

Table 31-5. Summary Comparison of Effects of the Alternatives: Visual Resources

Alternative or Condition	Mono Lake					Tributary Streams		Grant Lake Reservoir		Upper Owens River		Lake Crowley Reservoir						
	South Tufa Towers Toppled	Tufa Towers Submerged	Sand Tufa Effects	Birds	Negit Island	Wetland Vegetation (acres)	Alkali Flats (acres)	Pumice Blocks (acres)	Dust Storms (number per year)	Change in Scenic Quality	Riparian Vegetation	Change in Scenic Quality	Drawdown Zone (vertical feet)	Change in Scenic Quality	Riparian Vegetation	Change in Scenic Quality	Drawdown Zone (vertical feet)	Change in Scenic Quality
Point of reference	Some	Extensive emergence	Exposed	Large populations of gulls, grebes, and phalaropes	Appears to be joined to mainland	2,800	5,400	1,600	13-14		336 acres		30		4 acres		4	
No restriction	No additional losses	Additional emergence	No change	Large population decreases or lake abandonment*	Joined to mainland	300	9,500	5,000	>15	Adverse* (birds)	160 acres	Adverse*	20	Moderate benefit	Loss	Minor adverse	4	None
6,372 Ft	No additional losses	Bases of small percentage emerged	No change	Gull nesting capacity reduced 16%; phalaropes restricted to east side*	Joined to mainland	2,900	3,900	1,800	13-14	Adverse* (birds)	Slight increase	Neutral	27	Neutral	Loss	Minor adverse	6	Minor adverse
6,377 Ft	Small percentage toppled	Bases of a small percentage submerged	No change	Gull nesting capacity greatly increased; phalaropes more widespread	Appears to be joined to mainland	2,600	1,500	900	<13	Neutral (offsetting effects)	Little change	Neutral	17	Moderate benefit	Loss	Minor adverse	6	Minor adverse
6,383.5 Ft	Larger percentage toppled	Total submergence of up to 10%; base submergence of up to 50%	No change	Gull nesting capacity greatly increased; phalaropes more widespread; migratory duck habitat somewhat increased	Distinct island appearance	2,300	500	130	<10	Beneficial	Slight decrease from lake inundation	Neutral	4	Major benefit	Loss	Minor adverse	9	Adverse*
6,390 Ft	50% toppled*	Total submergence of up to 18%*; base submergence of up to 60%	Destroys all now protruding; may be new cliff-face exposures*	Gull nesting capacity greatly increased; phalaropes more widespread; migratory duck habitat somewhat increased	Distinct island appearance	2,000	400	0	1-2	Adverse* (tufa)	Slight decrease from lake inundation	Neutral	4	Major benefit	Loss	Minor adverse	7	Adverse*
6,410 Ft	100% toppled*	Total submergence of 30-100%*	Destroys all now protruding; may be new cliff-face exposures*	Gull nesting capacity greatly increased; phalaropes more widespread; migratory duck habitat greatly increased	Distinct island appearance	800	160	0	<1	Adverse* (tufa)	Slight decrease from lake inundation	Neutral	4	Major benefit	Little or no loss	Neutral	8	Adverse*

Table 3I-5. Continued

Alternative or Condition	Mono Lake										Tributary Streams		Grant Lake Reservoir		Upper Owens River		Lake Crowley Reservoir	
	South Tufa Towers Toppled	Tufa Towers Submerged	Sand Tufa Effects	Birds	Negit Island	Wetland Vegetation (acres)	Alkali Flats (acres)	Pumice Blocks (acres)	Dust Storms (number per year)	Change in Scenic Quality	Riparian Vegetation	Change in Scenic Quality	Drawdown Zone (vertical feet)	Change in Scenic Quality	Riparian Vegetation	Change in Scenic Quality	Drawdown Zone (vertical feet)	Change in Scenic Quality
No diversion	100% toppled*	Total submergence of 30-100%*	Destroys all now protruding; may be new cliff-face exposures*	Gull nesting capacity greatly increased; phalaropes more widespread; migratory duck habitat greatly increased	Distinct island appearance	400	0	0	<1	Adverse* (tufa)	Slight decrease from lake inundation	Neutral	0	Major benefit; appear as natural lake	Little or no loss	Neutral	9	Adverse*
Prediversion	All submerged			Gull nesting capacity large; phalaropes probably widespread; duck habitat and population large	Distinct island appearance	400	0	0	<1		492 acres		0		16 acres		Unknown	

\* Substantial change relative to point of reference.