



**MEETING NOTES\***  
**LUNDY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, FERC PROJECT No. 1390**  
**PROPOSED STUDY PLAN MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, 8:30 AM–12:00 PM**

*\*These meeting notes are documentation of general discussions from the meeting held on the above-noted date and focus on relicensing participants 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.*

**1.0 OBJECTIVES**

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- Clarify SCE’s Proposed Study Plans
- Discuss information gathering or study requests
- Discuss process and schedule for refining study plans

**2.0 ATTENDEES**

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Relicensing Team Members

Martin Ostendorf, Southern California Edison (SCE)  
Matt Woodhall, SCE  
Audry Williams, SCE  
Cornelio Artienda, SCE  
Finlay Anderson, Kleinschmidt  
Angela Whelpley, Kleinschmidt  
Allison Rudalevige, Psomas  
Brad Blood, Psomas  
Edith Read, Edith Read and Associates  
Heather Neff, Stillwater Sciences (SWS)  
Christina Buck, SWS  
Lynn Johnson, TEAM Environmental

FERC Staff

Jessica Fefer  
Frank Winchell  
Rebecca Kipp  
Ousmane Sidibe

Agencies, Non-governmental organizations, individuals

Adam Cohen, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)  
Bartshe Miller, Mono Lake Committee (MLC)  
Beth Lawson, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)  
Bryant Luu, CDFW  
Chad Mellison, United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
Daniel Anderson, CDFW  
Danielle Christensen, MLC  
Graham Meese, CDFW  
Haley Wragg, Lundy Lake Resort  
Jacqueline Beidl, United States Forest Service (USFS)  
James Noss, SWRCB  
Jeffrey Starosts, Bureau of Land Management  
Jonathan Knight, USFS  
Kurt Sable, USFS  
Michael Weise, USFS  
Robbie DiPaolo, MLC  
Sheila Irons, USFS  
Tristan Leong, USFS

### **3.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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The SCE relicensing team introduced the meeting's purpose as discussing the proposed study plan for the Lundy Lake relicensing, emphasizing the importance of relicensing participants comments and study requests leading up to the plan.

The SCE relicensing team opened the meeting by welcoming participants and outlining the agenda, which included introductions, a safety moment, and discussions on the proposed study plan for the Lundy Lake relicensing. They stressed the significance of relicensing participants input and the impact of their comments and study requests on shaping the plan.

The meeting aimed to clarify the proposed study plans, address information gathering, refine study plans based on relicensing participants feedback, and ensure engagement in the process leading to the FERC study plan determination.

The SCE relicensing team highlighted the presence of relicensing participants, including the FERC project manager, Jessica Fefer and Jessica's team from FERC, emphasizing the value of their contributions to the study plan meeting and the overall relicensing process.

SCE staff acknowledged the Lundy Project's location on the Mono Lake Kutzadika<sup>a</sup> Tribes' traditional lands, highlighting SCE's recognition of the historical stewardship by the tribes.

### **4.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW**

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SCE staff provided an overview of the Lundy Project, including its location, facilities, and operations. Additionally, a flow diagram of how water flows through the Lundy Project was reviewed. SCE staff discussed the adjudicated water rights and the priority of those rights at the Lundy Project.

Staff from the USFS sought clarifications about the relationship between the study program and existing settlement agreement (executed in 2005 and amended in 2022) between SCE and water rights holders and agencies regarding the Project. SCE staff explained that the settlement agreement primarily addresses state water rights issues that are not germane to FERC's relicensing of the Lundy Project. SCE affirmed, however, its intent to ensure that the provisions of the Settlement Agreement that are relevant to the FERC relicensing process are reflected in the RSP, and to work with settlement parties to ensure that relevant provisions of the Settlement Agreement that fall beyond FERC's relicensing jurisdiction continue beyond the expiration of the current license term.

### **5.0 WATER RESOURCES**

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The water quality studies involve seasonal sampling, bacterial sampling, and fish tissue mercury sampling, with the goal of comparing data to water quality standards and addressing state water board study requests.

## **5.1 AQ-1 FISH COMMUNITY SURVEY**

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The SCE relicensing staff presented the proposed study AQ-1, focusing on characterizing the fish community in Mill Creek and Lundy Lake, including abundance, biomass, age structure, and potential brown trout, brook trout, and rainbow trout populations.

## **5.2 AQ-2 FISH STRANDING STUDY**

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SCE relicensing staff presented the proposed study AQ-2, identifying that the study will focus on areas of high stranding risk and the objective of this study will include characterizing the flow fluctuations and establishing monitoring locations in the representative channel reaches throughout the bypass reach.

## **5.3 WQ-1 LUNDY LAKE AND MILL CREEK WATER QUALITY MONITORING**

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SCE relicensing staff outlined the proposed Water Quality study WQ-1, aiming to collect seasonal water quality data at various sites in Lundy Lake and Mill Creek to assess compliance with water quality objectives and address concerns related to mercury in fish tissue.

## **5.4 WQ-2 LUNDY LAKE AND MILLE CREEK WATER TEMPERATURE MONITORING**

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SCE relicensing staff gave an overview of the proposed Water Quality study WQ-2, noting the goal is to collect stream water temperature data and reservoir profile data to characterize current water temperature conditions in Lundy Lake and stream reaches of Mill Creek affected by Lundy Project operations.

## **6.0 TERR-1 GENERAL BOTANICAL RESOURCES SURVEY**

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SCE relicensing staff gave an overview of the proposed Botanical Resources survey TERR-1, explaining the goal of the study is to obtain additional information to supplement the existing information regarding botanical resources in this study area. To accomplish this, field staff will conduct a literature review to identify species that have been reported in the general region and then conduct two years of field surveys that will include vegetation mapping, as well as special status plant surveys to document location and microhabitat information and population size. Invasive species surveys will be conducted where population size and extent will be documented.

## **7.0 TERR-2 GENERAL WILDLIFE SURVEY**

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SCE relicensing staff discussed that the General Wildlife Survey TERR-2 would focus on identifying and documenting wildlife species, especially those at risk or of special concern, as designated by the US Forest Service, federal, and state governments. The study area overlaps with the botanical study area and includes additional regions to document potential habitats for Willow flycatchers. A literature review was completed for the pre application document, and this study plan includes pedestrian field surveys, nighttime

spotlighting, and installation of trail cameras to gather more data. The exact locations for the cameras will be determined before the study begins.

## **8.0 REC-1 RECREATION USE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

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SCE relicensing staff discussed the recreation use and needs assessment study, focusing on collecting data on current recreation use and identifying future needs to ensure facilities meet visitor expectations. The recreation use and needs assessment study will collect data on current recreation use at FERC-approved sites, evaluate visitor feedback, and assess the capacity of existing facilities to meet future needs. The study will employ spot counts and visitor intercept surveys during weekdays, weekends, and peak holidays to gather comprehensive data on recreation use and visitor experiences.

## **9.0 REC-2 RECREATION FACILITIES CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

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SCE relicensing staff emphasized the importance of assessing the condition of recreation facilities and amenities, including the potential for universal accessibility, to ensure they align with visitor expectations and needs.

## **10.0 LAND-1 PROJECT LANDS AND ROADS STUDY**

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SCE relicensing staff discussed the Project Lands and Roads Study, LAND-1, highlighting the process in which SCE will review current lands and roads needed for operation and maintenance of the Project.

## **11.0 CUL-1 ARCHAEOLOGY, CUL-2 BUILT ENVIRONMENT, TRI-1 TRIBAL RESOURCES**

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SCE staff outlined the objectives of the archaeological, built environment, and tribal resource studies, aiming to identify and document cultural and tribal resources within the Project area for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

SCE staff detailed the objectives of the cultural resources studies, which include identifying archaeological and built environment resources, determining historic properties, and developing a historic properties management plan consistent with the Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest.

The tribal resource study, separate from the archaeological and built environment studies, aims to document tribal resources, conduct ethnographic surveys, and engage with tribal governments to ensure compliance with Section 106.

The studies will involve archival research, field surveys, and evaluations for the National Register of Historic Places, with a focus on collaboration with tribal representatives and documentation of any identified resources.

## **12.0 PROPOSED STUDIES NOT ADOPTED**

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SCE relicensing staff reviewed the eight studies proposed by relicensing participants that SCE did not adopt in the PSP, together with SCE's justification as to why each study was not adopted. FERC's integrated license process was referenced in each case to note where SCE concluded that the study request did not meet FERC's study plan criteria.

FERC staff asked about the absence of a Sediment Transport Study Plan. SCE explained discrepancies between the figures filed with the PAD, which showed historic water-courses and the current disposition of Deer Creek, which no longer discharges into Lundy Lake and instead is a tributary to Mill Creek below the Dam. Deer Creek is not within the Lundy Project boundary nor does it discharge into Mill Creek within the Lundy Project boundary. As further clarification, SCE filed a follow up letter in response to SD2 on October 1, 2024 identifying the existing data that is available to inform FERC's NEPA analysis.

## **13.0 STUDY IMPLEMENTATION, NEXT STEPS, AND FINAL Q&A**

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SCE relicensing staff explained that the study implementation for each of study is outlined in the study schedule for each plan. Implementation of each study varies; however, they all contain relicensing participants consultation, if applicable, data collection, and study report development.

SCE relicensing staff also outlined the next steps in the process with the studies starting implementation once FERC issues the Study Plan determination on January 3, 2025. Moving through the ILP, after the first year of studies SCE will submit the Initial Study Report with a progress report on each study conducted to date. After the second year of studies, SCE will submit the Updated Study Report with a progress report on all studies conducted.

SCE relicensing staff reviewed the relicensing process timeline highlighting major milestones over the next couple of years.

## **14.0 ACTION ITEMS**

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Relicensing participants comments on the Proposed Study Plan are due to be filed with FERC on November 4, 2024. Each relicensing participant is responsible for submitting written comments in the FERC record to ensure that SCE will consider its comments when preparing the Revised Study Plan.

# Lundy Hydroelectric Project Relicensing FERC No. 1390

September 3, 2024

## Proposed Study Plan Meeting

# Land Acknowledgment

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

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Safety Moment
- Meeting Tips and Guidelines
- Goals and Purpose of Study Plan Meeting
- Relicensing Process and Schedule
- Project Overview
- SCE's Proposed Study Plans
- Proposed Studies Not Adopted
- Study Plan Implementation
- Next Steps



# Relicensing Team

## SCE Team

**Matthew Woodhall**  
Project Manager

**Martin Ostendorf**  
Senior Manager

**Audry Williams**  
Cultural Resources  
Manager

**Seth Carr**  
Operations Manager

## Consultant Team

**Finlay Anderson**  
Project Manager

**Angela Whelpley**  
Assistant Project  
Manager, Recreation  
and Land Use Resources

**Kelly Larimer**  
Project Director

**Brad Blood and Allison  
Rudalevige**  
Botanical and Wildlife  
Resources

**Heather Neff and  
Christina Buck**  
Water Resources

**Lynn Johnson**  
Tribal Resources

**Jay King and Meta  
Bunse**  
Cultural Resources

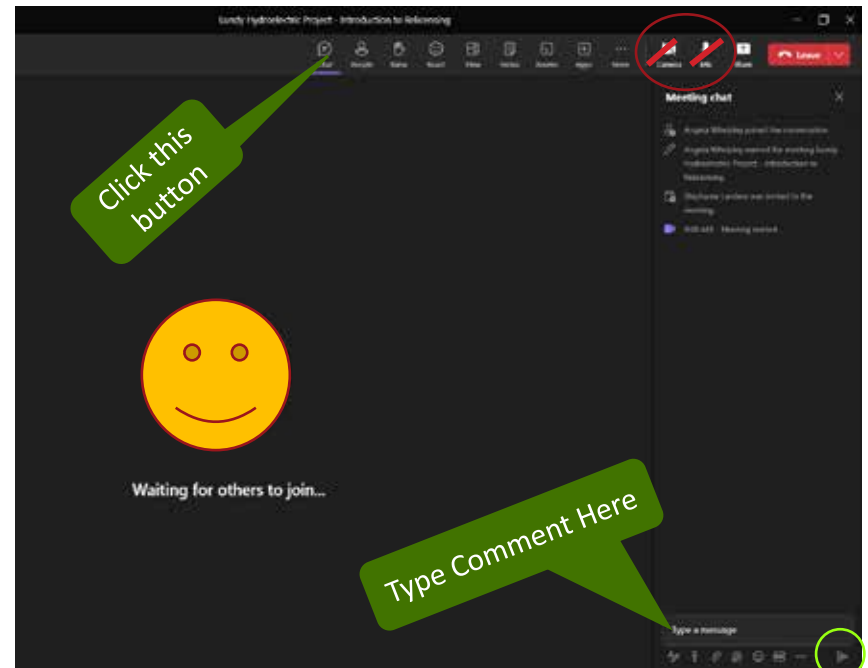
**Edith Read**  
Botanical Advisor

# Safety Moment



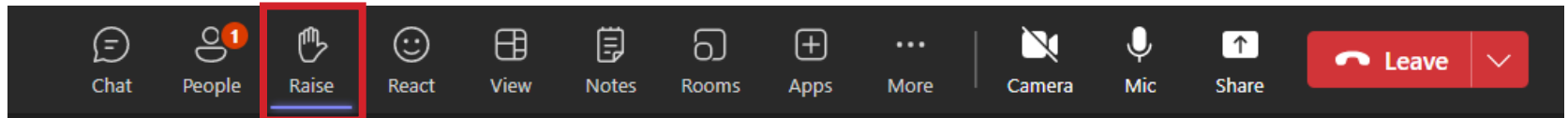
# Meeting Tips

- 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.

# Meeting Guidelines

- **Participate consistent with the meeting agenda** (i.e., objectives, structure, timeframes).
- **Listen first to understand information** provided by SCE and the consultant team.
- **Pose clarifying questions** about proposed study plan objectives and methodology to support decision making about submitting written comments.
- **Promote constructive inquiry** and **avoid presenter interruptions, argument, or interrogation.**
- **Use respectful language.**
- **Respect requests from the meeting facilitator** related to these meeting guidelines.

# Goals and Purpose of the Study Plan Meeting

## Goals

- Clarify SCE's Proposed Study Plans
- Discuss information gathering or study requests
- Discuss process and schedule for refining study plans

# RELICENSING PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

# Relicensing Process Schedule

FERC Regulation 18 CFR §	Responsible Party	Action	Date Completed
5.5, 5.6	SCE	File Notice of Intent/Pre-Application Document (NOI/PAD)	February 23, 2024
5.8	FERC	Issue Notice of Commencement and Scoping Document 1 (SD1)	April 17, 2024
5.8(b)(viii)	FERC	Conduct Scoping Meetings and Environmental Site Visit	May 15-16, 2024
5.9	Stakeholders	File comments on NOI/PAD/SD1	June 24, 2024
5.10	FERC	Issue Scoping Document 2 (SD2)	July 29, 2024
5.11	SCE	File Proposed Study Plan (PSP)	August 5, 2024



# Relicensing Process Schedule

FERC Regulation 18 CFR §	Responsible Party	Action	Date Completed
5.11(e)	SCE	Proposed Study Plan Meeting	September 3, 2024
5.12	Stakeholders	Proposed Study Plan comments due	<b>November 4, 2024</b>
5.13(a)	SCE	File Revised Study Plan	December 4, 2024
5.13(b)	Stakeholders	Revised Study Plan comments due	December 19, 2024
5.13(c)	FERC	Director's Study Plan Determination	January 3, 2025
5.13(d)	FERC	Study Plan Approved (if no study plan dispute filed)	January 23, 2025

*If the deadline falls on a weekend, part-day holiday, or legal public holiday, the deadline is extended to the next business day.*

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

Energy for What's Ahead<sup>SM</sup>

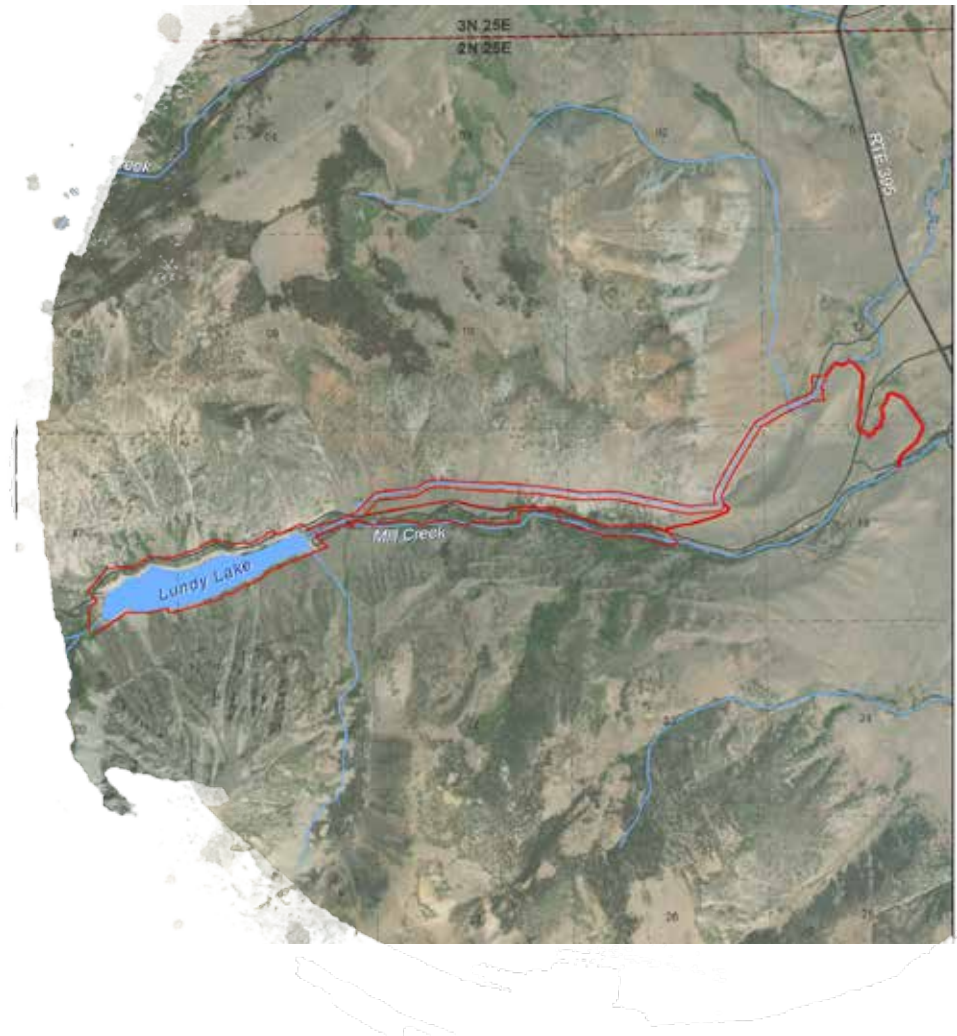
# Project Location

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



# Project Facilities

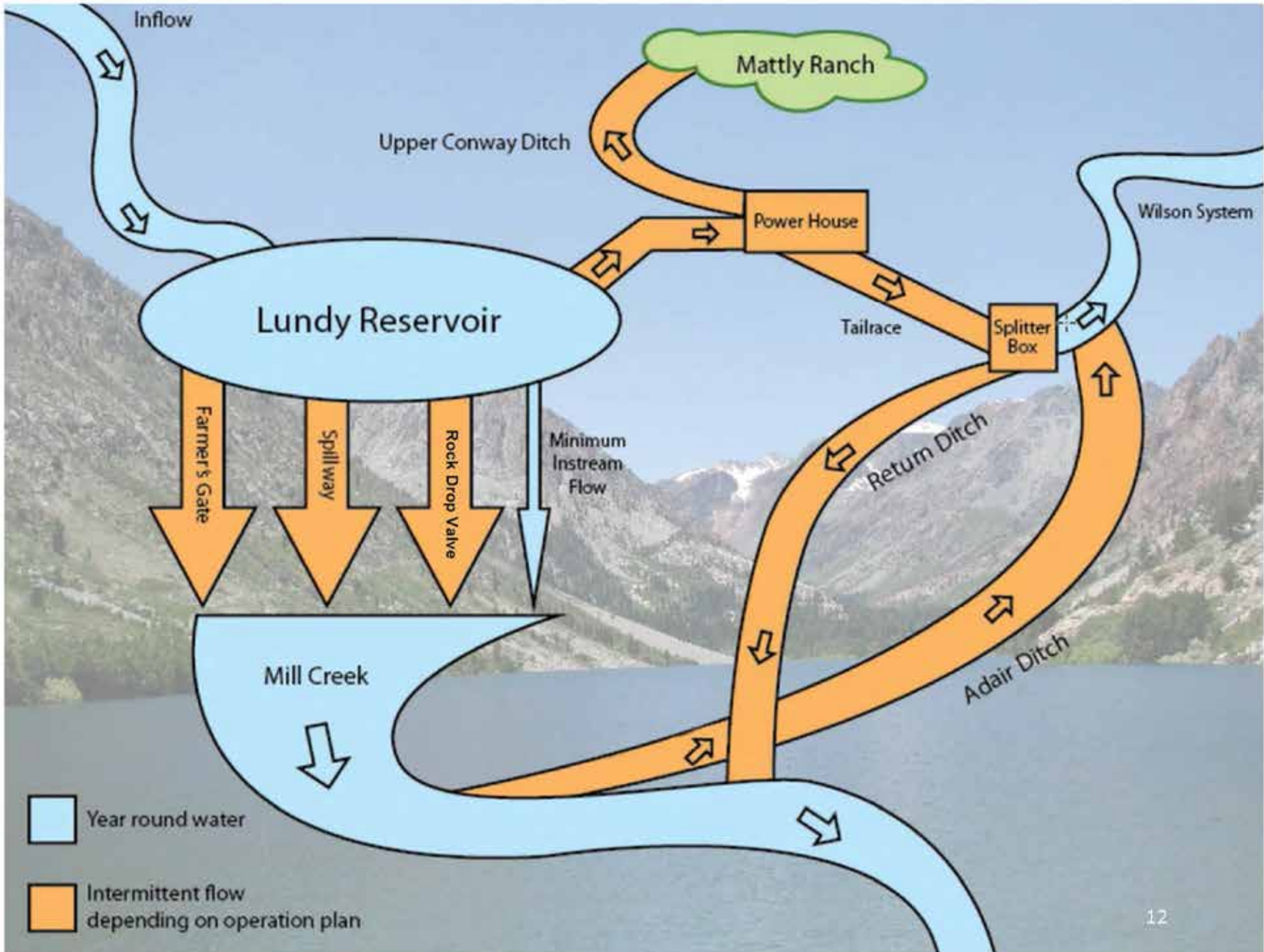
- Lundy Dam and Lake
  - Headwaters of Mill Creek
  - 73-acre reservoir
- Lundy Powerhouse
  - 3.0 megawatts
- Flowline and penstock connecting Lundy Lake and Lundy Powerhouse.
- Splitterbox below powerhouse to manage flows for water-right holders.



# 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.

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



# SCE's PROPOSED STUDY PLANS

Energy for What's Ahead<sup>SM</sup>  
WATER RESOURCES

BOTANICAL & WILDLIFE RESOURCES

RECREATION & LAND USE RESOURCES

CULTURAL & TRIBAL RESOURCES



# SCE's 12 Proposed Study Plans

Study Plan Title
AQ-1 Fish Community Survey
AQ-2 Fish Stranding Study
WQ-1 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring
WQ-2 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Temperature Monitoring
TERR-1 General Botanical Resources Survey
TERR-2 General Wildlife Survey
REC-1 Recreation Use and Needs Assessment
REC-2 Recreation Facilities Condition Assessment
LAND-1 Project Lands and Roads Study
CUL-1 Cultural Resources – Archaeology
CUL-2 Cultural Resources – Built Environment
TRI-1 Tribal Resources

# WATER RESOURCES

# AQ-1 Fish Community Survey

- **Goals**

- To supplement the existing information to characterize abundance, distribution, and structure of recreational fish populations within Lundy Lake and Project-affected stream reaches of Mill Creek.

- **Objectives**

- To obtain current information on existing recreational fish populations within Lundy Lake and Project-affected stream reaches of Mill Creek.



Brook trout



Brown trout



Rainbow trout

# AQ-1 Fish Community Survey



- **Study Area**
  - Lundy Lake and Mill Creek from Lundy Dam downstream to Highway 395
- **Study Approach**
  - Stream Fish Surveys
    - Multi-pass electrofishing at up to 3 sites (2 in the bypass reach, 1 downstream of MCRD outlet)
  - Reservoir Fish Surveys
    - Gill netting using variable-mesh adult and juvenile nets at 3 locations
    - Nighttime boat electrofishing at 3 shoreline locations

# Questions



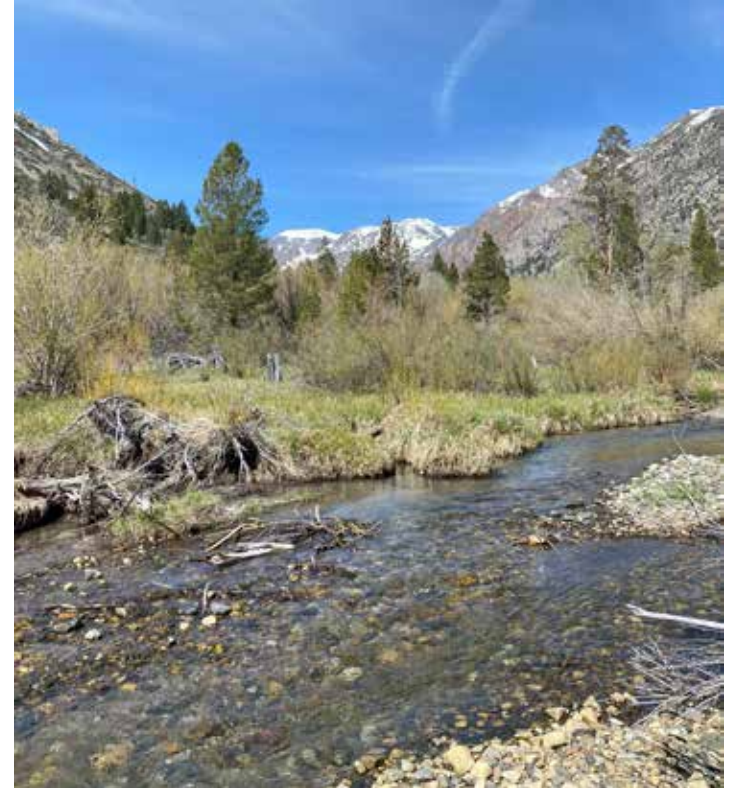
# AQ-2 Fish Stranding Study

- **Goals**

- To identify areas of high stranding risk for fish in Mill Creek between Lundy Dam and MCRD and assess stranding potential resulting from Project operations.

- **Objectives**

- Characterize flow fluctuations resulting from Project operations and evaluate associated risk of fish stranding in Mill Creek between Lundy Dam and MCRD.
- Establish monitoring locations representative of the variety of channel geomorphic conditions present in Mill Creek between Lundy Dam and MCRD and assess how operational changes in flow affect surface water elevation



# AQ-2 Fish Stranding Study

- **Study Area**

- The Study Area includes a 3.3-mile section of Mill Creek from Lundy Dam downstream to MCRD confluence (the bypass reach). Monitoring will occur in up to seven sites dispersed between the upstream and downstream ends of the Study Area.

- **Study Approach**

- Establish representative monitoring locations
- Water surface elevation monitoring
- Evaluation of stranding risk



# Questions





# WQ-1 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring



- **Goals**

- To collect additional information necessary to characterize existing water quality conditions in Lundy Lake and Mill Creek downstream of Lundy Dam.

- **Objectives**

- These data will be used to assess consistency with water quality objectives in the Basin Plan (LRWQCB, 2019), California statewide numeric mercury objectives (SWRCB, 2017) and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) screening values (OEHHA, 2022) .

# WQ-1 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring

- Study Area

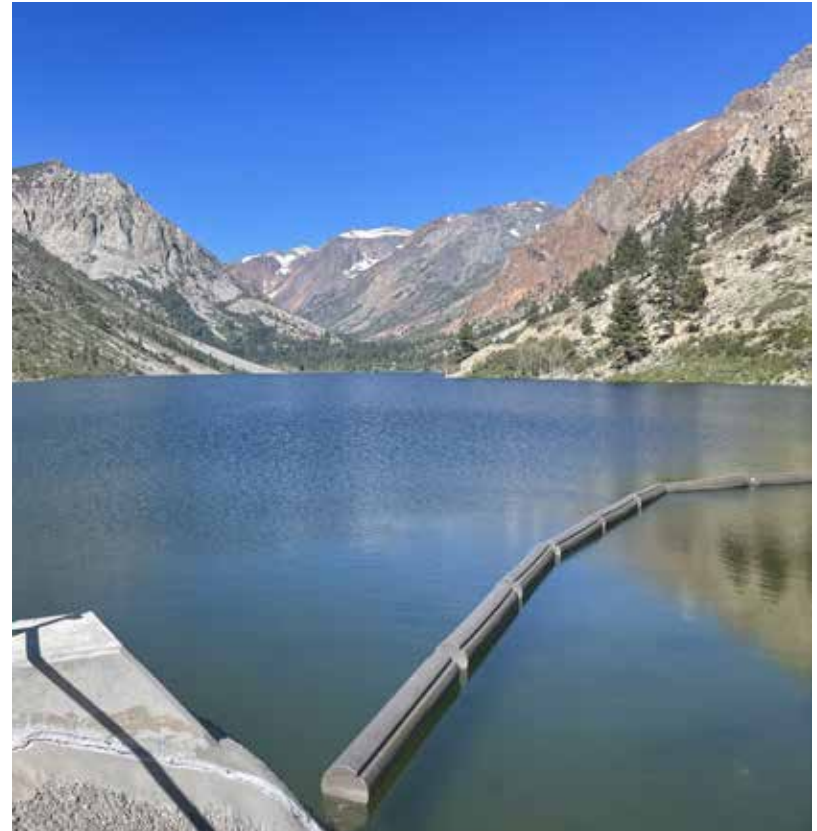
- Lundy Lake
- Mill Creek from Lundy Dam to the Mill Creek Return Ditch outlet (Mill Creek Bypass Reach)
- Mill Creek Return Ditch (MCRD)
- Mill Creek downstream of the MCRD outlet
- Comparison sites along stream reaches upstream of the Project (i.e., Mill Creek and South Fork Mill Creek)



# WQ-1 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring

- **Study Approach**

- The water quality monitoring study is divided into three distinct study components that include:
  - Reservoir and stream water quality sampling
    - In situ water quality (temperature, DO, specific conductance, pH, turbidity)
    - Analytical water quality (general chemistry, nutrients and productivity, metals, oil and grease)
  - Bacteriological sampling
    - *Escherichia coli*
    - Fecal coliform
    - Total coliform
  - Fish tissue mercury sampling



# Questions



# WQ-2 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Temperature Monitoring



- **Goals**

- To collect stream water temperature data and reservoir profile temperature data to characterize current water temperature conditions in Lundy Lake and Project-affected stream reaches of Mill Creek.

- **Objectives**

- These data will be used to assess consistency with water temperature objectives included in the Basin Plan (LRWQCB, 2019). Mill Creek has a designated beneficial use of Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD) under the Basin Plan (LRWQCB, 2019), which states that temperature must not be altered.

# WQ-2 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Temperature Monitoring

- **Study Area**

- Temperature monitoring will occur in the following reaches:
  - Mill Creek upstream and downstream of Lundy Lake
  - Mill Creek downstream of the confluence with Deer Creek
  - Mill Creek downstream of the confluence with Mill Creek Return Ditch
  - Lundy Powerhouse Tailrace
  - Mill Creek Return Ditch upstream of the confluence with Mill Creek

- **Study Approach**

- Continuous water temperature data loggers (15-minute intervals).



# Questions



# BOTANICAL & WILDLIFE RESOURCES



# TERR-1 General Botanical Resources Survey

- **Goals**

- To obtain additional information to supplement the existing information regarding botanical resources in the Study Area.

- **Objectives**

- Ground-truthing the existing USFS vegetation map (USFS, 2020a), including identification of any sensitive natural communities.
- Documenting the presence of species listed, or proposed for listing, by the federal and/or State Endangered Species Acts.
- Documenting the presence of other special-status plant species, including US Forest Service (USFS) Species of Conservation Concern and species with a California Rare Plant Rank of 1 or 2.
- Documenting non-native, invasive plants identified in the Inyo National Forest (INF) Invasive Plant Inventory Database (NRM – TESP/IS, 2018) and on the California Invasive Plant Council Inventory (Cal-IPC, 2023).

# TERR-1 General Botanical Resources Survey

- **Study Area**

- Lundy Lake Boat Launch
- Lundy Dam and Day Use Area
- Lundy Campground
- Day Use Areas downstream of Lundy Campground
- Lundy Lake Road from the boat launch to the downstream end of the Lundy Day Use Areas
- Penstock Flowline
- Lundy Powerhouse
- Mill Creek Return Ditch

- **Study Approach**

- Literature Review
- Field Surveys
  - Vegetation Mapping
  - Special-Status Plant Surveys
  - Invasive Species Surveys



# Questions



# TERR-2 General Wildlife Survey

- **Goals**

- To develop the information necessary to address terrestrial wildlife species that could be affected by the Lundy Hydroelectric Project (Lundy Project or Project) operation and maintenance (O&M) activities, including U.S. Forest Service (USFS) At-Risk Species, USFS Species of Conservation Concern (USFS Inyo National Forest [INF], 2019; 2020), and other wildlife species.

- **Objectives**

- Document the occurrence of any common, U.S. Forest Service At-Risk Species, Species of Conservation Concern, threatened, and/or endangered wildlife species, and other special-status wildlife species or associated suitable habitat within and adjacent to Project Areas that may be affected by routine O&M activities.

# TERR-2 General Wildlife Survey

- **Study Area**

- The following Project Areas, including a 100-foot buffer:

- Lundy Dam and associated infrastructure to intersection of Lundy Dam Road and Lundy Lake Road
- Connector Road between Lundy Lake Road and Lundy Flowline Road
- Lundy Powerhouse and Switchyard
- Lundy Penstock and Flowline Road
- Lundy Lake Road from intersection with Lundy Return Ditch to Resort
- Lundy Pipeline and Penstock alignment
- Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Delta
- Lundy Return Ditch

- **Study Approach**

- Literature Review
- Field Surveys
- Trail Cameras



# Questions



# RECREATION & LAND USE RESOURCES

Energy for What's Ahead<sup>SM</sup>

# REC-1 Recreation Use and Needs Assessment

- **Goals**

- Characterize the existing recreation use.
- Identify current and future recreation needs.

- **Objectives**

- Estimate recreation use.
- Evaluate visitor feedback.
- Evaluate capacity.
- Estimate future recreation use.
- Estimate potential future recreation needs.



# REC-1 Recreation Use and Needs Assessment

- **Study Area**

- Lundy Lake Boat Launch
- Lundy Dam Day Use Area
- Lundy Campground
- Lundy Day Use Area 1
- Lundy Day Use Area 2
- Lundy Day Use Area 3
- Lundy Day Use Area 4



- **Study Approach**

- Spot Counts
- Recreation Use Visitor Intercept Surveys

# Questions



# REC-2 Recreation Facilities Condition Assessment

- **Goals**

- To conduct a recreation inventory.

- **Objectives**

- Field verify, map, and document recreation facilities and amenities.
- Document the general condition, including the potential for universal accessibility, where feasible.
- Identify who owns, operates, and maintains recreation sites.

# REC-2 Recreation Facilities Condition Assessment

- **Study Area**

- Lundy Lake Boat Launch
- Lundy Dam Day Use Area
- Lundy Campground
- Lundy Day Use Area 1
- Lundy Day Use Area 2
- Lundy Day Use Area 3
- Lundy Day Use Area 4

- **Study Approach**

- Field Inventory



# Questions



# LAND-1 Project Lands and Roads Study

- **Goals**

- To determine if all lands necessary for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the Lundy Hydroelectric Project are encumbered in the FERC Project boundary.

- **Objectives**

- Identify potential additions or removals of lands needed for O&M of the Project.
- Confirm existing land ownership is accurately represented.
- Identify roads or access trails used for O&M of the Project
  - Identify agreements related to O&M of roads and access trails.
- Inventory and assess the condition of identified Project roads and access trails, including the potential need for improvements.
- Identify all Project facilities and structures used for hydroelectric generation (e.g., buildings, roads, and spillway).

# LAND-1 Project Lands and Roads Study

- **Study Area**

- Lands within the existing FERC Project boundary
- Additional lands that may be needed to support Project O&M activities.

- **Study Approach**

- Assess Project boundary for accuracy.
- Assess Project lands ownership and lease agreements information.
- Consult with SCE O&M staff.
- Consult with SCE and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) staff to identify roads or access trails that may be used for Project purposes.
- Assess the condition of roads or access trails identified for Project purposes.

# Questions







# CULTURAL & TRIBAL RESOURCES

# Cultural Resource

## Ø CUL-1 Archaeology

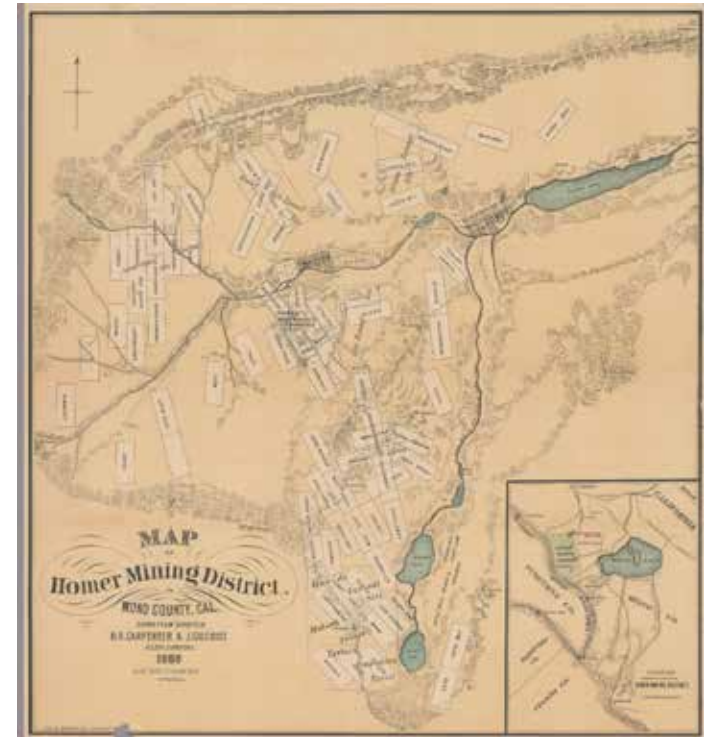
## Ø CUL-2 Built Environment

- **Goals**

- Meet FERC compliance requirements under its Regulations (18 CFR Part 5) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, by determining if Project-related activities and public access will have an adverse effect on historic properties.

- **Objectives**

- Identify all archaeological resources (CUL-1) and built environment (CUL-2) within the Area of Potential Effect (APE), determine which are historic properties, and develop the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) based on those results.
- Ensure that future Project facilities and operations are consistent with the *Desired Conditions described in the Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest* (USFS, 2019).



# Cultural Resource

## Ø CUL-1 Archaeology

## Ø CUL-2 Built Environment

- **Study Area**

- The Study will focus upon the FERC Project Boundary, the proposed APE, and a larger proposed Study Area comprising a 0.5-mile radius around the proposed APE.

- **CUL-1 Study Approach**

- Archival Research
- Archaeological Inventory
- Non-American Indian Traditional Resources
- National Register of Historic Places Evaluation



- **CUL-2 Study Approach**

- Archival Research
- Built Environment Resources Inventory
- National Register of Historic Places Evaluation



# TRI-1 Tribal Resource

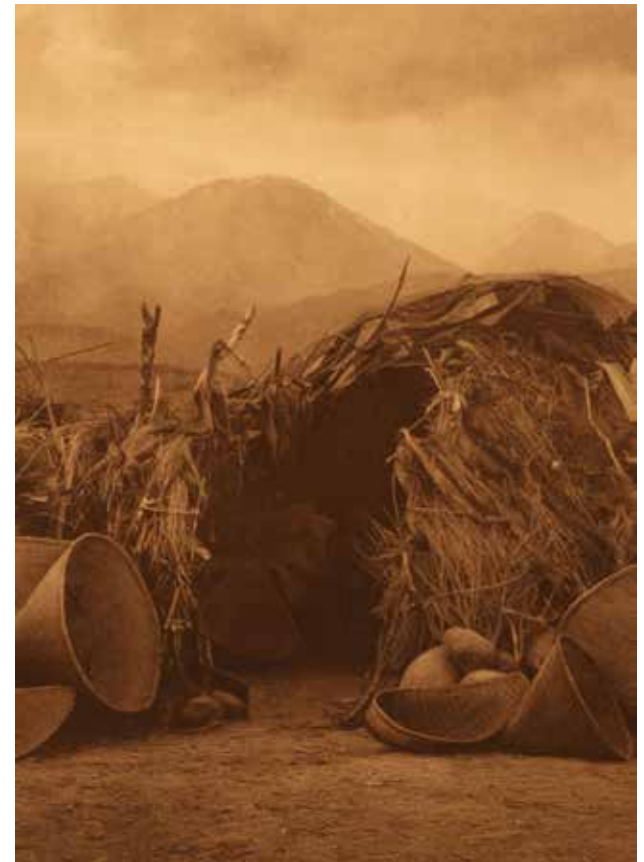
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- **Goals**

- To assist FERC in meeting compliance requirements identified in 18 CFR Part 5 along with those requirements subject to NHPA Section 106 (as amended), among other federal laws and regulations, by determining if licensing of the Project would have an adverse effect upon Tribal resources, which may also include historic properties.

- **Objectives**

- Identify and document Tribal resources identified within or immediately adjacent to the proposed APE.
- Conduct a thorough American Indian ethnographic/ethnohistoric survey of the proposed APE and Study Area.
- Conduct outreach and contact with Tribal governments and their representatives.



# TRI-1 Tribal Resource

- **Study Area**

- The Study will focus upon the FERC Project Boundary, currently coincident with the proposed APE, and a larger Study Area proposed to be a 5-mile radius from the APE.
  - This Study Area is a guide for archival research, development of the historic context and background statements, and interviews with Tribal members.

- **Study Approach**

- Archival Research
- Assist other resource specialists
- Meetings with Tribal Governments
- Interviews
- Documentation and Evaluation



# Questions



# PROPOSED STUDIES NOT ADOPTED

# Stakeholder Proposed Study Requests

8 New Study Plan Requests Received – Not Adopted

Stakeholder Proposed Study	There is no evidence of a problem	Not necessary because existing information and/or another PSP is sufficient to answer the questions posed	Constitutes basic research and/or would not lead to the development of future license conditions	Did not otherwise meet the criteria of 18 CFR § 5.9(b)
MCRD Water Quality and Quantity Quantification			X	X
Invasive Species Study		X		X
Bypass Reach Flows Compliance	X			X
Spill Management	X			X
Road Crossing Below Dam				X
High Season Water	X	X		X
Return Ditch Study and Gauging			X	X
Aquatic Invertebrate Study		X		X



# Proposed Studies Not Adopted

## MCRD Water Quality and Quantity Quantification

- *The study requested to quantify the potential losses of water from the continued operation of the MCRD.*

Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR § 5.9(b)(5): *Study request is not necessary because it bears no nexus to the Project, nor would the results of the requested study inform the development of license requirements.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## WQ-1 Lundy Lake and Mill Creek Water Quality Monitoring/or New Invasive Species Study

- *The requested study would evaluate the current and potential establishment and environmental effects of aquatic invasive species within the PAA [see PSP for list of potential species]*

Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR § 5.9(b)(5): *the requestor has not provided a Project nexus, however:*

- SCE will collect data in Project waters which will be used to evaluate the potential for colonization of invasive mussels, mudsnails, and clams. (see WQ-1).
- Aquatic studies (AQ-1, AQ-2, WQ-1, WQ-2) include record of any incidental observations and location information of aquatic invasive species during sampling efforts.

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## Bypass Reach Flows Compliance

- *This proposed study would evaluate the minimum flows and accretion in the bypass reach by reviewing the monitoring and other flow data and evaluating changes in accretion and dam seepage since the 2005 Settlement.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(3): Study request is not necessary because there is no evidence of a problem that needs to be addressed. Data provided to FERC in 2018 indicated that the flows in the bypass reach were in accordance with expected results and FERC confirmed that SCE's reporting requirements under Article 404 were met.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## Spill Management

- *This proposed study would evaluate spill operations and assist in the development of operations guidelines.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(5): Study request does not present evidence that spill management at the Project is contributing to some sort of adverse environmental effect. The relicensing process is not a forum to explore open-ended questions of how to manage resources.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## Road Crossing below Dam

- *This proposed study would evaluate options for improvement of the road crossing to allow high flows to pass downstream without impairment.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(5) Study request does not present evidence of an ongoing issue at the Project is contributing to some sort of adverse environmental effect. The issue described occurred in an extremely high-water year and temporarily affected a crossing that is managed by the county.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## High Season Water

- *This proposed study would evaluate the ecological benefits of different timing and magnitudes of release of high season water.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(5) Study request is not necessary because there is no evidence of an adverse effect from existing (and proposed) operations. The relicensing process is not a forum to explore open-ended questions of how to manage resources.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## Return Ditch Study and Gauging

- *This proposed study would verify the accuracy of the existing gauges in the system including but not limited to the flume below the dam, the top and bottom of the return ditch, tailrace, release into Wilson and Upper Conway Ditch. The study would inform a decision for which gauges could be QA/QC'd and published by the USGS on a regular basis.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(5) Study request is not necessary because it bears no nexus to the Project, nor would the results of the requested study inform the development of license conditions, as this study touches on state-adjudicated water rights that are outside the Commission's jurisdiction.*

# Proposed Studies Not Adopted Cont.

## Aquatic Invertebrate Study

- *This proposed study would evaluate the changes in project operations that result from the current license and associated settlement agreement on aquatic invertebrates within Mill Creek.*

*Study does not meet the criteria of 18 CFR §5.9(b)(4) Study request is not necessary because existing information is sufficient to answer the questions posed.*



# STUDY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

# Study Plan Implementation

- Studies will be initiated as soon as practical following FERC's Study Plan Determination.
- Each Study Plan outlines a proposed implementation schedule.
  - Stakeholder consultation, if applicable
  - Data Collection
  - Development of study report

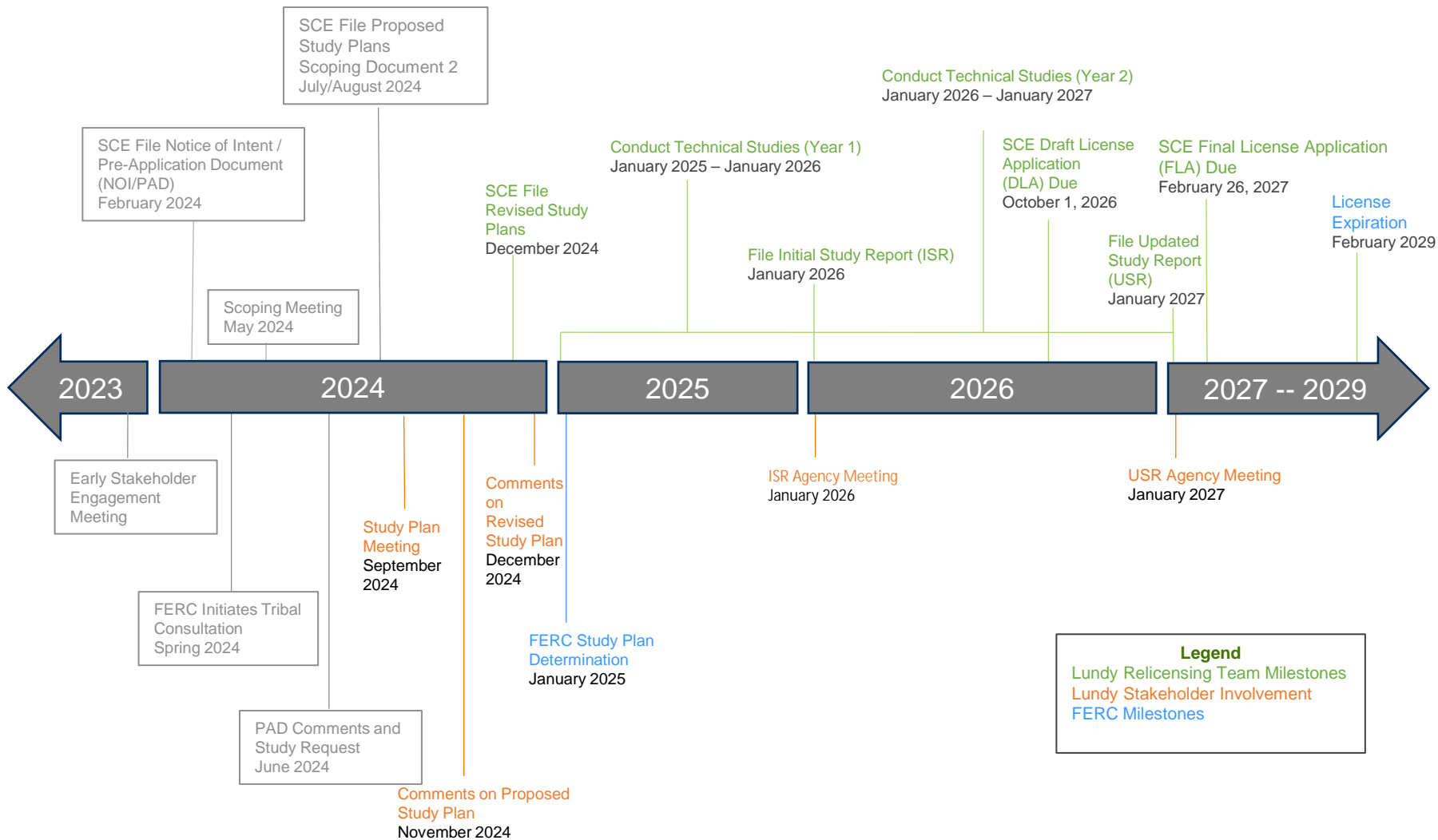
Energy for What's Ahead<sup>SM</sup>  
**NEXT STEPS**

# Proposed Study Plan Comments

## § 5.12 Comments on proposed study plan.

- Comments on the proposed study plan, including any revised information or study requests, must be filed within 90 days after the proposed study plan is filed (**November 4, 2024**).
- This filing must also include an explanation of any study plan concerns and any accommodations reached with the potential applicant regarding those concerns.
- Any proposed modifications to the potential applicant's proposed study plan must address the criteria in § 5.9(b).

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](http://www.sce.com/lundy)**
  - Contact Registration Form
- **Engagement through FERC**
  - Docket: P-1390
  - <https://www.ferc.gov/how-contact-ferc>
- **Contact Information**
  - Matthew Woodhall: [matthew.woodhall@sce.com](mailto:matthew.woodhall@sce.com)
  - Audry Williams: [audry.williams@sce.com](mailto:audry.williams@sce.com)
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# Questions

