

CH 6

## **CHAPTER 6. Impact Conclusions and Environmental Commitments**

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### **UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS**

Significant adverse impacts of Reclamation's water contracting alternatives are summarized in the "Summary" section of this EIS. Adverse impacts caused by changes in river and reservoir hydrology can generally be mitigated through modifications to CVP operations. Adverse secondary impacts caused by development or construction activities undertaken by agencies receiving CVP water may, however, be unavoidable, depending on the nature of site-specific mitigation measures undertaken.

### **IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES**

Reclamation considers its water contracting alternatives as essentially irreversible and irretrievable commitments of water resources during the period in which contracts are in effect. Also, development or construction activities undertaken by agencies receiving CVP water may cause land use and resource impacts that are essentially irreversible.

### **SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT VS. LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

Reclamation's water contracting alternatives do not represent short-term uses of water resources that detract from long-term environmental productivity. Rather, the alternatives are long-term allocations of water resources enhancing the net productivity of the natural and human environments.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS**

Following public review of this EIS, Reclamation will select mitigation measures proposed for implementation, once Reclamation's proposed contracting action has been finalized. The Final EIS will present the selected mitigation measures and describe how they will be implemented and monitored.

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