

Rush Creek Project

FERC Project No. 1389

Pre-Application Document Overview / Technical Study Plan Development Webinar

January 20, 2022

Please hold, we will begin shortly. Thank you for your patience and for muting your microphone.

Safety Moment



Meeting Tips

Meeting Tips

- Please remain on mute unless called on
- Turn off camera

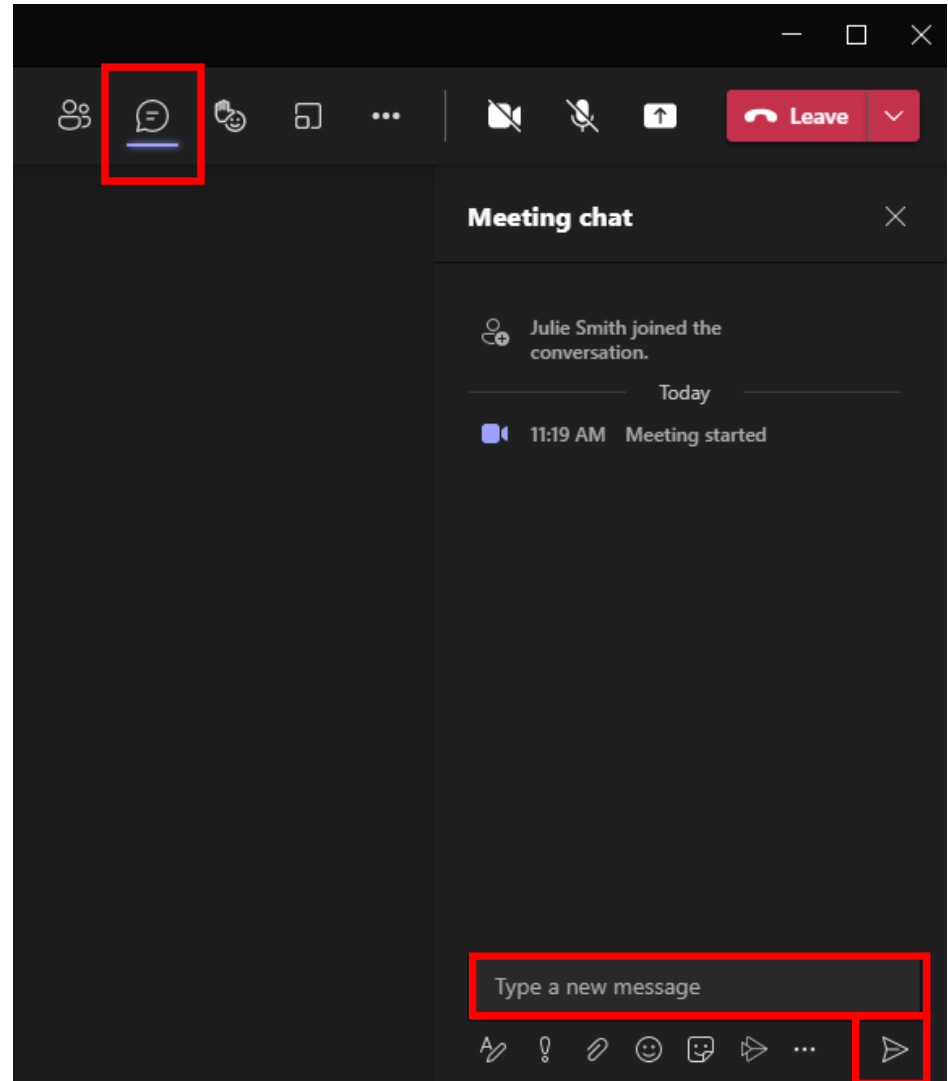


- Meeting materials are available on Project website www.sce.com/rushcreek
- Consider shutting down other background programs for best meeting audio/viewing quality

Meeting Tips

To submit a question/
comment in writing:

- Utilize the chat feature during the presentation to submit questions/comments
- Questions submitted via the chat feature will be answered at the end of each agenda topic, as time allows



Meeting Tips

To submit a question/comment verbally:

- Use the “Raise Hand” feature to indicate you would like to ask a question verbally



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

Welcome and Introductions

Introductions

SCE Team	Cardno Team
Matt Woodhall, Relicensing PM	Ed Bianchi, Project Director
Martin Ostendorf, Senior Manager	Julie Smith, Project Manager
Seth Carr, Bishop Operations	
Lyle Laven, Bishop Operations	
Nicolas von Gersdorff, Dam Safety	
Audry Williams, Cultural Technical Lead	

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Overview
- 2022 FERC Relicensing Milestones
- Pre-Application Document Content and Organization
- Draft Technical Study Plans
- Technical Working Group Meetings
- Next Steps, Questions, Adjourn

Project Overview

Rush Creek Project Overview

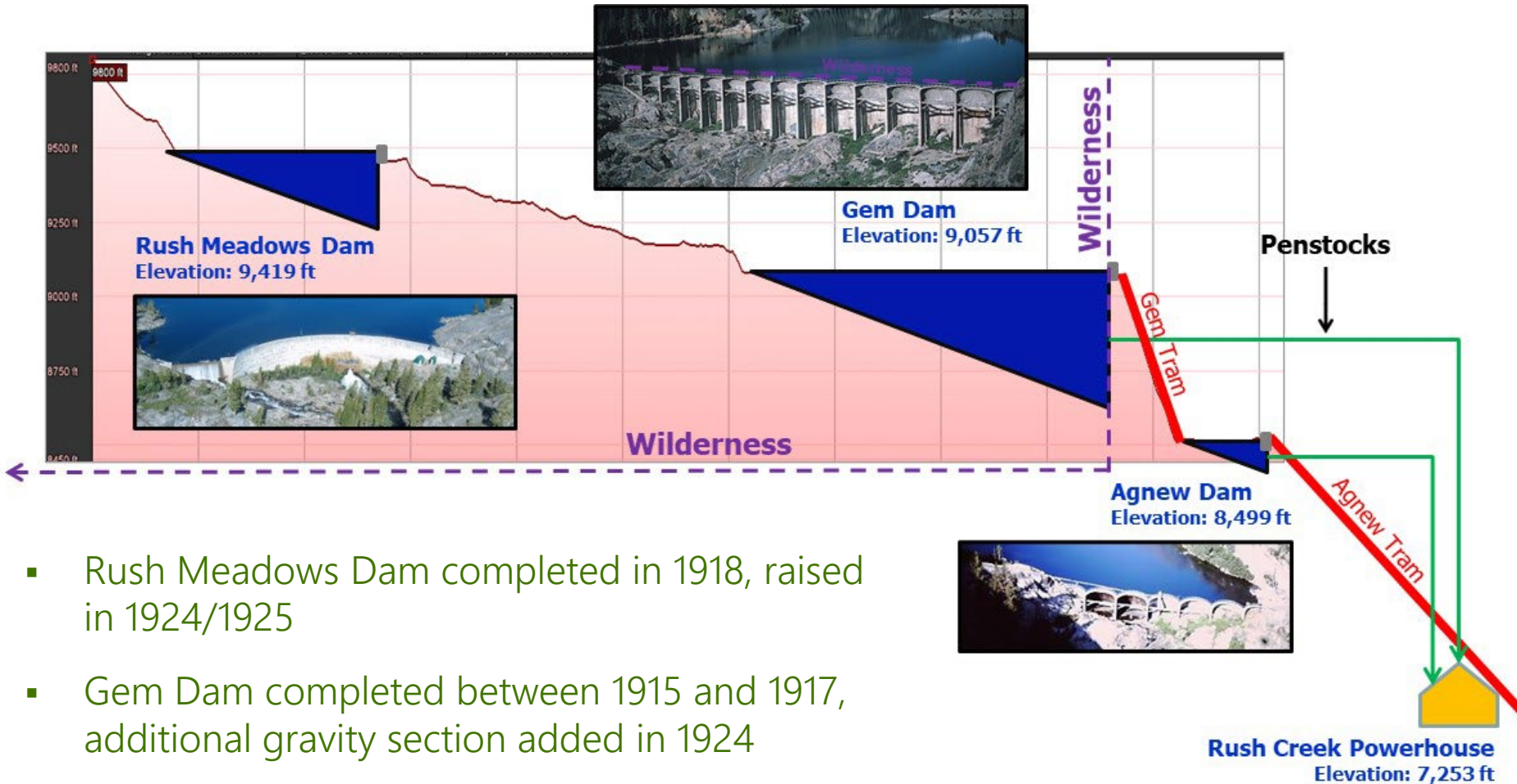
- FERC License:
 - FERC Project No. 1389
 - Issued February 1997
 - 30-year license term
 - Expires January 31, 2027
- Primary Project facilities include:
 - Three dams and associated reservoirs
 - Water conveyance system
 - Powerhouse (total installed capacity of 13.01 megawatts)
 - Two trams



Rush Creek Project Overview

- Project Location:
 - Eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada in Mono County
 - Approximately four miles southwest of June Lake and 14 miles upstream of Mono Lake
 - Majority of Project facilities occupy federal lands within the Inyo National Forest
 - Portions of the Project located within Wilderness Areas
 - Project construction completed in the early 1900s, prior to the formation of wilderness areas

Rush Creek Project Overview



- Rush Meadows Dam completed in 1918, raised in 1924/1925
- Gem Dam completed between 1915 and 1917, additional gravity section added in 1924
- Agnew Dam completed between 1915 and 1917

2022 FERC Relicensing Milestones

FERC Relicensing Process



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2022 FERC Relicensing Milestones

FERC 18 CFR §	Relicensing Activity	Responsible Party	Activity Time Frame	Actual Date / Approx. Deadline
Initiation of Relicensing Process				
5.5, 5.5(d) 5.6, 5.6(a)	Filing of Notification of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD)	SCE	Five to five and one half years prior to existing license expiration. Filed concurrent with Pre-application Document.	12/16/2021
FERC Scoping				
5.7	Initial Tribal Consultation Meeting	FERC	Within 30 days of filing of NOI/PAD.	1/17/2022
5.8, 5.8(a)(c)	Notice of Commencement of Proceeding and Scoping Document	FERC	Within 60 days of filing NOI/PAD.	2/14/2022
5.8(b)(3)(viii)	Conduct public scoping meeting and site visit	FERC	Within 30 days of the notice of commencement of proceeding.	3/16/2022
5.9(a)	File comments on NOI/PAD and SD1, and provide study requests	Relicensing Participants	Within 60 days following the notice of commencement of proceeding.	4/15/2022
5.10	Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary)	FERC	Within 45 days following the deadline for filing of comments on SD1.	5/30/2022

2022 FERC Relicensing Milestones

FERC 18 CFR §	Relicensing Activity	Responsible Party	Activity Time Frame	Actual Date / Approx. Deadline
Study Plan Development				
5.11(a)	File Proposed Study Plan	SCE	Within 45 days following the deadline for filing of comments on the PAD and providing study plan requests.	5/30/2022
5.11(e)	Conduct initial study plan meeting	SCE	No later than 30 days after the deadline date for filing the Proposed Study Plan.	6/29/2022
5.12	File comments on Proposed Study Plan or submit revised study requests	Relicensing Participants	Must be filed within 90 days after the Proposed Study Plan is filed.	8/29/2022
5.13(a)	File Revised Study Plan	SCE	Within 30 days following the deadline for filing comments on the Proposed Study Plan.	9/28/2022
5.13(b)	File comments on Revised Study Plan	Relicensing Participants	Within 15 days following filing of the Revised Study Plan.	10/13/2022
5.13(c)	Issue Study Plan Determination	FERC	Within 30 days following filing of the Revised Study Plan.	10/28/2022
5.13(d) 5.14(a)	File notice of study dispute	Mandatory Conditioning Agencies	Within 20 days of the Study Plan Determination.	11/17/2022
5.13(d)	Study Plan approved, if no notice of study dispute is filed	FERC	Twenty days following the notice of study dispute filing period.	12/7/2022

Pre-Application Document (PAD) Content and Organization

PAD Content and Organization

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

**Rush Creek Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 1389**

**VOLUME 1: SECTIONS 1–6
(BOOK 1 OF 2)**



PRELIMINARY APPLICATION DOCUMENT



December 2021

Volume 1 (Public Information) (Book 1 of 2)

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Existing Project Location, Facilities, and Operations
- 3.0 Proposed Project Alternatives
- 4.0 Existing Resource Information
 - 4.1 Introduction
 - 4.2 Rush Creek Basin Description
 - 4.3 Water Use and Hydrology
 - 4.4 Water Quality
 - 4.5 Fish and Aquatic Resources
 - 4.6 Botanical and Wildlife Resources
 - 4.7 Geology and Soils
 - 4.8 Geomorphology
 - 4.9 Wetland, Riparian, and Littoral Habitats
 - 4.10 Land Use
 - 4.11 Recreation Resources
 - 4.12 Aesthetics
 - 4.13 Cultural Resources
 - 4.14 Tribal Resources
 - 4.15 Socioeconomics
- 5.0 Preliminary Issues, Draft Technical Study Plans, and Relevant Plans
- 6.0 Summary of Contacts

PAD Content and Organization

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

**Rush Creek Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 1389**

**VOLUME 1: APPENDICES A, B, AND C
(BOOK 2 OF 2)**



PRELIMINARY APPLICATION DOCUMENT



December 2021

Volume 1 (Public Information) (Book 2 of 2)

Appendix A: Relicensing Process Plan

Appendix B: Summary of Contacts

Appendix C: Draft Technical Study Plans

PAD Content and Organization

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Rush Creek Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. 1389

VOLUME 2: PRIVILEGED INFORMATION



PRELIMINARY APPLICATION DOCUMENT



December 2021

Volume 2 (Privileged Information) (Book 1 of 1)

Aquatic Resources

Map 4.5-2 Occurrences of SNYLF and YT within 1 Mile of the FERC Project Boundary

Terrestrial Resources

Map 4.6-2 Occurrences of Special-Status Plant and Wildlife Species within 1 Mile of the FERC Project Boundary

Cultural Resources

Map 4.13-2 Previously Recorded Archaeological Resources within the FERC Project Boundary

PAD Availability

Public portions of the PAD available here:

- SCE's relicensing website: www.sce.com/rushcreek
- FERC's eLibrary: <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>
 - Docket No. P-1389
- By appointment at the Bishop Creek Hydro Headquarters Office located at 4000 Bishop Creek Road, Bishop, California 93514.
 - Contact Matthew Woodhall to schedule at appointment at matthew.woodhall@sce.com

Draft Technical Study Plans

Draft Technical Study Plans

PAD Appendix C includes 15 Draft Technical Study Plans

Aquatic Resources

- AQ 1 – Instream Flow
- AQ 2 – Hydrology
- AQ 3 – Water Temperature
- AQ 4 – Water Quality
- AQ 5 – Geomorphology
- AQ 6 – Fish Population and Barriers
- AQ 7 – Special-status Amphibians

Cultural Resources

- CUL 1 – Built Environment
- CUL 2 – Archaeology
- CUL 3 – Tribal

Land Resources

- LAND 1 – Aesthetics
- LAND 2 – Noise

Recreation Resources

- REC 1 – Recreation

Terrestrial Resources

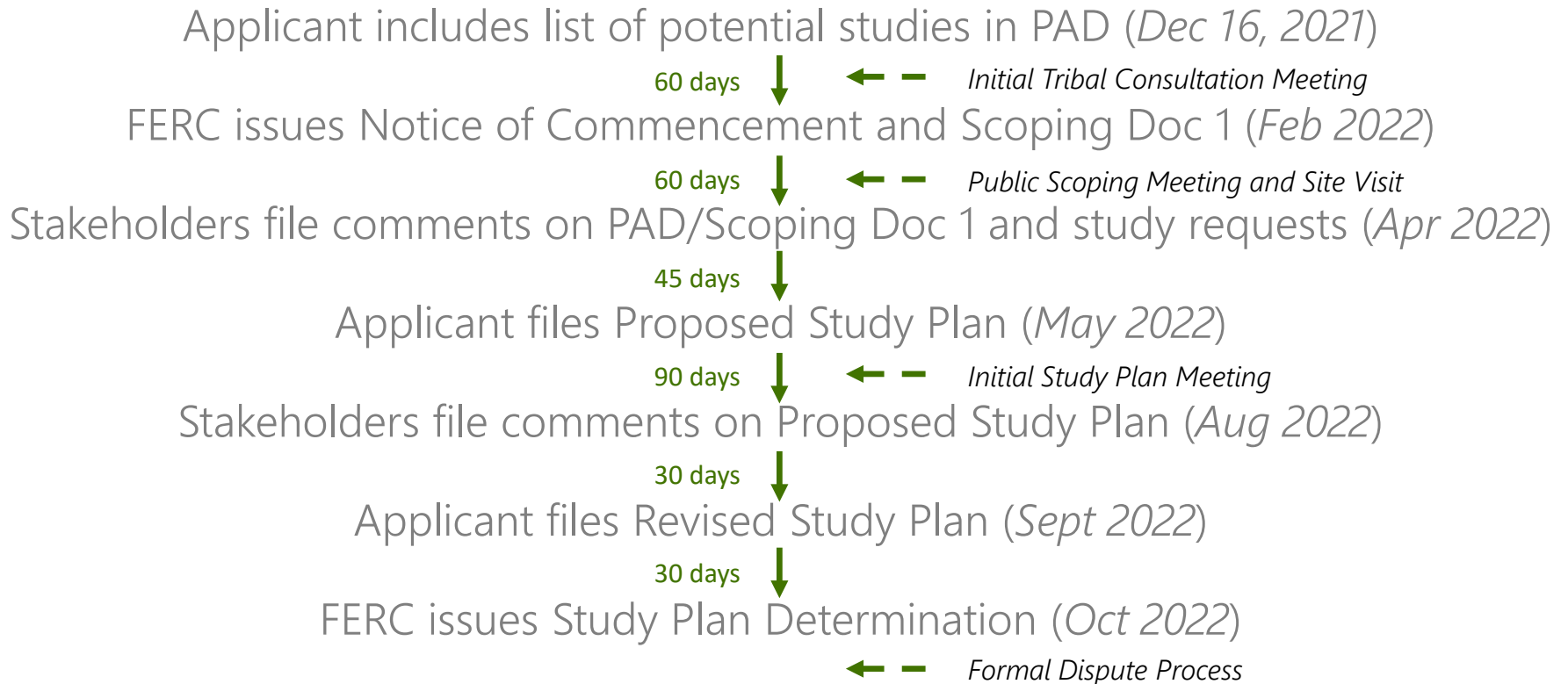
- TERR 1 – Botanical
- TERR 2 – Wildlife

Draft Technical Study Plans

- Draft Technical Study Plan Contents
 - Potential Resource Issues
 - Project Nexus
 - Relevant Information
 - Potential Information Gaps
 - Study Objectives
 - Extent of Study Area
 - Study Approach
 - Schedule

Draft Technical Study Plans

FERC Study Plan Development Process



Process takes approximately 10-14 months

Technical Working Group Meetings

Technical Working Group Meetings

- Resource-specific Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings to discuss Draft Technical Study Plans (TSP)
- Goal of TWG meetings is to:
 - Review and refine each TSP with interested stakeholders to ensure study needs are met
 - Avoid future dispute resolution process which has the potential to delay study implementation

Technical Working Group Meetings

- TWG meetings organized by resource area
- Similar topics grouped
- All meetings are virtual
- Meetings approximately 3 hours in length
- First three meetings scheduled
 - Need for additional meetings determined by TWG participants
- Sign-up for TWGs on the Project website at www.sce.com/rushcreek

Technical Working Group Meetings

- Before the meeting
 - TWG participants review TSPs to be discussed
 - TWG participants prepare questions/comments
- During the meeting
 - SCE provides overview of each TSP section
 - SCE conducts Q&A after each TSP section
 - SCE and TWG participants collaborate on resolution of any comments

Technical Working Group Meetings

- After the meeting
 - SCE revise TSPs, as needed, based on comments received
 - SCE provides track change Word version of TSPs to TWG participants for review and comment **two weeks prior to next meeting**
 - TWG participants provide questions/comments and suggested revisions **one week prior to next meeting**
 - For extensive edits, TWG participants are encouraged to provide comments in track changes

Technical Working Group Meeting Schedule

Technical Study Plan	Week Starting										
	31-Jan	7-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	28-Feb	7-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	4-Apr	11-Apr
Aquatic Resources											
AQ 1 – Instream Flow / AQ 5 – Geomorphology		Feb 8 1-4 pm			Mar 1 1-4 pm			Mar 24 1-4 pm*			
AQ 2 – Hydrology	Feb 1 1-4 pm			Feb 22 9 am-12 pm			Mar 15 1-4 pm*				
AQ 3 – Water Temperature	Feb 3 9 am-12 pm			Feb 23 9 am-12 pm			Mar 16 9 am-12 pm*				
AQ 4 – Water Quality											
AQ 6 – Fish Population and Barriers			Feb 15 1-4 pm			Mar 8 1-4 pm			Mar 29 1-4 pm*		
AQ 7 – Special-status Amphibians											
Cultural Resources											
CUL 1 – Built Environment								Mar 22 9 am-12 pm*			
CUL 2 – Archaeology		Feb 9 9 am-12 pm			Feb 28 9 am-12 pm						
CUL 3 – Tribal											
Land Resources											
LAND 1 – Aesthetics				Feb 24 1-4 pm			Mar 17 9 am-12 pm			Apr 5 1-4 pm*	
LAND 2 – Noise											
Recreation Resources											
REC 1 – Recreation			Feb 17 9 am-12 pm			Mar 10 1-4 pm			Mar 31 9 am-12 pm*		
Terrestrial Resources											
TERR 1 – Botanical		Feb 10 1-4 pm			Mar 3 9 am-12 pm			Mar 23 9 am-12 pm*			
TERR 2 – Wildlife											

* Contingency meeting, if needed

Feb 14: FERC notices
NOI/PAD and Issues SD1

Apr 15: Comments on
PAD, SD1, and study
requests due

Technical Working Group Meeting Schedule

April 15–May 30

Conduct additional Technical Working Group meetings to address outstanding study requests and/or comments on Draft Technical Study Plans, as needed.

Other Milestones (approx. dates)

May 30: SCE files Proposed Study Plan

Jun 29: SCE conducts Proposed Study Plan meeting

Aug 29: Comments on Proposed Study Plan due

Sept 28: SCE files Revised Study Plan

Oct 28: FERC issues Study Plan Determination

Technical Working Group Meetings

Aquatic Technical Working Group

Technical Study Plan	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3*
AQ 1 – Instream Flow AQ 5 – Geomorphology	Feb 8 1–4 pm	Mar 1 1–4 pm	Mar 24 1–4 pm
AQ 2 – Hydrology	Feb 1 1–4 pm	Feb 22 9 am–12pm	Mar 15 1–4 pm
AQ 3 – Water Temperature AQ 4 – Water Quality	Feb 3 9 am–12 pm	Feb 23 9 am–12 pm	Mar 16 9 am–12pm
AQ 6 – Fish Population and Barriers AQ 7 – Special-status Amphibians	Feb 15 1–4 pm	Mar 8 1–4 pm	Mar 29 1–4 pm

*Contingency meeting, if needed

Technical Working Group Meetings

Cultural Technical Working Group

Technical Study Plan	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3*
CUL 1 – Built Environment CUL 2 – Archaeology CUL 3 – Tribal	Feb 9 9 am–12 pm	Feb 28 9 am–12 pm	Mar 22 9 am–12 pm

Land Technical Working Group

Technical Study Plan	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3*
LAND 1 – Aesthetics LAND 2 – Noise	Feb 24 1–4 pm	Mar 17 9 am–12 pm	Apr 5 1–4 pm

*Contingency meeting, if needed

Technical Working Group Meetings

Recreation Technical Working Group

Technical Study Plan	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3*
REC 1 – Recreation	Feb 17 9 am–12 pm	Mar 10 1–4 pm	Mar 31 9 am–12 pm

Terrestrial Technical Working Group

Technical Study Plan	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3*
TERR 1 – Botanical TERR 2 - Wildlife	Feb 10 1–4 pm	Mar 3 9 am–12 pm	Mar 23 9 am–12 pm

*Contingency meeting, if needed

Next Steps, Questions, Adjourn

How to Stay Involved

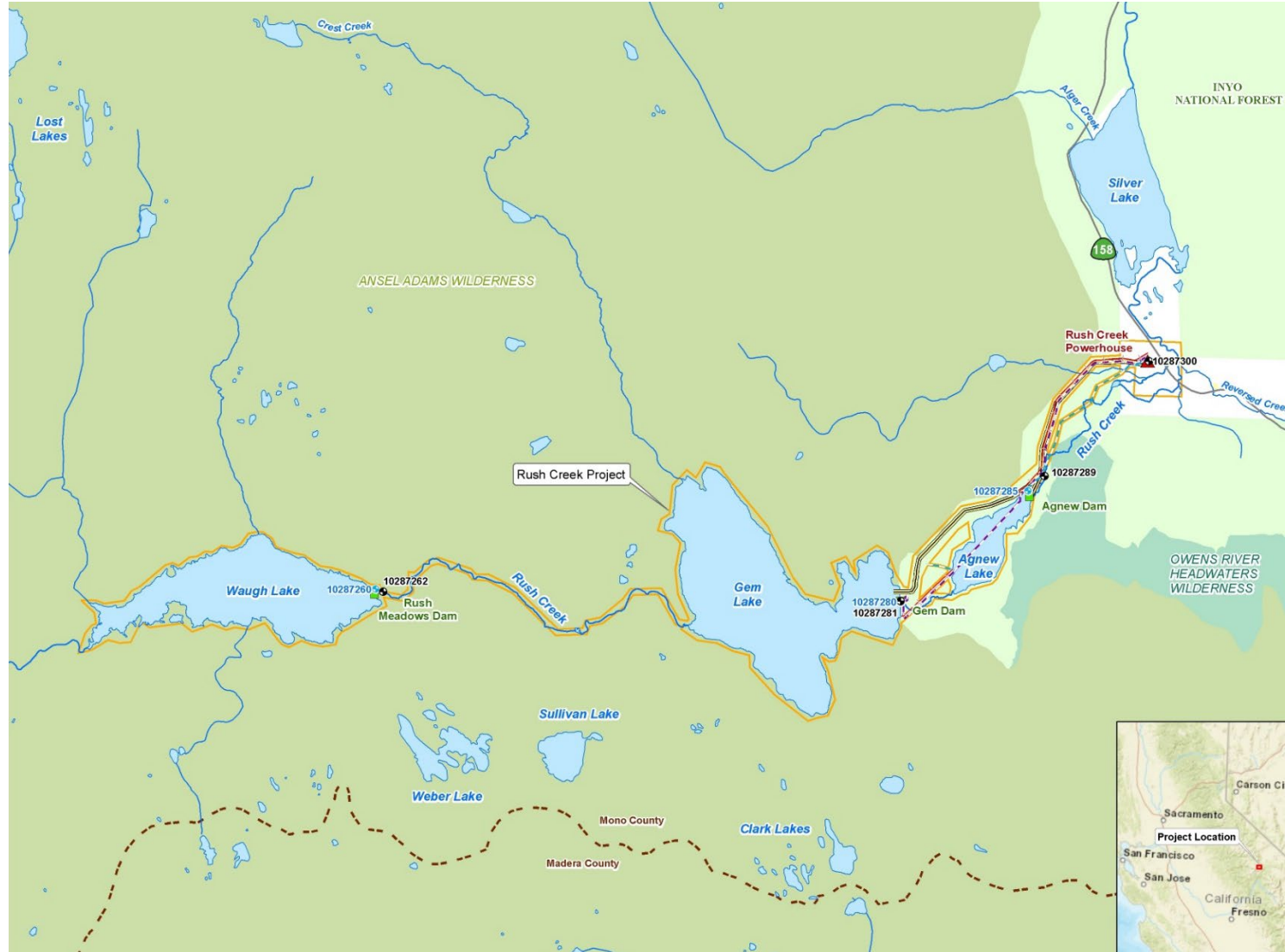
- Check the Project website for updates/news at www.sce.com/rushcreek
- Sign up to receive Project-related e-mails through the Contract Registration Form on the Project website
- Sign up for Technical Working Group meetings on the Project website
- Sign up for FERC's e-subscription (Docket No. P-1389) at www.ferc.gov
- E-mail Matthew Woodhall with questions at matthew.Woodhall@sce.com

Questions?



Extra Slides

Rush Creek Project Overview



FERC Relicensing Process

