



- Board of Directors
Engineering and Operations Committee

7/14/2020 Board Meeting

7-3

Subject

Review and consider Addendum No. 1 to the 2015 Mitigated Negative Declaration, and award a \$3,270,000 contract to Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. to reline pipe and replace pipefittings at the Lake Perris Control Facility and on the Lakeview Pipeline

Executive Summary

This action awards a contract to replace the 60-inch pipe tee-fitting at the Lake Perris Control Facility, and reline a portion of the Lakeview Pipeline at the east portal of the Bernasconi Tunnel. This work is required to maintain structural integrity of the pipeline when delivering water from Diamond Valley Lake (DVL) to the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant.

Details

Background

The Lakeview Pipeline is an 11.5-foot diameter steel pipe approximately 11.5 miles long constructed in 1973 to provide water from the East Branch of the State Water Project (SWP) to the Skinner area. The pipeline receives untreated water from the Department of Water Resources' Santa Ana Valley Pipeline and conveys it to the San Diego Canal. In combination with the Inland Feeder, Metropolitan uses the Lakeview Pipeline to blend flows from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct for deliveries in the Skinner area. The Lakeview Pipeline also delivers untreated water to three member-agency service connections.

The Mills plant delivers treated water to Eastern Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County. It currently has a treatment capacity of 220 million gallons per day. Under normal conditions, the Mills plant relies exclusively on raw water deliveries from the East Branch of the SWP through the Devil Canyon Afterbay and the Santa Ana Valley Pipeline. Multi-year droughts can limit the amount of water that can be supplied to the Mills plant through the East Branch of the SWP. In order to provide an additional source of supply under these conditions, system improvements were initiated to directly supply the Mills plant with water stored in DVL. The Lakeview Pipeline is a key portion of Metropolitan's system that will be utilized to convey water from DVL to the Mills plant.

Since it was placed in service in 1973, the Lakeview Pipeline has been shut down on numerous occasions to repair leaking pipe joints. With the introduction of DVL and Inland Feeder into Metropolitan's system in 1999 and 2009 respectively, water flows conveyed into the Lakeview Pipeline from these two facilities is at a higher hydraulic grade than the pipeline was originally designed to accommodate. When this type of operation is underway, the potential for pipeline leakage is exacerbated. Regularly scheduled inspections of the pipeline identified that the pipeline is showing signs of deformation. Additionally, the lining that protects the steel pipe from corrosion is delaminating, which exposes the steel to accelerated rates of corrosion. Due to the potential for corrosion of the pipeline and the lack of structural integrity in identified locations, permanent rehabilitation of the Lakeview Pipeline has been planned, prioritized, and staged.

The first phase of this staged rehabilitation was completed in March 2015 when construction of the initial improvements to the pipeline were completed during a 10-month shutdown of the pipeline. This work included lining a one-mile portion of the Lakeview Pipeline known as the Bernasconi Tunnel with a steel liner and construction of an intertie from the Inland Feeder to the Lakeview Pipeline at a facility known as the PC-1

pressure control structure. The second phase of the Lakeview Pipeline rehabilitation, which is the subject of this action, includes relining a 133-inch diameter section of pipe referred to as a “wye” branch, which is located near the east portal of the Bernasconi Tunnel and replacement of a 60-inch diameter “tee” section of pipe located at the Lake Perris Control Facility. This stage of the overall rehabilitation will enable up to 120 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water stored in DVL to be reliably delivered to the Mills plant, while maintaining overall pipeline structural integrity.

Future phases of this overall rehabilitation effort on the Lakeview Pipeline include: steel lining 3.7 miles of the pipeline between the Inland Feeder’s PC-1 control structure and the Perris Control Facility; constructing a 1,000-foot-long reach of 9.5-foot-diameter pipe to bypass the Perris Control Facility; and steel lining the remaining 6.7 miles of the Lakeview Pipeline that extends from PC-1 to the San Diego/Casa Loma Canal junction structure. Staff will return to the Board in the future to award these construction contracts. Upon completion of this future work, the Lakeview Pipeline will be capable of delivering up to 340 cfs from Devil Canyon through the Inland Feeder to the Mills plant, providing an alternate delivery route to the plant as backup to the Santa Ana Valley Pipeline.

In accordance with the April 2020 action on the biennial budget for Fiscal Years 2020/21 and 2021/22, the General Manager will authorize staff to proceed with the replacement of the pipefittings on the Lakeview Pipeline and the Lake Perris Control Facility, pending board award of the construction contract described below. Based on the current CIP expenditure forecast, funds for the work to be performed pursuant to this action during the current biennium are available within the Capital Investment Plan Appropriation for Fiscal Years 2020/21 and 2021/22 (Appropriation No. 15517). This project has been reviewed in accordance with Metropolitan’s CIP prioritization criteria, and was approved by Metropolitan’s CIP evaluation team to be included in the Distribution System Reliability Program.

Lakeview Pipeline Improvements – Construction

The scope of the construction contract includes installation of steel liners to rehabilitate a wye fitting on the Lakeview Pipeline near the Bernasconi Tunnel and removing and replacing a 60-inch tee at the Lake Perris Control Facility. Open excavations will be required to access the existing pipe fittings. For the wye fitting, new steel liners will be inserted at these sites, moved into position, and welded together. The annular space between the steel liner and the existing wye fitting will then be filled with concrete grout. Metropolitan force activities will include: (1) shutdown of the feeder and establishment of clearances; (2) final disinfection and water quality testing; and (3) return of the pipeline to service. The planned shutdown of the feeder is scheduled for March 2021.

A total of \$4.6 million is required for this work. In addition to the amount of the contract described below, other budgeted funds include: \$244,000 for shutdown-related activities by Metropolitan staff; \$353,000 for construction inspection; \$108,000 for submittals review, technical support during construction, responding to requests for information, and preparation of record drawings; \$11,000 for temporary right-of-way; \$228,000 for environmental monitoring, contract administration, and project management; and \$386,000 for remaining budget.

Attachment 1 provides the allocation of the required funds. The total estimated cost of this improvement, including the amount allocated to date and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is approximately \$5 million. Approximately \$425,000 has been expended on this project to date.

Award of Construction Contract (\$3,270,000)

Specifications No. 1977 for the Lakeview Pipeline Improvements project was advertised for bids on May 14, 2020. As shown in **Attachment 2**, two bids were received and opened on June 17, 2020. The low bid from Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. in the amount of \$3,270,000 complies with the requirements of the specifications. The higher bid was \$3,441,000, while the engineer’s estimate for this project was \$2,500,000. Staff investigated the difference between the engineer’s estimate and the low bid and attributes the difference to the higher than expected number of subcontractors utilized by the contractor and higher than expected costs for welding and fabricated steel fittings. For this contract, Metropolitan established a Small Business Enterprise participation level of at least 15 percent of the bid amount. Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. has committed to meet this level of participation. The subcontractors for this contract are listed in **Attachment 3**.

This action awards a \$3,270,000 contract to Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. for the replacement of the 60-inch tee at the Lake Perris Control Facility, and relining a wye near the east portal of the Bernasconi Tunnel on the Lakeview Pipeline.

As described above, construction inspection will be performed by Metropolitan staff. Engineering Services' performance metric target range for inspection of projects with a construction cost greater than \$3 million is 9 to 12 percent. For this project, the performance metric goal for inspection is 10 percent of the total construction cost. The total cost of construction for this project is \$3,514,000, which includes the amount of the contract (\$3,270,000) and Metropolitan force construction (\$244,000).

Alternatives Considered

Staff considered proceeding with both the rehabilitation of the pipefittings and steel lining of 3.7 miles of the Lakeview Pipeline Improvements contracts at the same time. However, this more extensive project would require the Lakeview Pipeline to be shut down for an extended period of time. The lengthy shutdown could potentially hamper the ability to deliver water from DVL to the Mills plant if SWP supplies on the East Branch are restricted due to drought conditions. Conducting this Lakeview Pipeline rehabilitation work in a staged manner also spreads out capital expenditures on this large project into multiple budget cycles, which allows other projects in the current CIP to move ahead within current CIP budget constraints. Staff also considered deferring this rehabilitation work on an indefinite basis. Such a deferral would limit the ability to convey water from DVL to the Mills plant during SWP shortages.

Summary

This action awards a \$3,270,000 contract to Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. for the rehabilitation of the pipefittings on the Lakeview Pipeline and at the Lake Perris Control Facility. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds, **Attachment 2** for the Abstract of Bids, **Attachment 3** for the listing of Subcontractors for Low Bidder, and **Attachment 4** for the Location Map.

Project Milestone

June 2021 – Completion of construction

Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 8121: General Authority of the General Manager to Enter Contracts

By Minute Item 50326, dated December 8, 2015, the Board authorized the final design for the Lakeview Pipeline Repairs – Stage 2.

By Minute Item 51963, dated April 14, 2020, the Board appropriated a total of \$500 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2020/21 and 2021/22.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The Board adopted the project's Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) on December 8, 2015. At that time, the Board also approved the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and the project itself. In April 2020, Addendum No. 1 to the MND was prepared to document the proposed minor modifications to the approved project (see **Attachment 5**). CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines require the preparation of an addendum to a previously adopted MND if changes or additions to the project are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines calling for the preparation of a subsequent MND have occurred (Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Review and consider Addendum No. 1 to the 2015 Mitigated Negative Declaration, and award a \$3,270,000 contract to Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. to reline pipe and replace pipefittings at the Lake Perris Control Facility and on the Lakeview Pipeline.

Fiscal Impact: Expenditure of \$4.6 million in capital funds. All costs will be incurred in the current fiscal year and have been previously authorized.

Business Analysis: This option will allow Metropolitan to deliver water from DVL to the Mills plant in times of low water availability from the SWP.

Option #2

Do not proceed with this project at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: This option would delay the ability to deliver water from DVL to the Mills plant by gravity flow, potentially subjecting the Mills plant and the member agencies it serves to adverse impacts from low state availability from the SWP.

Staff Recommendation

Option #1


 _____ 6/23/2020
 John V. Bednarski Date
 Manager/Chief Engineer
 Engineering Services


 _____ 6/25/2020
 Jeffrey Nightlinger Date
 General Manager

Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds

Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids

Attachment 3 – Listing of Subcontractors for Low Bidder

Attachment 4 – Location Map

Attachment 5 – Addendum No. 1 to the 2015 Mitigated Negative Declaration

Ref# es12669216

Allocation of Funds for Lakeview Pipeline Improvements

	Current Board Action (July 2020)
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., envir. monitoring)	228,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	108,000
Construction Inspection & Support	353,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	244,000
Materials & Supplies	-
Incidental Expenses (temp. right-of-way)	11,000
Professional/Technical Services	-
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contract	-
Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.	3,270,000
Remaining Budget	386,000
Total	\$ 4,600,000

The total amount expended to date on the Lakeview Pipeline Improvements project is approximately \$425,000. The total estimated cost to complete this project, including the amount appropriated to date and funds allocated for the work described in this action is approximately \$5.0 million.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Abstract of Bids Received on June 16, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

**Specifications No. 1977
Lakeview Pipeline Improvements**

The planned work consists of replacing the 60-inch tee in the Lake Perris Control Facility and relining a portion of the Lakeview Pipeline with steel cans to protect the facility and pipeline when delivering water from DVL to the Mills plant.

Engineer's estimate: \$2,500,000

Bidder and Location	Total	SBE \$	SBE %	Met SBE¹
Kiewit Infrastructre West Company Sante Fe Springs, California	\$3,270,000	492,614	17.7%	Yes
J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. Walnut, California	\$3,441,000	-	-	-

¹ Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level established at 15% for this contract.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Subcontractors for Low Bidder

**Specifications No. 1977
Lakeview Pipeline Improvements**

Low bidder: Kiewit Infrastructure West Company

Subcontractor and Location
Dean's Certified Welding, Inc., Temecula, California
Zefiro Corporation, Torrance, California
Cell – Crete Corporation, Monrovia, California
Amber Steel Company, Rialto, California
Simpson Sandblasting, Fontana, California
Advantage Demolition and Grading, Temecula, California
Ambient Environmental, Corona, California
Elite Group Enterprises, San Pedro, California
Nicolas Steel, Ontario, California
Infra-Structre Aggregates, Inc., Alta Loma, California
Pinnacle Petroleum, Inc., Huntington Beach, California
AC Paving Company, Sante Fe Springs, California
Crump & Company, Altadena, California
Southwest Valve and Equipment, Tustin, California
Nash Fabricators, Inc., Fallbrook, California
Trinity Equipment, Inc., Jurupa, California

Distribution System



**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO THE
LAKEVIEW PIPELINE REPAIR PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**State Clearinghouse No. 2015061016
Metropolitan Report No. 1449**

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Environmental Planning Section
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Mr. Alexander Marks, AICP, Environmental Specialist**

APRIL 2020

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Lakeview Pipeline Repair Project

Addendum No. 1 to the Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Addendum

The purpose of this Addendum is to evaluate potential environmental effects associated with minor technical modifications to the previously approved Lakeview Pipeline Repair Project (Original Project). An Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the Original Project was adopted by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) in 2015 as part of its approval of the Original Project (State Clearinghouse [SCH] #2015061016).

Metropolitan is proposing modifications to the previously approved Original Project. These proposed modifications are described in detail in Section 2.0 of this Addendum and are summarized as follows:

- A new pipeline access site for approximately 450 linear feet of steel pipe liner installation activities between approximately pipeline Stations 2197+64.50 and 2201+10.5 along the Lakeview Pipeline (LVP) alignment.
- Installation of a new manhole at the proposed relocated access site.
- Replacement of an existing air release and vacuum valve (ARVV) along the LVP alignment at Station 2200+60.
- Replacement of an approximately 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch reducing tee within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.
- Blading and clearing of approximately 1,240 linear feet of approximately 20-foot wide temporary roadway alignment between the proposed access site and Pozos Avenue.
- Off-site fabrication of bulkheads for future installation within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

The 2015 Final IS-MND analyzed impacts on environmental resources associated with the Original Project. To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) and the *State CEQA Guidelines* (California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq.), this Addendum has been prepared to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed modifications as described in detail in Section 2, *Project Description*.

1.2 Regulatory Background

According to Section 15164(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the lead agency or responsible agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or adopted

negative declaration if some changes or additions are necessary, but none of the changes call for preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration (see *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15162).

Metropolitan has evaluated the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modifications as outlined in Section 3, *Impact Analysis*, of this Addendum. As noted in Section 1.3 of this Addendum, Metropolitan, acting as the Lead Agency, has determined that none of the conditions described in Section 15162 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* apply, and an addendum is the appropriate environmental documentation for the proposed modifications and fully complies with CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

1.3 Summary of Environmental Effects

Section 3, *Impact Analysis*, presents an analysis of environmental impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and noise associated with the Modified Project. For all other resource categories identified in the CEQA Appendix G Checklist, the approved 2015 IS-MND found that the project would either have no impact or a less than significant impact. For these categories, the Modified Project would not generate new environmental impacts that were not previously addressed, nor would they substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the project's original environmental documentation. Therefore, no further analysis is required.

This Addendum concludes that the proposed modifications would not change the significance determinations of the approved 2015 IS-MND regarding construction and operational impacts on any of the topics described above. Also, because analyses of tribal cultural resources, energy, and wildfire were not required when the 2015 IS-MND was adopted, brief discussions of impacts on these resource categories are included. The Modified Project does not meet any of the conditions that would require the preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration set forth in Section 15162 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

2.0 Project Description

The following describes the components of the project location, the Original Project, and the proposed modifications constituting the Modified Project analyzed in this Addendum.

2.1 Project Location

The project is located along the Lakeview Pipeline (LVP) alignment. The LVP is located primarily in unincorporated areas of Riverside County, including the community of Lakeview, with an approximate four-mile segment at the easterly end of the pipeline in the city of San Jacinto. The pipeline is generally located south of the Ramona Expressway along an alignment which begins at Metropolitan's Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure Facility located off the Ramona Expressway, passes under the Bernasconi Hills and the San Jacinto River, extends through the unincorporated community of Lakeview, and terminates at the confluence of the Casa Loma and San Diego Canals located near the intersection of Warren Road and Cottonwood Avenue in the city of San Jacinto. The proposed modifications evaluated in this Addendum are located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure Facility and the LVP alignment west of Pozos Avenue near the unincorporated community of Lakeview. The Bernasconi Tunnel portion of the LVP is not included in the Original Project and does not involve any modifications.

Figure 1 shows the alignment and regional location of the LVP. Figure 2 shows the portion of the LVP alignment along which the Modified Project is located.

2.2 Original Project

The Original Project, as analyzed in the 2015 IS-MND, includes pipe liner installation, shutdowns and temporary bulkhead installation and removal, installation of the Perris Bypass Interconnection, and manhole modifications and associated minor project components.

Pipe Liner Installation

The Original Project involves installation of steel pipe liner within the LVP. The liner would be installed in the pipeline at up to 23 access sites along the LVP alignment. The access sites proposed under the Original Project range in size from approximately 60,000 to 250,000 square feet. Access sites are predominantly located within Metropolitan's right-of-way (ROW), with any sites outside of Metropolitan's ROW requiring appropriate permission from the landowner prior to the initiation of construction. Sites would provide access to the LVP, as well as area for staging, equipment laydown, storage, and contractor parking.

At each access site, approximately 960 cubic yards (cy) of excavation would be required to expose the existing pipeline. The exposed LVP would then be cut and removed to create an opening for installation of the new steel liner. The liner would be installed in approximately 40-foot segments. Segments would be lowered into the access pits via a crane or other method, positioned using a pipe-mobile, and welded in place. Space between the new liner and the existing LVP would be filled with concrete grout. Once the liner is installed, access pits would be backfilled with excavated material and returned to pre-project grade and conditions. Up to 135 cy of material may be exported from each access site.

Shutdowns and Bulkhead Installation/Removal

In order to access the pipeline for installation of the steel liner, the Original Project involves shutdown and dewatering of the LVP. As described in the 2015 IS-MND, shutdown of the LVP would occur over approximately five to seven days, with water discharged at various blow-offs and pump wells along the LVP alignment. Water would be discharged to natural and manmade drainages in the project vicinity following proper coordination with the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. Once dewatered, a temporary bulkhead would be installed in the LVP to prevent water from entering work areas. The bulkhead would be installed immediately west of Warren Road in the city of San Jacinto between proposed Access Sites 22 and 23 in order to maintain service to the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) during the LVP shutdown and dewatering. Bulkhead installation would require approximately 400 cy of excavation. Following installation, the site would be backfilled and returned to its pre-project grade and condition. Bulkhead removal would occur from within the LVP and would not require additional excavation.

Perris Bypass Interconnection

The Original Project includes installation of an approximately 1,068-linear-foot pipeline interconnection between the LVP and the Perris Bypass Pipeline that would support increased water reliability to Metropolitan's Mills Water Treatment Plant (in Riverside) by allowing water to be delivered to the plant from the State Water Project Devil Canyon Second Afterbay. The pipeline interconnection and all construction activities, as well as staging and laydown areas, would be located within the boundaries of Metropolitan's Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure Facility. The pipeline would be installed within an approximately 20-foot-deep sloped trench, and there would be

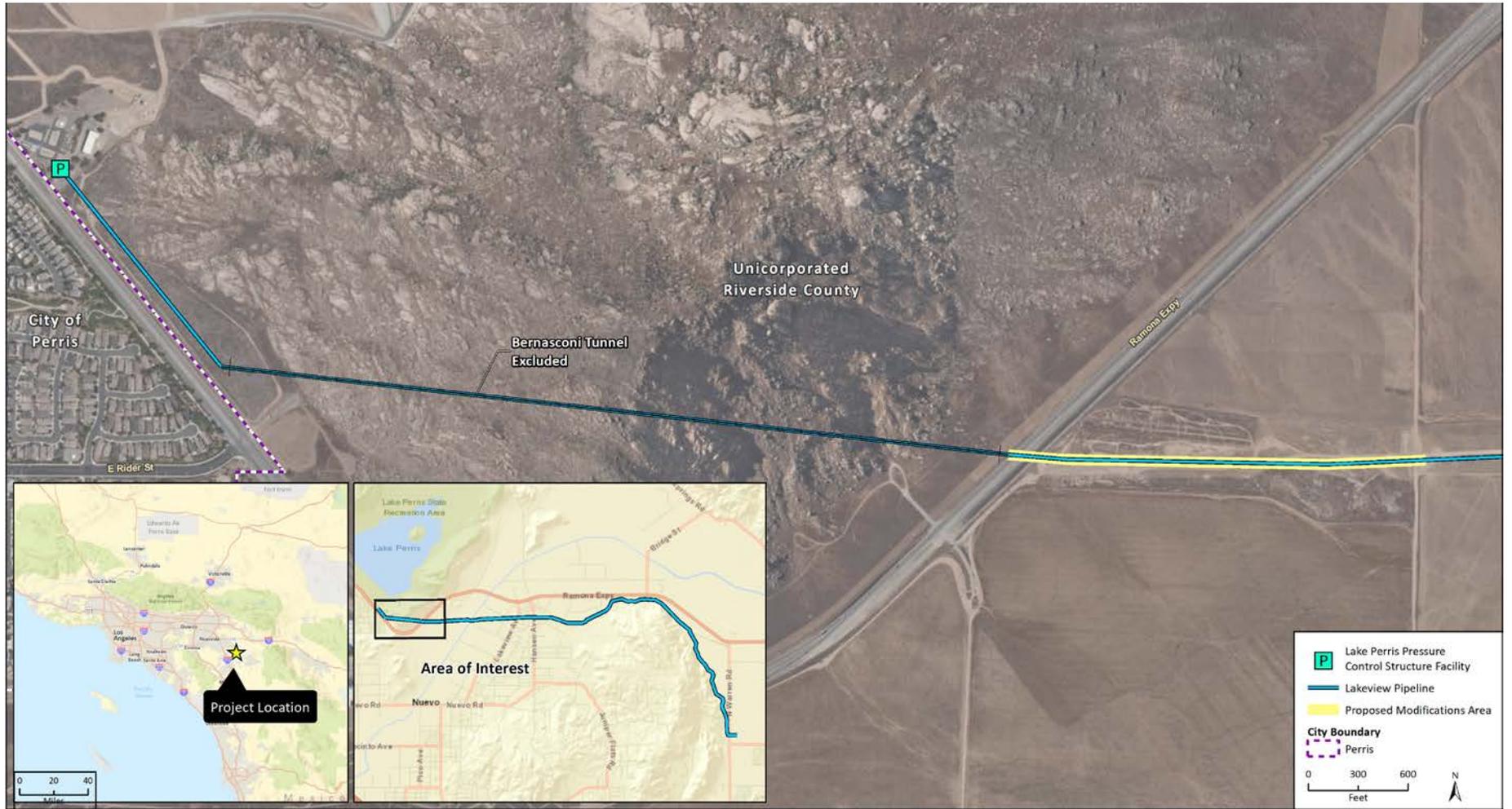
Figure 1 Lakeview Pipeline Alignment and Regional Location



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Fig 1 Lakeview Pipeline Alignment

Figure 2 Location of Modified Project



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Fig. 3 Proposed Modifications 2/1

approximately 10 feet of ground cover above the top of the pipeline after being backfilled. The trench would be backfilled with sand around the pipe and include a portion of the previously excavated earth material. The remaining material, approximately 6,000 cy, would be hauled off site. Approximately 260 cy of material would be imported to provide for pipe bedding and backfill within the trench. The approximately 114-inch-diameter pipe's conceptual location would extend from the LVP at the southeast corner of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure Facility to the east around the perimeter of existing structures at the facility before meeting with the existing Perris Bypass Pipeline near the northwest edge of the facility. Construction of the pipeline would occur simultaneously with or after the completion of the LVP relining.

Manhole Improvements and Minor Project Components

In addition to the LVP re-lining and Perris Bypass Interconnection described previously, the Original Project includes improvements to the LVP's approximately 60 existing manholes. The improvements would extend the existing manhole openings to enable access into the newly lined pipeline by creating an opening in the new steel liner. Manhole improvements would involve minor ground disturbance immediately adjacent to the existing manholes and would generally occur during the liner welding phase.

Additionally, the Original Project includes relocation of approximately six ARVVs from underground to ground level along the LVP alignment. ARVV relocation would involve installation of a small concrete pad, equipment enclosure, and a 10-inch diameter pipe connection from the existing ARVV riser. Concrete pads would be approximately 25 square feet, while pipe connections would span approximately 30 linear feet. Pipe connections would require excavation of an approximately 3-foot wide by 6-foot deep trench for installation. These components would be located within previously disturbed and regularly maintained Metropolitan ROW. ARVV relocation would occur during or shortly after the manhole improvements described above.

The Original Project also involved minor upgrades to the LVP's electrical components.

2.3 Modified Project

As with the Original Project, the Modified Project analyzed in this Addendum involves re-lining of a portion of the existing LVP. The proposed modifications include relocation of an access site along the LVP alignment between Ramona Expressway and Pozos Avenue near the community of Lakeview. The proposed modifications also involve construction of a new manhole at the relocated access site; replacement of a 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch reducing tee within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility; blading, clearing, and use of a temporary access roadway; and off-site fabrication of bulkheads to be subsequently installed within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

LVP Access Site

The proposed modifications include adjustments to the location and size of a proposed pipeline access site along the LVP alignment. Specifically, approximately 450 linear feet of pipeline would be re-lined from an access site located at Station 2200+10. The access site spans approximately 2.5 acres and includes an approximately 45-foot by 15-foot area where the pipeline access pit would be excavated for placement of the liner as well as a contractor work and storage area. Excavation would occur to approximately 24 feet below ground surface to expose the existing pipeline. A new pipeline manhole would also be constructed at the location of the LVP access pit. As with the Original Project, the proposed access site would provide access to the LVP, as well as area for staging, equipment laydown, storage, and contractor parking.

ARVV Replacement

The proposed modifications include replacement of an existing ARVV located along the LVP alignment at Station 2200+60. As described in Section 2.2, *Original Project*, the Original Project includes relocation of approximately six ARVV from underground to ground level. Under the Original Project, all ARVVs to be relocated would involve installation of a small concrete pad, equipment enclosure, and a 10-inch diameter pipe connection spanning approximately 30 feet. Under the proposed modifications, the existing ARVV at Station 2200+60 would be replaced in-place within an existing manhole in the LVP. Pipe connections and concrete pads would not be constructed for this replacement. This ARVV replacement would not involve ground disturbance and would not result in physical impacts to the environment. As such, it is not discussed further in this addendum.

Temporary Access Road

A temporary, approximately 20-foot wide access road would be established approximately 1,240 feet westward toward the proposed access site from the alignment's intersection with Pozos Avenue. The road would allow equipment and vehicles necessary to construct the project to reach the work sites due to construction load restrictions limiting the size of equipment that can cross Metropolitan's adjacent Colorado River Aqueduct pipeline. The temporary access road would be bladed and cleared of vegetation. The alignment of the proposed access road generally follows an existing dirt patrol road along the LVP alignment. Figure 3 shows the location of the LVP access site and temporary access road improvements.

Reducing Tee Replacement

The Modified Project would involve replacement of an existing 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch reducing tee within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. The replacement would involve sawing and cutting of existing asphalt, excavation of an approximately 400-square-foot area to a depth of approximately 18 feet, replacement of the existing reducing tee, pouring of concrete to encase the new reducing tee, and backfilling and repaving of the excavated area. It is anticipated that replacement of the reducing tee would involve excavation of approximately 200 cy of soil. Excavated soil would be used for backfill as feasible; approximately 20 cy of remaining soil would either be spread or stored at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility or exported off site.

In addition to replacement of the reducing tee, approximately 1 acre of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility would be used as contractor work and storage area, including an approximately 0.6-acre area located in the northern portion of the facility.

Figure 4 shows the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and location of the reducing tee and contractor work and storage areas.

Bulkhead Fabrication and Storage

In addition to the improvements described above, the Modified Project would involve the fabrication and storage of approximately three bulkheads. Bulkheads would be fabricated off site and stored as necessary within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. While there are no current plans to install the bulkheads in the immediate future, if installation is necessary, they would be installed within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Given that bulkheads would be fabricated off site, stored within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, and installed at existing manholes, these improvements would not result in physical impacts to the environment and, as such, are not discussed further in this addendum.

Figure 3 Proposed Modifications - LVP Relining Site



Fig X Proposed Modifications - Pipeline Relining

Figure 4 Proposed Modifications – Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility

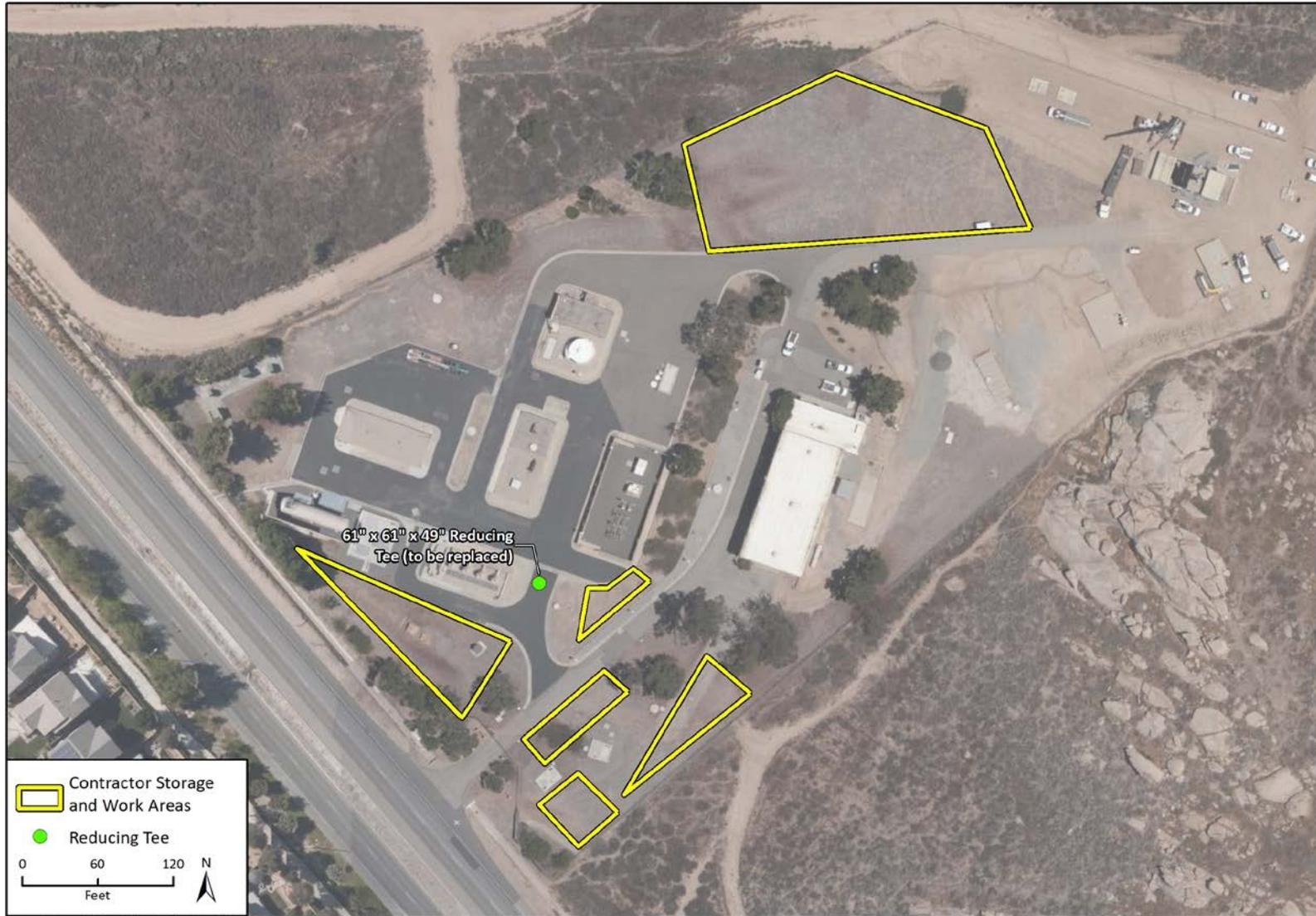


Fig X Proposed Modifications - Lake Perris Control Facility

Construction Details

Table 1 summarizes construction details for the proposed pipeline segment relining and reducing tee replacement. Mowing and vegetation removal along the temporary access road is not anticipated to result in substantial use of heavy equipment. Access to the construction sites would occur from the east via Pozos Avenue and the existing patrol road along the LVP alignment and from the west via Ramona Expressway.

It is anticipated that all construction activities would begin in January 2021 and last approximately three weeks, with completion anticipated in early February 2021. Construction would occur during normal working hours (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.); no 24-hour construction is anticipated.

**Table 1
Construction Details**

Pipe Liner Installation	
Excavation	Up to 900 cy
Material Import	None anticipated
Material Export	Up to 150 cy
Equipment	Crane, backhoe, concrete pumps, excavator, welding equipment, blowers, generators, water truck
Reducing Tee	
Excavation	Approximately 200 cy
Material Import	None anticipated
Material Export	Approximately 20 cy
Equipment	Crane, backhoe, concrete pumps, excavator, welding equipment, blowers, generators, water truck

cy = cubic yards

3.0 Impact Analysis

This section presents an analysis of environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of the Modified Project. The 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project assessed each of the 17 environmental topic areas that were identified in the Checklist provided in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines* at the time of preparation of that document. Since adoption of the 2015 IS-MND, the *State CEQA Guidelines* were updated, and modifications to the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist were subsequently adopted. Following is an overview of the most substantial revisions to the CEQA Checklist that were adopted in 2019 for resource areas addressed in this Addendum:

- **Biological Resources** – The definition of a wetland under CEQA has been expanded, such that now the extent of wetland areas should be considered at both the state and federal level, with impact analyses conducted for the more conservative area.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality** – Significance criteria associated with the placement of housing or structures within a flood zone and otherwise exposing people or project features to flooding, tsunami, mudflow, etc. have been removed. Additionally, revised significance criteria require analysis of potential conflicts with sustainable groundwater management plans and water quality control plans.
- **Noise** – Six significance criteria were consolidated into three, while still focusing on temporary and permanent noise, vibration, and airport/airstrip noise impacts.
- **Energy and Wildfire** – These topics were added to the CEQA Checklist as environmental issue areas. The Energy section covers wasteful energy consumption and conflicts with state or local energy efficiency plans, while the Wildfire section addresses factors that could expose people or structures to fire or post-fire flooding or landslides, risk or impair emergency response, or require installation of infrastructure that could exacerbate fire risk.

In addition to the revisions summarized above, the significance criteria in other environmental issue areas identified on the 2019 CEQA Checklist were modified to consolidate, simplify, and/or reformat questions. The information required for analysis has not drastically changed from the previous Checklist. For the purposes of this Addendum, the current (2019) CEQA Checklist issue areas are discussed where applicable to the Modified Project; however, for consistency with the analysis provided in the 2015 IS-MND, the same significance criteria used in 2015 are applied to the impact analysis for the Modified Project. As described in Section 1.3, *Summary of Environmental Effects*, this Addendum for the Modified Project re-visits the following environmental issue areas:

- air quality
- biological resources
- cultural resources
- greenhouse gas emissions
- hazards and hazardous materials
- hydrology and water quality
- noise

The impact analysis provided in the 2015 IS-MND determined that the project would either have no impact or a less than significant impact to all other environmental issue areas identified on the 2015 CEQA Checklist, and for these areas it was determined that the Modified Project would not generate new environmental impacts that were not previously addressed, nor would it substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the project's original environmental documentation. Additionally, analysis of potential energy, wildfire, and tribal cultural resources impacts associated with the Modified Project are

included in accordance with the most updates to the *State CEQA Guidelines* that occurred subsequent to adoption of the 2015 IS-MND.

3.1 Air Quality

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded that potential environmental impacts to air quality would be less than significant with no mitigation measures required. This section provides an analysis of the potential air quality impacts associated with the Modified Project.

3.1.1 Setting

As described in the 2015 IS-MND, the LVP alignment, including the site of the proposed modifications, is located in the South Coast Air Basin (Basin), which is within the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD monitors basin-wide pollution levels including ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and suspended particulates, and compares the concentrations of those pollutants to State and federal standards. The current regional Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which reports pollutant levels for the Basin, is the 2016 Final AQMP (SCAQMD 2017). The IS-MND for the Original Project was adopted by Metropolitan in 2015, prior to SCAQMD's update of the regional AQMP; for the purposes of this Addendum, the 2016 Final AQMP is incorporated by reference and used to craft the analysis of air quality impacts associated with the Modified Project.

The Basin is designated non-attainment for current and former federal and State ozone standards, as well as the current standards for particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}). The Basin is in attainment for the particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) federal standard, as designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The nonattainment status for ozone and PM_{2.5} is a result of several factors, primarily the naturally adverse meteorological conditions that limit the dispersion and diffusion of pollutants, the limited capacity of the local airshed to eliminate pollutants from the air, and the number, type, and density of emission sources within the Basin. The Los Angeles County portion of the Basin is also designated a non-attainment area for the federal lead standard on the basis of source-specific monitoring at two locations as determined by the USEPA, which based the non-attainment determination on data from 2007 through 2009 (SCAQMD 2017).

The SCAQMD considers sensitive receptors to be any person in the population who is particularly susceptible, including residences, hospitals, convalescent facilities, and other places where it is possible for an individual to remain for 24 hours. Commercial and industrial facilities are typically not considered to be sensitive receptors. As described in the 2015 IS-MND, there are existing school buildings located within 1,000 feet of Access Sites 5 and 6 for the Original Project; these sites are in the western portion of the unincorporated community of Lakeview, west of the Inland Feeder Pressure Control Facility, and are not included as part of the proposed modifications. As described in Section 2.1, *Project Location*, the proposed modifications evaluated in this Addendum would occur near the unincorporated community of Lakeview, along the existing LVP alignment west of Pozos Avenue, and at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. The nearest sensitive receptors to the proposed modifications are residences approximately 200 feet west of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility across Ramona Expressway. Other sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed modifications include Avalon Elementary School, approximately 1,200 feet southwest of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, and Lakeside Middle School, approximately 2,300 feet south of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Both schools are separated from the proposed modifications by Ramona Expressway.

3.1.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate potential impacts to air quality associated with the Modified Project, in comparison with the Original Project. Impacts of the Modified Project would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts associated with the following significance criteria:

- a) A conflict with or obstruction of implementation of the applicable air quality plan;
- b) A violation of any air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation;¹
- c) A cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is classified as non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standards (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors);
- d) Exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentration; or
- e) Creation of objectionable odors that would affect a substantial number of people.

The SCAQMD provides significance thresholds that may be used to quantify and characterize potential air quality emissions and their associated impacts. The California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), a land use emissions software (Version 2013.2.2), was utilized for the Original Project to quantify emissions during construction activities. CalEEMod was not re-run for the Modified Project because the Modified Project consists of a small portion of the Original Project, substantially less ground disturbance and excavation, and construction emissions are therefore captured by the air quality calculations provided in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project.

3.1.3 Potential Impacts

Air Quality Management Plan

Generally, to be consistent with an AQMP, a project must not result in or contribute to an exceedance of the forecasts in the applicable plan(s). The 2015 IS-MND determined that the Original Project was consistent with SCAQMD's 2012 Final AQMP because it served development approved in the general plans on which the AQMP is based. As described above, since adoption of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, the SCAQMD adopted an updated AQMP, the 2016 Final AQMP (SCAQMD 2017). Like the Original Project, the Modified Project would involve replacement and repair of existing potable water infrastructure. As with the Original Project's consistency with the 2012 Final AQMP, the Modified Project is consistent with the 2016 Final AQMP because it would serve development approved in the general plans on which the AQMP is based; therefore, the Modified Project would not result in inconsistency with the 2016 Final AQMP.

Similar to the Original Project, the Modified Project would implement repairs to the existing LVP and no changes in use or expansion of capacity would occur; therefore, the project would neither directly nor indirectly be the cause of substantial population growth. There would be no change to the use of the Modified Project site and the Modified Project would not involve the creation of new homes, businesses,

¹ This checklist question has been removed from the 2019 CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist; however, it is addressed in this Addendum for consistency with the analysis provided in the 2015 IS-MND.

or employment. Additionally, the extension of public roads or expansion of other infrastructure would not occur with implementation of the Modified Project. A temporary access road would be improved to provide access to the existing LVP at the Modified Project's new access point; however, this would be a temporary improvement and would not provide expanded public infrastructure or services. Construction workers for the proposed modifications would be on-site temporarily, and it is not expected that they would permanently relocate to the area. Because the Modified Project would not increase the population forecast that was used in the 2016 Final AQMP, it would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of any of the control measures in the AQMP and no impacts associated with this issue would occur.

Violate Air Quality Standards

The 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project estimated project-specific air quality emissions for construction using CalEEMod land use emissions software (Version 2013.2.2). Output files of the results of the modeling are contained in Appendix A to the 2015 IS-MND, and indicated that construction emissions would not exceed regional thresholds and impacts of the Original Project would be less than significant. The Modified Project would not introduce new or substantially modified construction activities such that CalEEMod outputs would be expected to indicate substantially different results. Furthermore, the CalEEMod inputs rely heavily on assumptions regarding construction equipment and activities, which would be substantially similar for the Modified Project as the Original Project. Therefore, this Addendum does not include re-calculated estimates of air quality emissions for construction of the Modified Project. However, the CalEEMod inputs for the Original Project assume that pipeline relining work would occur simultaneously with excavation of up to two access pits. The Modified Project would involve excavation of only one access pit and, as only one pipeline segment would be relined, excavation would not be expected to occur simultaneously with relining work. As such, diminished daily construction emissions would be anticipated with the proposed modifications relative to the maximum daily construction emissions anticipated under the Original Project. As with the Original Project, construction of the Modified Project will be required to comply with regional fugitive dust reduction practices described in SCAQMD Rule 403, to reduce short-term air pollutant emissions. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in a violation of air quality standards and impacts would be less than significant.

Cumulatively Considerable Net Increase of Criteria Pollutants

Under the Modified Project, pipeline operations would be the same as present conditions, which is the same as described for the Original Project in the 2015 IS-MND; no cumulative air quality impacts would occur from project operation. Short-term construction impacts associated with emissions would be less than significant, because the Modified Project, like the Original Project, is in compliance with the AQMP and short-term construction emissions would be below applicable SCAQMD-established thresholds of significance. Therefore, the Modified Project's cumulative impact to air quality is less than significant.

Sensitive Receptors

The 2015 IS-MND notes that sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the Original Project include homes immediately adjacent to the LVP ROW and two schools, Mountain Shadows Middle School and Nuvview Bridge Early College High School, located approximately 840 feet and 750 feet from the nearest proposed LVP access sites, respectively. The 2015 IS-MND determined that exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations would be less than significant due to the fact that the project operation would result in no new or increased long-term emissions and construction emissions would be temporary in nature and remain under applicable thresholds. The nearest sensitive receptors to the proposed modifications are residences approximately 200 feet from the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, Avalon Elementary School approximately 1,200 feet southwest of the Lake Perris Pressure Control

Facility, and Lakeside Middle School, approximately 2,300 feet from the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. As such, sensitive receptors would be located further from the proposed modifications than those considered in the 2015 IS-MND, which analyzed impacts to residences immediately adjacent to the LVP ROW. Furthermore, the nearest sensitive receptors to the proposed modifications are residences across Ramona Expressway from the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility; work within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility was also included in the Original Project and, as noted above, daily construction activities would be diminished under the Modified Project. Therefore, as with the Original Project, potential impacts associated with exposing sensitive receptors to air quality pollutants would be less than significant.

Objectionable Odors

Both the Original Project and Modified Project consist of pipeline relining and repair of existing infrastructure and, as such, would not include any uses that would generate long-term objectionable odors. It is possible that the exhaust produced by vehicles and equipment during construction could create objectionable odors; however, such effects would be temporary and not likely noticeable beyond the immediate limits of the construction area. Design changes included in the Modified Project would not introduce new receptors to the project area, such that new impacts from objectionable odors could occur. Due to the temporary and site-specific nature of potentially objectionable odors during construction, impacts would be less than significant.

3.1.4 Conclusion

The proposed modifications would not result in any new significant impacts to air quality or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified and characterized in the 2015 IS-MND.

3.2 Biological Resources

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded that potential environmental impacts to biological resources would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated. For the purpose of this Addendum, a new Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) was prepared for the Modified Project; the Modified Project BRA is incorporated by reference herein, and provided as Appendix B. This section provides an analysis of the potential biological resource impacts associated with the Modified Project.

3.2.1 Setting

A site-specific biological survey was conducted in 2015 to identify and evaluate impacts to biological resources associated with the Original Project. Survey results were recorded in the 2015 IS-MND. On February 28, 2020, Rincon Biologist Lisa Zumwalde performed a reconnaissance-level biological resources field survey of the proposed modifications site that includes the approximately 4-acre work area along the pipeline (inclusive of the pipe access site), access roads, and Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility plus a 50-foot buffer (study area). Results of the survey are documented in the BRA (Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2020; Appendix B). The proposed modifications site is located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and along the LVP, entirely within the Metropolitan ROW. Most of the site and surrounding areas have been disturbed since at least 1996 due to surrounding agriculture and development.

The site of the proposed modifications is primarily characterized by developed lands, including dirt and paved roadways, nonnative grasslands, and fallow fields. Developed areas occur primarily in the western portion of the site inside the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Portions of the proposed modifications site that are not paved and devoid of vegetation consist of patchy, ruderal vegetation and bare ground and are more common in the eastern portion of the site. Where vegetated, these areas are dominated by

nonnative grasses and invasive stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*). Patches of disturbed Riversidean sage scrub (RSS) were observed in the study area adjacent to the site of the proposed modifications and include species of native plants such as California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), and fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*). However, no portion of this community extends into the proposed modifications site. High levels of disturbance including presence of litter, compact soil from vehicle transportation, and proximity to fallow fields are present on site.

Fourteen common wildlife species were observed during the February 28, 2020 reconnaissance survey (Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2020). Additionally, one special status wildlife species, northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), was observed. The individual was flushed out of an ornamental pepper tree within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Due to the site's high levels of existing disturbance and lack of suitable habitat required by many special status species (e.g., riparian, woodland, etc.), the site of the proposed modifications does not provide suitable habitat for most special status species.

3.2.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to biological resources associated with the proposed modifications. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified impacts associated with:

- a) An adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS);
- b) An adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS;
- c) An adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means;
- d) Interference with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites;
- e) A conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; or
- f) A conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans.

3.2.3 Potential Impacts

Special Status Species

As described in the BRA for the proposed modifications (Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2020), a literature review identified 20 special status plant species within five miles of the site. The proposed modifications site is located entirely within previously developed or disturbed lands and, therefore, does not provide suitable habitat for most special status plant species. Marginally suitable habitat for two special status plant species—Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*) and smooth tarplant (*Centromadia*

pungens ssp. *laevis*)—is present in the eastern portion of the proposed modifications site along the LVP access site and temporary access road. However, this habitat is highly degraded due to the proximity to the paved roadway along Ramona Expressway, agricultural fields, and presence of existing access roads. Coulter's goldfields was observed during 2013 surveys approximately 0.75 mile from the proposed modifications site (Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2013). However, this species was observed outside of Metropolitan's easement and within scrub habitat that is not present at the site. Therefore, potential for Coulter's goldfields to occur on site is low. Smooth tarplant was also observed during the 2013 surveys in grasslands within the Metropolitan ROW. Due to the previous observation and presence of marginally suitable grassland habitat, there is a moderate potential for smooth tarplant to occur on site. Neither species is listed under the federal or state Endangered Species Acts and neither species, nor any other any other special status plant species, were observed during the February 2020 site visit.

Due to the lack of specific habitats or suitable substrates as well as the high levels of historical and existing disturbance, special status plant species are generally not expected to occur on site. With the exception of vehicles and machinery operating within the Modified Project's access sites and work areas, Metropolitan's standard practices and operating procedures would require that all vehicles operating within the ROW remain on existing patrol roads. As such, impacts to unvegetated areas that may support special status plant species would be minimal and temporary in nature. Should impacts to these species occur, the loss of a few individuals would not result in the substantial decline of their local or regional populations. Therefore, impacts to special status plant species would be less than significant and the proposed modifications would not substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

The literature review identified 27 special status wildlife species within five miles of the site of the proposed modifications. The proposed modifications site is located entirely within previously developed or disturbed lands and, therefore, does not provide suitable habitat for most special status wildlife species. Typically, such species have highly specific habitat requirements that preclude them from inhabiting areas with high levels of disturbance. However, marginally suitable habitat is present for 14 special status wildlife species: California glossy snake (*Arizona elegans occidentalis*; CDFW: Species of Special Concern [SSC]), orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra*; CDFW: Watch List [WL]), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*; CDFW:SSC), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*; CDFW:SSC), red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*; CDFW:SSC), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; CDFW:SSC, USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern [BCC]), northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*; CDFW:SSC), California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*; CDFW:WL), northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax*; CDFW:SSC), Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*; Federally Endangered, State Threatened, CDFW:SSC), San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*; CDFW:SSC), southern grasshopper mouse (*Onychomys torridus*; CDFW:SSC), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*; CDFW:SSC), and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis*; CDFW:SSC). Of these 14 species, one was observed at the site: northern harrier. The individual was flushed out of a pepper tree at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and flew north toward Lake Perris. The individual was likely foraging, as this species nests on the ground near water. No other special status wildlife species were observed during the February 2020 site visit. The coastal whiptail and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit were observed during the 2014 field surveys conducted for the Original Project by LSA. Two other special status species not identified in this BRA's literature review were observed during the 2014 surveys: Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*, CDFW:WL) and loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*, CDFW:SSC, USFWS:BCC) (LSA Associates, Inc 2015).

The following six special status species have a low potential to occur on site due to the presence of generally suitable, albeit degraded, nonnative grassland that may provide habitat for foraging (e.g., seeds, insects, etc.) and/or shelter (e.g., burrows, vegetative cover, etc.): California glossy snake, orange-throated whiptail, coast horned lizard, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse, and Los

Angeles pocket mouse. Seven special status species have a moderate potential to occur due to presence of more specific habitat requirements (e.g., California ground squirrel burrows), relatively recent occurrences on the California Natural Diversity Database (<20 years), and/or observations from past project-specific surveys. These species include coastal whiptail, red-diamond rattlesnake, burrowing owl, California horned lark, Stephens' kangaroo rat, western mastiff bat, and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit. With the exception of Stephens' kangaroo rat (discussed below), these species have no official state or federal protection status but require consideration under CEQA. Potential indirect impacts to non-listed special status species could occur through removal of vegetation (i.e., loss of habitat) as well as direct impacts resulting in individual mortality. To avoid impacts to non-listed special status species, Metropolitan would implement standard Best Management Practices (BMPs). Because the long-term aboveground effects of the Modified Project would be minimal, the LVP is an existing facility, and the construction is short-term and localized, the proposed modifications are not anticipated to substantially affect regional populations of these species.

The burrowing owl is a ground-nesting raptor that utilizes abandoned ground squirrel burrows as nesting habitat. The species is listed by CDFW as an SSC and requires consideration under CEQA in addition to being protected under California Fish and Game Code (CFGF) 3503 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Although no burrowing owl or their sign were observed during the February 2020 survey and none have previously been identified within the LVP ROW, potentially suitable habitat was determined to be present at the eastern portion of the proposed modifications site along the proposed excavation pit and temporary access road area. As discussed in the 2015 IS-MND, although it is unlikely that burrowing owl would be present within the proposed modifications area at the time construction commences, pre-construction surveys, performed as part of Metropolitan's standard practices, would be conducted at the access site location to confirm the absence of this species. In the unlikely event that burrowing owls are detected during preconstruction surveys, appropriate buffers would be established (based on whether or not work would occur during breeding season [February 1 through August 31]) or owls would be relocated in order to avoid potential impacts to the species. There would be no disturbance to or relocation of burrowing owls during the breeding season. With these standard practices in place, potential impacts to burrowing owls would be less than significant.

The proposed modifications have the potential to result in direct impacts to nesting birds, including raptors, which are protected under the MBTA, if they are nesting at the site or its immediate vicinity during construction activities. Implementation of the proposed modifications would be required to comply with the MBTA, which prohibits the take of migratory bird species that are considered to utilize the site and their nests or eggs. In addition, Sections 3505, 3503.5, and 3800 of the CFGF prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests, or eggs. Metropolitan employs standard practices for all projects, to protect nesting birds from adverse impacts and to ensure compliance with the MBTA and the CFGF.

As a general practice and as discussed in the 2015 IS-MND, for any Metropolitan project or operations activity that would occur during the general bird nesting season of February 1 through September 15, Metropolitan would retain a qualified biologist to perform a pre-construction survey of potential nesting habitat to confirm the absence of nests. The pre-construction survey would be performed no more than seven days prior to the start of work at each access site. If the qualified biologist determined that an active nest is present, an adequate avoidance buffer (typically 300 feet for passerines and up to 500 feet for raptors, depending on the species, site conditions, and nature of the work) would be established by the qualified biologist to ensure that no adverse impacts would occur until the young have fledged the nest and the nest is confirmed no longer to be active. Where suitable buffers are not feasible, modified work schedules and/or methods may be applied. With pre-construction surveys in place and implementation of impact avoidance measures, impacts to burrowing owl and other nesting birds would be less than significant.

Stephens' kangaroo rat is federally listed as endangered and is known to occur in the vicinity of Lake Perris. This species prefers nonnative grasslands and sparse shrublands with less than 50 percent vegetative cover as habitat. Thus, Stephens' kangaroo rat has the potential to be present at the site. To ensure that this species is not affected by the proposed modification's construction activities, as part of Metropolitan's standard practices, pre-construction surveys would be performed prior to initiating construction in the areas identified as potential habitat to confirm individuals are absent from construction areas. If Stephens' kangaroo rat individuals are identified, as part of standard practice, Metropolitan would avoid burrows to the extent feasible. Where they cannot be avoided, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 from the 2015 IS-MND would be implemented to minimize significant impacts. With the implementation of this mitigation measure, impacts to Stephens' kangaroo rat would be less than significant.

BIO-1: Where avoidance of impacts to Stephens' kangaroo rat is not feasible, impacts to Stephens' kangaroo rat shall be mitigated in accordance with the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency's (RCHCA) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and the existing Section 10(a) Stephens' kangaroo rat incidental take permit. Pursuant to the HCP, Metropolitan shall inform the RCHCA of potential take of this species related to the proposed modification site.

Metropolitan would implement standard BMPs, including avoidance/implementation of no-work buffers as appropriate, to ensure that no direct or indirect impacts to special status wildlife species or nesting birds would occur as a result of construction activities. Implementation of these standard BMPs would be required as part of Metropolitan's standard contractor specifications. As a result of implementing standard BMPs and Mitigation Measure BIO-1 above, impacts to special status wildlife species and nesting birds would be less than significant and the severity of the impact would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Riparian Habitat, Wetlands, or Sensitive Natural Communities

Per the 2020 BRA, the site of proposed modifications does not contain any jurisdictional drainages, wetlands, or riparian habitat. Therefore, no new impacts to jurisdictional wetlands or riparian habitat would occur under the Modified Project.

Patches of RSS were present adjacent to the proposed modifications site within the study area but located outside of the boundaries of the proposed modifications site. Many rare and endangered species occur in RSS and coastal sage scrub plant communities. However, the existing scrub adjacent the site is degraded and highly fragmented. As a result of the proposed modifications, no direct impacts to RSS are anticipated. Indirect impacts may occur as a result of temporary staging activities (equipment laydown, trash, etc.), but such impacts would be minor, short-term, and the area would be returned to pre-project conditions. Based on the small amount of scrub habitat and low quality of this vegetation community, impacts to RSS would be less than significant and the severity of the impact would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Wildlife Corridors or Nursery Sites

The CDFW Biogeographic Information and Observation System does not include any mapped essential habitat connectivity areas in the study area, with the closest mapped essential connectivity area located approximately 1.3 miles to the northeast in the vicinity of Lake Perris (Rincon 2020). The site is separated from this habitat connectivity area by Ramona Expressway, a heavily traveled transportation corridor. The western portion of the proposed modifications site is located entirely within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, a gated and developed area, and not within the adjacent San Jacinto-Lake Perris Core Reserve, a RCHCA Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan (SKR HCP) core reserve nor is located within an MSHCP linkage. MSHCP cores and linkages together provide a cohesive habitat

reserve of major habitat blocks as well as connections between those habitat blocks for species migration and genetic flow. While the site of the proposed modifications is not located within mapped habitat connectivity, core, or linkage areas, the proximity to these habitat blocks may offer limited movement for surrounding wildlife. Although the construction contractor may install temporary construction fencing around the perimeter of the proposed access sites, the proposed access sites would be relatively small such that fencing would not impede the movement of wildlife around the work area. In addition, construction of the proposed modifications at the site would be short term and temporary (approximately three weeks) with fencing to be removed upon completion. With the exception of storage facilities within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, no permanent structure is proposed that would interfere with wildlife movement. As discussed previously, the LVP ROW is a disturbed, maintained corridor, and there are no streams or migratory wildlife corridors within the ROW that would be affected by the proposed modifications. Therefore, the proposed modifications would not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors and the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact to wildlife movement. Impacts to wildlife movement would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Local Policies and Ordinances

The proposed modifications are within unincorporated Riverside County. According to Ordinance No. 559, and amended through No. 559.7, no native trees shall be removed on any parcel of property greater than one-half acre in size, located in an area above 5,000 feet in elevation and within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside, without first obtaining a permit to do so, unless exempted by the provisions of Section 4 of the ordinance. Trees located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility are outside of the proposed modifications site and would not be subject to this ordinance as they are nonnative ornamental species. No other trees were observed at the site of the proposed modifications. As a result, no impacts to trees protected by local ordinances are anticipated. No other local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources would be applicable to the proposed modifications. In addition, per California Government Code (Section 53091), Metropolitan, as a regional public water purveyor and utility, is exempt from local building and zoning codes and ordinances. As described in previous sections, the proposed modifications would comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to biological resources. Therefore, no conflict with any local policies protecting biological resources would occur. Impacts would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Conservation Plans

Western Riverside County MSHCP

The LVP ROW is within the plan area for the Western Riverside County MSHCP; however, Metropolitan is not a participant to this plan. The proposed modifications involve the relining of an existing Metropolitan underground pipeline and would not result in the construction of new development or facilities on undisturbed land. The LVP is located entirely within Metropolitan ROW, which is not designated as open space, under a conservation easement, or included within any of the MSHCP core reserves. Metropolitan's BMPs (e.g. preconstruction surveys, avoidance buffers, etc.) would further reduce impacts to resources protected under the MSHCP. Additionally, no resources protected by the MSHCP (e.g., burrowing owls, Los Angeles pocket mouse, riparian/riverine habitat) were observed in the study area during the February 2020 reconnaissance survey. Therefore, the proposed modifications would not conflict with an adopted HCP, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan and no impact would occur. The proposed modifications would not substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the 2015 IS/MND.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat HCP

The site is located within the RCHCA SKR HCP plan area, which describes conservation, mitigation, and monitoring measures for Stephens' kangaroo rat to streamline the review process for projects in the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Plan and Fee Area. The RCHCA holds a USFWS Section 10(a) permit for "take" of Stephens' kangaroo rat. As stated above the project areas are located outside of the SKR Plan's San Jacinto-Lake Perris Core Reserve. The area surrounding the proposed modification sites contains marginally suitable grassland and RSS habitat required to support Stephens' kangaroo rat. However, proposed work is anticipated to take place within Metropolitan's existing ROW outside of suitable habitat. High levels of disturbance, including presence of litter, compact soil from vehicle transportation, and proximity to fallow fields, are present on the proposed modifications site. Notwithstanding, implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would ensure impacts to potential habitat are mitigated pursuant to the HCP. Additionally, unanticipated project-related impacts to Stephens' kangaroo rat would be offset through coordination with the RCHCA in accordance with the SKR HCP and existing federal Endangered Species Act Section 10(a) permit for incidental take of Stephens' kangaroo rat. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with the conservation goals of the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat HCP and the proposed modifications would not substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

3.2.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in any new significant biological resource impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified in the adopted 2015 IS-MND.

3.3 Cultural Resources

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded that potential environmental impacts to cultural resources would be less than significant with the incorporation of mitigation. This section provides an analysis of the potential impacts to cultural resources associated with the Modified Project.

3.3.1 Setting

As discussed in the 2015 IS-MND, a cultural resources records search at the Eastern Information Center, pedestrian survey of the project site, and Native American outreach were completed for the Original Project. As a result of the records search, 15 cultural resource sites have been identified within the direct Area of Potential Effect of the Original Project. Pedestrian surveys for the Original Project were completed in 2014 and included an approximately 477-acre area consisting of the entirety of the LVP ROW, with the exception of portions of the LVP located within the Bernasconi Hills, and all pipeline access sites extending outside of the LVP ROW under the Original Project. The pedestrian survey identified nine previously recorded resources within or partially within the Original Project survey area, two additional previously identified resources that were relocated just outside the project survey area, and two previously unrecorded resources within the project survey area. One recorded historic resource and four prehistoric archaeological resources have been recorded within or directly adjacent to the boundaries of the access sites. None of the previously identified resources are located within the proposed modifications site that includes an approximate 4-acre work area along the pipeline, access roads, and Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

The proposed modifications site is located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and along the LVP, entirely within the Metropolitan ROW. Most of the site and surrounding areas have been disturbed since at least 1996 due to surrounding agriculture and development. On February 28, 2020, Rincon

Archaeologist Lindsay Porras performed a pedestrian survey of the proposed modifications site. Results of the field survey identified no evidence of archaeological remains or historic built-environment resources within the proposed modifications site.

3.3.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed modifications. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts associated with:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5?
- c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

In addition to the thresholds described above, 2019 updates to the CEQA Checklist categorized evaluation of impacts to paleontological resources under the Geology and Soils resource concern. Prior to 2019, discussion of paleontological resources had previously been evaluated under Cultural Resources, as it was in the 2015 IS-MND. Therefore, for consistency with the 2015 IS-MND, the following threshold is also evaluated in this section:

- d) Directly or indirectly destroying a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature

3.3.3 Potential Impacts

Historical Resources

One recorded historic resource, the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) was identified adjacent to the site of both the Original Project and Modified Project. The CRA is owned and operated by Metropolitan. The CRA was recorded in 2001 within the entirety of Riverside County. It is an extensive linear water conveyance system that is subsurface and adjacent to the LVP. As determined in the Cultural Resources Assessment conducted for the Original Project, the CRA is subsurface and considered to be outside of the Original Project survey area. The proposed modifications in the vicinity of the CRA involve a modified access site and temporary roadway, both within the LVP ROW and, therefore, within the Original Project survey area. No new historical resources were identified during surveys of the proposed modification sites on February 28, 2020. Therefore, this impact would remain less than significant.

Archaeological Resources

Archaeological resources identified as part of the Cultural Resources Assessment prepared for the 2015 IS-MND have been avoided through design of the Original Project. No previously recorded or new archaeological resources were identified during surveys of the proposed modifications on February 28, 2020. Therefore, no impact would occur. However, because the high sensitivity for cultural resources in Riverside County, mitigation measure CUL-3, included in the 2015 IS-MND, would be implemented for construction of the proposed modifications. The 2015 IS-MND found that implementation of mitigation measures would reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Because no previously recorded or new archaeological resources were identified during surveys of the proposed modifications site and the

Modified Project would involve similar construction techniques as those anticipated under the Original Project, impacts to archaeological resources under the Modified Project would remain less than significant with mitigation incorporated. The following mitigation measure from the 2015 IS-MND would apply to construction of the proposed modifications:

CUL-3: If archaeological resources are encountered during project-related activity, Metropolitan and/or its contractors shall cease all activity within 50 feet of the find and an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeology (National Park Service 1983) will be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If necessary, the evaluation may require preparation of a treatment plan and archaeological testing for California Register of Historical Resources eligibility. If the discovery proves to be significant under CEQA and cannot be avoided by the project, additional work, such as data recovery excavation, reporting, and curation, may be warranted to realize the data potential of the resource, thereby reducing any impact to a less than significant level. Data-recovery plans for any archaeological sites with a Native American component will be developed in consultation with local Native American tribes.

Human Remains

The 2015 IS-MND determined that although grading activity associated with the Original Project would be limited, the discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground-disturbing activities. Therefore, implementation of mitigation measure CUL-4, which requires halting work and immediate notification of the county coroner if human remains are discovered during grading activities, was included to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. The Modified Project involves similar construction grading and excavation techniques as those anticipated under the Original Project. Therefore, this impact would remain less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

CUL-4: If human remains are discovered during project construction, Metropolitan and/or its contractors shall immediately halt all work and protect the remains in place. Metropolitan shall contact the Riverside County coroner to evaluate the remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission, in accordance with all provisions in Health and Safety Code §7050.5(c) and Public Resources Code 5097.98.

Paleontological Resources

The 2015 IS-MND notes that the LVP alignment traverses areas considered to have a high potential/sensitivity for paleontological resources, according to the Riverside County Land Information System. This includes some of the proposed modifications (Riverside County Information Technology 2020). However, as noted in the 2015 IS-MND, soils surrounding the LVP alignment, which includes the location of the proposed modifications, consist primarily of late Quaternary alluvium soils that were excavated when the pipeline was initially installed and replaced and compacted after its construction. Excavation would occur along the LVP alignment or within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, where soils have previously been disturbed. Therefore, as with the Original Project, the potential to discover intact paleontological resources during construction of the Modified Project is considered low. This impact would remain less than significant.

3.3.4 Conclusion

The proposed modifications would not result in any new significant impacts to cultural resources or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

3.4 Energy

While not evaluated in the 2015 IS-MND, this section provides an analysis of the potential energy-related impacts associated with the proposed modifications to the Project for consistency with the most recent updates to the State CEQA Guidelines.

3.4.1 Setting

The two largest sources of energy produced in California in 2017 were renewable energy sources, at approximately 1,085.5 trillion British thermal units (Btu), and crude oil, at approximately 996.4 trillion Btu. Other sources of energy produced in California include nuclear electric power, natural gas, and biofuels (United States Energy Information Administration [USEIA] 2018a). Crude oil was used as transportation fuel primarily, with a portion used in industrial processes. Renewable energy sources include geothermal, solar, wind, biomass, and hydroelectric energy generation. In 2018, about 34 percent of the electricity used to serve California was produced from renewable resources (California Energy Commission [CEC] 2019a).

In 2018, California used 285,488 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of electricity, of which 31 percent were from renewable resources. California also consumed approximately 12,640 million U.S. therms (MMthm) of natural gas in 2018 (CEC 2019b). In 2017, approximately 40 percent of the State's energy consumption was used for transportation activities, although gasoline demand is projected to decline due to increasing use of electric vehicles (USEIA 2018a). California consumed 576.9 trillion Btu of petroleum energy in 2017, approximately 15.7 percent of total energy consumed in the state. Gasoline and diesel are the most used transportation fuels in California (USEIA 2018b).

Adopted on September 10, 2018, Senate Bill (SB) 100 accelerates the State's Renewables Portfolio Standards Program by requiring electricity providers to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources to 33 percent of total retail sales by 2020, 60 percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2045.

3.4.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate energy impacts associated with the proposed modifications. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts associated with:

- a) Wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation; or
- b) A conflict with or obstruction of a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

3.4.3 Potential Impacts

Energy Demand

Both the Original Project and the Modified Project involve repairs to existing potable water infrastructure critical to provide reliable, quality water to communities in southern California. As such, energy used to repair and improve such infrastructure would not be wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary. Furthermore, operation of both the Original Project and the Modified Project would result in more efficient potable water delivery, with the potential to provide long-term reductions in energy use. Therefore, operation of the Modified Project would not result in a potential impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary energy consumption.

Both the Original Project and the Modified Project would result in temporary energy consumption associated with construction activities. Energy use during project construction would be primarily in the form of fuel consumption to operate heavy equipment, light-duty vehicles, and machinery. The proposed modifications would constitute a fraction of the overall construction necessary to complete the pipeline relining under the Modified Project. Table 2 summarizes the anticipated energy consumption from construction equipment associated with the proposed modifications. As shown therein, construction of the proposed modifications would require approximately 4,163 gallons of diesel fuel.

Table 2
Construction Energy Demand

Construction Equipment	Fuel Consumption (gallons of diesel fuel)¹
Cranes, excavators, backhoes, generators, concrete pumps, welding equipment ²	4,163

¹ Calculated based on 15 eight-hour construction working days using default horsepower and load factors from the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). Calculations assume two pieces of equipment (one at access site, one at Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility). Analysis conservatively assumes all equipment in constant operation for eight hours.

² Assumes blowers indicated in equipment list in Table 1 would be electric powered and/or would consume minimal diesel fuel.

Refer to Appendix B for construction energy calculations.

Energy use during construction would be temporary in nature, and construction equipment used would be typical of similar-sized construction projects in the region. Consistent with Metropolitan's standard contractor specifications, contractors would shut down equipment while not in use and limit unnecessary idling of heavy equipment. Furthermore, in the interest of cost efficiency, construction contractors would not utilize fuel in a wasteful or unnecessary manner. Finally, as described above, the Modified Project would be constructed to repair and improve critical infrastructure to support delivery of reliable, quality water to communities in southern California. Therefore, construction of the Modified Project would not result in a potential impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, and no construction-related energy impact would occur.

Consistency with Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Plans

As mentioned above, SB 100 mandates 100 percent clean electricity for California by 2045 and is the primary State plan for renewable energy. While the proposed modifications do not include any components generating operational energy demand, the Original Project includes minor upgrades to the LVP's electrical components, which would also occur under the Modified Project. Such improvements would be supplied electricity by the electrical grid, which would be increasingly powered by renewable energy consistent with the requirements of SB 100. Metropolitan has not yet adopted specific renewable energy or energy efficiency plans with which construction or operation of the Modified Project could comply. Nonetheless, the Modified Project would not conflict with or obstruct the State plan for renewable energy; therefore, no impact would occur.

3.4.4 Conclusion

The proposed modifications would not result in any significant impacts related to energy.

3.5 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

This section provides an analysis of the potential greenhouse gases (GHG) emission impacts associated with the Modified Project, as compared to the Original Project.

3.5.1 Setting

The accumulation of GHGs in the atmosphere regulates the Earth's temperature; however, emissions from human activities, particularly the consumption of fossil fuels for electricity production and transportation, have elevated the concentration of these gases in the atmosphere to record historic levels. Greenhouse gases emitted in the highest levels from human activities include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. Emissions of carbon dioxide are largely by-products of fossil fuel combustion. Methane emissions result from fossil fuel combustion sources as well as off-gassing associated with agricultural practices and landfills. Nitrous oxide is produced by microbial processes in soil and water, including those reactions that occur in fertilizers that contain nitrogen, fossil fuel combustion, and other chemical processes.

The 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project describes Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the "California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006," and states that the Original Project would be consistent with California's goals to reduce GHG emissions under AB 32, which codifies the statewide goal of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 (essentially a 15 percent reduction below 2005 emission levels) and requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to prepare a Scoping Plan that outlines the main State strategies for reducing GHGs to meet the 2020 deadline. Subsequent to adoption of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, in 2016, SB 32 was signed into law, amending AB 32 by requiring the State to further reduce GHGs to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (the other provisions of AB 32 remain unchanged).

SB 97, signed in August 2007, acknowledges that climate change is an environmental issue that requires analysis in CEQA documents. In March 2010, the California Resources Agency adopted amendments to the State CEQA Guidelines for the analysis of GHG impacts and feasible mitigation of GHG emissions. The adopted Guidelines give lead agencies the discretion to set quantitative or qualitative thresholds for the assessment and mitigation of GHGs and climate change impacts. Furthermore, in 2017, the CARB adopted the 2017 Scoping Plan, which provides a framework for achieving the 2030 target for GHG emissions reductions pursuant to SB 32. The 2017 Scoping Plan does not provide project-level thresholds for water infrastructure or the water sector; instead, it recommends that local governments adopt policies and locally-appropriate quantitative thresholds.

3.5.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to GHG emissions associated with the Modified Project. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts associated with:

- a) The generation of greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or
- b) A conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

As described in Section 3.1, *Air Quality*, the land use emissions software CalEEMod (Version 2013.2.2) was utilized for the Original Project to quantify emissions during construction activities; these estimates included GHG emissions. CalEEMod was not re-run for the Modified Project because the proposed modifications consist of a small portion of the Original Project, the Modified Project would employ substantially similar construction methods as the Original Project, and construction emissions are therefore captured by the air quality calculations provided in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project.

3.5.3 Potential Impacts

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

As with the Original Project, construction of the Modified Project would require the use of vehicles and equipment during the construction period. The types of vehicles, equipment, and activities included for the Original Project would be substantially similar to those proposed for the Modified Project; neither construction nor operation of the Modified Project would introduce new or revised features or activities that could substantially affect GHG emissions. Additionally, the Modified Project represents a small portion of the Original Project and minor improvements within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. As such, GHG emissions that would occur during construction of the Modified Project are captured and characterized by the analysis provided in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

As with the Original Project, due to the nature of the Modified Project being to implement necessary improvements to existing water conveyance infrastructure, and because ongoing maintenance activities already occur, no substantial long-term operational GHG emissions would result from implementation of the Modified Project, and potential impacts related to GHG emissions would be limited to the temporary construction period, described above. Operation and maintenance of the Modified Project would not introduce a change to existing conditions, and therefore would have no impact associated with GHG emissions.

Consistency with Applicable Plans, Policies, and Regulations

As determined in the 2015 IS-MND, the Original Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation applicable to GHG emissions and therefore would not result in GHG impacts associated with this significance criterion. The discussion of regulatory updates provided in Section 3.5.1, *Setting*, provides an overview of GHG emissions reduction guidance that has been approved or codified since preparation of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project. These regulatory updates are consistent in their guidance applicable to the Modified Project, and do not introduce new guidelines or requirements that would cause the Modified Project to conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation associated with GHG emissions. In addition, the Modified Project would not introduce new or revised infrastructure or activities that would result in impacts associated with GHG emissions that were not previously characterized for the Original Project. Therefore, the Modified Project would result in no impact associated with applicable plans, policies, or regulations for GHG emissions reductions.

3.5.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in any new or more severe significant impacts related to GHG emissions.

3.6 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded that potential environmental impacts to hazards and hazardous materials would be less than significant with no mitigation required. This section provides an analysis of the potential impacts to hazards and hazardous materials associated with the Modified Project.

3.6.1 Setting

The 2015 IS-MND did not identify leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites in the Original Project area; as discussed in the impact analysis below, there also are no identified LUST sites in the Modified

Project area. Hazardous or potentially hazardous materials that are regularly used in the project area for regular operation and maintenance of the LVP and other area infrastructure include vehicle fuels, lubricants, and solvents, among other common materials.

The closest airports to the project area include the Hemet-Ryan Airport, located approximately 3.75 miles from the project area, and March Air Reserve Base, located approximately 5.25 miles away from the project area. Although there are identified hazardous waste sites at the March Air Reserve Base, the base is not included in the environmental setting for the Original Project, due to distance from the project site.

There are two school sites located adjacent to the existing LVP, the Mountain Shadows Middle School and Nuvview Bridge Early College High School, which are both located adjacent to and south of Access Sites 5 and 6 at the intersection of 9th Street and Reservoir Avenue. These sites are located over 1.5 miles from the proposed modifications. The nearest school to the site of the proposed modifications is Avalon Elementary School, approximately 0.2 mile southwest of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

3.6.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to hazards and hazardous materials associated with the Modified Project. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts associated with:

- a) Creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials;
- b) Creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment;
- c) Emission of hazardous emissions or handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school;
- d) Location on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment;
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, resulting of a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area;
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, resulting in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area;
- g) Impairment of the implementation of or physical interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; or
- h) Exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.

3.6.3 Potential Impacts

Routine Transport, Use, and Disposal of Hazardous Materials

Project design features and activities included under the Modified Project would not create a new or substantially revised hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. The Modified Project includes revisions to one LVP access point and minor improvements within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, but would not alter other implementation activities. As such, removed infrastructure components, such as portions of the LVP removed to complete the relining or the existing reducing tee at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, would be disposed at the nearest Class I landfill accepting construction and demolition debris and materials according to all applicable local, state, and federal regulations, as indicated in the 2015 IS-MND. In addition, limited quantities of potentially hazardous materials such as fuels, lubricants, and solvents would be used at the proposed access site and Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility during project construction, and, as with the Original Project, would be handled in accordance with a project-specific Spill Emergency Response Plan (SERP) required as part of the project contractor's specifications. Substances that would be used and/or transported are not considered to be acutely hazardous and would be similar in nature to materials used in general construction and maintenance throughout the project area. BMPs specified in the project's SERP would minimize or avoid potential impacts associated with the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials by ensuring appropriate handling and disposal practices. Potential impacts would be the same as those described for the Original Project, and would be less than significant.

Upset and Accident Conditions

As described above, hazardous materials would be handled, stored, and disposed of in compliance with project-specific BMPs and in accordance with regulatory requirements applicable to hazardous materials and wastes. This would minimize or avoid the potential for accidental upset or accident conditions to occur, such that hazardous materials would be released into the environment. In addition, substances that would be used and/or transported under the Modified Project would be typical of potable water infrastructure improvements and similar to those considered under the Original Project, and are not considered to be acutely hazardous or uncommon to materials used in general construction and maintenance throughout the project area. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

Hazardous Substances Near Schools

The 2015 IS-MND identifies two school sites located near the LVP alignment; the Mountain Shadows Middle School and Nuview Bridge Early College High School are both located adjacent to and south of Access Sites 5 and 6 at the intersection of 9th Street and Reservoir Avenue. While these sites are over 1.5 miles from the site of the proposed modifications, improvements at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility would be located approximately 0.2 mile from Avalon Elementary School. As with the Original Project, limited quantities of hazardous substances would be used during project construction, including fuels, lubricants, and solvents associated with the use of construction vehicles and equipment. These substances are not considered to be acutely hazardous and would be similar in nature to materials used in general construction and maintenance throughout the project area. Additionally, construction activities would be temporary and limited to the construction site, and Metropolitan would dispose of all project-related hazardous materials at the nearest Class I landfill disposal facility according to all applicable local, state, and federal regulations related to the disposal of such materials. Operation and maintenance of the Modified Project would involve the same activities that presently occur for operation and maintenance of the LVP; as such, no new hazardous emissions, substances, or wastes would be introduced by the

Modified Project. Potential impacts associated with the presence of such materials in proximity to an existing school would be less than significant.

Hazardous Waste Sites

Project design features, infrastructure, and activities included under the Modified Project do not introduce to the study area a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (Department of Toxic Substances Control 2020). In addition, there are no LUST or Spills, Leaks, Investigation, and Cleanup sites within or in the immediate vicinity of the Modified Project area (Regional Water Quality Control Board [RWQCB] 2020). Therefore, the environmental setting for hazardous materials sites for the Modified Project is the same as described for the Original Project. No impact would occur.

Airports and Airstrips

The Modified Project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport, public use airport, or private airstrip. The environmental setting relevant to airports and airstrips is the same as described for the Original Project. No impact would occur.

Emergency Plans

The project area is within the management area of the County of Riverside's Operational Area Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which identifies Riverside County's hazards, reviews and assesses past disaster occurrences, estimates the probability of future occurrences, and sets goals to mitigate or eliminate the long-term risks to people and property from natural and man-made disasters (County of Riverside 2018). As with the Original Project, the Modified Project would implement repairs to an existing subsurface pipeline located within Metropolitan's ROW and would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with this adopted emergency response plan.

The Modified Project would include the construction and use of one revised access route to the existing LVP; this would include the use of approximately 1,240 linear feet of temporary roadway that would be bladed and cleared to a width of 20 feet between the proposed access site and the existing Pozos Avenue. The use of this temporary access roadway would be limited to the construction period, and restricted to use by construction vehicles and equipment specifically required for the project. Due to the temporary and restricted nature of this access roadway, it would not have potential to impair implementation of or interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan. The use of other local roadways for the construction and operation of the Modified Project would be similar to that described for the Original Project; as such, although construction activities may temporarily add vehicular traffic on local roadways providing access to the proposed project's access sites, no road closures or detours would be required during project construction. The Modified Project would not cause roadways to be closed entirely to through traffic and any emergency vehicles would be able to pass through the project area without obstruction. Therefore, as with the Original Project, potential impacts associated with consistency with adopted emergency response or evacuation plans under the Modified Project would be less than significant.

Wildfire

Wildfire impacts are discussed in detail in Section 3.10, *Wildfire*. Neither Modified Project construction nor operation would introduce unusual or substantially different infrastructure or activities, compared to existing conditions, such that risk of wildland would be introduced or exacerbated. All construction activity associated with the Modified Project would occur within Metropolitan's existing ROW for the LVP or the existing Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, which are regularly maintained and clear of

dense vegetation. In addition, as with the Original Project, the Modified Project would not involve construction of new habitable structures. Therefore, the Modified Project would not expose people or structures to a significant loss, injury or death involving wildland fires and impacts are considered less than significant. For more discussion of potential wildfire impacts associated with the proposed modifications, refer to Section 3.10, *Wildfire*.

3.6.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in any new significant impacts to hazards and hazardous materials or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project.

3.7 Hydrology and Water Quality

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded potential environmental impacts to hydrology and water quality would be less than significant with no mitigation required. This section provides an analysis of the potential impacts to hydrology and water quality associated with the Modified Project.

3.7.1 Setting

The proposed project, including the Original Project assessed in the 2015 IS-MND and the Modified Project assessed herein, is located within the San Jacinto River watershed and overlies the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. Topography of the project area is typical of foothill regions in Southern California, with an expansive alluvial fan formation created from repeated runoff from the surrounding mountains discharging to the valley floor. The Santa Ana RWQCB governs surface water quality within the San Jacinto River watershed, setting water quality objectives and monitoring surface water quality through the implementation of the Santa Ana River Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). There are existing canal ditches and storm drains, common to the project area, along the existing LVP alignment.

The nearest dam to the site of the proposed modifications is Lake Perris Dam located approximately 0.25 mile northwest of the proposed modifications within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. In 2018, following adoption of the IS-MND for the Original Project, Perris Dam was retrofitted by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as part of a statewide effort to reduce seismic risks to dams (DWR 2020). Additional planned improvements associated with Perris Dam include the DWR's Perris Dam Emergency Release Facility (ERF), which was assessed by DWR in a 2018 Final EIR. The ERF project would provide improvements downstream of the reservoir to direct the flow of water in an emergency requiring the dewatering of the reservoir (DWR 2020), and improving safety of downstream areas from dam-related flooding hazards.

As noted above, the proposed modifications overlay the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. This groundwater basin is delineated in DWR Bulletin 118 as Groundwater Basin 8-005 and encompasses a large area within western Riverside County. Water quality in the basin is characterized by high concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate, which are common to the area. EMWD oversees groundwater management in the basin. Since adoption of the IS-MND for the Original Project in 2015, EMWD formed the West San Jacinto Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) in 2017. Groundwater sustainability agencies are directed to be formed by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014, which specifies milestone dates for GSAs to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), which are mandated to facilitate the sustainable management of all groundwater resources throughout the state. As such, the West San Jacinto GSA was formed to implement the SGMA planning requirements. The San Jacinto Groundwater Basin has been identified by

DWR as a “high priority” basin, making it subject to more aggressive deadlines in the SGMA regulations; as such, a GSP must be in place by January 30, 2022.

3.7.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to hydrology and water quality associated with the proposed modifications. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts associated with the following:

- a) Violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements;
- b) Substantial depletion of groundwater supplies or substantial interference with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted);
- c) Substantial alteration of the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or offsite;
- d) Substantial alteration of the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;
- e) Creation or contribution of runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff;
- f) Otherwise substantial degradation of water quality;
- g) Placement of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map;
- h) Placement of structures within a 100-year flood hazard area which would impede or redirect flood flows;
- i) Exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam; or
- j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

As described in the introduction to Section 3.0, *Impact Analysis*, although the same CEQA significance criteria used in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project are applied to this impact analysis for the Modified Project, the current (2019) CEQA Checklist issue areas are discussed where applicable to the Modified Project. The 2015 CEQA significance criteria (listed above) were revised in the current (2019) CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist. The 2019 revisions generally condense the significance criteria for hydrology and water quality, and do not alter the overall content or required analysis. The 2019 revisions to hydrology and water quality significance criteria do call for analysis of sustainable groundwater management plans, which are not specified in the 2015 criteria listed above. Therefore, for the purposes of this Addendum, the consistency of the Modified Project with an existing sustainable groundwater management plan is addressed in the analysis that follows.

3.7.3 Potential Impacts

Water Quality Standards

As described in the 2015 IS-MND, the Original Project involves relining the existing subsurface LVP, and would not increase new impervious surfaces. Therefore, increased runoff and the potential for violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements resulting from implementation of the Original Project are not anticipated. The Modified Project would include the construction and use of a new access roadway that would be cleared to a width of 20 feet for approximately 1,240 linear feet between one proposed new access site and the existing Pozos Avenue; although this roadway would be compacted to provide construction access, it would not be paved and would not introduce new impervious area. Furthermore, the alignment of the proposed temporary roadway is already heavily disturbed and compacted due to regular vehicular traffic along the LVP alignment.

As with construction of the Original Project, preparation for construction of the Modified Project would include emptying of the LVP of water by discharging at existing blow-offs and pump wells. The discharged water would be directed into natural and manmade drainages in coordination with the Santa Ana RWQCB, which manages water quality for surface waters in the project area. In addition, project construction would include implementation of a project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), as well as compliance with Riverside County Ordinance 754 for establishing stormwater/urban runoff management and discharge controls. This would include incorporation of project design features and BMPs to minimize or avoid the potential for the project to violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The Modified Project would not introduce new or substantially different ground disturbing activities, or dewatering activities, in comparison to the Original Project. Potential impacts associated with water quality standards and waste discharge requirements would be less than significant.

Groundwater Impacts

As noted above and described for the Original Project, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in creation of new impervious surfaces. In addition, excavated areas would be restored to their pre-project conditions, and the LVP would continue to be operated and maintained as under present conditions. Implementation of the Modified Project would not include groundwater pumping and therefore, as with the Original Project, there would be no impact to groundwater recharge.

As stated in Section 3.7.2, *Significance Threshold Criteria*, above, for the purposes of this Addendum, the consistency of the Modified Project with an existing sustainable groundwater management plan is addressed under this analysis. In accordance with SGMA, the project area is underlain by the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin, which is managed by the West San Jacinto GSA and is subject to the management direction of a basin-wide GSP, which is presently under development. The Modified Project would not result in impacts to groundwater recharge, and therefore also would not conflict with the GSA's management of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. No impact would occur.

Drainage Patterns and Runoff

Implementation of the Modified Project would not alter the course of any stream or river. As noted above, there are a number of drainage canals in the vicinity of the LVP alignment, but implementation of the Modified Project would not alter the course or direction of drainage canals. The existing LVP would be de-watered in preparation for project implementation, and discharged water would be managed in accordance with the Santa Ana RWQCB for compliance with water quality requirements. With the exception of dewatering of a portion of the LVP during preparation for construction, neither construction nor operation and maintenance of the Modified Project would create or contribute runoff water. As with

the Original Project, the Modified Project would be consistent with water quality and waste discharge requirements, and no impact would occur.

The Modified Project would include the preparation and use of one new portion of access roadway; however, as described under *Groundwater Impacts*, above, the access roadway would not introduce new impervious area such that groundwater recharge would be affected. The alignment of the proposed temporary roadway is already heavily disturbed and compacted due to regular vehicular traffic along the LVP alignment. Consequently, the minor ground disturbance associated with implementation and use of the temporary access roadway would not alter the drainage pattern of the overall area such that subsequent impacts to water quality may occur. In addition, the project-specific SWPPP that would be developed and implemented as described above would identify BMPs to minimize or avoid potential impacts associated with erosion, siltation, and flooding. Following construction of the Modified Project, access points and other disturbance areas associated with the Modified Project would be restored to pre-construction condition, including with respect to drainage patterns. No impact associated with drainage pattern alterations, discharge of runoff water, or other water quality effects would occur.

Flood Hazards

The Modified Project would not introduce housing or cause housing to be placed within a flood hazard area. No structures would be introduced as a result of the Modified Project that may impede or redirect flood flows. No impact would occur.

Dam Inundation

The proposed modifications are located within the inundation area for the Lake Perris Dam. In comparison with the Original Project, the Modified Project would not increase or otherwise alter the potential for the area to be subject to flooding. In addition, the Modified Project would not construct any structures along the LVP alignment that may expose people to risk of inundation. Potential impacts associated with flooding would be less than significant.

Seiche, Tsunami, and Mudflow

The proposed modifications are located within the same study area as the Original Project, and would not introduce new potential hazards associated with inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. The proposed modifications are located approximately 40 miles from the Pacific Ocean and, therefore, are not at risk of inundation by tsunami. The Modified Project, like the Original Project, does not involve construction of habitable structures that would expose people to risk of inundation. As mentioned in Section 3.7.1, *Setting*, since adoption of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, the DWR has assessed a planned ERF for areas downstream of Perris Dam, which will further improve the safety of downstream areas from potential inundation hazards. Furthermore, the Modified Project involves repair and replacement of potable water infrastructure, and does not involve land uses that would store or process pollutants that could be released in the event of inundation. The Modified Project would result in no impact associated with inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

3.7.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in any new significant impacts to hydrology and water quality or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project.

3.8 Noise

The 2015 IS-MND prepared for the Original Project concluded that potential environmental impacts to noise would be less than significant. This section provides an analysis of the potential impacts of noise associated with the Modified Project.

3.8.1 Setting

The definitions of sound and noise provided in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project are the same as for the Modified Project; therefore, the background information used to describe sound and noise is incorporated by reference for the purposes of this analysis. In addition, a project-specific noise report, the Environmental Noise Study for the Proposed Lakeview Pipeline Repair Project (Metropolitan 2015), was prepared in support of the 2015 IS-MND and included as Appendix D to the 2015 IS-MND. The purpose of the noise study was to identify and assess the potential noise and vibration impacts of the Original Project. The noise report also identified applicable noise standards for unincorporated Riverside County and the city of San Jacinto, which are the relevant jurisdictions for the study area of the Original Project. The study area of noise and vibration for the Modified Project is the same as for the Original Project, because the project revisions included under the Modified Project would occur along the same alignment and within the same noise and vibration environment as the Original Project. Since adoption of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, land uses and activities along the project alignment have remained generally consistent with conditions described in the noise report for the Original Project. Therefore, due to general continuity of study area characteristics and activities included under project construction and operation, preparation of this Addendum for the Modified Project did not include a new or revised noise report; rather, the existing noise report is incorporated by reference for the purposes of this Addendum.

3.8.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to noise associated with the Modified Project. As described previously in this Addendum, the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist was revised in 2019, and some of the significance criteria used to identify and characterize environmental impacts for the Original Project in the 2015 IS-MND were revised. For the purposes of this Addendum, the current (2019) CEQA Checklist issue areas are discussed where applicable to the Modified Project; however, for consistency with the analysis provided in the 2015 IS-MND, the same significance criteria used in 2015 are applied to the impact analysis for the Modified Project. The CEQA significance criteria 2019 revisions generally condense the significance criteria for noise, and do not alter the overall content or required analysis. Therefore impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new impacts or substantially increase the severity of previously identified impacts associated with the following:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies;
- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels;
- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project;
- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project;

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels; or
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels.

3.8.3 Potential Impacts

Noise in Excess of Applicable Standards

As described in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, there are local standards and ordinances for noise in the project area, which the proposed project is exempt from due to the nature of the project being for water infrastructure maintenance conducted by Metropolitan. The Modified Project involves repairs and replacement of underground infrastructure and does not involve new pumps or equipment that would generate long-term operational noise. Construction activities would result in temporary noise associated with operation of heavy equipment, earth-moving activities, and workers accessing the site of the proposed modifications. As part of standard construction practices, Metropolitan would implement sound control measures and coordinate with potentially affected local jurisdictions and sensitive receptors to address any noise-related issues that may arise from noise generated by the project. As described in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, construction of the proposed modifications would occur during normal working hours (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.), and no 24-hour work is anticipated. Although Metropolitan is exempt from the local noise ordinances, construction of the Modified Project would adhere to the extent possible to the working hours and standard construction practices identified for these jurisdictions. Therefore, the Modified Project would result in temporary construction-related noise that would be less than significant due to the use of sound control measures and pre-construction communication with sensitive receptors.

Groundborne Vibration

Vibration from construction activity is typically below the threshold of perception when the activity is more than 50 feet from receivers. The nearest noise-sensitive receptors to the proposed modifications are residences across Ramona Expressway, approximately 200 feet from the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Furthermore, construction of the proposed modifications would not require activities associated with substantial vibration, such as pile driving. Construction activities that would occur as part of the proposed modifications would be similar to those that would occur as part of the Original Project as analyzed in the 2015 IS-MND and in the noise report included as Appendix D to the 2015 IS-MND. As with the Original Project, construction activities for the Modified Project would not generate vibration that would be perceptible to surrounding receptors. The Modified Project would not expose people or structures to excessive levels of ground-borne vibration, and potential impacts associated with groundborne vibration or noise levels would be less than significant.

Long-Term Noise Increases

As with the Original Project, under the Modified Project, operation and maintenance activities for the LVP would be the same as existing conditions. The LVP would continue to be underground and would not generate any noise due to operation. The Modified Project does not involve new pumps or equipment that would generate long-term operational noise. Potential impacts associated with long-term increases in ambient noise levels would be less than significant.

Temporary Noise Increases

During construction of the Modified Project, the temporary use of construction vehicles and equipment would generate noise that may be noticeable to receptors in the immediate vicinity of the relevant construction activity. The types of sounds that would be emitted as a result of the proposed project are heavy equipment engine and generator noise, which are similar to some ongoing Metropolitan maintenance activities already occurring within the ROW. During construction, the use of equipment such as cranes, backhoes, an excavator, concrete pumps, a water truck, a welding truck, blowers and generators would be required. Under the Modified Project, one revised access site would be used. The modified access site is located over 3,800 feet from the nearest noise-sensitive receptor, Lakeside Middle School, and separated by Ramona Expressway. Construction activities at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure would occur approximately 200 feet from nearby residences. However, such residences are separated from the site by Ramona Expressway, which serves as an intervening noise source, and construction would be limited to daytime hours, reducing temporary noise impacts at these receptors. As with the Original Project, noise-minimization measures would be implemented for the Modified Project, and would include activities such as use of quieter equipment and locating generators and machinery within proposed access away from sensitive receptors, as feasible, to minimize impacts to sensitive receptors. Metropolitan would also voluntarily coordinate with local jurisdictions and sensitive receptors regarding the Modified Project to address any potential noise-related issues prior to commencement of construction activities. Therefore, potential temporary noise impacts associated with revisions included under the Modified Project would be less than significant.

Airport Noise

As with the Original Project, the Modified Project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or private airstrip. No impacts would occur.

3.8.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in any new significant noise impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts already identified in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project. Potential impacts associated with noise and vibration would be less than significant.

3.9 Tribal Cultural Resources

Although not included in the 2015 IS-MND, a discussion of tribal cultural resources is included in this Addendum per the most recent version of the State CEQA Guidelines. Changes to the State CEQA Guidelines requiring analysis of tribal cultural resources took effect July 2015. Because the adopted MND was published prior to July 2015, analysis of impacts to tribal cultural resources is not required. The analysis below is included for informational purposes.

3.9.1 Setting

The Modified Project site, which includes the site of the proposed modifications, is located in an area that has been extensively disturbed in conjunction with previous construction of the LVP, CRA, Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, and associated infrastructure.

As discussed in Section 3.3, *Cultural Resources*, archaeological resources identified during the pedestrian survey and records search for the Original Project have been avoided through project design. The February 28, 2020 cultural resources pedestrian survey of the site of the proposed modifications did not

identify any previously recorded or new cultural resources. In addition, Metropolitan is not aware of any tribal cultural resources within the area of the proposed modifications.

3.9.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to tribal cultural resources associated with the proposed modifications. Impacts would be potentially significant if the proposed modifications would introduce new impacts or substantially increase the severity of a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in a Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)
- b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant under criteria outlined in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 2024.1. In applying the criteria outlined in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe

3.9.3 Potential Impacts

As discussed in Section 3.3, *Cultural Resources*, archaeological resources identified during the pedestrian survey and records search for the Original Project have been avoided through project design. The Modified Project does not involve changes to project design in the vicinity of identified archaeological resources. The February 28, 2020 cultural resources pedestrian survey of the site of the proposed modifications did not identify any previously recorded or new archaeological resources. Furthermore, the proposed modifications are located in heavily disturbed areas along the LVP alignment or within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. In addition, Metropolitan is not aware of any tribal cultural resources within the area of the proposed modifications. Therefore, impacts to tribal cultural resources under the Modified Project would be less than significant.

3.9.4 Conclusion

Given the analysis above, the Modified Project would result in less than significant impacts to tribal cultural resources.

3.10 Wildfire

This section provides an analysis of the potential wildfire impacts associated with the Modified Project. As described in the introduction to this impact analysis, wildfire was not identified as an environmental topic area in the 2015 CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist, when the IS-MND for the Original Project was adopted; therefore, an analysis of wildfire impacts associated with the Original Project was not included in the 2015 IS-MND. This topic was added to the CEQA Checklist in 2019, when the CEQA Guidelines were updated. As such, the topic of wildfire is included in this impact analysis of the Modified Project.

3.10.1 Setting

The entire southern California region is prone to large wildfires due to its hot, dry climate and expansive coverage of ignitable vegetation. During the autumn and winter months, strong offshore Santa Ana wind events carry dry, desert air and can fan fast-moving fires that spread rapidly from heavily-vegetated wilderness and mountainous areas into developed communities. The existing LVP and proposed modifications are in an urbanized area of Riverside County, which limits the spread of large, uncontrolled wildfires. However, surrounding mountainous areas are prone to regular fires, which can pose a health and safety risk to nearby communities. Since adoption of the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, major fires in the project vicinity include the 2018 Holy Fire (23,136 acres), and the 2018 Cranston Fire (13,139 acres).

Wildfire is a natural ecological process in chaparral, scrub, and grassland systems; however, wildfire return intervals have decreased throughout southern California, resulting in more frequent ecological disturbance, loss of biodiversity, and colonization by non-native grass species (United States Forest Service 2018). Furthermore, post-fire conditions leave exposed mountain slopes and hillsides vulnerable to surface erosion and runoff, which in turn facilitates debris flows during post-fire rainy seasons that can also pose a risk to life and property, and occur with little warning. In southern California, as little as 0.3 inch of rain in 30 minutes can produce debris flows on post-fire landscapes (United States Geological Survey 2018).

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) designates areas of fire hazard severity as State Responsibility Areas (SRAs), which are determined based upon land ownership, population density, and land use. The California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BFFP) recognizes SRAs as areas where CalFire is the primary emergency response agency responsible for fire suppression and prevention. (California BFFP 2020)

The area surrounding Lake Perris is a designated SRA (California BFFP 2020). The southern portion of the community of Lakeview is also a designated SRA (California BFFP 2020). As such, the proposed modifications that would occur at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility are within a Very High or Moderate SRA, under both the Original Project and the Modified Project.

3.10.2 Significance Threshold Criteria

The following CEQA significance threshold criteria were used to evaluate impacts to wildfire associated with the Modified Project; as described above, these criteria were identified in the 2019 CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Checklist. As such, impacts associated with wildfire would be potentially significant if the project would result in any of the following:

- a) Substantial impairment of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan;
- b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby exposure of Project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire;
- c) Project-required installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment; or
- d) Exposure of people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.

3.10.3 Potential Impacts

Adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan

As discussed in Section 3.6, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, the Modified Project would not physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The proposed modifications would not change the existing LVP alignment, and the one modified LVP access point would only be used during the construction period to implement the needed repairs and upgrades to the existing LVP. Portions of the proposed modifications are located in the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, which is within a Very High or Moderate SRA; as such, Modified Project implementation would include the use of vehicles and equipment within an SRA, to transport workers and materials to and from the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. This may require the use of the same area roadways that would be used during implementation of an emergency response or evacuation plan. However, such activities would be temporary and limited to the project construction period of approximately three weeks, and would not physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

Exposure to Pollutant Concentrations or Uncontrolled Wildfire Spread

Neither the Original Project nor the Modified Project would alter existing slope, prevailing winds, or other factors exacerbating wildfire risks. Construction activities would be temporary and of short duration, and operational activities would be the same as under existing conditions. Further, the Modified Project would not construct any structures, and would therefore not introduce occupants to potential wildfire hazards, including pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. Heavy duty equipment used during construction may produce sparks with the potential to ignite vegetation within the Very High and Moderate SRA at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. However, California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4442 mandates the use of spark arrestors, which prevent the emission of flammable debris from exhaust, on earth-moving and portable construction equipment with internal combustion engines operating on any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land. Furthermore, PRC Sections 4427 and 4431 specify standards for conducting construction activities on days when a burning permit is required, and PRC Section 4428 requires construction contractors to maintain fire suppression equipment during the highest fire danger period (April 1 to December 1) when operating on or near any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land. Therefore, with compliance with applicable PRC provisions, construction of the Modified Project would not exacerbate wildfire risk. No impact would occur.

Project Infrastructure that Exacerbate Fire Risk

The Modified Project would not include fuel breaks, power lines, or other aboveground utilities that would exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Furthermore, neither the Original Project nor the Modified Project would involve the construction of any aboveground structures, and all activities would be located on relatively flat land, such that no increase in the potential to expose people or the environment to wildfire or related risks would occur. No impact would occur.

Exposure of People or Structures to Significant Risks

As discussed in Section 3.7, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, the Modified Project would not significantly alter drainage patterns or stormwater runoff volumes or rates in the vicinity of the proposed modifications or surrounding area. Construction activities would be short-term, and the Modified Project would not include housing or other structures which could accommodate occupants. If a wildfire were to cause runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes in the vicinity of the proposed modifications, post-

fire flooding or landslides may occur. However, the Modified Project would not expose people or structures to post-fire risks and would not exacerbate such risks. No impact related to post-fire risks would occur.

3.10.4 Conclusion

The Modified Project would not result in new or more severe significant impacts related to wildfire. Although this topic area was not assessed in the 2015 IS-MND for the Original Project, the impact analysis provided herein considers whether there would be differences in the potential or nature of wildfire risk associated with both the Original Project and the Modified Project, and no differences have been identified.

4.0 List of Preparers

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6.0 Conclusion

Section 15164(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines states the following:

"An addendum to an adopted negative declaration may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration have occurred."

The proposed modifications to the Original Project would not result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Furthermore, new information associated with the proposed modifications does not indicate that the Project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the 2015 IS-MND; that significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the 2015 IS-MND; that mitigation measures previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible; or that mitigation measures which are considerably different from those analyzed in the 2015 IS-MND would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the Project proponent declines to adopt the mitigation measures or alternative. Accordingly, an Addendum was prepared as opposed to a subsequent environmental impact report or a negative declaration. As the Lead Agency for the proposed Project modifications, Metropolitan is issuing this Addendum in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15164).

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Jennifer Harriger
Signature

4-16-2020
Date

Jennifer Harriger
Printed Name

Manager, Environmental Planning Section
Title

Appendix A

Biological Resources Assessment



March 24, 2020
Project No: 19-08401

Alexander Marks, Environmental Specialist
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Environmental Planning Section
700 North Alameda Street
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Via email: EPT@mwdh20.com

Subject: Biological Resources Assessment for Proposed Modifications to the Lakeview Pipeline Repair Project

Dear Mr. Marks:

This report documents the findings of a Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) conducted by Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon), for the proposed modifications (Modified Project) to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Lakeview Pipeline Repair Project (Original Project). The assessment was completed to document existing site conditions via desktop analysis and field survey and to determine potential impacts to special status biological resources based on current plans for the proposed modifications to the Original Project. This BRA has been prepared to support an addendum to the existing Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the Modified Project and compare impacts to those analyzed for the Original Project.

Previous Environmental Review

An IS-MND for the Original Project was adopted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) in 2015 as part of its approval of the Original Project (State Clearinghouse [SCH] #2015061016) (Metropolitan 2015). Metropolitan is proposing modifications to the previously approved Original Project. These proposed modifications are summarized as follows:

- One access site for approximately 450 linear feet of pipe liner installation activities between Station 2197+64.50 and 2201+10.5 has been modified along the LVP alignment.
- Installation of a new manhole at the proposed relocated access site.
- Replacement of an existing air release and vacuum valve (ARVV) along the LVP alignment at Station 2200+60.
- A 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch diameter reducing tee would be replaced within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.
- Approximately 1,240 linear feet of approximately 20-foot wide temporary roadway alignment would be bladed and cleared between the proposed access site and Pozos Avenue.
- Off-site fabrication of bulkheads for future installation within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

The 2015 Final IS-MND analyzed impacts to environmental resources associated with the Original Project. To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) and the *State CEQA Guidelines* (California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq.), this BRA has been prepared to evaluate the potential impacts to biological resources associated with the proposed modifications in support of an addendum to the 2015 IS-MND.

Project Location and Description

The proposed modifications are located along the Lakeview Pipeline (LVP) alignment which is primarily in unincorporated areas of Riverside County, including the community of Lakeview, with an approximately four-mile segment at the easterly end of the pipeline in the city of San Jacinto (Figure 1). The pipeline is generally located south of the Ramona Expressway along an alignment which begins at Metropolitan's Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility located off the Ramona Expressway, passes under the Bernasconi Hills and the San Jacinto River, extends through the unincorporated community of Lakeview, and terminates at the confluence of the Casa Loma and San Diego Canals located near the intersection of Warren Road and Cottonwood Avenue in the city of San Jacinto. The proposed modifications evaluated in this BRA are located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Structure Facility and along the LVP alignment west of Pozos Avenue near the unincorporated community of Lakeview.

This BRA focuses specifically on the proposed modifications which would occur on three sites surrounding the pipeline: storage/work areas within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, an access pit east of Ramona Expressway, and a temporary roadway alignment (Figure 2). Work performed outside the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility is anticipated to remain within Metropolitan's existing right-of-way (ROW). A detailed project description is provided below.

As with the Original Project, the Modified Project analyzed in this BRA involve re-lining a portion of the existing LVP. The proposed modifications include relocation of an access site along the LVP alignment between Ramona Expressway and Pozos Avenue near the community of Lakeview. The proposed modifications also involve construction of a new manhole at the relocated access site; replacement of a 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch diameter reducing tee within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility; blading, clearing, and use of a temporary access roadway; and off-site fabrication of bulkheads to be subsequently installed within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

LVP Access Site

The proposed modifications include adjustments to the location and size of a proposed pipeline access site along the LVP alignment. Specifically, approximately 450 linear feet of pipeline would be re-lined from an access site located at Station 2200+10. The access site spans approximately 2.5-acres and includes an approximately 45-foot by 15-foot area where the pipeline access pit would be excavated for placement of the liner as well as contractor work and storage area. Excavation would occur to approximately 24 feet below ground surface to expose the existing pipeline. A new pipeline manhole would also be constructed at the location of the LVP access pit. As with the Original Project, the proposed access site would provide access to the LVP, as well as area for staging, equipment laydown, storage, and contractor parking.

ARVV Replacement

The proposed modifications include demolition of an existing ARVV located along the LVP alignment at Station 2200+60. The Original Project includes relocation of approximately six ARVVs from underground to ground level. Under the Original Project, all ARVVs to be relocated would involve installation of a small concrete pad, equipment enclosure, and a 10-inch diameter pipe connection spanning approximately 30 feet. Under the proposed modifications, the ARVV at Station 2200+60 would be replaced in-place within an existing manhole in the LVP. Pipe connections and concrete pads would not be constructed for this replacement. This ARVV replacement would not involve ground disturbance and would not result in physical impacts to the environment. As such, it is not discussed further in this BRA.

Temporary Access Road

The proposed LVP access site would be accessed from Ramona Expressway via Pozos Avenue. From Pozos Avenue, a temporary, approximately 20-foot wide access road would extend approximately 1,240 feet westward toward the proposed access site. The temporary access road would be bladed and cleared of vegetation. The alignment of the proposed access road generally follows an existing dirt patrol road along the LVP alignment.

Reducing Tee Replacement

The proposed modifications would involve replacement of an existing 61-inch by 61-inch by 49-inch reducing tee within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. The replacement would involve sawing and cutting of existing asphalt, excavation of an approximately 400-square foot area to a depth of approximately 18 feet, replacement of the existing reducing tee, pouring of concrete to encase the new reducing tee, and backfilling and repaving of the excavated area. It is anticipated that replacement of the reducing tee would involve excavation of approximately 200 cubic yards (cy) of soil. Excavated soil would be used for backfill as feasible, with approximately 20 cy of remaining soil exported offsite or stored or spread at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility.

In addition to replacement of the reducing tee, approximately one acre of the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility would be used as contractor work and storage area, including an approximate 0.6-acre area located in the northern portion of the facility.

Bulkhead Fabrication and Storage

In addition to the improvements described above, the proposed modifications would involve the fabrication and storage of approximately three bulkheads. Bulkheads would be fabricated offsite and stored as necessary within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. While there are no current plans to install the bulkheads, if installation is necessary, bulkheads would be installed within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Given that bulkheads would be fabricated offsite, stored within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, and installed within existing facilities, these improvements would not result in impacts to biological resources and, as such, are not discussed further in this BRA.

Methodology

Regulatory Overview

Regulated or sensitive resources studied and analyzed herein include special status plant and wildlife species, nesting birds and raptors, sensitive plant communities, jurisdictional waters and wetlands, wildlife movement, and locally protected resources, such as protected trees.

Environmental Statutes

For the purpose of this report, potential impacts to biological resources were analyzed based on the following statutes:

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- California Endangered Species Act (CESA)
- Federal Clean Water Act (CWA)
- California Fish and Game Code (CFGC)
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)
- The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Riverside County Code of Ordinances
- Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) (2003)
- Stephen's Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan (SKR HCP) (1996)

Guidelines for Determining CEQA Significance

The following threshold criteria, as defined by the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Initial Study Checklist, were used to evaluate potential environmental effects. Based on these criteria, the proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by CDFW or USFWS.
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marshes, vernal pools, coastal areas, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan.

Literature Review

A literature review was conducted to establish the environmental and regulatory setting of the proposed modifications to the Project. Specific literature reviewed for the subject analysis is provided in the references section of this document. The reviewed literature also included the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Survey for the Riverside East 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (USDA 2020), and literature detailing the habitat requirements of subject species. Aerial photographs, topographic maps, and soil survey maps were also examined.

Queries of the USFWS Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS): Information, Planning and Conservation System (IPaC) (USFWS 2020b), USFWS Critical Habitat Portal (USFWS 2020a), USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) (USFWS 2020c), CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (CDFW 2020a), CDFW Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) (CDFW 2020b) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) *Online Inventory of Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants of California* (CNPS 2020) were conducted. The queries were conducted to obtain comprehensive information regarding state and federally listed species, sensitive communities and federally designated critical habitat known to or considered to have potential to occur within the vicinity of the site.

Field Reconnaissance Survey

The field reconnaissance survey was limited to providing an overview of existing biological conditions on the Project site and evaluating the potential presence of sensitive biological resources, including special status plant and wildlife species, sensitive plant communities, jurisdictional waters and wetlands, protected trees, wildlife movement, and habitat for nesting birds.

For the purposes of this BRA, “site” refers to the areas of direct impacts resulting from the proposed modifications, and “study area” refers to a 50-foot buffer around the site. Rincon biologist Lisa Zumwalde conducted the field reconnaissance survey on February 28, 2020 between 0830 and 1100. The survey was performed by walking along the approximately four-acre proposed modifications site plus a 50-foot buffer to characterize the existing biological resources present (e.g., vegetative communities, potential presence of sensitive species and/or habitats, and presence of potentially jurisdictional waters). Weather conditions during the survey included an average temperature of 79 degrees Fahrenheit with 75% cloud cover and 2-5 mile per hour winds.

Existing Conditions

Physical Characteristics

The study area is located within the San Jacinto River Valley on primarily flat parcels of land. The elevation is relatively uniform at around 1,500 feet above mean sea level (msl) throughout the proposed modifications site (Figure 2). Topographical features visible from the study area include the Bernasconi Hills to the north near Lake Perris and the Lakeview Mountains to the southeast. The existing land use consists of light industrial development at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and disturbed lands containing dirt access roads adjacent to agricultural fields for the remainder of the site. High levels of

disturbance including presence of litter, compact soil from vehicle transportation, and proximity to fallow fields are present on site.

Watersheds and Drainages

The study area is within the approximate 2,650-square mile Santa Ana River Watershed. The Santa Ana River Watershed spans from portions of the San Jacinto Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, and Santa Ana Mountains, to the cities of Rialto, Lake Elsinore, Anaheim, Huntington Beach, and Irvine. Two major rivers drain the Santa Ana River watershed: the Santa Ana River and the San Jacinto River.

The proposed modifications site is located south of Lake Perris, an artificial lake that offers a variety of recreational activities. The Bernasconi Hills provide runoff to the lake. No potentially jurisdictional features are located within the study area. As a result, a formal jurisdictional delineation was not conducted.

Soils

The National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey identifies five soil map units at the proposed modifications site (Figure 3a and Figure 3b) (NRCS 2020a). Based on Rincon's observations of soil surface conditions during the reconnaissance survey, the soils on site are generally consistent with those mapped by the NRCS Web Soil Survey. No soils present at the site are designated as hydric. Mapped soils onsite consist of the following soil types:

Gorgonio Soils

Gorgonio loamy sand, 8-15 percent slopes is found in the eastern portion of the site at the proposed excavation pit and access road. This series consists of dark grayish brown and brown, gravelly loamy fine sand, slightly and medium acid A horizons and brown, somewhat stratified; medium acid, gravelly loamy sand C horizons. The Gorgonio soils are nearly level to moderately sloping on alluvial fans at elevations of 20 to 3,000 feet. They formed in coarse textured alluvium derived from granite, granodiorite, schist, and related rocks in a climate with long, dry summers and cold, moist winters with an average annual precipitation of 10 to 25 inches. This series is primarily used for range, with some areas cultivated for growing grain and hay. Principal native plants include annual grasses and forbs with a few scattered oak (*Quercus* sp.) trees.

Greenfield Soils

Greenfield sandy loam with 2-8 percent slopes, eroded is found at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. This series consists of deep, well drained soils that formed in moderately coarse and coarse textured alluvium derived from granitic and mixed rock sources. Greenfield sandy loam is found on alluvial fans and terraces at elevations from 100 to 3,500 feet in dry, subhumid and mesothermal climates. It is primarily used for the production of a wide variety of irrigated field, forage, and fruit crops as well as for growing dryland grain and pasture. Vegetation on uncultivated areas consists of annual grass, forbs, shrubs, and scattered oak (*Quercus* sp.) trees.

Hanford Soils

Hanford coarse sandy loam with 2-8 percent slopes is found in the eastern portion of the site at the proposed excavation pit and access road. This series consists of very deep, well drained soils that

formed in moderately coarse textured alluvium dominantly from granite. Hanford soils are on stream bottoms, flood plains and alluvial fans from 150 to 3,500 feet in dry, subhumid and mesothermal climates. They are used for growing a wide range of fruits, vegetables, and general farm crops, as well as for urban development and dairies. Vegetation in uncultivated area is mainly annual grasses and associated herbaceous species.

Monserate Soils

Monserate sandy loam soil with 5-8 percent slopes, eroded, is found in the western portion of the site at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. This soil series is a member of the fine-loamy, mixed, thermic family of Typic Durixeralfs. Monserate soils typically have brown and yellowish-red, slightly acidic, sandy loam A horizons, reddish brown, neutral, sandy clay loam B2t horizons underlain by silica-cemented duripans. This series is typically found on nearly-level to moderately-steep old dissected terraces and fans from 700 to 2,500 feet in dry, subhumid and mesothermal climates. This soil type is used principally for growing grain, grain hay or pasture, some citrus, and field and truck crops when irrigation water is available. Naturalized vegetation is mainly annual grasses and forbs, widely spaced native canyon oak (*Quercus* sp.), and shrubs on eroded slopes.

Rockland

The Rockland series is found on the eastern portion of the site at the location of the proposed access road. This series consists of well drained soils formed in loamy colluvium from rotational landslides on slopes of stream valleys and dissections of ground moraines. Saturated hydraulic conductivity is moderate in the upper part of the profile and moderately slow in the lower part. Slopes range from 18 to 70 percent. In California, desert ironwood (*Olneya tesota*) can be found growing on these soils.

Vegetation

Based on a review of available aerial imagery and the field reconnaissance survey, the site is primarily characterized by developed lands, including dirt and paved roadways, nonnative grasslands, and fallow fields (Figure 4a and Figure 4b). Developed areas occur primarily in the western portion of the site inside the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. Portions of the site that are not paved and devoid of vegetation consist of patchy, ruderal vegetation and bare ground and are more common in the eastern portion of the site. Where vegetated, these areas are dominated by nonnative grasses and invasive stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*). Patches of disturbed Riversidean sage scrub (RSS) were observed in the study area adjacent to and outside of the site and include species of native plants such as California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), and fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*). However, no portion of this community extends into the proposed modifications site.

General Wildlife

The site is within primarily developed and disturbed areas adjacent to heavily traveled transportation corridors, but the proximity to Lake Perris and surrounding unique geological landforms (i.e., Bernasconi Hills) may offer habitat for several species of wildlife. Wildlife or sign (e.g., tracks, scat, burrows) observed during the survey include common side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), American goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), common crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*),

and California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*). A complete list of species observed is provided in Attachment D.

Sensitive Biological Resources

Based on review of aerial photographs and the field reconnaissance survey, Rincon evaluated the potential presence of sensitive biological resources on and adjacent to the site.

Special Status Species

Local, state, and federal agencies regulate special status species and generally require an assessment of their presence or potential presence to be conducted prior to the approval of a proposed project. Assessments for the potential occurrence of special status species are based upon known ranges, habitat preferences for the species, species occurrence records from the CNDDDB, species occurrence records from other sites in the vicinity of the study area, and previous reports for the site. The potential for each special status species to occur in the study area was evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **Not Expected.** Habitat on and adjacent to the site is clearly unsuitable for the species requirements (foraging, breeding, cover, substrate, elevation, hydrology, plant community, site history, disturbance regime).
- **Low Potential.** Few of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or the majority of habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable or of very poor quality. The species is not likely to be found on the site.
- **Moderate Potential.** Some of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present, and/or only some of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is unsuitable. The species has a moderate probability of being found on the site.
- **High Potential.** All of the habitat components meeting the species requirements are present and/or most of the habitat on or adjacent to the site is highly suitable. The species has a high probability of being found on the site.
- **Present.** Species is observed on the site or has been recorded (e.g., CNDDDB, other reports) on the site recently (within the last 5 years).

The literature review identified 20 special status plant species and 27 special status wildlife species within five miles of the site (Table 1, Attachment C). No sensitive plant communities were identified within five miles of the site based on the review. Special status plant and wildlife species typically have very specific habitat requirements, which are generally not found on site.

Special Status Plant Species

The literature review identified 20 special status plant species within five miles of the site. The proposed modifications site is located entirely within previously developed or disturbed lands and therefore, does not provide suitable habitat for most special status plant species. Marginally suitable habitat for two special status plant species is present in the eastern portion of the site along the LVP access site and temporary access road (Table 1, Attachment C). However, such habitat is highly degraded due to the proximity to the paved roadway along Ramona Expressway, agricultural fields, and presence of existing access roads. Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*) was observed during 2013 surveys

approximately 0.75 mile from the proposed modifications site (Rincon 2013). However, this species was observed outside of Metropolitan's easement and within scrub habitat that is not present at the site. Therefore, potential for Coulter's goldfields to occur on site is low. Smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) was also observed during the 2013 surveys in grasslands within the Metropolitan ROW. Due to the previous observation and presence of marginally suitable grassland habitat, there is a moderate potential for smooth tarplant to occur on site. Neither Coulter's goldfields nor smooth tarplant are listed under the federal or California ESAs. Further, neither species, nor any other special status plant species were observed during the February 2020 site visit. No other special status plant species are expected to occur on site.

Special Status Wildlife Species

The literature review identified 27 special status wildlife species within five miles of the site. The proposed modifications site is located entirely within previously developed or disturbed lands and therefore, does not provide suitable habitat for most special status wildlife species. Typically, such species have highly specific habitat requirements that precludes them from inhabiting areas with high levels of disturbance. However, marginally suitable habitat is present for 14 special status wildlife species due to the presence of nonnative grassland at the site and patches of native RSS in the surrounding area. These species include: California glossy snake (*Arizona elegans occidentalis*; CDFW Species of Special Concern [SSC]), orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra*; CDFW Watch List [WL]), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*; CDFW: SSC), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*; CDFW: SSC), red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*; CDFW: SSC), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; CDFW: SSC, USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern [BCC]), northern harrier (CDFW: SSC), California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*; CDFW:WL), northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax*; CDFW: SSC), Stephen's kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*; Federally Endangered [FE], State Threatened [ST], CDFW: SSC), San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*; CDFW: SSC), southern grasshopper mouse (*Onychomys torridus ramona*; CDFW: SSC), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*; CDFW: SSC), and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*; CDFW: SSC) (Attachment C). Of these 14 species, one was observed at the site: northern harrier. The individual was flushed out of a pepper tree at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and observed flying north towards Lake Perris. The individual was likely foraging as this species nests on the ground near water. No other special status wildlife species were observed during the February 2020 site visit. The coastal whiptail and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit were observed during the 2014 field surveys conducted for the Original Project. Two other special status species not identified in this BRA's literature review were observed during the 2014 surveys: Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*, CDFW: WL) and loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*, CDFW: SSC, USFWS: BCC).

The following six special status species have a low potential to occur on site due to the presence of generally suitable, albeit degraded, nonnative grassland that may provide suitable habitat for foraging (e.g., seeds, insects, etc.) and/or shelter (e.g., burrows, vegetative cover, etc.): California glossy snake, orange-throated whiptail, coast horned lizard, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse, and Los Angeles pocket mouse.

Seven special status species have a moderate potential to occur due to presence of more specific habitat requirements (e.g., California ground squirrel burrows), relatively recent occurrences on CNDDDB (<20 years), and/or observations from past project-specific surveys. These species include coastal whiptail, red-diamond rattlesnake, burrowing owl, California horned lark, Stephen's kangaroo rat, western mastiff bat, and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit.

Several small mammal burrows, likely belonging to California ground squirrel, were observed throughout the eastern portion of the modifications site along the proposed access road (Figure 5). Such burrows can support species such as burrowing owl. However, the site and its surrounding area is relatively low-quality habitat due to existing disturbances and proximity to agriculture and heavily travelled roadways. As a result, burrowing owl was determined to have a moderate potential to occur on site. No burrowing owl nor their sign (i.e., whitewash, pellets) was observed during the February 2020 reconnaissance survey.

Nesting Birds

Shrubs and trees located at and adjacent to the proposed modifications site could provide suitable nesting habitat for several common avian species that were observed during the reconnaissance survey. Bird nests and eggs are protected by the CFGC Section 3503 and the MBTA. Common species such as mourning dove and house finch have the potential to nest in scrub habitat, even in highly disturbed settings. Some species, such as horned larks, are typically ground nesters and are capable of nesting on bare ground which is present on the site. No nests or birds exhibiting nesting behaviors were observed during the reconnaissance site visit.

Sensitive Plant Communities

No sensitive riparian plant communities were documented during desktop review or observed during field studies at the proposed modifications site.

Patches of RSS were present adjacent to the site within the study area but located outside of the boundaries of the proposed modification site. Many rare and endangered species occur in RSS and coastal sage scrub plant communities. Coastal sage scrub is a broad category that refers to several different kinds of scrub communities (e.g., RSS) that are dominated by drought-deciduous shrubs such as those found within the study area (e.g., California sagebrush). CSS throughout southern California has become degraded and displaced by spreading urbanization, which has resulted in substantial habitat loss for a variety of animal species. Therefore, the CDFW and USFWS have special concern for this habitat type and it is considered in the impact analysis below.

Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

Based on a review of existing data, including review of aerial imagery and the USFWS NWI (2020), and on-site observations, no potentially jurisdictional drainages or wetlands are present at the proposed modifications site.

Wildlife Movement

Wildlife movement includes seasonal migration along corridors, as well as daily movements for foraging and reaching water sources. Migration corridors may include areas of unobstructed movement for deer, riparian corridors providing cover for migrating birds, routes between breeding waters and upland habitat for amphibians, and routes between roosting and feeding areas for birds. The CDFW BIOS (2020b) does not include any mapped essential habitat connectivity areas in the study area. The closest mapped essential connectivity area is located approximately 1.3 miles to the northeast in the vicinity of the Perris Reservoir. The site is separated from this habitat connectivity area by Ramona Expressway, a heavily traveled transportation corridor. The Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility is surrounded by

sagebrush scrub habitat but is completely developed at the site of the proposed modifications. Most of the study area in the eastern portion of the proposed modifications site shows signs of disturbance with scattered trash observed throughout the site and recent tire tracks. Additionally, the site is not located within the boundary of the adjacent San Jacinto-Lake Perris Core Reserve, a Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency's Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan (SKR HCP) core reserve and is not located within an identified MSHCP linkage. SKR HCP cores reserves and MSHCP linkages together provide a cohesive habitat reserve of major habitat blocks as well as connections between those habitat blocks for species migration and genetic flow. While the site is not located within mapped habitat connectivity, core, or linkage areas, the proximity to these habitat blocks may offer limited movement for surrounding wildlife. However, the majority of the study area in the eastern portion of the proposed modifications site shows signs of disturbance with scattered trash observed throughout the site and recent tire tracks, indicating high levels of recent disturbance which likely deter wildlife from the area.

Resources Protected by Local Policies and Ordinances

The proposed modifications are within unincorporated Riverside County. According to Ordinance No. 559, and amended through No. 559.7, no native trees shall be removed on any parcel of property greater than one-half acre in size, located in an area above 5,000 feet in elevation and within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside, without first obtaining a permit to do so, unless exempted by the provisions of Section 4 of the ordinance. Trees located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility are outside of the proposed modifications site and would not be subject to this ordinance as they are nonnative ornamental species. No other trees were observed at the site. No other local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources would be applicable to the proposed modifications. In addition, per California Government Code (CGC) (Section 53091), Metropolitan, as a regional public water purveyor and utility, is exempt from local building and zoning codes and ordinances.

Conservation Plans

Western Riverside County MSHCP

The proposed modification sites are located within the boundaries of the Western Riverside MSHCP. The site is located within the MSHCP survey area boundaries for burrowing owl and Los Angeles pocket mouse, but not within a designated survey area identified for any other MSHCP covered species or for narrow endemic plant species. Additionally, the eastern portion of the site is partially within three criteria cells. Locations of proposed modifications within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility are within the Perris Lake State Recreation Area, a Public/Quasi Public Conserved Land (RCA 2020). However, Metropolitan is not a participant to the MSHCP.

Stephen's Kangaroo Rat HCP

The site is located within the boundaries of the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) HCP, which describes conservation, mitigation, and monitoring measures for Stephen's kangaroo rat to streamline the review process for projects in the Stephen's Kangaroo Rat Plan and Fee Area. The RCHCA holds a USFWS Section 10(a) permit for "take" of Stephen's kangaroo rat. The proposed modifications are outside the HCP core reserve but within the HCP fee area. County of Riverside Ordinance No. 663 (Stephen's Kangaroo Rat Mitigation Fee Ordinance) requires that all proposed development projects located within the fee area are reviewed to determine the most appropriate course of action to ensure the survival of the species through one or more of the following: (1) on-site mitigation of impacts to the Stephens' kangaroo rat through the reservation or addition of lands included within or immediately

adjacent to a potential habitat reserve site, or (2) payment of the Mitigation Fee or (3) any combination of (1) and (2) consistent with the intent and purpose of the ordinance. However, Metropolitan is not a participant to the HCP.

Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

Special Status Plant Species

As mentioned above, two special status plant species have potential to occur on site; Coulter's goldfields has a low potential to occur and smooth tarplant has a moderate potential to occur. Neither species is listed under the federal or California ESAs.

Due to the lack of specific habitats or suitable substrates as well as the high levels of historical and existing disturbance, special status plant species are generally not expected to occur on site. With the exception of vehicles and machinery operating within the proposed project's access sites and work areas, Metropolitan's standard practices and operating procedures would require that all vehicles operating within the ROW remain on existing patrol roads. As such, impacts to unvegetated areas that may support special status plant species would be minimal and temporary in nature. Should impacts to these species occur, the loss of a few individuals would not result in the substantial decline of their local or regional populations. Therefore, impacts to special status plant species would be less than significant and the proposed modifications would not substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Marginally suitable habitat for the following 14 special status wildlife species is present on site: California glossy snake (CDFW: SSC), orange-throated whiptail (CDFW: WL), coastal whiptail (CDFW: SSC), coast horned lizard (CDFW: SSC), red-diamond rattlesnake (CDFW: SSC), burrowing owl (CDFW: SSC, USFWS: BCC), northern harrier (CDFW: SSC), California horned lark (CDFW: WL), northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (CDFW: SSC), Stephen's kangaroo rat (FE, ST, CDFW: SSC), San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (CDFW: SSC), southern grasshopper mouse (CDFW: SSC), Los Angeles pocket mouse (CDFW: SSC), and western mastiff bat (CDFW: SSC) (Attachment C). Of these 14, one was observed at the site: northern harrier. The individual was flushed out of a pepper tree at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility and observed flying north towards Lake Perris. The individual was likely foraging as this species nests on the ground near water. The coastal whiptail and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit were observed during the 2014 field surveys conducted for the Original Project. Two other special status species not identified in this BRA's literature review were observed during the 2014 surveys: Cooper's hawk (CDFW: WL) and loggerhead shrike (CDFW: SSC, USFWS: BCC).

The following six special status species have a low potential to occur on site due to the presence of generally suitable, albeit degraded, nonnative grassland that may provide habitat for foraging (e.g., seeds, insects, etc.) and/or shelter (e.g., burrows, vegetative cover, etc.): California glossy snake, orange-throated whiptail, coast horned lizard, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse, and Los Angeles pocket mouse. Seven special status species have a moderate potential to occur due to presence of more specific habitat requirements (e.g., California ground squirrel burrows), relatively recent occurrences on the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; <20 years), and/or observations from past project-specific surveys. These species include coastal whiptail, red-diamond rattlesnake, burrowing owl, California horned lark, Stephen's kangaroo rat, western mastiff bat, and San Diego black-tailed

jackrabbit. With the exception of Stephen's kangaroo rat (discussed below), these species have no official state or federal protection status but require consideration under CEQA. Potential indirect impacts to non-listed special status species could occur through removal of vegetation (i.e., loss of habitat) as well as direct impacts resulting in individual mortality. To avoid impacts to non-listed special status species, Metropolitan would implement standard Best Management Practices (BMPs). Because the long-term aboveground effects of the proposed project would be minimal, the LVP is an existing facility, and the construction is short-term and localized, the proposed modifications are not anticipated to substantially affect the regional populations of these species.

The burrowing owl is a ground-nesting raptor that utilizes abandoned ground squirrel burrows as nesting habitat. The species is listed by CDFW as an SSC and requires consideration under CEQA, in addition to being protected under CFGC 3503 and the MBTA. Although no burrowing owl or their sign were observed during the February 2020 survey and none have previously been identified within the LVP ROW, potentially suitable habitat was determined to be present at the eastern portion of the site along the proposed excavation pit and access road area. Although it is unlikely that burrowing owl would be present within the proposed project area at the time construction commences, pre-construction surveys, performed as part of Metropolitan's standard practices, would be conducted at the access site location to confirm the absence of this species. In the unlikely event that burrowing owls are detected during preconstruction surveys, appropriate buffers would be established (based on whether or not work would occur during breeding season [February 1 through August 31]) or owls would be relocated in order to avoid potential impacts to the species. There would be no disturbance to or relocation of burrowing owls during the breeding season. With these standard practices in place, potential impacts to burrowing owls would be less than significant.

The proposed modifications have the potential to result in direct impacts to nesting birds, including raptors, which are protected under the MBTA, if they are nesting at the site or its immediate vicinity during construction activities. Implementation of the proposed modifications would be required to comply with the MBTA, which prohibits the take of migratory bird species that are considered to utilize the site and their nests or eggs. In addition, Sections 3505, 3503.5, and 3800 of the CFGC prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs. Metropolitan employs standard practices for all projects, to protect nesting birds from adverse impacts and to ensure compliance with the MBTA and the CFGC.

As a general practice, for any Metropolitan project or operations activity that would occur during the general bird nesting season of February 1 through September 15, Metropolitan would retain a qualified biologist to perform a pre-construction survey of potential nesting habitat to confirm the absence of nests. The pre-construction survey would be performed no more than seven days prior to the start of work at each access site. If the qualified biologist determined that an active nest is present, an adequate avoidance buffer (typically 300 feet for passerines and up to 500 feet for raptors, depending on the species, site conditions, and nature of the work)would be established by the qualified biologist to ensure that no adverse impacts would occur until the young have fledged the nest and the nest is confirmed no longer to be active. Where suitable buffers are not feasible, modified work schedules and/or methods may be applied. With pre-construction surveys in place and implementation of impact avoidance measures, impacts to burrowing owl and other nesting birds would be less than significant.

Stephen's kangaroo rat is federally listed as endangered and is known to occur in the vicinity of Lake Perris. This species prefers nonnative grasslands and sparse shrublands with less than 50 percent vegetative cover as habitat. Thus, Stephen's kangaroo rat has the potential to be present at the site. To ensure that this species is not affected by the proposed modification's construction activities, as part of Metropolitan's standard practices, pre-construction surveys would be performed prior to initiating

construction in the areas identified as potential habitat to confirm individuals are absent from construction areas. If Stephen's kangaroo rat individuals are identified, as part of standard practice, Metropolitan would avoid burrows to the extent feasible. Where they cannot be avoided, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 from the 2015 IS-MND would be implemented to minimize significant impacts. With the implementation of this mitigation measure, impacts to Stephen's kangaroo rat would be less than significant.

BIO-1: Where avoidance of impacts to Stephen's kangaroo rat is not feasible, impacts to Stephen's kangaroo rat shall be mitigated in accordance with the RCHCA's HCP and the existing Section 10(a) Stephen's kangaroo rat incidental take permit. Pursuant to the HCP, Metropolitan shall inform the RCHCA of potential take of this species related to the proposed modification site.

Potential indirect impacts to non-listed special status species could occur through removal of vegetation (i.e., loss of habitat) as well as direct impacts resulting in individual mortality. Metropolitan would implement standard BMPs, including avoidance/implementation of no-work buffers as appropriate, to ensure that no direct or indirect impacts to special status wildlife species or nesting birds would occur as a result of construction activities. Implementation of these standard BMPs would be required as part of Metropolitan's standard contractor specifications. As a result of implementing standard BMPs and BIO-1 above, impacts to special status wildlife species and nesting birds would be less than significant and the severity of the impact would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Sensitive Plant Communities

The site does not contain riparian habitat, and as a result no impacts are expected to occur to sensitive riparian communities. Patches of RSS habitat were present in the study area; however, existing scrub is degraded and highly fragmented. As a result of the proposed modifications, no direct impacts to RSS are anticipated. Indirect impacts may occur as a result of temporary staging activities (equipment laydown, trash, etc.), but such impacts would be minor, short-term, and the area would be returned to pre-project conditions. Based on the small amount of scrub habitat and low quality of this vegetation community, impacts to RSS are expected to be less than significant and the severity of the impact would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

The site does not contain any jurisdictional drainages or wetlands. Therefore, no impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and waters are expected, and the severity of the impact would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Wildlife Movement

The CDFW BIOS (2020b) does not include any mapped essential habitat connectivity areas in the study area, with the closest mapped essential connectivity area located approximately 1.3 miles to the northeast in the vicinity of the Perris Reservoir. The site is separated from this habitat connectivity area by Ramona Expressway, a heavily traveled transportation corridor. The western portion of the proposed modifications site is located entirely within the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, a gated and developed area, and not within the adjacent San Jacinto-Lake Perris Core Reserve, a Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency's Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan (SKR Plan) core reserve. Additionally, the site is adjacent to an MSHCP core at Lake Perris but is separated from this core by a paved roadway and is not located within an MSHCP linkage. While the site is not located within

mapped habitat connectivity, core, or linkage areas, the proximity to these habitat blocks may offer limited movement for surrounding wildlife. Although the project construction contractor may install temporary construction fencing around the perimeter of the proposed access site, the proposed access site would be relatively small such that fencing would not impede the movement of wildlife around the work area. In addition, construction at the site would be short term and temporary (approximately 105 days) with fencing to be removed upon completion. No permanent structure is proposed that would interfere with wildlife movement. As discussed previously, the LVP ROW is a disturbed, maintained corridor, and there are no streams or migratory wildlife corridors within the ROW that would be affected by the proposed modifications. Therefore, the proposed modifications would not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors and the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact to wildlife movement. Impacts to wildlife movement would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Local Policies and Ordinances

The proposed modifications are within unincorporated Riverside County. According to Ordinance No. 559, and amended through No. 559.7, no native trees shall be removed on any parcel or property greater than one-half acre in size, located in an area above 5,000 feet in elevation and within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside, without first obtaining a permit to do so, unless exempted by the provisions of Section 4 of the ordinance. Trees located at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility are outside of the proposed modifications site and would not be subject to this ordinance as they are nonnative ornamental species. No other trees were observed at the site. As a result, no impacts to trees protected by local ordinances are anticipated. No other local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources would be applicable to the proposed modifications. In addition, per California Government Code (CGC) (Section 53091), Metropolitan, as a regional public water purveyor and utility, is exempt from local building and zoning codes and ordinances. As described in previous sections, the proposed modifications would comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to biological resources. Therefore, no conflict with any local policies protecting biological resources would occur. Impacts would be equal to that identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Conservation Plans

As previously stated, the proposed modifications involve the relining of an existing Metropolitan underground pipeline and would not result in the construction of new development or facilities on undisturbed land. The LVP ROW is within the plan areas for the Western Riverside MSHCP and Stephen's Kangaroo Rat HCP, however, Metropolitan is not a participant to these plans. The LVP is located entirely within Metropolitan ROW, which is not designated as open space, under a conservation easement, or included within any of the MSHCP core areas or HCP core reserves. No resources protected by the MSHCP (e.g., burrowing owls, Los Angeles pocket mouse, riparian/riverine) or HCP (e.g., Stephen's Kangaroo Rat) were observed in the study area during the February 2020 reconnaissance survey; however, Metropolitan would implement BMPs (preconstruction surveys, avoidance buffers, etc.) prior to and during construction to minimize significant impacts. Additionally, implementing mitigation measure BIO-1 would ensure compliance with the RCHCA HCP for Stephen's kangaroo rat. Therefore, the proposed modifications would not conflict with an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Impacts would be less than significant and the proposed modifications would not substantially increase the severity of the impacts identified in the 2015 IS-MND.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this Biological Resources Assessment. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.



Lisa Rae Zumwalde
Associate Biologist



Christina Shushnar
Senior Project Manager/Biologist



Steven J. Hongola
Principal Biologist

Attachments

- Attachment A Figures
- Attachment B Site Photographs
- Attachment C Special Status Species Potential for Occurrence
- Attachment D Floral and Faunal Compendium

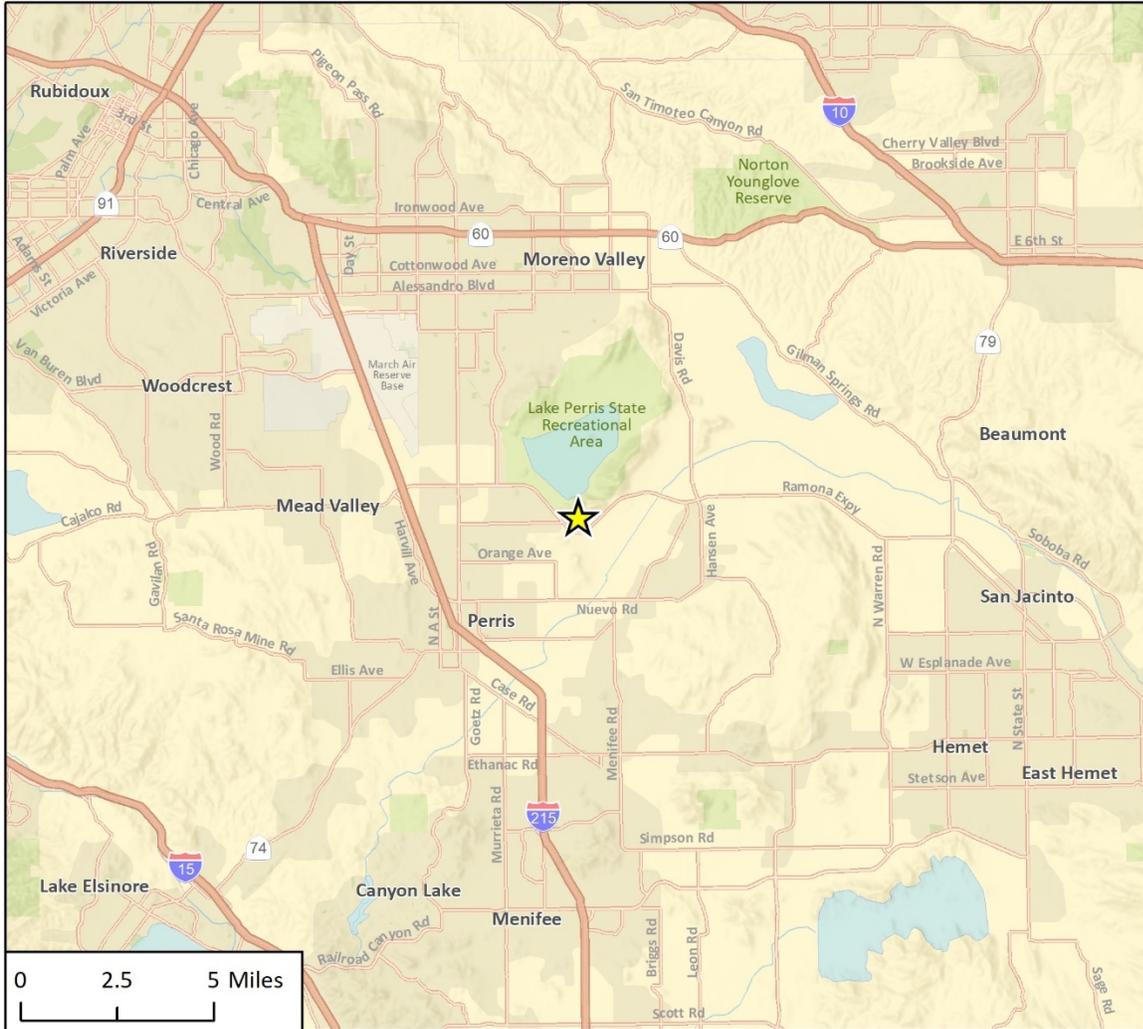
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Attachment A

Figures

Figure 1 Regional Location



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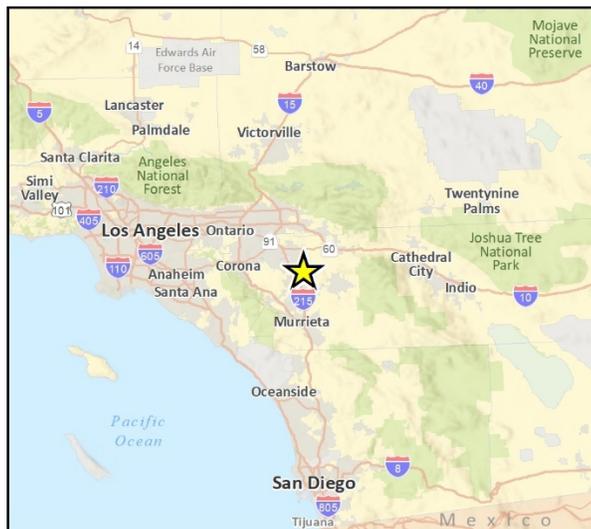


Fig 1- Regional Location

Figure 2 Project Location on Topographic Map



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Fig 2 Project Location

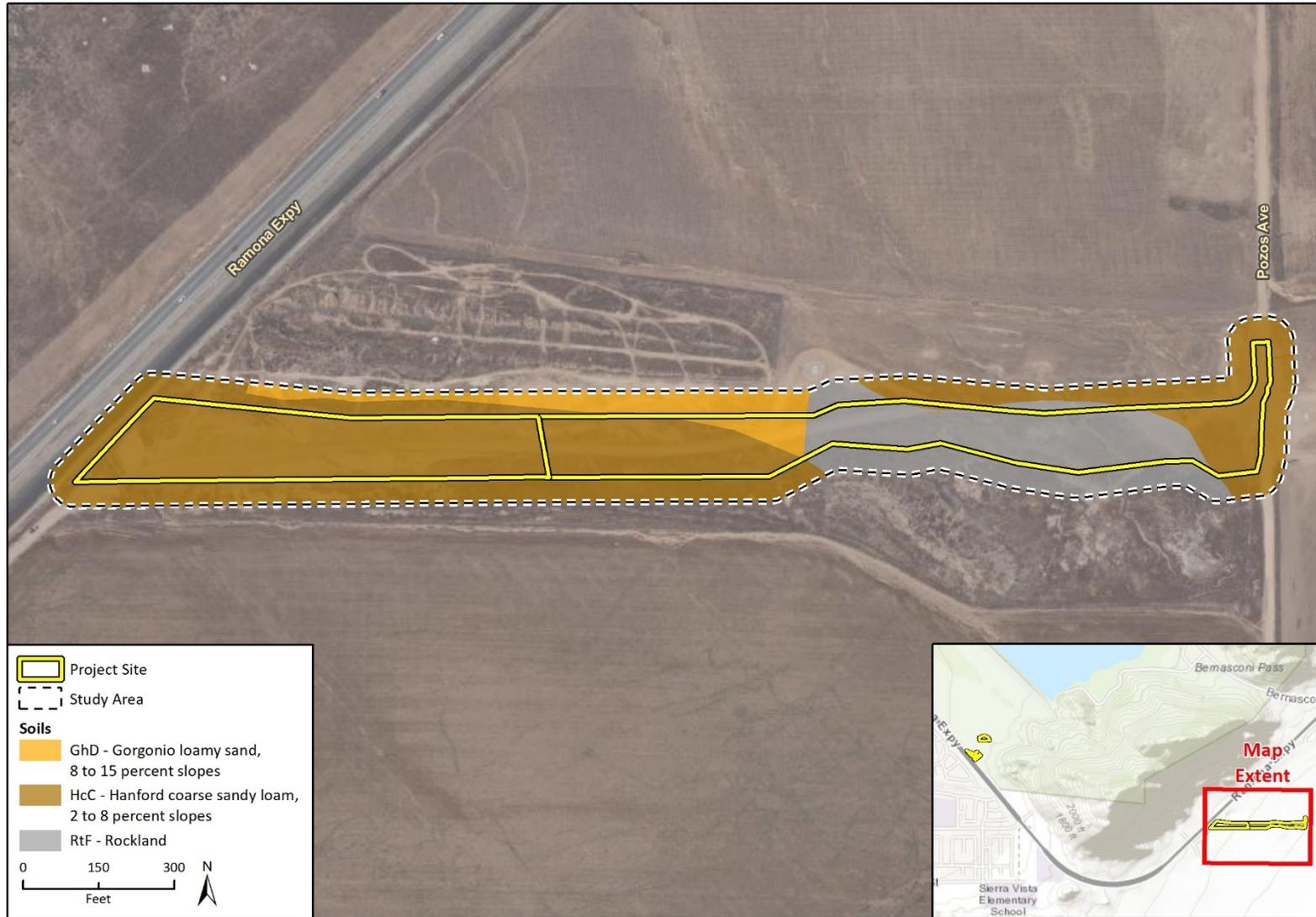
Figure 3a Soils Map



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Additional data provided by NRCS SSURGO, 2019.

Fig 3a Soils Map

Figure 3b Soils Map



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Additional data provided by NRCS SSURGO, 2019.

Fig 3b Soils Map

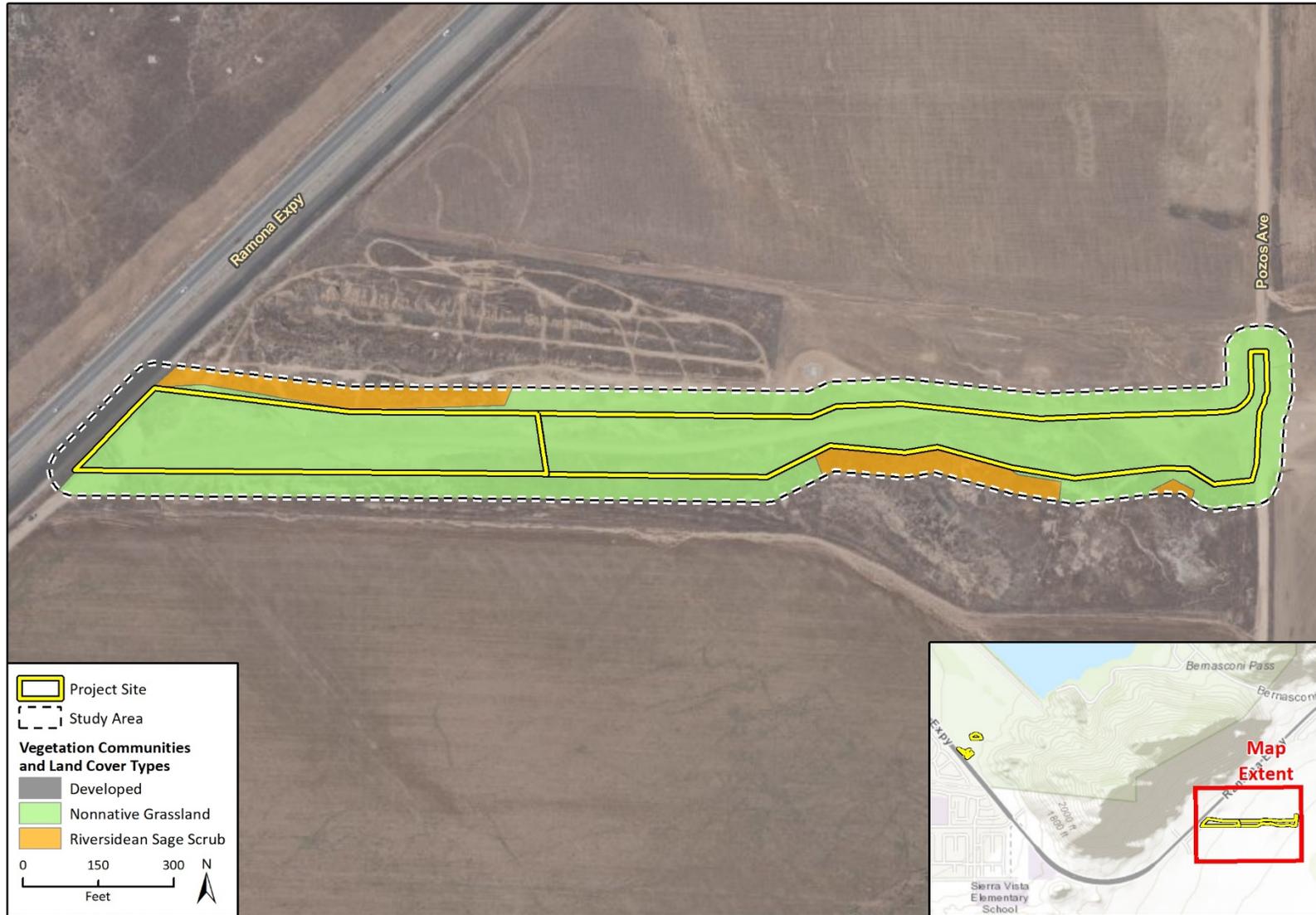
Figure 4a Vegetation Communities



Imagery provided by Microsoft Bing and its licensors © 2020.

Fig 4a Veg

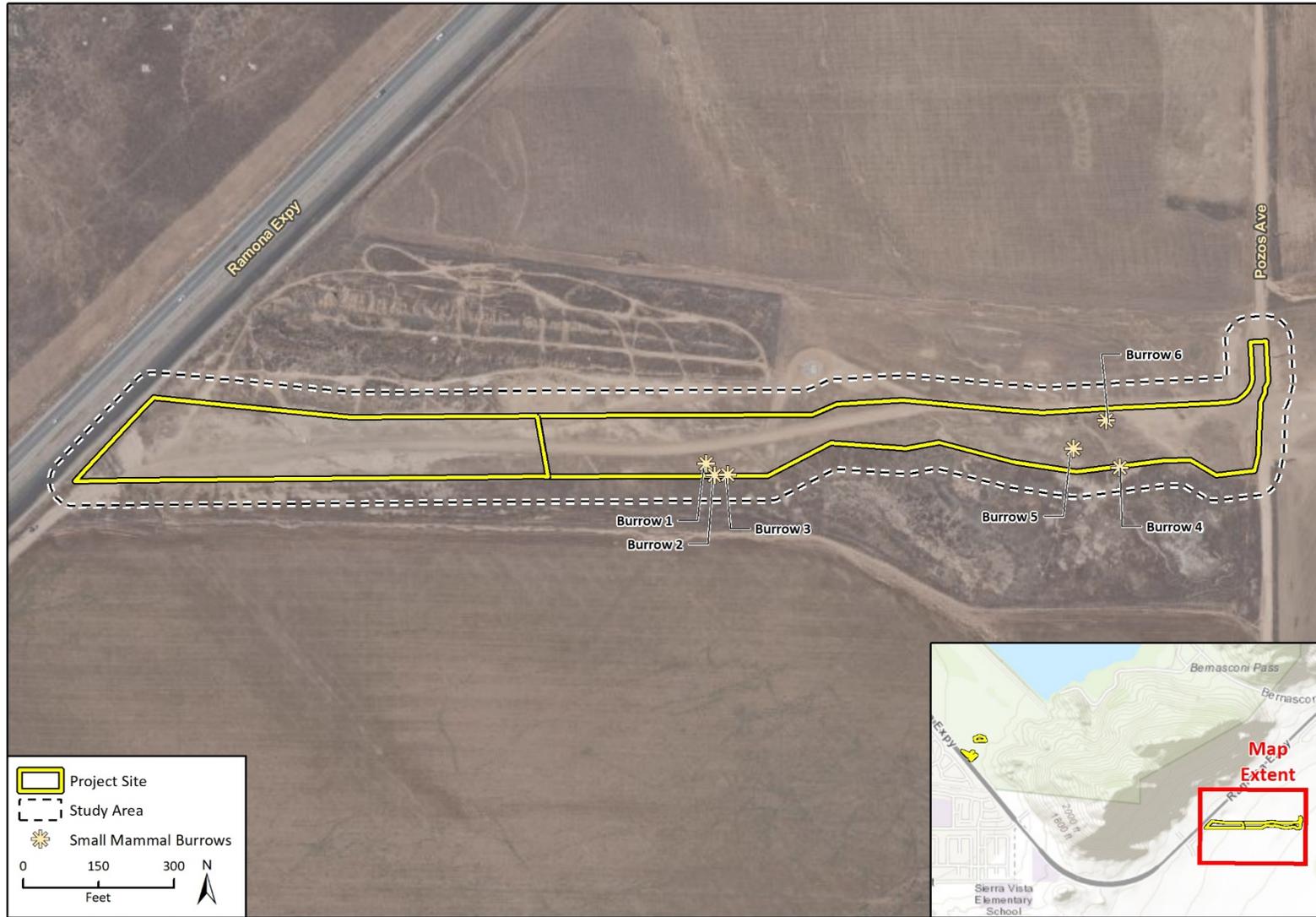
Figure 4b Vegetation Communities



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Fig 4b v1g

Figure 5 Small Mammal Burrow Locations



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Fig 6 Potential Sensitive Burrows

Attachment B

Site Photographs



Photograph 1. View of proposed contractor storage location at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, site covered in mulch, facing west.



Photograph 2. View of proposed contractor storage location at the Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, with presence of nonnative pepper trees, facing northeast.



Photograph 3. View of southeastern boundary of surveyed area at Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, facing southwest.



Photograph 4. View of southeastern boundary of surveyed area inside Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility, with ornamental vegetation present along fence, facing northwest.



Photograph 5. View of southwestern boundary of proposed excavation area, with sagebrush scrub on plateau adjacent to access road, facing northeast.



Photograph 6. View of eastern boundary of proposed excavation area, facing west.



Photograph 7. View of eastern boundary of proposed access road, facing west. Note: Proposed road adjacent to existing access road.



Photograph 8. Small mammal burrow observed in proposed access road area. No burrowing owl sign observed.



Photograph 9. View of northern boundary of access road along Pozos Avenue, facing south.

Attachment C

Special Status Species Potential for Occurrence

Table 1 Special Status Species Potential for Occurrence at Site

Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
Plants and Lichens				
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> chaparral sand- verbena	None/None G5T2?/S2 1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub, desert dunes. Sandy. 75 - 1600 m. annual herb. Blooms (Jan) Mar-Sep.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Astragalus pachypus</i> var. <i>jaegeri</i> Jaeger's bush milk- vetch	None/None G4T1/S1 1B.1	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Sandy or rocky. 365 - 975 m. Perennial shrub. Blooms Dec-Jun.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Atriplex coronata</i> var. <i>notatior</i> San Jacinto Valley crownscale	FE/None G4T1/S1 1B.1	Playas, valley and foothill grassland (mesic), vernal pools. Alkaline. 139 - 500 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Aug.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Atriplex pacifica</i> South Coast saltscale	None/None G4/S2 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, playas. 0 - 140 m. Annual herb. Blooms Mar-Oct.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Atriplex parishii</i> Parish's brittle scale	None/None G1G2/S1 1B.1	Chenopod scrub, playas, vernal pools. Alkaline. 25 - 1900 m. annual herb. Blooms Jun-Oct.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i> davidsonii</i> Davidson's saltscale	None/None G5T1/S1 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub. alkaline. 10 - 200 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Oct.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i> thread-leaved brodiaea	FT/CE G2/S2 1B.1	Chaparral (openings), cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Often clay. 25 - 1120 m. Perennial bulbiferous herb. Blooms Mar-Jun.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Caulanthus simulans</i> Payson's jewelflower	None/None G4/S4 4.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub. Sandy, granitic. 90 - 2200 m. Annual herb. Blooms (Feb) Mar-May (Jun).	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> smooth tarplant	None/None G3G4T2/S2 1B.1	Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Alkaline. 0 - 640 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Sep.	Moderate Potential	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. This species was observed during the 2015 survey for the Original Project (LSA 2015).
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	None/None G3T2/S2 1B.1	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Sandy or rocky, openings. 275 - 1220 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Jun.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.

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Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
<i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> var. <i>longispina</i> long-spined spineflower	None/None G5T3/S3 1B.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Often clay. 30 - 1530 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Jul.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i> paniculate tarplant	None/None G4/S4 4.2	Coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Usually vernal mesic, sometimes sandy. 25 - 940 m. Annual herb. Blooms (Mar)Apr-Nov (Dec).	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Hordeum intercedens</i> vernal barley	None/None G3G4/S3S4 3.2	Coastal dunes, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland (saline flats and depressions), vernal pools. 5 - 1000 m. Annual herb. Blooms Mar-Jun.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i> Coulter's goldfields	None/None G4T2/S2 1B.1	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt), playas, vernal pools. 1 - 1220 m. Annual herb. Blooms Feb-Jun.	Low Potential	This species was observed in scrub habitat less than one mile from the site during 2013 surveys (Rincon 2013). Scrub habitat present in study area but not on site. Conditions at the site are highly degraded/disturbed and as a result this species has a low potential to occur.
<i>Lepechinia cardiophylla</i> heart-leaved pitcher sage	None/None G3/S2S3 1B.2	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland. 520 - 1370 m. Perennial shrub. Blooms Apr-Jul.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site or in the study area. Site outside elevation range for this species.
<i>Myosurus minimus</i> ssp. <i>apus</i> little mousetail	None/None G5T2Q/S2 3.1	Valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools (alkaline). 20 - 640 m. Annual herb. Blooms Mar-Jun.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by roads, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Navarretia fossalis</i> spreading navarretia	FT/None G2/S2 1B.1	Chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps (assorted shallow freshwater), playas, vernal pools. 30 - 655 m. Annual herb. Blooms Apr-Jun.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site or in the study area. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> salt spring checkerbloom	None/None G4/S2 2B.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, playas. alkaline, mesic. 15 - 1530 m. Perennial herb. Blooms Mar-Jun.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.

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Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
<i>Tortula californica</i> California screw-moss	None/None G2G3/S2S3 1B.2	Chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Sandy, soil. 10 - 1460 m. Moss.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Trichocoronis wrightii</i> var. <i>wrightii</i> Wright's trichocoronis	None/None G4T3/S1 2B.1	Meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, riparian forest, vernal pools. alkaline. 5 - 435 m. Annual herb. Blooms May-Sep.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site or in the study area. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
Invertebrates				
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee	None/Candidate Endangered G3G4/S1S2	Coastal California east to the Sierra-Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Food plant genera include <i>Antirrhinum</i> , <i>Phacelia</i> , <i>Clarkia</i> , <i>Dendromecon</i> , <i>Eschscholzia</i> , and <i>Eriogonum</i> .	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site or in the study area. Host food plants for this species not observed. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> vernal pool fairy shrimp	Threatened/None G3/S3	Endemic to the grasslands of the Central Valley, Central Coast mountains, and South Coast mountains, in astatic rain-filled pools. Inhabit small, clear-water sandstone-depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt-flow depression pools.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present; no potential vernal pools observed on site or in the study area. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i> Riverside fairy shrimp	Endangered/None G1G2/S1S2	Endemic to Western Riverside, Orange, and San Diego counties in areas of tectonic swales/earth slump basins in grassland and coastal sage scrub. Inhabit seasonally astatic pools filled by winter/spring rains. Hatch in warm water later in the season.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present; no potential vernal pools observed on site or in the study area. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
Amphibians				
<i>Spea hammondi</i> western spadefoot	None/None G3/S3 CDFW_SSC	Occurs primarily in grassland habitats but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg-laying.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present for this species. No potential vernal pools observed on site or in the study area. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
Reptiles				
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> southern California legless lizard	None/None G3/S3 CDFW_SSC	Generally south of the Transverse Range, extending to northwestern Baja California. Occurs in sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation. Disjunct populations in the Tehachapi and Piute Mountains in Kern County. Variety of habitats; generally, in moist, loose soil. They prefer soils with a high moisture content.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present for this species due to lack of suitable moist soils. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.

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Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake	None/None G5T2/S2 CDFW_SSC	Patchily distributed from the eastern portion of San Francisco Bay, southern San Joaquin Valley, and the Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular ranges, south to Baja California. Generalist reported from a range of scrub and grassland habitats, often with loose or sandy soils.	Low Potential	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. However, this species was observed ~1 mile from the site on CNDDDB. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i> orange-throated whiptail	None/None G5/S2S3 CDFW_WL	Inhabits low-elevation coastal scrub, chaparral, and valley-foothill hardwood habitats. Prefers washes and other sandy areas with patches of brush and rocks. Perennial plants necessary for its major food: termites.	Low Potential	Marginally suitable scrub habitat present in study area, but none observed on site. No recent occurrences (<10 yrs) documented on CNDDDB near the site. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail	None/None G5T5/S3 CDFW_SSC	Found in deserts and semi-arid areas with sparse vegetation and open areas. Also found in woodland and riparian areas. Ground may be firm soil, sandy, or rocky.	Moderate Potential	Marginally suitable habitat present on site, but is highly developed disturbed. Species observed during 2015 surveys for Original Project (LSA 2015).
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake	None/None G4/S3 CDFW_SSC	Chaparral, woodland, grassland, and desert areas from coastal San Diego County to the eastern slopes of the mountains. Occurs in rocky areas and dense vegetation. Needs rodent burrows, cracks in rocks or surface cover objects.	Moderate Potential	Nearby rocky slopes and nonnative grassland habitat present but is degraded and fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Scattered rodent holes present throughout eastern portion of site. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	None/None G3G4/S3 CDFW_SSC	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation. Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.	Not Expected	No suitable aquatic habitat present. Site is highly developed/disturbed.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	None/None G3G4/S3S4 CDFW_SSC	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes. Open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and abundant supply of ants and other insects.	Low Potential	Marginally suitable habitat present in nearby scrub. Vegetative cover may not be sufficient to support this species.

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Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
Birds				
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	None/Threatened G2G3/S1S2 CDFW_SSC USFWS_BCC	Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley and vicinity. Largely endemic to California. Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	Not Expected	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	None/None G5T3/S3 CDFW_WL	Resident in Southern California coastal sage scrub and sparse mixed chaparral. Frequents relatively steep, often rocky hillsides with grass and forb patches.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present on site. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	None/None G4/S3 CDFW_SSC USFWS_BCC	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	Moderate Potential	Marginally suitable habitat present on site but highly disturbed. Small mammal burrows and California ground squirrels observed at the site. Species known to occur in vicinity of Lake Perris.
<i>Circus hudsonius</i> northern harrier	None/None G5/S3 CDFW_SSC	Coastal salt and freshwater marsh. Nest and forage in grasslands, from salt grass in desert sink to mountain cienagas. Nests on ground in shrubby vegetation, usually at marsh edge; nest built of a large mound of sticks in wet areas.	Present (foraging only)	Individual flushed from pepper tree inside Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. No suitable nesting habitat present on site or in study area. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i> California horned lark	None/None G5T4Q/S4 CDFW_WL	Coastal regions, chiefly from Sonoma County to San Diego County; also main part of San Joaquin Valley and east to foothills. Short-grass prairie, bald hills, mountain meadows, open coastal plains, fallow grain fields, alkali flats.	Moderate Potential	Suitable habitat present in nearby fallow fields. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Poliophtila californica</i> coastal California gnatcatcher	Threatened/None G4G5T2Q/S2 CDFW_SSC	Obligate, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2500 ft in Southern California. Low, coastal sage scrub in arid washes, on mesas and slopes. Not all areas classified as coastal sage scrub are occupied.	Not Expected	No suitable scrub habitat present on site. No recent occurrences on CNDDDB (<10 yrs) within 5 miles of study area. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo	Endangered/ Endangered G5T2/S2	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 ft. Nests placed along margins of bushes or on twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, Baccharis, mesquite.	Not Expected	No suitable riparian habitat present within study area. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
Mammals				

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Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
<i>Chaetodipus fallax</i> northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	None/None G5T3T4/S3S4 CDFW_SSC	Coastal scrub, chaparral, grasslands, sagebrush, etc. in western San Diego County. Sandy, herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel.	Low Potential	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Site is highly disturbed/ developed.
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Endangered/ Candidate Endangered G5T1/S1 CDFW_SSC	Alluvial scrub vegetation on sandy loam substrates characteristic of alluvial fans and flood plains. Needs early to intermediate seral stages.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat due to lack of alluvial fans/flood plains on site and in study area. The site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> Stephens' kangaroo rat	Endangered/ Threatened G2/S2	Primarily annual and perennial grasslands, but also occurs in coastal scrub and sagebrush with sparse canopy cover. Prefers buckwheat, chamise, brome grass and filaree. Will burrow into firm soil.	Moderate Potential	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Project site is highly developed/ disturbed. The most recent CNDDDB occurrence was documented in 2001 adjacent to the study area north of Ramona Expressway.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	None/None G5T4/S3S4 CDFW_SSC	Many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees and tunnels.	Moderate Potential (foraging only)	Marginally suitable foraging habitat present in sage scrub and grassland. Potentially suitable roosting habitat in cliffs north of study area; species historically present in the vicinity of Lake Perris.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	None/None G5/S3 CDFW_SSC	Found in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats. Roosts in trees, particularly palms. Forages over water and among trees.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat present due to lack of roost locations. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	None/None G5T3T4/S3S4 CDFW_SSC	Intermediate canopy stages of shrub habitats and open shrub/herbaceous and tree/herbaceous edges, especially in association with cactus patches. Coastal sage scrub habitats in Southern California.	Moderate Potential	Species observed during 2013 surveys (Rincon 2013). Marginally suitable sage scrub present in nearby patches. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.
<i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i> southern grasshopper mouse	None/None G5T3/S3 CDFW_SSC	Desert areas, especially scrub habitats with friable soils for digging. Prefers low to moderate shrub cover. Feeds almost exclusively on arthropods, especially scorpions and orthopteran insects.	Low Potential	Marginally suitable scrub habitat present in study area. However, shrub cover may not be sufficient to support this species. Site is highly developed/ disturbed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status (Federal/State, Global/State Rank)	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur on Site	Habitat Suitability/ Observations
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	None/None G5T1T2/S1S2 CDFW_SSC	Lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage communities in and around the Los Angeles Basin. Open ground with fine, sandy soils. May not dig extensive burrows, hiding under weeds and dead leaves instead.	Low Potential	Nonnative grassland habitat present but is fragmented by nearby roadways, development, and agriculture. Project site is highly disturbed/developed
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	None/None G5/S3 CDFW_SSC	Most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Needs sufficient food, friable soils and open, uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	Not Expected	No suitable habitat due to lack of friable soils, potential burrows, and high levels of disturbance/surrounding development.
Status: Federal/State		CRPR (CNPS California Rare Plant Rank)		
SSC = CDFW Species of Special Concern		1A = Presumed Extinct in California		
WL = CDFW Watch List		1B = Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere		
BCC = Birds of Conservation Concern		2 = Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere		
		3 = Need more information (a Review List)		
		4 = Plants of Limited Distribution (a Watch List)		
		CRPR Threat Code Extension		
		.1 = Seriously endangered in California (>80% of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat)		
		.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20-80% of occurrences threatened)		
		.3 = Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened)		
Other Statuses				
G1 or S1	Critically Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)			
G2 or S2	Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)			
G3 or S3	Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction Globally or Subnationally (state)			
G4/5 or S4/5	Apparently secure, common and abundant			
GH or SH	Possibly Extirpated – missing; known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery			
Additional notations may be provided as follows:				
T – Intraspecific Taxon (subspecies, varieties, and other designations below the level of species)				
Q – Questionable taxonomy that may reduce conservation priority				
? – Inexact numeric rank				

Attachment D

Floral and Faunal Compendium

Table 2 Floral and Faunal Compendium

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Plants		
Anacardiaceae	<i>Schinus molle</i>	pepper tree (ornamental)
Apocynaceae	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	oleander (ornamental)
Asteraceae	<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	brittlebush
	<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush
	<i>Oncosiphon piluliferum</i>	stinknet
Boraginaceae	<i>Amsinckia menziesii</i>	fiddleneck
	<i>Plagiobothrys leptocladus</i>	popcornflower
	<i>Cryptantha intermedia</i> var. <i>intermedia</i>	cryptantha
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Russian thistle
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton setigerus</i>	turkey mullein
Geraniaceae	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	redstem filaree
Malvaceae	<i>Malva parviflora</i>	cheeseweed
Pinaceae	<i>Pinus</i> sp.	Pine (ornamental)
Poaceae	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	ripgut brome
	<i>Bromus madritensis</i>	foxtail brome
	<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i>	red brome
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
Animals		
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow	
<i>Spinus tristis</i>	American goldfinch	
<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird	
<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	black phoebe	
<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel	
<i>Catherpes mexicanus</i>	canyon wren	
<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	common side-blotched lizard	
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	house finch	
Syrphidae f.	hoverfly	
<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	northern harrier	CDFW:SSC
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird	
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	turkey vulture	
Mutillidae f.	velvet ant	
<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	western fence lizard	
<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	western meadowlark	

Appendix B

Construction Energy Calculations

tblOffRoadEquipment

Construction Fuel Consumption Calculations

Lakeview Pipeline Addendum

Compression-Ignition Engine Brake-Specific Fuel Consumption (BSFC) Factors [1]:

HP: 0 to 100	0.0588	HP: >100	0.0529
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Equipment Fuel Consumption

PhaseName	OffRoadEquipmentType	Amount	Hours	HorsePower	LoadFactor	Fuel (gallons)
Construction	Cranes		2	8	0.29	849.8
Construction	Excavators		2	8	0.38	761.7
Construction	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes		2	8	0.37	506.2
Construction	Generator Sets		2	8	0.74	876.7
Construction	Pumps		2	8	0.74	876.7
Construction	Welders		2	8	0.45	291.9

PhaseName
Construction
Days
15

Total Equipment Fuel Consumption	4163.0 gallons
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Equipment Fuel Consumption Notes:

- Fuel demand rate for construction equipment is derived from: total hours of operation; equipment horsepower, equipment load factor, and equipment fuel usage per hour of operation, as provided from the CalEEMod outputs (California Air Pollution Control Officers Association 2017) and from compression-ignition engine brake-specific fuel consumptions factors for engines (U.S. EPA 2018). Fuel consumed for construction equipment is assumed to be diesel.

- Fuel demand rate for hauling and vendor trips (cut material imports) is derived from hauling and vendor trip number, hauling and vendor trip length, and hauling and vendor vehicle class from "Trips and VMT" Table contained in Section 3.0, Construction Detail, of the CalEEMod results (see Urban Crossroads 2019a; Appendix 4.2). The fuel economy for hauling and vendor trip vehicles is derived from the United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT 2018). Fuel consumed for hauling trucks is assumed to be diesel.