

Dear Tribal Leaders and Representatives,

This is an update for Tribes from the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR's) California Aqueduct Subsidence Program (CASP) as an opportunity to receive to up-to-date information and consult on CASP projects under DWR's *Tribal Engagement Policy* and the California Natural Resources Agency's *Tribal Consultation Policy*.

CASP is a program that encompasses a variety of studies, construction projects, and activities aimed at reducing the impact of land subsidence (land sinking) on the California Aqueduct and the San Luis Canal in the San Joaquin Valley. More information about the program can be found at our website: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Engineering-And-Construction/Subsidence>

This update is intended to

- Summarize status of various program activities
- Provide an update on associated environmental planning efforts

DWR is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is committed to early and ongoing consultation for each CASP project consistent with DWR's *Tribal Engagement Policy*.

Location

CASP activities extend through portions of Merced, Fresno, Kings, and Kern counties along the San Luis Canal and California Aqueduct, specifically between the Dos Amigos Pumping Plant (25060 Poleline Road, Los Banos, CA 93635) and Edmonston Pumping Plant (Edmonston Pumping Plant Road, Arvin, CA 93203 (Figure 1).

Planned Activities & Current Events

CASP Long-term Planning and Extraordinary Maintenance (XM) Report (CEQA/NEPA to start late 2027)

- The San Luis Canal is a federal/State joint-use facility, owned by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and operated by DWR.
- On September 12, 2023, Reclamation signed a *Charter and Plan of Study* for an extraordinary maintenance (XM) report. This approval kicked off a mandatory feasibility study to evaluate work along the San Luis Canal.
- The XM process is anticipated to take seven years until fully approved and includes the Federal environmental process (NEPA, Section 106, and USFWS Section 10 consultation). Reclamation is the NEPA lead.
 - CEQA and CDFW consultation are being led by DWR and will parallel the federal process and timeline.

Pools 17-18 Liner Raise Project (construction to start 2026)

- Proposed project would raise the concrete liner on the waterside embankment of the San Luis Canal in Pools 17 and 18.

- Project located in Fresno County approximately 12 miles west of Helm, California (see attached Figure 2).
- Project will be jointly implemented by DWR and the BOR.
- Consultation invitations pursuant to AB 52, and DWR's Tribal Engagement Policy were mailed and emailed on October 11, 2024.
- Construction is currently expected to begin in spring of 2026.

Pools 20-21 Liner Raise Project (construction to start 2026)

- Proposed project would raise the concrete liner on the waterside embankment of the San Luis Canal in Pools 20 and 21.
- Project located in Fresno and Kings Counties approximately 3 miles north of Kettleman City, California (see attached Figure 3).
- Project will be jointly implemented by DWR and the BOR.
- Consultation invitations mailed and emailed on October 11, 2024.
- Construction is currently expected to begin in spring of 2026.

Pool 24 Liner Raise Project (construction unscheduled)

- Proposed project would raise the concrete liner on the waterside embankment of the California Aqueduct in select locations in Pool 24.
- Project located in Fresno and Kings Counties approximately 3 miles north of Kettleman City, California. (see attached Figure 4).
- Consultation invitations mailed and emailed on October 11, 2024.
- This project construction timeline is currently being reassessed.

Subsidence and Groundwater Monitoring Project (construction in progress)

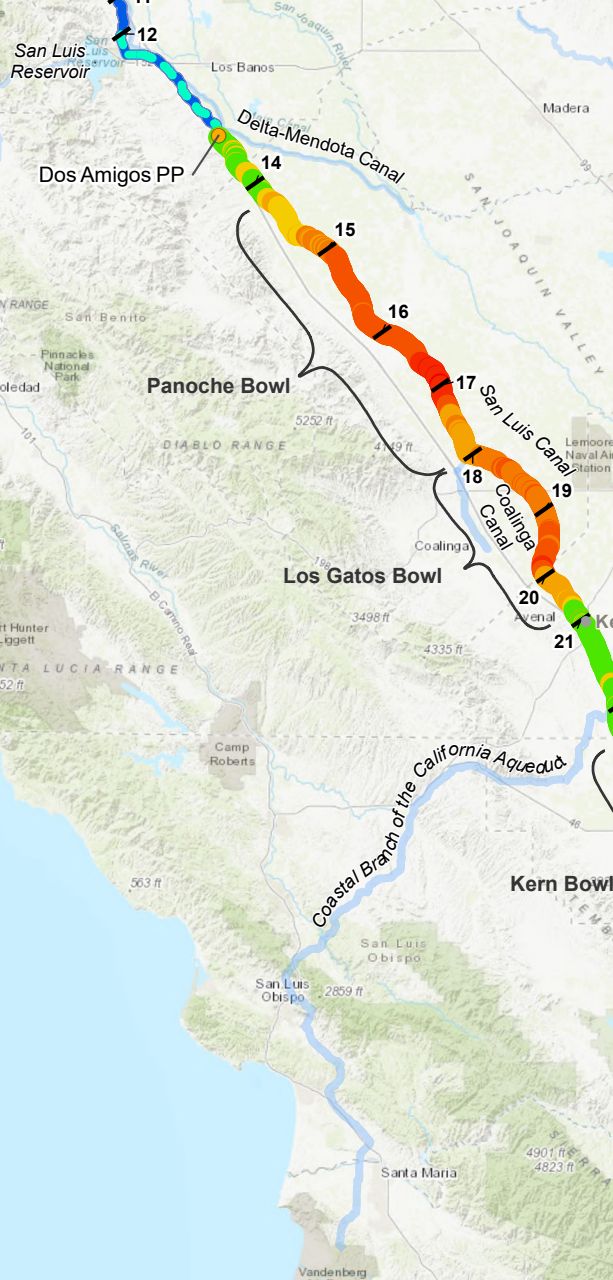
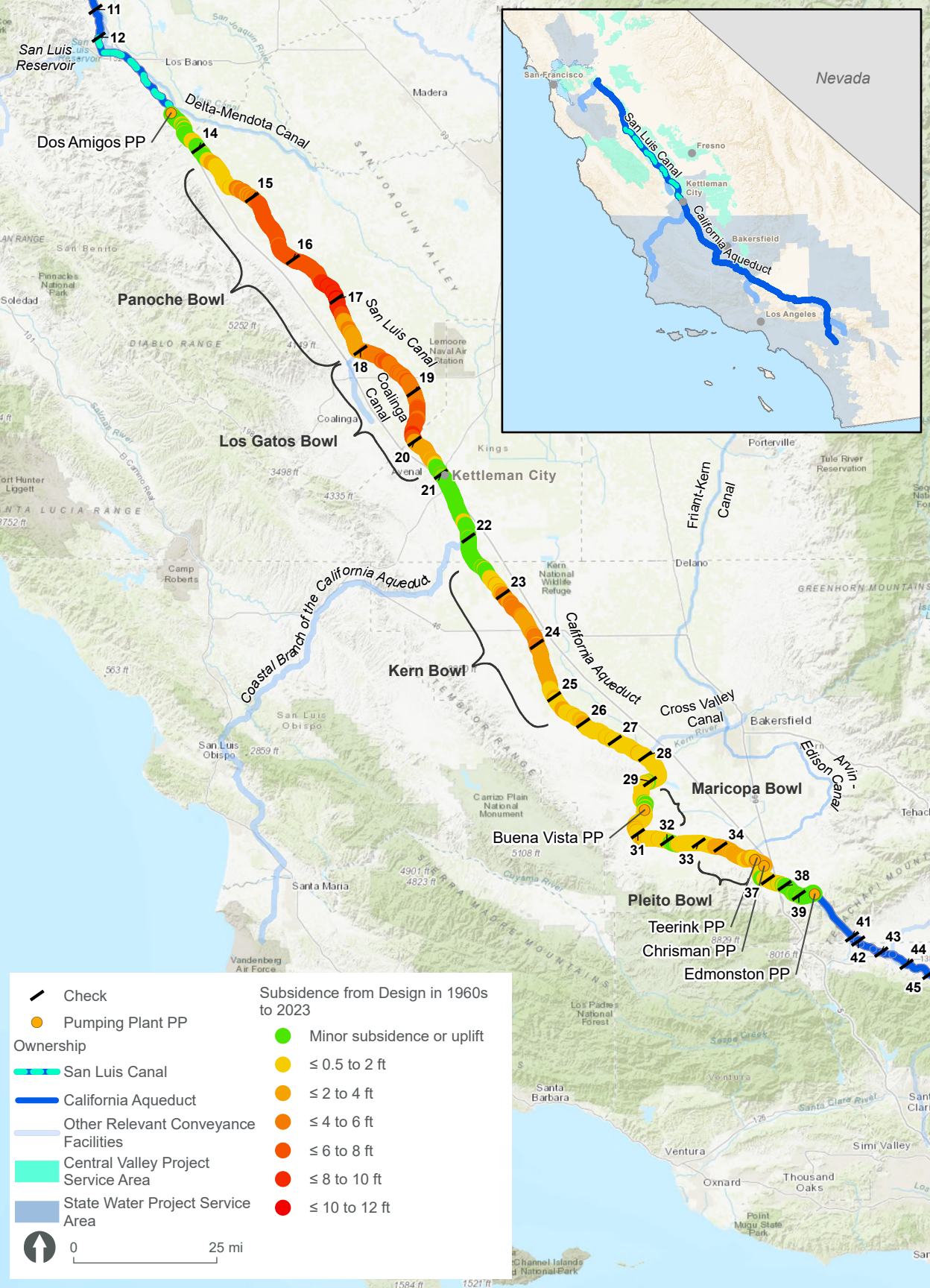
- To better understand the changes and causes of subsidence, several monitoring wells, and continuous Global Positioning System (GPS) stations are being installed along the San Luis Canal and California Aqueduct.

DWR is committed to working collaboratively with the Tribe to properly account for and manage resources important to the Tribe consistent with DWR's *Tribal Engagement Policy* and the California Natural Resources Agency's *Tribal Consultation Policy*. We welcome any recommendations regarding appropriate management or treatment of resources, including Tribal cultural resources, that occur within or near the CASP Area. This notification does not limit the Tribe's ability to submit information regarding the identification or significance of Tribal cultural resources, the significance of the Project's potential impact on Tribal cultural resources, or any appropriate mitigation measures.

If the Tribe has any questions or needs additional information, please reply to this email at CASP@water.ca.gov or contact our environmental planning lead Marea Bell at (916) 882-2945, or by email at Marea.Bell@water.ca.gov. You may also contact DWR Office of Tribal Affairs Executive Manager Anecita Agustinez at tribalpolicyadvisor@water.ca.gov.

Respectfully,

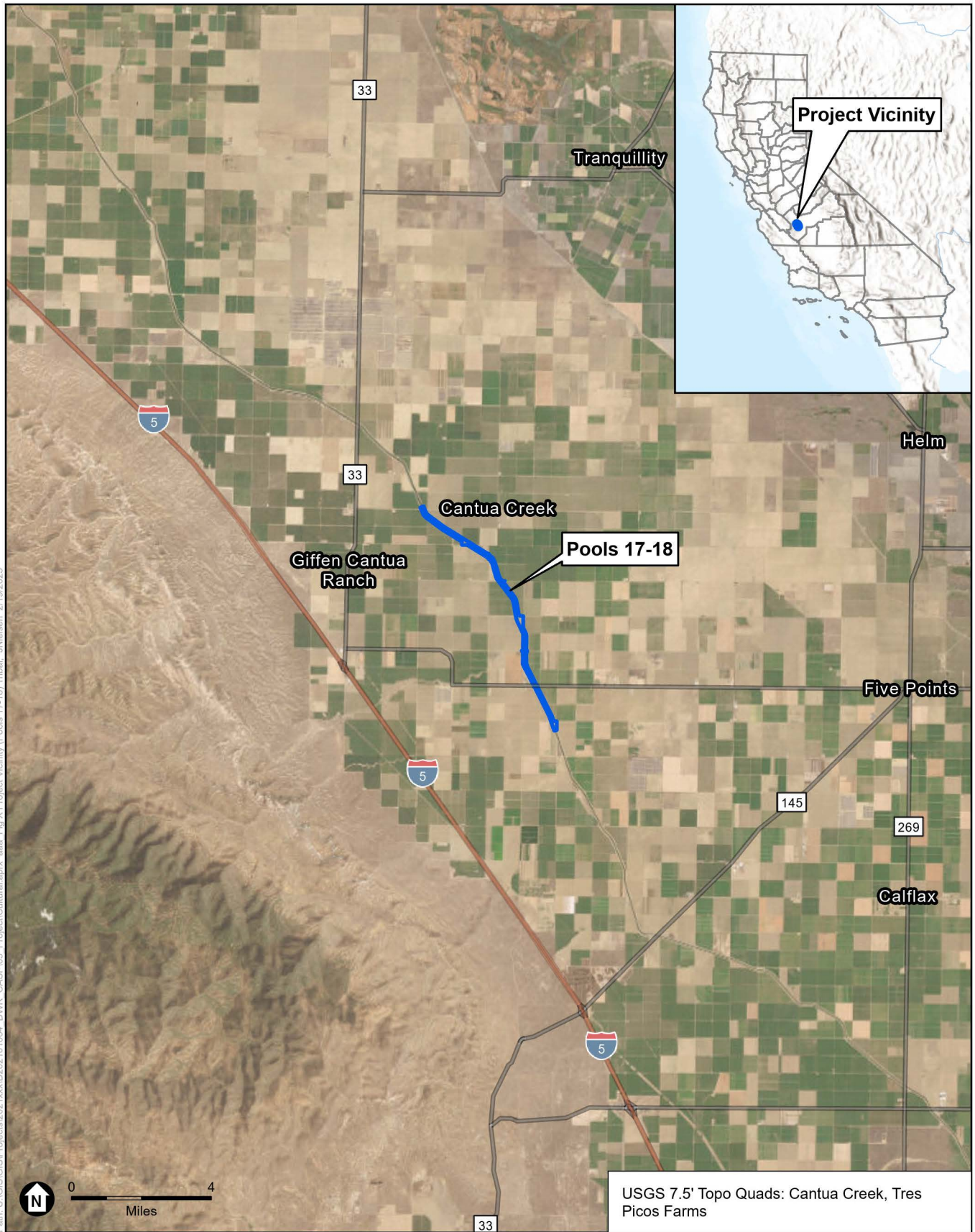
Jesse J. Dillon, P.E.
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	Check		Minor subsidence or uplift
	Pumping Plant PP		≤ 0.5 to 2 ft
	San Luis Canal		≤ 2 to 4 ft
	California Aqueduct		≤ 4 to 6 ft
	Other Relevant Conveyance Facilities		≤ 6 to 8 ft
	Central Valley Project Service Area		≤ 8 to 10 ft
	State Water Project Service Area		≤ 10 to 12 ft

0 25 mi



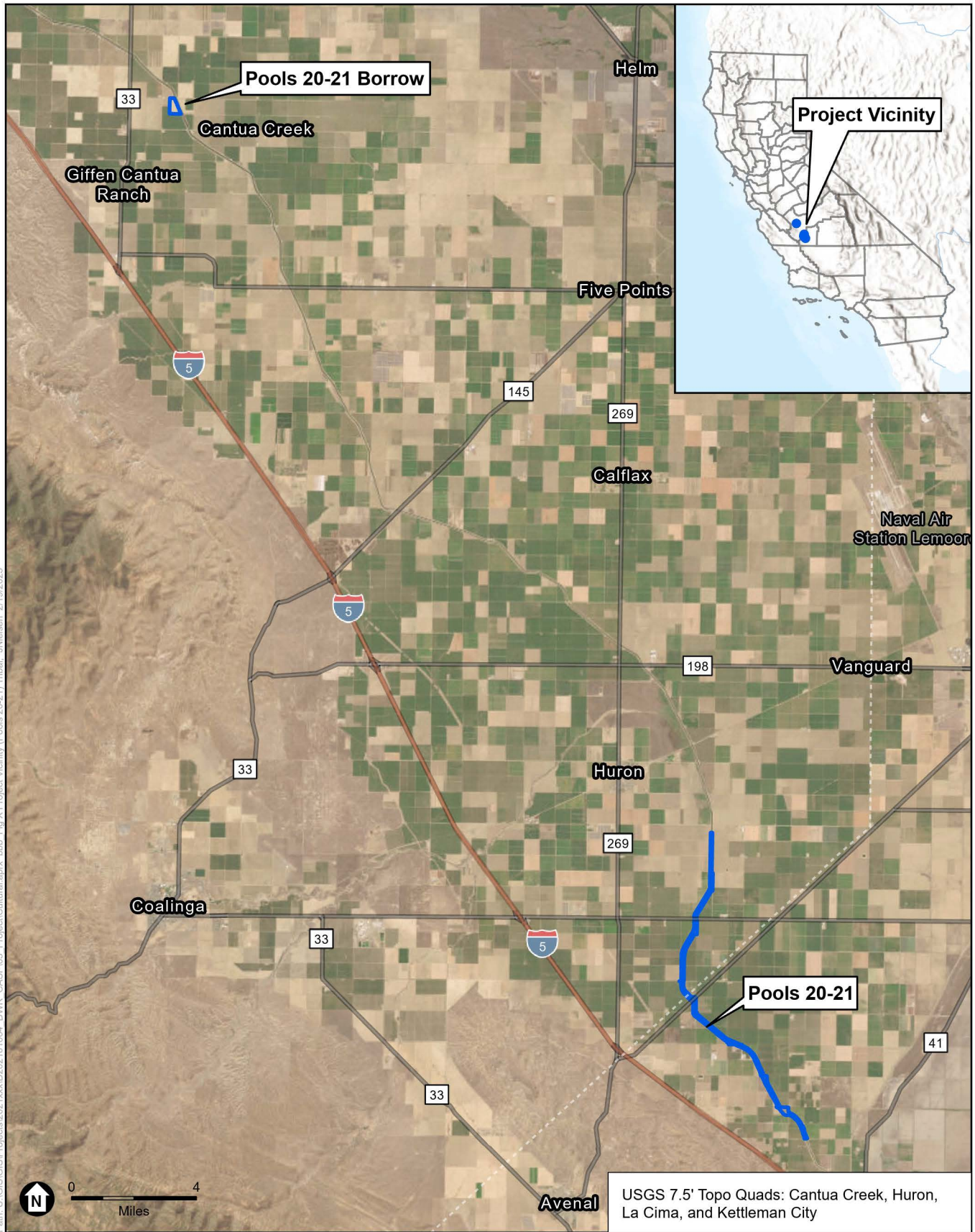


SOURCE: ESRI; DWR, 2025

CASP Pools 17-18 Liner Raise Project

Figure 2
Pools 17-18 Liner Raise





SOURCE: ESRI; DWR, 2025.

CASP Pools 20-21 Liner Raise Project

Figure 3
Pools 20-21 Liner Raise





SOURCE: ESRI; DWR, 2025.

CASP Pool 24 Liner Raise Project

Figure 4
Pool 24 Liner Raise