

## 1.16 RECREATION

The following discussion evaluates the potential changes in impacts associated with recreation and the conclusions from the Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA) with the incorporation of the Proposed Project’s design modifications as described in the redlined version of Chapter 3 – Project Description. The table below summarizes the impact determinations from the PEA and the impact determinations with the incorporation of the design modifications.

Would the project:	PEA Impact Determination	Impact Determination with Design Modifications
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	No Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project include recreational facilities, or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	No Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project reduce or prevent access to a designated recreation facility or area?	Less-than-Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact
d) Would the project substantially change the character of a recreational area by reducing the scenic, biological, cultural, geologic, or other important characteristics that contribute to the value of recreational facilities or areas?	No Impact	No Impact
e) Would the project damage recreational trails or facilities?	No Impact	No Impact

### **Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?**

#### *Construction, Operations and Maintenance*

#### LSPGC and PG&E Components

**No Impact.** Consistent with the analysis in the PEA, design modifications to the LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Proposed Project components would not directly or indirectly induce substantial unplanned population growth. As stated in the redlined version of Chapter 3 – Project Description, construction duration (and therefore the length of time that construction workers are employed) would be not change with the inclusion of the design modifications. As a result, the potential for the Proposed Project to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks would not change. The proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures A and D would not be within 1 mile of any existing neighborhood or regional parks (City of Vacaville 2024, East Bay Regional Park District 2024, and Solano County 2008). The proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures B and C would be within 1 mile of the Suisun Marsh and construction of the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures would require up to 30 additional construction crew members per day; however, it would not extend the Proposed Project’s construction duration past the originally

approximated 24 months. Design modifications to the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would occur within 1 mile of the same parks or recreational facilities previously evaluated in the PEA and would require up to 20 additional construction crew members per day. These temporary increases in construction crew sizes is not anticipated to substantially increase local or regional park use.

Operation and maintenance (O&M) activities associated with the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures would be included in routine inspections of PG&E's existing Vaca Dixon-Tesla 500 kV Transmission Line. The proposed LSPGC 230 kV onshore riser structures would be included in the proposed O&M activities for the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment. The design modifications associated with the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would not affect the O&M activities described in the PEA. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, no impacts would occur.

**Would the project include recreational facilities, or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?**

*Construction, Operations and Maintenance*

LSPGC and PG&E Components

**No Impact.** The design modifications associated with the Proposed Project do not include any recreational facilities, and as described previously, would not induce substantial unplanned population growth. As a result, the construction or expansion of recreational facilities would not be required. Consistent with the PEA, no impacts would occur.

**Would the project reduce or prevent access to a designated recreation facility or area?**

*Construction*

LSPGC and PG&E Components

**Less-than-Significant Impact.** As part of design modifications to the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Submarine Segment, the required number of submarine cables to be installed would be reduced from six to four. As a result, installation of the cables within the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta) would take approximately 3 months instead of the originally approximated 6 months. This change in duration would reduce the potential for the proposed submarine cable installation to restrict overall water-oriented recreational use in the Delta.

As part of design modifications to the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment, the proposed in-river transition structure and six-pole dead-end structure would be replaced by two onshore riser structures. An updated temporary in-water work area would still be required to bring the submarine cables onshore; however, with the removal of the in-river transition structure, the total temporary in-water work area would be reduced from approximately 2 acres to approximately 0.33 acre. In addition, the period of active construction near the north shore of the Delta would be reduced from approximately 7 months to approximately 3 months. Although the updated temporary in-water work area would still restrict access for public recreational use, the work area size and duration of use would be reduced. Therefore, design modifications to the

proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment would reduce impacts to water-oriented recreational use in the Delta.

Design modifications to the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would have no impact on access to recreational facilities or areas. Applicant-proposed measure REC-1, which ensures Delta recreationists know which areas of the Delta are restricted during in-water construction activities, would still be implemented for the Proposed Project. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, impacts would continue to be less than significant.

### *Operations and Maintenance*

#### LSPGC and PG&E Components

**No Impact.** As part of design modifications to the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment, the proposed in-water transition structure and six-pole dead-end structure would be replaced by two onshore riser structures that would be included in the proposed O&M activities for the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment. As a result, a permanent in-water structure would no longer be present within the Delta, no O&M activities would occur in the Delta, and access to recreational areas would not be impeded. O&M activities associated with the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures would be included in routine inspections of PG&E's existing Vaca Dixon-Tesla 500 kV Transmission Line. The design modifications associated with the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would not affect the O&M activities described in the PEA. As a result, the impact determination made in the PEA would change from a less-than-significant impact to no impact.

### **Would the project substantially change the character of a recreational area by reducing the scenic, biological, cultural, geologic, or other important characteristics that contribute to the value of recreational facilities or areas?**

#### *Construction, Operations and Maintenance*

#### LSPGC and PG&E Components

**No Impact.** The proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures A and D would not substantially change the character of a recreational area as none occur within 1 mile of the structures. Although the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures B and C would occur within 1 mile of the Suisun Marsh, the structures would be located adjacent to existing electrical structures within PG&E's existing right-of-way; therefore, the character of the area would not change. In addition, the removal of the in-water structure associated with the design modifications to the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment would further reduce the potential for the Proposed Project to change the character of a recreational area. Design modifications associated with the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would not substantially change the character of any recreational area as modifications would occur within 1 mile of the same recreational areas previously evaluated in the PEA. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, no impacts would occur.

## **Would the project damage recreational trails or facilities?**

### *Construction, Operations and Maintenance*

#### LSPGC and PG&E Components

**No Impact.** Design modifications would not cause any Proposed Project components to cross a designated trail or facility. O&M activities associated with the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures would be included in routine inspections of PG&E's existing Vaca Dixon-Tesla 500 kV Transmission Line. The proposed LSPGC 230 kV onshore riser structures would be included in the proposed O&M activities for the proposed LSPGC 230 kV Overhead Segment. The design modifications associated with the remaining LSPGC and PG&E Proposed Project components would not affect the O&M activities described in the PEA. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, no impacts would occur.

### **References**

City of Vacaville. 2024. Vacaville Parks and Field. Online.

<https://www.cityofvacaville.gov/government/parks-and-recreation/parks-fields>. Site visited January 2025.

East Bay Regional Park District. 2024. Maps. Online. <https://www.ebparks.org/maps>. Site visited January 2025.

Solano County. 2008. General Plan Parks and Recreation Element. Online.

[https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/rm/planning/general\\_plan.asp](https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/rm/planning/general_plan.asp). Site visited January 2025.