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- The proposed Project components will benefit disadvantaged populations in the Project area.
- As described in the Project EIR/EIS (attached), the Project area includes portions of 14 census tracts with Median Household Incomes (MHI) shown in the table below. Pursuant to the 2005-06 Consolidated Grant Guidelines, 80% of the statewide annual MHI is \$37,994 (Census 2000); areas with annual MHI below this income are considered disadvantaged. As such, Census Tracts 002300 and 002400 are disadvantaged communities. The minority population (mostly low-income and Hispanic) in these Census Tracts comprises approximately 28.3% of the total population in the Project area.
- Homeless individuals live in the lower Ventura River among stands of giant reed in camps. Giant reed control will not occur in this area under this grant funding, but is proposed as part of the overall Project. Homeless in the riverbed are susceptible to injury or death by flood flows if they are not moved before the seasonal arrival of floodwaters. Campfires are common and often result in wild fires that could injure individuals and cause property damage. Removal of giant reed proposed for the overall Project will directly affect these individuals. While giant reed removal may not eliminate homeless camps or the impacts of these individuals on the Ventura River ecosystem, the Project may result in some individuals seeking public assistance. The well installation will benefit all City water customers. Maintaining the function and capacity of the wells at Foster Park will allow the City to continue providing sufficient quantities of water, at low cost, for all customers.
- Stakeholders (Attachment C) and affected property owners, including Census Tracts 002300 and 002400 were notified during the NEPA/CEQA public notice process, through working groups, and local media. For the Project components described in this proposal, the goals, objectives, outcomes and status will be broadcast via the Matilija website, the Matilija Environmental Science Area Society (MESA) program, local media, and by direct communication with residents and interested parties during working group meetings.
- The Project’s impact on disadvantaged communities was analyzed in the attached EIS/EIR and indicates the Project would not adversely affect these communities.
- Water supplied to the disadvantaged populations in west Ventura is priced equitably among all customers. The City’s tiered water rate structure has one of the lowest priced, low water usage rates. The lowest tier is where many disadvantaged customers water use falls; therefore these customers receive the same benefits as others (i.e., low water and wastewater rates). The City also offers payment arrangements for all customers. The Project components will benefit disadvantaged populations in the form of safe and reliable water supply and long-term recreational benefits at local beaches and along the Ventura River.
- As analyzed in the EIS/EIR, neither Project component described in this proposal is expected to adversely affect Census Tracts 002300 or 002400. However, the giant reed removal Project has the potential to displace a population of homeless individuals that periodically live in the Ventura River among stands of giant reed; these individuals were not likely included in Census 2000 data. Displacement of these individuals will be done in coordination with local homeless resource entities.
- Ventura County and the City of Ventura treat all residents and water customers equitably. Water supplied to the disadvantaged populations in west Ventura are ensured equitable benefits from the Project with regard to water supply reliability.

Census Tract	Median Household Income	Census Tract	Median Household Income
001000	\$56,964	001205	\$61,458
001001	\$59,250	002300	\$29,219 *
001101	\$45,337	002400	\$27,198 *
001102	\$47,024	002500	\$52,720
000901	\$55,881	002902	\$69,406
000902	\$62,866	003603	\$60,063
001204	\$45,089	003604	\$55,428