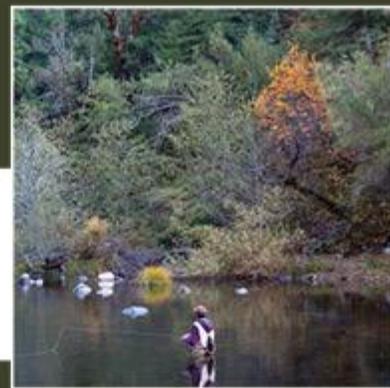
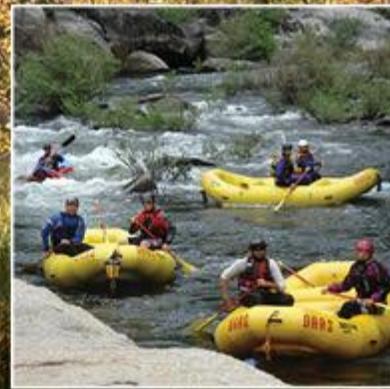


Mokelumne River

Wild and Scenic River Study Report

FINAL
March 2018



Prepared for:



Prepared by:



Final

Mokelumne River Wild and Scenic River Study Report

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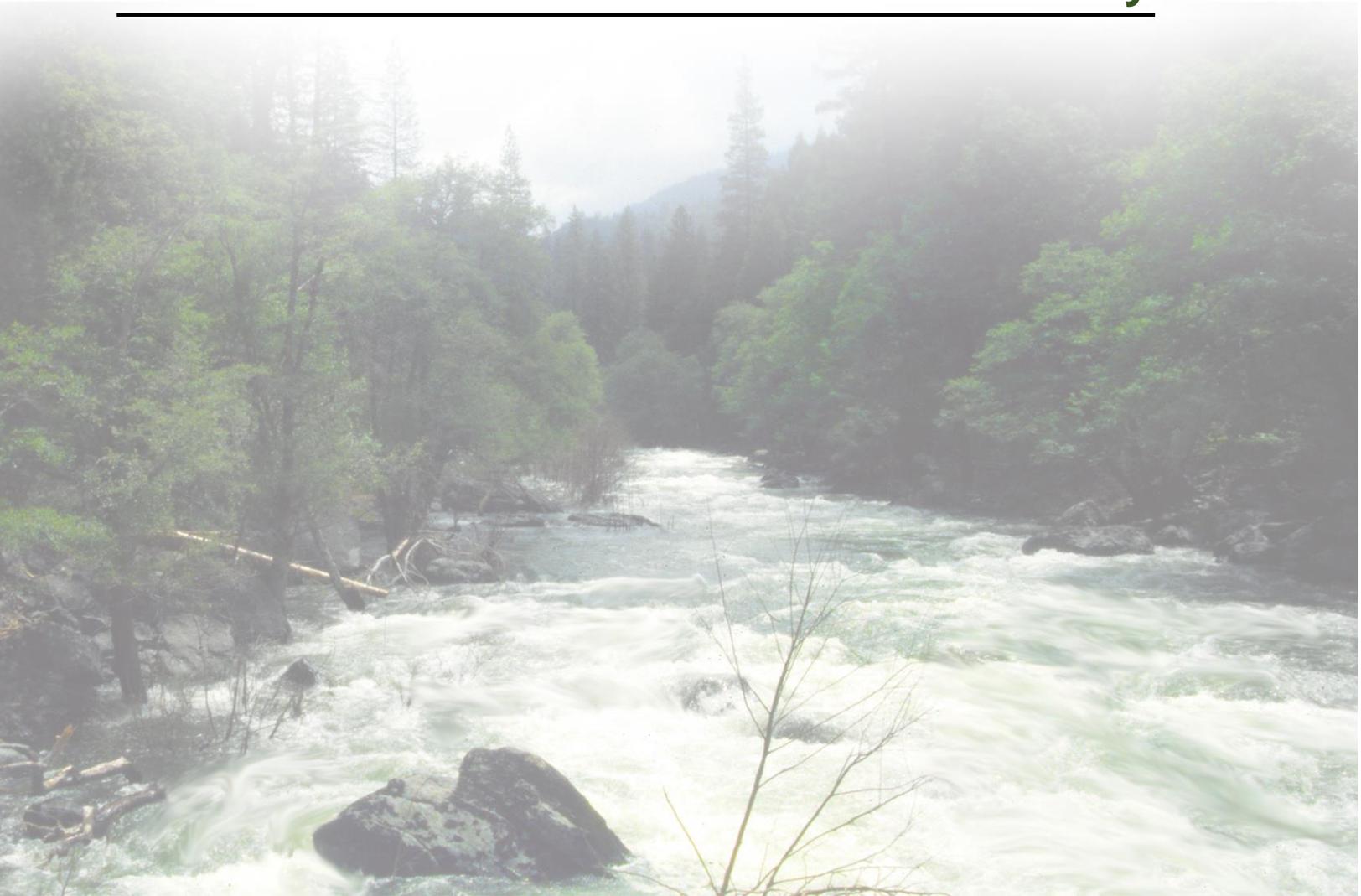
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March 2018

Project No. 1702798

Executive Summary



Executive Summary

The California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Act) was passed into law in 1972 to preserve designated rivers or river segments that are free-flowing and possess extraordinary wildlife, fishery, scenic, or recreational values. Assembly Bill No. 142, signed into law on October 9, 2015, requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to evaluate five segments of the North Fork Mokelumne River and Mokelumne River for inclusion in the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System (System). Segments A – E possess extraordinary recreational values; Segments A, B, and C1 possess extraordinary scenic values. The segments were classified under the Act as wild, scenic, or recreational, which reflect existing level of development, not extraordinary resource values:

- **Segment A1:** North Fork Mokelumne River from 0.50 mile downstream of the Salt Springs Dam to Bear River confluence (**Recreational**); **Segment A2:** Bear River confluence to 0.50 mile upstream of the Tiger Creek Powerhouse (**Wild**).
- **Segment B:** North Fork Mokelumne River from 1,000 feet downstream of the Tiger Creek Afterbay Dam to State Highway Route 26 (**Scenic**).
- **Segment C1:** North Fork Mokelumne River from 400 feet downstream of the small reregulating dam at the outlet of the West Point Powerhouse to the southern boundary of Section 12, T6N R12E (**Wild**); **Segment C2:** Section 12 boundary to confluence of the North and Middle Forks Mokelumne River (**Recreational**).
- **Segment D:** Main stem Mokelumne River from the confluence of the North and Middle Forks to 300 feet upstream of the Electra Powerhouse (**Scenic**).
- **Segment E:** Main stem Mokelumne River from 300 feet downstream of the small reregulating dam downstream of the Electra Powerhouse to the Pardee Reservoir flood surcharge pool at 580 feet elevation above mean sea level (**Recreational**).

Existing water uses, water rights, and land uses generally would not be affected by designation, except special conditions may apply to timber harvesting within 200 feet of designated segments. Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Roaring Camp facilities, operations, maintenance, and repair would not be affected by designation. Any new dams on the designated segments or dams impounding water on designated segments would be precluded. Potential future local water projects are conceptual and cannot be considered “feasible” at this time. With respect to future new water rights, the Mokelumne River is a fully appropriated stream from March 1 to November 30, which is a limitation on future water development. Future local water projects would need to meet prevailing environmental laws and with river designation, would also need to be designed to avoid adverse effects on the free-flowing condition, natural character, and extraordinary scenic and recreational values of designated segments.

This study recommends including the segments listed above into the System with special provisions, including protecting existing water rights application 5647X03 and future local water projects that meet the Act’s requirements.