

DOYLE SPRINGS PLANNING UNIT

Kern-Tule River Watershed

Existing Conditions & Uses

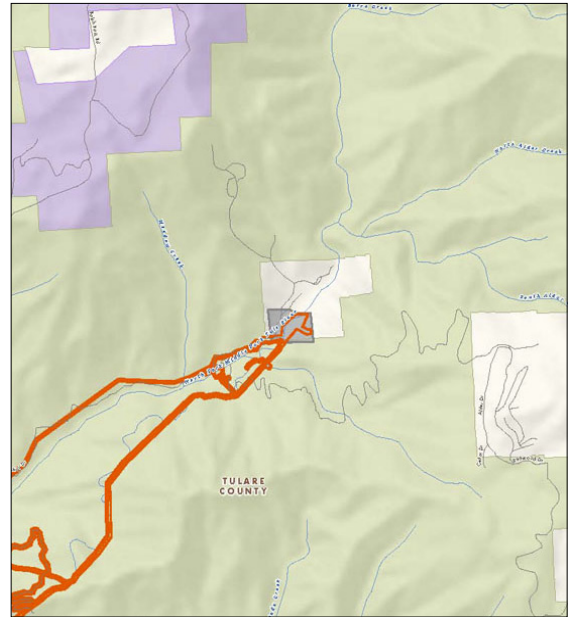
Overview

- Consists of a mostly forested parcel with small hydropower developments and part of a private recreation cabin development, along with two small transmission line corridor segments several miles from the main parcel
- 43 acres in Tulare County; 31 acres outside the FERC boundary and 12 acres inside the FERC boundary
- Part of the Tule River Project (FERC #1333); New License issued December 1993

The Doyle Springs Planning Unit consists of two parcels. More than 90% of the acreage is contained in a 40-acre parcel at the area known as Doyle Springs (see Figure KT-1). The parcel is located within a small valley alongside the North Fork of the Middle Fork (NFMF) Tule River, at about 4,000 feet in elevation. The land is mostly wooded, and the visual landscape is dominated by the surrounding heavily forested slopes with occasional rock outcrops, which reach up to ridges a few thousand feet above the valley. The surrounding lands are entirely



Mixed conifers & riparian woodland



Doyle Springs Planning Unit
Tulare County

within the Sequoia National Forest (SNF) and, since its designation in April 2000, the Giant Sequoia National Monument, which encompasses a portion of the SNF. The second parcel consists of two narrow, half-mile long transmission line corridor segments located alongside and crossing Highway 190 at about 1,400 feet in elevation. The corridor segments, occupied by the 70-kilovolt (kV) line carrying electricity generated by the Tule River Powerhouse, are only about 30 feet wide and total about three acres.

Paved roads following the course of the river, including Highway 190 and County Road 208 (also known as Wishon Drive), provide access to the Doyle Springs parcel from communities to the west. Public road access ends at the Doyle Springs parcel. The small town of Springville (pop. 1,200) is about 12 miles west along Highway 190, in the foothills; about 18 miles farther west, at the edge of the San Joaquin Valley, is the larger town of Porterville (pop. 45,000).

The parcel adjoins a 160-acre block of private land that was formerly owned by PG&E, but is now owned by the Doyle Springs Association (Association). The Association maintains a private cabin resort on the property; however, the

Doyle Springs Planning Unit Existing Conditions



- PG&E Lands Preliminarily Designated for Retention
- PG&E Lands Preliminarily Designated for Disposition
- BIA
- BIM
- BOR
- DOD
- NPS
- USFS
- State
- Federal Wilderness
- Boat Launch
- Campground
- Dam
- Day Use
- Feature of Importance
- Fishing
- Fish Barrier Dam
- Gate
- Lodging
- Non-Motorized Boating
- Parking
- Powerhouse
- Private Camp
- Ranch
- Trailhead
- Whitewater PutIn/Take-Out

- FERC Boundary
- Stream / River
- Canal / Ditch
- Pipeline
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- OHV Roads
- Trail

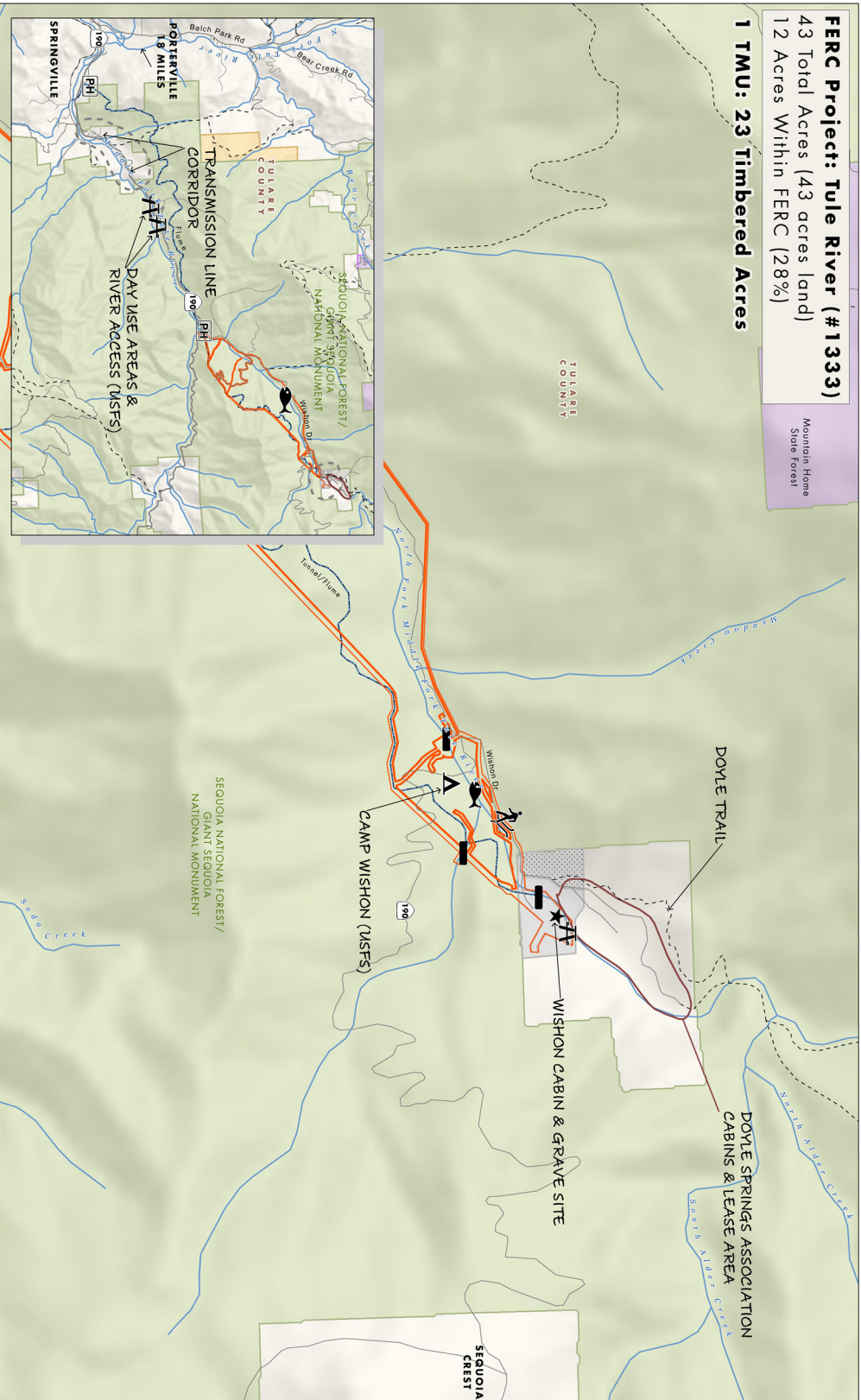
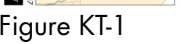


Figure KT-1

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access road into the development, as well as two of the 50 cabins and two guest cabins, are on the planning unit. The cabins are on a less than two-acre portion of the parcel, and the portion of the parcel used by the Association for the cabins and other facilities appears to be less than five acres in total. For a number of years, the Association and PG&E have discussed the purchase of the land on which the cabins and other improvements sit. The Association has also approached the Stewardship Council about purchasing the land or offering Association land adjacent to the parcel in trade.

About 12 acres of the 40-acre parcel at Doyle Springs is within the FERC boundary of the Tule River Project (#1333). The project boundary includes the river and the land on the east bank of the river, where the Tule River Diversion Dam and the headworks for the Tule River conduit are located. FERC issued the project a new 40-year License in December 1993. Primarily due to the relatively few biological, recreational, or cultural resources in the project area, the New License required few plans to be developed by PG&E and only minor enhancements and operational changes. As a result of relicensing, PG&E has protected known populations of Springville clarkia, a special status plant, increased minimum flows in the river, and installed a fish screen to reduce impacts on the trout fishery.

Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Habitat

The parcel at Doyle Springs is in a transition zone between the blue oak woodland characteristic of lower foothill elevations and the montane hardwood and mixed conifer forest dominant at moderately higher elevations. The slopes on the east and west sides of the parcel, above the recreation and hydropower developments, are heavily forested with hardwood and conifer species. Common trees on the parcel include black oak, ponderosa pine, and incense-cedar. The riparian corridor along the river is dominated by large white alder, big-leaf maple, and canyon oak. An old apple orchard and grassy open area are located along the east side of the river,

above the Tule River Diversion Dam. The lower transmission line corridor segments are in a zone dominated by chaparral.

Though there are water diversions on the NFMF Tule River, there are year-round flows that provide habitat for rainbow trout and other native fish. DFG stocks the river with rainbow and brown trout just below the Doyle Springs parcel, and there is reportedly heavy fishing pressure on the river in that area.

The planning unit area provides summer and winter habitat for the Tule River mule deer herd as well as several upland game bird species, raptors, and likely several other species of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Special status wildlife that may be associated with the river in and near the planning unit include the western pond turtle and the foothill yellow-legged frog. The American marten and Pacific fisher, two special status carnivores, have been historically documented in the area, primarily within the late successional giant sequoia groves to the east of Doyle Springs. The most recent documented sighting was of the Pacific fisher in 1996. The valley elderberry longhorn beetle may also occur in the planning unit as elderberry host plants are found in this area.

Several special status plant species are known to occur in the river canyon in the vicinity of Doyle Springs, including the Springville clarkia, a State endangered and Federally threatened species. Downstream, closer to the transmission line



Mixed conifer & oak forest above M. Fork Tule River

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Doyle Trail trailhead & entrance to cabin resort corridor parcels, special status plants include the Kaweah brodiaea and Munz's iris. All three of these plants occur only in Tulare County.

Open Space

The Doyle Springs parcel provides open space and viewshed values for the adjacent Doyle Springs Association private cabin development, as well as for hikers, anglers and other recreationists visiting or passing through the area.

Outdoor Recreation

The area at the gated end of the public road, about 750 feet west of the parcel, serves as an informal trailhead for the Doyle Trail (also known as the Wishon Trail). The Doyle Trail begins about a quarter mile up the road from the gate and leads around the cabins to the river and into the SNF beyond. The trail provides day hikers, backpackers, and anglers access to the higher elevation portions of the river and links to other trails on Federal land. Of particular interest to hikers are the several sizeable giant sequoia groves that are within a few miles of the trailhead. The 35-site SNF Wishon Campground straddles the river ¼ mile downstream from the Doyle Springs parcel. The SNF also provides two day use and river access sites, about one mile upstream of the transmission line corridor segments and about seven miles downstream from Doyle Springs.

Forest Resources

PG&E has designated one Timber Management Unit (TMU) within the planning unit consisting of 23 acres of timber. The TMU is managed under a Salvage prescription, meaning the property is managed for uses other than sustained timber production. Timber management activities are restricted to mitigating for emergency forest and watershed health issues, such as salvage harvesting following a fire or insect infestation.

Fuel load management and fire prevention are important considerations in the planning unit area, particularly given the presence of the Doyle Springs recreation development and Wishon Campground. Because the County road provides the only access, options for evacuation in case of a fire are limited. CDF ranks the chaparral and hardwood vegetation types that predominate in the planning unit area as high and very high fuel hazards, and maintains a 10,000-gallon fire suppression water tank near the entrance of the Doyle Springs development. In August 2004, a fire burned more than 3,100 acres in the river canyon and necessitated the evacuation of Doyle Springs residents and SNF recreation facilities. The SNF has discussed the creation of a fire break in the Doyle Springs area with the Association.

Agricultural Uses

There is no grazing within the planning unit, but the SNF manages several grazing allotments in the vicinity. Two of the allotments are near



CDF fire suppression water tank

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the transmission line corridor segments and one allotment is adjacent to the Doyle Springs parcel. However, the potential for grazing or other agricultural activities within the planning unit is low due to existing and potential recreation, hydropower uses, and the isolated nature of the parcels.

Historic Resources

Although no Native American cultural resources are known to exist in the planning unit, bed rock mortars are known to exist on Association property. The area is within the ancestral territory of the Yokuts Tribe. The nearby Tule River Indian Reservation is home to several hundred Yokuts and other Native Americans. Cultural resource surveys conducted within the Tule River Project area in the late 1980s identified no historic or archeological sites that would be affected by the project. However, the Tule River Hydroelectric Project has been determined to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The facilities were built in the early 1900s and are significant for their role in providing electric power to the County and the San Joaquin Valley.

The Doyle Springs development was originally established in the late 1800s as a homestead named Doyle's Soda Springs. A construction camp for the Tule River Project was built at Camp Wishon, where the SNF campground is today. An unoccupied house (known as the Wishon cabin) is on the Doyle Springs parcel, on the east side of the river near the Tule River Diversion Dam. The structure dates from the early years of the hydroelectric project (the early 1900s). The structure has not been formally maintained for about 30 years and is in a state of disrepair. PG&E is considering demolishing the house pending the results of an historical assessment of the structure. Next to the house is the grave site of David L. Wishon, chief engineer for the Tule River Project during its construction, who died in 1941. A small tablet marks the grave site, which is at the base of a monument to Wishon consisting of a brass plaque on a large boulder. The Wishon cabin, monument



D.L. Wishon memorial & grave site

and grave, as well as two nearby metal storage sheds are within the FERC Project area. Apple trees from an orchard established before the hydropower project was built are near the house and on the land upstream, and are considered heritage trees, with possible biological and cultural significance.

Stewardship Council Recommendations

The Stewardship Council recommends that the land and land uses at Doyle Springs be preserved and enhanced by focusing on habitat and cultural values, recreation access, and forest fire protection. In presenting the Recommended Concept provided here, our objective is to protect and enhance habitat and cultural resources, provide additional recreation facilities and opportunities, educate users on the area's cultural resources, and enhance management of forest resources. We recommend this effort be conducted in close coordination with PG&E, USFS, and the Association.¹

Objective: Preserve and enhance biological and cultural resources, provide additional recreation and interpretive opportunities, as well as enhance fuels and fire management.

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As shown on Table KT-1, the Stewardship Council has identified a number of preservation and/or enhancement measures that may contribute to the conservation management program for the Doyle Springs Planning Unit. All of the recommended measures are for the 40-acre parcel at Doyle Springs. No measures are recommended for the three acres of transmission line corridor land downstream of Doyle Springs, as there is no known potential for enhancement, and the lands are needed for their current use. Additional detail and background regarding these potential measures can be found in the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations, provided under separate cover. These measures are intended to be illustrative in nature, not prescriptive, and will be amended, deleted, or augmented over time in coordination with future land owners and managers to best meet the objective for this planning unit.

Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Habitat

Objective: Preserve and enhance habitat in order to protect special biological resources.

The Doyle Springs Planning Unit provides forest, riparian, aquatic, and grassland habitat for several special status wildlife and plant species. In order to preserve and enhance the habitat and resources found here, the Stewardship Council recommends that baseline studies and plans be developed to gain a clear understanding of



Southern alligator lizard

the resources (particularly outside the FERC boundary where little information is currently available). These studies will likely be followed by management plans to ensure implementation of preservation and enhancement measures for specific resources. We encourage close coordination with the USFS, the Association, and other resource-focused organizations working in the area, and that all planning should be considered in conjunction with the fuels management plan.

Open Space

Objective: Preserve open space in order to protect natural and cultural resources, as well as viewsheds.

This concept would preserve open space by limiting new construction to minor additional recreation facilities, as well as through permanent conservation easements. Conservation easements would describe all prohibited uses to maintain open space values, including the level of uses allowed and the requirement to maintain scenic qualities.

Outdoor Recreation

Objective: Enhance recreational facilities in order to provide additional public access, recreation opportunities, and enhance the recreation experience.

Trail access provided at the Doyle Springs Planning Unit provides anglers, hikers, and backpackers access to the NFMF Tule River and Giant Sequoia National Monument. As shown in Figure KT-2, the Stewardship Council looks to enhance these opportunities by recommending trail signage, day use, and access improvements. We recommend enhancements focused on installing trail route informational signage at the head of the Doyle Trail and investigating the potential to use a riverside area as a day use and river access site. We recommend close coordination with the USFS and Doyle Springs Association for both measures.

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Sustainable Forestry

Objective: Develop and implement forestry practices in order to ensure appropriate fuel load and fire management.

Though the Doyle Springs Planning Unit has only 23 acres of forest, the main parcel is located in a high fuel hazard area next to a private cabin development. The Stewardship Council recommends that future care and management of the land include developing a long-term vision for fuels management and fire management and response. The fire management and response and fuels management plans should be developed in conjunction with the wildlife and habitat management plan. We expect that all of these plans would be developed in coordination with the Association, CDF, and USFS management and practices as appropriate.

Preservation of Historic Values

Objective: Identify and manage cultural resources in order to ensure their protection, as well as to support opportunities for public education.

The Doyle Springs Planning Unit contains historic hydroelectric project facilities, an historic homesite and gravesite, and may have undocumented archeological or cultural sites of significance to Native American tribes. The Stewardship Council aims to support an increased understanding of these resources and ensure they are appropriately protected. To meet this objective, we recommend that cultural resource studies be conducted to understand the resources found at Doyle Springs (particularly outside the FERC cultural resource study area where less information is available), and that appropriate management plans be developed and implemented. The Stewardship Council also recommends providing interpretive signage at the potential new day use and river access site to enhance public knowledge of several aspects of area history and varied historic resources present within the planning unit. Throughout this effort,

the Stewardship Council recommends close coordination with Native American entities.

Endnote

¹ The Doyle Springs Association has been interested for many years in acquiring the remaining small portion of their development that is still under lease from PG&E. The Association has made both PG&E and the Stewardship Council aware of their desire to trade undeveloped land owned by the Association at Doyle Springs for the lease area and possibly some additional surrounding land. The total land to be traded would be less than five of the 40 acres contained in the parcel. No recommended measures are intended to conflict with this potential land exchange. If additional lands were added to the planning unit due to such an exchange, the measures intended for the undeveloped portion of the lands would be extended to those new areas.

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Table KT-1 Objectives to Preserve and/or Enhance – Recommended Concept

Planning Unit Objective: Preserve and enhance biological and cultural resources, provide additional recreation and interpretive opportunities, as well as enhance fuels and fire management.		
Beneficial Public Value	Objective	Potential Measures to Preserve and/or Enhance BPVs – Not Requirements*
Protection of the Natural Habitat of Fish, Wildlife, and Plants	Preserve and enhance habitat in order to protect special biological resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct surveys of lands outside the FERC boundary to identify biological resources and enable their protection. • Develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel.
Preservation of Open Space	Preserve open space in order to protect natural and cultural resources, as well as viewsheds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection.
Outdoor Recreation by the General Public	Enhance recreational facilities in order to provide additional public access, recreation opportunities, and enhance the recreation experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install trailhead signage providing a map, information on trail routes, and informing hikers of private property that the trail crosses.** • Investigate potential for use of the flat, open area on the east side of the river as a day use and river access site.**
Sustainable Forestry	Develop and implement forestry practices in order to ensure appropriate fuel load and fire management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a fuels management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel. • Develop a fire management and response plan, incorporating evaluation of the potential for construction of a fire break with the Sequoia National Forest and protections needed in response to proposed new recreation uses.
Agricultural Uses		None proposed.
Preservation of Historic Values	Identify and manage cultural resources in order to ensure their protection, as well as to support opportunities for public education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct surveys outside the FERC Project APE to identify cultural resources and enable their protection. • Conduct an ethnographic study of the Doyle Springs parcel to identify traditional uses areas. • Develop a cultural resources management plan to ensure that cultural resources are provided adequate protection. • Provide interpretive signage of the area including information about Doyle’s homestead, the Wishon family, and hydroelectric development.** • Coordinate with Native American entities when conducting cultural resource measures.

* This is a set of recommended possibilities for the preservation and enhancement of BPV’s, and is not intended to be a set of requirements for future land management.

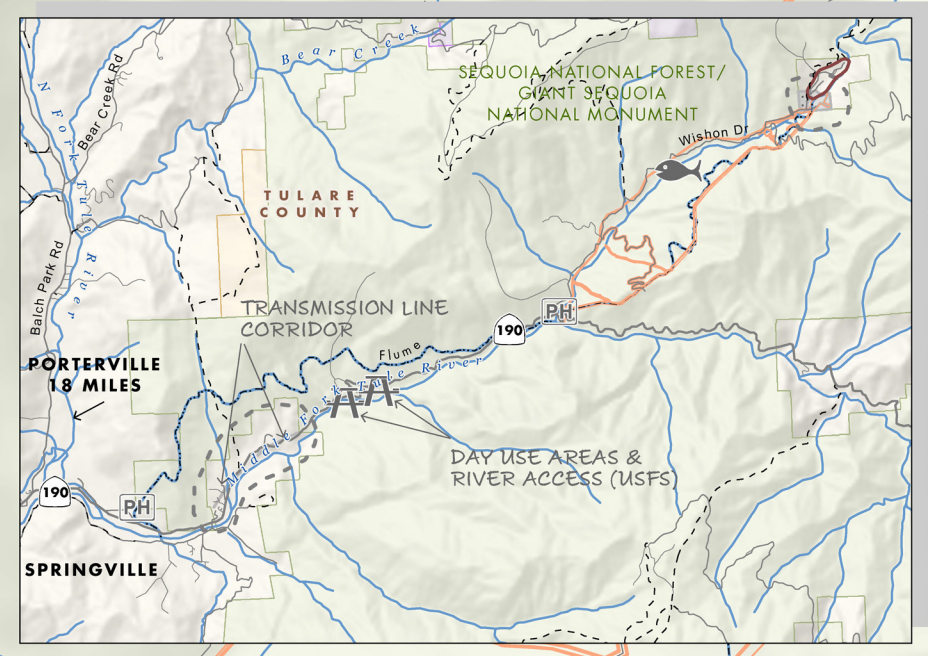
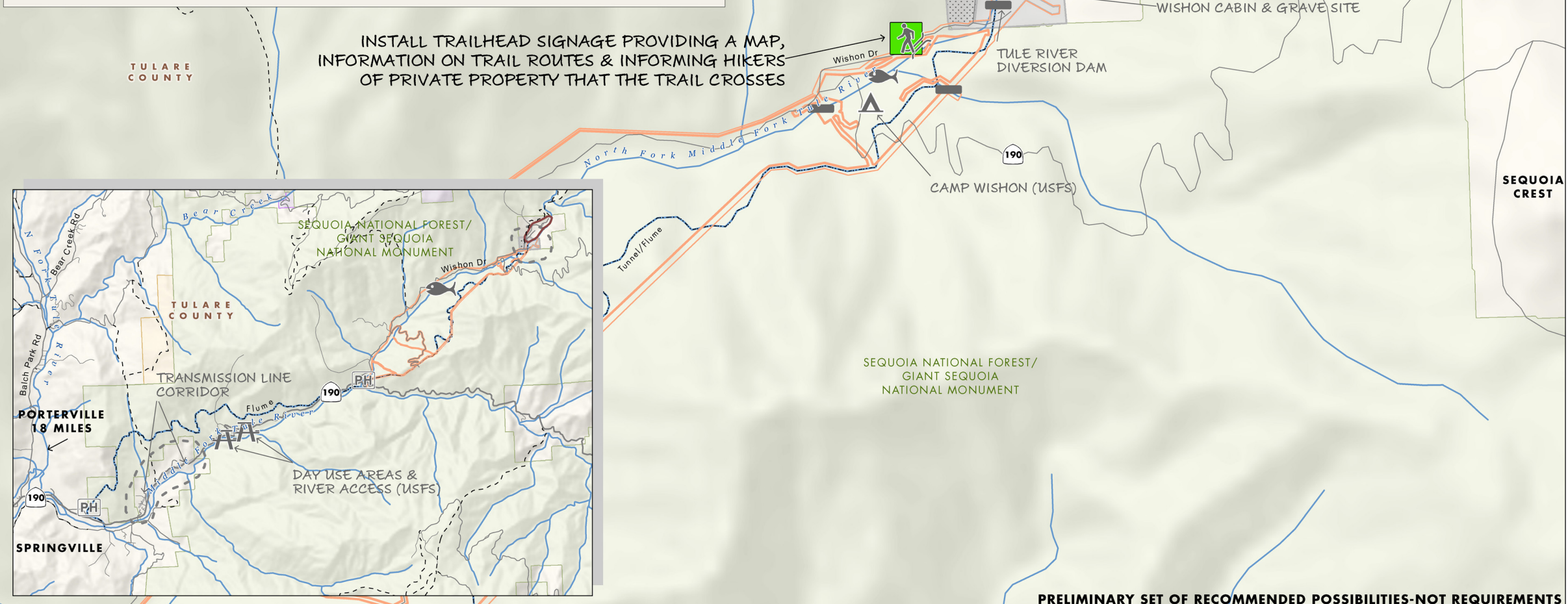
** Denotes site specific measure.

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Doyle Springs Planning Unit
Recommended Concept

- POTENTIAL MEASURES:**
- CONDUCT SURVEYS OF LANDS OUTSIDE THE FERC BOUNDARY TO IDENTIFY BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES & ENABLE THEIR PROTECTION
 - DEVELOP A FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN & WILDLIFE & HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN
 - DEVELOP A FIRE MANAGEMENT & RESPONSE PLAN, INCORPORATING EVALUATING POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE BREAK WITH THE SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST & PROTECTION NEEDED IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSED NEW RECREATION USES
 - DEVELOP A CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
 - CONDUCT SURVEYS OUTSIDE THE FERC PROJECT AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS TO IDENTIFY CULTURAL RESOURCES AND ENABLE THEIR PROTECTION
 - CONDUCT AN ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY TO IDENTIFY TRADITIONAL USES AREAS
 - COORDINATE WITH NATIVE AMERICAN ENTITIES WHEN CONDUCTING CULTURAL RESOURCE MEASURES



PRELIMINARY SET OF RECOMMENDED POSSIBILITIES-NOT REQUIREMENTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PG&E Lands Preliminarily Designated for Retention PG&E Lands Preliminarily Designated for Disposition BIA BLM BOR DOD NPS Other/NGO State USFS Federal Wilderness 	<p>Concept Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modify Existing Feature New Feature Trail 	<p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat Launch Campground Dam Day Use Feature of Importance Fishing Fish Barrier Dam Gate Lodging Non-Motorized Boating Parking Powerhouse Private Camp Ranch Trailhead Whitewater Put-In/Take-Out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FERC Boundary Stream / River Canal / Ditch Pipeline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Roads Secondary Roads OHV Roads Trail 	<p>All symbols may not appear on the map</p> <p>0 0.25 0.5 Miles</p> <p>EDAW</p>
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Figure KT-2

Doyle Springs Planning Unit

All of the recommended measures are for the 40-acre parcel at Doyle Springs. No measures are recommended for the three acres of transmission line corridor land downstream of Doyle Springs, as there is no known potential for enhancement, and the lands are needed for their current use.

The Doyle Springs Association (Association) has been interested for many years in acquiring the remaining small portion of their development that is still under lease from PG&E. The Association has made both PG&E and the Stewardship Council aware of their desire to trade undeveloped land owned by the Association at Doyle Springs for the lease area and possibly some additional surrounding land. The total land to be traded would be less than five of the 40 acres contained in the parcel. No recommended measures are intended to conflict with this potential land exchange. If additional lands were added to the planning unit due to such an exchange, the measures intended for the undeveloped portion of the lands would be extended to those new areas.

Preservation of Historic Values

Potential Measures:

- *Conduct surveys outside the FERC Project APE to identify cultural resources and enable their protection.*
- *Conduct an ethnographic study of the Doyle Springs parcel to identify traditional uses areas.*
- *Coordinate with Native American entities when conducting cultural resource measures.*

The Stewardship Council recommends investigating whether other historic resources are present in the planning unit in addition to known historic hydroelectric features. Currently, there is little information available regarding Native American cultural resources for the planning unit. The planning unit may also have remnants of pioneer development, former homestead, and traces from construction of hydroelectric facilities from the early 1900s. Cultural resource surveys conducted for FERC relicensing were limited to the Tule River Project Area of Potential Effects (APE), and lands outside the APE were not surveyed. Therefore, the Stewardship Council recommends conducting surveys of the Doyle Spring parcel outside the APE to identify cultural resources and enable their protection. In addition, to determine whether Native American ethnographic resources exist, the Stewardship Council recommends conducting an ethnographic study of the Doyle Springs parcel to identify any traditional use areas.

Potential Measures:

- *Develop a cultural resources management plan to ensure that cultural resources are provided adequate protection.*
- *Coordinate with Native American entities when conducting cultural resource measures.*

The Stewardship Council recommends developing a cultural resources management plan to ensure that cultural resources are provided adequate protection in the future. The plan would include appropriate measures for the identification, evaluation, and treatment of cultural resources (archaeological and historical), as well as traditional use areas. Treatment measures could include avoidance, specific protective measures (e.g., fencing), site monitoring, and methods to preserve, restore, or enhance cultural resource values through conservation easements, management agreements, or through public interpretation and education programs. The cultural

resource surveys and ethnographic study, and development of the cultural resources management plan, should be coordinated with Native Americans entities.

Outdoor Recreation

Potential Measure:

- *Install trailhead signage providing a map, information on trail routes, and informing hikers of private property that the trail crosses.*

The planning unit provides important access to the Doyle Trail, which leads to the higher elevation portions of the North Fork of the Middle Fork (NFMF) Tule River, as well as into Sequoia National Forest and National Monument. Currently, the signage at the Doyle trailhead is lacking trail distances, a map, and general information regarding the extraordinary surrounding resources that can be accessed within several miles. The Stewardship Council recommends installing trailhead signage providing information on trail routes to the river, routes to sequoia groves, as well as providing a map of area trails. Trailhead signage could also inform hikers of the private property crossed by the trail (the Doyle Springs private cabin development) to encourage hikers, backpackers, and anglers to respect private property and stay on the trail. Signage design and installation would be coordinated with the Sequoia National Forest (SNF), as the trailhead is located on, and provides access to, USFS lands.

Potential Measures:

- *Investigate potential for use of the flat, open area on the east side of the river as a day use and river access site.*
- *Provide interpretive signage of the area including information about Doyle's homestead, the Wishon family, and hydroelectric development.*

The flat and relatively open portion of the parcel at Doyle Springs on the east side of the NFMF Tule River has potential for development into a day use and river access area. The Stewardship Council recommends investigating opportunities and constraints of opening this area up for public access and use. Currently, no formal day use opportunities exist in this area, and the bridge over the river is blocked with a chain-link fence. Opportunities at this site could include use of the attractive, flat, grassy area in the vicinity of the old apple orchard as a day use facility. Interpretive features could also be installed at this site to enhance awareness and knowledge of the several aspects of area history and varied historic resources present. Possible constraints to providing public access to this site exist; these include potential vandalism and safety issues related to hydropower features (diversion dam, weir, trash rack, and canal), the Wishon cabin (if PG&E does not demolish it) and other structures, and the D.L. Wishon grave site. Consideration would need to be given to minimizing potential security and safety problems. The appropriateness of pedestrian access to the bridge, which has no railings, would also need to be assessed, as well as the potential fire risk and maintenance issues arising from introducing public use to the area. DFG recommends use of bear-proof dumpsters if recreation development occurs at this location to avoid wildlife conflicts.

Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Habitat

Habitat enhancements are also recommended with an emphasis on the approximately 20-acre undeveloped portion of the Doyle Springs parcel, which is outside the FERC boundary and outside the Association lease area.

Potential Measures:

- *Conduct surveys of lands outside the FERC boundary to identify biological resources.*
- *Develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel.*

One special status plant species, the Springville clarkia is known to occur in three locations within the Tule River Project area, but it is not known if other sensitive species are also present on the majority of the parcel that lies outside the FERC boundary. Available data indicate that special status wildlife species such as the foothill yellow-legged frog and American marten may be present in the area. Because little data are available, the Stewardship Council recommends conducting surveys of lands outside the FERC boundary to identify biological resources and gain more complete knowledge of the wildlife, plants, and habitats located on the parcel to enable their protection. Following the surveys, a wildlife and habitat management plan for the parcel would be developed describing goals and objectives for habitat and species, as well as measures to enhance and protect habitat for both plant and wildlife species. Monitoring of species and/or habitats would also be a component of the plan.

Sustainable Forestry

Potential Measure:

- *Develop a fuels management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel.*

Due to the fire risk and presence of recreation development in the area, forest resources would be managed to reduce fuels and protect the viewshed and recreation setting. The existing Salvage prescription for 23 acres of timberland on the Doyle Springs parcel would be continued. Additionally, the Stewardship Council recommends incorporating forest management that minimizes fire risk in this high hazard and valuable resource area. To do this, a fuels management plan would be developed to minimize fire risk and ensure protection of the viewshed and recreation setting. The fuels management plan should be developed in conjunction with the wildlife and habitat management plan.

Potential Measure:

- *Develop a fire management and response plan, incorporating evaluation of the potential for construction of a fire break with the Sequoia National Forest and protections needed in response to proposed new recreation uses.*

The Stewardship Council also recommends developing a fire management and response plan for the Doyle Springs parcel to ensure fire preparedness and enhance fire prevention. A primary component of plan development would be an evaluation of constructing a fire break in coordination with SNF. The CDF already has installed a water tank for fire fighting on the parcel, primarily to protect the Doyle Springs cabin community. The plan would include fire prevention measures that take into account potential expanded recreation uses on the parcel, and the need to promote public awareness about fire danger and provide the provisions and staff for

an appropriate response to fire. The plan would be developed in coordination with the CDF and the SNF.

Open Space

Potential Measure:

- *Apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection.*

The Stewardship Council recommends preserving open space values through permanent conservation easements. Recommendations include the potential development of a new recreation day use and river access site; however, it is not expected to decrease the scenic quality of the viewshed. Conservation easements would describe all prohibited uses to maintain open space values, including the level of uses allowed. Conservation easements would ensure protection of scenic surroundings to benefit Doyle Springs and general public recreation visitors.

Agricultural Uses

None recommended.