
LAND 7 SPECIAL USE AUTHORIZATION ASSESSMENT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Southern California Edison (SCE) holds Special Use Authorizations (SUAs) with the U.S. Forest Service (USDA-FS) that authorize the use or occupancy of National Forest Service lands in the upper San Joaquin watershed (Big Creek basin) within the Sierra National Forest.

A total of 26 SUA's are held by SCE. Of these 17 were determined to be associated with hydroelectric related operations. Four SUA's were identified as related to hydro operations, but are no longer used by SCE. Nine SUA's were identified as not related to hydro operations; instead they are associated with operations by other SCE departments.

2.0 STUDY OBJECTIVES

Evaluate the current listing of SUA's and determine which ones are necessary for hydroelectric generation. Determine the feasibility of inclusion of these uses within the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) License rather than under separate SUA's from the USDA-FS.

3.0 STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 STUDY ELEMENTS COMPLETED

- Inventoried all SUAs within the Big Creek ALP Basin.
- Evaluated the value and need of each Authorization in relation to SCE's hydro-generation and hydro related operations.

3.2 OUTSTANDING STUDY ELEMENTS

- Evaluate the feasibility/methods of (1) incorporating appropriate facilities/uses and associated permits into the FERC license or (2) eliminate appropriate facilities/uses and associated permits.
- Review SCE activities and components that are currently included in the FERC license. Determine those that can be removed from the license process.
- Develop recommendations for the elimination of appropriate Special Use Permits through the elimination of unnecessary facilities/uses or the incorporation of facilities/uses into the FERC license.

4.0 IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP METHODS TO STUDY METHODOLOGY

The USDA-Forest Service provided a list of existing SCE SUA's for the Big Creek Basin in the Final Technical Study Plan Package (FTSPP) (SCE 2001). Further consultation was conducted to verify and update the SUA list. Copies of all existing permits and

associated amendments were obtained and were subsequently reviewed, tabulated, and input into a GIS database. The list was revised with updated authorization numbers and amendments, where applicable.

SCE reviewed the SUA list for the following:

- (1) Evaluate function, appropriateness, and need for the existing SUA; and
- (2) Determine which permitted facilities/uses are associated with hydro generation and are necessary components of the Big Creek Hydroelectric System, versus facilities/uses associated with transmission and distribution and necessary for SCE, but which are not components of the Big Creek Hydro projects.

5.0 STUDY RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

SCE currently has 26 SUA's with the USDA-FS for facilities/uses in the Big Creek basin on lands within the Sierra National Forest. Table LAND 7-1 lists these authorizations by permit number, description, date of issue and expiration, USDA-FS permit category, general location, permit condition/notes, whether the facility is hydro related and in use by either SCE-Hydro or SCE-Other. The SUA's are grouped into two categories: (1) hydro related; and (2) not hydro related.

All but two SUAs has been incorporated into GIS and mapped accordingly (Figures LAND 7-1a, b, c, d, e, and f). The two unmapped SUAs (PIN 64 and PIN 131) permits SCE to conduct cultural resource surveys and archaeological excavations on Sierra National Forest lands. The permits' geographic area cover all of Sierra National Forest lands and are not depicted on Figure Land 7-1 (a through f).

Table LAND 7-1 lists the results of the SUA review. A total of 17 SUA's are hydro generation/operation related. These SUA's authorize hydro related use and occupancy of USDA-FS lands including facilities, access roads, snow survey locations and helicopter landing sites, transmission line right-of-ways, and facility construction. Among the hydro related SUA's, ten were identified as currently used by SCE hydro. These include facilities constructed for the Balsam Meadows Power Plant Project, which have been incorporated in FERC Project No. 67.

Among SUA's identified as hydro related, four were evaluated as not currently used by SCE hydro. These include: snow survey cabins (under PIN 4084-01) at Volcanic Knob, Rosemarie Meadow, and Coyote Lake; the Kaiser Pass cabin (under PIN 4005-03); the Vermilion Valley Hydroelectric Project (under PIN 4333-01 [now closed]), which was not constructed; and a snow survey cabin (under PIN 4083-01) at Heart Lake (Sally Keyes Lake).

6.0 CONSULTATION

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Personal communication with Rick McCartney (ENTRIX, Inc.).

TABLE

Table LAND 7-1. SCE Northern Hydro Special Use Authorizations

Permit Number	Permit Description (date of issue)	Date of Issue	Date of Expiration	USFS Permit Category	Facility Location	Permit Conditions/Notes	Facility/Activity Hydro Related	Facility/Activity Currently used by SCE-Hydro	Facility/Activity Currently used by SCE-Other
Hydro Related									
PIN4005-04	Small portion of Perimeter Road near Eastwood Tunnel entrance	8/22/1958	None	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	crosses a 40 acre parcel of Forest Service land NE corner of Shaver Lake	No fee and no term.	Yes	Yes	Yes
PIN128	Right of way use of Forest Service roads 9S65 (Musick Mt. Road), 8S08 (Railroad Grade), 9S03 (Dawn Road), 8S02 (Camp 72 Road)	4/1/1965	None	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	9S65 Musick Mountain Road 8S08 Railroad Grade 9S03 Dawn Road 8S02 Camp 72 Road	No fee and no term.	Yes	Yes	Yes
PIN4245-01	Balsam Meadows Power Plant Project (FERC #67) Amend no. 1 added 220 kV transmission line	10/28/1983	2/28/2009	611 Hydroelectric Project, FERC Licensed 67	Balsam Meadows	Permit term 2/28/2009. Project completed.	Yes	Yes	No
PIN64	Cultural resource survey permit	2/9/2001	12/31/2005	411 Feasibility	Big Creek Basin	5-year lump sum fee \$150, terminates 12/31/2005	Yes	Yes	No
PIN26	Big Creek 2A Forebay access road, Siphon access road (off of Grouse Creek Road), and access to Big Creek substation	4/4/2001	12/31/2010	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	Big Creek Canyon and Huntington Lake	\$30 fee and term 12/31/2010	Yes	Yes	No
PIN18 Closed	Waterline for Shaver forestry cabin (aka Shaver Dam Tender's cabin)	10/31/2001	None	915 Water Transmission Pipeline, Less Than 12" Diameter	Shaver Lake	\$10 fee with no term. PIN 18 will be replaced by PIN 123 when permit is processed.	Yes	Yes	No
PIN133	Warm Creek Diversion and gage access road (off of Onion Springs Road)	05/08/2002	12/31/2011	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	Lake Edison	\$30 fee with term 12/31/11.	Yes	Yes	No

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PIN127	Pitman Diversion Powerline, authorized under an amendment to FERC license #67	7/19/2002	12/31/2011	611 Hydroelectric Project, FERC Licensed 67	Huntington Lake	Term 12/31/11 no fee	Yes	Yes	No
PIN132	Two gaging stations on South Fork San Joaquin River	7/24/2002	12/31/2011	941 Gaging Station	South Fork San Joaquin River upstream of Hooper Creek	\$150 5-year lump sum payment with term 12/31/2011	Yes	Yes	No
					South Fork San Joaquin River downstream of Hooper Creek	Amendment #1 adds access road 9565A	Yes	Yes	No
PIN123	Waterlines for Shaver Dam Tender's cabin and Sheriff's cabin at Huntington			915 Water Transmission Pipeline, Less Than 12" Diameter	Shaver Lake Huntington Lake	150-5 year lump sum payment term 12/13/2010	Yes	Yes	No
PIN4084-01	Snow survey cabins at Volcanic Knob, Rosemarie Meadow and Coyote Lake	10/23/1945	None	421 Experimental	Volcanic Knob Rosemarie Meadow Coyote Lake	no fee and no term.	Yes	No	No
PIN4005-03	Kaiser Pass cabin (BC-FL No. 214 line)	9/12/1951	None	511 Construction Camp and Residence	Kaiser Ridge	no fee and no term. Amendment #1 (March 1965) authorized building a chimney, fire precautions, and clean-up. Amendment #2 (Sept 65) required chimney spark arrestor and painting specifications.	Yes	No	No
PIN4083-01	Snow survey cabin at Heart Lake (Sally Keyes Lake)	7/11/1956	None	421 Experimental	Heart Lake (Sally Keyes Lake)	no fee and no term.	Yes	No	No
PIN4333-01 Closed	Vermilion Valley Hydroelectric Project Amendment (FERC #2086)	11/20/1987	9/30/2003	611 Hydroelectric Project, FERC Licensed	Lake Edison	Permit term 9/1/2003. Project never constructed (SCE has term to 9/30/03).	Yes	Not constructed	No

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PIN97	Metal aerial snow markers	08/19/1959	None	423 Weather Station	Coyote Lake Dutch Lake Kaiser Pass Heart Lake Rose Marie Meadow Volcanic Knob	No fee and no term.	Yes	No	No
					Twin Meadows String Meadow		No	No	No
PIN4078-01	Snow survey and helicopter landing sites in John Muir and Minarets Wildernesses	04/27/1965	None	421 Experimental	Minarets (now Ansel Adams) locations are Detachment Meadow and Mammoth Pass; John Muir location: Piute Pass	No fee and no term.	No	No	No
					John Muir locations are Volcanic Knob, Mono Pass, Pioneer Basin, Rosemarie Meadow, Heart Lake		Yes	Yes	No
PIN47	10 tunnel muck sites (0.5 acre each) ~ 4.5 acres combined total	2/24/1998	12/31/2007	562 Mineral Material Sale	Bear Diversion Mammoth Pool Powerhouse Portal Forebay Camp 36	Fees based on yearly report, term 12/31/07, no bond or reclaim plan.	Yes	Yes	No
					Florence Dam Camp 62 (junction of Kaiser Pass Rd. and Florence Lake Rd.) Balsam Portal Powerhouse Grouse Creek Camp 72		Yes	No	No
PIN 131	Archaeological excavations	8/27/2003	12/31/2005	443 Disturbing Use	Archeological sites in the ALP Project area	\$90 lump sum term 12/31/2005	Yes	Yes	No

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PIN 3	Electric distribution powerlines in Shaver Lake-Big Creek-Huntington Lake distribution area,	4/18/2001	12/31/2010	643 Powerline	Grouse Stevenson Cascada The only position of Stevenson under this permit is the non-hydro line from Powerhouse 8 to Mammoth Pool	Linear right-of-way fee schedule, term 12/31/10 Amendment #1 added remainder of Perimeter and Dinkey circuits. Amendment #2 added the Mammoth Pool Distribution Area. Amendment #3 added Secondary Road Use Clause, Operating Plan Clause, and Fire Control Plan Clause	Yes	Yes	No
	China Peak-Ely Camp-Eastwood, Balsam-Siphon Distribution Area				Mt. Givens Rancheria Siphon Micro Billy Creek Tollhouse Trail Rosebud Perimeter China Peak Snocat Big Creek/Portal Kokanee		No	No	Yes
Not Hydro Related									
PIN4005-06	Tractor roads to access Powerhouse 2 and 2A transmission line	12/13/1949	None	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	Big Creek Basin	no fee, no term	No	No	Yes
PIN4005-02 Closed	Waterline to the Sheriff's cabin at Huntington Lake (Dam 2)	12/9/1963	None	915 Water Transmission Pipeline, Less Than 12" Diameter	Huntington Lake	\$10 fee with no term.	No	No	Yes

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PIN4005-05	Powerhouse 3 transmission line service road and a small portion of Forest Road 9S06 (also known as the patrol road in Jose Basin)	4/27/1965	None	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	San Joaquin Basin	No fee and no term.	No	No	Yes
KGR4129-01	3 short sections of access road to SCE private lands in the Dinkey area (Dinkey-Trimmer Rd; Ross-Jamison Rd, B-J Rd.)	1/11/1966	None	751 Forest Roads and Trails Act Easement	Dinkey Creek area	Easement. No fee and no term.	No	No	Yes
PIN4141-01	A 450' section of road that is part of a service road for a powerline within FERC license #2175	3/4/1969	None	753 Road Under Federal Land Policy and Management Act Permit	Big Creek Basin	\$10 fee with no term. Note in files to add this section to license #2175, road still in use	No	No	Yes
PIN4329-01	Passive microwave reflector for transmission of radio signals to operate water control gates at Florence Lake	8/20/1986	2/28/2009	807 Passive Reflector	Approximately 3/4 mile SW of Hooper diversion dam	Term 2/28/2009 Comm site fee schedule	No	Yes	No
PIN 158	Communication site at White Bark Vista	6/27/2003	12/31/2022	804 Microwave/Industrial	White Bark Vista	Term 12/31/ 2022. Comm site fee schedule	No	No	Yes
PIN 159	Communication site at Musick Mountain	6/27/2003	12/31/2022	804 Microwave/Industrial	Musick Mountain	Term 12/31/2022. Comm site fee schedule	No	No	Yes
PIN113	Temporary waterline for Camp Sierra	10/31/2001	12/31/2005	915 Water Transmission Pipeline, Less Than 12" Diameter	Big Creek Basin	\$150 5-year lump sum payment with term 12/31/2005.	No	No	No
PIN125	Communication site at Sunset point	3/1/2002	12/31/2021	804 Microwave/Industrial	Sunset Point	Term 12/31/21. Communication site fee schedule	No	No	Yes

FIGURES

Placeholder for Figures

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