

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	23-OPT-01
Project Title:	Fountain Wind Project
TN #:	248312
Document Title:	timber conversion permit
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Caitlin Barns
Organization:	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
Submitter Role:	Applicant Consultant
Submission Date:	1/4/2023 11:59:01 AM
Docketed Date:	1/4/2023



April 23, 2021

Mr. Dennis Hall
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
1416 9th Street
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244

Dear Mr. Hall:

Fountain Wind LLC (Fountain Wind) is pleased to submit a Timber Conversion Plan and Permit Application (TCP) to support the construction and operation of the Proposed Fountain Wind Project (Project). The Project is a utility-scale wind energy conversion system located in eastern Shasta County, near Round Mountain, California.

The Project has undergone an extensive study process to support siting and design including the development of an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to CEQA. Shasta County is the lead agency in performing the CEQA study, while various state agencies including CAL FIRE have been involved in the CEQA process as responsible agencies. The DEIR was published in August 2020, and a Final EIR is anticipated to be published in April 2021 (State Clearinghouse #2019012029). EIR certification could occur in late May or June 2021.

As you're aware, Mr. Scott Butler, with Environmental Resource Management, has supported Fountain Wind in the development of a TCP. The TCP was developed based on the most up-to-date project description and design and considers the results of detailed field investigations and the comprehensive environmental review captured in the DEIR. We anticipate that the FEIR will provide appropriate environmental analysis to support CAL FIRE's review and authorization of this TCP. The TCP and related attachments are being transmitted digitally; however, hard copies of the application can be provided upon request.

Mr. Scott Butler and I will be the primary points of contact for this application. We are looking forward to continued coordination with you and your staff on both this TCP as well as the Timber Harvest Plan which we will begin developing shortly. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you and your staff in making the review process as efficient as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Kuba'.

John Kuba
Director, Environmental Affairs
ConnectGen LLC

Attachment(s)
Fountain Wind; Timber Conversion Permit Application

Cc: Henry Woltg (ConnectGen LLC), Scott Butler (ERM), Bill Solinsky (CAL FIRE), Eric Huff (CAL FIRE)

1001 MCKINNEY STREET, SUITE 700 HOUSTON, TX 77002 TEL: 346-998-2020 FAX: 346-998-2021

CONNECTGENLLC.COM

Fountain Wind Project

Timberland Conversion Permit Application and Plan

Prepared for
Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
235 Pine Street, Suite #1475
San Francisco, CA 94104

and

Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
P.O. Box 496014
Redding, CA 96049

Prepared by
Environmental Resource Management
1128 Monaghan Ct.
Idaho Falls, ID 83400

Project Applicant
Fountain Wind LLC
1001 McKinney, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002

Timberland Conversion Index, applies to Timberland Conversion only

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Fountain Wind Timberland Conversion Application - List of Appendices.

Report Name	Appendix	Author
Draft Environmental Impact Report	A	Shasta County Planning Department / ESA
Special Use Permit Application	B	Fountain Wind LLC
Project Plans	C	Fountain Wind LLC
Biological Resource Studies	D	WEST
Aquatic Resource Study	E	Stantec
Cultural Resource Studies (confidential)	F	Stantec

TIMBERLAND CONVERSION PLATApplicant (s) Name (s) Fountain WindSection (s) _____ Township T35N, T34N Range R1E, R2E MD B & M

See maps on the next 4 pages.

Scale 1 Inch = 1 mile

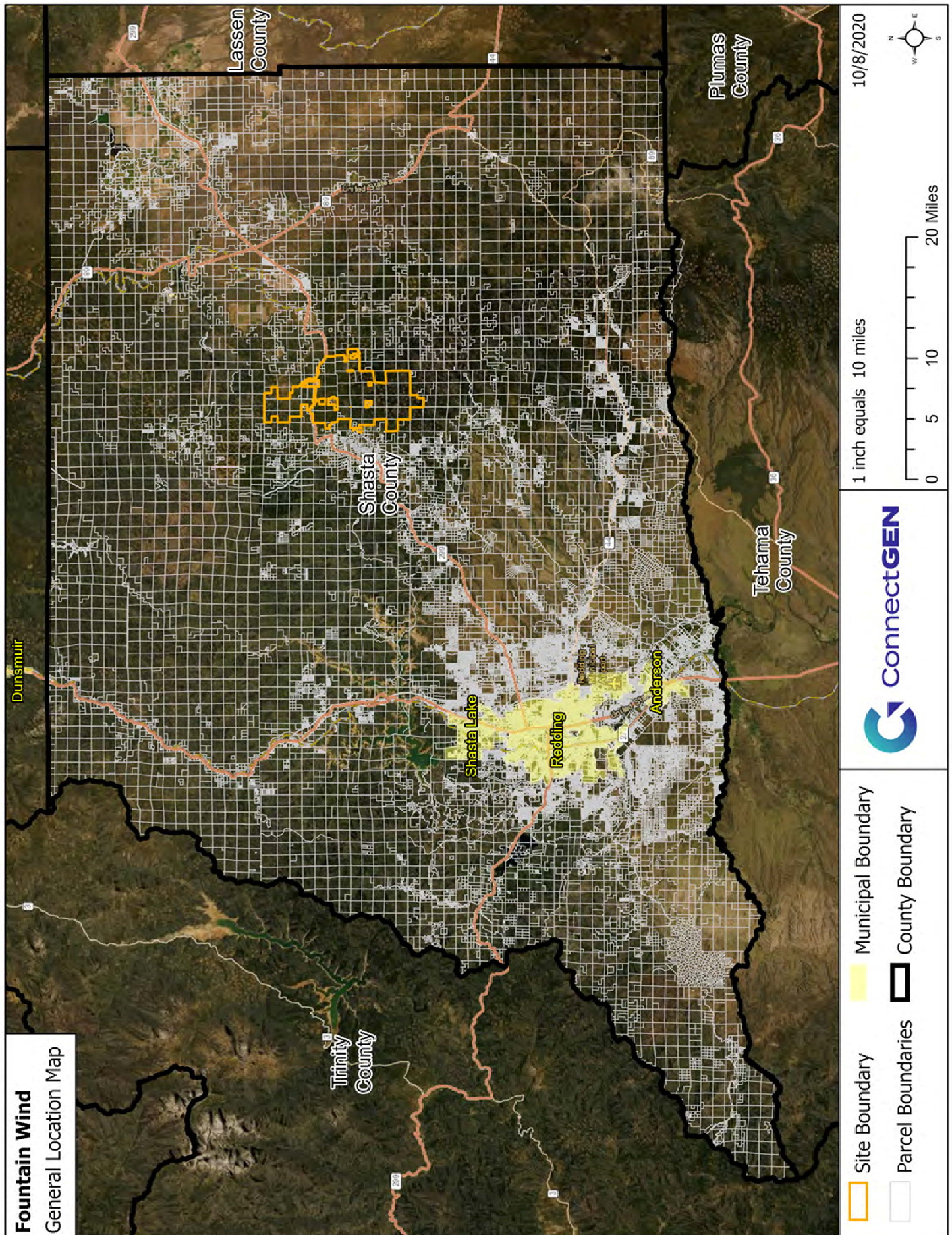
Show section numbers in center of section on plat. Entire plat may be used as one section or as halves of adjoining sections if needed for large scale detail.

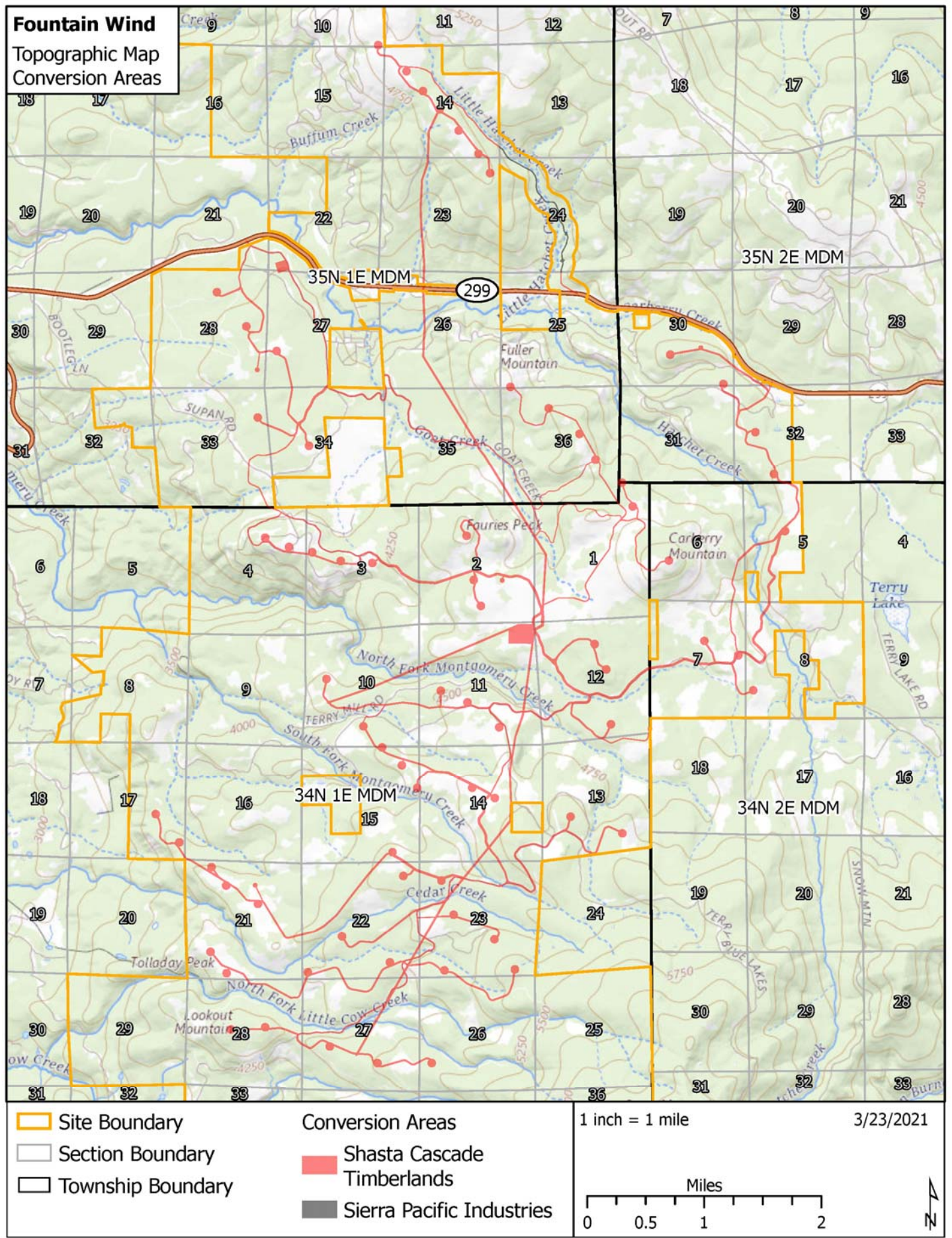
Show the conversion area not in a Timberland Production Zone or Coastal Zone by: **None**

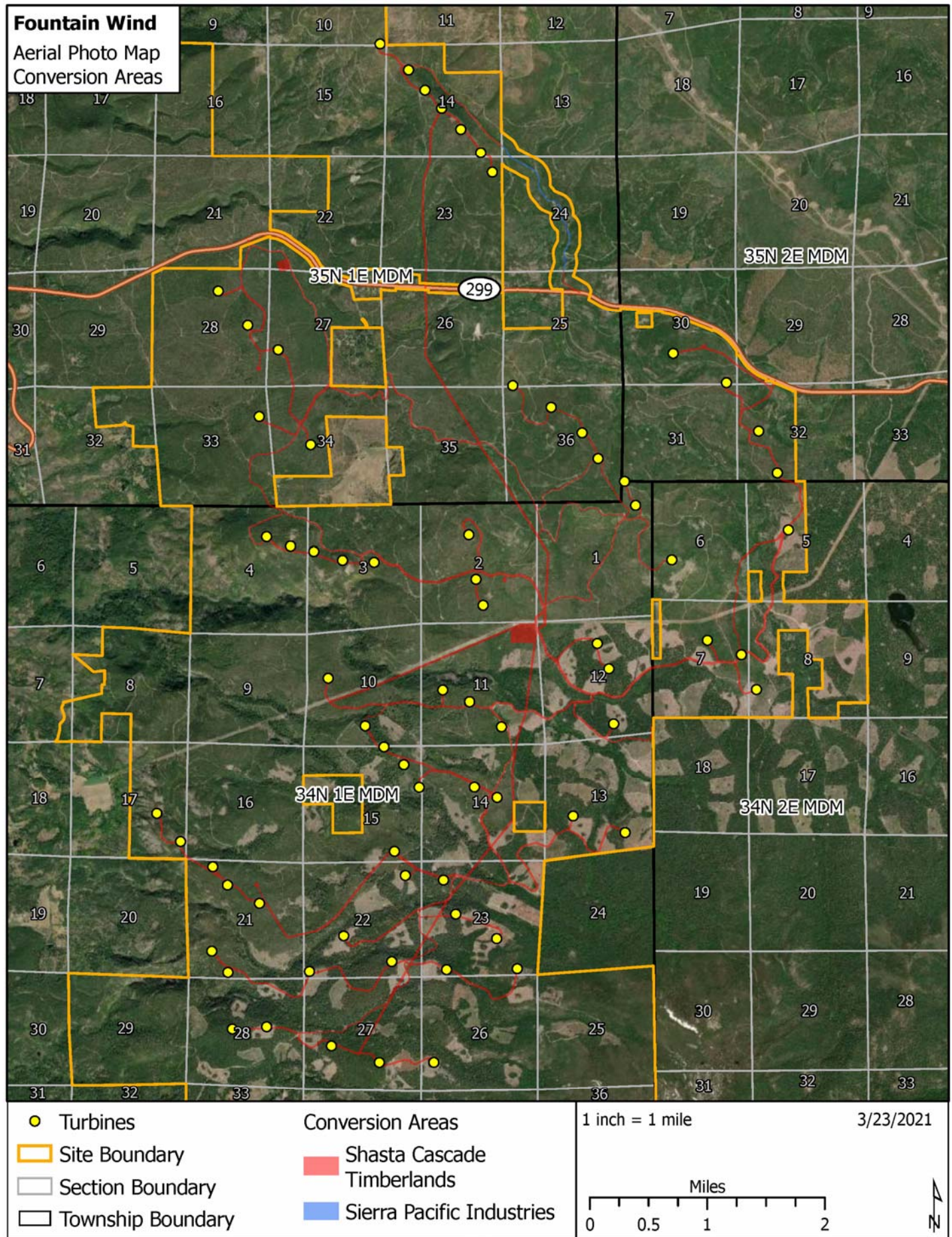
Show the conversion area in Timberland Production Zone by: **Conversion Area is defined by the red polygon, which includes permanent conversion for turbine locations, access roads, collection lines, and the Operations and Maintenance facility.**

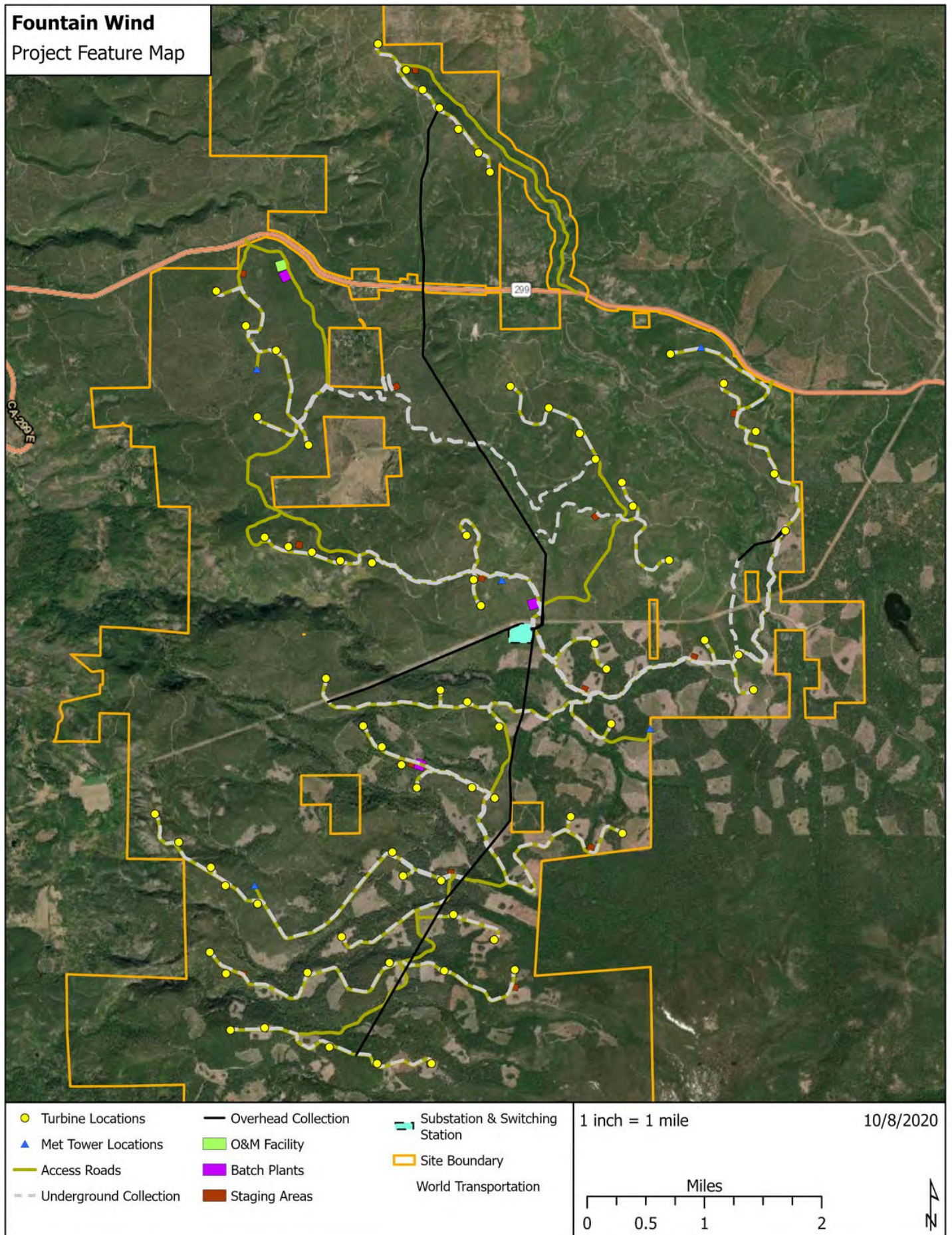
Show the conversion area in the Coastal Zone by: **None**

See General Location, Project Feature, and THP Conversion maps below.









TIMBERLAND CONVERSION PERMIT APPLICATION AND PLAN

Pursuant to Sections 4621-4628, Resources Code, and regulations contained in Title 14, California Code of Regulations, I (we)

Name(s) **Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.**
James Bullen
 Address(s) 235 Pine Street, Suite #1475
 San Francisco, CA 94104

and

Name(s) **Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company**
Gary Blanc
 Address(s) PO Box 496014
 Redding, CA 96049

hereby apply to the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection for a Timberland Conversion Permit to exempt the timberland described herein and shown on the attached map or plat as a part of this application, from forest practice stocking requirements for conversion to a non-timber growing use and/or to enable final immediate rezoning from TPZ.

1. Property description of area to be converted,

Project Name: Fountain Wind Project
Applicant: Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
Location: Shasta County California, immediately north and south of California State Route 299, approximately 6 miles west of Burney California.

Land Ownership: Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
Assessor Parcels:

027-120-009	027-160-034	029-190-014	029-250-010
027-130-046	027-160-042	029-190-016	030-080-005
027-140-001	027-160-047	029-190-017	030-080-006
027-140-002	027-160-048	029-200-041	030-080-007
027-140-015	027-160-049	029-200-042	030-080-008
027-140-021	027-210-006	029-200-043	030-080-013
027-140-022	027-220-001	029-210-001	030-080-014
027-140-028	029-170-006	029-210-009	034-010-003
027-160-014	029-170-008	029-210-019	034-010-004
027-160-017	029-190-010	029-210-002	034-010-008
027-160-020	029-190-011	029-210-021	034-010-016
027-160-022	029-190-012	029-220-006	034-010-017
027-160-027	029-190-013	029-250-001	-

Land Ownership: Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
Assessor Parcels:

027-140-018	027-140-005	-	-
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Total Parcel Area: **Approximately 29,500 acres**

Project Size **Permanent disturbance area, approximately 713 acres (conversion)**
 Permanent disturbed areas would include footprint for up to 72 wind turbine sites, an O&M facility, collector substation, switching station, Met Tower stations, access road creation and widening of existing access roads, and both underground and overhead electrical collection systems and 2-track access location.

Temporary disturbance area, 671 acres (reforestation)

Temporary disturbed areas include road widening and temporary construction and laydown areas that will be cleared during construction and immediately reforested following completion of construction of the Project.

Zoning Designations: **Timber Production Zone (TPZ)**
Unclassified (U) The U zoning district is a "holding district." The designation applies until a precise principal zone district has been adopted (Shasta County Code of Ordinances §17.64.010). Timber uses allowed without a permit in a TP district also are allowed in a U district (Shasta County Code of Ordinances §17.64.020).

Existing Use: **Private timberland**

2.	Subdivision(s)	Section	Township	Range	B&M
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Portion of Sections within	T34N, T35N	R1E, R2E	MDM
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3. Acres of timberland to be converted.

Approximately 713 acres

See the chart on the next page.

Approximate Timberland Conversion

Project Component	Quantity	Total Temporary Construction Disturbance Area (Timberland to be Harvested for Construction)		Permanent Disturbance Area (Timberland to be Permanently Converted)	
		Acres	Total (acres)	Acres	Total (acres)
Turbines and pads (including temporary turbine construction areas)	Up to 72	5 acres per turbine	360	2.5 acres per turbine ^a	180
Underground electrical collector system ^b	Up to 51 miles	50-foot-wide corridor	309	30-foot-wide corridor cleared of large vegetation	185
Overhead electrical collector line and associated roads, work footprint, and permanent 2-track access road ^c	Up to 12 miles	100-foot-wide corridor	145	80-foot-wide right of way cleared of large vegetation	116
Onsite collector substation	1	8 acres	8	5 acres	5
Onsite switching station (including interconnection equipment)	1	11 acres	11	8 acres	8
Access roads (including crane roads)	Up to 24 miles of new roads	80-foot-wide disturbance area, up to a total of 233 acres. Nominally up to 200-foot-wide construction clear area in some locations to accommodate grading, slope stabilization, and blade delivery.	233	20-foot-wide drivable surface with a 1-foot shoulder on both sides and up to an additional 10 feet on either side where required for storm water drainage design, up to a total of 122 acres. Permanent disturbance width nominally up to 200 feet in some locations.	122
Widen existing 16-foot-wide access roads	Up to 33 miles of existing roads	80-foot-wide disturbance area (16 of which are already disturbed) up to 256 acres of new disturbance. Nominally up to 200-foot-wide construction clear area in some locations to accommodate grading, slope stabilization, and blade delivery.	256	Permanently widen to 20 feet with a 1-foot shoulder on both sides and up to 10 feet on either side where required for storm water drainage design, up to 96 acres. Permanent disturbance width nominally up to 200 feet in some locations.	96
O&M facility	1	5 acres	5	5 acres (including a 5,460-square foot O&M building and two 0.5-acre Operations storage sheds)	5
Temporary construction and equipment area, construction trailer area, and associated parking area	1	10 acres	10	0 acres	0
Temporary laydown areas	14	2 acres per laydown area	28	0 acres	0
Temporary concrete batch plant, if necessary	3	3 to 5 acres per batch plant	15	0 acres	0
MET Towers	4	1 acre	4	0.5 acres	2

Anticipated Total Temporary Construction Disturbance: 1,384 acres

Anticipated Total Permanent Disturbance (Timberland to be Permanently Converted): 713 acres

NOTES:

- ^a The area of permanent disturbance for each turbine includes an approximately 0.5-acre area to accommodate the footprint of the turbine, related components, and gravel access pad. An additional area, up to approximately 2.0 acres, would be maintained clear of taller vertical vegetation during operations and maintenance and would serve as defensible fire space around each turbine.
- ^b Portions of the underground collector system would be located within the access road construction buffer to minimize impacts. No additional permanent impacts would occur in these areas. This acreage includes the co-located underground communications system.
- ^c Acreage includes co-located overhead communications system. An 80-foot-wide corridor centered on the overhead electrical collector line is assumed for disturbance calculations.

SOURCES: Stantec, 2018; ConnectGen, 2019

4. The owner(s) of record of this timberland is (are)

Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
Attn: James Bullen
235 Pine St., Suite #1475
San Francisco, CA 94104

And

Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
Attn: Gary Blanc
PO Box 496014
Redding, CA 96049-6014

5. The recorded interest in this timberland is held under

Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
deed dated **1-22-2018**
recorded in Document **2018R0001465**
official records in **Shasta County, California**

And

Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
deed dated **7-3-2018**
recorded in Document **2018R0018239**
official records in **Shasta County, California**

6. This timberland is assessed in the name of:

Shasta Cascade Timberlands LLC.
235 Pine St., Suite #1475
San Francisco, CA 94104

And

Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
PO Box 496014
Redding, CA 96049-6014

7. I (we) intend to use this timberland in the future for

Fountain Wind LLC proposes to construct and operate the Fountain Wind Project ("Project"), a wind energy generation development. The Project would consist of up to 72 wind turbines and associated infrastructure, with a nameplate generating capacity of up to approximately 216 megawatts (MW). The proposed Project would be located on 74 Shasta County Assessor's parcels. Pursuant to Shasta County Code (SCC) Section 17.92.020, a Use Permit (Use Permit 16-007) has been applied for in order to facilitate construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the proposed Project. In addition to the wind turbines and associated transformers, the Project includes ancillary facilities such as lay-down areas, access roads, underground and overhead collector lines, an operation and maintenance building, and substation and switching station components. Temporary disturbance areas required for construction of this infrastructure will be harvested and replanted under a Timber Harvest Plan. These temporary disturbance areas will accommodate access necessary for equipment delivery as well as safe construction of the Project.

8. Conversion activities may begin as soon as **Fall 2021** and be completed by **Fall 2023**.

9. Is all or part of conversion area in a Timberland Production Zone (TPZ)?

 X yes no If yes show the area in TPZ with diagonal black lines on the conversion plat or map, and complete the following items a through e. **See maps pages 3,4 and 5.**

Note: Although the project area is zoned TPZ by Shasta County, the conversion associated with the installation of wind turbines is a compatible use, therefore no zoning change is being requested.

a. Is check or money order for \$100 payable to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection enclosed with this rezoning application as required?
 yes no **N/A**

b. Has application for immediate rezoning from TPZ been made to the county or city having property tax jurisdiction?
 yes no **N/A**

c. If applied for, has the county or city tentatively approved immediate rezoning from TPZ'?

 yes no **N/A**

If yes, give date **N/A**

d. Is there any other property zoned TPZ within one mile of the boundary of the TPZ area proposed for immediate rezoning?
 yes no **N/A**

e. Are there any proximate non-TPZ lands (on or off the property containing the TPZ proposed for rezoning) suitable for the proposed conversion use?

 yes no **N/A**

If no, explain why such non-TPZ lands are not suitable.

10. a. Is check or money order for the basic **\$600 CDF** timberland conversion fee (payable to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection) enclosed with this application?
 yes no **N/A** (See Title 14, 1104.2 CCR.)

b. Is check or money order for the **\$2,500 Fish** and Game impact fee (Section 711.4(d)(2), Fish and Game Code) payable to the State of California enclosed?

 yes X no

 X I will submit the fee when notified seven days in advance of filing the Notice of Determination and issuance of the permit.

11. Is any of the conversion area in a Coastal Zone as provided for by the California Coastal Act of 1976?

 yes X no If yes, show the area in the Coastal Zone by horizontal black lines on the conversion plat or map, and complete the following item a.

a. Has a Coastal Zone permit for the proposed conversion use been issued?

 yes no If yes, date of issuance , 20 . **N/A**

12. What element(s) of the county or city general plan apply to the area within which the timberland proposed for conversion is located? **Timber Production Zone and Unclassified Zoning**

13. What is the zoning classification for all or part of the proposed conversion area that is neither TPZ nor Coastal Zone (use the designated zone term such as "Agriculture - Forest", not a letter - number designation)?

The lands underlying the Project are within the TPZ and U zoning districts. SCC Section 17.08.030(D) pertains to the TPZ district and conditionally allows the construction of "gas, electrical, water, or communication transmission facility, or other public improvements, in accordance with Government Code Section 51152." Per SCC Section 17.64.040, wind energy systems are conditionally permitted in the U district as long as it is not otherwise prohibited by law and not inconsistent with any portion of the General Plan. The Project, which would convert 713 acres of an approximately 29,500 acre project area from timberland to non-timberland use (see Section 4.2), is consistent with General Plan as the U district lands underlying the Project are timberlands outside of the Timber Protection Zone and as such, power generation facilities are an allowed use per General Plan Policy 6.2.4, T-d.

Also, per SCC Section 17.88.035, a Use Permit is required in all districts for wind energy systems which do not meet the definition of "small wind energy system" (e.g. wind energy systems greater than 50 kilowatts in size). A Use Permit application (16-007) has been prepared pursuant to SCC Section 17.92.020m, which are the rules governing Use Permits.

Because the General Plan designation and zoning district underlying the Project conditionally allow electrical power facilities, the Project is considered to be consistent with the General Plan designation and zoning.

14. Does the county, city or a district have a permit zoning, or other approval jurisdiction for the project that is the purpose of the conversion?
☒ yes ☐ no If yes, complete the following items a. through d.

Shasta County must issue a conditional use permit to authorize the Project. The County has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Report pursuant to CEQA to analyze the potential impacts associated with issuing a special use permit (Use permit 16-007).

Information on the permit can be found at,

https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm_index/planning_index/eirs/fountain-wind-project/Project-Description

- a. Name of local government entity
Shasta County, Resource Management, Planning Division.
 - b. Name the type of approval, zoning, or permit required.
Special use permit. Shasta County is the lead agency and is preparing an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to CEQA.
 - c. Has the local government agency submitted an environmental impact report or negative declaration to the State Clearinghouse as required by the California Environmental Act (CEQA) and regulations? yes ☐ no ☒
The Draft EIR was published on August 3rd, 2020. The Final EIR will be submitted to the State Clearinghouse upon adoption by Shasta County.
 - d. What is the State Clearinghouse Number?
Not available at this time but will be added later (The Timberland Conversion Permit cannot be issued until this is done and local government adopts the documents.)
 - e. Has the local government granted the necessary approvals, zoning, or permits required for the project? yes ☐ no ☒
 If no, explain in the appropriate section of the Timberland Conversion Plan.
The Special Use Permit required by Shasta County (16-007) was submitted to the County in July 2017 and updated in October 2017. Adoption of the EIR and approval of the Special Use Permit will rely on the CEQA review currently being performed by Shasta County. A Final EIR is anticipated to be published in early 2021. Adoption of the EIR will allow submittal to the State Clearing House and number. This will be provided to Cal Fire as soon as possible after adoption.
15. All property owners must sign the following affidavit unless the owner is a partnership, corporation or other organization, in which case the signer must be a partner, corporate officer, or organization officer respectively. An owner's agent may sign the affidavit, if power of attorney designating the agency, and signed by all the owners, a partner, or corporate or organization officer, for these respective kinds of ownership's accompanies the application. If the affidavit or power of attorney is signed in a state other than California, the signatures) must be notarized.

AFFIDAVIT

I (We) own the herein described property, and declare a bona fide intent as defined in Section 1100(b), Title 14, California Code of Regulations to successfully complete conversion of the herein described timberland for the stated purpose in accordance with the conversion plan and plat or map, all hereby acknowledged as a part of this application, and in accordance with the timberland conversion permit, timber harvesting plan, and conditions required through the California Environmental Quality Act and related regulations.

I (We) understand that if the conversion fails or is abandoned, that I (we) can be required to restock with trees those areas that do not comply with forest practice stocking requirements, so that such areas meet forest practice stocking requirements. I (We) understand that if we fail to do so, the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection can have the restocking done, including necessary site preparation, and charge me (us) with the costs.

I (We) declare under penalty of perjury that I (we) have fully read this application, conversion plan and plat or map, and that the information given therein is correct to the best of my (our) knowledge.

Executed on 9 April 2021, at San Francisco State of California

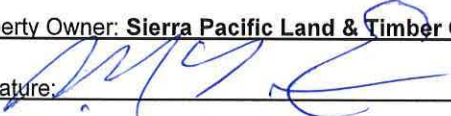
Property Owner: **Shasta Cascades Timberlands LLC.**

Signature: 

Title: Vice President

Executed on April 19 2021, at Anderson State of California

Property Owner: **Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company**

Signature: 

Title: Chairman & CFO

TIMBERLAND CONVERSION PLAN

General

Timberland Owner(s) **Shasta Cascade Timberland LLC. and Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company**

1. The responsible person who may be contacted if different from those given in the Application section.
Timberland Owner contact information provided on Page 6.

Fountain Wind Project contact information provided below:

Henry Woltag
Director
1001 McKinney Suite 700
Houston, TX 77450
Phone (281-520-6995)
hwoltag@connectgenllc.com

John Kuba
Director, Environmental Affairs
1001 McKinney, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77450
Phone (713-805-4829)
jkuba@connectgenllc.com

2. Have you received professional advice or assistance in planning this conversion?
 X Yes No List name and address of people professionally trained in land management who are advising you on this conversion.

See the consultant list below that includes relevant consultants, agencies, or other professionals who have been involved in the planning process.

Consultant List**Landowner-Applicant**

Shasta Cascades Timberlands
James Bullen
235 Pine Street, Suite 1475
San Francisco, CA 94104
jbullen@newforests-us.com

Sierra Pacific Land & Timber Company
Gary Blanc
PO Box 496014
Redding, CA 96049-6014
GBlanc@spi-ind.com

Project Proponent

Fountain Wind LLC
Henry Woltag and John Kuba
1001 McKinney Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002

Registered Professional Forester

Environmental Resource Management
Scott R. Butler
1128 Monaghan Ct.
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
Phone: 707-468-8466
Email: scott.butler@sbcglobal.net

Jefferson Resources Company
Dustin Lindler
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dlindler@jeffersonresource.com

Property Management

FWS Forestry
John Vona
123 F Street, Suite C
Eureka, CA 95501
Phone: 530-918-4708
Email address: jvona@FWSForestry.com

Clayton Code
P. O. Box 492709
Redding, CA 96049
cocode@FWSForestry.com

Biologist

West Inc.
Joel Thompson
2725 NW Walnut Boulevard
Corvallis, OR 97330
Phone: 307-214-2799
Email: jthompson@west-inc.com

Aquatic Resources

Stantec Environmental LLC
Sara Cortez
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 650
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-754-4339
Email: sara.cortez@stantec.com

Cultural Resources

Stantec Environmental LLC
Erin Sherlock MA
1383 North McDowell Blvd., Suite 250
Petaluma, CA 94954
Phone 707-782-3059
Email: erin.sherlock@stantec.com

Engineering

Westwood Professional Services
Chris Carda
12701 Whitewater Dr., Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343
Phone: 952-906-7459
Email: chris.carda@westwoodps.com

Agencies Involved**Shasta County Resource Management**

Lio Salazar, AICP
1855 Placer St, Suite 103
Redding, CA 96001
Phone: 530-225-5532
Email: lsalazar@co.shasta.ca.us

California Department of Forestry, Sacramento

Bill Solinsky
P. O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Phone: 916-653-9422
Email: bill.solinsky@fire.ca.gov

California Department of Forestry, Redding

John Ramaley
6105 Airport Road
Redding CA 96002
Phone: 530-224-2481
Email: john.ramaley@fire.ca.gov

California Department of Forestry, SHU Unit Forester

Ben Rowe
Phone: 530-225-2432
Email: benjamin.rowe@fire.ca.gov

California Department of Forestry, Senior Archaeologist

Stephanie Velasquez
6105 Airport Road
Redding CA 96002
Phone: 530-224-4749
Email: stephanie.velasquez@fire.ca.gov

California Department of Mines and Geology

Don Lindsay
Phone: 530-224-9312
Email: don.lindsay@conservation.ca.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Kristin Hubbard
Phone: 530-225-2138
Email: Kristin.Hubbard@wildlife.ca.gov

Adam McKannay
Email: Adam.McKannay@wildlife.ca.gov

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mat Boone
364 Knollcrest Dr. Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002
Phone: 530-224-4129
Email: mathew.boone@Waterboards.ca.gov

3. Do you have or can you obtain sufficient financial resources to carry out this conversion?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Should the conversion fail or be abandoned do you have or can you obtain sufficient financial resources to return the land to timber production?

☒ Yes ☐ No

4. How will the timber be logged? (Will all or only some trees be cut? Will area be tractor-logged or cable-logged, etc.?) Describe:

Merchantable timber will be harvested and shipped to local sawmills in Northern California. All non-merchantable trees and vegetation will be removed, chipped and/or burned on the site. Feller Bunchers, Crawler tractors and/or skidders will be utilized to move merchantable forest products to landings on existing and on new roads. Suitable minor forest products will be removed as appropriate and as can be marketed. Slash, brush and non-commercial vegetation will be piled to be chipped or burned.

5. Slope percent ranges in gradient generally **0% to 50%**. Slopes face generally toward various **directions due to the size and locations of the individual conversion areas**.
6. Describe special measures to be taken during and after logging, including road and skid road construction, and use to prevent erosion, protect soil, and to protect local streams, ponds, or lakes on or near the conversion area. EXPLAIN IN DETAIL:

Special measures that would prevent erosion and protect soil, streams, ponds and lakes associated with the construction of the project include:

- Use of existing roads wherever possible.
- Long term maintenance of erosion control facilities associated with existing and new road construction.
- Minimizing the addition of new road locations.
- Minimizing the number of wind turbines needed to produce 216 MW of electricity.
- Detailed engineering design of all road reconstruction and construction required to access turbine sites.
- Following erosion control measures required by the Forest Practice Rules.
- Application of Mitigation Measures required by the Shasta Counties Special Use Permit.
- Coordination with CDFW and CVWQCB on stream crossing reconstruction and or culvert installation where needed.
- Straw mulch and grass seeding of exposed conversion areas and road construction cut and fills will be completed as necessary, and in compliance with the Project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and erosion control mitigation requirements identified in the EIR.
- Stabilization of all roads used within the project area.
- Installation and maintenance of water drainage facilities, and maintenance of existing water drainage facilities on all roads used within the project area.
- Reforestation of all disturbed forested areas not within the conversion footprint.
- Active monitoring and annual review of erosion control facilities.

7. Describe how the area will be prepared for new use after logging. Describe methods of slash disposal and woody vegetation treatment, and any additional land treatment measure that will be taken:

A detailed description of the construction preparation process is provided in Chapter 2 of the DEIS. The main preparation activity would involve development of permanent and temporary access roads. Roads would be developed as described in Figures 7a and 7b.

All merchantable material would be utilized for sawlogs, fuelwood, chips or minor forest products. The remaining slash and stumps would be mechanically concentrated chipped and/or burned.

Treatment methods for all areas that are cleared of vegetation for construction and delivery of materials will be identified in the Timber Harvest Plan. These areas would be cleared prior to construction and then reforested. Commercial species as defined by the Forest Practice Rules will be planted. Planting will meet stocking standards of the Forest Practice Rules. Exposed soils will be straw mulched as required by the Forest Practice Rules.

8. If conversion fails, or is abandoned for any reason, how will the area be returned to timber growing use to meet the purpose of the Forest Practice Act? Describe land preparation, and seeding or planting measures:

A description of decommissioning and site restoration requirements is provided in Section 2.4.7 of the DEIS. Installed infrastructure associated with the conversion area would be removed. The project area would be site prepped and planted to commercial species as defined by the Forest Practice Rules. Planting would meet stocking standards of the Forest Practice Rules and be performed under the direction of a Registered Professional Forester. Exposed soils would be mulched as required by the Forest Practice Rules.

9. Areas which conversion will be completed within 5 years Approximately 713 Acres. Date by which logging will be completed: **Logging is anticipated to be completed during the first year of construction Q4 2022.** Date by which final conversion to new use will be completed: **Completion of conversion would align with the completion of construction, which is anticipated in Q4 2023.**

10. What assurances can you give that this conversion is feasible?

The project proponent and its engineering and environmental advisors have spent multiple years performing feasibility analyses and environmental studies to ascertain the viability of this project. This analysis has assured the project proponent that the project is environmentally and economically feasible.

11. Describe the specific plans for development of the new use:
List and attach any documents and sketches illustrating or showing proposed use.

See Appendix C for specific Project Plans, including:

- Preliminary Substation and Switching Station Site Plan
- Met Tower Drawing
- Underground Collector Cable Trench Drawing
- Aboveground Collector Cable Drawing
- Typical Wind Turbine Profile
- Typical Wind Turbine Site
- Access Road Details
- Operations & Maintenance Facility Plan and Profile

Fountain Wind LLC is seeking a Special Use Permit from Shasta County to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission wind turbines and related infrastructure associated with the proposed Fountain Wind Project. The Shasta County planning department is preparing an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The draft EIR was published on August 3, 2020, and a final EIR (FEIR) is anticipated to be published in April 2021, and the Special Use Permit could be issued shortly after. It is anticipated that the FEIR will satisfy CalFIRE's CEQA compliance obligations in issuing the Timber Conversion Permit. The Applicant anticipates beginning development of the Timber Harvest Plan in Q2 2021, with timber harvest activities not anticipated to begin until late 2021 at the earliest. Road improvements and road construction could occur as early as spring of 2022 with installation of the wind turbines and related infrastructure occurring in late 2022 and 2023.

All sawlogs, fuelwood and miscellaneous wood products are expected to be removed prior to beginning construction activities. The THP will describe the clearing of the conversion areas and reforestation areas which are anticipated to occur concurrently. Temporary erosion control measures will be installed concurrently with timber clearing operations. Permanent erosion control measures will then be installed prior to completion of construction. All erosion control measures will be implemented prior to the beginning of the winter period of the year the work is performed.

Disposal of non-merchantable timber may be disposed of by burning or mechanized disposal. If required, burning of slash piles will occur as permitted by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Central Valley Air Quality Management District.

It must be emphasized that these schedules are estimates only and may be changed by factors beyond the control of the applicant.

AGRICULTURE-GRAZING

The following additional information is needed for lands to be devoted to agricultural purposes including grazing.

The project is being developed for conversion of wind energy into electricity. No agricultural crop production or livestock grazing is proposed.

1. Has the suitability of the soil for the intended agricultural use been determined through examination by and consultation with farm advisors, Soil conservation District specialists, or other qualified professionals?

_____Yes _____No **N/A**

If "YES", give name and title of specialists and describe findings:

2. Describe the soils now supporting timber or other woody vegetation: (clay, loam, sand, decomposed granite, etc.) Give soil series if known:

Due to the large area covered by this conversion, specific soil types have not been included in this TCP application. All of the individual turbine sites are on forest soils. The location of the turbine sites are on ridge tops and therefore have shallower soil properties than on the side slopes and or in the bottoms of drainages. Detailed Soil information is included in the EIR and will also be provided as part of the THP.

3. Describe soil treatments necessary or desirable for the new use: (lime, fertilizers, mulch, etc., and rate of application).

N/A

4. How will other woody vegetation left after logging be eliminated?

(Check method) Mechanical removal **X** Burn **X** Chemical Eradication _____ Other _____.

After removal of merchantable logs, firewood and chip material, the remaining slash and stumps will be concentrated with heavy equipment and burned or chipped. Burning in accordance with Central Valley Air Quality Management District regulations and Cal-Fire fire rules will occur as soon as permissible after timber removal.

5. How will natural woody growth be prevented from revegetating the area?

(Check method) Mechanical removal **X** Reburn _____ Chemical eradication _____ Other _____.

6. What kind and rate of application of seed or kind and spacing of planting stock will be used?

Seedling Requirements: Exposed or disturbed soils shall be seeded as necessary and consistent with requirements in outlined in the EIR and Project Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Seed and/or fertilizer shall be applied hydraulically or broadcast at the rates specified below.

Straw Mulch shall be spread over disturbed and seeded areas as applicable. Straw mulch shall be spread mechanically or by hand at the rate of 2 tons/acres.

7. If conversion is for grazing, what kind and number of livestock are being grazed now on this property?

N/A

What kind and number of livestock will be grazed after conversion is completed?

N/A

8. What water developments exist now on the property?

N/A

9. What additional water developments are planned for conversion?

A new water well may be drilled to support the OM facility. The well would likely be located at the proposed O&M facility and be installed using typical truck mounted drilling equipment and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Shasta County Department of Resource Management's Environmental Health Division.

10. What length of fence exists now in connection with the conversion area?
There is presently no fencing associated with the conversion area.
11. How much additional length of fence will be added in connection with conversion?
Chain link fencing would be installed around the O&M facility 330' x 310', the Electrical Collector Substation 520' x 330' and the PG&E switching station 727' x 425'. Total fencing is approximately 5284'.
12. Describe buildings or improvements now on property where conversion is planned: (Residence, barn, other and other farm structures)
The proposed conversion area is composed of commercial timberlands and does not have any buildings or improvements other than existing roads, bridges or utility infrastructure improvements.
13. Describe buildings or improvements to be added in connection with conversion:
The project will install the following
- **Up to 72 wind turbine generators**
 - **Permanent access roads to accommodate turbine deliveries and related infrastructure, as well as long-term operations and maintenance activities.**
 - **Underground and overhead 34.5-kV electrical collector lines**
 - **Operations and maintenance building (1) 70' x 78'**
 - **230-kV Electrical Collector Substation**
 - **PG&E switching station and interconnection facilities**
 - **Meteorological towers (4)**

SUBDIVISION Not Applicable

Applicable only for lands in Timberland Production Zone. See item 8, informational page.

The following additional information is needed for lands to be devoted to real estate subdivisions:

1. Has "Combined Notice of Intention" per Section 11010, Business and Professions Code been filed with State Division of Real Estate?

_____ YES _____ NO If "YES", DATE FILED: _____

2. Is area approved for subdivision? _____ YES _____ NO

If "YES", by what local governing authority? _____

3. Name the fire protection jurisdiction in which the subdivision will be (name of incorporated city, fire district, or other, name and describe):

4. Will meeting fire protection standards of the fire protection jurisdiction, or of the safety element of the county or city general plan and county or city ordinance be a condition for county or city approval of the final subdivision map?

_____ YES _____ NO

(If not, this may be made a condition of the Timberland Conversion Permit.)

5. Provide copy of proposed general development plan and indicate plan is included by "X" _____

RECREATION Not Applicable

The following additional information is needed for lands to be devoted to recreational development:

1. Provide evidence of county or district zoning and approval with this plan, and list copies of document(s) submitted herewith showing such approval:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. Are documents attached with this conversion plan: __ YES __ NO

3. Does your plan comply with local health and sanitation requirements, and have approval?

_____ YES _____ NO

4. Will your plan meet county road standards, and have county approval of the roads?

_____ YES _____ NO

5. Provide copy of development plan and indicate plan is included by "X" _____

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS Not Applicable

The following additional information is needed for lands to be devoted to reservoirs or other water development projects:

1. Is the reservoir to be built and operated for private use or by a government agency?

2. If for a public agency, show name of agency:

3. If privately owned and operated, do you have a permit, certificate or similar documents from the State (California) Department of Water Resources? ____YES____NO

4. Is a reservoir to be built under the Agricultural Conservation program?
____YES____NO

If so, have you filed application? ____YES____NO

Attach copy of application, document of approval, or copy of evidence of professional planning and design and indicate it is attached by "X": _____

5. Provide a map showing the high water line in relation to your property and indicate map is included by "X": _____

6. Is a permit to appropriate water required from the State Water Resources Control Board? ____YES____NO

7. If 6 above is "YES", has application been made? ____YES____NO

8. If 6 above is "YES", give date of application: _____

MINING Not Applicable

The following additional information is needed for lands to be devoted to mining purposes:

1. Has an assay or feasibility report been made to determine the quality and the economics of the venture?
____YES____NO

If "YES", summarize findings:

2. Describe nature and extent of necessary disturbance.

3. Provide map of proposed development and indicate map is included by "X": _____

4. If a county approved reclamation plan required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act and county ordinance for this mine? ____YES____NO

5. If 4 above is "YES", has the county approved a Reclamation Plan for this mine? ____YES____NO
(If "NO", issuance of the conversion permit may be delayed until the county approves the reclamation plan.)

OTHER**Complete application detail for intended conversion purpose:****Provide other pertinent information. -- Attach separate sheets if necessary:****A. Archeology**

The Applicant contracted Stantec Consulting Services Inc. to conduct a Cultural Resources Phase 1 inventory of the proposed Fountain project site including the proposed conversion area. Between January 10 and October 20, 2018, and between October 7 and November 3, 2019, Stantec archaeologists conducted an intensive reconnaissance level pedestrian field survey of the project site resulting in the recordation of 24 newly recorded isolates and 12 newly discovered sites: 11 historic-era and 1 multicomponent. Stantec archaeologists also revisited and updated 10 previously recorded resources (9 historic-era and 1 prehistoric). The Applicant has also performed tribal outreach to identify potential tribal cultural resources in the project vicinity.

The Project has incorporated information collected on cultural resources to avoid direct impacts from conversion activities to these resources. Additional surveys may be performed prior to construction, and the Project has proposed employing tribal monitors during construction. The Fountain Wind DEIR has identified various mitigation measures that would be required for the Project to reduce or mitigate impacts to cultural resources.

B. Rare and Endangered Species

The project proposes modification to existing wildlife habitat. Multiple years of biological studies and analyses has been performed by WEST Inc. to inform project design and identify potential impacts to special status wildlife species. These studies include:

- Bat acoustic monitoring
- Eagle / Large bird use surveys
- Eagle and raptor nest surveys
- Rare plant surveys
- Foothill yellow-legged frog survey
- Willow-flycatcher survey
- Great gray owl Habitat Assessment
- Northern goshawk Nest Survey
- Site Characterization Study

Based on these studies, the project has not identified the presence of listed species in the vicinity of the conversion activities. The conversion activities would involve limited removal of managed forestland that may serve as suitable habitats. The Fountain Wind DEIR has identified various mitigation measures that would be required for the Project to reduce or mitigate impacts to biological resources, including rare or listed species. See the DEIR and THP for mitigation detail.

C. Visual

A viewshed analysis was completed to identify locations within the analysis area from which the Project would potentially be visible. The viewshed analysis focuses on the Project's proposed turbines, since the wind turbines would be the tallest structures of the proposed Project and are typically sited on topographic highs to capture the most optimal wind resource. The turbines are generally the most prominent Project facilities and the most likely to be visible. The minimal conversion of forestland is not anticipated to result in significant visual changes; however, the turbines would be visible from various observation points in the surrounding area. The project proponent has conducted 7 public open houses and 5 webinars to inform and receive public input concerning the proposed project.

D. Roads**TRAFFIC**

Traffic entering the site will comprise trips by construction workers, materials delivery, and equipment delivery, including traffic specifically associated with the conversion activity. A Traffic Study was performed by Westwood Professional Services to determine the total number of vehicles entering the project site from public roads and to calculate the approximate peak hourly traffic entering from public roads. The Traffic Study included both a Level of Service (LOS) analysis and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for the three Project intersections with SR-299. A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented for the Project during construction to address safety requirements. Additional discussion on potential traffic impacts and proposed mitigation measures is provided in the Draft EIR.

- E. California Environmental Quality Act:** A Draft Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project and published on August 2nd, 2020. Shasta County is the lead agency and Cal Fire as a responsible agency under CEQA. A Final EIR is expected to be published in Q1 2021. The Project design and associated EIR considers technical studies and input provided from a number of environmental professionals and agencies (See representative list on Page 12). The proposed project reflects rules, mitigation measures and suggestions to protect the environment. The various reports and CEQA document have been prepared to satisfy CEQA requirements should be consulted for further information on this project. They are a part of this application as well as the proposed Timber Harvest Plan.

F. Zoning and Land Use

The project property is zoned Timber Production Zone (TPZ) and Unclassified (U) by Shasta County. The proposed conversion is compatible with this zoning.

The lands underlying the Project are within the TPZ and U zoning districts. SCC Section 17.08.030(D) pertains to the TPZ district and conditionally allows the construction of "gas, electrical, water, or communication transmission facility, or other public improvements, in accordance with Government Code Section 51152." Per SCC Section 17.64.040, wind energy systems are conditionally permitted in the U district as long as it is not otherwise prohibited by law and not inconsistent with any portion of the General Plan. The Project, which would convert 713 acres of an approximately 29,500 acre project area from timberland to non-timberland use (see Section 4.2), is consistent with General Plan as the U district lands underlying the Project are timberlands outside of the Timber Protection Zone and as such, power generation facilities are an allowed use per General Plan Policy 6.2.4, T-d.

Also, per SCC Section 17.88.035, a Use Permit is required in all districts for wind energy systems which do not meet the definition of "small wind energy system" (e.g. wind energy systems greater than 50 kilowatts in size). A Use Permit application (16-007) has been prepared pursuant to SCC Section 17.92.020m, which are the rules governing Use Permits.

Because the General Plan designation and zoning district underlying the Project conditionally allow electrical power facilities, the Project is considered to be consistent with the General Plan designation and zoning.

G. Alternatives to the Proposed Project

The Draft EIR has identified impacts to various environmental resources, and has also prescribed mitigation measures to reduce impacts to less than significant level. Some impacts have been determined to be significant and unavoidable with the implementation of prescribed mitigation measures. The EIR has also analyzed several alternatives that may lessen environmental effects of the Project. In accordance with CEQA principles the alternatives selected for detailed examination in this project are limited to ones that would avoid or substantially lessen the significant effects of the project. See the EIR for details.

In consideration of the alternatives identified in the DEIR, it is the conclusion of the landowners and their advisors that the proposed Project, and the associated conversion of 713 acres of forestland is feasible. Adverse environmental effects associated with the conversion activity have been considered and have been mitigated. The project as proposed is the preferred alternative by the Landowner, and meets the goals and objectives of the Project Proponent.

H. Timber Harvesting Plan

The Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) required for this project will be submitted following completion of the EIR and will address concerns and mitigations proposed in the EIR related to timber harvest. The THP will reflect the final design of the Project, including the final proposed turbine locations and other project features, and will reference any additional mitigation measures described in the FEIR.

I. Land Use Plans

The timberland adjacent to the TCP conversion area will continue to be maintained as a working commercial forest. The operation of the Fountain Project will potentially benefit the continued forest management in providing fire protection benefits and improved access. Additionally, the Project is consistent with objectives in the Shasta County General Plan, to increase utilization of renewable energy resources. The wind turbines and associated infrastructure are anticipated to produce enough emissions-free energy to power approximately 86,000 households annually.

J. Analysis of Timber Supply Depletion and Habitat fragmentation as a Result of the Proposed Timberland Conversion.

A review of Timber Supply Depletion will be provided in THP. Analysis of habitat fragmentation is provided in the EIR.

K. Watercourses

Watercourses exist throughout the project properties 29,500 acres. Access over the property is by an existing road system that has been developed by the landowner as a result of submitting Timber Harvest Plans to Cal Fire over the past 40 years. The existing road system and all related drainage structures have received and are currently receiving input from Cal Fire, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Department of Water Quality. This input has designed a system sensitive to the resources of the state. All proposed modifications to that road system will continue to receive input from those agencies related to any modifications proposed with this project.

All turbine sites, Met towers, substations and OM facilities are associated with higher elevations and flatter terrain as such they are not near watercourses that would require setbacks.

L. Water Usage

Project construction would require up to 49 acre-feet of water for dust control, batch concrete, emergency fire suppression, and other activities. During construction, water would be provided either from an onsite well or would be delivered by a contractor using water trucks from an existing water right. Any wells installed onsite would be constructed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Shasta County Department of Resource Management's Environmental Health Division.

Operation and maintenance of the Project would require up to 5.6 acre-feet per year (approximately 5,000 gallons per day) of water for the O&M building, equipment maintenance and washing, and emergency fire suppression. Water for the O&M building would be supplied either by an onsite well or by a storage tank located at the O&M building that periodically would be filled by a water truck. A Water Supply Assessment was prepared for the project in accordance with Water Code section 10910(c)(4). The Water Supply Assessment reviewed multiple water supply options including installation of a new onsite well and an option to purchase water from the Burney Water District. The study found that the estimated water demand of the Project represents a de minimis use compared with existing groundwater withdrawals near the site, and that there are adequate water supplies available from the Burney Water District.

No additional permanent water tanks are proposed to be installed as part of the project; however, the landowner, separate from and independent of the Project, has installed helicopter dip tanks within the site to aid fire suppression.

During construction, portable toilets would be provided for the construction workforce. These facilities would be serviced on a regular basis by a contractor who would dispose of sanitary wastewater pursuant to applicable regulations. Wastewater from the O&M facility would be processed using an onsite septic system.

M. Project Objectives

1. Develop, construct, and operate a commercial wind energy generation facility capable of generating up to 216 MW of wind energy.
2. Interconnect to the northern California electrical grid (NP15)
3. Locate the Project in close proximity to an existing transmission line with sufficient capacity to reduce impacts and costs associated with building new transmission infrastructure.¹
4. Assist California in meeting the renewable energy generation targets set in Senate Bill (SB) 100.²
5. Create temporary and permanent jobs in Shasta County and contribute to Shasta County's tax base.
6. Obtain entitlements to construct and operate a commercially financeable wind energy project.
7. Support landowners through diversification of revenue streams.
8. Offset approximately 128,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions generated by fossil fuels.
9. Provide emissions-free energy for approximately 86,000 households.

¹ The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) manages the operation of California's power grid, including the generation and transmission of electricity by PG&E and the CAISO's other member utilities. The CAISO divides the state into three regions: NP15, SP15, and ZP26. NP15 corresponds to PG&E's electric service territory (CAISO, 2008; PG&E, 2014). Within NP15, the portion of Path 15 (a key segment of California's north-south power transmission corridor) connects into the Round Mountain Substation. The Project would interconnect to the grid along Path 15

² SB 100 was signed into law on September 10, 2018. This bill accelerates the state's renewable energy goals, requiring 60 percent of California's electricity portfolio to come from eligible renewable sources by 2030 and that all retail electricity be carbon-free by 2045.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM
(To Be Completed by Applicant)

Date Filed **April 2021**

General Information

1. Name and address of developer or project sponsor:

**Fountain Wind LLC
1001 McKinney, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002**

2. Address of project

N/A – Located approximately 25 miles northeast of Redding and 6 miles west of Burney, directly north and south of State Hwy 299.

Address: N/A

Assessor Parcel Number

See page 6 above

3. Name, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted concerning this project

**John Kuba
1001 McKinney, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002
346-998-2030 or 713-805-4829**

4. Indicate number of the permit application to which this form pertains: **To Be Assigned.**

5. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by city regional, state and federal agencies (Note: A detailed list of permits and approvals that could be required for the proposed Project are provided in Table 2-8 of the DEIR):

- a. **Special Use Permit: Shasta County Resource Management, permit #16-007**
- b. **Timber Harvest Plan: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**
- c. **Lake and Stream Alteration Agreement: California Department of Fish and Wildlife**
- d. **Construction Stormwater General Permit: State Water Resource Control Board and/or Regional Water Quality Control Board**
- e. **Clean Water Act, Section 404 Nationwide Permit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

6. Existing zoning district: **TPZ and U (Unclassified)**

7. Proposed use of site (Project for which this form is filed):

Installation, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of wind turbines and associated infrastructure.

**PROJECT
PROJECT COMPONENTS AND DISTURBANCE AREAS**

Shasta Cascade Timberland LLC

Project Component	Quantity	Total Temporary Construction Disturbance Area (Timber to be Harvested for Construction)		Permanent Disturbance Area (Timberland to be Permanently Converted)	
		Acres	Total (acres)	Acres	Total (acres)
Turbines and pads (including temporary turbine construction areas)	Up to 72	5 acres per turbine	360	2.5 acres per turbine ^a	180
Underground electrical collector system ^b	Up to 51 miles	50-foot-wide corridor	309	30-foot-wide corridor cleared of large vegetation	185
Overhead electrical collector line and associated roads, work footprint, and permanent 2-track access road ^c	Up to 12 miles	100-foot-wide corridor	145	80-foot-wide right of way cleared of large vegetation	116
Onsite collector substation	1	8 acres	8	5 acres	5
Onsite switching station (including interconnection equipment)	1	11 acres	11	8 acres	8
Access roads (including crane roads)	Up to 24 miles of new roads	80-foot-wide disturbance area, up to a total of 233 acres. Nominally up to 200-foot-wide construction clear area in some locations to accommodate grading, slope stabilization, and blade delivery.	233	20-foot-wide drivable surface with a 1-foot shoulder on both sides and up to an additional 10 feet on either side where required for storm water drainage design, up to a total of 122 acres. Permanent disturbance width nominally up to 200 feet in some locations.	122
Widen existing 16-foot-wide access roads	Up to 33 miles of existing roads	80-foot-wide disturbance area (16 of which are already disturbed) up to 256 acres of new disturbance. Nominally up to 200-foot-wide construction clear area in some locations to accommodate grading, slope stabilization, and blade delivery.	256	Permanently widen to 20 feet with a 1-foot shoulder on both sides and up to 10 feet on either side where required for storm water drainage design, up to 96 acres. Permanent disturbance width nominally up to 200 feet in some locations.	96
O&M facility	1	5 acres	5	5 acres (including a 5,460-square foot O&M building and two 0.5-acre Operations storage sheds)	5
Temporary construction and equipment area, construction trailer area, and associated parking area	1	10 acres	10	0 acres	0
Temporary laydown areas	14	2 acres per laydown area	28	0 acres	0
Temporary concrete batch plant, if necessary	3	3 to 5 acres per batch plant	15	0 acres	0
MET Towers	4	1 acre	4	0.5 acres	2

Anticipated Total Temporary Construction Disturbance: 1,384 acres

Anticipated Total Permanent Disturbance (Timberland to be Permanently Converted): 713 acres

NOTES: next page

- ^a **The area of permanent disturbance for each turbine includes an approximately 0.5-acre area to accommodate the footprint of the turbine, related components, and gravel access pad. An additional area, up to approximately 2.0 acres, would be maintained clear of taller vertical vegetation during operations and maintenance and would serve as defensible fire space around each turbine.**
- ^b **Portions of the underground collector system would be located within the access road construction buffer to minimize impacts. No additional permanent impacts would occur in these areas. This acreage includes the co-located underground communications system.**
- ^c **Acreage includes co-located overhead communications system. An 80-foot-wide corridor centered on the overhead electrical collector line is assumed for disturbance calculations.**

8. Site size. Approximately **1,384 acres**.

The Project contains four major components: 1) Up to 72 turbines including concrete foundations, turbine pads, and temporary turbine construction areas; 2) 34.5-kilovolt (kV) overhead and underground collector lines and fiber optic communication cabling; 3) Up to 24 miles of new roads and up to 33 miles of existing roads for permanent and temporary use, and 4) the onsite substation and switching station for connecting the Project into the existing PG&E transmission line (Figure 2-2). All of these improvements would be entirely within the Project Site. Ancillary facilities and infrastructure also would be required, including access roads, temporary construction laydown areas, an O&M facility, up to four permanent meteorological towers, storage sheds, and up to three temporary concrete batch plants.

9. Number of floors of construction. **N/A**

10. Amount of off-street parking provided. **N/A**

12. Attach plans. **See Appendix C document which includes:**

- **Preliminary Substation and Switching Station Site Plan**
- **Met Tower Drawing**
- **Underground Collector Cable Trench Drawing**
- **Aboveground Collector Cable Drawing**
- **Typical Wind Turbine Profile**
- **Typical Wind Turbine Site**
- **Access Road Details**
- **Operations & Maintenance Facility Plan and Profile**

13. Proposed scheduling. **Project construction is expected to last 18 to 24 months. Generally, construction would occur during daylight hours from 7 am to 5 pm but could vary during summer or winter months, to accommodate specific construction needs, site conditions, to avoid traffic or high winds or to facilitate the Project schedule. Logging and clearing could begin as early as late 2021, with installation of wind turbines and related infrastructure beginning in 2022. The Project is expected to become operational at the end of 2023.**

14. Associated project. **None**

15. Anticipated incremental development. **None**

16. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household size expected. **N/A**

17. If commercial, indicate the type, whether neighborhood, city or regionally oriented, footage of sales area., and loading facilities. **N/A**

18. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities. **N/A**

19. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy loading facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project. **N/A**

20. If the project involves a variance, conditional use or remaining application, state this and Indicate clearly why the application is required. **None**

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss below all items checked yes (attach additional sheets as necessary).

21. Change in existing features of any bays, tideland, beaches or hill, or substantial alteration of ground contours.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

The Conversion Area includes wind turbine sites that are generally sited on topographic highs, as well as access roads and electrical infrastructure. Minor grading and shaping may be required to smooth and flatten the pad for turbine placement. This will include filling depressions and limited cutting high points. This flattening will be localized around each turbine location. Access roads and electrical infrastructure have been sited along existing access roads or along appropriate topographic contours to minimize the need for substantial alteration of ground contours.

22. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

The area surrounding the turbine sites is commercial forest land. As such there are few residences in the direct proximity of the turbine sites; however, there are rural residential areas in the surrounding vicinity. Due to the placement of the turbines on ridge tops, they would be visible from both near and far distances. Changes in scenic views or vistas resulting from the proposed project are anticipated as the turbines will be visible. See detailed analysis and discussion in Section 3-2 of the DEIR.

23. Change in pattern, scale or character of general area of project.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

The Project activities will occur on 1,384 acres of land within parcels that represent approximately 29,500 acres of commercial timberland. The addition of the Project facilities and the associated conversion is not expected to impact the continued land management associated with the commercial timberland and is consistent with other ongoing timber management and wind energy operation directly adjacent to the Project Area. Please see Section 3-2 of the DEIR for additional detail on aesthetics.

24. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

During construction, approximately 10,000 lbs of solid waste would be generated per week (Westwood, 2019). Construction debris (e.g., scrap lumber and metal) and operational debris (e.g., office waste and some paper waste) would be collected by either the construction contractor or Burney Disposal Inc. Waste would be transported to the Burney Transfer Station and ultimately disposed of or recycled at the Anderson Landfill in accordance with federal, state, and local solid waste regulations (Westwood, 2019). The Applicant would handle and dispose of solid waste in accordance with all regulatory requirements and would implement standard BMPs with regard to solid waste. See Section 3-15 of the DEIR for additional detail on solid waste.

25. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

The Project has the potential to increase dust as a result of construction and earth disturbing activities. Fugitive dust control would include application of appropriate dust suppressants, such as water or surfactants, as necessary during construction. Project construction would require up to 49 acre-feet of water for dust control, batch concrete, emergency fire suppression, and other activities. During construction, water would be provided either from an onsite well or would be delivered by a contractor using water trucks from an existing water right. Any wells installed onsite would be constructed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Shasta County Department of Resource Management's Environmental Health Division.

Non-merchantable timber and slash may be disposed of by burning or mechanized disposal. If required, burning of slash piles will occur as permitted and controlled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Central Valley Air Quality Management District (CVAQMD). This would be a onetime event related to construction. The disposal of slash by burning is ongoing as a timber management tool on the balance of the commercial timberland. All burning is regulated by Cal Fire and the CVAQMD. See Section 3-3 of the DEIR for additional detail on air quality.

26. Change in ocean, bay, lakes, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns.

Yes	No
	X

The Project is not proposing alterations to existing drainage patterns. Where ground disturbance activities occur appropriate stormwater control and erosion control practices will be implemented, and monitoring will be performed to ensure controls function properly. Existing road locations, new road locations and new road reconstruction have taken into consideration road surface runoff. Erosion control facilities will be installed on all road surfaces to reduce and or eliminate impacts to stream and or ground water quality and or quantity. Water used during the construction phase of the project will come from a proposed onsite well and or delivered by contractor using water trucks. Water use expected for the long-term OM facility is estimated at 5.6 af/year. Proposed water use for the site is not expected to have a significant impact on ground water quality or quantity. See Chapter 3-12 of the DEIR for additional detail on hydrology and water quality.

27. Substantial change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity.

Yes	No
	X

The noise level performance standards for new projects, per the Shasta County General Plan (Shasta County 2004) includes the following limits.

- 50 A-weighted decibels (dBA) at the property line of noise-sensitive uses between the nighttime hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- 55 dBA at the property line of noise-sensitive uses between the evening hours of 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Shasta County General Plan also considers noise level increases associated with operation or improvement of existing roads when sound generated would substantially increase noise levels at sensitive receptors. The Shasta County General Plan Policy N-g considers the following increases as significant: 5 dB L(dn) where existing traffic noise levels are less than 60 dB L(dn), 3 dB L(dn) where existing traffic noise levels range between 60 and 65 dB L(dn), and 1.5 dB L(dn) where existing traffic noise levels are greater than 65 dB L(dn).

Timber Conversion activities, such as logging, hauling, and land management activities will produce noise levels consistent with existing commercial timber operations that currently occur in the Project Area. Other construction activities associated with the Project may cause short-term but unavoidable noise impacts depending on the construction activity being performed and the distance to receiver. Noise will also be emitted by turbines during operation. Noise-sensitive land uses in the vicinity of the Project area comprise residences on Haines Road west of Burney and residences and campsites in the Moose Camp area.

Based on noise modeling for the Project, Operation of the Project is not anticipated to result in substantial increases in ambient noise levels in excess of Shasta County General Plan standards. Construction, decommissioning and site reclamation activities may result in increases in ambient noise levels in excess of standards if construction traffic and helicopter activity occurs during sensitive time periods. In coordination with Shasta County, the Project will implement Noise-Reducing Construction Practices during construction, operation, decommissioning, and site reclamation activities to avoid and minimize construction noise effects to sensitive receptors. See Chapter 3-13 of the DEIR for additional detail.

28. Site on filled land or on slope of 10 percent or more.

Yes	No
X	

The Project has been sited and designed to avoid steep slopes; however, some Project infrastructure will cross slopes greater than 10 percent (e.g., collection lines and access roads). As a general siting measure, the Project was designed to minimize soil disturbance needed to create the pad for the wind turbine. Although some slopes greater than 10 percent occur within the timber conversion area for wind turbines, final engineering will minimize the potential clearing and grading of these areas. Engineered plans for construction would include ground-disturbing activities such as clearing and grubbing, topsoil stripping, grading, compaction, utility trenching, and placement of aggregate surfacing. Grading activities would include the removal, storage and, disposal of soil, gravel, vegetation, organic matter, loose rock, and debris. To the extent possible, native soil excavated in one part of the Project Site would be used as fill in another area to minimize soil import and export. Cut and fill dimensions would be finalized along with engineering designs. Project disturbance areas that would be subject to ground disturbance as a result of these activities are summarized on page 23.

29. Use of and disposal of potentially hazardous materials, such as toxic substances, flammables or explosives

Yes	No
X	

During all Project phases, activities may involve the transportation, use, or storage of a variety of hazardous materials, including batteries, hydraulic fluid, diesel fuel, gasoline, propane, antifreeze, dielectric fluids, explosives, herbicides, grease, lubricants, paints, solvents, and adhesives.

In accordance with requirements contained in the California Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations, the Applicant would prepare a Hazardous Materials Business Plan/Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (HMBP/SPCC) prior to construction. The HMBP would include BMPs for the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. The HMBP also would include information regarding construction activities, worker training procedures, and hazardous materials inventory procedures. Prior to operation, the Applicant would update the HMBP (including the BMPs) with information about the types of hazardous materials that would be used during operation. The Applicant's proposed HMBP/SPCC would comply with the requirements of these federal, state, and local requirements. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 112.

During construction, waste disposal and collection receptacles would be located onsite to ensure proper disposal of hazardous materials. Operation and maintenance of the Project would not require as many hazardous materials as construction or decommissioning. During operation, hazardous materials would be stored in the O&M facility and storage sheds. Nonhazardous batteries would be stored at the substation. Monthly inspections of each of these facilities would occur to check for leaks and spills.

During construction, operation, and decommissioning, all fuels, waste oils, and solvents would be collected and stored in tanks or drums within a secondary containment area consisting of an impervious floor and bermed sidewalls. Fuel would be stored in aboveground storage tanks. These tanks may have either a double wall or would be placed within temporary, lined, earthen berms for spill containment. Upon the conclusion of construction and decommissioning phases, excess fuels would be removed from the site and any surface contamination resulting from fuel handling operations would be remediated.

All equipment operating in or near a drainage, or in a basin, would be in good working condition, and free of leaks. All vehicles would be equipped with drip pans during storage to contain minor spills and drips. No refueling or storage would take place within 100 feet of a drainage channel or other sensitive resource. Spill kits would be located onsite and in vehicles for use in spill response. In addition, all maintenance crews working with heavy equipment would be trained in spill containment and response.

The Hazardous Materials table, depicts the types, uses, and quantities of hazardous materials that are expected to be used during the site preparation and construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning and site restoration phases of the Project.

Hazardous Materials Table

Hazardous Material	Uses	Typical Quantities
Diesel ^a	Fuel for construction and transportation equipment during construction and decommissioning. Used to power an emergency generator during operation	Over 5,000 gallons would be stored in aboveground tanks during construction and operation. The amount of diesel to be stored on site during decommissioning is unknown at this time but is likely to be similar to that of construction.. ^b
Gasoline	Some construction equipment and transportation vehicles	Gasoline would not be stored onsite during any phase of the Project.
Propane ^a	Ambient heating of the O&M building	Approximately 500 to 1,000 gallons stored in an aboveground propane storage vessel.
Lubricating oils/grease/hydraulic fluids/gear oils	Lubricating oil would be present in some turbine components, in the diesel engine of the emergency generator, and in engines of construction and transportation equipment	Limited quantities would be stored in portable containers (capacity of 55 gallons or less) and maintained onsite during all phases of the Project.
Glycol-based antifreeze	Used in wind turbine components for cooling (approximately 5-10 gallons are present in the cooling system for the transmission. Used in the diesel engine for the emergency generator.	Limited quantities (10-20 gallons of concentrate) would be stored onsite during each phase of the project.
Lead-acid storage batteries and electrolyte solution	Present in construction and transportation equipment. Backup power source for control equipment, tower lighting, and signal transmitters	Limited quantities of electrolyte solution (<20 gallons) for maintenance of construction and transportation equipment during construction and decommissioning
Other batteries (e.g., nickel-cadmium batteries)	Used in some control equipment and signal-transmitting equipment	These batteries would not be maintained onsite.
Cleaning solvents	Organic solvents would be used for equipment cleaning and maintenance when water-based cleaning and degreasing solvents cannot be used.	Limited quantities of organic solvents (<55 gallons) would be stored onsite during construction and decommissioning to maintain construction and transportation equipment. Limited quantities (<10 gallons) of water-based cleaning solvents would be stored onsite during operation.
Paints and coatings ^c	Used for corrosion control on exterior surfaces of turbine towers	Limited quantities would be used for touch-up painting during construction (<50 gallons) and for maintenance during operations (<20 gallons).
Dielectric fluids ^d	Used in electrical transformers, bushings, and other electric power management devices as an electrical insulator.	Some transformers may contain more than 500 gallons of dielectric fluid. Onsite transformers each contain approximately 10,000 gallons of mineral oil.
Explosives	May be necessary for excavation of tower foundations in bedrock or creating construction access, onsite roads, or grade alterations.	Limited quantities necessary to complete the task would be stored onsite. Onsite storage is expected to occur only for limited periods of time and as needed for specific construction activities.
Herbicides	May be used for vegetation control around facilities for fire safety.	If deemed necessary, herbicides would be brought to the site and applied by a licensed applicator.

Source: Stantec, 2018.

NOTES:

a Diesel fuel and propane would be replenished onsite by commercial vendors as necessary.

b These values represent the total onsite storage capacity, not the total amount of fuel which would be consumed during project construction. c It is presumed that all wind turbine components, nacelles, and support towers would be painted at their respective points of manufacture. No wholesale painting would occur onsite; only limited amounts would be used for touch-up purposes during construction and maintenance phases. It is assumed that the coatings applied by the manufacturer during fabrication would be sufficiently durable to last throughout the equipment's operational period and that no wholesale repainting would occur.

d It is assumed that the majority of transformers, bushings, and other electrical devices that rely on dielectric fluids would have those fluids added during fabrication and would not require dielectric fluid to be added onsite. It is assumed that servicing of electrical devices that involves wholesale removal and replacement of dielectric fluids would not occur onsite and that equipment requiring such servicing would be removed from the site and replaced. New transformers, bushings, or electrical devices are expected to contain mineral oil-based, or synthetic dielectric fluids that are free of polychlorinated biphenyls. Some equipment may instead contain gaseous dielectric agents (e.g., sulfur hexafluoride) rather than liquid dielectric fluids.

30. Substantial change in demand for municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.).
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| | X |

Fire:

The Project area is located in a “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone” according to Figure FS-1 in the Shasta County General Plan (Shasta County 2004). The Project could increase the potential for wildfires associated with the use of vehicles and electrical equipment and increased human presence during construction of the Project. Sparks from vehicles and construction equipment, heated mufflers, spark producing construction activities such as welding, and improper disposal of matches or cigarettes, for example, could start a fire. There would also be increased presence and use of petroleum products, including oils and lubricants onsite, thereby increasing the potential for fires.

The Project will develop and implement an FPP prior to construction and operation. The FPP will include emergency response and evacuation procedures that would include immediate notification of local fire agencies. Staff would be equipped with fire suppression equipment, radio and cellular access, and pertinent telephone numbers for reporting a fire. These measures may include but are not limited to equipping earthmoving and portable equipment with internal combustion engines with spark arrestors, requiring vehicles to carry fire suppression equipment when onsite such as fire extinguishers, flappers, and shovels, and storing fire suppression tools at designated locations within the wind farm. Fire breaks will also be maintained around Project facilities including the turbines, substation, and O&M facility (per Public Resource Code 4290). With implementation of the FPP, the impacts to the Project related to wildfires during the O&M phase are anticipated to be very low. The risk of fire is further minimized by the design features of the turbines as fire prevention features will be incorporated within the turbines. Additionally, access roads and turbine pad sites would serve as fire breaks and would provide access for fire suppression activities.

Police:

The Project is located on private timber lands owned by Sierra Cascade Forestlands LLC, the turbine sites will be accessed via existing private logging roads and proposed access roads. Public access to the turbine sites will be restricted to avoid potential safety hazards per the Project’s approved Access Control Plan. All turbine towers will be locked as well as the O&M facility. The substation will be fenced and locked to prevent unauthorized entry. These precautionary measures would minimize the need for police surveillance and response. During construction, when opportunity for theft is high, security will be on site at all times when active construction is not occurring.

Municipal services:

Population growth would not occur as a result of the Project therefore demands on local parks districts and school districts are not expected to change in direct correlation to this Project. Additional detail is provided in Section 3-15 of the DEIR.

31. Substantially increase fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.).
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| | X |

The Project is anticipated to generate up to approximately 605,491,200 kWh of renewable wind energy per year, thereby reducing statewide fossil fuel consumption. Project Construction activities, including timber clearing, would result in a temporary and localized increase in fuel consumption occurring over an approximately two year construction timeframe. Similarly, a limited amount of fuel consumption would be required during the operational life of the project for maintenance activities. However, construction, operation, decommissioning, and site reclamation would not result in inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary energy use. Additional detail is provided in Section 3-7 of the DEIR.

32. Relationship to a larger project or series of projects.
- | Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| | X |

This proposed project represents the electrical generation plan that would occur on the seventy-four Shasta County Assessor’s parcels representing 29,500 acres. The timber conversion required for the Project would occur on 713 acres, while the remaining portions of the parcels would be maintained under the existing commercial timberland management. No other projects or series of projects is planned to take place.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

33. Describe the project site as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures. Attach photographs of the site. Snapshots or Polaroid photos will be accepted.

The Project Area is located in an unincorporated area of eastern Shasta County, approximately 1 mile west of the existing Hatchet Ridge Wind Project, 6 miles west of Burney, 35 miles northeast of Redding, immediately north and south of California State Route 299 (SR 299), and near the private recreational facility of Moose Camp. Other communities near the Project Area include Montgomery Creek, Round Mountain, and Wengler (each approximately 3 miles from the Project Area) and Big Bend (approximately 7 miles from the Project Area). The Project Area is located within the southern end of the Cascade Range with topography characterized by buttes and peaks separated by small valleys. The Lassen National Forest lies adjacent to the Project Area to the southeast and the Shasta-Trinity National Forest borders the Project Area to the north. Other surrounding lands are privately owned; many are used for timber harvesting purposes.

Elevations within the approximately 29,500-acre Project Site range from 3,000 to 6,000 feet (Stantec 2018). Little Cow Creek and the south fork of Montgomery Creek cross the Project Site from east to west, and other small tributaries run through valleys in the Project Site. Northern portions of the Project Site were affected by the 1992 Fountain Fire, as evidenced by burn scars within these areas. The Shasta County General Plan designates approximately 99.7 percent of the Project Site Timber (T) and the remaining land as Rural Residential B. Approximately 99.7 percent (29,412 acres) of the Project Site is zoned Timber Production (TP); the remainder is zoned Unclassified (U) (74 acres). Existing land uses within the Project Site consist exclusively of managed forest lands (Stantec 2018). Existing unpaved logging roads and existing transmission lines cross the Project Site.

The Applicant has conducted various technical studies to identify existing conditions at the site, including various natural resource, cultural resource, and technical studies, which provide specific detail on the existing conditions of the site. The Project used these resource studies to support Project siting and design, which ultimately defines the Proposed Timber Conversion Area (713 acres).

34. Describe the surrounding properties, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, etc.), and scale of development (height, frontage, setback, rear yard, etc.). Attach photographs of the vicinity. Snapshots or Polaroid photos will be accepted.

The Applicant has conducted detailed technical studies regarding wildlife, cultural and historic resources, and visual aspects of the Project Site. These technical studies also review existing information regarding known resources in the vicinity of the Project. Additionally, Shasta County's draft EIR considers resource impacts on surrounding properties as applicable to CEQA significance determinations.

Certification

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and the facts, statements and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

4-20-2021

Date

Signature