

# STAFF REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Wisconsin Pump Station Project, Plan Participation and Buffer Reduction

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Motion to 1) Allow the Wisconsin Pump Station Project to Participate in the SJMSCP and; 2) Allow a Revision to the Incidental Take Minimization Measures for Giant Garter Snake (GGS) and Western Pond Turtle (WPT) Measures

## DISCUSSION:

### SUMMARY:

The project applicant, Reclamation District No. 1614, is requesting coverage under the San Joaquin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) Although the project is in a mapped area of the Plan, the project needs to be allowed to participate due to the United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permit. The project is located on the west side of Interstate 5 and north of Alpine Avenue, Stockton in the Central Zone (attachments 1 &2).



### RECOMMENDATION:

SJCOG, Inc. staff and HTAC recommend the SJCOG, Inc. Board to:

- 1) Allow the project to participate under the SJMSCP to provide biological coverage for the project impacts to the habitat types under the federal and state permits;
- 2) Allow a revision to the Incidental Take Minimization measures for Giant Garter Snake (GGS) and Western Pond Turtle (WPT).

### FISCAL IMPACT:

If the project is approved, SJCOG, Inc. will be provided mitigation for the project impacts as required under the SJMSCP for approximately 0.40 acres. The impacts for this project would consist of 0.40 acres of Urban (U) habitat impacts. There is no fee for Urban impacts.

## BACKGROUND:

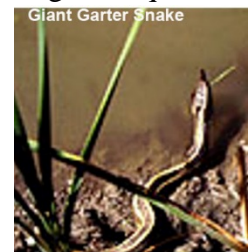


This project consists of major upgrades to an existing pump station and outfall structure near the southeast tip of the Calaveras River Slough. The existing two discharge pipes will be reconstructed as they cross the levee and two new pumps and discharge pipes will be added. The discharge pipes that will be reconstructed are 18 and 20 inches in diameter and the new pipes will be 24 inches in diameter. A new discharge structure will be constructed at the waterside slope for erosion control purposes. The existing sump and pump house will remain, although interior structural supports will be added.

The project will involve excavation of approximately 46 cubic yards of soil from the upper bank of the slough. All the excavation will be above the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). The soil excavated will be hauled off site. Following excavation, the new pipes will be installed and a total of 344 cubic yards of clean imported fill dirt will be installed on the top and landside of the levee.

To dissipate flows, a 974 square foot Armorflex mat will be installed on the bank of the slough to dissipate flows, with 409 square feet being below the OHWM and the remaining 565 square feet above. The mat will be approximately 156 cubic yards, with 15 cubic yards being installed below the OHWM and the remaining 11 cubic yards above.

The total footprint of work in the riparian corridor will encompass a total area of 1,600 square feet of this total, 0.01 acres is below the OHWM and 0.04 acres is above the OHWM. No notable trees will be removed, although a few trees will need to be trimmed to complete construction. Construction will not require dewatering and the Armorflex mat will be installed during a period of low tide (attachment 3).



For the project proponents to reconstruct and install new pipes, excavate and install the Armorflex mat for the Wisconsin Pump Station Project, the project will impact potential Giant Garter Snake (GGS) habitat within the suggested 200-foot buffer and Western Pond Turtle (WPT) with the 300-foot buffer. As identified in Section 5.59 of the Plan, HTAC, on a case by case review, can establish a setback and buffer zone to be used by the project in place of the 200 and 300 feet suggested.

Because construction of the project will be within the suggested 200-foot and 300-foot buffer areas, the project proponent has requested a reduction in the buffer to a 0' setback for the construction of the Wisconsin Pump Station Project on the Calaveras River Slough for site impacts. The reduction of these buffers is necessary for the construction of this project. Reducing the buffer for GGS and WPT will allow the project to construct up to 0' feet on the banks of the Calaveras River slough during the species' active period.

The project is requesting an extension to the GGS active period beyond the October 1, 2020 deadline to November 1, 2020. The project should have all trenching work completed and the extension will provide time for backfilling the trenching work.

The SJMSCP GIS habitat layer classifies the project site as Urban (U) Habitat.

If allowed to participate in the SJMSCP, the total disturbed area will consist of 0.40 acres of Urban (U) impacts. The project applicant will be responsible for mitigating for the habitat impacts that is consumed by this project by either paying the appropriate fees at the time of ground disturbance or dedicating land in lieu of a fee at the appropriate SJMSCP ratio. There is no fee for Urban (U) impacts.

#### **Adjacent Vegetation and Land Use**

<b>Location</b>	<b>SJMSCP Vegetation Map Classification</b>	<b>Habitat Type Category</b>	<b>Actual Use Of Property</b>
<b>Site</b>	Urban (U)	Urban (U)	Urban (U)
<b>North</b>	Urban (U), Natural (W)	Urban (U), Natural (W)	Urban (U), Natural (W)
<b>South</b>	Urban (U)	Urban (U)	Urban (U)
<b>East</b>	Urban (U)	Urban (U)	Urban (U)
<b>West</b>	Urban (U)	Urban (U)	Urban (U)

#### **COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

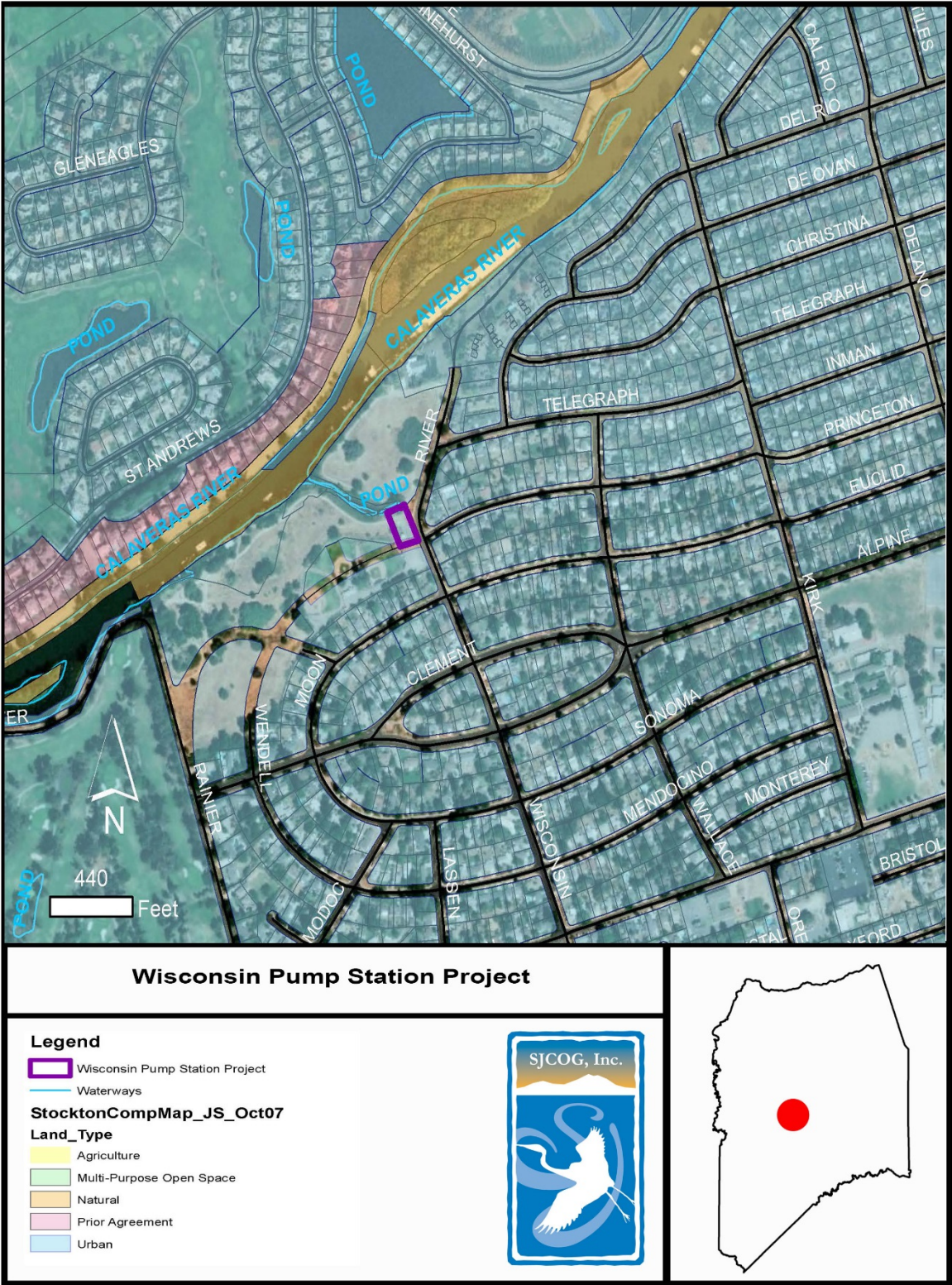
- Habitat Technical Advisory Committee: Recommended for Approval
- SJCOG, Inc. Board: Action Required

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

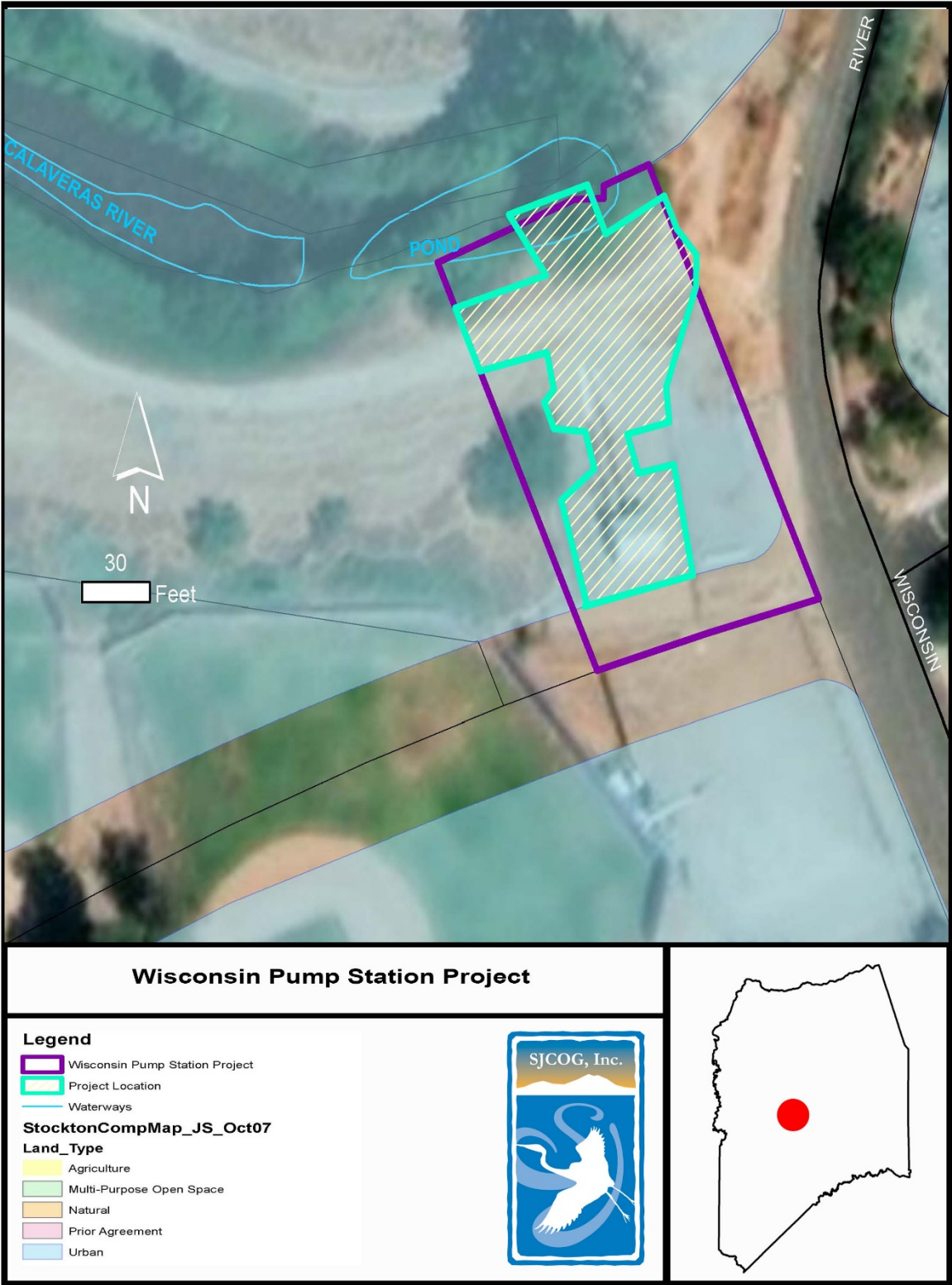
1. General Location Map
2. Project Location Map
3. Project Site Map

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ATTACHMENT 3

