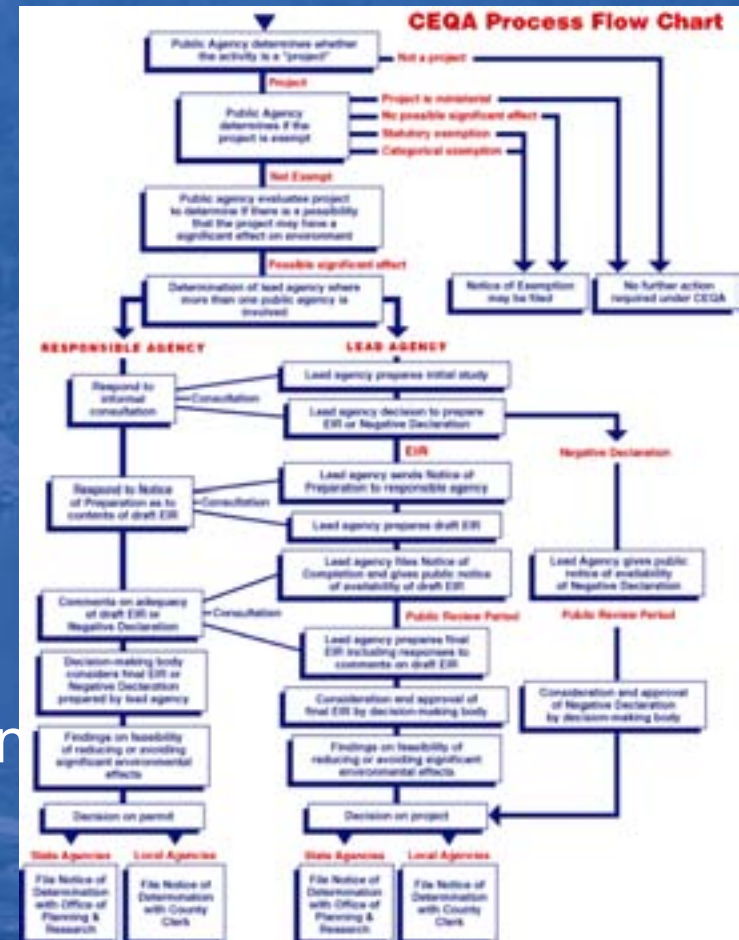
- ❖ We are currently in Proposed Agency Action Phase
- ❖ USFS Determines Level of Analysis using EA
 - ◆ Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) **OR**
 - ◆ Notice of Intent (NOI) and 30-day public scoping, EIS and 45-day public review



Environmental Process Overview

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- ❖ We are currently in the Initial Study Phase
- ❖ DSPUD Determines Level of Analysis
 - ◆ MND Process – 30 day public review **OR**
 - ◆ EIR Process – Notice of Preparation (NOP) and 30-day Scoping , then and Draft EIR and 45-day Public Review → Final EIR



Note: Current estimations are tending toward MND Process

NEPA/CEQA Public Participation

- ❖ **NOW – Public comments during the planning process (potential impacts, concerns, alternatives)**
- ❖ **IF ISMND/EA – 30-Day Public Review of Document (required under CEQA)**
- ❖ **If it is an EIR/EIS**
 - ◆ NOI/NOP – Document Scoping (30 days)
 - ◆ Draft EIR/EIS – Comments on the Environmental Impact Analysis Documents



Project Need and Objectives

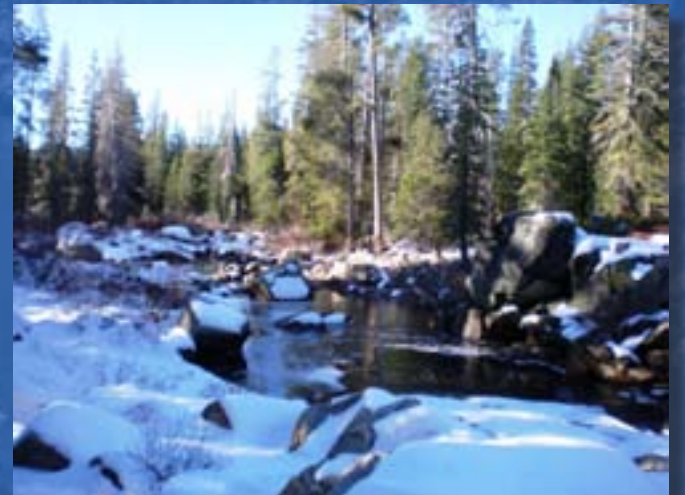


Project Need and Objectives

- ❖ NPDES and Cease and Desist Order (CDO) Compliance
- ❖ Accommodate Anticipated Growth consistent with General Plans

In doing this three key objectives are:

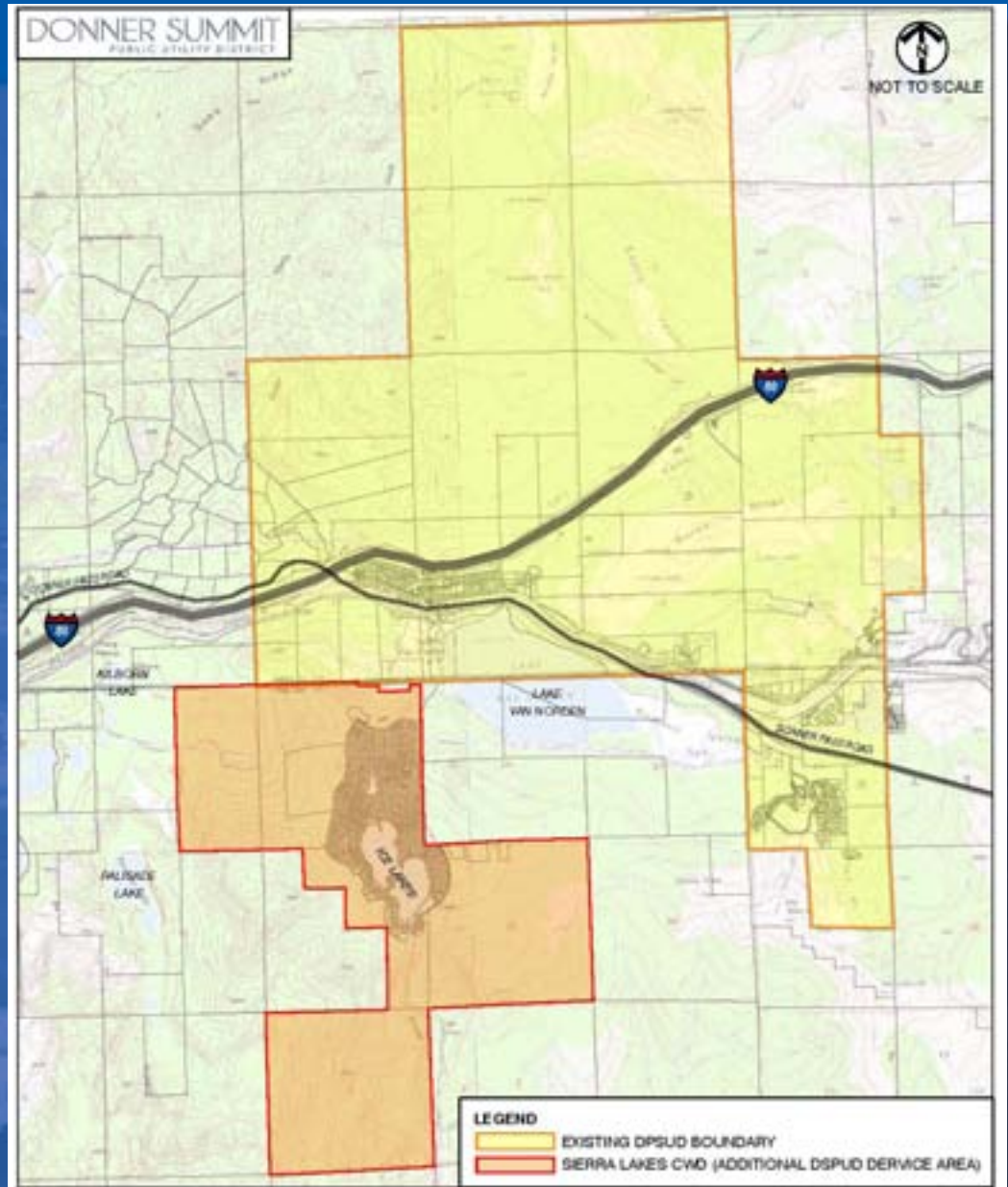
- ◆ Keep Rates Reasonable
- ◆ Improve Water Quality
- ◆ Minimize Environmental Impacts



Existing System



DSPUD and Sierra Lakes County Water District (SLCWD)



Donner Summit PUD & Sierra Lakes CWD
Service Area Boundaries

DSPUD Existing Treatment and Disposal Facilities

- ❖ Permitted for 0.52 mgd, ADWF
- ❖ Tertiary Treatment
- ❖ Currently serves the following number of Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs):
 - ◆ DSPUD – 818 EDUs
 - ◆ SLCWD – 816 EDUs
- ❖ River Discharge & Land Disposal (46 Acres of Sprinklers)



Environmental Constraints Analysis

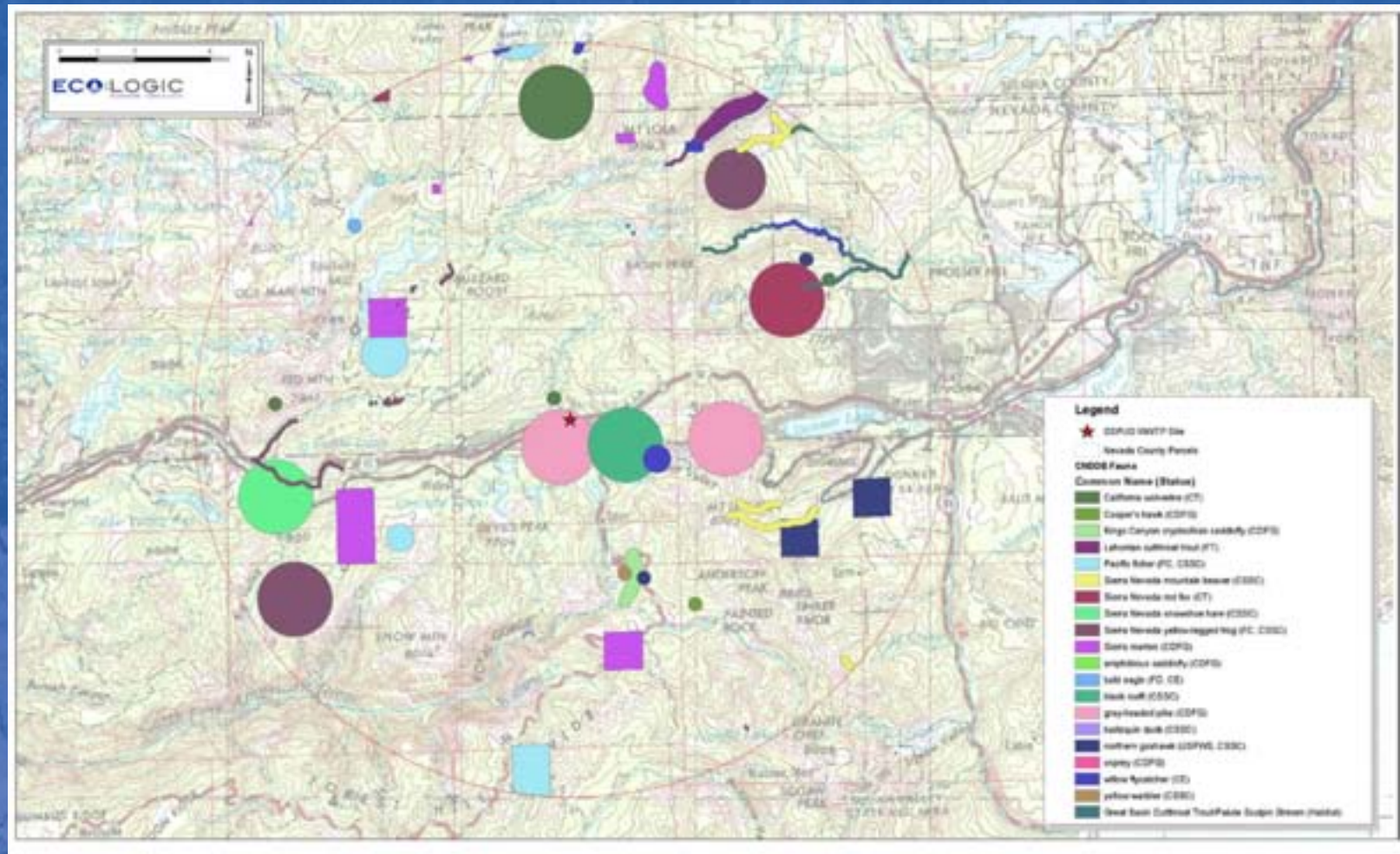
Database Analysis and Reconnaissance-Level Field Surveys



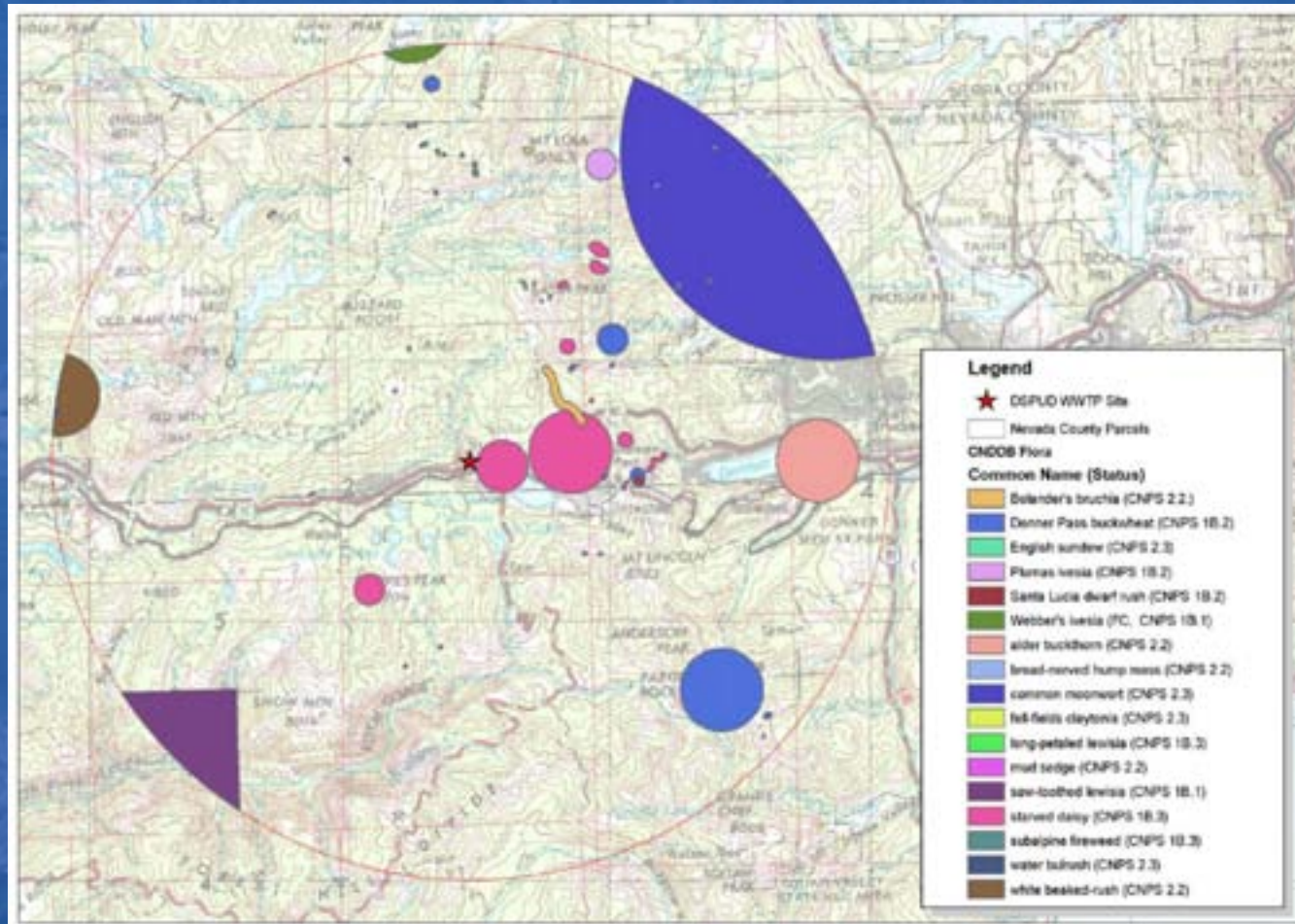
Plot Potential Constraints – Possible Wetlands/Waters of the US



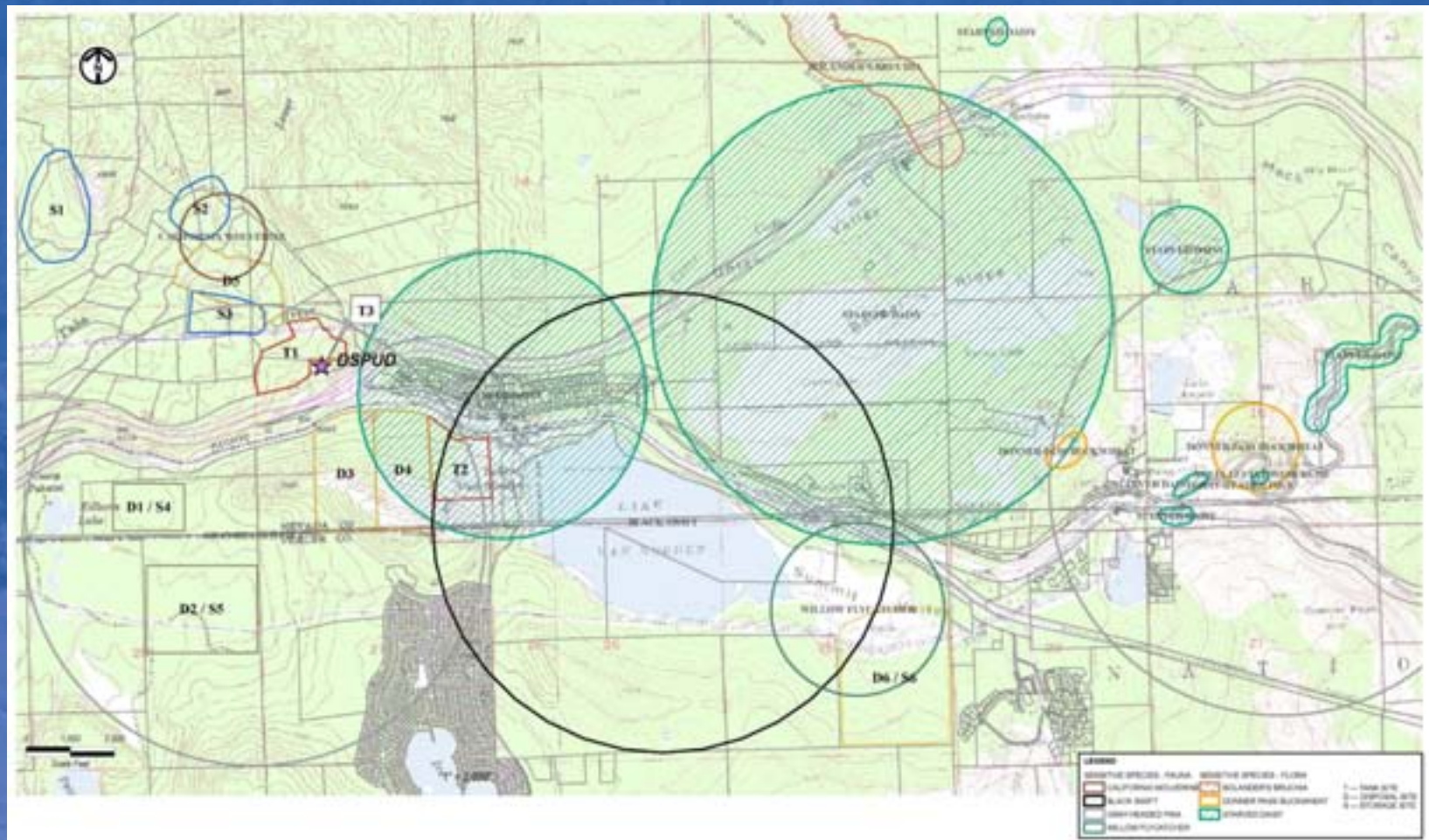
Plot Potential Constraints - Fauna



Plot Potential Constraints - Flora



Cross Reference Possible Sites with Potential Environmental Constraints



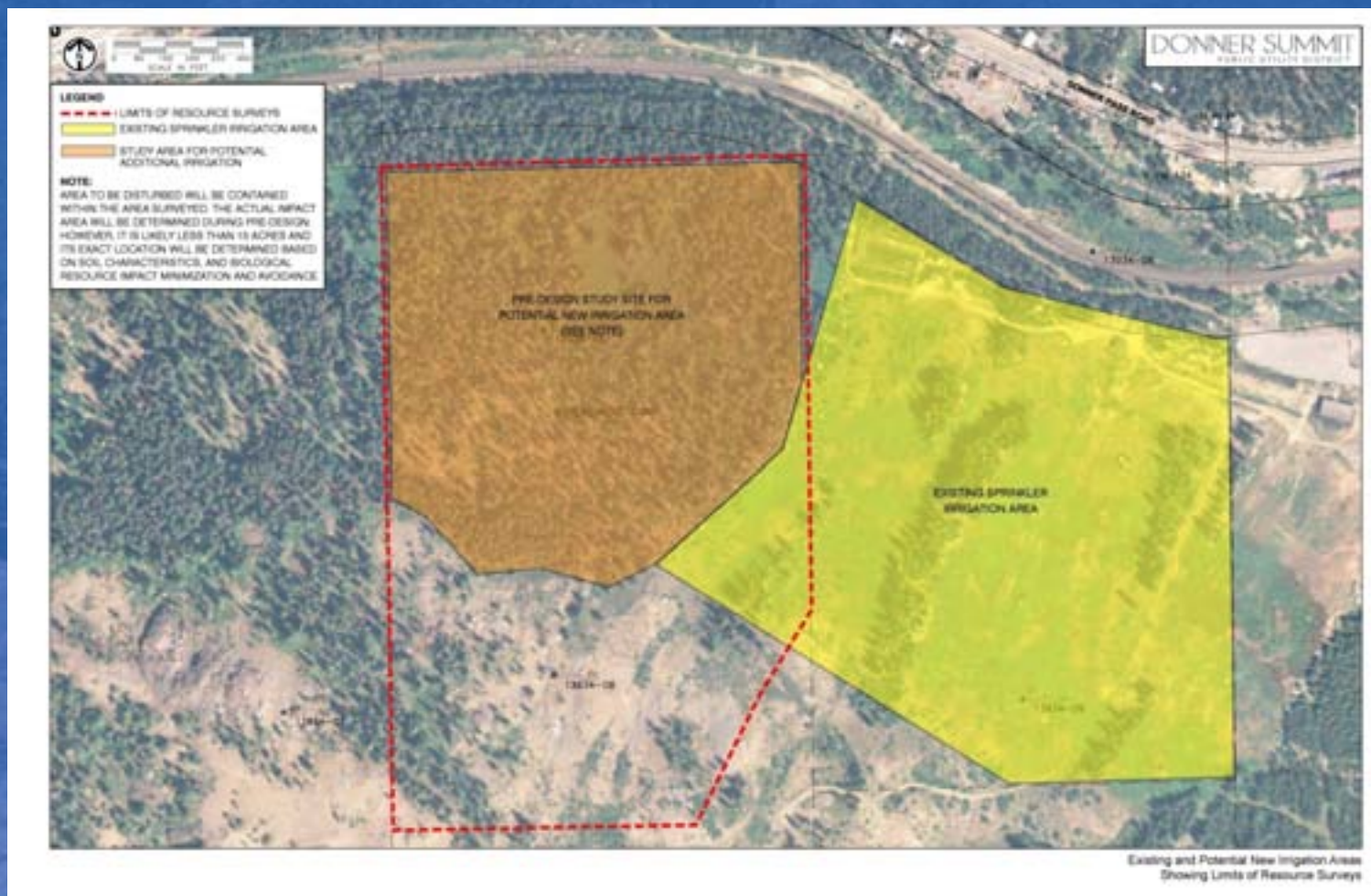
Proposed Project

Proposed Project - Key Components

- ❖ Modify existing influent equalization tank with new mixing and aeration systems
- ❖ Additional Influent Equalization Storage Tank and Access to Tank
- ❖ New Headworks Facility
- ❖ New Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) system
- ❖ Construction of a new multi-function Membrane and Equipment Building or combination of two buildings
- ❖ Installation of UV disinfection system
- ❖ Expansion of effluent disposal to land



Land Disposal Expansion



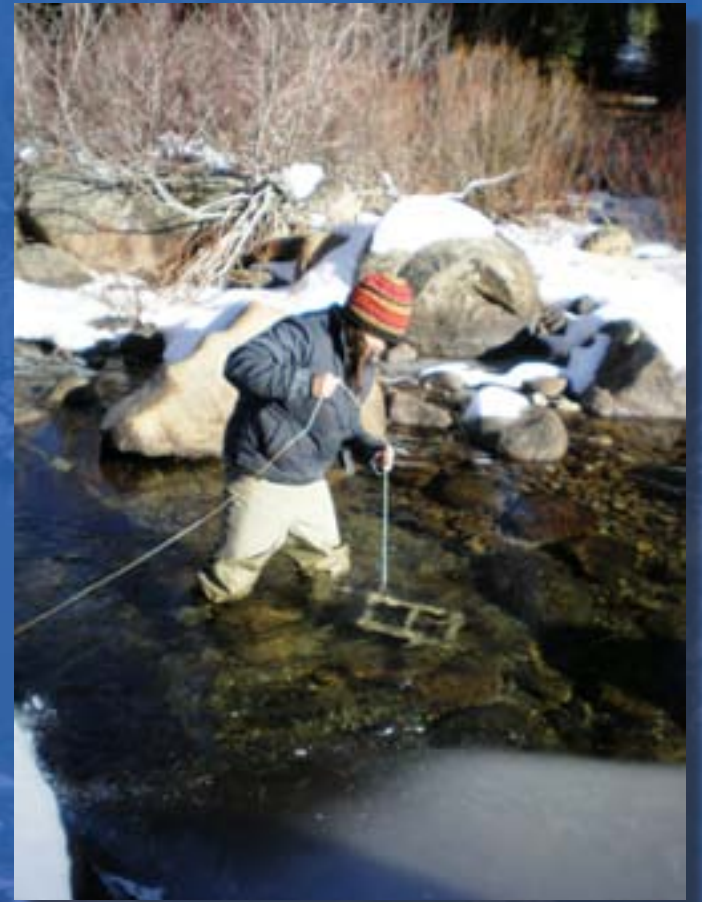
Preliminary Studies/Results



Environmental Baseline Studies

❖ Project Specific Studies

- ◆ Habitat Assessment
- ◆ Biological Resource Surveys/
Assessments for Special-status
Plant and Animal Species
- ◆ Cultural Resource Assessment
– Section 106 Compliance
Reporting for Archeological and
Historical Resources



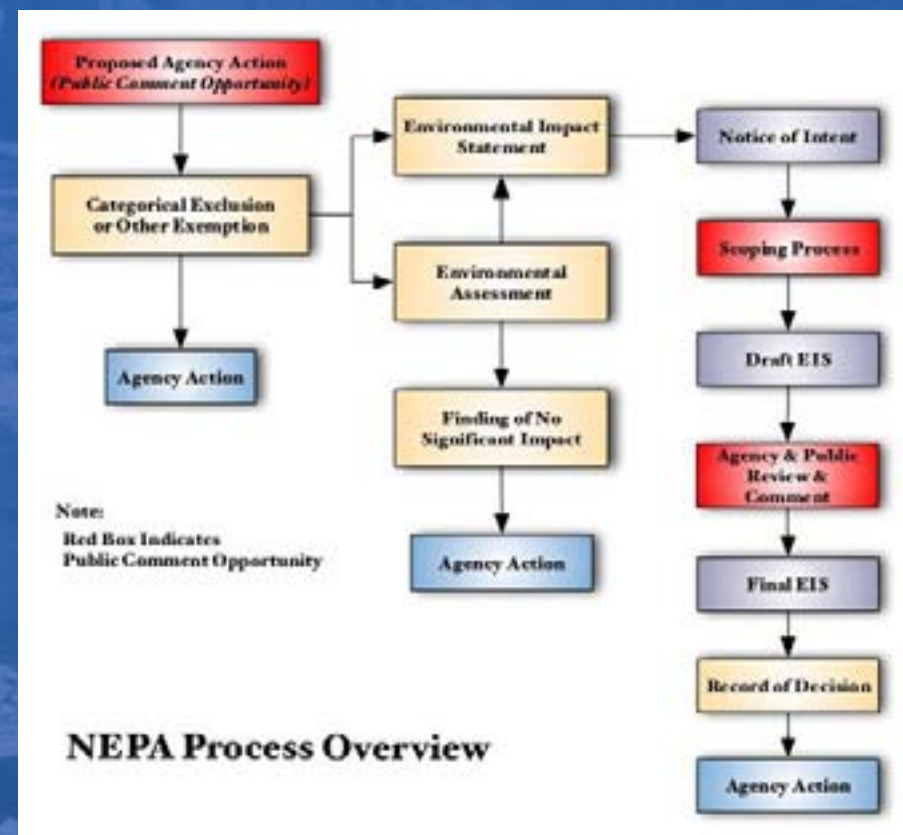
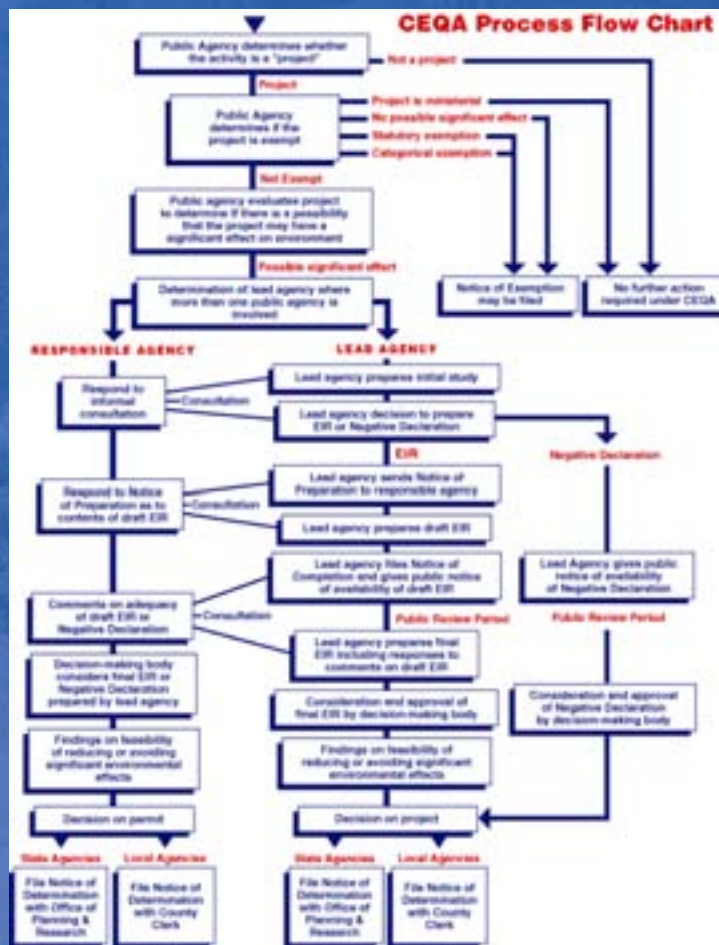
Environmental Baseline Studies

❖ Specific Studies Results

- ◆ No Identified Historical or Cultural Resources on Either Parcel
- ◆ No Identified Special-status species encountered on either parcel
- ◆ Wetlands encountered on irrigation parcel (avoidance)
- ◆ Trees Will Be Removed on Both Parcels
- ◆ Invasive weeds @ WWTP (avoid spreading)



Next Steps – CEQA and NEPA



CEQA and NEPA Evaluations

- ❖ Aesthetics
- ❖ Air Quality
- ❖ Biological Resources (Aquatic and Upland)
- ❖ Cultural/Historical Resources
- ❖ Geology/Soils
- ❖ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- ❖ Hydrology/Water Quality
- ❖ Land Use/Planning
- ❖ Noise
- ❖ Recreation
- ❖ Utilities/Service Systems
- ❖ Climate Change
- ❖ Cumulative Impacts (including Growth Accommodation)
- ❖ Additional evaluations could also be included

Additional Environmental Compliance

- ❖ **USDA and/or SRF funding applications with environmental checklists**
- ❖ **Potential environmental permitting:**
 - ◆ California Department of Fish and Game (Section 1602) Streambed Alteration Agreement
 - ◆ Sections 404 and 401 of Clean Water Act for impacts to waters of the U.S., including wetlands
 - ◆ Section 7 Endangered Species Act with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - ◆ Section 106 State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) compliance

Environmental Schedule

- ❖ Conduct biological and archeological surveys between late June and October 2010
- ❖ CEQA and NEPA public scoping meetings September and October 2010
- ❖ Complete Administrative Draft CEQA/NEPA in January 2011
- ❖ Complete and circulate Public Draft CEQA/NEPA in February 2011
- ❖ Final CEQA/NEPA with Notice of Determination and Record of Decision by late June 2011

Questions and Comments

WEBSITE: WWW.DSPUD.COM

**COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED, IN
WRITING, IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:**

**BY MAIL TO: DSPUD, PO BOX 610, SODA
SPRINGS, CA 95728**

BY FAX TO: 530-426-3460

BY EMAIL: COMMENTS@DSPUD.COM