Forest Order No. 15-15-01
Sierra National Forest
Wishon Quarry Road Closure

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to protect natural resources, the following acts are prohibited within the Bass Lake Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest. This Order is effective from February 20, 2015, through February 19, 2016.

1. Being on the National Forest System roads listed below as shown on the attached map.

    a. Forest Road No. 7S86X, from County Road 222, then continuing west to its intersection with Forest Road No. 7S86.
    b. Forest Road No. 7S86XA, from its intersection with Forest Road No. 7S86X, then continuing south to its ending point.

36 CFR 261.54(e).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited actor omission.

2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions contained in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Clovis, California, this 19th day of February 2015.

DEAN GOULD
Forest Supervisor

Forest Service
Sierra National Forest
1600 Tollhouse Rd
Clovis, CA 93611

File Code: 2670
Route To: File

Date: February 19, 2015

Subject: Forest Order – Wishon Quarry Road Closure

From: Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor

This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for implementing a Closure Order for Roads within the Wishon Quarry Reclamation Area on the Sierra National Forest.

The Crane Valley Dam (CVD), owned by Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and authorized under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) License #1354, received approvals for seismic remediation from the FERC, California Department of Conservation Division of Dam Safety (DSOD), and authorization by the U.S. Forest Service to develop the Wishon Quarry on and occupy National Forest System (NFS) lands.

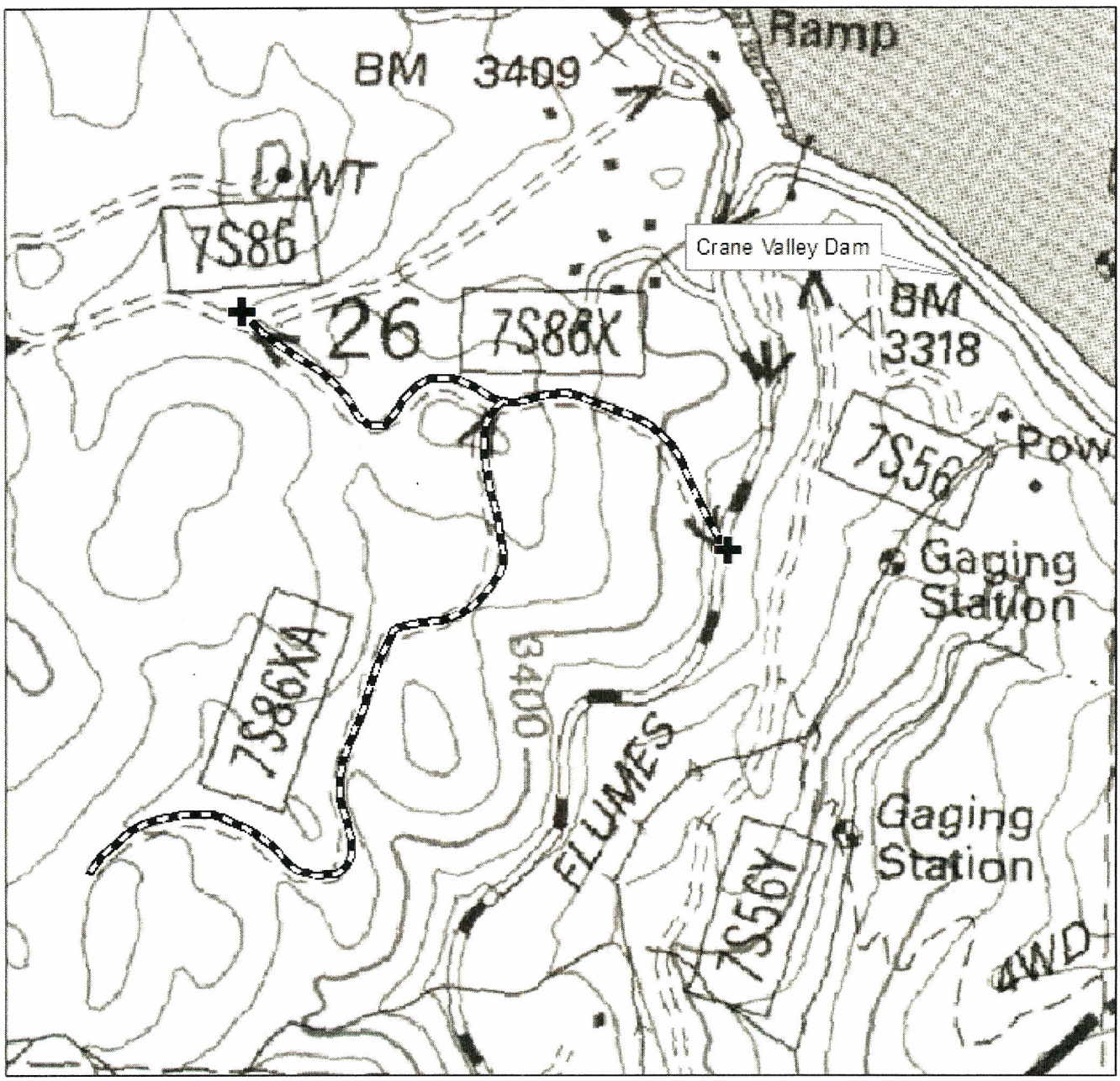
The purpose of the action is to cooperate with the FERC and DWR requirements to fortify the Dam against seismic activity that could result in an uncontrolled release of the reservoir, threatening lives and property downstream. The need is to minimize risk by restoring the Dam's seismic stability as soon as practicable; to authorize activities on NFS lands through appropriate instruments; and to identify and implement mitigation measures to protect the human environment, and NFS lands and resources during construction, post-construction reclamation, and monitoring

In March 2009, PG&E submitted a proposal to extract approximately 300,000 cubic yards of rock from NFS lands to support the Crane Valley Dam Remediation (Retrofit) project. Two locations on NFS lands outside the FERC license boundary were identified as potentially suitable. Following extensive testing conducted during the summer of 2009, the Wishon Quarry (Quarry) site was determined to contain the quantity and quality of rock material that will meet project requirements. The Quarry site and other support activities will encumber approximately 30 acres of NFS lands located in portions of sec. 26, Township 7 South, Range 22 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian in eastern Madera County, California.

Restoration of the quarry site has partially been completed by rough grading the floor of the quarry, mass filling irregularities and cavities with waste rock, spreading topsoil over the disturbed areas, spreading mulch from stockpile, and planting native vegetation specified by the USFS. However, the Vegetation Management Plan (EIR Appendix G) outlines specific planting requirements and success criteria that will be implemented for re-vegetation is still in progress.

In order to protect the environmentally sensitive Wishon Quarry reclamation area from unauthorized motor vehicle impacts and other human disturbance, short term closure will be required. Motor vehicle entrance into this area will cause disturbance to the newly planted vegetation and sensitive top soil, and could detrimentally impact erosion control measures designed to maintain slope stability. The Reclamation Area has been internally evaluated and reviewed by the following USFS resource areas: Botany, Heritage, Aquatics/Fisheries, Wildlife,

Hydrology, Lands & Recreation, and Engineering. For protection of natural resource, Roads within the Wishon Quarry reclamation area will be closed to the public within the Bass Lake Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest from February 20 2015, until February 19 2016.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

Wishon Quarry Reclamation
Road Closure
Forest Order Number 15-15-01
EXHIBIT 1