
4. Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Measures

4.15 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

Unavoidable adverse impacts are those that cannot be mitigated. A summary of unavoidable adverse impacts for both the proposed and alternative action are as follows:

Proposed Action

- **Surface Water, Storage (Merced River)** - The carryover storage for Lake McClure would be reduced during below normal or dry hydrologic conditions.
- **Energy Resources** - Storage in Lake McClure would be decreased more than 10 percent during critical, dry, and below normal years during peak hydropower generation months.

Alternative Action

- **Surface Water, Storage (Tuolumne River)** - The carryover storage for New Don Pedro Reservoir would be reduced.
- **Surface Water, Storage (Merced River)** - The carryover storage for Lake McClure would be reduced during below normal or dry hydrologic conditions.
- **Recreation (San Joaquin River)** - Steam flows above the critical flow threshold for boating occur in all years.

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