



MEETING NOTES*
LUNDY, FERC PROJECT No. 1390
INTRODUCTION TO RELICENSING MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2023, 10:00 AM–11:30 AM

**These meeting notes are documentation of general discussions from the meeting held on the above-noted date and focus on stakeholder questions and comments. These notes are not a verbatim account of proceedings and do not represent any final decisions or official documentation for the Project or participating agencies.*

These meeting notes are being attached to a PDF of the PowerPoint presentation shared with meeting attendees during the December 5, 2023 meeting.

1.0 ATTENDEES

Relicensing Team Members

Matt Woodhall, SCE
Seth Carr, SCE
Audry Williams, SCE
Matthew C. Paruolo, SCE
Finlay Anderson, Kleinschmidt
Kelly Larimer, Kleinschmidt
Angela Whelpley, Kleinschmidt
Meta Bunse, JRP Historical
Heather Neff, Stillwater Sciences
Lynn Johnson, TEAM Environmental
Edith Read, E Read and Associates
Allison Rudalevige, Psomas
Brad Blood, Psomas
Jay King, Far Western

Adam Cohen, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

Bryan Muro, SWRCB
James Noss, SWRCB
Beth Lawson, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
Ryan Cooper, CDFW
Graham Meese, CDFW
Michael Tovar, CDFW
Trisha Moyer, CDFW
Robbie Di Paolo, Mono Lake Committee (MLC)
Greg Reis, MLC
Geoff McQuilkin, MLC
Bartshe Miller, MLC
Jennifer Czekalla, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
Saeed Jorat, LADWP
Deam Tonenna, Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe
Jazzmyn Gegere (Brochini), Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation
Charlotte Lange, Mono Lake Tribe

Agencies and Interested Stakeholders

Adam Barnett, U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
Sheila Irons, USFS
Jaqueline Beidl, USFS
Ashley Blythe Haverstock, USFS
Stephanie Heller, USFS

2.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Finlay Anderson (Kleinschmidt) welcomed everyone to the meeting, gave an overview of the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and reviewed meeting procedures and best practices for participating.

Audry Williams (SCE) provided a land acknowledgement noting the Lundy Project is located on the Mono Lake Kutzadikaa Tribes' traditional lands, which they have stewarded for generations

Matthew Woodhall (SCE) provided a safety minute

A Lundy Flyover Video [[Lundy Flyover Video](#)] was played to provide context for the day's discussion.

3.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW [SEE SLIDES 8-15]

Matthew provided an overview of the Lundy Project as well as explained the location, facilities and operations of the Lundy Project. Additionally, Matthew reviewed a flow diagram of how water flows through the Lundy Project. Matthew discussed the adjudicated water rights, and the priority of those rights at the Lundy Project. An opportunity was given for questions or comments, none were received.

4.0 DISCUSSION OF RESOURCE AREAS [SEE SLIDES 16-41]

Heather Neff (Stillwater Sciences) presented Water Resources, Geology, Soils, Geomorphology, Water Quality, Fish, Aquatic Habitat, and BMI. Studies being proposed in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) were presented at the end of each resource area, as applicable.

- Comment from Bartshe Miller: Suggestion to conduct water quality testing upstream of Lundy Lake due to old mining sites

Response: Metals are being considered in the Water Quality regime.

Allison Rudalevige and Brad Blood presented Terrestrial Resources, including botanical, wildlife, floodplains and wetlands, and RTE. Studies being proposed in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) were presented at the end of each resource area, as applicable.

- Comment from Bartshe Miller: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) recently, August 2023, added the Pinyon Jay as a candidate species.

Response: the Pinyon Jay species will be added to the list in the PAD.

Angela Whelpley presented Recreation Resources. Studies being proposed in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) were presented at the end of the resource area.

- No questions or comments were received.

Jay King and Meta Bunse presented Cultural Resources. Studies being proposed in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) were presented at the end of the resource area.

- No questions or comments were received.

Audry presented Tribal Resources. Studies being proposed in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) were presented at the end of the resource area.

- No questions or comments were received.

5.0 FERC PROCESS AND SCHEDULE [SEE SLIDES 42-50]

Finlay provided an overview of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the FERC relicensing process, relicensing schedule and what the role of agencies and interested stakeholders are in the relicensing process. Finlay also discussed how agencies and interested stakeholders can participate in the relicensing process.

Lundy Hydroelectric Project Relicensing FERC No. 1390

December 2023

Relicensing Introduction

Welcome!

Using the chat, please write your
name and organization, if applicable.

Land Acknowledgment

SCE would like to take a moment and recognize that the Lundy Project is located on the Mono Lake Kutzadikaa Tribes' traditional lands, which they have stewarded for generations.

Agenda

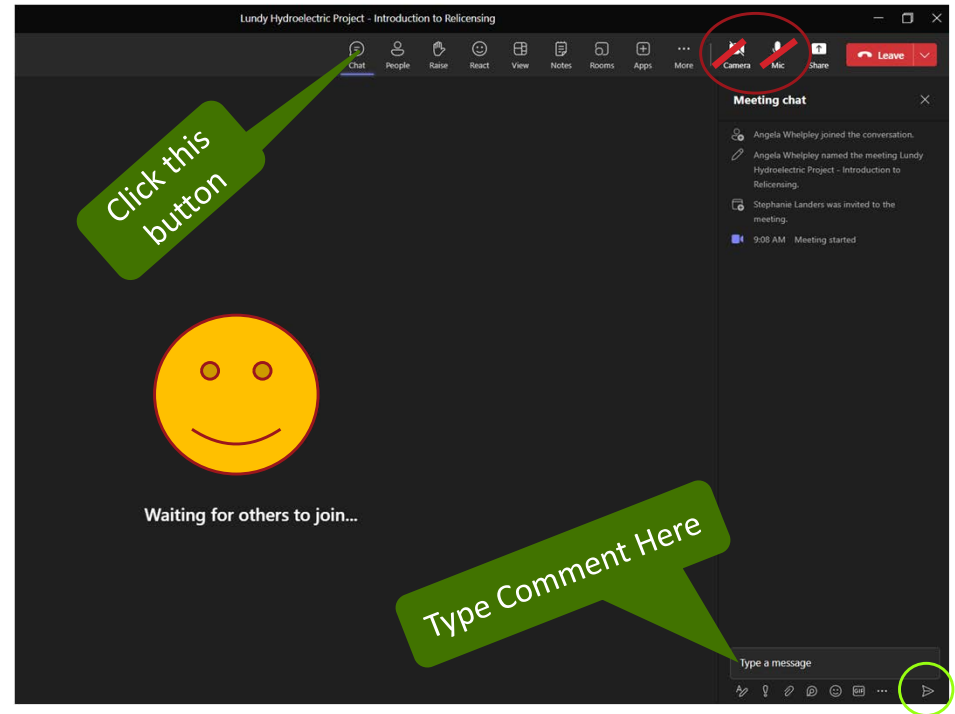
- Welcome & Introductions
 - Safety Moment
 - Meeting Guidelines
 - Relicensing Team introductions
- Project Overview
- Resource Areas
- FERC Process Overview
- Relicensing Schedule
- Questions

Safety Moment



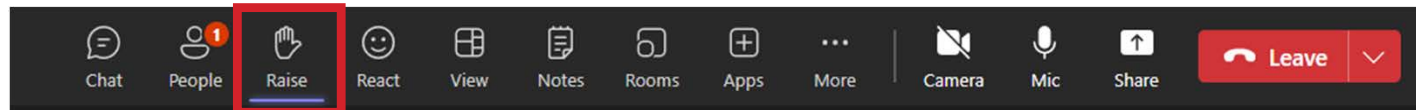
Meeting Tips and Guidelines

- Please remain on mute unless called on
- Turn off camera, unless speaking
- Consider shutting down other background programs for best meeting audio/viewing quality
- Utilize the chat box during the presentation for questions or comments
- Questions will be answered in appropriate Q&A sections as time allows



How to Ask a Question

- Use the chat box or ask question verbally
- Use the “Raise Hand” feature to indicate you would like to ask your question verbally



- Please wait to be called on and then unmute your line
 - Introduce yourself (name and affiliation) prior to speaking

Lundy Relicensing Team

SCE Team

Matthew Woodhall
Project Manager

Martin Ostendorf
Senior Manager

Audry Williams
Cultural Resources
Manager

Seth Carr
Operations Manager

Lyle Laven
Production Manager

Consultant Team

Finlay Anderson
Project Manager

Angela Whelpley
Assistant Project
Manager, Recreation
and Land Use

Kelly Larimer
Project Director

Brad Blood and **Allison
Rudalevige**
Terrestrial and Botanical

Heather Neff
Fish and Aquatics

Lynn Johnson
Tribal

Jay King and **Meta
Bunse**
Cultural and Historic
Property

Edith Read
Botanical Advisor

Project Overview



Photo Credit – CASC

- 30-year license expires February 28, 2029
- Formal FERC process to begin February 2024 (Pre-Application Document [PAD] & Notice of Intent [NOI] filing)
- Draft License Application (DLA) to be filed Fall 2026
- No changes to operations or facilities anticipated

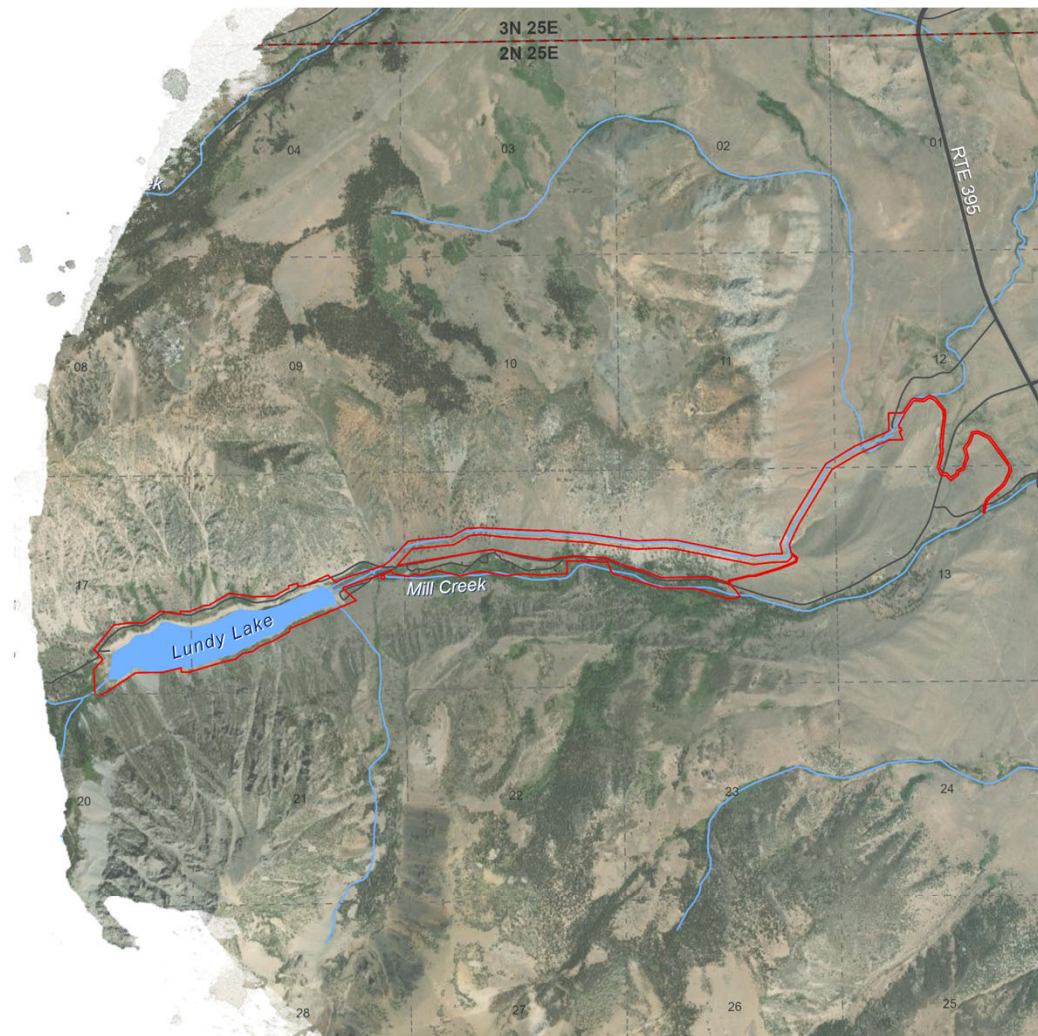
Project Location

- East slope of the Sierra Nevada
- Within a small portion of the Inyo National Forest
- Mono County, California
- Private Lands are primarily State
- Mill Creek



Project Facilities

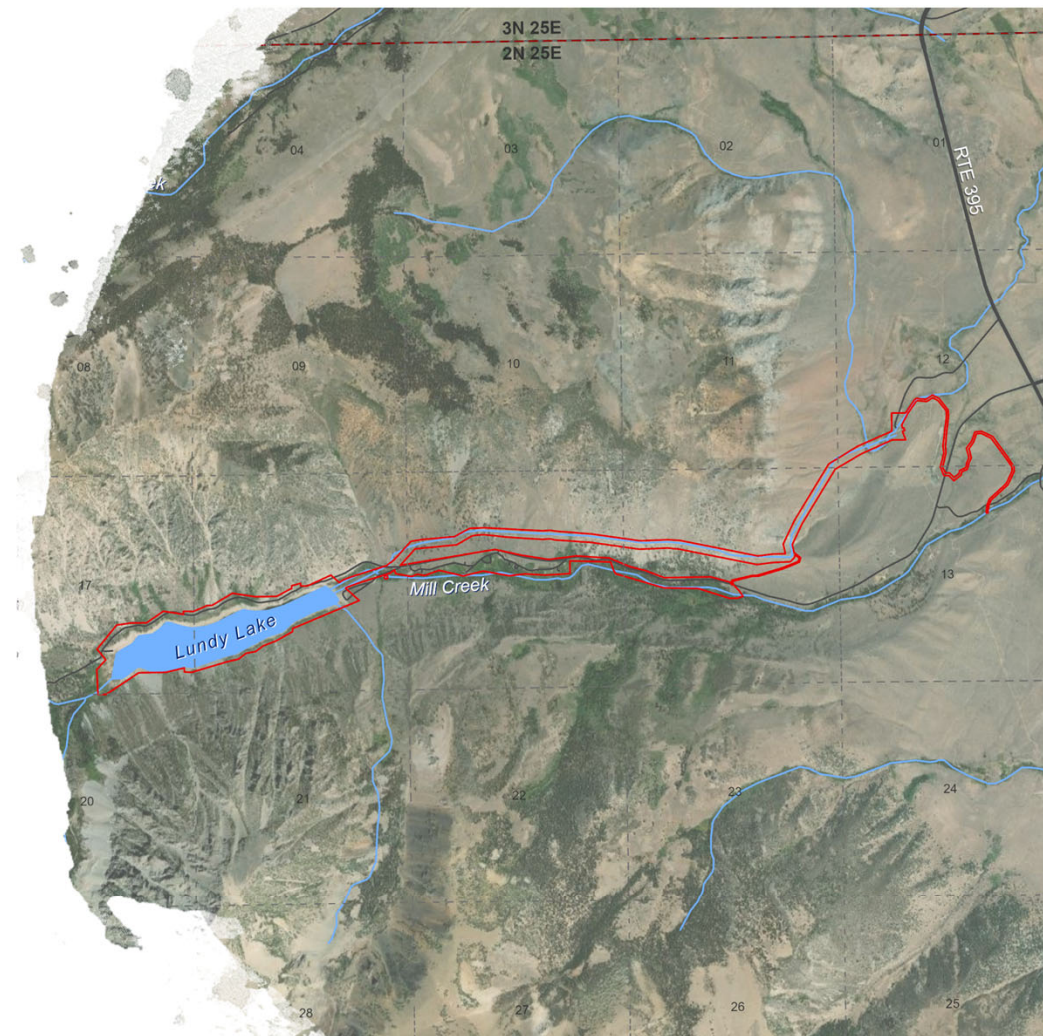
- Lundy Dam and Lake
 - Headwaters of Mill Creek
 - 73-acre reservoir
- Lundy Powerhouse
 - 3.0 megawatts
- Flowline and penstock connecting Lundy Lake and Lundy Powerhouse
- Splitterbox below powerhouse to manage flows for water-right holders

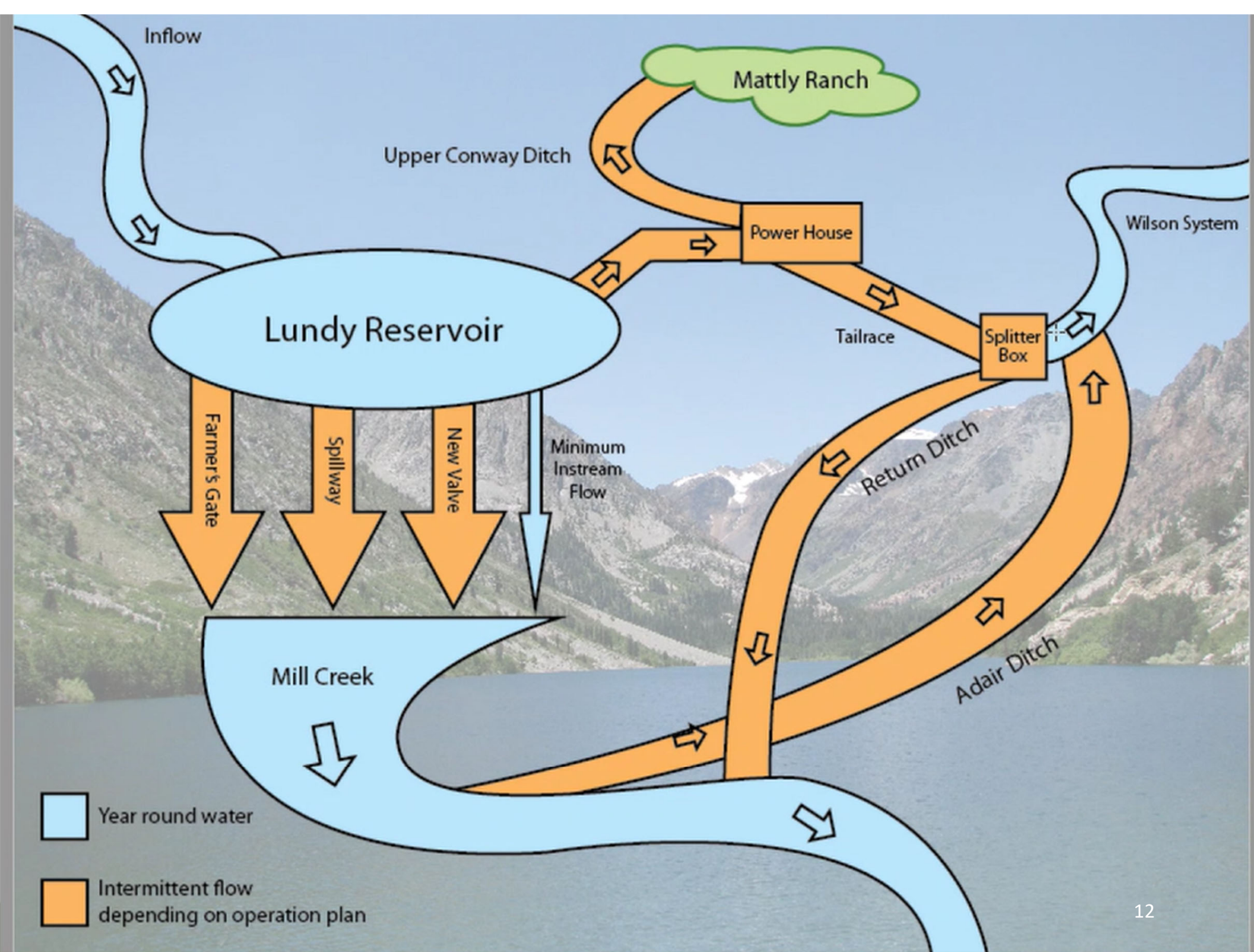


See the Project description document for more details

Project Operations

- Driven by adjudicated water rights.
- SCE passes water through powerhouse and delivers to water rights holders via:
 - Return Ditch
 - Wilson System
 - Upper Conway Ditch
- Adair ditch (historic) provides alternate means of getting water to Wilson System when powerhouse is offline





Water Rights

- Mill Creek Water Rights adjudicated in Mono County Superior Court November 30, 1914.
- SCE has a non-consumptive water right (pass through) for hydro power generation.



Water Rights Cont.

Priority Right	Right Holder	Quantity of Right (cfs)	Cumulative LADWP	Cumulative Conway (Mono County)	Cumulative Total
1st	LADWP	1	1	0	1
2nd	Mono County	2	1	2	3
3rd	BLM	2	1	2	5
4th	Mono County	8	1	10	13
5th	LADWP	9.2	10.2	10	22.2
6th	Simis	1.8	10.2	10	24
7th	LADWP	14	24.2	10	38
8th	Mono County	5	24.2	15	43
9th	USFS	12.6	24.2	15	55.6
10th	LADWP	18	42.2	15	73.6
11th	Mono County	1	42.2	16	74.6



Source: North Mono Basin Watershed Analysis (2001)/1914 Mill Creek Decree

Questions



Resource Areas



Water Resources

- Contributing drainage area stored by Lundy Dam approximately 16.3 square miles
- Normal maximum pool storage capacity is 4,113 acre-feet
- Reservoir surface area at maximum pool is approximately 110 acres



Geology, Soils, and Geomorphology

Geology and Soils

- Originally a natural lake (created by a recessional moraine)
- Soils are typically thin with coarse sediment dominated by granitic rock and glacial sediments
- The Mono Lake Fault cuts through the Lundy Project area ~2 miles east of Lundy Lake.

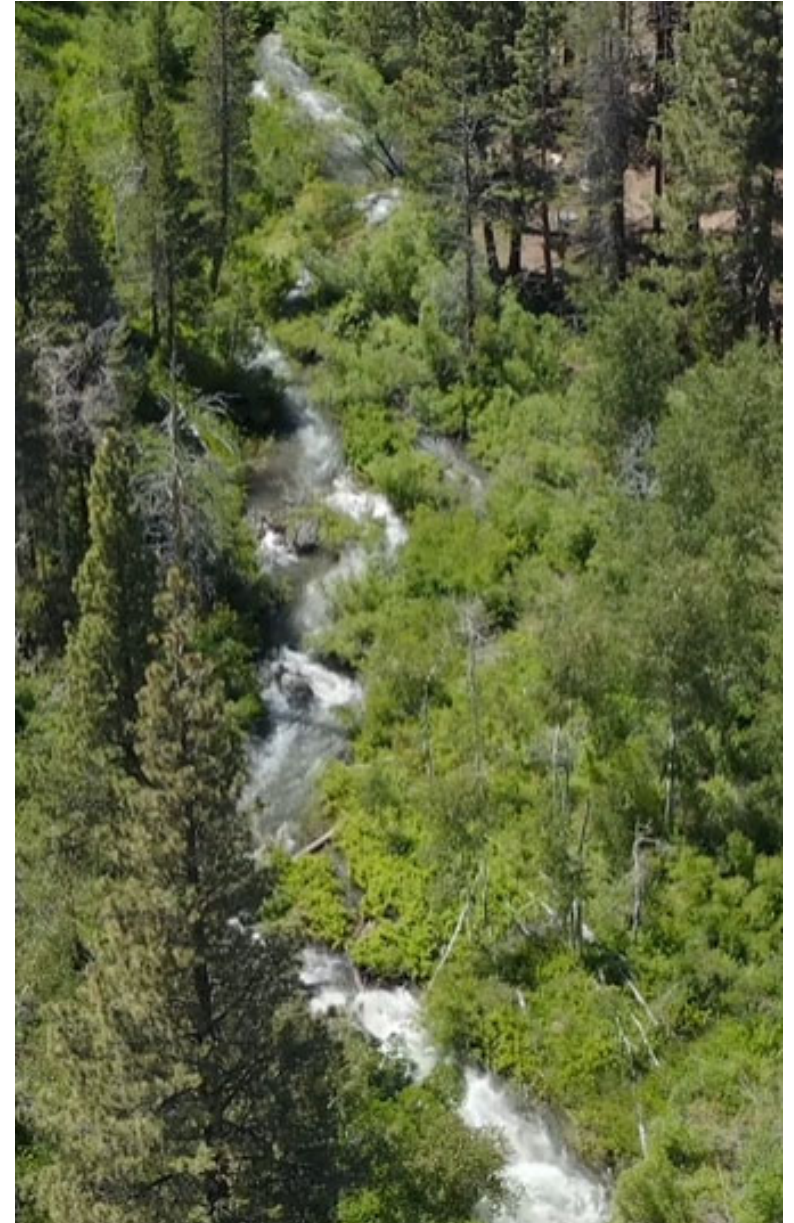
Geomorphology

- The bed of Mill Creek between Lundy Dam and Mono Lake primarily consists of boulders, cobbles, and sands.
- Deer Creek (downstream of Lundy Dam) was historically and is currently the primary source of sediment into Mill Creek



Water Resources: Water Quality

- Lahontan Regional Water Board water quality standards for Lundy Project reservoir and Mill Creek
- Lundy Lake and Mill Creek not on the state of California's list of impaired and threatened waters (303 (d))
- Water quality has been characterized as excellent; however, recent information includes a small number of samples from 2012 – 2013.



Water Resources: Water Quality

Proposed Study

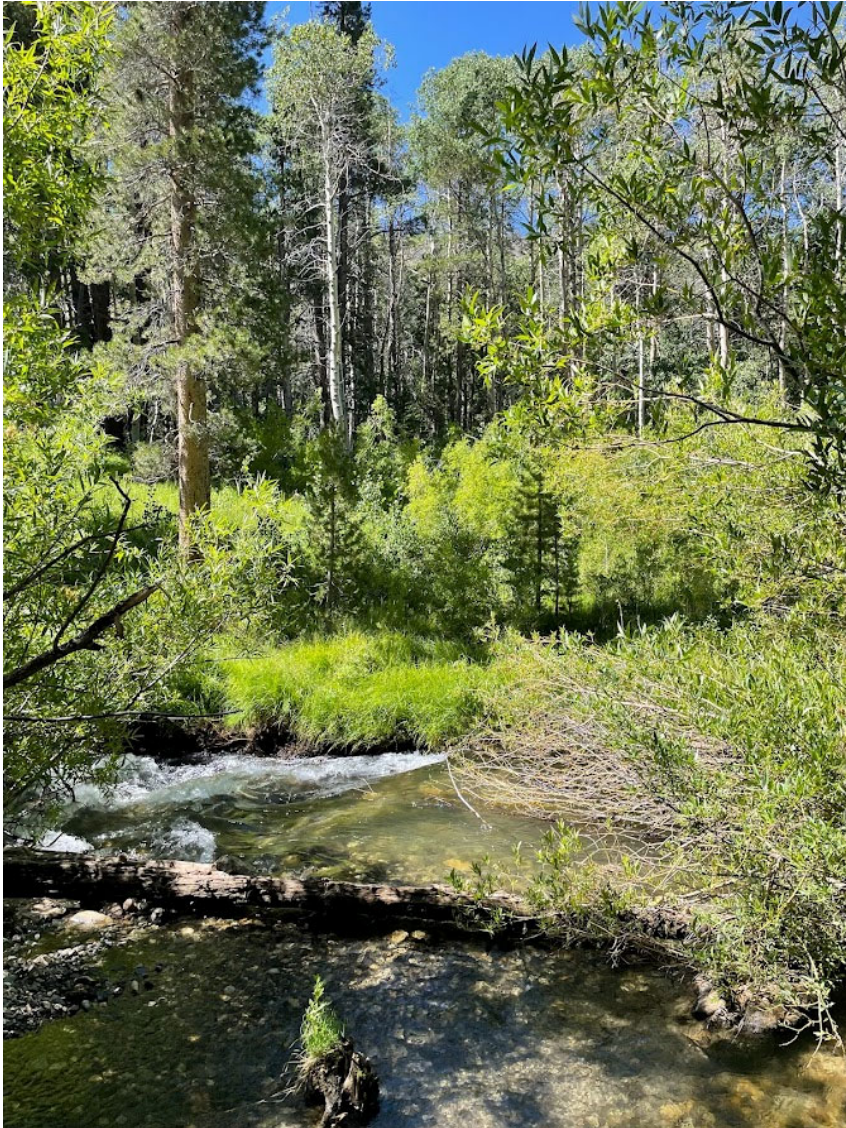
Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring (WQ-1)

- Assess water quality within Lundy Project affected stream reaches, and within Lundy Lake
- Provide data to inform CWA 401 water quality compliance with Basin Plan Objectives

Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Temperature Monitoring (WQ-2)

- Assess water temperature within Lundy Project affected streams, and within Lundy Lake
- Provide data to inform CWA 401 water quality compliance with Basin Plan Objectives

Fish, Aquatic Habitat, and BMI



- Lundy Project Area is dominated by introduced populations of brown, brook, and rainbow trout
 - Fish monitoring conducted between 1985 and 1996 in Mill Creek from Lundy Dam downstream to Mono Lake
 - Self-sustaining population of brown trout and annual planting of rainbow trout
 - Reservoir surveys conducted in 1986 documented brook, brown, and rainbow trout in Lundy Lake
- Instream flow and aquatic habitat studies conducted in 1986 (between Lundy Dam and Upper Thompson Ditch) and 1996 (between Upper Thompson Ditch and Mono Lake)
- Benthic Macroinvertebrate sampling was conducted in 2012 (between Lundy Lake and the Mill Creek Return Ditch)
 - Stream condition is suitable for BMIs (CSCI Score = 1.15)
- Entrainment rates at the Lundy Lake intake structure are estimated to be 0.5 fish per month for brown trout and 1.6 fish per month for rainbow trout.

Fish, Aquatic Habitat, and BMI

Proposed Study
Fish Community Survey (AQ-1) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess species composition, distribution, abundance, and age of fish communities in Lundy Lake and affected stream reaches
Fish Stranding Study (AQ-2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate stranding risk through the bypass reach

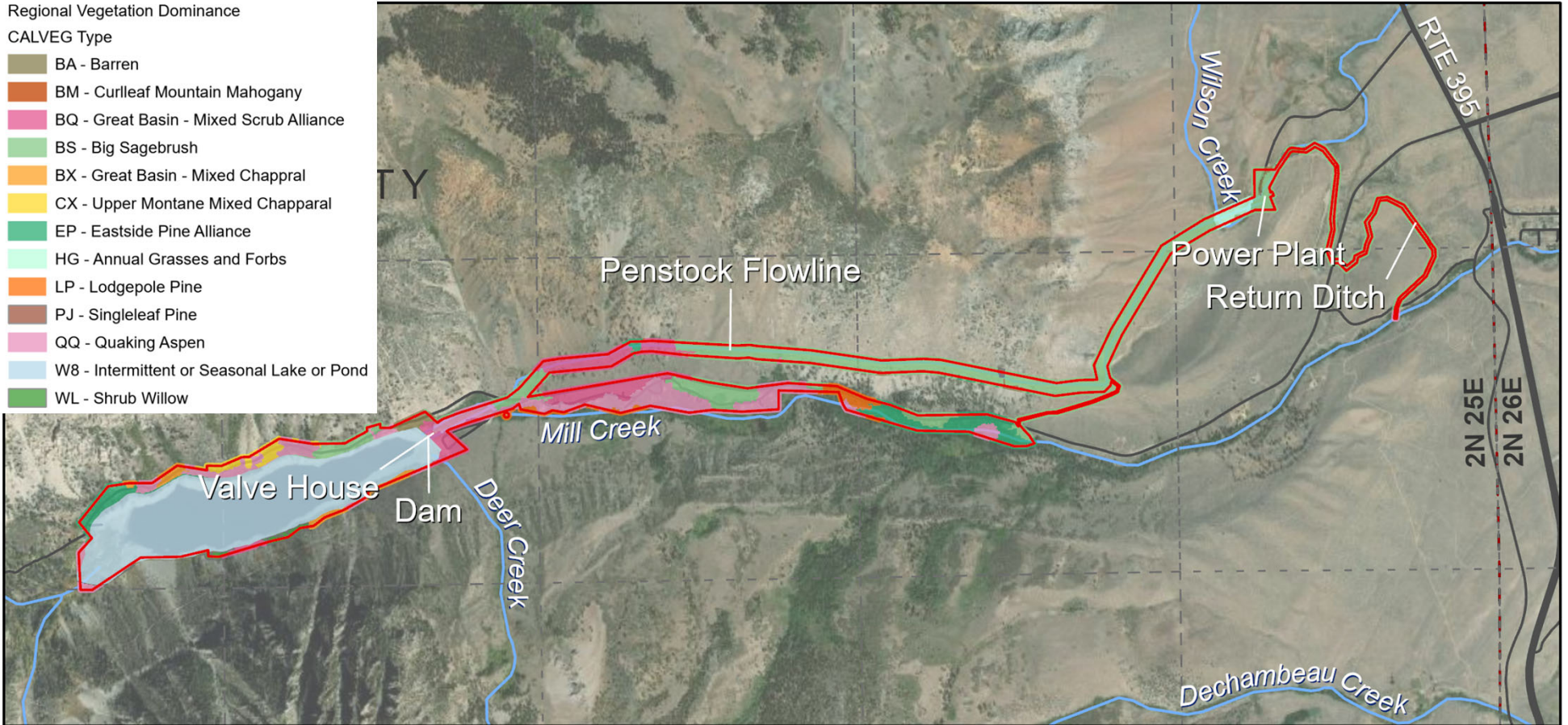
Botanical Resources: General

- 10 Plant Communities/Unvegetated Areas within Project Boundary.
 - Big Sagebrush Scrub = 26%
 - Quaking Aspen = 12%
 - Great Basin - Mixed Shrub = 8%
 - Various Pines = 7%
- Lower elevations and penstock alignment dominated by Big Sagebrush.
- Upper elevations, Lundy Lake, and Mill Creek dominated by a mix of Quaking Aspen, Pines, and other communities.

Regional Vegetation Dominance

CALVEG Type

- BA - Barren
- BM - Curleaff Mountain Mahogany
- BQ - Great Basin - Mixed Scrub Alliance
- BS - Big Sagebrush
- BX - Great Basin - Mixed Chapprral
- CX - Upper Montane Mixed Chapparral
- EP - Eastside Pine Alliance
- HG - Annual Grasses and Forbs
- LP - Lodgepole Pine
- PJ - Singleleaf Pine
- QQ - Quaking Aspen
- W8 - Intermittent or Seasonal Lake or Pond
- WL - Shrub Willow



Legend

- Project Boundary, Lundy P-1390
- State Highways
- Roads
- Stream/River
- County

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
Energy for What's AheadSM

N
▲

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane California III FIPS 0403 Ft US
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Datum: NAD 1983 2011

0 1,500 3,000
Feet

USFS Plant Communities

**LUNDY
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC PROJECT NO. 1390**

Botanical Resources: Special-Status

- 58 special-status plants identified regionally via literature review
- 4 are known to occur within Project boundary
 - Mono Lake lupine
 - Frog's-bit buttercup
 - Masonic Mountain jewelflower
 - Golden violet
- 30 species may occur within Project boundary
- 24 species unlikely to occur within Project boundary

Botanical Resources: Invasive

- Per literature review, invasive plant species reported from region (data from USFS and Cal-IPC).
- Identified by USFS: 58 species
 - Query: list of non-native invasive plants in Inyo National Forest
- Cal-IPC Inventory: 65 species
 - Query: (1) Sierra Nevada East floristic province and (2) selected vegetation communities that occur in Project Boundary

Botanical Resources

Proposed Study

General Botanical Resources Survey (TERR-1)

- Determine the presence and distribution of special status plants and invasive weeds
- Map plant communities in the Study Area
- Characterized riparian and wet meadow vegetation in the Study Area and along Mill Creek

Wildlife Resources

Special-Status Wildlife

- 1 Known
 - Yellow warbler from Lundy Lake
- 11 that may occur, for example:
 - Northern goshawk
 - Greater sage grouse
 - Western mastiff bat
 - White-tailed jackrabbit
- 19 Bird Species of Conservation Concern, for example:
 - California gull
 - American white pelican



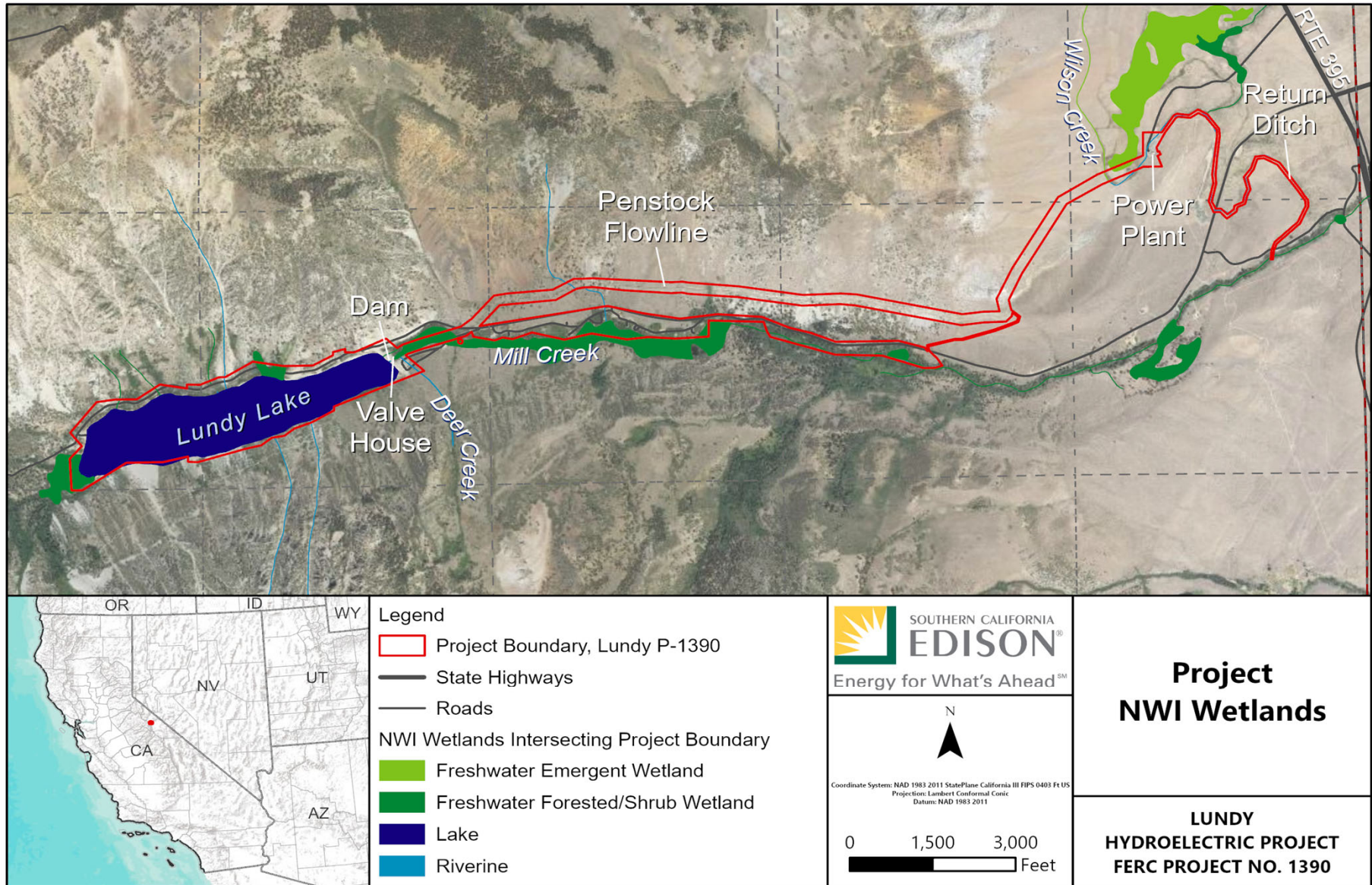
Photo by CDFW

Floodplains and Wetlands

- 4 Wetland/Riparian habitats were mapped in the Project Boundary by the National Wetlands Inventory.
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
 - Consists of a mixture of quaking aspen and willow scrub
- Lake
- Riverine
- Provides habitat for many species of wildlife including Sierran treefrog, western terrestrial garter snake, western wood-peewee, Sierra Nevada mountain beaver, and mule deer.



Floodplains and Wetlands



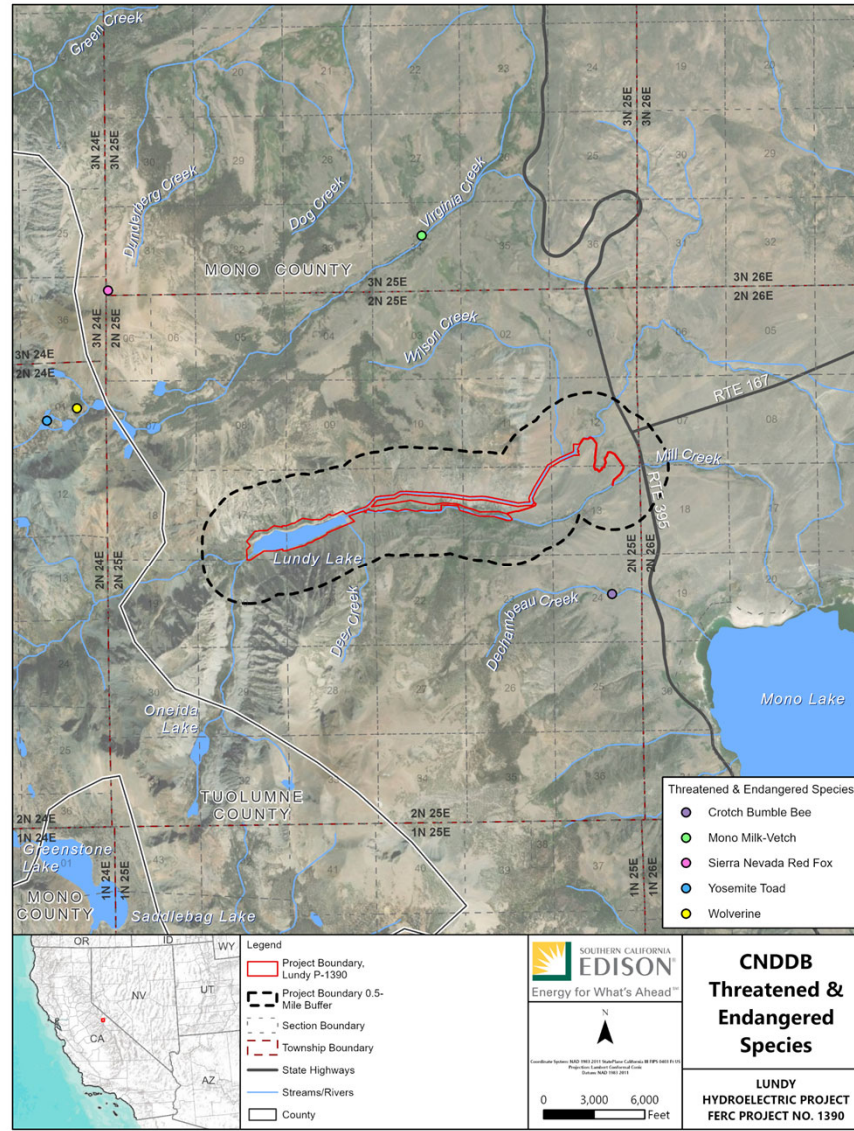
Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

- One federally Threatened plant species, whitebark pine, may occur. Nearest population 0.5 mile. One State Rare plant species, Mono milk-vetch, may occur. Nearest population 3 miles.
- TE or protected wildlife recorded from area
 - Bald eagle (cited in iNaturalist)
 - Golden eagle
 - Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep (includes Critical habitat)
 - Willow flycatcher
 - Sierra Nevada red fox
 - Wolverine
 - Yosemite toad
 - Crotch bumble bee



D. G. Huckaby

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species



Wildlife Resources

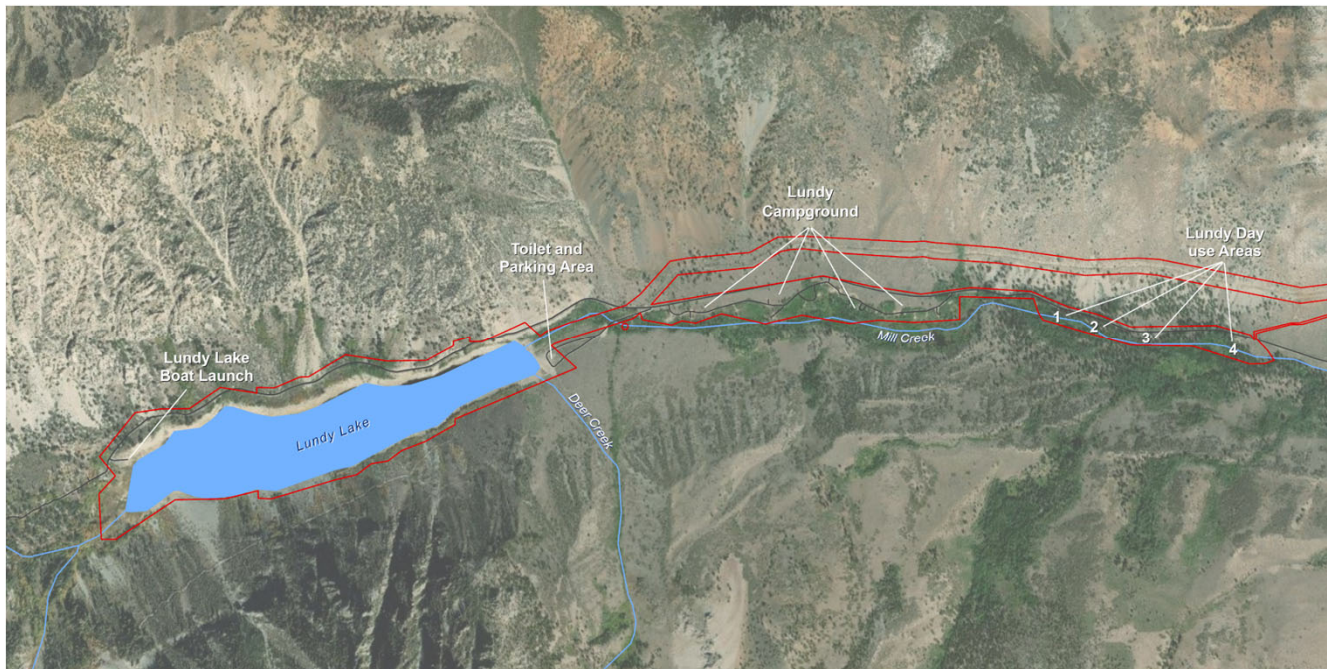
Proposed Study

General Wildlife Survey (TERR-2)

- Determine the presence and distribution of special-status wildlife
- Document and characterize wildlife that use Mill Creek

Recreation Resources

- Four FERC-approved Lundy Project Recreation Facilities
 - Lundy Lake Boat Launch
 - Lundy Campground
 - Lundy Day-Use areas along Mill Creek
 - (4 total)
 - Lundy Dam Day-Use Area (Toilet and Parking Area)



Recreation

Proposed Study

Recreation Use and Needs Assessment (REC-1)

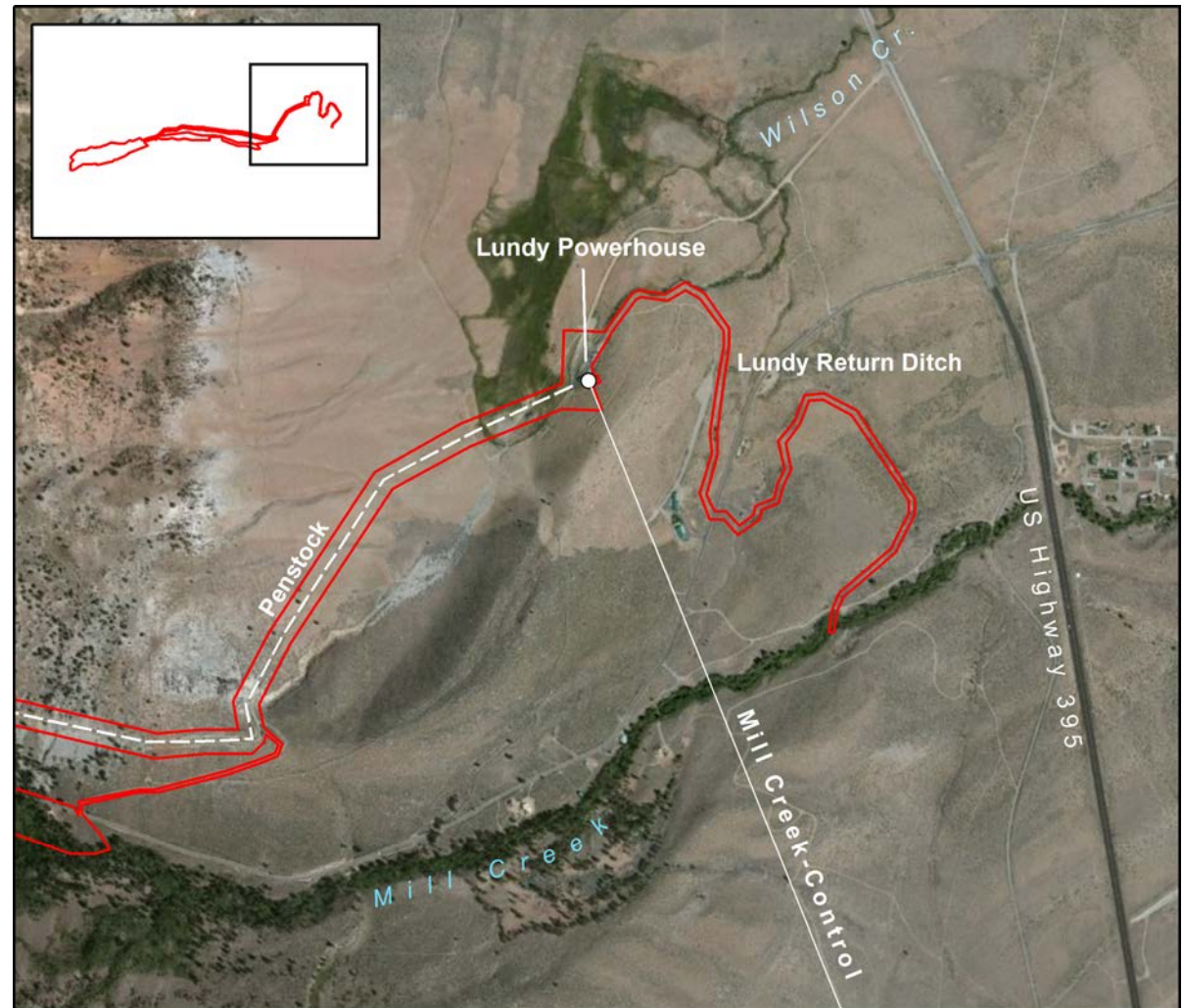
- Evaluate recreation use at the FERC-approved Lundy Project recreation sites
- Assess the amount of use each site is receiving (including percent of capacity) and the recreation activities that occur at each site

Recreation Facilities Condition Assessment (REC-2)

- Conduct an inventory of and map existing FERC-approved Lundy Project recreation sites, including locations, facilities/amenities, general condition, ownership, and management responsibilities

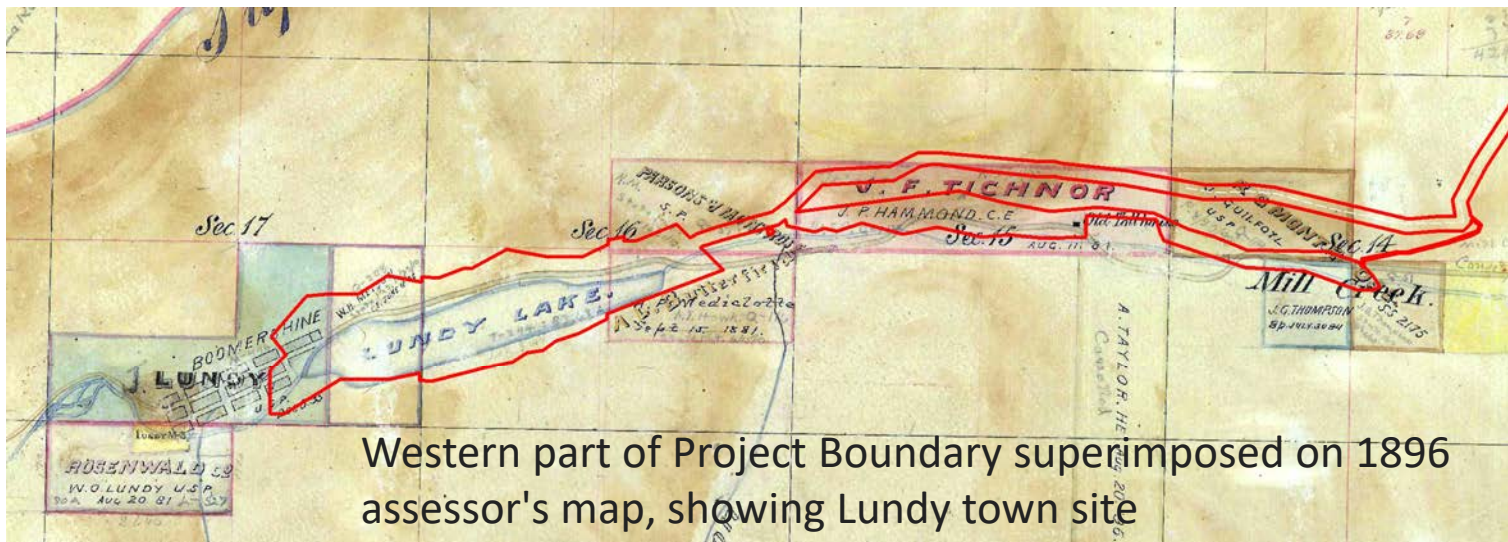
Cultural – Built Environment Resources

- Lundy system components date to 1910-1911, with some later alterations
- A 1980s National Register study of the Lundy system (and a 2020 study of T-lines) concluded built resources not eligible for listing
- 1980s study does not meet current evaluation standards, so the system needs an updated evaluation
- It is likely that the update will conclude the built resources of the Lundy system remain "not eligible" for National Register listing



Cultural – Archaeology

- Initial research included a search of records held by SCE, Forest Service, and the state, as well as historical maps and documents
- 12 archaeological sites have been previously recorded within the Project Boundary
 - mostly historic-era features and artifact scatters; 2 sites contain precontact lithic scatters.
 - Previous relicensing effort found the remains of Jordan Powerhouse (P-26-002411) National Register-eligible; 9 other sites were determined ineligible at that time; 2 known sites remain unevaluated.
- Lundy townsite is a listed California Point of Historic Interest but not fully archaeologically documented.
- Most of APE lacks archaeological survey coverage to current standards and will require resurvey.



Cultural – Archaeology and Built Environment

Proposed Study
Cultural Resources (CUL-1) – Archaeology <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct additional background archival research of the Study Area• Identify and document archaeological resources within or immediately adjacent to the Area of Potential Effects (APE)• Develop information sufficient for Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP)
Cultural Resources (CUL-2) – Built Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct additional background archival research of the Study Area• Identify and document built environment resources within or immediately adjacent to the APE• Develop information sufficient for HPMP

Cultural – Tribal Resources

- Traditional Homeland of the Kutzadikaa/Mono Lake Paiute (the principal Tribal Group)
- Multiple Tribal Groups also have an interest in the Project (Northern Paiute, Owens Valley Paiute, Western Shoshone, Southern Miwok, Central Me-Wuk, Hungalelti Washo, Western Mono)
- No Federal trust Tribal lands in the Project
- No baseline ethnographic investigation of the Project conducted during previous relicensing efforts
- SCE will consult with interested Tribes; interviews and meetings have yet to be scheduled
- Identification and locations of Tribal resources including trails, camps, medicine and food gathering areas



Basket Weaver
Mono Lake, 1901

Tribal Resources

Proposed Study

Tribal Resources (TRI-1)

- Conduct additional background archival research of the Study Area
- Identify and document tribal resources within or immediately adjacent to the APE
- Conduct a thorough Native American ethnographic/ethnohistoric survey of the APE
- Conduct interviews with knowledgeable informants
- Develop information sufficient for HPMP

Questions



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) 101



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

WHAT IS FERC?

A federal, independent agency (formally the Federal Power Commission)

WHAT DOES FERC REGULATE?

*Electrical transmission, **hydroelectric dam licensing** and safety, natural gas and oil pipelines*

HOW DOES FERC IMPACT YOU?

FERC manages the participation of the public, agencies, NGOs, and other interested stakeholders.

WHEN DOES RELICENSING START?

The relicensing process officially starts 5 to 5.5 years before license expiration

What is FERC Relicensing?

- Complex, multiyear
- Involves multiple participant with public involvement opportunities
- Develops an evidentiary record
- Provides FERC with decision-making information
- Determines license term and requirements

Three Basic Stages of Relicensing

- Stage 1: Initial Consultation (ask questions)
- Stage 2: Studies and Application (answer questions and file license application)
- Stage 3: Post-Filing (FERC conducts environmental review)

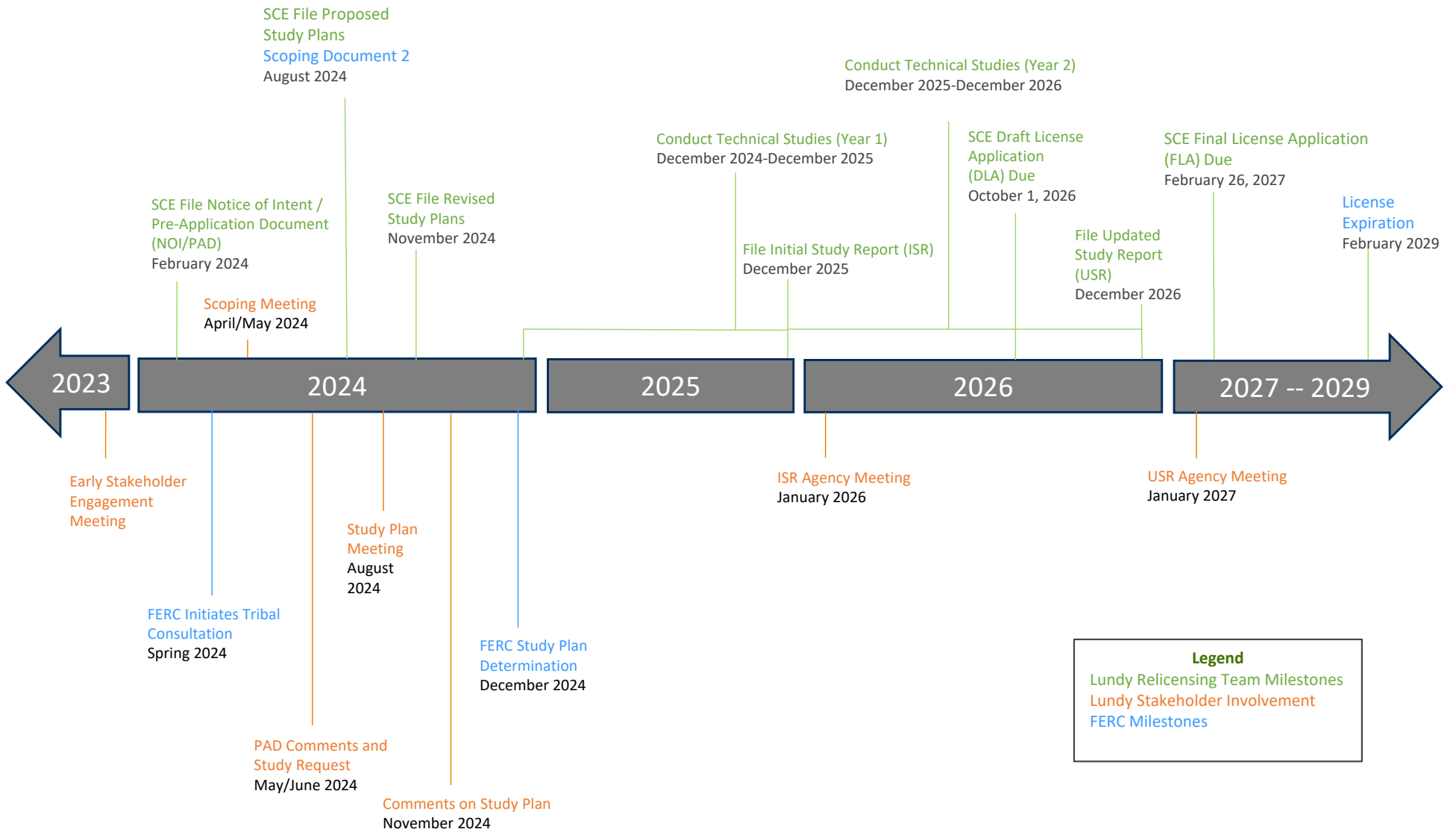
Lundy Licensing

- Use of Integrated Licensing Process
 - FERC will lead scoping and approve study plan
 - Stakeholders will have input into:
 - Scoping questions
 - Comments on Pre-Application Document
 - Study Requests
 - Comments on study proposals
 - Need for dispute resolution through FERC
 - Comments on initial and updated study reports
 - Comments on Draft License Application
 - Involvement in post-filing process
- Schedules and background materials available at www.sce.com/lundy

What sorts of questions will be addressed in relicensing?

- Must have “nexus” to Project
- Must relate to public interest or specific resource agency goals
- Relate to an appropriate study area/area of potential effects
- Avoid academic questions
- Use commonly accepted study methods
- Reference existing data or studies, if available

Lundy Hydroelectric Project Relicensing Schedule
 For planning purposes only, dates subject to change.
 December 2023



Licensing Participation

- Schedules and background materials available at www.sce.com/lundy
 - Contact Registration Form
- Engagement through FERC
 - Docket: P-1390
 - <https://www.ferc.gov/how-contact-ferc>
- Contact Information
 - Finlay Anderson: finlay.anderson@kleinschmidtgroup.com
 - Matthew Woodhall: matthew.woodhall@sce.com
 - Audry Williams: audry.williams@sce.com

Questions

