

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE OF THE RECIRCULATED DRAFT SEIR

This Recirculated Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) evaluates the potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed University of California (UC or the University) Merced (UC Merced or Campus) 2020 Long Range Development Plan (2020 LRDP).

In March 2009, the Board of Regents of the University of California (The Regents) certified a joint EIS/EIR (2009 UC Merced and University Community Project EIS/EIR; State Clearinghouse No. 2008041009) that analyzed and disclosed the impacts from the implementation of a Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) for the UC Merced campus and an adjoining community, and approved the UC Merced 2009 LRDP as a guide for physical development of the campus to accommodate growth projected through 2030 and beyond. For ease of reference, the 2009 UC Merced and University Community Project EIS/EIR is referred to in this Recirculated Draft SEIR as the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR. The 2009 LRDP addressed the development of the campus to support an enrollment level of 25,000 students by the year 2030 on an 815-acre site. Since then, the University has revised its enrollment projections through 2030 down substantially and has also acquired more land to the south of the campus as part of the dissolution of a prior joint development venture with the Virginia Smith Trust. Furthermore, UC Merced plans to accommodate the projected enrollment growth on a smaller development footprint than previously identified in the 2009 LRDP. As a result of these changes, UC Merced has developed a revised land use plan for the campus site, which is included in the proposed 2020 LRDP.

Before The Regents can approve the proposed LRDP, The Regents must evaluate and disclose the environmental impacts of approving and implementing the 2020 LRDP. According to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (*State CEQA Guidelines*) Section 15162, a Subsequent EIR is required when a substantial change is proposed to a project for which an EIR has been previously certified. UC Merced has determined that the changes to the campus land use plan and anticipated development footprint are substantial changes and therefore, a Subsequent EIR (SEIR) is the appropriate CEQA document for the 2020 LRDP.

In September 2019, the University, acting as the lead agency under CEQA, published the 2020 LRDP Draft SEIR, which analyzed and disclosed the potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed 2020 LRDP. The Draft SEIR was circulated for agency and public comment for a period of 45 days that ended on November 4, 2019. The University also conducted two public hearings on October 17 and 28, 2019 during the Draft SEIR circulation period.

The University has elected to recirculate the entire Draft SEIR to disclose new potentially significant biological resource impacts and to provide other clarifications, such as explaining the relationship between this SEIR and the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and to identify where the prior 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR was available and could be reviewed pursuant to *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15162(d). The two new impacts to biological resources would be reduced to a less than significant level with the proposed mitigation. The corrections and additional information that has been added to the SEIR do not change any of the impact conclusions of the previously circulated Draft SEIR, and do not represent significant new information. The University has voluntarily included them in this Recirculated Draft SEIR for the benefit of reviewers. **Section 1.8 below** presents a list of those sections of the previously circulated Draft SEIR that have been revised, and summarizes the revisions that have been made to those sections.

For ease of reference, the Recirculated Draft SEIR is referred to as the “SEIR” throughout this document. As required by CEQA, this SEIR (1) assesses the potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed project, including cumulative impacts of the proposed project in conjunction with other reasonably foreseeable development; (2) identifies feasible means of avoiding or substantially lessening significant adverse impacts; and (3) evaluates a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project, including the No Project Alternative. The University is the “lead agency” for the project evaluated in this SEIR. The Regents has the principal responsibility for approving this project.

When certified, this SEIR, in conjunction with the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR, will serve as the base environmental document for tiering purposes when implementing the 2020 LRDP. The 2020 LRDP will replace the 2009 LRDP as the planning document for decisions related to campus development.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS SEIR

The University has commissioned this SEIR evaluating the environmental effects of the 2020 LRDP for the following purposes:

- To satisfy the requirements of CEQA (Public Resources Code, Sections 21000–21178), the *State CEQA Guidelines* (California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Chapter 14, Sections 15000–15387), and the University of California Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA;
- To inform the general public, the local community, responsible and interested public agencies, and The Regents of the nature of the proposed project, its potential significant environmental effects, measures to mitigate those effects, and alternatives to the proposed project;
- To enable The Regents to consider the environmental consequences of approving the 2020 LRDP;

- To provide a basis for tiering subsequent environmental documents from the 2020 LRDP EIR pursuant to the *State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15152, 15168(c) and 15183.5; and
- For consideration by responsible agencies in issuing permits and approvals for projects under the 2020 LRDP and other actions.

As described in CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, public agencies are charged with the duty to avoid or substantially lessen significant environmental effects, where feasible. In satisfying this duty, a public agency has an obligation to balance the project's significant effects on the environment with its benefits, including economic, social, technological, legal, and other benefits. This SEIR is an informational document, the purpose of which is to identify the potentially significant effects of the proposed project on the environment and to indicate the manner in which those significant effects can be avoided or lessened; to identify any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated; and to identify reasonable and feasible alternatives to the proposed project that would eliminate or reduce any significant adverse environmental effects to a less than significant level.

The University, as the lead agency, is required to consider the information in the SEIR, along with any other relevant information, in making its decisions on the proposed project. Although the SEIR does not determine the ultimate decision that will be made regarding implementation of the 2020 LRDP, CEQA requires the University to consider the information in the SEIR and make findings regarding each significant and unavoidable effect identified in the SEIR. The Regents will review and consider certification of the Final SEIR prior to any decision on whether to approve the 2020 LRDP.

1.3 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND NEED

In 2002, The Regents approved the first LRDP for the development of the UC Merced campus on a 910-acre site near Lake Yosemite about 2 miles north of the City of Merced, with the purpose of providing a UC campus to the previously underserved Central Valley. The campus site was located in an area that contained a high concentration of vernal pools and other seasonal wetlands, and habitat for several special-status species. Therefore, the University submitted an application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a Section 404 permit under the Clean Water Act that would allow the University to fill the wetlands for the development of the campus. Following the approval of the 2002 LRDP, the construction of the first phase of the campus was commenced on a portion of the campus site that did not contain any wetlands.

At the time of campus establishment, land to the south of the campus site was owned by Virginia Smith Trust (VST). In 2002, the University and VST formed a limited liability corporation (LLC) called University Community Land Company (UCLC) for the development of the land to the south of the campus.

Upon completion of the first phase of facilities, UC Merced was opened in 2005. Following the opening of the campus, the University continued to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other state and federal agencies to adjust and refine the location of the proposed campus. In 2007, agreement on the size and location of the campus was achieved, which included an approximately 815-acre campus site that was shifted to the south of the original campus site. The 815-acre campus site excluded the canal rights-of-way and comprised about 549 acres owned by the University and about 266 acres owned by UCLC.

The University then commenced the preparation of a revised LRDP (2009 LRDP) and a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and an EIR to evaluate and disclose the environmental impacts from the development of the revised campus site pursuant to the 2009 LRDP, along with the development of a community to the south of the campus. In March 2009, The Regents certified the EIR for the University of California, Merced and University Community Project, and in April 2009, the U.S. Corps of Engineers approved the 2009 EIS. As noted earlier, for ease of reference, the 2009 UC Merced and University Community Project EIS/EIR is referred to in this SEIR as the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR.

The 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR evaluated at a program level the potential environmental effects from the implementation of the 2009 LRDP and identified means to eliminate or reduce potential adverse impacts. The 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR also included a project-level evaluation of Phase 2 of campus development, later named the UC Merced 2020 Project. In addition to analyzing the impacts of campus development, the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR analyzed the environmental impacts from the development of the approximately 833-acre UCLC property to the south of the campus site. The planned land development on the UCLC property was called University Community North in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR.

Although 549 acres of the 815-acre campus site were owned by the University, about 266 acres in the southern portion of the campus site still remained in the ownership of UCLC. In addition, UCLC owned the University Community North lands to the south of the campus site, for a total of approximately 1,111 acres. In 2017, the UCLC lands were subdivided, with approximately 477 acres in the northern portion of the UCLC property transferred to the University and approximately 634 acres transferred to VST. With this subdivision, the acreage of the campus site increased to approximately 1,026 acres. **Table 1.0-1, Approved and Revised Campus Acreage**, below provides the ownership information and shows the changes to the campus site following the subdivision of the UCLC lands.

**Table 1.0-1
Approved and Revised Campus Acreage**

	Regents	UCLC	UCLC Land Added/Subtracted	Total Area
Approved Campus (2009)	549	266	–	815
University Community North (2009)	0	833	–	833
Total				1,648
Revised Campus (2016)	549.3	476.5	476.5	1,025.8
University Community North (2016)	-	1,110.1	- 476.5	633.6
Total				1,659.6¹

Source: University of California, Merced 2019

Notes: All acreages in this table exclude the canal rights-of-way acreage.

¹ The southeastern boundary of the University Community North lands was redefined between 2009 and 2016, resulting in an increased total area.

Figure 1.0-1, Revised Campus Land Area, presents the areas added to the 815-acre campus. As a result of this and other changes in the University’s plan for developing the campus that are described below, the University has decided to prepare an updated LRDP. The updated 2020 LRDP is proposed for the following reasons.

First, because about 211 acres have been added to the previously approved campus site, UC Merced determined that the LRDP should be revised to encompass this land.

Second, enrollment at UC Merced is projected to grow at a slower pace than originally anticipated, adding no more than about 5,000 to 5,600 additional students between 2020 and 2030. The University has not projected enrollment growth beyond 2030 as it will be largely dependent on future student demand and funding for additional facilities.

Third, the 2009 LRDP was largely based on specific and restrictive land use designations for areas targeted for future growth on the campus. Subsequent to implementation of the plan, UC Merced determined that the newly approved land use designations were too restrictive to allow for flexible growth as future demands on campus land are difficult to anticipate.

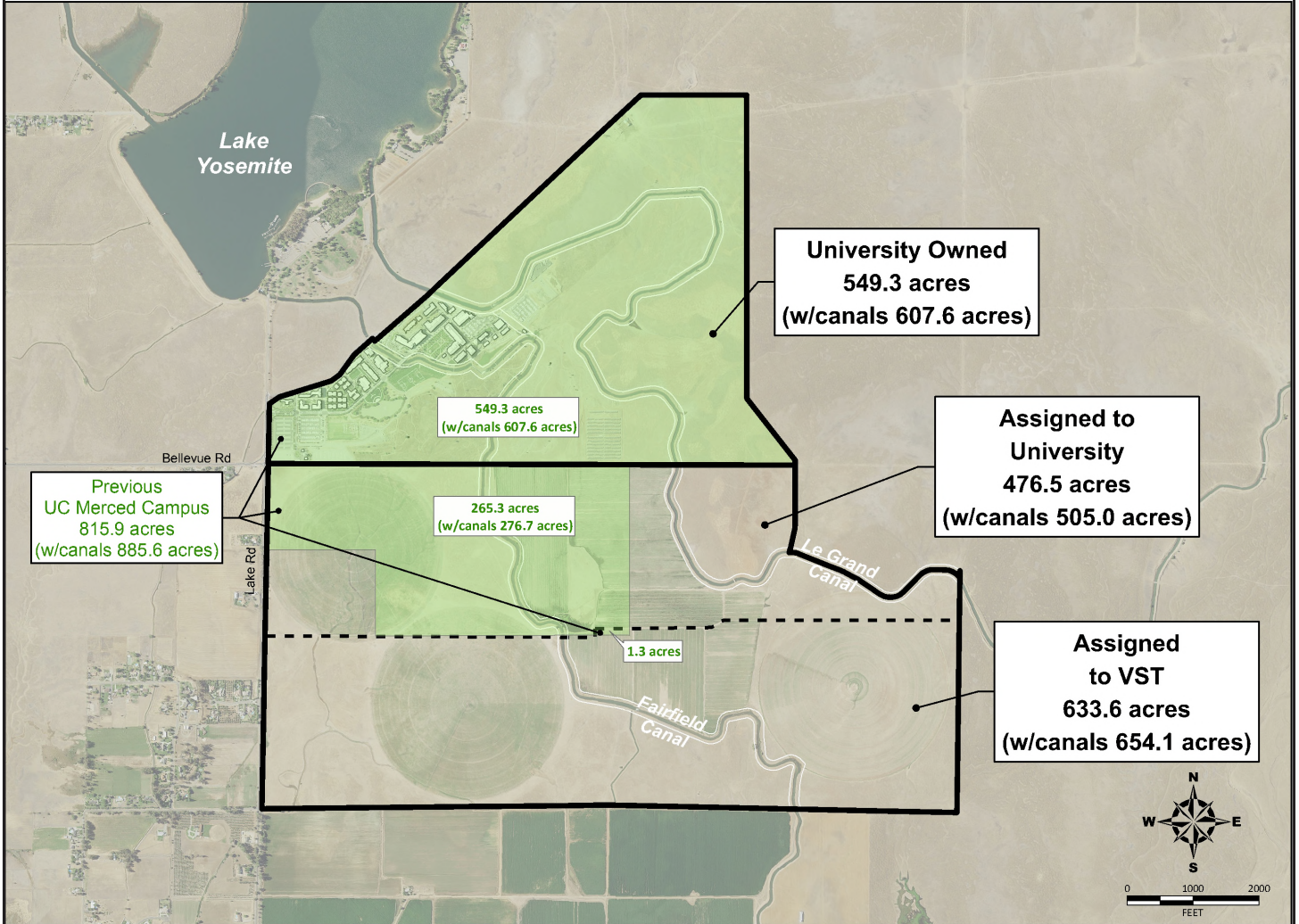
Lastly, it was determined that infrastructure delivery costs would be a major impediment to accommodate future growth as UC Merced continued to expand its footprint. It was determined that efforts should be made to ensure that the campus remained relatively compact, and that this could be achieved by increasing the density of development within the central portions of the campus and eliminating the need for infrastructure improvements such as roads, bridges across the canals that traverse through the campus, and pipeline extensions. Because this constitutes a change to the 2009

LRDP, UC Merced determined that an updated LRDP should be prepared with a compact footprint and sustainable growth focus as the primary goal.

1.4 SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED 2020 LRDP

The proposed 2020 LRDP has been designed to guide the physical development of the campus to accommodate a projected enrollment level of 15,000 students by 2030. The 2020 LRDP plans for the addition of up to 1.83 million square feet of building space to the campus to serve this projected enrollment growth. The 2020 LRDP includes a revised land use diagram for the 1,026-acre campus. The Draft 2020 LRDP is described in detail in **Section 3.0, Project Description**, and is available online at <https://planning.ucmerced.edu/2020LRDP>.

The University is not asserting that the Merced Campus will not grow beyond an enrollment level of 15,000 students after 2030. However, enrollment growth beyond 2030 cannot be predicted accurately at this time, and the University does not want to engage in speculation regarding enrollment projections beyond 2030 and the associated physical growth that creates environmental effects. As an example, when the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR was prepared, the Campus was projected to reach an enrollment level of 25,000 students by 2030. The Campus currently has an enrollment of about 8,000 students. Given the current enrollment, it is clear that the 2030 forecast in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR was not realistic. Courts have ruled that where future development is unspecified and uncertain, no purpose can be served by requiring an EIR to engage in sheer speculation as to future environmental consequences. As enrollment at UC Merced approaches 15,000 students, the University will prepare an updated LRDP that addresses the next phase of foreseeable physical development/growth and evaluate and disclose the effects of that growth in an EIR.



SOURCE: UC Merced, 2019

FIGURE 1.0-1

Revised Campus Land Area

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1.5 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

1.5.1 Notice of Preparation and Scoping

On April 2, 2018, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Initial Study were published for the 2020 LRDP SEIR. In accordance with the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the NOP/IS was circulated for 30 days until May 1, 2018. Copies of the NOP, Initial Study, and comment letters are included in **Appendix 1.0**.

An EIR scoping meeting was held on April 25, 2018, in the UC Merced Downtown Campus Center (Conference Rooms 105 & 106), 655 W 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. This meeting was intended to inform the public and interested agencies of the proposed 2020 LRDP, solicit comments, and identify areas of concern. No comments were received at the scoping meeting.

1.5.2 Type of CEQA Document

An LRDP is a guide to campus development. It identifies development objectives, delineates campus land uses, and estimates the new building space needed to support program expansion through the planning horizon year. The 2020 LRDP provides a guide to land and infrastructure development that could be built on the campus site to support a projected level of enrollment and employment growth through 2030. It is not an implementation plan, and its approval does not constitute a commitment to any specific project, construction schedule, or funding priority nor does it constitute a commitment by the University to enrollment growth or a certain amount of development. Further, the LRDP does not sunset, and there is no set timeframe when a new LRDP would be needed. However, for purposes of impact analysis, this SEIR assumes that the development of related facilities and housing to accommodate the projected student and faculty/staff growth would occur by 2030.

Section 15168 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* provides for the preparation of a Program EIR for a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are related either geographically, or as logical parts in a chain or contemplated actions, or as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways. This 2020 LRDP SEIR is a First Tier/Program SEIR that evaluates the effects of LRDP implementation at a program level.

According to the *State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)*, a Subsequent EIR is required when a substantial change is proposed to a project for which an EIR has been certified. As discussed earlier in this section, the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR evaluated full buildout of the campus to accommodate 25,000 students by 2030 at a program level under the 2009 LRDP; however, the proposed 2020 LRDP would substantially change the land use plan previously approved as part of the 2009 LRDP to reflect slower enrollment growth and a

more compact development footprint. Accordingly, preparation of a SEIR is appropriate for the 2020 LRDP.

Because the proposed LRDP updates the 2009 LRDP, provides for a lower enrollment increase through 2030, and includes a land use plan that is based on a compact footprint with a simplified and streamlined land use diagram, some of the impact analyses in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR still hold for the proposed 2020 LRDP. As indicated in **Section 1.7** below, the Initial Study prepared for the 2020 LRDP (and included in this SEIR in **Appendix 1.0**) shows that for environmental topics that include aesthetics, agricultural and forest resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazardous materials, land use and planning, and minerals, the 2020 LRDP would not result in new or more severe impacts than previously disclosed in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and related addenda. For those topics, the previous analysis is incorporated by reference and UC Merced will continue to rely on that analysis for LRDP approval and tiered review of subsequent projects. For all other environmental topics, the SEIR updates the previous analyses as necessary in light of the revised LRDP and/or due to new information of substantial importance that has become available since the certification of the previous EIR. The updated analysis in the SEIR supersedes and replaces the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR analyses of impacts and mitigation measures in full.

With respect to specific development projects that may be proposed during the planning horizon of the 2020 LRDP, CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines* state that subsequent projects should be examined in light of the Program EIR to determine whether additional environmental documentation must be prepared. If no new significant effects would occur, all significant effects have been adequately addressed, and no new mitigation measures would be required, the subsequent projects within the scope of the approved LRDP could rely on the environmental analysis provided in the Program EIR, and no additional environmental documentation would be required. On the other hand, if it is determined that subsequent environmental documentation must be prepared, UC Merced will prepare additional CEQA documentation. Both the SEIR and the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR (specific sections only along with related addenda) will be used as First Tier/Program EIRs under the tiering provision of CEQA to approve the implementation of subsequent projects on the campus. These additional documents would tier from the Program EIRs, as appropriate, for general discussions and for the analysis of cumulative impacts while focusing on more project- and site-specific impacts.

This SEIR also serves as the CEQA document for small-scale development projects proposed on the campus under the 2020 LRDP. This project type would include, but not be limited to, small solar and alternative energy projects, educational and research projects, and small ancillary buildings and structures and their associated infrastructure (i.e., utilities and roads). The projects would be small, involving less than 10,000 square feet of building space or less than 2 acres of ground disturbance and

proposed on the campus lands within three specific land use designations (Campus Mixed Use [CMU], Campus Building Reserve and Support Land [CBRSL], or Research Open Space [ROS]). This project type is analyzed generically in this SEIR for its environmental impacts. As and when a small project is proposed, UC Merced will confirm that it meets the criteria for a small project and is located within these land use designations. If so, no further CEQA documentation would be prepared.

1.5.3 Publication of Draft SEIR

The University has filed a Notice of Completion (NOC) with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse indicating that this Recirculated Draft SEIR has been completed and is available for review and comment by the public, interested parties, agencies, and organizations. As required under *State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15087 and 15088.5(d), the University has also sent a Notice of Availability to all those who submitted comments on the Draft SEIR (for whom contact information was submitted to UC Merced), to all organizations and members of the public who were on the University's distribution list for the Draft SEIR, and to any additional persons or organizations that have requested information about the EIR since the publication of the Draft SEIR. Copies of this Recirculated Draft SEIR, the Draft 2020 LRDP, the technical studies used in the preparation of this Recirculated Draft SEIR, and the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and addenda, are available for review during normal operating hours at the Physical and Environmental Planning office in the Downtown Center at 655 West 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. All of these documents are also available online at <https://planning.ucmerced.edu/2020LRDP>. (Note that these documents are not kept in the Mondo Building or at the UC Merced building at Castle.)

Consistent with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15087, this Recirculated Draft SEIR is being made available for public review for a period of 45 days. During this period, the general public, agencies, and organizations may submit written comments on the Recirculated Draft SEIR to UC Merced. Please note that comments on the previously circulated Draft SEIR are part of the administrative record for this project, and those comments were taken into consideration in the preparation of the Recirculated Draft SEIR. Further, those comments will be responded to in the Final SEIR. Therefore, the commenters are advised not to resubmit their previous comment letters as comments on the Recirculated Draft SEIR and any new comments should focus on only those portions of the Draft SEIR that are revised in this Recirculated Draft SEIR. In reviewing the Recirculated Draft SEIR, reviewers should focus on the document's adequacy in identifying and analyzing significant effects on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. To ensure inclusion in the Final SEIR and full consideration by the lead agency, comments on the Recirculated Draft SEIR must be received during the public review period, which ends at 5:00 PM on February 3, 2020. They may be e-mailed to 2020LRDP@ucmerced.edu or sent to:

Phillip Woods, AICP
Director of Physical & Environmental Planning
Physical & Environmental Planning
University of California, Merced
5200 North Lake Road
Merced, California 95343

1.5.4 Publication of Final SEIR

Following the close of the Recirculated Draft SEIR review period, the University will review the written and oral comments received and prepare responses to the comments that pertain to the environmental analysis and effects of the proposed LRDP. The Final EIR will consist of the Recirculated Draft SEIR, comments on the Draft SEIR, comments on the Recirculated Draft SEIR, responses to comments on both Draft SEIR and Recirculated Draft EIR, and any text changes. The Final SEIR will be considered by The Regents in a public meeting and certified if the Final SEIR is determined to be in compliance with CEQA.

If the SEIR is certified by The Regents and the 2020 LRDP is approved, a new Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan will be adopted. The MMRP will contain the mitigation measures set forth in the SEIR for those environmental topics that were reevaluated in the SEIR as well as the mitigation measures in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIS that apply to environmental topics that were not reevaluated in the SEIR.

Upon certification of the SEIR, The Regents will consider the 2020 LRDP for approval.

1.6 INTENDED USES OF THIS SEIR

There are three purposes that are envisioned for this document. The Regents will use this SEIR to review and consider the environmental implications of approving the 2020 LRDP. Secondly, if the 2020 LRDP is approved, this SEIR, along with specific sections of the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and related addenda, will be used to focus and/or complete the environmental review of subsequent campus development projects and will serve as the CEQA documentation for small projects. Lastly, this document may be used as a source of information by responsible agencies with permitting or approval authority over specific development projects proposed on the campus under this LRDP.

1.7 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This SEIR is organized in two volumes (Volumes I and II). Volume I presents the program-level environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LRDP, while Volume II provides technical appendices. The contents of Volume I include the following:

Section 1.0, Introduction, provides an overview of the purpose of the EIR, the type of EIR, the EIR review process, the intended uses of the EIR, and an overview of the format and contents of the Draft SEIR.

Section 2.0, Executive Summary, summarizes environmental consequences that would result from the proposed project, provides a summary table that denotes anticipated environmental impacts, describes identified mitigation measures, indicates the level of significance of impacts before and after mitigation; and presents alternatives evaluated in this Draft SEIR for their ability to reduce or avoid the significant impacts of the proposed project. The summary also lists areas of controversy known to the lead agency.

Section 3.0, Project Description, provides a detailed description of the proposed 2020 LRDP, including LRDP objectives, background information, the land use diagram, and description of designated land use categories.

Section 4.0, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures, contains the individual and cumulative environmental effects of the proposed 2020 LRDP by environmental topic. This section evaluates the following environmental topics in detail:

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4.1 Air Quality | 4.7 Public Services and Recreation |
| 4.2 Biological Resources | 4.8 Transportation |
| 4.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions | 4.9 Tribal Cultural Resources |
| 4.4 Hydrology and Water Quality | 4.10 Utilities and Service Systems |
| 4.5 Noise | 4.11 Energy |
| 4.6 Population and Housing | |

As the analysis in the Initial Study shows, the proposed project would clearly not result in new or more severe impacts on aesthetics, agricultural and forestry, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, land use and planning, or mineral resources than previously analyzed and disclosed in the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR, and no new mitigation measures would be required. Therefore, these environmental topics are not evaluated in further detail in this SEIR. For these environmental topics, UC Merced will continue to depend on the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR for analysis.

Section 5.0, Alternatives, describes alternatives to the project and presents the comparative environmental consequences and benefits of each alternative. This section includes an analysis of the No Project Alternative, among others, as required by CEQA.

Section 6.0, Other CEQA Considerations, summarizes impacts that would result from LRDP implementation, including significant environmental effects, significant and unavoidable environmental effects, irreversible changes to the environment, and growth-inducing impacts.

Section 7.0, Report Preparation, identifies lead agency staff and consultants who prepared the Draft SEIR under contract to the University. It also identifies all federal, state, or local agencies, and individuals consulted during the preparation of the Draft SEIR.

Volume II, which is provided on a flash drive attached to the back cover of Volume I, includes all the appendices.

1.8 CHANGES TO THE DRAFT SEIR

Table 1.0-2 below lists the sections of the previously published Draft SEIR that have been revised and summarizes the revisions made to the text of these sections in the Draft Recirculated SEIR.

**Table 1.0-2
Summary of Revisions to the Previously Circulated Draft SEIR**

Section No.	Section Title	Nature of Revision
1.0	Introduction	<p>New Section 1.1 has been added to explain why the Draft SEIR is being recirculated.</p> <p>Text has been added under Section 1.4 to explain why campus growth beyond 15,000 student enrollment level cannot be evaluated at this time.</p> <p>Section 1.5.2 has been expanded to explain the relationship between the SEIR and the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and the manner in which both documents will be used for tiering.</p> <p>Section 1.5.3 has been clarified to state where the Recirculated Draft SEIR, the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and the related addenda are available for review.</p> <p>Section 1.5.4 has been expanded to present the contents of the Final EIR and the MMRP.</p>
2.0	Executive Summary	<p>Section 2.1 has been revised to clarify the relationship between the SEIR and the 2009 LRDP EIS/EIR and the manner in which both documents will be used for tiering.</p> <p>Tables 2.0-2 and 2.0-3 have been revised to include a new potentially significant biological resource impact and mitigation measure, and a revised biological resource impact and related mitigation measure.</p>
3.0	Project Description	Text in Section 3.3 has been revised to add more information about the VST property to the south of the campus site.
4.0	Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures	A footnote has been added to indicate the current status of VST's land development proposal for the property to the south of the campus.
4.2	Biological Resources	<p>Text and table in Section 4.2.2 have been revised to include a description of the Crotch bumble bee.</p> <p>A new potentially significant impact (LRDP Impact BIO-4) has been added to address the project's impact on the Crotch bumble bee. The impact will be reduced to less than significant with mitigation.</p> <p>LRDP Impact BIO-9 has been updated to include project impacts on bird movement due to building strikes, which would be reduced to less than significant with mitigation.</p> <p>The text of all other impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.</p>

**Table 1.0-2
Summary of Revisions to the Previously Circulated Draft SEIR**

Section No.	Section Title	Nature of Revision
4.4	Hydrology and Water Quality	Text in Section 4.4.2 has been updated to reflect that a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) has been completed and adopted for the Merced Subbasin. LRDP Impact HYD-1 has been revised to include an evaluation of the proposed project relative to the findings and recommendations of the GSP. The impact conclusion remains unchanged. The text of all other impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.
4.6	Population and Housing	Text in Section 4.6.2 has been revised to correct typographic errors and inconsistency between text and data in tables; text related to housing projections has been expanded to provide clarification and more information. LRDP Impact PH-1 has been revised to highlight the key assumptions used in the analysis, and text has been added to explain the scope of population and housing impact analysis under CEQA. The impact conclusion remains unchanged. The text of all other impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.
4.7	Public Services and Recreation	Text in Section 4.7.2 has been expanded to present more information regarding the County fire department. LRDP Impact PUB-2 has been revised to explain the nature of the proposed project and the manner in which it would result in the need for expanded fire service. The impact conclusion remains unchanged. The text of all other impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.
4.8	Transportation	Text in Sections 4.8.1, 4.8.2, and 4.8.3 has been expanded to address a number of comments received on the Draft SEIR regarding the scope of the transportation impact analysis, as well as the relationship between the previously conducted 2009 transportation impact analysis and the current transportation impact analysis. The text of all impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.
4.10	Utilities and Service Systems	LRDP Impact UTL-1 and Cumulative Impact C-UTL-1 have been revised to include an evaluation of the proposed project relative to the findings and recommendations of the GSP. The impact conclusions of both impacts remain unchanged. The text of all other impacts in the previously circulated Draft SEIR, including impact conclusions, remains unchanged. No new mitigation has been added.
5.0	Alternatives	The text and table have been updated to include the new potentially significant impact on the Crotch bumble bee and the revised potentially significant impact on avian species. All other impacts and alternatives analyses remain unchanged. The conclusions of the section also remain unchanged.

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