

This section considers and evaluates the potential impacts of the proposed project on cultural and paleontological resources. Cultural resources include historic buildings and structures, historic districts, historic sites, prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and other prehistoric and historic objects and artifacts.

### 4.12.1 EXISTING SETTING

#### PREHISTORY

Prior to the arrival of Euroamericans in the region, California was inhabited by groups of Native Americans speaking more than 100 different languages and occupying a variety of ecological settings. Kroeber (1925) subdivided California into four subculture areas, Northwestern, Northeastern, Southern, and Central. The West Ridge Master Plan Project is in the Central area in Wintu territory. The traditional territory of the Wintu encompasses parts of what are now Shasta, Trinity, Tehema, and Siskiyou Counties. Wintu territory encompasses an area: from approximately 10 miles north of LaMoine, including the upper Trinity River and the upper Sacramento River; south to Beegum and Cottonwood Creeks; west to Junction City on the Trinity River, and southwest to the South Fork of the Trinity River; and east to Cow Creek and Little Cow Creek (LaPena 1978: 324). The Wintu language is part of the Wintuan linguistic group that includes the Wintu, Nomlaki and Patwin languages, all of which belong to the larger Penutian linguistic family. Nine major groups of Wintu, corresponding to geographic locales, have been identified within the Wintu region: the upper Sacramento Valley, McCloud, Stillwater, Keswick, French Gulch, Upper Trinity Valley People, Bald Hills, Hayfork and the Upper McCloud River Valley (LaPena 1978: 324; Du Bois 1935: 6-9). Although Kroeber (1925: 351-390) discusses Wintu geography and culture, the best sources of Wintu ethnography are Du Bois (1935) and LaPena (1978).

The family was the basic social unit of the Wintu, with the village being the political and economic unit (LaPena 1978: 326). Village leadership was maintained by a hereditary chieftainship. Typical villages numbered from 20 to 150 people and consisted of four to several dozen semi-subterranean, conical shaped, bark covered houses (LaPena 1978:325). Larger villages were usually located along major rivers and inhabited during winter months, while temporary hunting and gathering camps were established in the foothills and mountains during warm seasons and in concert with resource availability. The Wintu relied on a subsistence pattern emphasizing gathering, hunting, and fishing. Wintu exploited a variety of resources within their territory as those resources became seasonally available. Regardless of the use of nearly all the resources in their territory, Wintu subsistence strategy emphasized deer hunting, spring and fall Chinook salmon runs, and fall acorn gathering. Other important resources were elk, bear, rabbit and other small mammals, various birds, fish, insects, buckeye, pine nut, manzanita berries, and a variety of other plants.

The expeditions of Jedediah Smith and Peter Ogden across the northern Sacramento Valley in 1826 and 1827, respectively, recount the earliest encounters between Wintu and Euroamericans (LaPena 1978:324). Succeeding expeditions of Euroamerican explorers and fur trappers brought foreign diseases that took a huge toll on the Indians of northern California, particularly those of the Central Valley and its major river systems. Malaria and smallpox came into the region in the 1830s, decimating entire villages and lowering the population in the area by as much as 50 to 75 percent (Cook 1978). In 1846 Mexico granted land, the 26,000-acre Rancho Buenaventura (Beck and Haase 1974), to Pearson B. Reading, and the Wintu soon found themselves in competition with settlers who were rapidly moving into the area. Finally, the end of the Mexican-American War and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 marked the beginning of the American period (ca. 1848-Present) in California history. The onset of this

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period, however, did nothing to change the economic condition of the Native American populations. Indeed, the plight of Native American populations worsened with the onset of the Gold Rush in the late 1840s. Subsequent to the Gold Rush, the lives of the remaining Native Americans in California were changed forever as the influx of Euroamericans dramatically affected their culture.

### HISTORY

The West Ridge Master Plan Project and the City of Redding are either located within or adjacent to the 26,000 acre Rancho Buenaventura Land Grant that Major Pierson B. Reading acquired from Mexico in 1846 (Petersen 1965). Major Reading slowly began to attract settlers to his land grant in the northern Sacramento Valley. In 1848, however, Reading discovered gold in Clear Creek, and his discovery caused an influx of large numbers of gold-seekers to the area (Petersen 1965). A community named Horsetown quickly grew up around Reading's discovery site, which was also called Reading's Bar or Clear Creek diggings. The founding of Horsetown (or One Horse Town) in 1849 was soon followed by the development of Briggsville, located about 1 mile east of Horsetown (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1992). At least 1,000 residents occupied Horsetown that encompassed about 36 acres and included plank sidewalks, two hotels, several stores, blacksmith shops, football and handball alley, a Catholic church, a newspaper, and 14 saloons (Smith 1991).

As miners poured into the area around Horsetown the surface gold sources were quickly exhausted. Consequently, by the 1850s and 1860s placer mining was supplanted by hydraulic mining in the area. During this period, Petersen (1965) reports that as many as 11 hydraulic cannons were in use in the banks and hillsides surrounding Horsetown. Nathan A. Townsend, a Shasta County pioneer and early miner, built a diversion structure and ditch in the vicinity of Saeltzer Dam in the 1850s to develop his mining claims near Briggsville (Bunse and Wee 1999). Briggsville, however, was overshadowed by Horsetown and was abandoned during the 1860s. The decline and eventual cessation of mining in the area forced landowners and other residents to turn to other industries in order to survive. Agriculture, primarily cattle ranching, was the alternative of choice in the Redding area (Petersen 1965).

The founding of the City of Redding in the summer of 1872 also evidences the general growth and development of the area between the 1870s and 1880s. The city was named in honor of Benjamin B. Redding, a land agent for the Central Pacific Railroad Company, rather than Major Reading (Clark 1970). Redding was located at the end of the railroad line until 1883, when it was extended further up the Sacramento River canyon (Hoover et al. 1990). Redding was incorporated in 1887 as the first municipality in Shasta County, and subsequently became the county seat in 1888.

The business endeavors of Rudolph M. Saeltzer and James McCormick, who were two prominent Shasta County businessmen during the 1880s, highlight the economic development of the area (Andrews 1964; Tincher 1972). The two men formed a partnership in the 1870s to run a general merchandise store, the McCormick Saeltzer Company, which grew to dominate the regional market for nearly seventy years. During the 1880s Saeltzer and McCormick diversified their business interests and registered a livestock brand in 1884 (Leighton's Livestock Register 1902). In 1887, Saeltzer, McCormick, and five other partners formed the Redding Land Ditch and Cattle Company (RLD&CC) (Articles of Incorporation 1887). During the 1880s and 1890s Saeltzer and McCormick expanded their cattle business, and in 1890 organized, with seven partners, the Townsend Flat Water Ditch Company (TFWDC) (1891 Shasta County Records Office Deeds 29:498).

Another water ditch company in the area, the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District (ACID), was formed in 1914 under a pre-1914 water right. ACID attracted members who enrolled with the district to use its water, and an initial bond issue of \$348,000 was approved to begin construction on the water diversion facilities and the distribution canals and laterals. Dam construction and construction of other facilities for water diversion were completed in 1916, and water actually began to flow through the system in 1917. Farmers and ranchers, however, had to level areas of their land to take advantage of the new gravity flow canal system. This work facilitated both access to water and production of different crops in the area. Consequently, cattle grazing and dairying both quickly dominated the agricultural pursuits in the area since grass and clover were easily produced. ACID remains in operation today, and serves approximately 800 customers in Shasta and Tehama Counties who receive water between April and October. The majority of ACID is served by a gravity flow earthen ditch system that obtains its water from the ACID Sacramento River Diversion Dam (ACID 1998:1-2; Swearingen 1998).

Another business, logging, joined agriculture and mining in the Redding area and became an important regional industry during the late 1940s. Logging had been an industry in the area since the Gold Rush, but it experienced great expansion after World War II (Johnson 1989). Logging continues to be an important business in the area today. Tourism also has become a thriving business in the area primarily due to the construction of Shasta Dam, completed in 1941, and the formation of Shasta Lake.

### 4.12.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

#### LOCAL

##### City of Redding General Plan

The City of Redding General Plan provides a set of standards for the identification and protection of significant cultural resources. **Table A-12** in **Appendix 4.1-1** identifies applicable General Plan goals and policies, and summarizes the project's consistency with the General Plan. Specifically, Goal NR12 and Policies NR12A-D emphasize avoidance of archaeological and historical resources as the preferred means of reducing potential significant effects. If avoidance is not feasible, other forms of mitigation should be developed to mitigate any impacts.

### 4.12.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

#### STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

CEQA, at Public Resources Code 21083.2, requires planning agencies to determine if a project may have a significant effect on archaeological resources. According to CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, impacts to land use are considered significant if implementation of the project would result in any of the following conditions:

- 1) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5.
- 2) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a archaeological resource as defined in Section 15064.5.

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The West Ridge Master Plan and Annexation Area Initial Study discussed potential impacts for cultural resources and determined that impacts to destroy a unique paleontological resource or site and the disturbance of human remains would be less than significant or have no impact. Therefore these areas will not be further discussed in this document.

### METHODOLOGY

Archaeological investigations for the West Ridge Master Plan Project were conducted by Peter Jensen, Principal, Jensen & Associates, and documented in the report titled *Archaeological Inventory Survey – West Ridge Residential Development Project, c.410 Acres along Canyon Hollow Creek, Redding, Shasta County, California* (Jensen 2003). The archaeological investigations conducted by Jensen (2003) included a records search at the Northeast Information Center at California State University, Chico, consultation with the Wintu Tribe, and pedestrian surface survey of the proposed project Area of Potential Effects (APE). In addition, PMC requested a sacred lands search and a list of Native American contacts in March 2005 for the project area from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The sacred lands search did not identify any sensitive Native American cultural resources in the project area. PMC and the City of Shasta consulted with all groups and individuals identified by the NAHC regarding the project. No comments have been received from the Native American community regarding the project. In summary, a reasonable effort has been made to identify cultural resources within the APE for the West Ridge Master Plan Project.

### PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

#### Prehistoric and Historic Resources

**Impact 4.12.1** Implementation of the proposed project could result in the potential disturbance or destruction of sites Canyon Creek 1-5, West Ridge 1-4, and CA-SHA-2397. This is considered a **less than significant**. [LS]

Archaeological investigations (i.e., record search and pedestrian surface survey) conducted by Jensen (2003) for the project identify typical prehistoric and historic resources that would likely be present in the project area. These archaeological investigations identified 11 sites, 14 prehistoric isolates (e.g., isolated artifacts such as projectile points), and isolated historic resources (e.g., isolated artifacts and features such as mining tailings piles). Ten of the sites were determined ineligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or for consideration as a unique archaeological resource. One site, however, was determined eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. This site, identified as West Ridge-5, appears to have the potential to yield information important in regional and/or local prehistory. The 14 prehistoric isolates do not appear to meet the criteria for consideration as unique archaeological resources. Similarly, the isolated historic resources do not appear to meet the criteria for consideration as unique cultural resources.

Sites Canyon Creek 1-5, West Ridge 1-4, and CA-SHA-2397 were determined ineligible for inclusion in the CRHR or for consideration for designation as unique archaeological resources. Therefore, implementation of the project will have **no impact** on these sites.

#### Mitigation Measures

None required.

**Impact 4.12.2** Implementation of the proposed project could result in potential disturbance or destruction of site West Ridge-5. This is considered a **potentially significant impact**. [PS]

Site West Ridge-5 appears to be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. Therefore, any project related disturbance to the site is considered a **potentially significant** impact.

#### Mitigation Measures

**MM 4.12.2** Avoid site West Ridge-5 during project implementation and protect it from future impacts subsequent to project completion by placing it in open space or a conservation easement. If avoiding and protecting site West Ridge-5 is not possible an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards in prehistoric archaeology shall be retained to excavate the site to recover its data potential.

*Timing/Implementation:* As a condition of project approval, and implemented prior to construction activities.

*Enforcement/Monitoring:* City of Redding Development Services Department, Planning Division.

Implementation of this mitigation measure would either protect the site from project related and any subsequent impacts or recover its data potential. Therefore, impacts to site West Ridge-5 are considered to be **less than significant**.

#### **Undiscovered Prehistoric Resources, Historic Resources, and Human Remains**

**Impact 4.12.3** Implementation of the proposed project could result in the potential disturbance of undiscovered cultural resources. This is considered a **potentially significant impact**. [PS]

Archaeological investigations for the proposed project are adequate to identify typical prehistoric and historic resources in the area. However, there is a possibility of unanticipated and accidental archaeological discoveries during ground-disturbing project-related activities. Unanticipated and accidental archaeological discoveries during project implementation have the potential to affect significant archaeological resources. This is considered a **potentially significant** impact.

#### Mitigation Measures

**MM 4.12.3(a)** Construction personnel shall be informed (e.g., "tailgate" meetings) that cultural resources may be discovered during ground disturbing project related activity. If any prehistoric artifacts, historic artifacts, or other indications of archaeological resources are discovered once project construction is underway, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find must stop and the City shall be immediately notified. An archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards in prehistoric or historical archaeology, as appropriate, shall be retained to evaluate the finds and recommend appropriate mitigation measures for the inadvertently discovered cultural resources.

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*Timing/Implementation:* As a condition of project approval, and implemented during construction activities.

*Enforcement/Monitoring:* City of Redding Development Services Department, Planning Division.

**MM 4.12.3(b)** If human remains are discovered, all work must stop in the immediate vicinity of the find, and the County Coroner must be notified, according to Section 7050.5 of California's Health and Safety Code. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, and the procedures outlined in CEQA Section 15064.5(d) and (e) shall be followed.

*Timing/Implementation:* As a condition of project approval, and implemented during construction activities.

*Enforcement/Monitoring:* City of Redding Development Services Department, Planning Division.

Implementation of **MM 4.12.3a** and **MM4.12.3b** would reduce potential impacts to undiscovered resources to a **less than significant** level.

### 4.12.2 CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

#### CUMULATIVE SETTING

The cumulative setting associated with the proposed project includes proposed, planned, reasonably foreseeable, and approved projects in the vicinity of the project site.

#### CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

##### Prehistoric and Historic Resources

**Impact 4.12.5** Implementation of the proposed project, along with any foreseeable development in the project vicinity, could result in cumulative impacts to cultural resources. This is considered a **less than significant cumulative impact**. [LS]

Implementation of the proposed project in combination with cumulative development in the City of Redding would increase the potential to disturb known and undiscovered cultural resources. Implementation of mitigation measures **MM 4.12.1**, **MM 4.12.2**, and **MM 4.12.3a-b** would mitigate the project's contribution to the cumulative destruction of cultural resources to a **less than significant** level.

#### Mitigation Measures

None required.

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