



Memorandum

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| Date: | October 25, 2010 |
| To: | Ms. Sandra Rivera Alameda County Community Development Agency 224 W Winton Avenue, Room 110 Hayward, CA 94544 |
| Cc: | Shawn Smallwood – SRC Julie Yee – SRC Jim Estep – SRC Sue Orloff – SRC Joanna Burger – SRC |
| From: | Doug Leslie ICF Project Manager – Alameda County Avian Monitoring Team Jesse Schwartz ICF Lead Technical Analyst |
| Subject: | CalWea Study—Potential Effects on the Monitoring Program |

The Monitoring Team has reviewed the Research Plan prepared by CalWea. The CalWea Research Plan proposes to place carcasses at 30 strings in 6 “blocks.” Up to 30 carcasses would be placed at each string, although in most instances the number of carcasses placed would be much lower. CalWea proposes to use its own searchers and project manager; no Monitoring Team personnel would be used. As proposed, there would be no overlap in effort and no need for additional coordination between CalWea and the Monitoring Team once the strings to be used in the CalWea study are selected.

Logistically, there is no reason why the CalWea Research Plan could not be implemented concurrently with the Monitoring Team QA/QC study. There are approximately 3,976 turbines in 538 strings in the APWRA. Under the new monitoring plan, the monitoring team will be monitoring approximately 211 strings, or 39% of the strings in the APWRA. The Monitoring Team will be placing carcasses, at one time or another, at each of these strings. CalWea proposes to place carcasses at 30 additional strings, or at approximately 5.6% of the strings in the APWRA.

SRC has previously raised the issue of scavenger swamping. The concern is that the artificial placement of so many carcasses in the APWRA could change the distribution, abundance, and/or behavior of scavengers, which would in turn affect the dynamics of the “population” of carcasses of which we are trying to estimate the size.

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The Monitoring Team has no information or data that can be used to address the question of whether the artificial placement of carcasses would result in a scavenger swamping effect. However, it is safe to say that the effect of the CalWea study would have to be large enough to “spill over” to other strings in the vicinity that are being monitored by the monitoring team for the implementation of the CalWea study to have an effect on the Monitoring Program.