

# **COLUSA LAFCO**

## **PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICTS**

### **MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW**

- ❖ Arbuckle Park and Recreation District**
- ❖ Maxwell Park and Recreation District**
- ❖ Stonyford Park and Recreation District**

**Adopted Resolution 2010-0010 – January 27, 2011**

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## ***1 INTRODUCTION***

### ***1.1 LAFCO's Responsibilities***

This Municipal Service Review (MSR) has been prepared for the Colusa Local Agency Formation Commission (Colusa LAFCO). Local Agency Formation Commissions are quasi-legislative local agencies created in 1963 to assist the State in encouraging the orderly development and formation of local agencies. This MSR consists of a review of park and recreation service as provided by the following Districts:

Arbuckle Park and Recreation District  
Maxwell Park and Recreation District  
Stonyford Park and Recreation District

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code §56000 et seq.) is the statutory authority for the preparation of an MSR, and periodic updates of the Sphere of Influence of each local agency. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research has issued Guidelines for the preparation of an MSR. This MSR adheres to the procedures set forth in the MSR Guidelines.

A Sphere of Influence is a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the affected Local Agency Formation Commission (Government Code §56076). Government Code §56425(f) requires that each Sphere of Influence be updated not less than every five years, and §56430 provides that a Municipal Service Review shall be conducted in advance of the Sphere of Influence update.

### ***1.2 Municipal Service Review Requirements***

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 as amended by AB1744 and regulations call for a review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the LAFCO. The LAFCO is required, as part of the MSR, to prepare a written statement of findings of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

1. Growth and Population
2. Capacity and Infrastructure
3. Financial Ability
4. Shared Facilities
5. Government Structure and Accountability

General information on California tax measures is shown in Appendix A at the end of this report.

### ***1.3 LAFCO Policies and Procedures Related to Municipal Services***

The Colusa LAFCO adopted policies and procedures related to municipal services on February 5, 2004.

### ***1.4 Description of Public Participation Process***

The LAFCO proceedings are subject to the provisions California's open meeting law, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.) The Brown Act requires advance posting of meeting agendas and contains various other provisions designed to ensure that the public has adequate access to information regarding the proceedings of public boards and commissions. Colusa LAFCO complies with the requirements of the Brown Act.

The MSR Guidelines provide that all LAFCOs should encourage and provide multiple public participation opportunities in the municipal service review process. MSR policies have been adopted by the Colusa LAFCO. Colusa LAFCO has discussed and considered the MSR process in open session, and has adopted a schedule for completing the various municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates for Colusa County. Each municipal service review will be prepared as a draft, and will be subject to public and agency comment prior to final consideration by the Colusa LAFCO.

### ***1.5 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)***

The Municipal Service Review is a planning study that will be considered by Colusa LAFCO in connection with subsequent proceedings regarding the park and recreation districts. The Sphere of Influence review or update that would follow has not been approved, or adopted or funded by LAFCO.

This MSR is funded in Colusa LAFCO's 2010-2011 Budget. This MSR includes an analysis, to the extent required by section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines, of the environmental factors that may be affected by the Municipal Service Review process, but will not include the preparation of an environmental review document.

### ***1.6 Preparation of the MSR***

Research for this Municipal Service Review (MSR) was conducted in 2009 and 2010. This MSR is intended to support preparation and update of Spheres of Influence, in accordance with the provisions of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The objective of this Municipal Service Review (MSR) is to develop recommendations that will promote more efficient and higher quality service patterns; identify areas for service improvement; and assess the adequacy of service provision as it relates to determination of appropriate sphere boundaries.

While LAFCO prepared the MSR document, LAFCO did not engage the services of experts in engineering, recreation, accounting or other specialists in related fields; but relied upon reports and district personnel for information.

The State Law (Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act) requires the districts to provide this information as stated in the following code section:

Section 56425 (i)

- (i) *When adopting, amending or updating a sphere of influence for a special district, the commission shall do all of the following:*
  - (1) *Require existing districts to file written statements with the commission specifying the functions or classes of services provided by those districts.*
  - (2) *Establish the nature, location, and extent of any functions or classes of services provided by existing districts.*

Therefore, this MSR reflects LAFCO's recommendations, based on available information during the research period and provided by districts and county staff to assist in its determinations related to the following:

- 1) Promoting more efficient and higher quality service patterns
- 2) Identifying areas for service improvement
- 3) Assessing the adequacy of service provision for the districts

## **2      SETTING COLUSA COUNTY**

### **2.1      Colusa County History**

Colusa County is one of the original counties of California, created in 1850 at the time of statehood. Parts of the County's territories were given to Tehama County in 1856 and to Glenn County in 1891. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the County has a total area of 1,156 square miles including 6 square miles of water. There are two incorporated cities in Colusa County: Colusa and Williams. There is one census-designated place (CDP): Arbuckle.

The Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010 describes the County as follows:

*Existing land uses in Colusa County are primarily agricultural. The land use pattern is typical of rural counties of the Sacramento Valley. A checkerboard of large acreage farms dominates the eastern half of the County, with land ownership and road alignments following square mile section lines. The land is generally flat and is covered by fields of rice, orchards, and row crops. Views are expansive, framed only by the rolling foothills of the Coast Range on the west and jagged peaks of the Sutter Buttes on the east. As one moves west through the county, large farms give way to much larger cattle and sheep ranches, cultivated fields give way to arid rangeland, and the flat terrain transitions into rolling hills and spectacular upland valleys. Further west, the land becomes yet more rugged and wild, until finally reaching the summit of Snow Mountain in the wilderness area at 7,000 feet above the valley floor.*

*Urban patterns reflect the County's long-time reliance on agriculture and its ties to the river and railroad for shipping agricultural goods. The first towns to develop in the County—Colusa, Grimes and Princeton—were loading points for barges carrying wheat down-river and overnight stops for stages making their way along the river road. Twenty years later, the next group of towns—Arbuckle, College City and Williams, developed as the Northern Railway made its way up the valley from Sacramento. Meanwhile, in the foothills and mountains, several short lived settlements thrived around mines and hot spring resorts in the late 1800s and early 1900s. By virtue of its designation as County seat, Colusa emerged early as the largest city in the County.<sup>1</sup>*

### **2.2      Colusa County Climate**

The northern Central Valley has a Mediterranean climate with pronounced, but mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. Rainfall of the region is confined mainly to winter months and varies between 15 to 20 inches per year in the Valley to 60-75 inches per year at its highest elevations. Winters can be very cold for short periods while summers are hot and dry, with practically no rain from May to September.<sup>2</sup>

### **2.3      Colusa County Agriculture**

According to the University of California Cooperative Extension, the major crops of Colusa County include rice, processing tomatoes, almonds, wheat, vegetable seeds, walnuts and prunes. The total value of agricultural crops produced in Colusa County in 2008 was \$662,644,000, up from \$484,525,000 in 2007 and \$422,729,000 in 2006. In 2009 the value declined slightly to

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<sup>1</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report, 2010, Page 1-9

<sup>2</sup> Colusa County General Plan, 1994

\$602,571,000.<sup>3</sup> The value of rice, the County's largest crop, was \$188,027,000 in 2007<sup>4</sup> and increased substantially to \$337,499,000 in 2008,<sup>5</sup> but declined to \$243,459,000 in 2009. Processing tomatoes, walnuts, and vegetable seeds increased in value in 2009.

## **2.4 Colusa County Employment**

In Colusa County 24% of the 2007 workforce was classified as agricultural. The employment/unemployment patterns directly reflect that condition. The number of jobs in all industries had a decrease of 5.3% (-410 jobs) in 2007.

Without considering the agriculture employment for Colusa County, the seasonal variation remains because of the impact agriculture has on the rest of the employment sectors. Nonfarm employment growth in Colusa County grew in 2007 with a 3.1% (+170 jobs) increase. The annual unemployment rate for Colusa County in 2007 increased by half a percentage point to 13.1%, up from the 12.6% rate in 2006.<sup>6</sup> The April 2009 unemployment rate for Colusa County was 19.1% compared to 10.9% for California and 8.6% for the US.<sup>7</sup> The August 2010 unemployment rate for Colusa County was 16.2%.<sup>8</sup>

## **2.5 Colusa County Population Growth**

Colusa County population has grown steadily since 2000 as shown in the following table:

<b>COLUSA COUNTY POPULATION 2000 TO 2009<sup>9</sup></b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>City of Colusa</b>	<b>City of Williams</b>	<b>Unincorporated</b>	<b>Colusa County</b>
<b>2000</b>	5402	3670	9,732	18,804
<b>2001</b>	5452	3768	9,839	19,059
<b>2002</b>	5535	3879	9,997	19,411
<b>2003</b>	5608	4050	10,151	19,809
<b>2004</b>	5685	4279	10,377	20,341
<b>2005</b>	5586	4797	10,509	20,892
<b>2006</b>	5642	5033	10,615	21,290
<b>2007</b>	5688	5175	10,753	21,616
<b>2008</b>	5705	5285	10,821	21,811
<b>2009</b>	5900	5287	10,810	21,997

<sup>3</sup> Colusa County Department of Agriculture, Harry A. Krug, Agricultural Commissioner, 100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite F, Colusa CA 95932, Phone: 530-458-0580, "2009 Colusa County Crop Report."

<sup>4</sup> Colusa County Department of Agriculture, Harry A. Krug, Agricultural Commissioner, 100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite F, Colusa CA 95932, Phone: 530-458-0580, "2007 Colusa County Crop Report."

<sup>5</sup> Colusa County Department of Agriculture, Harry A. Krug, Agricultural Commissioner, 100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite F, Colusa CA 95932, Phone: 530-458-0580, "2008 Colusa County Crop Report."

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.csus.edu/indiv/j/jensena/sfp/sa11/yol2/col/colusa.htm>, January 2010.

<sup>7</sup> State of California, Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, Phone 916-202-2162, May 22, 2009.

<sup>8</sup> State of California Employment Development Department, <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/localAreaProfileQSResults.asp?selectedarea=Colusa+County&selectedindex=6&menuChoice=localAreaPro&state=true&geogArea=0604000011>, September 18, 2010.

<sup>9</sup> State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001–2009, with 2000 Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2009

## **2.6 Colusa County Population Data**

As of the US Census of 2000, there were 18,804 people residing in Colusa County compared to 21,997 in 2009 (Department of Finance). In 2007 there were 7,448 housing units. The homeownership rate in 2000 was 63.2% (compared to 56.9% for California). The median value of owner-occupied housing units in 2000 was \$107,500 (compared to \$211,500) for California). The percentage of housing units in multi-family structures was 11.6% (in 2000) compared to 31.4% for California.<sup>10</sup>

In 2008 Colusa County had 8.7% of the population under five years old, 28.8% under 18 years old, and 11.6% aged 65 and older.<sup>11</sup> Educational levels in Colusa County were lower than those for California as a whole with 64.0% of Colusa County residents aged 25 and older holding a High School Diploma and 10.6% holding a Bachelor's degree or higher. In California 76.8% of residents aged 25 and older are High School Graduates and 26.6% have a Bachelor's degree or higher.<sup>12</sup>

## **2.7 Colusa County Income Levels**

The following information on income levels is included to indicate that there is a significant number of poorer people in Colusa County. These people can benefit the most from public recreation services but have the fewest resources to contribute to pay for these services. The 2007 median income for a household in Colusa County was \$43,882 compared to \$59,928 for the State of California.<sup>13</sup> The 1999 per capita income for Colusa County was \$14,730. In 2007, 12.7% of the County population was below the poverty line.<sup>14</sup>

The following table shows the 2009 income levels for a family of four in Colusa County:

<b>Four Persons in Household Colusa County Income Limits 2009<sup>15</sup></b>	
<b>Income Category</b>	<b>Annual Income Level</b>
Extremely Low	\$16,750
Very Low	\$27,900
Lower Income	\$44,650
Median Income	\$55,800
Moderate Income	\$66,950

## **2.8 Other Recreation Providers**

In addition to the three recreation districts examined in this report, the cities of Williams and Colusa have park and recreation opportunities. The State and Federal governments also operate recreation areas in the County.

<sup>10</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>, September 22, 2009.

<sup>11</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>, September 22, 2009.

<sup>12</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>, September 22, 2009.

<sup>13</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>, September 22, 2009.

<sup>14</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>, September 22, 2009.

<sup>15</sup> State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development, Memorandum Official State Income Limits for 2009, April 2, 2009.



### ***2.8.1 City of Colusa Parks and Recreation***

The City of Colusa maintains the following ten parks as noted on the City's web site:

1. Colusa Levee Scenic Park

Located on 10th and Main Streets, adjacent to Sacramento River Recreation Area; the Colusa Levee Scenic Park is placed on 2.19 acres and built upon the Sacramento River Levee. The Colusa Levee Scenic Park includes the following facilities:

- Grass and trees
- Paved walking, jogging or biking trail
- Picnic tables and barbeque pits
- A 20 foot by 20 foot concrete stage

2. Memorial Park



Located on 10th and Market Streets; Memorial Park is placed on 2.35 acres with shady, tree-filled grassy areas and a children's play area that includes swings, a slide, rock-climbing wall, picnic tables and public restroom. Electricity is available for public events.

3. A.B. Davison Park

Located on 10th Street between Webster and Parkhill Streets, A.B. Davison Park is situated on 1.02 acres with shady tree-filled grassy areas and paved walking paths throughout the Park.

4. Municipal Swimming Pool

Located on 9th Street between Webster and Parkhill Streets, the Municipal Swimming Pool includes the following facilities:

- One 8 foot deep pool
- One 3 foot deep pool
- One wading pool

The Municipal Swimming Pool is open during the summer only.

5. Will S. Green Park

Located on 8th Street between Webster and Parkhill Streets, Will S. Green Park is located near the Municipal Swimming pool on 2.35 acres that include the following facilities:

- Barbeque facilities and picnic tables
- Horseshoe pit
- Children's play area (swings, slide, jungle gym, and glider swings for tots)

6. Sankey/Elmwood Park

Located between Webster and Parkhill and 3rd and 4th Streets, Sankey/Elmwood Park is a 0.58-acre park that includes the following facilities:

- Kindergarten playground with slide and swings
- Drinking fountain and restrooms
- Picnic tables and barbeque pit
- Lighted tennis courts and volleyball area

Electricity is available for public events.

7. C.D. Semple Park



Located on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Larson Land, C.D. Semple Park is a 1.2-acre park with an open grass area that includes a children's play area and restrooms. The Park is covered in great shade trees and grassy areas with picnic tables and barbeque facilities.

8. Lewis Tennant Ball Field Complex



Located on Colusa Avenue across from the Colusa High School; this 4.0-acre park is the site of the Colusa Softball Association games and tournaments and includes the following facilities:  
Two softball fields, restrooms and concession stand  
Picnic tables

A 1/3-acre tot lot play area with a sandy surface

9. King-Vale Park

Located on 3rd Street, the 0.30-acre King-Vale Park is a large sandy area with children's tot lot featuring swings, a slide and a merry-go-round.

10. Leland L. Taylor Memorial Park



Located on Country Club Drive, the Leland L. Taylor Memorial Park is placed on an acre of open grass area for play, in addition to picnic tables.

The City of Colusa has a “Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan” as of February 2009.<sup>16</sup> The “Parks and Recreation Master Plan” states the following:<sup>17</sup>

Open Space

<sup>16</sup> City of Colusa, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Draft February 2009, Prepared by Foothill Associates, 590 Menlo Drive, Suite 1, Rocklin, CA 95765, Phone: 916.435.1202, [www.foothill.com](http://www.foothill.com).

<sup>17</sup> City of Colusa, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Draft February 2009, Prepared by Foothill Associates, 590 Menlo Drive, Suite 1, Rocklin, CA 95765, Phone: 916.435.1202, [www.foothill.com](http://www.foothill.com), Page 33.

*Currently, no land is identified in the City of Colusa General Plan Land Use diagram as open space within the Colusa City limits. However, most of the Colusa Scenic Levee Park is operated as an open space area. The City of Colusa General Plan identifies the goal to preserve, protect, and enhance an interconnected system of open space areas. The focal point of open space in the City of Colusa is the Sacramento River. In addition, other areas to be preserved include high erosion hazard areas, wetland and riparian vegetation, drainage corridors, stormwater detention and retention areas, and scenic corridors. The preservation of these areas will be ensured through the development review process.*

#### Programs

*The City of Colusa offers a variety of recreation programs for residents of all ages. The Community Pool is open for use in the summer and offers a number of aquatic programs. The park district also runs both adult and youth sports programs. Special events hosted by the City include Concert in the Park, Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners, and a Mother's Day Barbeque.*

#### Standards

*The only comparison city with an open space standard requires 5 acres per 1,000 people. The City of Colusa currently owns 13.9 acres of open space (2.4 acres/ 1,000 residents) in the Colusa Scenic Levee Park. Because of its proximity to other open space areas, the minimum open space standard for the City of Colusa is set at 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Open space acreage can be used to accommodate trail corridors, but trail corridors in non-open space areas cannot be counted toward the open space acreage standard.*

*Open space areas not open to the public, such as preserves for sensitive species, may not be counted towards the 2.5 acres per 1,000 population standard.<sup>18</sup>*

### **2.8.2 City of Williams Parks and Recreation**

The City of Williams Parks and Recreation Department contact information is as follows:

Mail: P.O. Box 310, Williams, CA 95987  
Phone: (530) 473-2955 Fax: (530) 473-3955  
E-Mail: [planner@cityofwilliams.org](mailto:planner@cityofwilliams.org)

The City of Williams maintains the following parks:

#### **North View Park**, Northern end of Virginia Way:

Amenities include children and toddler play structures, a full-size basketball court, a soccer field, picnic tables and benches, drinking fountains, barbeques, a large domed gazebo, a dog run, and men's and women's restrooms on 2.3 acres.

#### **Redinger Park**, 9th Street/G Street:

Playground area, soccer field, picnic tables and benches, men's and women's restrooms on 2.2 acres.

#### **Venice Park**, Venice Boulevard between E Street and Westgate Drive:

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<sup>18</sup> City of Colusa, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Draft February 2009, Prepared by Foothill Associates, 590 Menlo Drive, Suite 1, Rocklin, CA 95765, Phone: 916.435.1202, [www.foothill.com](http://www.foothill.com), Page 56.

Playground area, baseball field, horse shoe pits, picnic tables, large open play area, and men's and women's restrooms on 3.26 acres.

**Valley Vista Park, Husted Road:**

Six full-size basketball courts, walking/jogging trail, and nature pond area on 11.0 acres.

**Pool, Western end of D Street:**

Amenities include a 105 foot long pool, diving board, slide, and men's and women's restrooms.<sup>19</sup>

**Museum, 1491 E Street (E Street/Venice Boulevard):**

Built in 1911 as Williams High School, the museum includes 27 rooms that depict life in the Sacramento Valley between the mid-1800's and 1930's.

**Valley Ranch Playground, White Oaks Drive/Sierra Oaks Drive:**

A neighborhood park located in the Valley Ranch Subdivision, the City is currently in the process of installing playground equipment in this park on 2.0 acres.

These areas make up approximately 42 acres of the City area. The City of Williams Public Works Department maintains the parks and pool as noted on the City's website and described below:

Park maintenance includes maintenance of neighborhood parks including mini-parks and including mowing, vegetation care, irrigation, tree trimming, weed abatement, restroom cleaning, and trash collection.

Pool maintenance means that the City of Williams Public Works Department maintains safe and healthy water quality at the City of Williams municipal swimming pool during heavy summer use and also through the long winter months. Public works is also responsible for the safe maintenance and upkeep of all pool equipment and building maintenance.<sup>20</sup>

In addition, the City annexed approximately 2,000 acres considered open space by definition, although it is used for agricultural rather than recreational purposes. An area of approximately 40 acres is wetlands and has strong wildlife habitat characteristics. This large area of land creates a tremendous open space quality within the Williams area.

In order to assess the park and recreation needs of the City of Williams, it is necessary to consider standards adopted by similar agencies. The most comprehensive standards are those developed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). NRPA recognizes a standard of 3 acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks and 2 acres per 1,000 for community parks, resulting in an overall standard of 5 acres per 1,000. An examination of the City of Williams' park and open space lands reveals that the City more than fulfills NRPA standards.

### ***2.8.3 State of California Recreation Site***

The Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area (SRA) offers visitors campsites, picnic sites, and a launch ramp for small boats. Riverbank cottonwoods and willows shelter one of the finest fishing stretches in California, with king salmon, steelhead, rainbow trout and striped bass some

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<sup>19</sup> City of Williams, <http://www.cityofwilliams.org/parks-rec/swimming-pool-info.htm>, September 18, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> City of Williams, <http://www.cityofwilliams.org/public-works/index.htm>, September 18, 2010.

of the catches. The Sacramento River is on a major migratory route for birds of the Pacific flyway and provides home to an amazing number of species. The River Patwin Indian tribe once lived nearby the area and in 1872 John Muir camped near what is now the park. This park is near downtown Colusa.<sup>21</sup>

#### **2.8.4 Federal Recreation Sites**

##### Mendocino National Forest

The Mendocino National Forest website describes recreational opportunities within the Forest as follows:

*Want to kick back and relax under shady pines by a sparkling lake? Looking for a "base camp" for a day of hiking, boating, fishing, or swimming? Want to just get out of the house for the day for a nice picnic in the great outdoors? If so, the Mendocino National Forest can offer you that and more!*

*Offering nearly one million acres for your enjoyment, relaxation, and exploration, you can experience the solitude of the wilderness or enjoy camping near others in developed campgrounds. Camp in densely forested woodlands or open meadows, discover secluded flats along river banks and enjoy panoramic views of majestic mountains. A continuing goal of the Mendocino National Forest is to ensure accessible recreational opportunities are available to everyone.*<sup>22</sup>

Three of the main attractions within the Mendocino National Forest are in Colusa County and are described as follows:

- 1) Letts Lake Campground: California Department of Fish and Game has restocked Letts Lake. Waterlines have been repaired and water will be available through October. New concrete pads for picnic tables have been placed.
- 2) Snow Mountain Wilderness Area: The 37,000 acre Snow Mountain Wilderness Area, a part of the Mendocino National Forest, is in the northwestern corner of Colusa County. Hikers will enjoy the 52 miles of trails, and camping is permitted.
- 3) Davis Creek OHV area is located near Fouts Springs and Little Stony Creek in the southwestern part of Colusa County. This OHV area is in the Mendocino National Forest and ranges in elevation from 1,700 to 6,000 feet.

##### East Park Reservoir<sup>23</sup>

East Park Reservoir was constructed in 1910 by the US Bureau of Reclamation. Current public uses at East Park Reservoir include boating, camping, fishing, and bird watching. East Park

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<sup>21</sup> State of California, [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=461](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=461), September 10, 2010

<sup>22</sup> USDA Mendocino National Forest, [http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c4/04\\_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72BTn0AjAwjQL8h2VAQAlanbIA!!/?ss=110508&navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE\\_003741&navid=110000000000000&pnavid=null&position=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&tttype=recmain&pname=Mendocino National Forest- Recreation](http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c4/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72BTn0AjAwjQL8h2VAQAlanbIA!!/?ss=110508&navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE_003741&navid=110000000000000&pnavid=null&position=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&tttype=recmain&pname=Mendocino National Forest- Recreation), September 10, 2010.

<sup>23</sup> USBR, <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/ncao/eastpark/index.html>, September 10, 2010.

**COLUSA LAFCO MSR**

**RECREATION DISTRICTS**

*Adopted Resolution 2010-0010 Jan 27, 2011*

Reservoir is open to the public free of charge on a first-come-first served basis from approximately mid-April to October, weather permitting. The west side of the reservoir is open year-round, weather permitting.

East Park Reservoir recreation policies are as follows:

- All facilities are primitive; there is no electricity or potable water
- Firearms, glass containers, parasailing, aircraft, gathering of live wood for firewood, and excessive noise, are prohibited
- There is a 14-day maximum stay in any 45-day period
- The speed limit on all main roads is 15 m.p.h. Vehicles can be operated only on designated roadways
- Dogs must be on a leash or be physically under control
- Boating, swimming and other activities are done at your own risk
- Hang gliding or other special uses require a special use permit available by calling (530) 934-7069

For group camp reservations by lottery please call (530) 934-1328. For campground information please call (530) 968-5274 or 968-5267.

#### Colusa National Wildlife Refuge<sup>24</sup>

The 4,507-acre Colusa National Wildlife Refuge primarily consists of intensively managed wetland impoundments, with some grassland and riparian habitat. The Refuge is located on State Highway 20, half a mile west of Colusa. E-mail: [sacramentovalleyrefuges@fws.gov](mailto:sacramentovalleyrefuges@fws.gov) Phone: 530-934-2801. The Sacramento Valley is one of the most important wintering areas for waterfowl in North America. Colusa Refuge typically supports wintering populations of more than 200,000 ducks and 50,000 geese.

Wetland impoundments are intensively managed to provide optimal habitat for the dense concentration of wintering waterfowl, as well as habitat for resident wildlife and spring/summer migrants. The grassland habitat supports several populations of endangered and sensitive species of plants. The refuge is a stronghold for populations of the endangered palmate-bracted bird's-beak and the threatened giant garter snake. About 35,000 visitors come to the refuge each year for wildlife viewing and 4,000 come to hunt waterfowl and pheasant. The recreational activities are described below:

#### Hunting:

Hunting on the Refuge occurs during mid-October through mid-January, on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, on the southern portion of the refuge separate from all other recreational activities. Ducks, geese, pheasant, snipe, coots, and moorhens can be hunted. There is free roam hunting only, and a refuge hunting permit must be purchased at the refuge's hunter check station.

#### Interpretation:

The auto tour is open to vehicles and the trail is open to foot-traffic from sunrise to sunset year-

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<sup>24</sup> USFWS, <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=81621>, September 10, 2010  
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round. The auto tour and trail begin and end at an interpretive kiosk which is located at the visitor parking lot. The kiosk houses interpretive panels that answer most commonly asked questions and depict the history of the refuge, wildlife problems, and management solutions.

#### Photography and Wildlife Observation:

Wildlife observation and nature photography are popular uses of the Refuge. The Refuge has a 3-mile graveled automobile tour that meanders through freshwater wetlands. A 1-mile Discovery Walk offers visitors a place to stroll along a dense riparian slough and a marsh.

#### Delevan National Wildlife Refuge<sup>25</sup>

The 5,797-acre refuge is located on Maxwell Road, off Interstate 5 nine miles north of Williams and consists of over 4,500 acres of intensively managed wetlands and 1,200 acres of uplands. E-mail: [sacramentovalleyrefuges@fws.gov](mailto:sacramentovalleyrefuges@fws.gov) Phone: 530-934-2801.

More than 200,000 ducks and 100,000 geese come to the refuge each winter. With 95 percent of the wetlands of the central valley lost over the last 100 years, waterfowl have become increasingly dependent upon the refuges of the Sacramento Valley. The refuge supports several endangered plants and animals: giant garter snake, wintering peregrine falcon and bald eagle, breeding tricolored blackbird, and a large colony of the endangered palmate-bracted bird's beak. Resident wildlife includes grebe, heron, blackbird, beaver, muskrat, black tailed deer, and other species typical of upland and wetland habitats. Approximately 7,000 people hunt on the refuge each year and an estimated 1,000 visitors observe wildlife from a primitive roadside overlook along the Maxwell-Colusa Highway. Recreational opportunities are described below:

#### Hunting:

Waterfowl and pheasant hunting occur during mid-October through mid-January, on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, on the southern portion of the refuge. Ducks, geese, pheasant, snipe, coots, and moorhens may be hunted. There are 28 island hunting sites and a free roaming area. A refuge hunting permit must be purchased at the refuge's hunter check station.

#### Wildlife Observation and Photography:

There is limited wildlife viewing from a turnout off Maxwell Road, which borders the south Refuge boundary. A variety of geese, ducks, and water birds can be seen feeding and resting among the cattails and tules in the marsh.

#### Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge<sup>26</sup>

This Refuge is composed of 27 units (properties) along a 77-mile stretch of the Sacramento River between Red Bluff and Princeton. Refuge lands comprise 10,146 acres of riparian habitat, wetlands, uplands, and intensively managed walnut, almond, and prune orchards.

#### Butte Sink WMA

The Butte Sink Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in Butte, Colusa, and Sutter counties and consists of 733 acres of fee title lands and 35 conservation easements on

<sup>25</sup> USFWS, <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/recEdMore.cfm?ID=81622>, September 10, 2010.

<sup>26</sup> USFWS, [http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/r\\_sacriver.html](http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/r_sacriver.html), September 10, 2010.

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approximately 10,260 acres. The Butte Sink WMA was established in 1979 with the primary purpose of preserving native wetland habitat to perpetuate the migratory waterfowl resource in the Central Valley and the Pacific Flyway. Other objectives of the WMA include assuring adequate water conditions for wintering waterfowl, preserving wetland habitat for a broad spectrum of migratory wildlife, and establishing and maintain a wildlife sanctuary in the Butte Sink. Located immediately west of the Sutter Butte Mountain Range, the Butte Sink represents the largest contiguous block of wetlands in the Sacramento Valley. These wetlands annually support up to two million wintering waterfowl.<sup>27</sup>

#### Willow Creek-Lurline WMA<sup>28</sup>

The Willow Creek-Lurline WMA is located in Colusa and Glenn counties and consists of 84 conservation easements on approximately 5,795 acres. The Willow Creek-Lurline WMA was established in 1985 with the primary purpose of preserving wetland habitat for wintering waterfowl and other wetland-dependent wildlife. Located in the Colusa Basin, the Willow Creek-Lurline WMA consists of two distinct wetland divisions as follows:

- 1) The Willow Creek Division located between Sacramento Refuge and Delevan Refuge
- 2) The Lurline Division located between Delevan Refuge and Colusa Refuge

The wetlands of the Willow Creek-Lurline WMA provide an important corridor of natural habitat helping to link the three Refuges.

#### North Central Valley WMA<sup>29</sup>

The North Central Valley WMA was established in 1991 to preserve existing and restored wetlands for waterfowl and other wetland dependent plants and wildlife. The North Central Valley WMA is seen as an integral component in achieving the habitat protection and restoration goals of the Central Valley Joint Venture and ultimately the waterfowl population objectives of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

The North Central Valley WMA has an acquisition boundary which includes 11 counties (Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Glenn, Placer, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba) and encompasses most of the Valley Floor from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to Red Buff. Although within the boundary of the WMA, Sacramento County was not included in the project.

The North Central Valley WMA is active in Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sutter, and Yolo counties and consists of approximately 1,732 acres of service-owned lands and 28 conservation easements on approximately 14,740 acres. The North Central Valley WMA has an approved acquisition objective of 55,000 acres with individual acreage objectives for each of the 11 counties involved. It is important to note that wetland protection accomplishments of the Central Valley Joint

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<sup>27</sup> USFWS, <http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/CCP/Planning%20Update%201%20web.pdf>, September 10, 2010.

<sup>28</sup> USFWS, <http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/CCP/Planning%20Update%201%20web.pdf>, September 10, 2010.

<sup>29</sup> USFWS, <http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/CCP/Planning%20Update%201%20web.pdf>, September 10, 2010.



Venture partners count toward meeting the acreage objectives of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### **2.8.5 Private Recreational Facilities**

There are two golf courses in Colusa County as follows:

- 1) The Arbuckle Golf Club is a 9-hole course located on Hillgate Road, west of Arbuckle.
- 2) The Colusa Golf and Country Club is a 9-hole course located on State Highway 20, southeast of Colusa.

Wilbur Hot Springs is located in southwest Colusa County in an area known in the early 1900's for containing many hot springs resorts. The naturally hot mineral waters flow through the baths in varying temperatures from 98° to 120°. <sup>30</sup>

Although there are numerous recreation opportunities in Colusa County, the communities of Arbuckle, Maxwell, and Stonyford are still in need of the local recreation opportunities that can be best provided by the Park and Recreation Districts.

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<sup>30</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 3-41.  
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### **3 ARBUCKLE PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT**

#### **3.1 Arbuckle Community Background**

The town of Arbuckle is situated in the southerly portion of Colusa County, approximately 20 miles southwest of the City of Colusa. Arbuckle is characterized by single-family residences, multiple-family units, some mobile homes, and commercial activities. The land surrounding Arbuckle is used for irrigated agriculture including annual crops and orchards (primarily almond). Irrigation water is supplied by wells and by irrigation and water districts. The Colusa County Water District provides infrastructure to convey water from the US Bureau of Reclamation Tehama-Colusa Canal to landowners. The soil type for the Arbuckle area is shown in Appendix B at the end of this report. Regional access is provided by Interstate Highway 5.

##### **3.1.1 *Arbuckle History***

The community was named for T.R. Arbuckle, settler.<sup>31</sup> The Colusa County General Plan Background Report describes the history of Arbuckle as follows:

*Arbuckle is one of the three Colusa County towns founded during the northern extension of the Southern Pacific Railroad in the late 1870s. When College City turned down the opportunity for a rail depot in 1875, Missouri farmer Tacitus Arbuckle invited the railroad to his 7,320-acre farm three miles to the west. Arbuckle donated the land and depot and sidings, laid out the townsite, and began selling small lots. By 1876, the post office was established and the community had 300 residents. Around town, landowners offered farmers up to 5 years free use of their land as an incentive to clear the land and render it suitable for crop production.*

*Arbuckle became a lively commercial center by the turn of the century. Its business district served wheat, sorghum, hay, bean, and barley farmers from the surrounding area, as well as wildcatters drilling for oil in the nearby foothills. The town was markedly different than neighboring College City, where drinking and gambling were prohibited.*

*Much of the cropland around Arbuckle was planted with almonds during the early 1900s. Although only 150 acres were planted in almond orchards in 1911, about 11,000 acres had been planted by 1933. The increase in almond production was accompanied by extensive land subdivision to the south and west of town. Because almonds could be grown profitably on smaller parcels than field crops, large areas (such as the Reddington Ranch and Almondale subdivisions) were split into 10, 20, and 40 acre parcels. Large parcels continue to be developed as “hobby farms” or ranchette sites for families seeking country living places.*

*Arbuckle’s commercial district entered a long period of decline beginning with the construction of Interstate 5 in 1957. The Interstate bisected the town, diverting through-traffic away from Fifth Street (Old Highway 99W) and dividing the town into “east and west” halves. The downturn in the farm economy has also affected many of the town’s businesses. However, large increases in the town’s population have created a demand for new retail and service establishments.*

*The Arbuckle Revitalization Committee and Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District have worked jointly to revitalize the downtown area of Arbuckle through investment in the community’s parks and recreation facilities. Since 1999, the two committees have created the “Wee Park,” a*

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<sup>31</sup> Gudde, Erwin G., 1000 California Place Names, University of California Press, 1959.  
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beautification project at the intersection of Old Highway 99 and Hillgate Road. The “KIA Memorial Park” in downtown Arbuckle recognizes local residents killed during a foreign war. The “Lavanch Hursh Park” is being developed in the downtown area with picnic areas, a covered pergola for events in the park, and central location for community events.<sup>32</sup>

### 3.1.2 Arbuckle Population and Housing Data

Arbuckle is a Census Designated Place (CDP), so population data is available for the community. The population of Arbuckle in July 2007 was 2,639. This is a relatively small population to organize an ambitious project such as a Park and Recreation District so it is important that a larger area rather than just the area within the Arbuckle PUD was included in the Recreation District. The age of the Arbuckle residents in 2000 is shown below:

<b>Age of Arbuckle Residents<sup>33</sup></b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
15 or younger	678	29.1
16-24	440	18.9
25-44	648	27.8
45-64	367	15.7
65+	199	8.5

The Arbuckle median resident age is 26.5 years compared to the California median resident age of 33.3 years. The large percentage of younger residents and the relatively low median age shows that there is a need for a Park and Recreation District in this area.

The following data show information regarding the economic conditions in Arbuckle. In general Arbuckle is not a wealthy area and the support of the larger community is needed to provide for recreation opportunities that the residents cannot provide on an individual basis.

Estimated median household income in 2007: \$51,457 (\$35,463 in 2000)

Arbuckle: \$51,457 California: \$59,948

Estimated per capita income in 2007: \$17,165

Arbuckle: \$17,165 California: \$28,678

Estimated median house or condo value in 2007: \$283,197 (\$102,300 in 2000)

Arbuckle: \$283,197 California: \$532,300

Mean Arbuckle housing prices in 2007:

All housing units:	\$232,665
Detached houses:	\$222,163
Townhouses or other attached units:	\$179,829
Mobile homes:	\$95,000 <sup>34</sup>

<sup>32</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 1-26.

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.epodunk.com/cgi-bin/popInfo.php?locIndex=259418>, October 13, 2009.

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.city-data.com/city/Arbuckle-California.html>, October 13, 2009

### **3.1.3 Arbuckle Schools**

The Pierce Joint Unified School District operates the following schools:

Arbuckle Elementary School, Grades K-5, 565 Students<sup>35</sup>  
701 Hall Street, Arbuckle, CA 95912; Phone: 530-476-2522

Lloyd G. Johnson Jr. High, Grades 6-8, 280 Students<sup>36</sup>  
938 Wildwood Road, Arbuckle, CA 95912; Phone: 530-476-3261, Fax: 530-476-2017

Pierce High School Grades 9-12, 370 Students<sup>37</sup>  
960 Wildwood Road, Arbuckle, CA 95912; Phone: 530-476-2277

Arbuckle Alternative High School, Grades 10-12 (Continuation High School)<sup>38</sup>  
966 Wildwood Road, Arbuckle, CA 95912; Phone: 530-476-2173, Fax: 530-476-2674

Although schools do provide some recreation opportunities for students, the community needs the addition of park and recreation facilities and programs for times when the schools are not in session and for residents who are not of school age. The Arbuckle Park and Recreation District works with the schools to allow use of school facilities for recreation purposes.

### **3.1.4 Arbuckle Services**

The following information on public services in Arbuckle is presented to show that the residents have a substantial number of public services to support.

#### Arbuckle Public Utility District

The Arbuckle PUD services approximately 347 acres and provides domestic water and wastewater services to 780 homes and 29 commercial connections with an estimated total population of 2,332 people (Census 2000). As of the Census of 2000, there were 650 households and 533 families residing in the Census Designated Place (CDP).

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<sup>35</sup> Pierce Joint Unified School District, <http://www.pierce.k12.ca.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=9&>, September 11, 2010.

<sup>36</sup> Pierce Joint Unified School District, <http://www.pierce.k12.ca.us/education/school/schoolhistory.php?sectiondetailid=83&>, September 11, 2010.

<sup>37</sup> Pierce Joint Unified School District, [http://www.piercebears.com/Pierce.k12.ca.us/PHS\\_SARC\\_2008-09.pdf](http://www.piercebears.com/Pierce.k12.ca.us/PHS_SARC_2008-09.pdf), September 11, 2010.

<sup>38</sup> Pierce Joint Unified School District, <http://www.pierce.k12.ca.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=5&> September 11, 2010.

#### Arbuckle PUD Water System

The Colusa County Housing Element 2010 describes the Arbuckle PUD water system as follows:

*Arbuckle has four groundwater wells, but generally only runs one or two at a time. The average amount of water pumped each day is approximately one million gallons, with a yearly total of approximately 350 million gallons. Total pumping capacity is 3.6 million gallons daily. Most of the original pipes have been replaced with asbestos-cement (AC) pipes, though some small ductile iron pipes remain in use. The distribution system consists of mostly 6-inch, 8-inch, and 10-inch pipes. Water is treated with chlorine at the wellheads as it is pumped out of the ground. There are no major problems with the system and there are no planned upgrades or changes (Scheimer, 2009).*

*The current system has the capacity to pump an additional 2.6 million gallons per day above existing pumping levels. This additional pumping capacity is adequate to serve approximately 2,132 additional connections without making any significant upgrades to the system. The existing water distribution infrastructure is in good working order (Scheimer, 2009).*

*The current municipal water system in Arbuckle has adequate supply and distribution capacity to accommodate full development of all housing sites. Individual projects would require the expansion of distribution infrastructure to the project site, but upgrades to the overall system would not be required.<sup>39</sup>*

#### Arbuckle Public Utility District Wastewater Treatment System

The Colusa County General Plan Background Report describes the Arbuckle PUD Wastewater Treatment System as follows:

*The Arbuckle Public Utility District has provided sewer service to the residents of Arbuckle since 1953. The Arbuckle Public Utility District currently serves 820 connections. The older portions of the system convey wastewater through clay pipes, but development within the last 20 years has installed mostly PVC pipes (Scheimer, 2009).*

*Wastewater is conveyed from individual homes and businesses to the treatment facility located on Bailey Road. With the exception of a lift station at the WWTP, the system is operated by gravity flows. The WWTP includes a clarifier, a digester, and seven evaporation/percolation ponds. The ponds provide sufficient surface area for evaporation and filtration so no effluent is discharged. The Arbuckle facility treats approximately 0.27 MGD. The plant capacity is 0.5 MGD (Scheimer, December 2009).*

*Based on full build out of the District and the District's existing SOI, an additional gross 300 acres (including roads, curb and gutters, and sidewalks) could be developed. Assuming 0.75 of each gross acre could be developed, a total 225 net developable acres exist in the existing SOI and assuming 8,000 square foot residential lots, the District and SOI would have the capability to accommodate an additional 1,225 EDU. Based on an average of 384 GPD per connection, the system could accommodate an additional 1,303 total EDU at 384 GPD/EDU (LAFCO, 2005). This additional system capacity far exceeds potential residential growth identified in the existing General Plan. Individual projects may need to construct wastewater conveyance infrastructure to connect project sites to the existing wastewater conveyance system.*

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<sup>39</sup> Colusa County Housing Element 2010, Housing Element Background Report, Page 2-27.  
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However notwithstanding the above figures as of December 2010, the district's WWTP has an existing flow of .27 mgd with .23 mgd of capacity remaining. At an average flow of 384 gpd flow per connection, the district has the capacity to serve an additional 598 connections for future buildout before the WWTP exceeds capacity. According to the district, there are 95 acres of vacant land within its boundary, which the district has committed to providing service. Using the assumptions above up to 4 units could be developed for each gross acre, which would use up to 380 connections at full buildout leaving 218 of the 598 available connections for district annexations of territory outside its existing boundary. Therefore, expansion of the WWTP will be required to serve the 200 acres more or less within the district's Sphere of Influence (Sheimer December 2010).

#### Arbuckle-College City Fire Protection District

The Arbuckle-College City Fire Protection District was formed in 1928. The Arbuckle-College City Fire Protection District has three full-time fire fighters and twenty-two volunteers for a total of 25. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old and live within the District. Everyone is qualified to provide Emergency Medical Service and ten fire fighters are Emergency Medical Technicians. Dispatch is handled by Yolo County. The District participates in the Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association as well as the Colusa County Fire Chiefs Association.

The Arbuckle-College City Fire Protection District is assisted by a part-time secretary. With the growth expected in the Arbuckle area there will be a need for additional paid staff in the future. At this time there is one paid fire fighter at the Fire Station from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven (7) days per week.

The response time to calls in the town of Arbuckle is three to five minutes. Response time to calls in the rural area is longer, up to fifteen minutes to the most remote part of the District. Flooding may cause problems in the winter months.<sup>40</sup>

#### **3.1.5 Arbuckle in the General Plan**

According to the Colusa County Housing Element 2004:

*The Community of Arbuckle has 176.37 acres of vacant land and 15.53 acres of underutilized land. Growth in Colusa County averaged 8 % in the last decade, which translates into a 1.25 percent average Growth Rate. Arbuckle, in the past six years has experienced higher growth within the Community as a result in a nationwide housing growth trend. There are no current population projections or models available.*

According to the California Department of Finance, population increases are expected to be 1.5% through the year 2005 and 0.9% through the year 2010 for Colusa County. However, population is expected to increase in the Arbuckle area based on the number of homes in the planning stages, and providing both the County and the Arbuckle PUD are willing to accommodate such growth.

Based upon a planning figure of 8,000 square foot minimum lots per net acre (a net acre does not include roads and sidewalks and is assumed to be 0.75 gross acres), 495 dwelling equivalent units could potentially be constructed within the District and its Sphere of Influence. The Colusa

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<sup>40</sup> Colusa LAFCO, Municipal Service Review of Fire and EMS Services, August 2007.  
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County Housing Element 2004 calls for an additional 973 dwelling units to be developed in the Arbuckle area based on current zoning.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> Colusa County Housing Element 2004, Page 4-2.  
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### ***3.2 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Background***

#### ***3.2.1 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District History***

On November 7, 2006, the voters living in the Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District approved Measure A, calling for the creation of a local parks and recreation agency, with a 76.5% majority. Measure A was the first step towards creating a local agency to maintain and provide parks and recreation services; however, it did not provide funding for the District.<sup>42</sup>

Prior to the approval of Measure A and the local funding measure, the Arbuckle Parks and Recreation Committee operated in the Arbuckle-College City area solely from community donations and other fundraisers. Prior to 2006, the Arbuckle Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Arbuckle Revitalization Committee created parks and recreation facilities. The joint efforts were formed out of the 1999 Community Economic Development Strategy Plan for Arbuckle.<sup>43</sup>

In addition, the Arbuckle Parks and Recreation Committee created recreational programs and services for people of all ages in the community, beginning with a successful, on-going aquatics program at the high school swimming pool and continued with multiple programs and activities, such as yoga and youth basketball, at various borrowed facilities throughout the community. A map of the Arbuckle Park and Recreation District is shown at the end of this section. The District includes area from the Colusa-Yolo County Line on the south north to Myers Road on the north.

#### ***3.2.2 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Contact Information***

Contact information for the Arbuckle Park and Recreation District is as follows:

Arbuckle Park and Recreation District  
PO Box 1376  
Arbuckle California 95912

Jason Bremmer 530-476-3007

#### ***3.2.3 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Board of Directors***

The Board of Directors for the Arbuckle Park and Recreation District is as follows:<sup>44</sup>

Jason Bremmer	Term Ends 12/2/2011
Shelly Murphy	Term Ends 12/2/2011
Shanna O'Sullivan	Term Ends 12/6/2013
Ellen Voorhees	Term Ends 12/6/2013
Andrew Pina	Term Ends 12/6/2013

The District is fortunate to have a full Board of Directors and volunteers to fill these positions. Information on governance is included in Appendix A at the end of this report.

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<sup>42</sup> "Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District Engineer's Report, July 2007", SCI Consulting Group, 4745 Mangels Boulevard, Fairfield, CA 94534, PH: 707.430.4300, Fax: 707.430.4319, [www.sci-cg.com](http://www.sci-cg.com), Page 1.

<sup>43</sup> "Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District Engineer's Report, July 2007", SCI Consulting Group, 4745 Mangels Boulevard, Fairfield, CA 94534, PH: 707.430.4300, Fax: 707.430.4319, [www.sci-cg.com](http://www.sci-cg.com), Page 1.

<sup>44</sup> Colusa County Clerk, Phone 530-458-0500, September 10, 2010.



### **3.2.4 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Facilities**

The Arbuckle Park and Recreation District has the following facilities:<sup>45</sup>

Balfour Park, 10 <sup>th</sup> and Hall Street	5.70 acres
KIA Memorial Park, 5 <sup>th</sup> and Hall Streets	0.81 acres
Lavanch Hursh Park, 5 <sup>th</sup> and Hall Streets	0.44 acres
Wee Park, Old Highway 99 and Hillgate Road	<u>1.45 acres</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.40 acres</b>

Standards developed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) call for 3 acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks and 2 acres per 1,000 people for community parks, resulting in an overall standard of 5 acres of parks per 1,000 people. Although when compared to this standard there are not enough parks in Arbuckle at this time, the District is new and cannot expand beyond the financing available. Estimating the District population at 3,000 people, the Standard would require 15 acres of parks. However, the District does use the school facilities in addition to the parks listed above. The provision of programs and maintenance of facilities are equally, or more, important than the actual number of acres. Poorly maintained parks could be worse than no park at all.

### **3.2.5 Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Finances**

#### Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Special Assessment

On July 10, 2007, the voters within the Arbuckle Park and Recreation District approved the following annual assessment levy commencing with the 2007-2008 fiscal year:<sup>46</sup>

\$75.00 Single family equivalent benefit unit
\$33.00 Multi-family unit
\$51.75 Condominium
\$32.25 Mobile home separate parcel
\$37.50 Commercial/Industrial
\$106.50 Office
\$18.75 Vacant
\$75.00 Other/Institutional/Misc
\$75.00 Agricultural with residence

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<sup>45</sup> "Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District Engineer's Report, July 2007", SCI Consulting Group, 4745 Mangels Boulevard, Fairfield, CA 94534, PH: 707.430.4300, Fax: 707.430.4319, [www.sci-cg.com](http://www.sci-cg.com), Page 1.

<sup>46</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District, Annual Audit for the period ended June 30, 2009, February 9, 2010 Page 2.

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Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Insurance

On June 30, 2009, the District had \$99,500 on deposit with the Colusa County Treasurer. The District maintains insurance coverage with the Special District Risk Management Authority (Policy #LCA-SDRMA-200708) as follows:

\$2,500,000 General Liability  
\$2,500,000 General Aggregate Limit  
\$2,500,000 Public Officials Errors and Omissions  
\$500,000 Personal Liability Coverage for Board Members  
\$2,500,000 Employment Practices Liability  
\$2,500,000 Employee Benefits Liability  
\$400,000 Employee Dishonesty coverage

No Worker's Compensation coverage was needed because the District has no employees.<sup>47</sup>

Typically Members of District Boards are covered under the County's Workers Compensation policy.

Arbuckle Park and Recreation District Disbursements 2008-2009

Workers' Compensation Insurance	\$364
Communications	855
Household Expenses	69
Liability Insurance	2,739
Maintenance of Equipment	0
Maintenance of Structures/Grounds—Parks	43,850
Memberships	245
Office Expense	378
Professional Services	36,648
Publication and Legal Notices	132
Resnts and Leases	2,130
Special Department Expenses	6,300
Interest Adjusted to Market Value GASB 34	4,087
Utilities	5,267
Program Expenses	4,688
Fundraiser Expenses	221
Equipment	0
Structures and Improvements	0
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$107,928</b>

Although the amounts spent on various items may change from year to year it can be seen that the financial situation of the District is sound. The task for the District will be to maintain support for the special assessment through successful park and recreation programs.

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<sup>47</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District, Annual Audit for the period ended June 30, 2009, February 9, 2010, Page 3.

### **3.3     MSR for Arbuckle Park and Recreation District**

#### **3.3.1     *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Arbuckle Park and Recreation District***

- 1-1)     Population growth may have slowed due to the Recession; however, it will continue in the future because Arbuckle has the public facilities to support development.

#### **3.3.2     *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for Arbuckle Park and Recreation District***

- 2-1)     The District has adequate infrastructure and works to maintain the facilities.

#### **3.3.3     *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for Arbuckle Park and Recreation District***

- 3-1)     The Arbuckle Park and Recreation District has an adequate special assessment to maintain the parks and provide suitable programs for the community.

#### **3.3.4     *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Arbuckle Park and Recreation District***

- 4-1)     The District cooperates with the County Library and with the Pierce Unified School District to use school facilities for recreation.
- 4-2)     The District maintains funds with the County of Colusa.

#### **3.3.5     *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for Arbuckle Park and Recreation District***

- 5-1)     The District could benefit from a web site to communicate with tax-payers, residents and the public.
- 5-2)     The District should study the most efficient manner to provide administrative services.
- 5-3)     The District adopts budgets at hearings where the public is notified and invited. Information is placed in the local newspaper when required.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Arbuckle Parks and Recreation District, Annual Audit for the period ended June 30, 2009, February 9, 2010, Page 2.



#### **4      *MAXWELL PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT***

##### **4.1      Maxwell Community Background**

The fourth largest community in Colusa County, with a population of 1,015 persons, the town of Maxwell is located along the I-5 corridor. The 162-acre agriculture and residential community has a well-defined downtown. It is the economic and social center of the north Colusa County region.<sup>49</sup>

##### **4.1.1      *Maxwell History***

Maxwell, like most rural communities in Colusa County, is unincorporated. Maxwell was the last of the Central Pacific-Southern Pacific Railway towns to be settled in Colusa County. The town plat, which was drawn freehand, was recorded at the Court House in Colusa in 1877. During the same year, a general store, hotel, post office, saloon, blacksmith and wagon shop, and several residences were built. The town was originally called Occident, but was renamed in honor of George Maxwell, the town's postmaster, after he donated his land to the railroad for construction of its depot.

The main crop grown in the Maxwell area is rice, though a variety of others such as grapes, almonds, squash, and sunflowers are grown as well.

Some of the historic buildings in Maxwell's commercial district still remain today, including the Masonic Temple (1885), the Opera House (1912), Brown's Garage (1910), and the Odd Fellows Hall (1914). Many of these buildings were popular social gathering or entertainment places during the town's early years but are mostly vacant or underutilized today.<sup>50</sup> Maxwell also has Rodeo Grounds.

##### **4.1.2      *Maxwell Services***

The following description of services in Maxwell is provided to show that this small community works hard to maintain itself.

##### **Maxwell Fire Protection District**

The Maxwell Fire Protection District was formed in 1926. The District includes 120 square miles and serves 1,500 residents. The Maxwell FPD staff includes a part-time chief, two assistant chiefs, and 21 volunteers. Ten volunteers are able to provide Emergency Medical Service. The District depends on Enloe Hospital ambulance service to provide Emergency Medical Technician services and patient transport. The District responded to 516 calls over a four year period from 2001 to 2004. The Colusa County Sheriff Department provides dispatch service.

The Maxwell Fire Protection District operates one fire station located at 231 Oak Street in Maxwell. This station was built in 1955 with an addition in the 1960's and has 8,400 square feet. The station has 5,600 square feet for apparatus bays and 2,800 square feet for the office, kitchen, bathrooms, and meeting/training room.

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<sup>49</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 1-29.

<sup>50</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 1-30.

### Maxwell Public Utility District

The Maxwell Public Utility District service area includes the Community of Maxwell and some surrounding area. The Maxwell PUD operates a wastewater collection and treatment system and a potable water treatment and distribution system.

### Maxwell PUD Water Service

The Colusa County Housing Element Background Report 2010 describes the water service as follows:

*The District receives all water for municipal purposes from groundwater sources. The District pumps with a total of three wells and has an elevated steel storage tank with a 100,000-gallon storage capacity. The District's sources produce 1,550 gpm (of which 600 gpm meets drinking water standards but is not drinkable), well above the District's annual, monthly and peak day demand of 119.17 million gallons (mg), 17.05 mg, and 0.64 mgd respectively.*

*The District serves 401 connections (residential, commercial, and agricultural) for a total service population of 1,325 people. Peak water usage per day is 1,384 gallons per day per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (gpd/EDU). Maximum daily pumping capacity is 2,016,000 gallons per day compared to an average daily pumping demand of 326,493 gallons per day. Demand is well below the District's source capacity.*

*The District's distribution system is set in a grid pattern with many dead-ends (1998 Department of Health Services Annual Inspection Report). The system is composed entirely of C-900 PVC pipe ranging from 4" up to 8" installed (C-900 PVC) with cast-iron valves, new hydrants, and metering equipment.*

*The District has a main pressure zone with approximately 52 to 54 pounds per square inch (psi) at all times. The District has four backflow prevention devices on the system. The distribution system is properly maintained and is in good working order.*

*In order to meet the increased demand that would be generated through development of the residential parcels identified in the housing sites inventory, the District would need to add one or two new wells to the system. Additionally, new development sites would need to extend conveyance infrastructure to the site. The District has already begun engineering work and studies to establish a new well (Well #6). (Wadsworth, 2009)*

*It is feasible that this new well could be on line and operational within 1 to 2 years, which would provide adequate water supplies to meet the needs of the housing sites inventory.<sup>51</sup>*

### Maxwell Public Utilities District Wastewater Treatment

*The Maxwell Public Utilities District has provided sewage treatment to the Maxwell community since 1973 and currently serves approximately 400 customers. The Maxwell Public Utility District WWTP is located on the southeast end of town adjacent to I-5. The plant is owned and operated by the Maxwell Public Utility District. The treatment plant consists of headworks with a communicator, one aeration lagoon and three oxidation lagoons, chlorine contact and*

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<sup>51</sup> Colusa County Housing Element 2010, Housing Element Background Report, Page2-28.  
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*dechlorination with the effluent dissipating into a local agricultural ditch that flows toward Lurline Creek.*

*The design and permitted capacity (RWQCB Order R5-2002-0022) rating for the plant is for an average of 0.2 MGD. The plant was designed and built in 1973-74. The average flow is approximately 0.14 MGD. During wet weather, flows in the plant appear to be significantly impacted by Infiltration and Inflow (I&I). These flows can be about seven times the average, recording 0.6 MGD at times. All wastewater is collected through a gravity-fed, cement-pipe sewer system installed in the 1940s (Maxwell PUD Wastewater Treatment Plant System Improvements Report, 2002).*

*The District provides secondary treatment by way of aeration lagoon, three oxidation ponds, and a chlorine contact basin and dechlorination. The collection system consists primarily of 6-inch and 8-inch concrete pipes and 12-inch clay pipes. Since 1982, work has progressed on replacing many of the concrete pipes with PVC. The pipes are currently being replaced at a rate of approximately 300 feet per year. The entire west side of the District's collection system consists of approximately 70-year old concrete piping. These stretches of pipe are antiquated and need to be replaced as soon as funding and time allows. The remainder of the District's collection system is PVC and clay and is considered in good condition.*

*The wastewater treatment facility has the permitted capacity to service approximately 1,000 new connections, which is more than adequate to meet the residential growth identified in the existing General Plan. The biggest challenge the District is facing is regulations that took effect in 2009 regarding surface water discharges and the District's NPDES permit (the present system will not meet these new NPDES requirements). The stricter effluent limitations have made the District reconsider its present method of wastewater treatment to land disposal.*

*The District is in the process of acquiring 273 acres of land for land disposal rather than moving to a more advanced form of treatment (tertiary). Acquisition of land will enable the District to increase wastewater capacity. The District has coordinated with the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) to secure funding for this land purchase. Additionally, the District has coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that any potential impacts to special-status species on the land proposed for acquisition are properly mitigated. The District has been actively engaged in the land acquisition process since 2007, and staff is optimistic that the process will end successfully in the near future.<sup>52</sup> Funding for this project has been secured. The current project completion date is January 2012.*

#### Maxwell Unified School District

The Maxwell Unified School District operates the following schools:

- 1) Maxwell High School (Grades 9-12, 143 students) also houses Enid Prine High School (9 students). 515 Oak Street, Maxwell, CA 95955, Phone: 530-438-2291.
- 2) Maxwell Elementary School (Grades K-8, 270 students).<sup>53</sup>  
146 W. North Street, Maxwell, CA 95955 Phone: 530-438-2401.

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<sup>52</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 3-20.

<sup>53</sup> Maxwell Unified School District, <http://www.maxwell.k12.ca.us/education/district/district.php?sectionid=1>, September 11, 2010.

### Maxwell Irrigation District

The Maxwell Irrigation District was formed in 1918.<sup>54</sup> The District consists of dirt canals and drainage ditches and provides water for rice production and wildlife habitat only. The only “pipeline” the District has is a siphon structure which runs beneath the Reclamation District 2047 Drainage Canal. The District is not a metered district with the exception of the meters on the Sacramento River pumping stations.<sup>55</sup>

The District includes approximately 6,800 gross acres of which 6,136 are irrigable, assessed acres.<sup>56</sup>

#### **4.1.3 Maxwell Zoning and Land Use**

The community of Maxwell is designated a Community Planning Area (CPA) in the 1989 Colusa County General Plan. The Maxwell CPA contains a combination of residential, commercial, industrial, public, and agricultural land uses.<sup>57</sup>

Most of the land within the Maxwell PUD service area is zoned for a variety of urban uses and densities, including single and multi-family Residential, Industrial, Highway Commercial, and Agricultural Transition. The area surrounding the Maxwell PUD is mostly Exclusive Agriculture, which does not allow for urban uses, and industrial uses. The Maxwell Public Utility District includes enough land zoned for residential use(s) to satisfy growth trends.

#### **4.2 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Background**

##### **4.2.1 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Formation**

The Maxwell Park and Recreation District was formed in 1985.

##### **4.2.2 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Contact Information**

Contact information for the Maxwell Park and Recreation District is as follows:

Maxwell Park and Recreation District  
PO Box 688, Maxwell California 95955

##### **4.2.3 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors for the Maxwell Park and Recreation District is as follows:<sup>58</sup>

Andre Young	Term Ends 12/6/2013
Benjamin Pierson	Term Ends 12/2/2011
Kerry Wells	Term Ends 12/2/2011
Luis Rolon	Term Ends 12/2/2011
Walter John Avery	Term Ends 12/2/2011

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<sup>54</sup> Maxwell Irrigation District, District Administrator, Ph: 530-438-2773, [maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com](mailto:maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com), July 10, 2009

<sup>55</sup> Maxwell Irrigation District, District Administrator, Ph: 530-438-2773, [maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com](mailto:maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com), June 5, 2009

<sup>56</sup> Maxwell Irrigation District, District Administrator, Ph: 530-438-2773, [maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com](mailto:maxwellirrigation@colusanet.com), August 2009

<sup>57</sup> Colusa LAFCO, Draft Maxwell PUD Sphere of Influence, 2007.

<sup>58</sup> Colusa County Clerk, Phone 530-458-0500, September 10, 2010.

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#### ***4.2.4 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Facilities***

The Maxwell Park and Recreation District has no facilities. The District operated the swimming pool at the High School during the summer until 2009. This provided an excellent recreation program for children in the area. However, in 2009, the pool equipment needed extensive repairs. There were no funds for repairs so the pool was not used during the summers of 2009 and 2010.

It has been suggested that a grant application could be made to request funding for the pool repairs. The Maxwell Park and Recreation District has no one able to prepare a grant application. The Maxwell Unified School District would have to support such a grant application since they own the facility.

This is a tremendous loss in “quality of life” for the community of Maxwell but is a common occurrence in small communities. (The City of Loyalton has not been able to operate the pool for several years and the City of Willows considers closing the pool every year.)

The district is supporting a November through January Basketball League at Maxwell High School. The district is seeking funds to develop a well, fencing for a soccer field, Little League ball fields, seeding for lawns, crushed rock for practice ball fields and purchasing property. The district is contemplating a new pool in the future.

#### ***4.2.5 Maxwell Park and Recreation District Finances***

##### ***Maxwell Park and Recreation District Special Assessment***

On November 5, 1985, the voters approved an annual assessment levy commencing with the 1986-87 fiscal year as follows:<sup>59</sup>

\$15.00 per residence  
\$0.07 per acre  
\$3.00 minimum assessment

##### ***Maxwell Park and Recreation District Insurance***

On June 30, 2009, the District had \$31,361 on deposit with the Colusa County Treasurer. The District maintains insurance coverage with the Golden State Risk Management Authority (Policy #JPA-GLA-0027) as follows:

\$2,500,000 Each Occurrence  
\$2,500,000 General Aggregate Limit  
\$2,500,000 Personal Injury  
\$2,500,000 Public Officials Errors and Omissions  
\$10,000 Medical

No Worker’s Compensation coverage was needed because the District has no employees.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Maxwell Park and Recreation District Annual Audit for the period ended June 30, 2009, November 28, 2009.

<sup>60</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Maxwell Park and Recreation District, Annual Audit for the period ended June 30, 2009, November 28, 2009, Page 3.

Maxwell Park and Recreation Disbursements 2008-2009 (Last Year Pool Operated)

Communications	0
Liability Insurance	\$1,450
Maintenance of Equipment	0
Maintenance of Structures/Grounds—Pool Upkeep	42
Office Expense	56
Professional Services	2,026
Special Depart Expenses Pool Supplies	806
Special Depart Expenses Lifeguard Expenses	1,028
Special Depart Expenses Pool Permit	186
Utilities	1,514
Interest Adjusted to Market Value GASB 34	1,298
Misc Equipment	0
Structures and Improvements	0
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$8,406</b>

The cash in the Colusa County Treasury was \$43,098.64 on September 17, 2010,<sup>61</sup> because the pool was not operated for the past two summers. For comparison purposes it should be noted that the City of Williams budget for the Swimming Pool has been at \$55,501 each year since 2008-2009.<sup>62</sup>

**4.3      MSR for Maxwell Park and Recreation District**

**4.3.1      *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Maxwell Park and Recreation District***

- 1-1)      Although Maxwell does have sewer and water service it is not expected to grow in population because it is surrounded by agricultural land and has few additional services.

**4.3.2      *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for Maxwell Park and Recreation District***

- 2-1)      The District has been unable to function due to the deterioration of the High School Pool.

<sup>61</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Maxwell Park and Recreation District, Trial Balance, September 17, 2010.

<sup>62</sup> City of Williams, Rex Greenbaum, Financial Officer, 530-473-2982, October 15, 2010.

**4.3.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations for Maxwell Park and Recreation District**

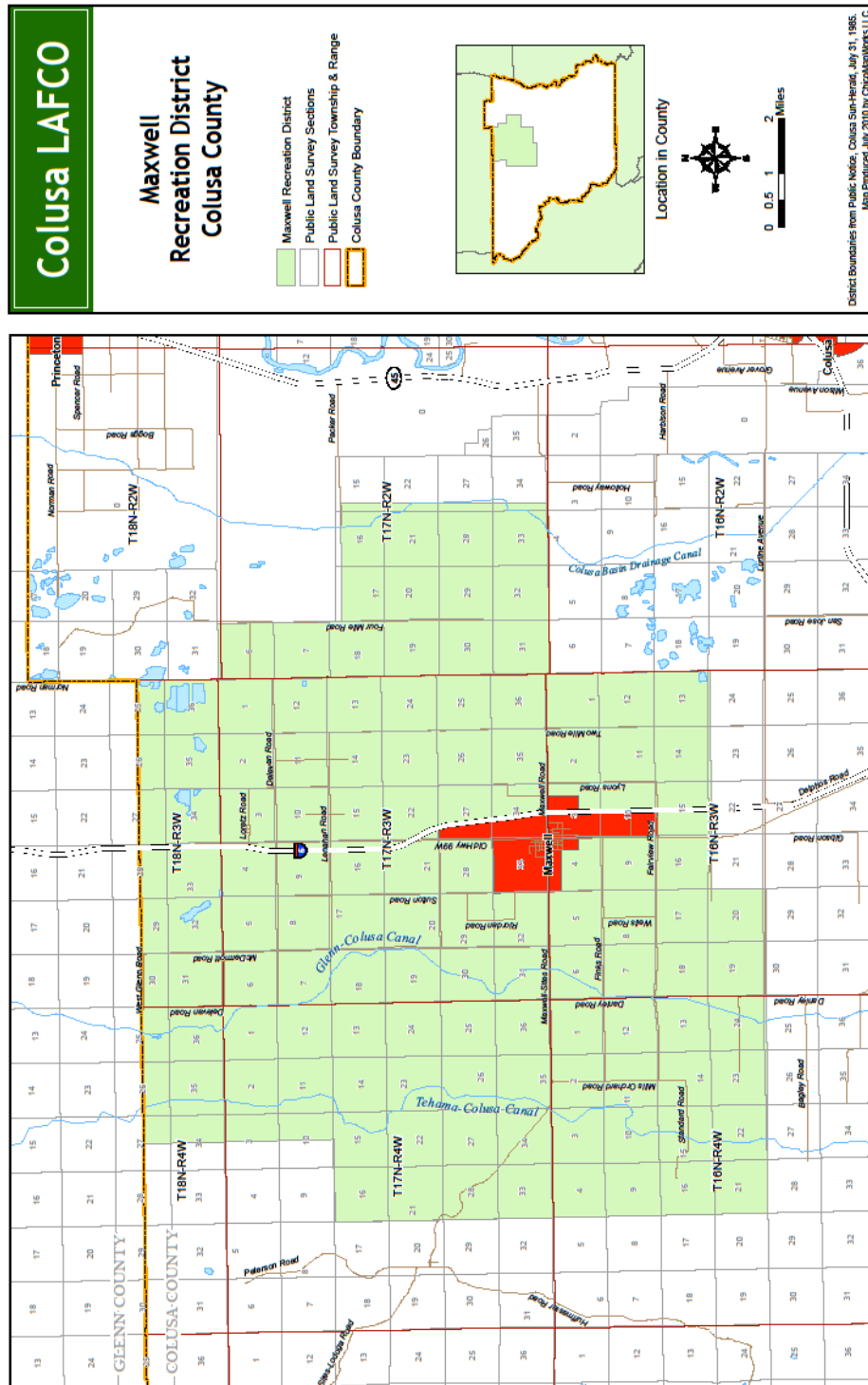
- 3-1) The District has limited financial capability. It would be a benefit if the District could operate some type of recreation program (such as a summer day camp) with the budget available.

**4.3.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Maxwell Park and Recreation District**

- 4-1) The District keeps funds with the Colusa County Treasurer and uses the Colusa County Auditor-Controller to pay claims.
- 4-2) The District might consider contracting with another agency to operate a limited summer recreation program.

**4.3.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for Maxwell Park and Recreation District**

- 5-1) The District may have to work with the City of Williams or it could be that another type of District such as a County Service Area might be better for this area since the resources are so limited.



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## **5 STONYFORD PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT**

### **5.1 Stonyford Community Background**

The town of Stonyford, located in the foothills of the Indian Valley with an approximate elevation of 1,180 feet above sea level, has an estimated population of 134 people and is the largest population center in the northwestern section of Colusa County. The town serves as the social/economic hub of a larger area of about 600 residents.<sup>63</sup> The Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010 describes Stonyford as follows:

*Today, Stonyford is a community composed of about 80 homes and a number of businesses and community facilities. Market Street, the main commercial corridor, has a general store, one restaurant and bar, a phone company exchange building, a real estate office with a soda fountain, a post office, a Community Center, a Grange (meeting hall) and the historic town hall (built in 1899). The De Angelis Government Center, located at the edge of town, provides a number of services to the community, including a Sheriff's substation, a part time medical clinic, a volunteer citizen service center and a branch of the Colusa County Library. The town also has two historic churches: a Catholic and a Community church. The town hall/lodges and churches have been social gathering places for nearly a century and are a very important part of community life in Stonyford.*

*Indian Valley Elementary School, 5180 Lodoga-Stonyford Road, serves 15 students in grades 5 and 6.*

*The Stonyford Rodeo Grounds, east of the town, serves as Stonyford's largest annual event. Rodeo Weekend, sponsored by the Horseman's Association, occurs during the first weekend in May, and is nationally known as the second rodeo on the national circuit in Northern California. The Stonyford Buyers Group, dinner and auction, generally held in September, is a community-oriented event that supports children who raise farm animals under the Future Farmers of America and 4-H Organizations. Attracting many visitors to the town for fishing is the East Park Reservoir, to the southeast of Stonyford, an active recreation area of about 4,000 acres managed by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation.<sup>64</sup>*

#### **5.1.1 Stonyford History**

According to the Colusa County General Plan, the Stonyford area was initially settled in the 1850's. In 1863 Smithville was developed at the junction of Little Stony and Stony Creeks. The community featured a three-story hotel and flour mill powered by water diverted from the Creek. In 1890, the Stony Creek Improvement Company bought the landholdings and moved the building to a gravelly ridge one-half mile to the southeast. The higher ground was above the flood plain and better suited for the development of a town.<sup>65</sup>

The early history of Stonyford is explained as follows:

Stonyford's early growth was spurred on by mining in the nearby mountains and by ranching and farming in the surrounding countryside. By the turn of the century, the little

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<sup>63</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 1-32.

<sup>64</sup> Colusa County General Plan Background Report 2010, Page 1-33.

<sup>65</sup> Colusa County General Plan, Prepared by Sedway Cooke Associates, Page 33.

town could boast three hotels, two gambling houses, a saloon, seed mill, general stores, a dance hall, and a creamery. The Town Hall, built in 1899, still stands today. The surrounding valley had six school houses, but only the Indian Valley School remains today.

In 1908, Stony Creek was diverted and dammed to create East Park Reservoir, the first Federal Reclamation Project in California. Orland (Glenn County) obtained the water rights to Stony Creek, placing a burden on dairy and alfalfa farms in the Indian Valley and ultimately constraining growth in Stonyford. Farming in the area was further affected by erosion problems that resulted from overgrazing by sheep and cattle. Virtually no population growth occurred in the Valley between 1900 and 1980. However, the area did gain importance as a recreational center and gateway to the Mendocino National Forest.<sup>66</sup> After 12 years of litigation, in 1930 the Angle Decree was ordered thereby appropriating and adjudicating the water rights to over 600 claimants.

### **5.1.2 Stonyford Population Growth**

The Colusa County General Plan states the following:

The Stonyford-Lodoga area was the subject of a special area plan completed in 1983. Within the town of Stonyford, the Plan shows rural residential development on the remaining vacant parcels in the water district. Because the town lacks a central sewer system, subdivision of vacant parcels into new lots smaller than one acre should be discouraged.<sup>67</sup>

Since there are few jobs in the area and the cost of commuting to a job in Maxwell, Williams or Colusa would be substantial; there is not expected to be any population growth in Stonyford.

CSA 2 Stonyford has 56 water service connections.<sup>68</sup> Based on the average number of persons per household of 2.39 reported in the 2000 Census;<sup>69</sup> the population of Stonyford is estimated to be 134 people.

According to the engineering report:

The growth rate for the town of Stonyford is very low. From 1994 to 2000 only six new service connections were added to the Stonyford public water system. On March 16, 2004, the Colusa County Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance No. 674. This ordinance established new water rates and also self imposed a service connection moratorium to help ensure that the water system stays within its established water right of 40 acre-feet per year.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>66</sup> Colusa County General Plan, Prepared by Sedway Cooke Associates, Page 33.

<sup>67</sup> Colusa County General Plan, Prepared by Sedway Cooke Associates, Page 35.

<sup>68</sup> State of California, Domestic Water Supply Permit Amendment Issued to Colusa County Service Area #2 Stonyford, January 15, 2009.

<sup>69</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06011.html>

<sup>70</sup> CSA 2 Stonyford, "Technical Project Report Second Revision" by Dan Cikuth, May 24, 2005.

Soils for the Stonyford area is rated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services as “190—Arand very gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes.” This soil type is explained in Appendix B at the end of this report. The soil of the area is recommended for livestock and irrigated crops.<sup>71</sup>

### **5.1.3 Stonyford Water System**

The Stonyford water system is described by the Colusa County Housing Element Background Report 2010 as follows:

*The Stonyford water system is operated by County Service Area (CSA) 2. The water system was upgraded in 2007-2008 to include a \$1.1 million water filtration system. There are approximately 56 municipal hookups on the Stonyford system, 55 of which are private residences and five are allocated to the U.S. Forest Service. Water is drawn from two local wells, one of which serves as a backup to the primary well. The main well has a pumping capacity of 200 gpm and a Peak Hour Demand of 105 gpm, and both the main well and the backup well are in generally good condition. A 75,000 gallon containment tank is located adjacent to the main well, and a 300,000 gallon storage tank is located south of Stonyford, near the landfill<sup>72</sup>.*

*Water from the 300,000 gallon storage tank is conveyed from the tank to the municipal distribution system via a system of 8-inch and 10-inch lines that feed into the 3-inch and 4-inch lines connecting directly to users. The larger distribution lines are relatively new and are in good condition; however, the smaller municipal conveyance lines are aging and in need of repair and upgrade. Although water for the Stonyford system is pumped from the ground via wells, it has been determined by DWR and the Federal government that the water pumped from the ground is hydrogeologically connected to Stony Creek and is, therefore, classified as a surface water source.*

*The Stonyford water system is allocated up to 40 acre feet per year of water from this source. The allocation between October 1 and May 31 is 30 acre-feet, and the allocation between June 1 and September 31 is 10 acre feet. The system has historically exceeded this allocation. However, once a tiered pricing system for water use was implemented there have not been exceedances of this allocation.*

*The allocation of water to the Stonyford system is administered by the Federal Water Master (pursuant to the Angle Decree), who based in Orland, CA. New municipal hookups and the drilling of new wells require approval from the Federal Water Master, and applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In general, the current hookups use the majority of the annual water allocation, and growth in the area is constrained by a lack of available water. (Hackney, 2009)<sup>73,74</sup>*

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<sup>71</sup> <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/mlra02/colusa/>

<sup>72</sup> CSA 2 Stonyford “Technical Project Report Second Revision” by Dan Cikuth, May 24, 2005

<sup>73</sup> Colusa County Housing Element 2010, Housing Element Background Report, Pages 2-31 and 2-32.

<sup>74</sup> Colusa County Public Works Department November 2010

## **5.2 Stonyford Park and Recreation District Background**

### **5.2.1 Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors for the Stonyford Park and Recreation District is as follows:<sup>75</sup>

David Brandenberger	Term Ends 12/2/11 <sup>76</sup>
Alfred Andrade, Secretary	Term Ends 12/6/13
Harry T. Peterson	Term Ends 12/2/11
Miranda Wycoff	Term Ends 12/2/11
Jeff Applegate	Term Ends 12/6/13

The Board of Directors meets quarterly.

It is always difficult to get volunteers for a Board of Directors but it is important to maintain a full board if possible.

### **5.2.2 Stonyford Park and Recreation District Facilities**

The Stonyford Park and Recreation District has the following facilities located at 5104 East Park Road, Stonyford, CA 95979:<sup>77</sup>

1. Block building with meeting room and men's and women's restrooms, a large storage area with a sink. This facility is supplied with water from County Service Area No. 2 in Stonyford.
2. Softball field, bicycle, jogging and walking trails, and a picnic area.

The District would like to improve the facilities by adding bleachers with additional restroom facilities and lighting. The District needs a mower for grass cutting.

### **5.2.3 Stonyford Park and Recreation District Budget**

According to the Stonyford Park and Recreation District there is no budget, no fee schedule, and there are no paid employees.<sup>78</sup> According to the Colusa County Auditor-Controller the Stonyford Park and Recreation District had an Unreserved Fund Balance of \$3,788.09 on September 8, 2010.<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Stonyford Park and Recreation District, Alfred Andrade, Secretary, PO Box 235, Stonyford CA 95979, October 27, 2009.

<sup>76</sup> Colusa County Clerk, Phone 458-0500, September 10, 2010

<sup>77</sup> Stonyford Park and Recreation District, Alfred Andrade, Secretary, PO Box 235, Stonyford CA 95979, October 27, 2009.

<sup>78</sup> Stonyford Park and Recreation District, Alfred Andrade, Secretary, PO Box 235, Stonyford CA 95979, October 27, 2009.

<sup>79</sup> Colusa County Auditor-Controller, Janet S. Dawley, Deputy Auditor-Controller/Special District Auditor, Phone: 530-458-0400, September 8, 2010.



### **5.3     MSR for Stonyford Park and Recreation District**

#### **5.3.1     *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for Stonyford Park and Recreation District***

- 1-1)     Population growth is expected to grow slowly because the area is remote and there is little feasible opportunity in the community areas of Stonyford and Ladoga due to capacity restrictions of local water systems.

#### **5.3.2     *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for Stonyford Park and Recreation District***

- 2-1)     The District has adequate infrastructure and works with volunteers to maintain the facilities.

#### **5.5.3     *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for Stonyford Park and Recreation District***

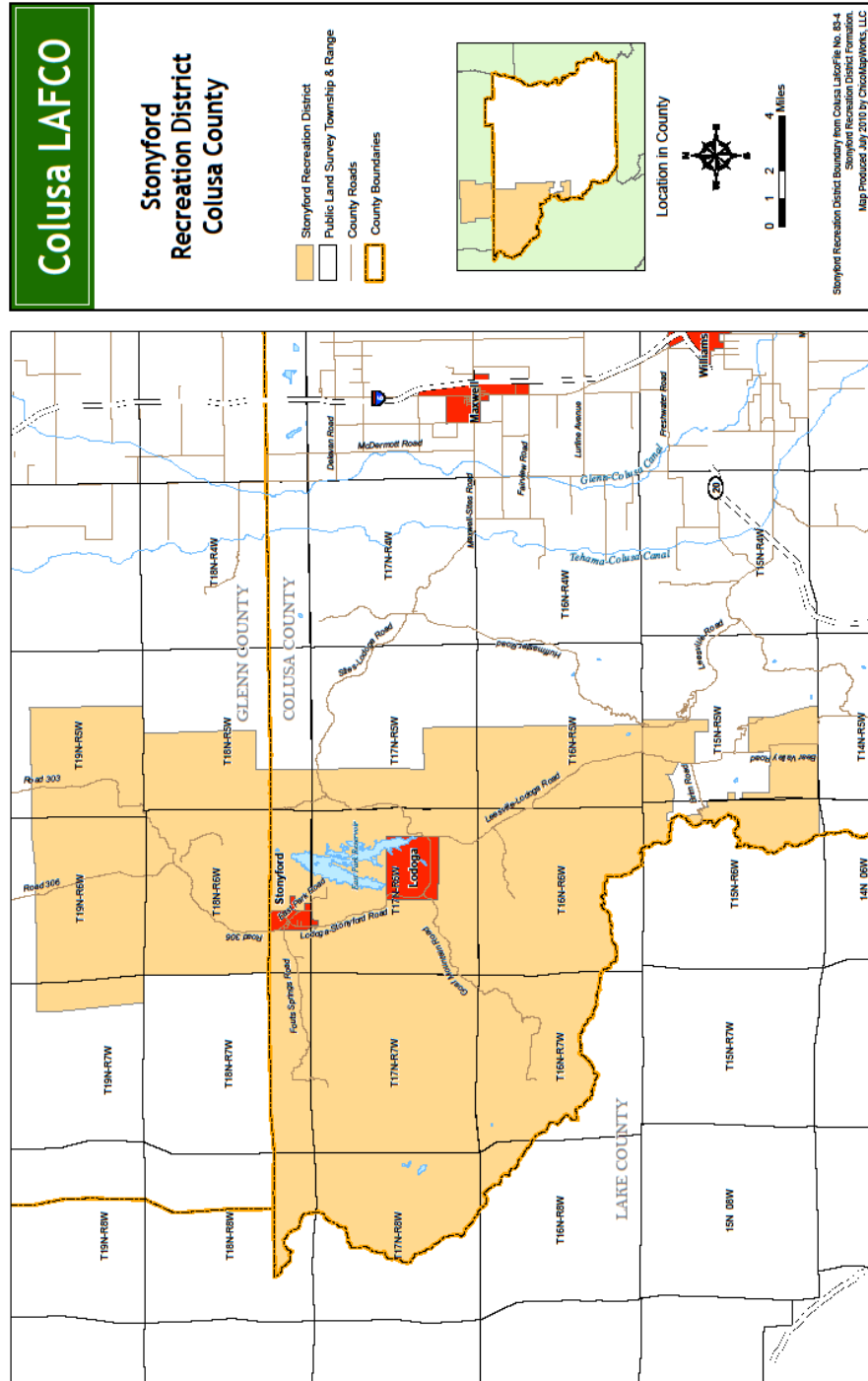
- 3-1)     The District has adequate financial resources to sustain this low-budget operation.

#### **5.3.4     *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Stonyford Park and Recreation District***

- 4-1)     The District could work with the School District to add programs.

#### **5.5.5     *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations Stonyford Park and Recreation District***

- 5-1)     The Stonyford Park and Recreation District meets quarterly and has a full five member board of directors.



## ***APPENDIX A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES***

### ***1      Municipal Financial Constraints***

Municipal service providers are constrained in their capacity to finance services by the inability to increase property taxes, requirements for voter approval for new or increased taxes, and requirements of voter approval for parcel taxes and assessments used to finance services. Municipalities must obtain majority voter approval to increase or impose new general taxes and two-thirds voter approval for special taxes.

Limitations on property tax rates and increases in taxable property values are financing constraints. Property tax revenues are subject to a formulaic allocation and are vulnerable to State budget needs. Agencies formed since the adoption of Proposition 13 in 1978 often lack adequate financing.

#### ***1.1      California Local Government Finance Background***

The financial ability of the cities to provide services is affected by financial constraints. City service providers rely on a variety of revenue sources to fund city operating costs as follows:

- Property Taxes
- Benefit Assessments
- Special Taxes
- Proposition 172 Funds
- Other contributions from city general funds.

As a funding source, property taxes are constrained by State initiatives that have been passed by voters over the years and special legislation. Seven of these measures are explained below:

##### ***A.      Proposition 13***

Proposition 13 (which California voters approved in 1978) has the following three impacts:

- Limits the *ad valorem* property tax rate
- Limits growth of the assessed value of property
- Requires voter approval of certain local taxes

Generally, this measure fixes the *ad valorem* tax at one percent of value; except for taxes to repay certain voter approved bonded indebtedness. In response to the adoption of Proposition 13, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 8 (AB 8) in 1979 to establish property tax allocation formulas.

##### ***B.      AB 8***

Generally, AB 8 allocates property tax revenue to the local agencies within each tax rate area based on the proportion each agency received during the three fiscal years preceding adoption of Proposition 13. This allocation formula benefits local agencies, which had relatively high tax rates at the time Proposition 13 was enacted.

##### ***C.      Proposition 98***

Proposition 98, which California voters approved in 1988, requires the State to maintain a minimum level of school funding. In 1992 and 1993, the Legislature began shifting billions of local property taxes to schools in response to State budget deficits.

Local property taxes were diverted from local governments into the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) and transferred to school districts and community college districts to reduce the amount paid by the State general fund.

Local agencies throughout the State lost significant property tax revenue due to this shift. Proposition 172 was enacted to help offset property tax revenue losses of cities and counties that were shifted to the ERAF for schools in 1992.

*D. Proposition 172*

Proposition 172, enacted in 1993, provides the revenue of a half-cent sales tax to counties and cities for public safety purposes, including police, fire, district attorneys, corrections and lifeguards. Proposition 172 also requires cities and counties to continue providing public safety funding at or above the amount provided in FY 92-93.

*E. Proposition 218*

Proposition 218, which California voters approved in 1996, requires voter- or property owner-approval of increased local taxes, assessments, and property-related fees. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required to impose a Special Tax, for example, a tax for a specific purpose such as a fire district special tax.

However, majority voter approval is required for imposing or increasing general taxes such as business license or utility taxes, which can be used for any governmental purpose. These requirements do not apply to user fees, development impact fees and Mello-Roos districts.

*F. Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act*

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 allows any county, city, special district, school district or joint powers authority to establish a Mello-Roos Community Facilities District (a "CFD") which allows for financing of public improvements and services. The services and improvements that Mello-Roos CFDs can finance include streets, sewer systems and other basic infrastructure, police protection, fire protection, ambulance services, schools, parks, libraries, museums and other cultural facilities. By law, the CFD is also entitled to recover expenses needed to form the CFD and administer the annual special taxes and bonded debt.

A CFD is created by a sponsoring local government agency. The proposed district will include all properties that will benefit from the improvements to be constructed or the services to be provided. A CFD cannot be formed without a two-thirds majority vote of residents living within the proposed boundaries. Or, if there are fewer than 12 residents, the vote is instead conducted of current landowners.

In many cases, that may be a single owner or developer. Once approved, a Special Tax Lien is placed against each property in the CFD. Property owners then pay a Special Tax each year. If the project cost is high, municipal bonds will be sold by the CFD to provide the large amount of money initially needed to build the improvements or fund the services.

The Special Tax cannot be directly based on the value of the property. Special Taxes instead are based on mathematical formulas that take into account property characteristics such as use of the property, square footage of the structure, and lot size. The formula is defined at the time of formation, and includes a maximum special tax amount and a percentage maximum annual increase.

If bonds were issued by the CFD, special taxes are charged annually until the bonds are paid off in full. Often, after bonds are paid off, a CFD will continue to charge a reduced fee to maintain the improvements.

*G. Development Impact Fees*

A county, cities, special districts, school districts, and private utilities may impose development impact fees on new construction for purposes of defraying the cost of putting in place public infrastructure and services to support new development.

To impose development impact fees, a jurisdiction must justify the fees as an offset to the impact of future development on facilities. This usually requires a special financial study. The fees must be committed within five years to the projects for which they were collected, and the district, city or county must keep separate funds for each development impact fee.

**1.2 *Financing Opportunities that Require Voter Approval***

Financing opportunities that require voter approval include the following:

- Special taxes such as parcel taxes
- Increases in general taxes such as utility taxes
- Sales and use taxes
- Business license taxes
- Transient occupancy taxes

Communities may elect to form business improvement districts to finance supplemental services, or Mello-Roos districts to finance development-related infrastructure extension. Agencies may finance facilities with voter-approved (general obligation) bonded indebtedness.

**1.3 *Financing Opportunities that Do Not Require Voter Approval***

Financing opportunities that do not require voter approval include imposition of or increases in fees to more fully recover the costs of providing services, including user fees and Development Impact Fees to recover the actual cost of services provided and infrastructure.

Development Impact Fees and user fees must be based on reasonable costs, and may be imposed and increased without voter approval. Development Impact Fees may not be used to subsidize operating costs. Agencies may also finance many types of facility improvements through bond instruments that do not require voter approval.

Water rates and rate structures are not subject to regulation by other agencies. Utility providers may increase rates annually, and often do so. Generally, there is no voter approval requirement for rate increases, although notification of utility users is required. Water providers must maintain an enterprise fund for the respective utility separate from other funds, and may not use revenues to finance unrelated governmental activities.

**2 Public Management Standards**

While public sector management standards do vary depending on the size and scope of an organization, there are minimum standards. Well-managed organizations do the following eight activities:

1. Evaluate employees annually.
2. Prepare a budget before the beginning of the fiscal year.
3. Conduct periodic financial audits to safeguard the public trust.
4. Maintain current financial records.
5. Periodically evaluate rates and fees.
6. Plan and budget for capital replacement needs.
7. Conduct advance planning for future growth.
8. Make best efforts to meet regulatory requirements.

Most of the professionally managed and staffed agencies implement many of these best management practices. LAFCO encourages all local agencies to conduct timely financial record-keeping for each city function and make financial information available to the public.

### 3      **Public Participation in Government**

The Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54950 et seq.) is intended to insure that public boards shall take their actions openly and that deliberations shall be conducted openly. The Brown Act establishes requirements for the following:

- Open meetings
- Agendas that describe the business to be conducted at the meeting
- Notice for meetings
- Meaningful opportunity for the public to comment
- Few exceptions for meeting in closed sessions and reports of items discussed in closed sessions

According to California Government Section 54959

*Each member of a legislative body who attends a meeting of that legislative body where action is taken in violation of any provision of this chapter, and where the member intends to deprive the public of information to which the member knows or has reason to know the public is entitled under this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor.*

Section 54960 states the following:

*(a) The district attorney or any interested person may commence an action by mandamus, injunction or declaratory relief for the purpose of stopping or preventing violations or threatened violations of this chapter by members of the legislative body of a local agency or to determine the applicability of this chapter to actions or threatened future action of the legislative body.*

## APPENDIX B SOILS

### ARBUCKLE SOIL

#### 112—Westfan loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes<sup>80</sup>

##### Map Unit Setting

<i>General location:</i>	Near Williams and Arbuckle
<i>Map unit geomorphic setting:</i>	Alluvial fan
<i>Elevation:</i>	65 to 150 feet (20 to 46 meters)
<i>Mean annual precipitation:</i>	14 to 16 inches (355 to 405 millimeters)
<i>Mean annual air temperature:</i>	61 to 63 degrees F. (16 to 17 degrees C.)
<i>Frost-free period:</i>	225 to 250 days

*Westfan loam—80 percent*

Minor components: 20 percent

##### Major Component Description Westfan loam

<i>Component geomorphic setting:</i>	Alluvial fan
<i>Parent material:</i>	Alluvium
<i>Typical vegetation:</i>	Irrigated cropland

##### Component Properties and Qualities

<i>Slope:</i>	0 to 2 percent
<i>Runoff:</i>	Very low
<i>Surface features:</i>	None noted.
<i>Percent area covered by surface coarse fragments:</i>	None noted.
<i>Depth to restrictive feature:</i>	None noted
<i>Slowest permeability class:</i>	Moderately slow
<i>Salinity:</i>	Not saline
<i>Sodicity:</i>	Sodic within 40 inches
<i>Available water capacity:</i>	About 8.8 inches (High)

##### Component Hydrologic Properties

<i>Present flooding:</i>	Rare
<i>Present ponding:</i>	None
<i>Current water table:</i>	None noted.
<i>Natural drainage class:</i>	Well drained

##### Interpretive Groups

<i>Land capability irrigated:</i>	1
<i>Land capability nonirrigated:</i>	4s

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<sup>80</sup> <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/mlra02/colusa/112.html>  
COLUSA LAFCO MSR  
RECREATION DISTRICTS  
Adopted Resolution 2010-0010 Jan 27, 2011



## MAXWELL SOIL

### 106-Willows silty clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes<sup>81</sup>

<i>General location:</i>	On the western margins of the Colusa Basin near Williams and Maxwell
<i>Map unit geomorphic setting:</i>	Basin floor
<i>Elevation:</i>	35 to 110 feet (12 to 35 meters)
<i>Mean annual precipitation:</i>	14 to 16 inches (355 to 405 millimeters)
<i>Mean annual air temperature:</i>	61 to 63 degrees F. (16 to 17 degrees C.)
<i>Frost-free period:</i>	225 to 250 days

*Willows silty clay—90 percent*                      Minor components: 10 percent

#### Major Component Description Willows silty clay

<i>Component geomorphic setting:</i>	Basin floor
<i>Parent material:</i>	Alluvium
<i>Typical vegetation:</i>	Irrigated cropland

#### Component Properties and Qualities

<i>Slope:</i>	0 to 1 percent
<i>Runoff:</i>	Low
<i>Surface features:</i>	None noted.
<i>Percent area covered by surface coarse fragments:</i>	None noted.
<i>Depth to restrictive feature:</i>	None noted
<i>Slowest permeability class:</i>	Very slow
<i>Salinity:</i>	Saline within 40 inches
<i>Sodicity:</i>	Sodic within 40 inches
<i>Available water capacity:</i>	About 8.9 inches (High)

#### Component Hydrologic Properties

<i>Present flooding:</i>	Rare
<i>Present ponding:</i>	None
<i>Current water table:</i>	Present
<i>Natural drainage class:</i>	Poorly drained
<i>Altered hydrology:</i>	

Flood control structures on the Sacramento River have changed flooding frequency and duration and lowered water tables. Rice drainage ditches have lowered water tables. Accumulation of salts at the surface has been removed through reclamation or ponding for rice production. These soils formed under conditions of saturation and frequent flooding.

#### Interpretive Groups:

*Land capability irrigated:* 3w-2

*Land capability nonirrigated:* 4w-2

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<sup>81</sup> <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/mlra02/colusa/106.html>  
COLUSA LAFCO MSR  
RECREATION DISTRICTS  
Adopted Resolution 2010-0010 Jan 27, 2011

## STONYFORD SOILS

### 230—Corning clay loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes<sup>82</sup>

<i>General location:</i>	Small areas scattered throughout the foothills
<i>Map unit geomorphic setting:</i>	Terrace
<i>Elevation:</i>	150 to 1295 feet (46 to 396 meters)
<i>Mean annual precipitation:</i>	14 to 22 inches (355 to 560 millimeters)
<i>Mean annual air temperature:</i>	57 to 63 degrees F. (14 to 17 degrees C.)
<i>Frost-free period:</i>	225 to 250 days

Corning clay loam—90 percent  
*Minor components:* 10 percent

<b>Major Component Description</b>	<b>Corning clay loam</b>
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<i>Component geomorphic setting:</i>	Terrace
<i>Parent material:</i>	Alluvium
<i>Typical vegetation:</i>	Annual grasses with scattered blue oak

#### Component Properties and Qualities

<i>Slope:</i>	1 to 5 percent
<i>Runoff:</i>	Medium
<i>Surface features:</i>	None noted.
<i>Percent area covered by surface coarse fragments:</i>	None noted.
<i>Depth to restrictive feature:</i>	Abrupt textural change—9 inches
<i>Slowest permeability class:</i>	Slow
<i>Salinity:</i>	Not saline
<i>Sodicity:</i>	Not sodic
<i>Available water capacity:</i>	About 1.7 inches (Very low)

#### Component Hydrologic Properties

<i>Present flooding:</i>	None
<i>Present ponding:</i>	None
<i>Current water table:</i>	None noted.
<i>Natural drainage class:</i>	Well drained

#### Interpretive Groups

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<sup>82</sup> <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/mlra02/colusa/230.html>

*Land capability irrigated:* 3e-5  
*Land capability nonirrigated:* 4e-5

*Major uses:* Livestock grazing

### **190—Arand very gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes<sup>83</sup>**

<i>General location:</i>	Fouts Springs and Indian Valley near Stonyford
<i>Map unit geomorphic setting:</i>	Flood plain
<i>Elevation:</i>	1535 to 1735 feet (468 to 529 meters)
<i>Mean annual precipitation:</i>	19 to 21 inches (483 to 533 millimeters)
<i>Mean annual air temperature:</i>	57 to 63 degrees F. (14 to 17 degrees C.)
<i>Frost-free period:</i>	185 to 210 days

Arand very gravelly loam—85 percent  
*Minor components:* 15 percent

<b>Major Component Description</b>	<b>Arand very gravelly loam</b>
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<i>Component geomorphic setting:</i>	Flood plain
<i>Parent material:</i>	Alluvium
<i>Typical vegetation:</i>	Annual grasses and forbs

### **Component Properties and Qualities**

<i>Slope:</i>	0 to 2 percent
<i>Runoff:</i>	Negligible
<i>Surface features:</i>	None noted.
<i>Percent area covered by surface coarse fragments:</i>	None noted.
<i>Depth to restrictive feature:</i>	None noted
<i>Slowest permeability class:</i>	Moderate
<i>Salinity:</i>	Not saline
<i>Sodicity:</i>	Not sodic
<i>Available water capacity:</i>	About 2.9 inches (Low)

### **Component Hydrologic Properties**

<i>Present flooding:</i>	Rare
<i>Present ponding:</i>	None
<i>Current water table:</i>	None noted.
<i>Natural drainage class:</i>	Somewhat excessively drained

### **Interpretive Groups**

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<sup>83</sup> <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/mlra02/colusa/190.html>

*Land capability irrigated: 4s-4*

*Land capability nonirrigated: 4s-4*

*Major uses:* Livestock grazing and irrigated crops

## ***ABBREVIATIONS***

AB	Assembly Bill
ac/ft	acre-foot (water)
Brown Act	Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.)
CDP	Census Designated Place
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFD	Community Facilities District
CKH Act	Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000
CSA	County Service Area (Board of Supervisors is Board of Directors)
CSD	Community Services District (Elected Board of Directors)
DWR	Department of Water Resources (California)
EDU	Equivalent Dwelling Unit
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (United States)
ERAF	Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund
FY	Fiscal Year
GPD	Gallons Per Day
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (EPA)
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
MSR	Municipal Service Review (LAFCO)
PUD	Public Utility District
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board (California)
SOI	Sphere of Influence (LAFCO)
SRA	State Recreation Area
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

## ***DEFINITIONS***

**Bond:** An interest-bearing promise to pay a stipulated sum of money, with the principal amount due on a specific date. Funds raised through the sale of bonds can be used for various public purposes.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** A State Law requiring State and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an environmental impact report (EIR) must be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project.

**Community Facilities District:** Under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (Section 53311, et seq.) a legislative body may create within its jurisdiction a special tax district that can finance tax-exempt bonds for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, and/or operation of public facilities, as well as public services for district residents. Special taxes levied solely within the district are used to repay the bonds.

**Community park:** A park designed to serve several neighborhoods, or approximately 2,000 to 5,000 residents. Community parks may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and swimming pools. Such parks may also include opportunities for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, picnicking, or sitting.

**Environmental Impact Report (EIR):** A report required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act that assesses all the environmental characteristics of an area, determines what effects or impact will result if the area is altered or disturbed by a proposed action, and identifies alternatives or other measures to avoid or reduce those impacts. (See California Environmental Quality Act.)

**Impact Fee:** A fee, also called a development fee, levied on the developer of a project by a county, or other public agency as compensation for otherwise-unmitigated impacts the project will produce. California Government Code Section 66000, et seq., specifies that development fees shall not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee is charged. To lawfully impose a development fee, the public agency must verify its method of calculation and document proper restrictions on use of the fund.

**Infrastructure:** Public services and facilities such as sewage-disposal systems, water-supply systems, and other utility systems, schools and roads.

**Land Use Classification:** A system for classifying and designating the appropriate use of properties.

**Leapfrog Development;** New development separated from existing development by substantial vacant land.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO):** A five-or seven-member commission within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county's LAFCO is empowered to approve, disapprove, or

conditionally approve such proposals. The LAFCO members generally include two county supervisors, two city council members, and one member representing the general public. Some LAFCOs include two representatives of special districts.

**Mello-Roos Bonds:** Locally issued bonds that are repaid by a special tax imposed on property owners within a community facilities district established by a governmental entity. The bond proceeds can be used for public improvements and for a limited number of services. Mello-Roos Bonds are named after the program's legislative authors.

**Mini-park:** A small park (0.25 to 0.5 acres) designed to serve a concentrated population. Mini-parks may be targeted at serving specific groups, such as tots or senior citizens.

**Neighborhood park/playground:** A park designed for intense recreational activity to serve approximately 500 to 1,000 residents. Neighborhood facilities may include baseball fields, basketball courts, playground equipment, and skating facilities. These parks may also include natural areas for picnicking, viewing, or walking.

**Ordinance:** A law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority.

**Proposition 13:** (Article XIII A of the California Constitution) Passed in 1978, this proposition enacted sweeping changes to the California property tax system. Under Proposition 13, property taxes cannot exceed 1% of the value of the property and assessed valuations cannot increase by more than 2% per year. Property is subject to reassessment when there is a transfer of ownership or improvements are made.<sup>84</sup>

**Proposition 218:** (Article XIII D of the California Constitution) This proposition, named "The Right to Vote on Taxes Act", filled some of the perceived loopholes of Proposition 13. Under Proposition 218, assessments may only increase with a two-thirds majority vote of the qualified voters within the District. In addition to the two-thirds voter approval requirement, Proposition 218 states that effective July 1, 1997, any assessments levied may not be more than the costs necessary to provide the service, proceeds may not be used for any other purpose other than providing the services intended, and assessments may only be levied for services that are immediately available to property owners.<sup>85</sup>

**Quimby Act:** The Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477) states that "the legislative body of a city or county may, by ordinance, require the dedication of land or impose a requirement of the payment of fees in lieu thereof, or a combination of both, for park or recreational purposes as a condition to the approval of a tentative or parcel map." Requirements of the Quimby Act apply only to the acquisition of new parkland and do not apply to the physical development of new park facilities or associated operations and maintenance costs. The Quimby Act seeks to preserve open space needed to develop parkland and recreational facilities; however, the actual development of parks and other recreational facilities is subject to discretionary approval and is evaluated on a case-by-case basis with new residential development. Colusa County has not adopted park fees as allowed by the Quimby Act.

**Ranchette:** A single dwelling unit occupied by a non-farming household on a parcel of 2.5 to 20 acres that has been subdivided from agricultural land.

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<sup>84</sup> [http://www.californiataxdata.com/A\\_Free\\_Resources/glossary\\_PS.asp#ps\\_08](http://www.californiataxdata.com/A_Free_Resources/glossary_PS.asp#ps_08)

<sup>85</sup> [http://www.californiataxdata.com/A\\_Free\\_Resources/glossary\\_PS.asp#ps\\_08](http://www.californiataxdata.com/A_Free_Resources/glossary_PS.asp#ps_08)



**Sphere of Influence (SOI):** The probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of the county.

**Urban:** Of, relating to, characteristic of, or constituting a city. Urban areas are generally characterized by moderate and higher density residential development (i.e., three or more dwelling units per acre), commercial development, and industrial development, and the availability of public services required for that development, specifically central water and sewer service, an extensive road network, public transit, and other such services (e.g., safety and emergency response). Development not providing such services may be “non-urban” or “rural”. CEQA defines “urbanized area” as an area that has a population density of at least 1,000 persons per square mile (Public Resources Code Section 21080.14(b)).

**Urban Services:** Utilities (such as water, gas, electricity, and sewer) and public services (such as police, fire protection, schools, parks, and recreation) provided to an urbanized or urbanizing area.

**Zoning:** The division of a city or county by legislative regulations into areas, or zones, that specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings within these areas; a program that implements policies of the general plan.

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