

4.10 Public Services and Recreation

This section analyzes the impact of the Proposed Project, the Weed Segment, and alternatives (i.e., PacifiCorp Option 4, Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A and Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B), on the provision of public services in unincorporated Siskiyou County and the City of Weed and identifies adverse physical impacts to the environment that could result from a need to provide new or physically altered public facilities, resulting from the Proposed Project, Weed Segment, and alternatives. This analysis reviews fire protection and emergency medical response, police services, schools and parks and recreational facilities.

4.10.1 Setting

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Fire protection services for unincorporated Siskiyou County are provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Siskiyou Unit. The CDF Siskiyou Unit encompasses and provides service to 1.2 million acres of land. The Siskiyou Unit manages seven fire stations and one conservation camp, with the closest fire station located at 300 Highway 97 in the City of Weed. During fire season, 13 Schedule “B” engines and 2 dozers are staffed. The County provides funding under the Amador Plan for three stations to remain open year-round (CDF, 2007). The CDF Siskiyou Unit’s Battalion 2, Shasta Valley and Battalion 3, Butte Valley provide fire protection services within the vicinity of the Proposed Project, Weed Segment and alternatives areas (CDF, 2007).

Fire protection services and emergency medical response services in the City of Weed are provided by the Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, which has one fire station located at 128 Roseburg Parkway staffed with thirty-five personnel: one paid fire chief, a volunteer chief, paid administrative captain, four volunteer fire captains, three volunteer lieutenants, twenty volunteer firefighters, six College of the Siskiyous live-in fire fighters and one part-time paid fire fighter. Equipment includes three fire engines and one rescue truck. The Weed City Volunteer Fire Department responds to calls for service within the City limits, as well as calls within an additional 15 square miles as part of the automatic aid contract within Siskiyou County. During 2005, emergency resources responded to 475 calls for service, approximately 54 percent of which were related to medical emergencies, with an average response time of 3.02 minutes per call (Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, 2007).

The Weed City Volunteer Fire Department participates in the Statewide Mutual Aid System and responds with one fire engine anywhere in the State, as needed. The Weed City Volunteer Fire Department also maintains automatic aid agreements with the CDF, the Siskiyou County Fire Warden, Hammond Ranch Fire Company, Mount Shasta Fire Department and Lake Shastina Fire Department (Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, 2007).

Police Protection

The Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement to a vast area ranging from the Lava Beds National Monument on the east side of Siskiyou County to the Trinity Alps on the southwest, to the Oregon border on the north. The Enforcement Division has approximately 95 employees who work various law enforcement functions throughout Siskiyou County. The Enforcement Division provides law enforcement services to the unincorporated area in Siskiyou County as well as six contract cities including four who have full law enforcement services.

The headquarters for the division is located in Yreka and operates through a decentralized patrol plan. There are substations in Dunsmuir, Mount Shasta, Etna, Happy Camp, Dorris, and Montague. The Division includes one captain, 2 lieutenants, 10 sergeants, 46 deputies, 8 reserve deputies, 9 dispatchers, 2 part time deputies and 5 water safety deputies (Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department, 2007).

The City of Weed's Police Department provides law enforcement services within the City limits. The Police Department has one station located at 550 Main Street, and calls for service are dispatched by the Police Department. The Weed Police Department provides police protection services on a 24-hour per day basis with a minimum of one sworn officer on duty. The Weed Police Department patrols residential and business areas, responding to, and investigating reports of crime. Additionally, the police department conducts community-oriented policing including proactive patrols, and conducting informational seminars and education programs (City of Weed, 2007).

Schools

Weed Union Elementary District and Siskiyou Union High School District provide public school education services in the vicinity of the Proposed Project, Weed Segment, and alternative routes. Nearby public schools include Weed High School located at 909 Hillside in Weed, Weed Elementary School and Wyeka Vista Community Day School, both located at 575 White Avenue in Weed.

Parks and Recreation

While there are no state parks in Siskiyou County, there are two National Forests within the vicinity of the Proposed Project, Weed Segment, and alternatives. Klamath National Forest, which provides over one million acres for camping, hiking, and rafting activities, is located to the west of the study area and Shasta-Trinity National Forest, a 2.1 million acre national forest including a 203,500 acre National Recreational Area, is located to the east of the study area (USDA Forest Service, 2007). Charles 'Charlie' Byrd Community Park (formerly Lincoln Park), a local City of Weed park, is located across Highway 97 from the Weed Segment (across from Parcels 16 through 22) (Weed Chamber of Commerce, 2007).

In addition to the public lands, Siskiyou County supports a variety of private and commercial recreational facilities, including ski areas and resorts, golf courses, and campgrounds. Lake

Shastina, a private recreation area, is located approximately three miles north of the northern most portion of the Proposed Project.

Other Public Facilities

Weed Branch Library, located at 780 South Davis Avenue in Weed, is located less than one-half mile east of the Weed Substation and staging area. For a discussion of public roadways in the Proposed Project and Weed Segment vicinity, see Section 4.11, *Transportation and Traffic*.

Regulatory Context

Siskiyou County General Plan

The Energy Element of the Siskiyou County General Plan contains the following goals that would be applicable to the Proposed Project, Weed Segment and alternatives:

Policy 35. The siting and operation of energy facilities shall be accomplished so as not to exceed the carrying capacity of affected public infrastructure, including but not limited to roads and highways, water and wastewater systems, public safety services, and schools. Where applicable, the actual cost of public improvements directly necessitated by a specific energy facility shall be paid by the facility developer.

Policy 37. Energy facilities shall prepare and periodically update emergency plans for reasonably foreseeable accidents and emergency incidents, and such plans shall be coordinated with local public safety agencies.

(Siskiyou County, 1993).

CDF Siskiyou Fire Management Plan

The CDF Siskiyou Fire Management Plan identifies transmission lines as assets that need protection within the area. The Plan identifies most of the study area as having a low fire potential. In addition, the Plan contains the following goals and policies that could be applicable to the Proposed Project, Weed Segment and alternatives:

Shasta Valley Battalion 2

Goal 1. To reduce the equipment use fires. 1. Educate the Public. a. Initiate programs to educate the public on the dangers of using equipment in dry fuels during hot dry periods. b. Use media, Prevention signs, develop handouts to get the information out to the public. c. Spark arrestor compliance.

Goal 2. Reduce the impact of large, damaging fires. 1. Education a. Educate public on proper clearance around structures. b. Educate public on steps to reduce fire hazards around the home. c. Education steps can be taken during LE-38 inspections or during permit issuance. d. Educate public on proper and legal burning techniques. 2. Enforcement. a. Enforce PRC-4291 requirements. b. Enforce use at spark arrestors. c. Enforce burning requirements.

Butte Valley Battalion 3

Goal 1. To reduce the total fires in the Battalion: a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways. b. LE-38 Inspections. c. Educate Children utilizing Schools programs. d. Public education through public contact e. Participation in local events. f. News releases

Goal 2. Reduce the impact of a large fire in the Battalion: a. LE-38 inspections. b. FireSafe training to home-owner groups and other community groups. c. Assist with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects. d. Obtain funding to perform or contract the work done for fuels projects. e. Support the PRC 4290 Program. f. Support FireSafe Councils.

(CDF, 2005).

Shasta-Trinity National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

The Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) for the Shasta-Trinity National Forest set forth policies and regulations that pertain to the study area (USDA Forest Service, 1995). The District Ranger from the Shasta-Trinity National Forest reviewed the Proposed Project and Weed Segment found no concerns because the project does not cross or impinge on National Forest Lands (PacifiCorp, 2005). Because the alternatives are within close proximity to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, they would also not cross or impinge on National Forest Lands.

City of Weed General Plan

The City of Weed General Plan includes the following public services policies applicable to portions of the Weed Segment and alternatives within the City limits:

Policy C. Safety Element: City emergency services shall be provided with appropriate plans, policies, and resources to contain urban fire.

Policy 20. Land Use Element: Ensure the provision of public facilities and services needed to support desired development the balances jobs, commercial, and housing opportunities, while also protecting the quality of life in the community.

Parks and Recreation Goal. Open Space and Conservation Element: The City of Weed shall encourage and support, where determined appropriate, the continuing enhancement and development of parks and recreation facilities within the City boundaries as well as conserve and maintain areas zoned as open space.

(City of Weed, 1987a; City of Weed, 2003; City of Weed, 1987b, respectively).

4.10.2 Significance Criteria

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project impact would be considered significant if it would:

- a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could

cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

- i. Fire protection;
- ii. Police protection;
- iii. Schools;
- iv. Parks;
- v. Other public facilities.

4.10.3 Public Services Impacts and Mitigation Measures

This section presents an analysis of the potential public service impacts associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment.

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

a.i) Fire Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Fire protection services at the Proposed Project and Weed Segment areas would be provided by the CDF and the Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other fire protection districts in the area that participate in automatic aid agreements. The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to fire protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line and the Weed Substation would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Thus, potential fire protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Further, increases in long-term demand for fire protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population. Both the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would include a construction crew estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial population increase that would increase the long-term demand for fire protection services. Therefore, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in a substantial increased long-term demand for fire protection services.

Construction of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment could affect the temporary demand for fire protection and emergency response services, as discussed below.

Impact PS-PPWS-1: Project construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for fire protection services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Proposed Project construction would include upgrading approximately 0.7 miles of an existing transmission line and construction of a new 1.6-mile transmission line. Weed

Segment construction would consist of upgrading approximately 1.5 miles of an existing transmission line and upgrades to the Weed Substation. Proposed Project and Weed Segment construction could involve emergency situations related to worker injury that would require emergency response services. Additionally, because a majority of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment traverse largely undeveloped areas, emergency situations could result that would require fire suppression services and emergency response.

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1a: PacifiCorp shall implement Mitigation Measure HAZ-PPWS-1c (see Section 4.06, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*) which requires preparation of a Health and Safety Plan. In addition, this Plan shall address emergency medical services in the case of an emergency. The Plan shall list procedures and specific emergency response and evacuation measures that would be required to be followed during emergency situations. PacifiCorp shall prepare this Plan and distribute it to all construction crew members involved in the project prior to construction and operation of the project.

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1b: Water tanks shall be sited in project areas and be available for fire protection. All construction vehicles shall carry fire suppression equipment. PacifiCorp shall contact and coordinate with the CDF and Weed City Volunteer Fire Department to determine minimum amounts of fire equipment to be carried on the vehicles and appropriate locations for the water tanks. PacifiCorp shall submit verification of its consultation with the local fire departments to the CPUC.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

Impact PS-PPWS-2: Project construction activities in proximity to public roadways could potentially affect vehicle access and fire department response times. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Project construction related to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment generally parallels local, county and state roads. Several private and public roadways, including Hoy Road, West Lincoln Avenue, Kennedy Avenue, and Alameda Avenue, that would be crossed by the Proposed Project or Weed Segment would likely need to be temporarily closed during transmission line stringing activities (see Section 4.11, *Traffic and Transportation*, for further discussion on impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways).

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-2: PacifiCorp shall coordinate with the Siskiyou County and the City of Weed emergency service providers prior to construction to ensure that construction activities and associated lane closures would not significantly affect emergency response vehicles. PacifiCorp shall submit verification of its consultation with emergency service providers to the CPUC.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

a.ii) Police Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Police protection services in the Proposed Project and Weed Segment areas would be provided by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department and the Weed Police Department. The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to police protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line and the Weed Substation would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Operational activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Thus, potential police protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Further, increases in the demand for police protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population. Both the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would include a construction crew estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial population increase that would increase the long-term demand for police protection services. Therefore, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not require new or physically altered CDF or Weed City Volunteer Fire Department facilities.

Construction of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment could temporarily affect police protection services, as discussed below.

Impact PS-PPWS-3: Project construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for police services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Proposed Project and Weed Segment construction may require police services due to possible theft of construction equipment and/or vandalism that might occur during the construction period. Additionally, Proposed Project and Weed Segment construction may, at times, require temporary partial closure of adjacent roadways, requiring traffic control measures, or safety measures that would typically be coordinated with local police. Several private and public roadways, including Hoy Road, West Lincoln Avenue, Kennedy Avenue, and Alameda Avenue, that would be crossed by the Proposed Project or Weed Segment would likely need to be temporarily closed during transmission line stringing activities (see Section 4.11, *Traffic and Transportation*, for further discussion on impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways).

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3a: PacifiCorp shall implement standard precautionary measures, such as securing equipment when left unattended to minimize theft and vandalism.

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3b: PacifiCorp shall provide traffic control, if necessary, in coordination with the appropriate police agency. For the crossing of

any private or public roadways, safety measures such as barriers, flagmen, or other traffic control would be used for public protection during wire installation.

Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3c: PacifiCorp shall implement public safety measures, including the covering and securing all open holes once activity at that location is stopped (after hours), and the placement of safety structures adjacent to roadways during overhead wire installation activity to protect vehicles and pedestrians.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

a.iii) Schools: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in substantial adverse impacts to school facilities in the project area. The construction crew for both the Proposed Project and Weed Segment is estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members, including PacifiCorp and contracted construction personnel. It is expected that about 20 percent, or about 6 to 7 construction crew members, would reside locally (PacifiCorp, 2005). The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for public school services. Therefore, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in a substantial increase in demand for school facilities and impacts to public school services would be less than significant.

a.iv) Parks: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for recreational facilities. While the construction workers (estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members) may use nearby recreation facilities (i.e. during lunch break), it would be temporary in nature and would not substantially increase the use of recreational facilities in the Proposed Project and Weed Segment vicinity. Proposed Project and Weed Segment construction activities would therefore not result in a substantial increased demand for recreational facilities or adversely affect Siskiyou County or City of Weed park/population standards. Additionally, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment do not include any plans for the addition of any recreational facilities nor would it require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of additional recreational facilities.

a.v) Other Public Facilities: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in substantial adverse impacts to other public facilities, such as public libraries or other civic uses as the Proposed

Project and Weed Segment would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increase demand for public facilities. For a discussion of impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways, see Section 4.11, *Transportation and Traffic*. No other public facilities would be adversely impacted by the construction or operation of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment.

4.10.4 Cumulative Impacts

As discussed above, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would not result in significant effects on the ability of service providers to provide adequate police services, fire protection and emergency medical services, public schools and parks and recreation facilities to the study area. The Proposed Project and Weed Segment, in conjunction with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects described in Chapter 3, *Alternatives and Cumulative Projects*, Table 3-11, could result in a cumulative increase in the demand for fire protection and emergency medical services, police protection, schools, parks and recreational facilities. The project site is located in an area already served by local public services providers that meet their service demands in the project area. The development of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment and other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the study area would be incremental and not by itself trigger the need for the expansion of public services facilities or adversely impact response times for police, fire and emergency medical services as a direct result of project development. Furthermore, the Proposed Project and Weed Segment and other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects would be required to comply with all federal, state, and local regulations and ordinances protecting public services. Additionally, Mitigation Measures PS-PPWS-1a, 1b, 2, 3a, 3b, and 3c would ensure that the Proposed Project and Weed Segment's temporary public service impacts would be less than cumulatively considerable (i.e., because the Proposed Project and Weed Segment would be required to mitigate, and thereby reduce, its contribution to the cumulative impact). Therefore, the effect of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment on public services provisions, in combination with other past, present and reasonable foreseeable projects, would not be cumulatively considerable (Class II).

4.10.5 Alternatives

PacifiCorp Option 4 Alternative

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

- a.i) **Fire Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).***

Fire protection service for the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would be provided by the CDF Siskiyou Unit and Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other fire protection districts in the area that participate in automatic aid agreements. The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to fire protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential fire protection service effects would be confined to construction of the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative and would therefore be temporary in nature. Although increases in demand for fire protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew, which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for fire protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated.

Impact PS-OPT4-1: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for fire protection services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Construction of the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative could temporarily affect the demand for fire protection and emergency response services. The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would likely require ten months to complete, resulting in an increased demand for fire protection and emergency services. Similarly, the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative construction could involve emergency situations related to worker injury that would require emergency response services; as, like the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, a majority of the alternative alignment traverses largely undeveloped areas where emergency situations could result that would require fire suppression services and/or emergency response. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-OPT4-1 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-OPT4-1: Implement Mitigation Measure and PS-PPWS-1a and PS-PPWS-1b.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

Impact PS-OPT4-2: Construction activities could occur in proximity to public roadways and potentially affect vehicle access and fire department response times. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Construction activities associated with the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would generally parallel local, county and state roads. Several private roadways and two public

roadways, including a transmission line crossing of Rainbow Way and a span guy cable crossing over SR 97 from Pole 5/48 to a stub pole on the south side of the highway which would temporarily disrupt existing transportation and traffic patterns in the vicinity of the crossings. (see Section 4.11, *Traffic and Transportation*, for further discussion on impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways). However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-OPT4-2 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-OPT4-2: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-2.

a.ii) Police Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Police protection services for the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would be provided by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department and the Weed Police Department. The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to police protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential police protection service effects would be confined to construction of the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative and would therefore be temporary in nature. Although increases in demand for police protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew, which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for police protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated.

Impact PS-OPT4-3: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for police services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Construction of the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative could temporarily affect the demand for police protection services. The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would likely require ten months to complete resulting in an increased demand for police protection services. Increased police services may arise due to possible theft of construction equipment and/or vandalism that might occur during the construction period as well as coordination typically required for temporary partial closure of adjacent roadways (i.e., Rainbow Way and SR 97) which may require traffic control measures or safety measures provided by local police. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-OPT4-3 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-OPT4-3a: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3a, PS-PPWS-3b and PS-PPWS-3c.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

a.iii) Schools: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in substantial adverse impacts to school facilities in the project area. The construction crew size would be the same as the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members, including PacifiCorp and contracted construction personnel. It is expected that about 20 percent, or about 6 to 7 construction crew members, would reside locally (PacifiCorp, 2005). It is anticipated that the non-local work force would leave the area upon completion of the project to work on other construction projects in other areas. The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for public school services. Therefore, the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in a substantial increase in demand for school facilities and impacts to public school services would be less than significant.

a.iv) Parks: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for recreational facilities. The construction crew (estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members) would temporarily increase the population in the project areas. However, the increase in daytime population in the area would not substantially increase the demand or use of recreational facilities. While the construction workers may use nearby recreation facilities (i.e. during lunch break), it would be temporary in nature and would not substantially increase the use of recreational facilities in the project vicinity. Therefore, this alternative would not result in a substantial increased demand for recreational facilities or adversely affect Siskiyou County or City of Weed park/population standards. Additionally, the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative does not include any plans for the addition of any recreational facilities nor would it require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of additional recreational facilities.

a.v) Other Public Facilities: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in substantial adverse impacts to other public facilities, such as public libraries or other civic uses as the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing,

which is associated with increase demand for public facilities. For a discussion of impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways, see Section 4.11, *Transportation and Traffic*. No other public facilities would be adversely impacted by the construction or operation of the PacifiCorp Option 4 alternative.

Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A Alternative

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

a.i) Fire Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)*.

As discussed in the Setting section, similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, fire protection service to the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative area would be provided by the CDF Siskiyou Unit and the Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other fire protection districts in the area that participate in automatic aid agreement. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to fire protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential fire protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative, approximately 22 months, and would therefore be temporary in nature. Although increases in demand for fire protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew, which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for fire protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated.

Impact PS-VAR/A-1: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for fire protection services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)*.

Similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative construction could involve emergency situations related to worker injury that would require emergency response services. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would likely require approximately 22 months to construct, resulting in an increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services compared to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Additionally, because a majority of the Mackintosh/ALJ

Variation A alternative traverses largely undeveloped areas, emergency situations could result that would require fire suppression services and emergency response.

However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/A-1a and 1b would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/A-1a: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1a and Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1b.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

Impact PS-VAR/A-2: Construction activities could occur in proximity to public roadways and potentially affect vehicle access and fire department response times. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Similar to the Proposed Project, Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative construction would generally parallel local, county and state roads. Several private and public roadways that would require overhead crossing associated with the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative, including Rainbow Way and State Route (SR) 97, would likely need to be temporarily closed during transmission line stringing and span guy installation activities (see Section 4.11, *Traffic and Transportation*, for further discussion on impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways). However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/A-2 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/A-2: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-2.

a.ii) Police Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Police protection services to the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative area would be provided by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department and the Weed Police Department, the same Departments that would provide service for the Proposed Project and Weed Segment areas. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to police protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line and the Weed Substation would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential police protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative, approximately 22 months. Although increases in demand for police protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew,

which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for police protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/A-3a, 3b, and 3c would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Impact PS-VAR/A-3: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for police services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative could temporarily affect the demand for police protection services. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would likely require an 22 months to complete, resulting in an increased demand for police protection services when compared to the Proposed Project. Increased police services may arise due to possible theft of construction equipment and/or vandalism that might occur during the construction period as well as coordination typically required for temporary partial closure of adjacent roadways (i.e., Rainbow Way and SR 97) which may require traffic control measures or safety measures provided by local police. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-OPT4-3 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/A-3a: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3a, 3b, and 3c.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

a.iii) Schools: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in a significant impact to school facilities in the project area. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would include a similar size construction crew as the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members, including PacifiCorp and contracted construction personnel. It is expected that about 20 percent, or about 6 to 7 construction crew members, would reside locally (PacifiCorp, 2005). The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for public school services. Therefore, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in a substantial increase in demand for school facilities and impacts to public school services would be less than significant.

a.iv) Parks: *Less than significant (Class III).*

Similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for recreational facilities. While the construction workers (estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members) may use nearby recreation facilities (i.e. during lunch break), it would be temporary in nature and would not substantially increase the use of recreational facilities in the project vicinity. Therefore, this alternative would not result in a substantial increased demand for recreational facilities or adversely affect Siskiyou County or City of Weed park/population standards. Additionally, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative does not include any plans for the addition of any recreational facilities nor would it require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of additional recreational facilities. -

a.v) Other Public Facilities: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in substantial adverse impacts to other public facilities, such as public libraries or other civic uses as the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increase demand for public facilities. For a discussion of impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways, see Section 4.11, *Transportation and Traffic*. No other public facilities would be adversely impacted by the construction or operation of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative.

Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B Alternative

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

a.i) Fire Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

As discussed in the Setting section, similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, fire protection service to the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative area would be provided by the CDF Siskiyou Unit and the Weed City Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other fire protection districts in the area that participate in automatic aid agreement. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to fire protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line would require routine maintenance trips,

inspection, and vegetation management activities. Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential fire protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative, approximately 11 months, and would therefore be temporary in nature. Although increases in demand for fire protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew, which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for fire protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated.

Impact PS-VAR/B-1: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for fire protection services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative construction could involve emergency situations related to worker injury that would require emergency response services. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would likely require approximately 11 months to construct, resulting in an increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services compared to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Additionally, because a majority of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative traverses largely undeveloped areas, emergency situations could result that would require fire suppression services and emergency response.

However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/B-1a and 1b would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/B-1a: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1a and Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-1b.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

Impact PS-VAR/B-2: Construction activities could occur in proximity to public roadways and potentially affect vehicle access and fire department response times. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Similar to the Proposed Project, Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative construction would generally parallel local, county and state roads. Several private and public roadways that would require overhead crossing associated with the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative, including Rainbow Way and State Route (SR) 97, would likely need to be temporarily closed during transmission line stringing and span guy installation activities (see Section 4.11, *Traffic and Transportation*, for further discussion on impacts

related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways). However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/B-2 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/B-2: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-2.

a.ii) Police Protection: *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Police protection services to the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative area would be provided by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department and the Weed Police Department, the same Departments that would provide service for the Proposed Project and Weed Segment areas. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not introduce any new uses to the project area that would generate long-term changes to police protection services. Once constructed, the transmission line and the Weed Substation would require routine maintenance trips, inspection, and vegetation management activities.

Maintenance activities would not increase above existing levels that are employed to maintain the existing transmission line. Therefore, potential police protection service effects would be confined to construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative, approximately 11 months. Although increases in demand for police protection services are typically associated with substantial increases in population; the construction crew, which is estimated to be 30 to 35 crew members, which would not result in a substantial increase in population as 20% of the crew members would be local and the remainder would likely leave upon completion of construction activities to work on another construction job; therefore a substantial long-term increased demand for police protection services caused by a substantial increase in population is not anticipated. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-VAR/B-3a, 3b, and 3c would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Impact PS-VAR/B-3: Construction activities could temporarily increase the demand for police services. *Less than significant with mitigation (Class II).*

Construction of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative could temporarily affect the demand for police protection services. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would likely require an 11 months to complete, resulting in an increased demand for police protection services when compared to the Proposed Project. Increased police services may arise due to possible theft of construction equipment and/or vandalism that might occur during the construction period as well as coordination typically required for temporary partial closure of adjacent roadways (i.e., Rainbow Way and SR 97) which may require traffic control measures or safety measures provided by local police. However, the increased demand would be temporary in nature and implementation of Mitigation Measures PS-OPT4-3 would reduce these impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure PS-VAR/B-3a: Implement Mitigation Measure PS-PPWS-3a, 3b, and 3c.

Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.

a.iii) Schools: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in a significant impact to school facilities in the project area. The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would include a similar size construction crew as the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members, including PacifiCorp and contracted construction personnel. It is expected that about 20 percent, or about 6 to 7 construction crew members, would reside locally (PacifiCorp, 2005). The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for public school services. Therefore, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in a substantial increase in demand for school facilities and impacts to public school services would be less than significant.

a.iv) Parks: *Less than significant (Class III).*

Similarly to the Proposed Project and Weed Segment, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increased demand for recreational facilities. While the construction workers (estimated to be up to 30 to 35 crew members) may use nearby recreation facilities (i.e. during lunch break), it would be temporary in nature and would not substantially increase the use of recreational facilities in the project vicinity. Therefore, this alternative would not result in a substantial increased demand for recreational facilities or adversely affect Siskiyou County or City of Weed park/population standards. Additionally, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative does not include any plans for the addition of any recreational facilities nor would it require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of additional recreational facilities. -

a.v) Other Public Facilities: *Less than significant (Class III).*

The Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in substantial adverse impacts to other public facilities, such as public libraries or other civic uses as the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative would not result in a significant increase of local population or housing, which is associated with increase demand for public facilities. For a discussion of impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways, see Section 4.11, *Transportation and Traffic*. No other public facilities would be

adversely impacted by the construction or operation of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative.

No Project

For the purposes of this analysis, the No Project alternative includes the following two assumptions: 1) the project would not be implemented and the existing conditions in the study area would not be changed; and 2) a new transmission line and/or additional power generation would be constructed in or near the study area to supply power to the Weed area. Given the highly speculative nature of the No Project alternative assumptions, this analysis is qualitative.

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

a.i) Fire Protection:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a new transmission line associated with the No Project alternative would likely result in impacts similar to those that would occur under the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. A new power plant would likely be more accessible, as it would be localized and serviced with permanent access roads (i.e., for construction crew and eventually power plant employees); however, a power plant project would likely have a greater need for fire protection and emergency services than would the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Construction of a new Power Plant would likely require a longer construction period and a larger construction crew and therefore would temporarily result in an increased demand for fire protection and emergency services. Furthermore, operations and maintenance of a Power Plant would likely result in a long-term increase in the demand for fire protection and emergency response services, as the Power Plant would likely require a permanent staff, the size which would depend on the size of the facility, and the use of hazardous materials; this could result in a potentially significant impact.

a.ii) Police Protection:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a new transmission line and construction of a new power plant associated with the No Project alternative would likely result in impacts similar to those that would occur under the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. A new power plant would likely be more accessible to police protection services, as it would be localized and serviced with permanent access roads (i.e., for Power Plant employees and the construction crew); however, operations and maintenance of a power plant would likely result in a long-term increase in the demand for police protection services, as the power plant would likely require a permanent staff (the size of staff would depend on the

size of the facility); and emergency situation could arise due to the use of hazardous material on site; this could result in a potentially significant impact.

a.iii) Schools:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a new transmission line and construction of a new Power Plant associated with the No Project alternative would likely result in impacts similar to those that would occur under the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Operations and maintenance of a new Power Plant would likely require a permanent staff (the size of staff would depend on the size of the facility), which could increase local population and housing. This could incrementally increase the demand for public school services, but it would not likely increase in excess of amounts expected and already provided for in the area.

a.iv) Parks:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a new transmission line and construction of a new Power Plant associated with the No Project alternative would likely result in impacts similar to those that would occur under the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Operations and maintenance of a new power plant would likely require a permanent staff (the size of staff would depend on the size of the facility), which could increase local population and housing. This could incrementally increase the demand for recreational facilities in the area. Additionally, a new power plant would be unlikely to include plans for the addition of any recreational facilities and therefore would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of additional recreational facilities.

a.v) Other Public Facilities:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a new transmission line and construction of a new Power Plant associated with the No Project alternative would likely result in impacts similar to those that would occur under the Proposed Project and Weed Segment. Operations and maintenance of a new Power Plant would likely require a permanent staff (the size of staff would depend on the size of the facility), which could increase local population and housing. This could incrementally increase the demand for other public facilities, such as public libraries or other civic uses, but would like not be in excess of amounts expected and already provided for in the area. For a discussion of impacts related to road closures and potential impacts to public roadways, see Section 4.11.5, *Transportation and Traffic*.

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