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Land Use & environmental planning

SPECIALIZING IN THE INTEGRATION OF PLANNING, REGULATORY, SCIENTIFIC, AND ENGINEERING DISCIPLINES TO CREATE SOLUTIONS.

Our Organization

Kleinschmidt is an employee-owned corporation established in 1966 specializing in the integration of planning, science, and engineering to create sustainable solutions to complex regulatory and management issues. We offer outstanding skills in communications and collaboration coupled with technical expertise in the physical, biological, and social sciences.

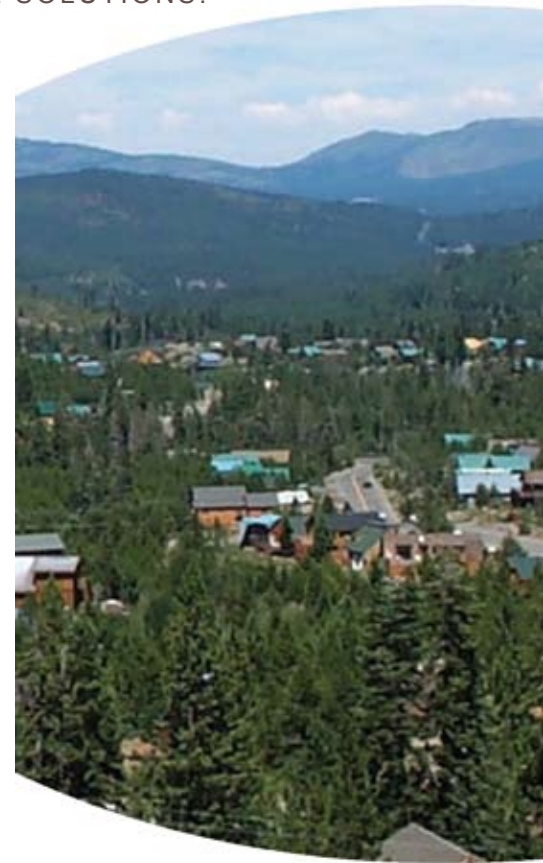
Kleinschmidt is highly respected for its objectivity, scientific rigor, and knowledge of land-use and natural resource issues by clients, federal and state regulators, and non-governmental organizations. We are particularly adept and experienced at compiling and

developing detailed technical information and then applying that information in multi-party planning processes to develop consensus around a given project or approach.

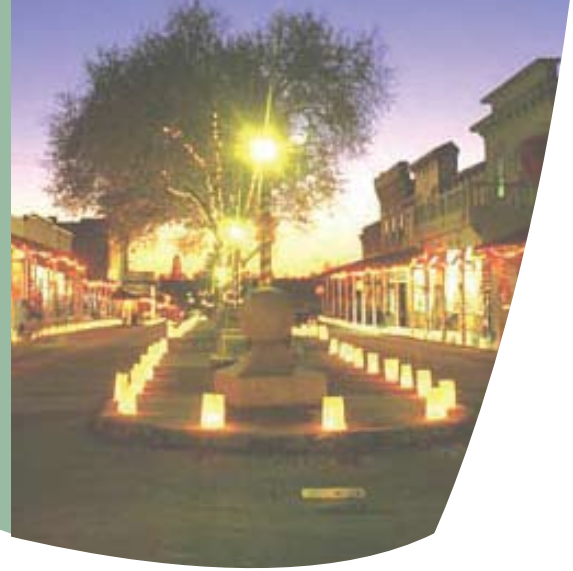
“Helping you plan for your future”

We offer a depth of experience typically found in large organizations, while retaining the project control, response time, flexibility,

and personal attention that characterize smaller firms. We have more than 120 employees located in eight offices across the country, including an office in Grass Valley, California. Our planning staff routinely teams with engineers, facilitators, and environmental permitting professionals.



What We Do



Kleinschmidt provides planning, engineering, and environmental consulting services to federal and state resource agencies and local government agencies including cities, counties, LAFCOs, water districts, irrigation districts, and utilities.

Our planning staff specializes in five areas of planning:

1. Land-Use Planning and Analyses

- Current Planning
- Advance Planning
- LAFCO Municipality Service Reviews

2. Environmental Assessments

- CEQA/NEPA
- Environmental Studies and Assessment
- Endangered Species Act consultation including Habitat Conservation Plans

3. Permitting at State and Federal Agencies

- Regulatory Process Management
- Permitting for infrastructure and commercial developments
- NPDES
- FEMA

- Section 401
- Army Corps
- Streambed Alteration Agreements

4. Watershed Planning

- Shoreline Management Plans
- Water Supply Planning
- Wetland delineations, mitigation, design, construction, and compliance reporting
- Conservation planning services offered to federal, state, and local agencies and non-profit organizations

5. GIS Services and Information Management in Support of Planning Analyses

- Mapping
- Spatial Analyses

The following pages provide more detail for each of these planning areas.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Environmental Assessment

Kleinschmidt was the primary contract author for SMUD and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in developing a joint CEQA/NEPA Negative Declaration and Environmental Assessment in connection with a water transfer in the Lower American River Basin.

Land Use Planning & Analyses



Kleinschmidt has considerable experience in evaluating land-use issues, assessing the consistency of proposed projects with existing land-use plans and policies, and developing land and resource planning documents. Our staff is familiar with a variety of local, state, and federal land-use planning laws and regulations including the **California Subdivision Map Act** and **California Planning and Zoning Law**.

Kleinschmidt has the expertise to assess proposed projects at the conceptual stage to determine the feasibility of design and site location. Our staff is well versed in the site plan and submittal requirements of local agencies, allowing us to provide “one-stop shopping” for most projects.

Inherent in our permitting approach is our role as **mediator and negotiator** to assure projects meet the client’s purpose and need while satisfying regulatory requirements. We advocate a proactive, cooperative approach to most permitting projects, involving jurisdictional agencies at the onset of the design and implementation stages. Our excellent rapport with local, regional, and federal regulators allows for frank yet decisive discussions and resolutions for our client’s

projects. This approach **minimizes regulatory roadblocks** by allowing for early input from regulators, proactive problem solving, and expedient issuance of permits.

Our clientele ranges from private landowners, municipalities, and land management agents to corporations and utilities. Our staff has extensive experience in permitting **residential subdivisions, commercial and industrial developments, conditional use permits, variances, and recreation plans**.

Some of the planning services we provide include:

- Permit processing (Subdivisions, Conditional Use Permits, Development Permits, Variances, etc.)
- Area plans and specific plans
- Comprehensive recreation planning
- LAFCO Municipal Service Reviews
- Permitting for infrastructure and commercial development projects
- Fire safety plans
- Extension of staff services
- Community outreach, public scoping, and conflict resolution

Example Project:

*Contract Planning Services
Client: City of Oroville*

Example Project:

*Municipal Service Review for Irrigation, Drainage, and Reclamation Service Providers
Client: Butte LAFCO*

Environmental Assessment



Kleinschmidt's environmental assessment experience spans three decades of national regulatory exposure and covers a wide range of resource areas. Kleinschmidt has managed

NEPA and CEQA processes and written environmental assessments and initial studies for a number of projects. Managing the NEPA/CEQA process requires the ability to **scope** the issues and project alternatives, **recommend** a level of study that will meet regulatory requirements, and **analyze** the effects of various alternatives on the resources at the project site. Our staff is experienced in analyzing environmental effects of various projects on environmental and non-environmental resources. Further, we are well versed in preparing scoping documents, organizing

and conducting public scoping meetings, and working with various special interest groups, resource agencies, and the public in the NEPA/CEQA process. Our staff has also conducted cumulative effects analyses as required by NEPA for our clients in the hydroelectric industry.

Environmental assessment services provided by Kleinschmidt include:

- CEQA/NEPA services
 - Initial Studies and Negative Declarations
 - Environmental Assessments
 - Findings of No Significance
 - Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Impact Statements
 - Mitigation monitoring and reporting plans
 - Findings/Records of Decision
- Environmental Studies and Assessment
 - Resource inventories and impact assessments
 - Study scoping and performance
 - Wetland delineations and assessments

Example Project:

Tailwater Recovery Project

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Client: Browns Valley Irrigation District

Example Project:

Oroville Industrial Subdivision

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Client: City of Oroville

Permitting



Kleinschmidt's permitting experience spans three decades. We pride ourselves on maintaining excellent relationships with permitting agency staff.

The Kleinschmidt team has considerable **experience** with local, state, and federal permitting. Many of our projects require U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permitting, and we strive for excellent rapport with permitting agencies. Kleinschmidt is especially **effective** at permitting for a number of reasons. Our team is a big proponent of "pre-application" meetings, in which Kleinschmidt conducts a site visit with permitting agencies, discusses their issues, and determines the appropriate level of permitting required. Additionally, our **permitting success** is complemented by our team's biological expertise; we have extensive experience performing rare, threatened, and endangered species surveys, as well as preparing studies and plans for the protection of anadromous fish and endangered species. These skills are critical in the successful **negotiation** of projects through permitting processes, and ultimately the successful and timely completion of projects.

The permitting services provided by Kleinschmidt include:

- Section 401 Water Quality
- Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permitting
- NPDES permitting
- FEMA approvals
- Endangered Species Act Consultation
 - Habitat Management Plans
 - Fisheries and aquatic habitat studies
 - Compliance reporting



Example Project:

*Nevada City Hydroelectric Feasibility Study,
Design, Engineering, and Permitting
Client: City of Nevada City*

Watershed Planning



In recent years there has been a renewed focus on watershed assessment and planning. State and federal regulators, as well as a variety of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), are actively promoting comprehensive planning and local community stewardship as alternatives to heavy-handed regulatory approaches. Watershed planning requires a multidisciplinary approach to problem solving, combining sound science with reasoned public policy. It also, by nature, requires cooperation and collaboration among many diverse interests. Kleinschmidt provides **planning, engineering, and environmental** services to solve land and water resource problems within a watershed or river basin. These services include fairly large, comprehensive evaluations that seek to balance multiple uses (such as flood control, water supply, water quality, species protection, recreation, and energy production) or smaller assessments focused on a particular resource concern.



Watershed planning services offered to federal, state, local, and non-profit organizations include the following:

- Habitat and River Restoration Planning
- Hydraulic Modeling of Riverine, Estuarine, and Lake Systems
- Riparian Buffer Management
- Water Quality and Watershed Assessments
- Land and Water Resource Management Plans
- Shoreline Management Plans
- Wetland Delineation, Assessment, and Mitigation Plans
- Storm Water Management Planning
- Sediment and Erosion Control Studies
- Staff Support for Technical and Scientific Panels
- Development of Habitat and Species Databases
- Strategic Management Plans

Example Project:

Cosumnes River Preserve Management Plan
Client: *The Nature Conservancy*

Geographic Information Systems & Information Management in Support of Planning Services



Kleinschmidt's GIS services support our planning services by providing spatial analysis, information management, and mapping functions. GIS integrates tabular data with spatial information, forming the basis for analysis and depiction of planning and development projects. Our highly trained team of experts work one-on-one with our clients and staff involved in land-use planning and management, fisheries science, recreation, water quality, and federal, state, and local permitting. Utilizing ESRI and Autodesk GIS tools, Kleinschmidt supports a wide array of projects from watershed analyses to urban and regional comprehensive planning projects.

Example Projects:

*Preparation of Exhibit G for Mokelumne River
Client: Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E)*

*McCloud Pit Pre-Application Document
Client: Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E)*

*Phase I Raw Water Master Plan
Client: Nevada Irrigation District*

*Phase II Raw Water Master Plan
Client: Nevada Irrigation District*



Who We Are



The strength of Kleinschmidt can be found in our employees, whose combined expertise allows us to assemble project teams with the right blend of technical capability to get the job done quickly, efficiently, and accurately. All members of the organization have served many years in consulting roles and bring a national perspective to problem solving tempered by local knowledge of players and issues. Our staff has a broad knowledge base working with planning, engineering, environmental, and regulatory issues and can bring a unique approach to critical analysis and problem solving on behalf of our clients.

The following individuals are key planning personnel within the Kleinschmidt organization and take lead roles in scoping, managing, and conducting results-based planning services on behalf for our clients:

Michael C. Schimpff, P.E., P.H. – Manager of Water Resources Team

Mike is an engineer and hydrologist with over 25 years of experience in conducting hydrologic and hydraulic studies, including hydroelectric feasibility, PMF analyses, dam breach studies, energy analyses and modeling, watershed modeling, reservoir management, and backwater and transient analyses. He has developed several computer programs to perform various statistical analyses on hydrologic data, such as flow duration analyses and flow frequency analyses. He also has provided hydrologic, hydraulic, and environmental data for numerous other projects. Mike is a vice president and manager of the Grass Valley, California, office.

Uma Hinman – Planner and Environmental Analyst

Uma joined Kleinschmidt in February 2006 from a local government planning department,

bringing over six years of experience as an environmental and land-use planner in the Sierra foothills. She has extensive knowledge of the CEQA process and land-use planning regulations. Uma has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from Humboldt State University, Arcata, California.

Uma's career has focused on assisting federal, state, and local government agencies, and private organizations incorporate land-use and environmental policies and informing decision-makers on land-use and resource management issues. Her experience in planning is broad, including project processing and environmental review of ordinance amendments, subdivision maps, and development proposals. Experience in advance planning includes growth analyses for General Plan updates and a county-wide fire plan. Uma also has experience in environmental compliance monitoring and duties as a field coordinator for on-the-ground construction projects.

Who We Are



Stacia Hoover - Project Scientist

Stacia Hoover joined Kleinschmidt in 2005 as a Project Scientist with over 12 years of professional biological experience in both academia and private consulting. She has a B.S. in Evolution and Ecology from University of California at Davis, where she studied the genetic make-up and population substructure of the western pond turtle, and a Masters in Biology from California State University, Sacramento, studying the causes of avian/turbine collisions at the Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area. Ms. Hoover specializes in assessing impacts on biological and environmental resources, particularly related to wildlife and wetland ecology. Her experience includes conducting resource and impact assessments, special-status species surveys, general biotic inventories, and jurisdictional wetland delineations. Typical tasks include routinely developing scientific study plans to investigate natural resource issues; performing and managing fieldwork and crew; technical writing and data analysis; and acting as liaison between private, local, state, and federal resource agencies.

Marty Phillips – Senior Resource Economist

Marty earned a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from the University of Maine,

Orono, in 1987 and an M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maine, Orono, in 1994.

At Kleinschmidt, Marty is responsible for assisting clients in planning and implementing recreation studies, primarily focusing on near-water and water-based recreational opportunities. She assists in planning studies for new and rehabilitated facilities, working closely with our engineering staff in identifying the need for new recreation sites, their location, and design. Prior to joining Kleinschmidt in 1996, Marty worked for Hagler Bailly Consulting in Wisconsin, where she participated in projects by estimating the value of wildlife-related recreation and non-use values of natural resources. Her responsibilities ranged from primary data collection using various data collection techniques, to assistance in study and survey designs, supervision of study teams, and analysis and reporting.

Marty has also been involved with recreation studies conducted in association with hydroelectric relicensing projects. Her experience has focused on survey research methodology and sampling frames, data collection and coordination, analysis and reporting for recreation studies.

Who We Are



Shawn Flynn – Planning Technician and Editor

Shawn joined Kleinschmidt in 2006 from a local government Community Development Department. She has a Bachelors and a Masters degree in English from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Her responsibilities at Kleinschmidt include writing and editing proposals, providing administrative and research support to project managers, maintaining databases and project FTP sites, and coordinating marketing meetings and events.

Jennifer Austin Wardwell – GIS Specialist

Jennifer joined Kleinschmidt as a GIS Specialist in 1999. She has a B.A. in Environmental Science and a M.S. in Spatial Information Science and Engineering from the University of Maine at Orono. Prior to working at the Maine Office of GIS, Jennifer was employed by the Town of Carrabassett Valley, Maine, for two years assisting the municipality in developing numerous GIS projects within the community. Since joining Kleinschmidt, Jennifer has participated in numerous GIS activities, including database development, management, and GIS technical support. She has coordinated the development of the geospatial databases for several planning, environmental, and engineering efforts. As part of this work, she has been instrumental in the development of various GIS maps and analyses, integrating

site-specific data with the large number of public domain databases available. She has also developed in-house training with regard to Global Positioning System and GIS software, procedures, and protocols for obtaining and working with the necessary geo-referenced data.

Sam Diaz – Engineer

Sam joined Kleinschmidt in 2008 as a Senior Engineer, with 10 years of experience in civil engineering. He holds a B.S. in Biological Resource Engineering from the University of Maryland. His work experience includes utility design of water, sewer, and storm drain systems (including low-impact design concepts); hydraulic modeling; roadway design and site grading practices; and surveying, from site topographical data collection to construction staking and verification. For the past two plus years, he has worked on water and wastewater projects, including designs for new treatment plant installations, expansions and modifications to existing treatment plants, installation and rehabilitation of large-diameter water transmission lines and other underground utilities. His asset management experience includes condition and capacity assessments, and development of a prioritized capital improvement plan for existing infrastructure. He also has experience in regional water planning concepts through his involvement with water supply assessment projects.

Experience



Kleinschmidt's primary focus is providing clients with the **experience** and **expertise** of senior personnel backed by skilled and dedicated project staff. This approach contributes immeasurably to the final outcome of each project in terms of meeting client expectations for project management, budget, schedule, and results. By becoming a value-added extension of the client's team, we become well acquainted with client needs and are better able to assist in achieving your goals of **high quality** and **cost-effectiveness**.

The following pages include some of our recent projects, representing Kleinschmidt's services in the areas of **land-use planning, environmental science, and regulatory process management**. The project examples represent typical project involvement from issues identification and project scoping, to implementation and management of the project schedule, development of work products, consultation with the client and agencies, and project completion and follow-up. Kleinschmidt projects have been well received by clients and regulatory agencies and are known for being complete, accurate, and technically sound. We provide a seamless project team that has the necessary skills to anticipate complex issues before they develop.

If you have additional questions or would like further information sent to you after reviewing this material, please contact the individuals below:

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Glossary



CEQA: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is intended to inform governmental decision-makers and the public about potential environmental effects of a project, identify ways to reduce adverse impacts, offer alternatives to the project, and disclose to the public why a project was approved. CEQA applies to projects undertaken, funded, or requiring an issuance of a permit by a public agency (<http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>).

LAFCO: Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO) review proposals for the formation of new local governmental agencies and for changes in the organization of existing agencies. LAFCO decisions strive to balance the competing needs in California for efficient services, affordable housing, economic opportunity, and conservation of natural resources (<http://calafco.org/about.htm>).

Land Management Plan: A tool for managing the multiple resources and uses of a defined region of land in a manner that is consistent with balancing land use and public access purposes, and also seeks to balance these uses while promoting or improving ecologic success of both native flora and fauna.

NEPA: National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) establishes national environmental

policy and goals for the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of the environment, and it provides a process for implementing these goals within the federal agencies (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa>).

NPDES: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States (<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes>).

Section 401 Water Quality Certification: This federal permitting program is for the protection of all waters in its regulatory scope, including waterways, wetlands, riparian areas, and headwaters (<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/wetlands/regs/sec401.html>).

Shoreline Management Plan: A tool to guide responsible pier and marina construction, shoreline stabilization, excavation, and other construction activities within lake boundaries.

Streambed Alteration Agreement: A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) may be required by the California Department of Fish and Game for any activity that could substantially modify a river, stream, or lake, and could adversely affect an existing fish and wildlife resource.