

Tuolumne County General Plan Update

Environmental Impact Report

Table of Contents

	Page
Executive Summary	ES-1
1.0 Introduction	1-1
1.1 Overview of the General Plan	1-1
1.2 General Plan Update Process	1-2
1.3 Legal Authority	1-4
1.4 Scope and Content of the EIR.....	1-5
1.5 Lead, Responsible, and Trustee Agencies	1-6
1.6 Intended Uses of the EIR	1-7
1.7 EIR Process.....	1-7
2.0 Project Description.....	2-1
2.1 Project Proponent.....	2-1
2.2 Geographic Extent of the General Plan Area	2-1
2.3 1996 General Plan.....	2-3
2.4 Distinctive Communities Alternative Growth Scenario.....	2-3
2.5 General Plan Update.....	2-5
2.6 General Plan Buildout	2-25
2.7 Required Discretionary Actions.....	2-27
3.0 Environmental Setting.....	3-1
3.1 Physical Setting	3-1
3.2 Demographics.....	3-2
3.3 Consistency with Applicable Local and Regional Plans	3-4
4.0 Environmental Impact Analysis	4-1
4.1 Aesthetics	4.1-1
4.2 Agricultural Resources	4.2-1
4.3 Air Quality	4.3-1
4.4 Biological Resources	4.4-1
4.5 Cultural Resources	4.5-1
4.6 Geology.....	4.6-1
4.7 Global Climate Changes.....	4.7-1
4.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials.....	4.8-1
4.9 Hydrology and Water Quality	4.9-1
4.10 Land Use and Planning.....	4.10-1
4.11 Noise	4.11-1
4.12 Population and Housing.....	4.12-1
4.13 Public Services.....	4.13-1



4.14 Recreation.....	4.14-1
4.15 Transportation and Circulation	4.15-1
4.16 Utilities and Service Systems.....	4.16-1
4.17 Less than Significant Environmental Factors.....	4.17-1
5.0 Other CEQA Discussions	
5.1 Growth Inducing Impacts.....	5-1
5.2 Irreversible Environmental Effects	5-3
6.0 Alternatives	
6.1 Alternative 1: No Project (Recent Trends, Existing).....	6-2
6.2 Alternative 2: Public Services	6-9
6.3 Alternative 3: Recent Trends, Proposed.....	6-16
6.4 Environmentally Superior Alternative	6-23
7.0 References and Preparers	
7.1 References	7-1
7.2 List of Preparers	7-9

List of Figures

Figure 2-1	Regional Location.....	2-2
Figure 2-2	Existing Land Use Designations	2-9
Figure 2-3	Proposed Land Use Designations.....	2-11
Figure 2-4	Parcels with Proposed Land Use Designations	2-13
Figure 2-5	Countywide Circulation Network.....	2-19
Figure 4.1-1	Visual Character of the Rural Environment.....	4.1-2
Figure 4.1-2	Visual Character of the Built Environment	4.1-3
Figure 4.1-3	Scenic Routes and Byways.....	4.1-5
Figure 4.1-4	Scenic Route Photographs.....	4.1-7
Figure 4.2-1	Williamson Act Contract Lands.....	4.2-5
Figure 4.4-1	California Wildlife Habitat Relationship Classifications within Tuolumne County	4.4-3
Figure 4.4-2a	National Wildlife Inventory Categories and Drainages within Tuolumne County	4.4-7
Figure 4.4-2b	National Wildlife Inventory Categories and Drainages within Tuolumne County	4.4-9
Figure 4.4-2c	National Wildlife Inventory Categories and Drainages within Tuolumne County	4.4-11
Figure 4.4-3	Federally Designated Critical Habitat within Tuolumne County.....	4.4-15
Figure 4.8-1	Tuolumne County Fire Hazard Severity Zones.....	4.8-9
Figure 4.8-2	Columbia Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.....	4.8-11
Figure 4.8-3	Pine Mountain Lake Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan	4.8-12
Figure 4.9-1	Dam Inundation Areas	4.9-5
Figure 4.11-1	Existing Noise Contours.....	4.11-5
Figure 4.11-2	Columbia Airport Noise Impact Area - 2015.....	4.11-9
Figure 4.11-3	Pine Mountain Lake Airport Noise Impact Area - 2015	4.11-10



Figure 4.15-1 Regional Setting and State Route System 4.15-5
 Figure 4.15-2 Tuolumne County Street and Highway Network..... 4.15-7

List of Tables

Table ES-1 Summary of environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual
 Impacts..... ES-5
 Table 2-1 General Plan Land Use Designations by Acreage 2-7
 Table 2-2 Description of General Plan Land Use Designations 2-15
 Table 2-3 Tuolumne County Total Potential Housing Units and 2014-2019 RHNA
 Allocation 2-18
 Table 2-4 Existing and Projected Population..... 2-25
 Table 2-5 Existing and Projected Land Use Acreage..... 2-26
 Table 2-6 Projected Growth and Build-out..... 2-27
 Table 4.3-1 Current Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards..... 4.3-3
 Table 4.3-2 Ambient Air Quality Data 4.3-5
 Table 4.3-3 Regional Emissions Analysis..... 4.3-9
 Table 4.3-4 On-Road Mobile Source Toxics Comparison 4.3-13
 Table 4.4-1 Sensitive Communities and Critical Habitats Documented within
 Tuolumne County 4.4-13
 Table 4.5-1 Tuolumne County Historical Resources 4.5-3
 Table 4.6-1 Tuolumne County Earthquake History 1930-2011 4.6-2
 Table 4.7-1 Carbon Dioxide Emissions Analysis 4.7-14
 Table 4.8-1 Airport Land Use Compatibility Zones 4.8-7
 Table 4.9-1 Tuolumne County Water Bodies Listed as Impaired 4.9-2
 Table 4.11-1 Existing 2015 Noise Contours..... 4.11-3
 Table 4.11-2 Maximum Allowable Noise Exposure-Transportation Noise Sources
 Excluding Aviation Related Noise..... 4.11-11
 Table 4.11-3 Maximum Allowable Noise Exposure-Aircraft Noise Sources 4.11-12
 Table 4.11-4 Maximum Allowable Noise Exposure-Stationary Noise Sources..... 4.11-13
 Table 4.11-5 Significance of Changes in Cumulative Noise Exposure 4.11-13
 Table 4.11-6 Proposed 2040 Noise Contours 4.11-15
 Table 4.11-7 Comparison of Existing and Future Noise Levels Along Road
 Segments..... 4.11-18
 Table 4.11-8 Typical Construction Noise Levels..... 4.11-22
 Table 4.11-9 Construction Equipment Vibration Levels..... 4.11-23
 Table 4.11-10 Vibration Levels for Rail Transit..... 4.11-30
 Table 4.12-1 Existing Population and Dwelling Unit Count..... 4.12-1
 Table 4.12-2 Regional Housing Needs Allocation for Unincorporated Tuolumne County
 2014-2019 4.12-3
 Table 4.13-1 Tuolumne County Fire Station and Staff 4.13-1
 Table 4.13-2 Schools within Tuolumne County and 2013-2014 Enrollment 4.13-6
 Table 4.14-1 Park & Recreational Facilities in Unincorporated Tuolumne County.... 4.14-2
 Table 4.15-1. TCTC Generalized Roadway ADT LOS Lookup Table 4.15-3
 Table 4.15-2 Level of Service Definitions and Criteria for Intersections 4.15-4
 Table 4.15-3. Existing Roadways with Unacceptable LOS 4.15-9



Table 4.15-4	Existing Intersections with Unacceptable Peak Hour LOS	4.15-9
Table 4.15-5.	Roadway Segments with an Unacceptable LOS with Implementation of the General Plan Update.....	4.15-13
Table 4.15-6	Intersections With Unacceptable Levels of Service (2030/2040) with Implementation of the General Plan Update	4.15-17
Table 4.16-1	Water Demand in TUD Service Area	4.16-2
Table 4.16-2	Water Supply Shortage Stages and Conditions	4.16-3
Table 4.16-3	TUD’s Methods to Reduce Water Consumption.....	4.16-3
Table 4.16-4	Supply and Demand Comparison in GCSD Service Area – Multiple Dry-Year Scenario	4.16-4
Table 4.16-5	Projected Additional Water Demand Under Buildout of General Plan Update	4.16-8
Table 4.16-6	Projected Additional Wastewater Generation Under Buildout of General Plan Update.....	4.16-12
Table 4.16-7	Net Increase in Solid Waste Generation	4.16-17
Table 6-1	Comparison of Buildout Characteristics of Project Alternatives.....	6-1
Table 6-2	Comparison of Environmental Impacts of Alternatives.....	6-24

Appendices

Appendix A	Notice of Preparation (NOP) and NOP Comments
Appendix B	Biological Resources: Wildlife Habitat Descriptions, Species Tables
Appendix C	Traffic Study

