
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
3.10 Land Use	3.10-1
3.10.1 Information Sources	3.10-1
3.10.2 Land Uses Within and Adjacent to the FERC Project Boundary ..	3.10-1
3.10.3 Management Plans Pertinent to Lands Within the FERC Project Boundary	3.10-2
3.10.4 Management Plans Pertinent to Lands Adjacent to the FERC Project Boundary	3.10-5
3.10.5 Fire History and Fuels Management.....	3.10-5
3.10.6 References	3.10-6

List of Maps

Map 3.10-1. Land Jurisdictions in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project.

Map 3.10-2. BLM ACEC/ERMAs in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project.

Map 3.10-3. BLM Grazing Allotments in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project.

Map 3.10-4. Fire History in the Kaweah River Watershed.

List of Acronyms

ACEC	area of critical environmental concern
BLM	bureau of Land Management
BMP	best management practices
CDF	California Department of Forestry
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Commission	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
GIS	Geographic Information System
NPS	National Park Service
Project	Kaweah Project
RMP	resource management plan
SCE	Southern California Edison Company
SNP	Sequoia National Park
UDB	urban development boundary
WUI	wildland urban interface

3.10 LAND USE

This section describes land use in the vicinity of the Kaweah Project (Project). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) content requirements for land use are specified in Title 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter I § 5.6(d)(3)(viii). The FERC regulations require the applicant to provide information regarding both land use and recreation. This section focuses on describing land uses and pertinent land management plans and policies that govern land uses within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary. A description of recreation resources is described in Section 3.11 Recreation Resources.

3.10.1 Information Sources

This section was prepared utilizing the following information sources:

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bakersfield Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP) (BLM 2014);
- Draft Three Rivers Community Plan (Tulare County 2009);
- Final General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Middle and South Forks of the Kings River and North Fork of the Kern River (NPS 2006); and
- Tulare County General Plan 2030 (Tulare County 2012).

3.10.2 Land Uses Within and Adjacent to the FERC Project Boundary

The Project is located on the Kaweah River and the East Fork Kaweah River near the town of Three Rivers in Tulare County, California, on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada between Lake Kaweah and the Sequoia National Park (SNP). The Project is located on private lands and public lands administered by the BLM (Map 3.10-1).

According to the Tulare County General Plan (2009), land uses within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary include residential, commercial, agriculture, industrial, public/institutional, and open space/wilderness (Tulare County 2009). These uses are summarized below:

Residential: Land designated in the Tulare County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance for buildings consisting only of dwelling units. May be vacant or unimproved.

Commercial: A land use classification which permits facilities for the buying and selling of commodities and services.

Agriculture: Land that is used for the production of agricultural products including crops, livestock, orchards, vineyards, and related services.

Industrial: Industrial uses include light industrial establishments such as warehouses and mini-storage businesses, and heavy industrial uses involved in the manufacture of large items and/or the use of large manufacturing equipment.

Public/Institutional: Includes land that is used for airports, cemeteries, churches, healthcare, landfills, schools, and utilities.

Open Space: Any parcel or area of land or water which is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use.

3.10.3 Management Plans Pertinent to Lands Within the FERC Project Boundary

Land use and management is governed by federal and local plans, depending on ownership status. Public lands that lie within the jurisdiction of the BLM associated with the Project are subject to the goals, objectives, and management actions contained in the Bakersfield Field Office Resource Management Plan (Bakersfield RMP) (BLM 2014). Lands located on private property associated with the Project are subject to the provisions contained in the Tulare County General Plan (Tulare County 2012) and Three Rivers Community Plan (Tulare County 2009). These management plans are briefly described below.

3.10.3.1 BLM Resource Management Plan

In December 2014, the BLM approved the Bakersfield RMP and Record of Decision which provides direction for managing public lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the BLM's Bakersfield Field Office in an eight-county region of central California, including the Project vicinity. The 2014 Bakersfield RMP revised the previous Caliente RMP (BLM 2007) that covered BLM lands in the vicinity of the Project. The Bakersfield RMP provides an updated assessment of resources; a review of land uses, conditions, and trends; a forum for enhanced public collaboration and involvement; and a comprehensive impact analysis of reasonable management alternatives and resulting land use decisions.

In addition, the 2014 RMP identifies Best Management Practices (BMP) to be implemented for projects undertaken in the planning area. BMPs described in the RMP are a compilation of existing policies, guidelines, and commonly employed practices designed to assist in achieving the objectives for maintaining or minimizing water quality degradation from nonpoint sources; minimizing loss of soil productivity; providing guidelines for maintaining aesthetic conditions within watersheds; and mitigating impacts to soil, vegetation, or wildlife habitat from surface disturbing activities.

BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

The RMP identifies areas requiring special management and protection as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Portions of the Project are within and adjacent to the Kaweah ACEC (Map 3.10-2). The goals, objectives, and policies of the Kaweah ACEC are identified below:

Goal: Provide suitable habitat for sensitive species and protection for various natural processes, geologic formations, and cultural resources.

Objective: Protect the Case Mountain giant sequoia groves, limestone caves and other karst features, riparian areas, and cultural resources. Manage habitat to support populations of California spotted owl, Pacific fisher, and Kaweah monkey flower.

Management Policies for the ACEC:

- Open for leasing oil and gas resources, subject to moderate constraints (controlled surface use raptor stipulations);
- Closed to geothermal leasing;
- Established, in accordance with 43 CFR 3809.31, the ACEC as a special area requiring a 15 day notification be given to the BLM prior to beginning any activity under the mining laws including: Casual Use, to allow the BLM to determine whether a plan of operations must be submitted;
- Exclusion area for rights-of-way related to utility scale renewable energy projects;
- Identify the giant sequoia groves as unavailable for livestock grazing;
- Prohibit public access to recreation sites along the North Fork of the Kaweah River;
- Prohibit air-soft and paintball activities, including organized games and casual use of these types of equipment unless authorized through a Special Recreation Permit;
- Prohibit the casual collection of plants or their parts without BLM authorization; and
- Protect the giant sequoia groves and mixed conifer forest through implementation of fuels reduction techniques including prescribed burning and vegetation thinning, and removal of ladder fuels.

BLM Extensive Recreation Management Areas

The Bakersfield RMP designates portions of the area within the Kaweah ACEC in the vicinity of the Kaweah No. 1 Flowline as the Case Mountain Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). The ERMA offers recreation opportunities in an unchanged middle country setting by allowing visitors to participate in non-motorized activities, including mountain biking, camping, hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography and picnicking.

BLM Livestock Grazing Allotments

Livestock grazing is an authorized use of BLM-administered lands described in the RMP. Map 3.10-3 shows the grazing allotments present within the watershed based on GIS data published by the BLM (2016). An allotment is a designated area of land available for livestock grazing.

Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) operation and maintenance of Project facilities located on BLM land is conducted consistent with the Bakersfield Office RMP, including meeting BMP objectives and the goals, objectives, and policies associated with lands administered in the vicinity of the Project.

3.10.3.2 Tulare County General Plan

Activities on private land within Tulare County are subject to the provisions contained in the Tulare County General Plan 2030 Update (Tulare County 2012). The Tulare County General Plan 2030 Update provides a comprehensive, long-term plan for the future land use and physical development of the County through the year 2030. The Plan promotes healthy sustainable growth while protecting agricultural lands by directing growth to urban areas. The General Plan Update consists of policies that set forth objectives, principles and standards that guide future land use decisions within the County.

Within the Tulare County General Plan there are three Area Plans for each of the major geographic areas in the county: Rural Valley Lands Plan; Foothill Growth Management Plan; and Mountain Framework Plan. The Project is located within the Foothill Growth Management Plan area which includes a statement of development policies and standards that prescribe land use and circulation patterns for the foothills of Tulare County, generally above 600 feet elevation.

Within the Foothill Growth Management Plan lies the Three Rivers Urban Development Boundary (UDB) which encompasses most of the Project. The Three Rivers Community Plan guides development within the Three Rivers UDB and includes specific provisions goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures for the physical development of the community of Three Rivers and the surrounding area over the next 20 years. The Three Rivers Community Plan was adopted in 1980 and is currently being updated. The Three Rivers Policy Framework (Tulare County 2009) is intended to coordinate with the Tulare County Foothill Growth Management Plan and addresses goals in five categories to retain the community's small rural character: land use and community character; development standards; natural environment; public services; and mobility and access (transportation), and public safety.

SCE operates the Project consistent with established goals and objectives in the Three Rivers Community Plan. Objectives relevant to the Project include:

- **Objective 1.1 Development Compatibility:** Ensure compatibility between and within new and existing development.
- **Objective 5.1 Protection of the Natural Environment:** Protect the natural environment by prohibiting land uses, activities, and development patterns that will have an adverse effect on the environmental quality of Three Rivers.
- **Objective 5.2 Kaweah River:** Protect and preserve the natural features and quality of the Kaweah River and all of its tributaries, both perennial and intermittent.
- **Objective 5.3 Oak Woodlands:** Protect and preserve oak woodlands.

- **Objective 5.4 Native Vegetation and Habitat:** Protect and preserve native vegetation and wildlife habitat areas.
- **Objective 5.5 Visual Resources:** Preserve visual resources in Three Rivers, including viewsheds and ridgelines.
- **Objective 5.6 Historical, Cultural and Archaeological Resources:** Preserve historical, cultural, and archaeological resources including the Kaweah post office, historical bridges, and Native American cultural resources.

3.10.4 Management Plans Pertinent to Lands Adjacent to the FERC Project Boundary

Lands adjacent to the FERC Project boundary are subject to provisions contained in the National Park Service (NPS) Final General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan, BLM RMP, and Tulare County General Plan. The BLM RMP and Tulare County General Plan are described above. Additional management plans pertinent to lands adjacent to the FERC Project boundary are summarized below.

3.10.4.1 NPS Final General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan

The purpose of the Final General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan (NPS 2006) is to provide management direction to establish and achieve a vision for what Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks should be, including desired future conditions for natural and cultural resources, as well as for visitor experiences. The purpose of the river management plan is to provide direction and overall guidance on the management of lands and uses within the river corridors. In accordance with the legislation, no development or use of park lands that is inconsistent with wild and scenic river designation may be undertaken.

3.10.5 Fire History and Fuels Management

Throughout California, communities are increasingly concerned about wildfire safety as increased development occurs in the foothills and mountain areas, and subsequent fire control measures have affected the natural cycle of the ecosystem. Suppression of natural fires allows the understory to become dense, creating the potential for larger and more intense wildland fires. Wind, steepness of terrain, and naturally volatile or hot-burning vegetation contribute to wildland fire hazard potential. The threat of wildland fires also increases as the terrain in Tulare County becomes increasingly steep in the foothills and mountains.

According to the Tulare Unit Strategic Fire Plan (CDF 2014), the area in the vicinity of the Project averages approximately 8-15 fires annually. Although rare, starts in the upper elevations do pose a significant potential for large wildland fires due to the abundance of fuels and rugged terrain. In Tulare County, recent large and damaging fires include the Case Fire (1987; 4,500 acres), the Millwood Fire (2005; 2,600 acres), and the Shannon Fire (2007; 2,140 acres). In addition, recent fires within the SNP include the Comb Fire

(2005; 9,754 acres) and the Sheep Complex Fire (2010; 9,020 acres) and recent fires in Sequoia National Forest include the Stormy Fire (1990; 16,100 acres), Manter Fire (2000; 75,000 acres), and the McNally Fire (2002; 150,696 acres) (CDF 2015). Fires greater than 500 acres that occurred in the Kaweah River Watershed since 1970 are shown on Map 3.10-4.

In Tulare County, fuels management in the vicinity of the Project is accomplished through vegetation management programs, including local landowner defensible space programs, public education, and reduction of overcrowded timber stands. The latter is being implemented by either Timber Harvest Plans or one of several timber exemptions. In addition, BLM's Bakersfield Field Office has an active fuels management program, supporting both prescribed fire and non-fire fuel treatments. Prescribed fire treatments are planned to break up continuous fuel beds and concentrations of dead or decadent fuels and are typically implemented in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Non-fire fuel treatments are conducted in several areas, especially next to the WUI and within high visitor use areas, such as recreation areas and administrative sites. Treatments include mowing, cutting, and chipping vegetation, cutting and piling vegetation for future burning, and mechanically breaking down vegetation on-site.

To reduce fire hazards associated with Project facilities, SCE implements regular maintenance activities, including vegetation management and hazard tree removal. Vegetation management includes trimming by hand and with equipment, and herbicide use to provide adequate buffer around facilities. In addition, SCE removes trees posing a threat to facilities and which could become a fire hazard. Refer to Section 2.0 Project Description for a detailed description of Project facility maintenance activities and the locations and timing of their implementation.

3.10.6 References

Bureau of Land Management (BLM). 2007. Caliente Resource Area, Special Management Area Descriptions, South Sierra Management Area, North Fork Kaweah River. Updated April 27, 2007. Available at: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/planning/rmpcontents/rmpn_orthfork.html

_____. 2014. Bakersfield Field Office Resource Management Plan. Approved December 22, 2014. Available at: http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/bakersfield/planning/Bakersfield_ARMP_ROD.Par.35153.File.dat/Bakersfield_ROD-ARMP.pdf

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). 2014. Tulare Unit Strategic Fire Plan.

_____. 2015. Fire and Resource Assessment Program, Statewide Fire History Data. Available at: <http://frap.fire.ca.gov/index.php>

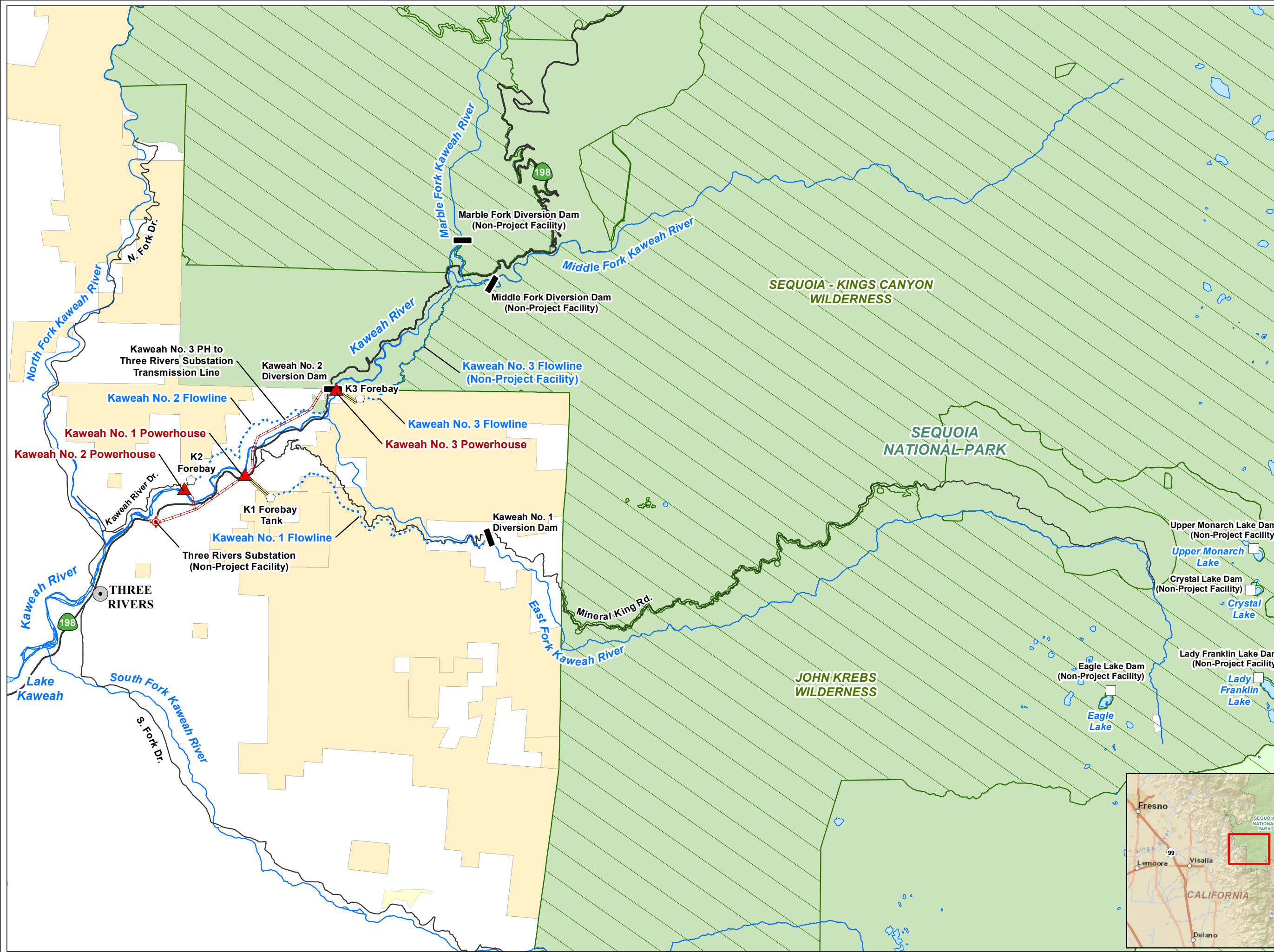
National Park Service (NPS). 2006. Final General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Middle and South Forks of the Kings River and North Fork of the Kern

River. November 2006. Available at:
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=342&projectID=11110&documentID=17344>

Tulare County. 2009. Three Rivers Community Plan Draft. Tulare County, California. Available at: <http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/index.cfm/documents-and-forms/planning-documents/three-rivers-community-plan-update/2009-draft-plan/three-rivers-community-plan-update-2009-draft/>

_____. 2012. Tulare County General Plan 2030. Tulare County, California. Available at: <http://generalplan.co.tulare.ca.us/>

MAPS



- ### Facilities
- Powerhouse
 - Diversion ¹
 - Dam
 - Utility
 - Forebay
 - Flowline
 - Penstock
 - Transmission Line

¹ NOTE: The Marble and Middle Fork Diversion Dams are not in designated Wilderness

- ### Other Features
- City/Town
 - Highway/Road
 - Watercourse
 - Water Body

- ### Land Jurisdiction*
- Bureau of Land Management
 - National Park Service
 - Private (Blank)

*SOURCE: BLM 2012. Kaweah Project entirely within Tulare County.

- ### Land Management
- National Wilderness Area

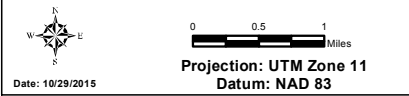
- Upper Monarch Lake Dam (Non-Project Facility)
- Upper Monarch Lake
- Crystal Lake Dam (Non-Project Facility)
- Crystal Lake
- Lady Franklin Lake Dam (Non-Project Facility)
- Lady Franklin Lake
- Eagle Lake Dam (Non-Project Facility)
- Eagle Lake



Eastern Hydro Generation

Map 3.10-1

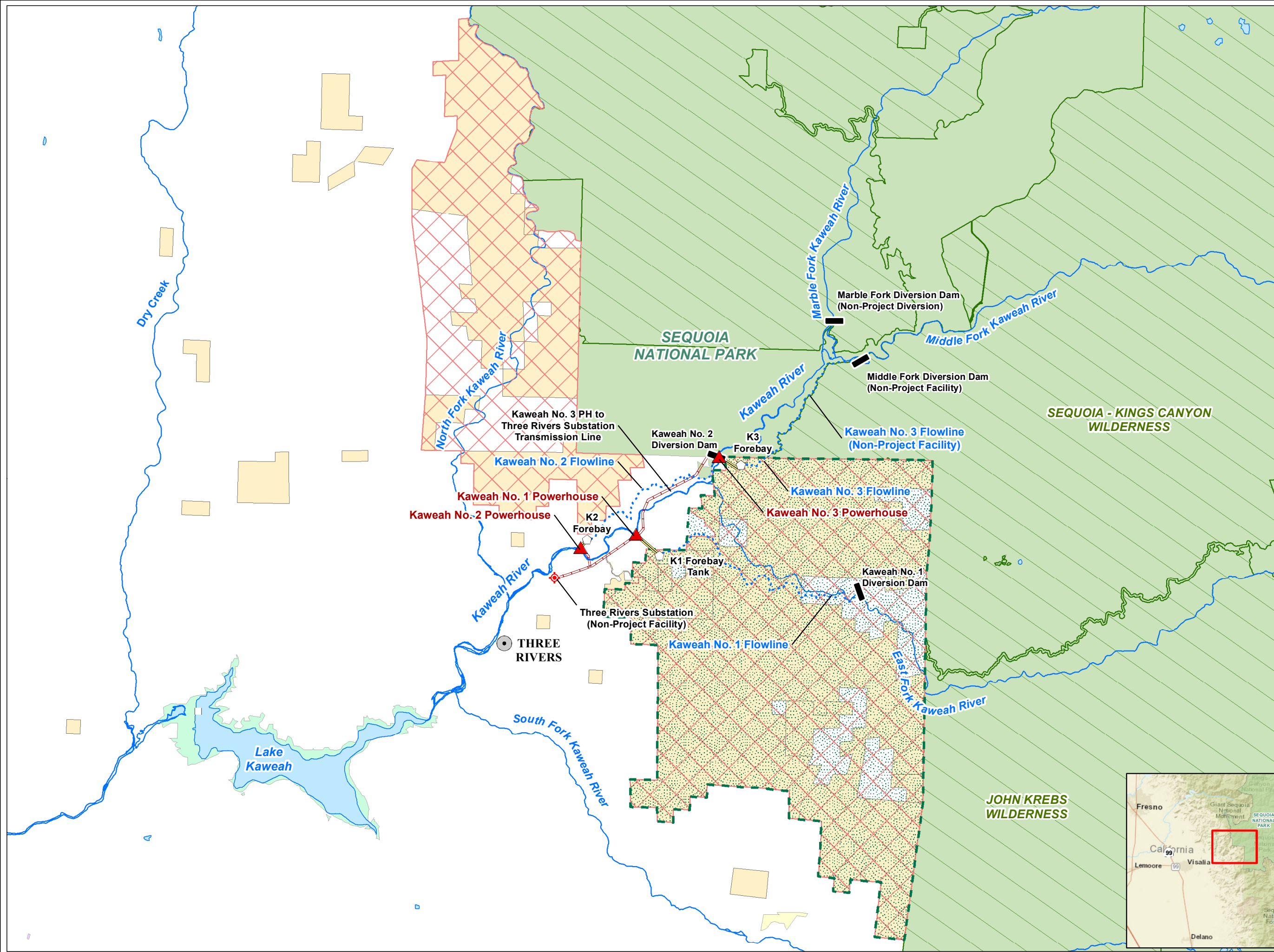
Land Jurisdictions in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project




Date: 10/29/2015

Southern California Edison (SCE) has no reason to believe that there are any inaccuracies or defects with information incorporated in this work and make no representations of any kind, including, but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied, with respect to the information or data, furnished herein. No part of this map may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording system, except as expressly permitted in writing by SCE.





- Facilities**
- ▲ Powerhouse
 - Diversion
 - Dam
 - ⬢ Utility
 - Forebay
 - ⋯ Flowline
 - Penstock
 - Transmission Line
- Other Features**
- City/Town
 - Highway/Road
 - Watercourse
 - Water Body
- Land Jurisdiction***
- Bureau of Land Management
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - National Park Service
 - Private (Blank)
- *SOURCE: BLM 2012
- Land Management****
- ▨ National Wilderness Area
 - ▧ BLM Kaweah ACEC
 - ▩ BLM Case Mountain ERMA
- **SOURCE: BLM 2016




SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
 An EDISON INTERNATIONAL® Company

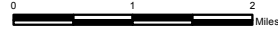
Eastern Hydro Generation

Figure 3.10-2

BLM ACEC/ERMA designations in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project

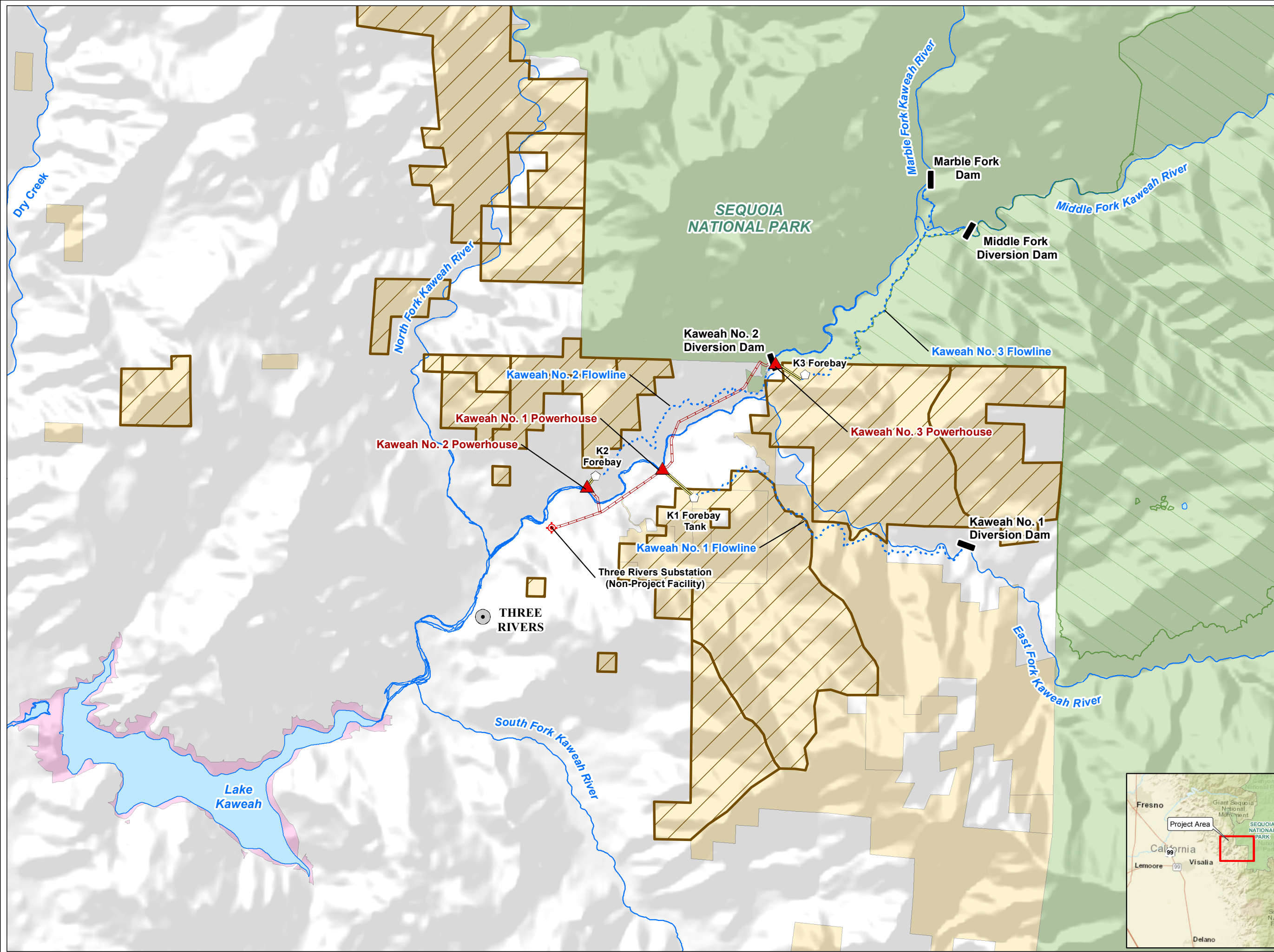


Date: 8/1/2016



Projection: UTM Zone 11
Datum: NAD 83

Southern California Edison (SCE) has no reason to believe that there are any inaccuracies or defects with information incorporated in this work and make no representations of any kind, including, but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied, with respect to the information or data, furnished herein. No part of this map may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording system, except as expressly permitted in writing by SCE.



SCE Facilities

- Powerhouse
- Diversion
- Dam
- Utility
- Forebay
- Gage
- Flowline
- Penstock
- Transmission Line

Other Features

- City/Town
- Highway/Road
- Watercourse
- Water Body

Land Jurisdiction*

- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- National Park Service
- Private (Blank)

*SOURCE: BLM 2016

Land Management**

- Grazing Allotment

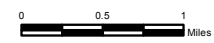
**SOURCE: BLM 2016



Eastern Hydro Generation

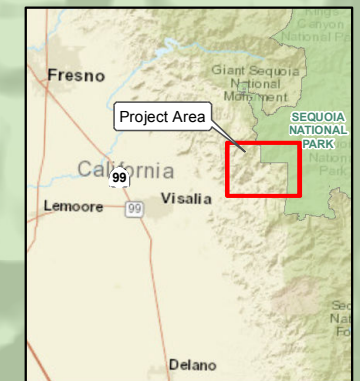
Map 3.10-3

BLM Grazing Allotments in the Vicinity of the Kaweah Project

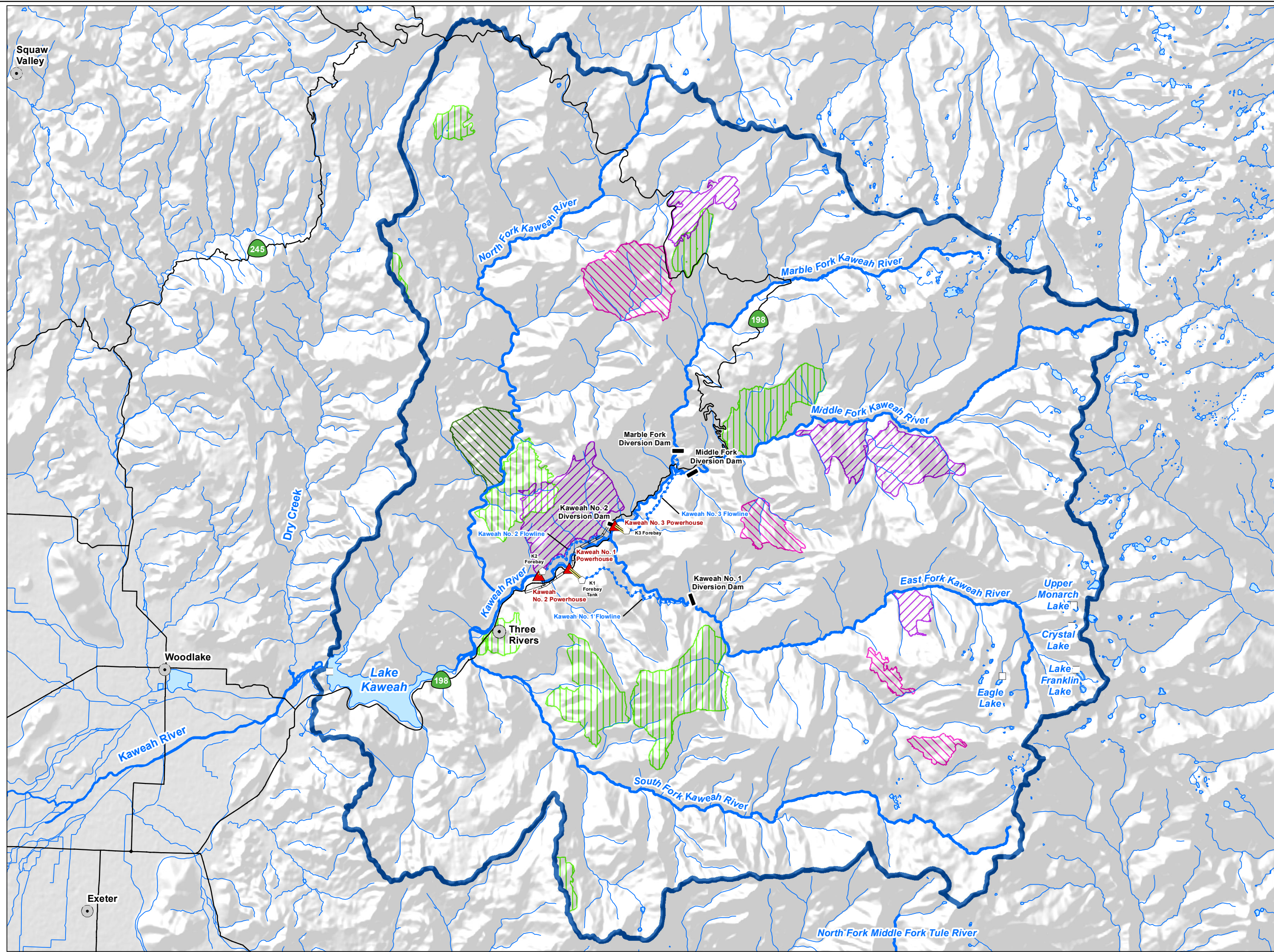


Projection: UTM Zone 11
Datum: NAD 83

Date: 8/1/2016



Southern California Edison (SCE) has no reason to believe that there are any inaccuracies or defects with information incorporated in this work and make no representations of any kind, including, but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied, with respect to the information or data, furnished herein. No part of this map may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording system, except as expressly permitted in writing by SCE.



- Facilities**
- Powerhouse
 - Diversion
 - Dam
 - Utility
 - Forebay
 - Flowline
 - Penstock
 - Transmission Line
- Other Features**
- City/Town
 - Highway/Road
 - Watercourse
 - Water Body

- Fire History - Decade***
- 1970's
 - 1980's
 - 1990's
 - 2000's

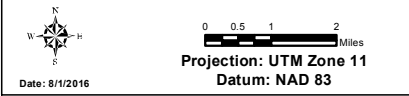
*SOURCE: CALFIRE, 2015
 NOTE: Fires < 500 acres not shown



Eastern Hydro Generation

Map 3.10-4

Fire History in the Kaweah River Watershed



Southern California Edison (SCE) has no reason to believe that there are any inaccuracies or defects with information incorporated in this work and make no representations of any kind, including, but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied, with respect to the information or data, furnished herein. No part of this map may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording system, except as expressly permitted in writing by SCE.