



Yolo Habitat Conservancy

County of Yolo • City of Davis • City of Winters • City of West Sacramento
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Survey Comparison: Yolo HCP/NCCP vs. CEQA

Updated August 19, 2019

HCP/NCCP SURVEY	HCP/NCCP PURPOSE	CEQA EQUIVALENT	CEQA PURPOSE	INTEGRATION TIPS
1. Initial Land Cover Assessment	Determine eligibility for coverage.	Initial aerial examination of project site, often conducted by biological consultant.	Part of pre-survey investigation, along with gathering existing resource information, including CNDDDB.	Use the land cover types and definitions used in the HCP/NCCP.
2. Planning-Level Survey	Document natural communities, habitat for covered species, and presence or potential for presence of covered species. Information is used to determine land cover impacts (extent of take), fees, and applicable AMMs.	Biological resources assessment, including species-specific and protocol surveys.	Included as the Biological Resources section in the CEQA document. Includes description of biological setting, presence or potential for special-status species, describes impacts, and recommends mitigation.	Similar biological assessment procedures are used. HCP/NCCP procedures are easily integrated into CEQA assessment by clearly identifying covered species, and using land cover types used in the HCP/NCCP for evaluation and impact assessment.
3. Preconstruction Surveys and Construction Requirements (AMMs)	To confirm presence/absence of covered species and additional requirements to avoid or minimize take of covered species.	Preconstruction surveys and mitigation, as described in the MMRP, Conditions of Approval, or similar documents.	Designed to avoid direct or indirect impacts on sensitive species and reduce impacts to less than significant levels.	Similar standard Avoidance and Minimization measures are used, so for Covered Species, in CEQA documents, simply refer to the AMM.

Key:

AMMs: Avoidance and Minimization Measures

CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act

HCP/NCCP: Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan

CNDBB: California Natural Diversity Database

MMRP: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

