

**DRAFT INITIAL STUDY
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
PECK WATER CONSERVATION
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA**

Prepared for:

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SECTION 1.0 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that local government agencies, prior to taking action on projects requiring discretionary approval, consider the environmental consequences of such projects. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is a public document designed to provide the public, responsible/trustee agencies, and other local, and state governmental agencies with an analysis of the potential environmental consequences of a project. This IS/MND has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for the Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project (Project).

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), as the CEQA Lead Agency, has authorized the preparation of an environmental document to determine if approval of the requested discretionary actions and subsequent Project could have a significant impact on the environment. An IS was prepared primarily to provide the Lead Agency with information to use as the basis for determining whether a Negative Declaration (ND), Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), or Environmental Impact Report (EIR), would be appropriate for compliance with CEQA and providing approval for the Project. The findings in the IS have determined that a MND is the appropriate level of environmental documentation because all potential impacts that have been identified can be reduced to less than significant levels with the implementation of mitigation measures. A complete description and analysis of the potential impacts and mitigation measures are further addressed in the following IS/MND and technical appendices.

1.1 SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Peck Road Spreading Basin (spreading basin) receives uncontrolled runoff which carries silts and clays from the upper watershed. Since this facility is a deep pit, the fine particles settle out in the basin and significantly reduce the percolation capacity. Currently no provisions are in place to fully drain the spreading basin. Due to the low percolation rate, the water in the basin slowly evaporates throughout the year. Santa Anita and Sawpit Washes discharge directly into Peck Road Spreading Basin. Once the basin fills, water flows over the spillway and into the Rio Hondo Channel. The additional flows can impact groundwater recharge operations at the downstream Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds and cause stormwater to be wasted to the ocean. Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) proposes a water conservation project at the Peck Road Spreading Basin that would increase groundwater recharge in the Main San Gabriel Basin by installing a pump and pipeline to transfer water to the San Gabriel River. The location of discharge along the San Gabriel River is underutilized and has significantly higher percolation rates. Two 225-horsepower (hp) electric pumps will convey 50 cubic feet per second (cfs) through an approximately 7,000-foot-long pipeline. The pipeline will be constructed along Clark Street, through private property, and discharge into the San Gabriel River approximately 1.25 miles south of Live Oak Avenue. Due to siltation at the Santa Anita Wash outlet into the Peck Road Spreading Basin, a mound of sediment is threatening to divide the basin into two basins, thereby reducing the available water to conserve. The Project will also involve some sediment removal to establish a more suitable basin configuration to maximize pumping efficiency and water conservation. After the removal of the sediment, the water will not be pumped below an elevation of 290 feet. Maintenance for the Project would require periodic sediment removal from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Up to 2,000 cubic yards (cy) of accumulated sediment may need to be removed per year.

1.2 PROJECT-RELATED ACTIONS

The analysis in Section 4.0 of this IS/MND evaluates the impacts associated with Project implementation. The Project would result in no impacts or less than significant impacts on Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forest Resources, Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Traffic/Transportation, and Utilities and Service Systems.

In addition, the implementation of the Project will include compliance with the following Regulatory Requirements (RRs). Regulatory requirements are either incorporated into the Project design or included as part of Project implementation and are not considered mitigation measures. LACFCD will confirm that these RRs are included in the Contractor Specifications and bid documents, as appropriate, and verified as part of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP). These RRs shall be implemented to the satisfaction of LACFCD and are listed below.

Regulatory Requirements

- RR AQ-1 All construction activities shall be conducted in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403, Fugitive Dust, for controlling fugitive dust and avoiding nuisance. Compliance with this rule will reduce short-term particulate pollutant emissions. Contractor compliance with Rule 403 requirements shall be mandated in the Contractor's specifications.

- RR AQ-2 All construction activities shall be conducted in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 402, Nuisance, which states that a project shall not "discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property."

- RR CUL-1 Should archaeological resources be found during ground-disturbing activities for the Project, an Archaeologist shall be hired to first determine whether it is a "unique archaeological resource" pursuant to Section 21083.2(g) of the *California Public Resources Code* (PRC) or a "historical resource" pursuant to Section 15064.5(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines. If the archaeological resource is determined to be a "unique archaeological resource" or a "historical resource," the Archaeologist shall formulate a mitigation plan in consultation with LACFCD that satisfies the requirements of the above-referenced sections. If the Archaeologist determines that the archaeological resource is not a "unique archaeological resource" or "historical resource," s/he may record the site and submit the recordation form to the California Historic Resources Information System at the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton.

- RR CUL-2 If human remains are encountered during excavation activities, all work shall halt in the immediate vicinity of the discovery and the County Coroner shall be notified (*California Public Resources Code* §5097.98). The Coroner shall determine whether the remains are of forensic interest. If the Coroner, with the aid of the Archaeologist approved by

LACFCD, determines that the remains are prehistoric, s/he will contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC shall be responsible for designating the most likely descendant (MLD), who will be responsible for the ultimate disposition of the remains, as required by Section 7050.5 of the *California Health and Safety Code*. The MLD shall make his/her recommendation within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD's recommendation shall be followed, if feasible, and may include scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of the human remains and any items associated with Native American burials (*California Health and Safety Code* §7050.5). If the landowner rejects the MLD's recommendations, the landowner shall rebury the remains with appropriate dignity on the property in a location that will not be subject to further subsurface disturbance (*California Public Resources Code* §5097.98).

- RR HAZ-1 Activities at the Project site shall comply with existing federal, state, and local regulations regarding hazardous material use, storage, disposal, and transport to prevent Project-related risks to public health and safety. All onsite generated waste that meets hazardous waste criteria shall be stored, manifested, transported, and disposed of in accordance with the *California Code of Regulations* (Title 22).
- RR HYD-1 Prior to the start of construction activities, LACFCD shall file a Permit Registration Document (PRD) with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in order to obtain coverage under that National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with the Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-009-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002) or the latest approved general permit. This permit is required for construction activities (including demolition, clearing, grading, and excavation) and other land disturbance activities that result in the disturbance of one acre or more of total land area. The PRD consists of a Notice of Intent (NOI), Risk Assessment, Site Map, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP), annual fee, and a signed certification statement. Pursuant to permit requirements, the Contractor shall develop and incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing or eliminating construction-related pollutants in site runoff. In addition, during construction LACFCD shall comply with the appropriate requirements listed in the adopted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit (Order No. R4-2012-0175, NPDES No. CAS004001), which regulates municipal discharges of stormwater and non-stormwater.
- RR HYD -2 Discharges during construction are regulated under SWRCB Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges That Have Received State Water Quality Certification," which requires compliance with all conditions of the Water Quality Certification issued by RWQCB. Compliance with the Water Quality Certification issued by RWQCB would ensure that any discharge from the Project does not conflict with the applicable provisions of Sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, or any other applicable requirements of state law.
- RR TRA-1 The movement of large equipment on public roadways shall be made in compliance with the Los Angeles County Code (Title 16, Highway), which requires a moving permit

and which includes provisions regarding the size of vehicles/equipment; night moves; moving in inclement weather; parking on streets; travel outside peak hours and holidays; over-length, over-height, and over-width requirements; lighting; signs; and restricted routes. Oversized transport vehicles on state highways, if required, would need to obtain a transportation permit from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Oversized transport vehicles on local roadways, if required, would need to obtain a transportation permit from the Cities of Arcadia, Irwindale, Monrovia, and Azusa.

- RR TRA-2 The County's general construction requirements require the implementation of temporary traffic control in accordance with the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Greenbook), which contains standards for traffic and access (i.e., maintenance of access, traffic control, and notification of emergency personnel). The Contractor shall provide temporary traffic control in accordance with the Greenbook during construction activities. This RR shall be included by LACFCD as noted in the Contractor specifications.

Mitigation Measures

As detailed in Section 4.0 of this IS/MND, the Project could result in environmental impacts during short-term construction activities and long-term maintenance of the Project. According to Section 15370 of the CEQA Guidelines, "mitigation" includes the following:

- (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
- (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment.
- (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
- (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

The Project is required to implement recommended mitigation measures to avoid or reduce potentially significant adverse impacts to Air Quality and Biological Resources. The following mitigation measures have been developed to reduce the potentially significant impacts of the Project to less than significant levels.

Table 1: Summary of Impacts and Mitigation

Potential Impact	Mitigation Measure
The vegetation removal phase and sediment removal phase of Project construction would exceed the local emissions threshold for PM ₁₀ at the nearest sensitive receptors, and the sediment removal phase of Project construction would exceed the local emissions threshold for PM _{2.5} at the nearest sensitive receptors.	MM AQ-1 The Project applicant shall require that all contractors used for the removal of vegetation and removal of sediment during both the initial construction and ongoing annual maintenance activities to water all exposed areas a minimum of three times per day, throughout the duration of earth-moving activities.
Construction of the Project would result in locally significant emissions of PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} . Construction and operation of cumulative projects will further degrade the local air quality as well as the air quality of the basin.	Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1.
Annual maintenance activities during operation of the Project would result in locally significant emissions of PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} .	Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1.
Seven sensitive wildlife species could occur on the spreading basin site. Coast horned lizard has a moderate potential to occur on the spreading basin site. Additionally, least Bell's vireo, yellow-breasted chat, yellow warbler, western pond turtle, Cooper's hawk, and osprey were observed on the spreading basin site. When nesting, least Bell's vireo is a federally and state listed endangered species. Direct harm or take of these species during sediment removal activities would result in a significant impact.	MM BIO-1 A biological monitor shall be present during initial Project-related activities to assist crews in avoiding and minimizing temporary impacts to biological resources. If special status species are observed in harm's way, the monitoring biologist shall implement protection measures; these measures may include redirecting the species, construction exclusionary devices (e.g., fencing), or capture/relocation outside the work area. Species relocation techniques and locations shall require approval from CDFW.
	MM BIO-2 In order to comply with the Endangered Species Act, LACFCD will undertake a Section 7 Consultation with USFWS for potential impacts to nesting least Bell's vireo within the vicinity of the Project. LACFCD will submit a Biological Assessment that includes an impact assessment, minimization measures to avoid or minimize impacts, and mitigation for impacts. The Biological Assessment will be reviewed by USFWS for a determination of appropriate minimization and mitigation measures.
	MM BIO-3 Within 90 days prior to ground-disturbing activities, a sensitive species educational briefing for construction personnel shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The biologist will identify all sensitive resources that may be encountered onsite, and construction personnel will be instructed to avoid and report any sightings of sensitive species to LACFCD or the monitoring biologist.

Table 1: Summary of Impacts and Mitigation

Potential Impact	Mitigation Measure
	<p>MM BIO-4 Prior to the commencement of construction activities a qualified biologist shall conduct focused surveys, monitoring and/or trapping and relocation for western pond turtle. Capture, relocation techniques, and locations shall require approval from CDFW and shall be conducted prior to the initiation of construction activities. Surveys for western pond turtle will be conducted in consultation with CDFW.</p>
<p>During sediment excavation, tree and vegetation removal would significantly affect nesting birds, if present. Disturbance of active nests would violate the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and result in a significant impact.</p>	<p>MM BIO-5 If vegetation removal takes place within bird breeding season (February 15 through August 31) LACFCD, in consultation with a qualified biologist, will employ bird exclusionary measures (e.g., mylar flagging, exclusionary netting) prior to the start of bird breeding season to prevent birds from nesting within established boundaries of the Project.</p> <p>Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities within bird breeding season (February 15 through August 31), a preconstruction bird nesting survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist for the presence of any bird nesting within 300 feet of the construction work area. The surveys shall be conducted 30 days prior to the disturbance of suitable nesting habitat by a qualified biologist with experience in conducting nesting bird surveys. The surveys shall continue on a weekly basis, with the last survey being conducted no more than three days prior to the initiation of clearance/construction work. Preconstruction surveys shall be repeated annually for the duration of the sediment removal.</p> <p>If an active nest is found, the qualified biologist will develop and implement appropriate protection measures for the nest. These protection measures shall include, as appropriate, avoidance buffers. The biologist shall have the discretion to adjust the buffer area as appropriate based on the proposed construction activity, the bird species involved, and the status of the nest and nesting activity; but the buffer shall be no less than 30 feet. Work in the buffer area can resume once the nest is determined by the monitoring biologist to be inactive.</p>
<p>The Project would permanently impact approximately 3.65 acres of Black Willow Thicket 0.002 acre of California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, and 0.01 acre of disturbed Mulefat Scrub. Additionally, the</p>	<p>MM BIO-6 A Habitat Restoration and Monitoring Plan shall be developed by LACFCD and approved by USACE and CDFW. The plan shall include onsite habitat restoration and enhancement of no less than a 1:1 ratio for impacted sensitive habitat, utilization of</p>

Table 1: Summary of Impacts and Mitigation

Potential Impact	Mitigation Measure
Project would have temporary impacts on approximately 0.06 acre of Black Willow Thicket, 0.04 acre of California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, 0.07 acre of disturbed Mulefat Scrub, and 3.14 acres of open water. Impacts to these vegetation communities would result in a significant impact requiring mitigation.	willow cuttings, and exotic removal programs. The Invasive/Exotic Vegetation and Aquatic Species Removal Programs shall include: removal of invasive/exotic vegetation in the Peck Road Spreading Basin prior to the commencement of and post the completion of the Project; and removal of invasive/exotic aquatic species by a qualified biologist, when such species are observed during biological monitoring of Project construction. The plan shall be monitored for success for five years following transplanting. A report of the monitoring results shall be submitted to the resource agencies.
	MM BIO-7 Prior to commencement of construction activities, LACFCD shall obtain all necessary permits for impacts to CDFW, USACE, and RWQCB jurisdictional areas including Section 401 Certification, Section 404 permit, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement. Mitigation for impacts related to the wetlands and drainages under the jurisdiction of the resource agencies shall be negotiated with the resource agencies during the regulatory permitting process. Clean Water Act Section 404 (b)(1) guidelines shall be followed as a framework for compensatory mitigation. Through 404(b)(1) discussions with USACE and discussions with CDFW under Fish and Game Code Sections 1600-1616, a determination of the functions and values of impacted jurisdictional waters shall result in the coordination of appropriate mitigation measures for sediment removal. Potential mitigation options may include: (1) removal of exotic species from onsite LACFCD facilities; (2) payment to a mitigation bank or regional riparian enhancement program (e.g., invasive plant or wildlife species removal); and/or (3) restoration of riparian habitat either on site or off site at a ratio of no less than 1:1, determined through consultation with USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW.
The Project would result in 7.01 acres of impacts to USACE and RWQCB jurisdictional waters and 7.75 acres of impacts to CDFW jurisdictional areas. Impacts to jurisdictional waters would result in a significant impact requiring mitigation.	Implementation of mitigation measure MM BIO-7.
Two drainage features entering the basin could potentially be used as migration corridors for wildlife species. The drainages	Implementation of mitigation measures MM BIO-1, MM BIO-4, and MM BIO-5.

Table 1: Summary of Impacts and Mitigation

Potential Impact	Mitigation Measure
<p>are concrete lined with limited cover/shelter for wildlife refuge; therefore, migration for terrestrial species such as mammals would primarily occur during the night. Of the two drainage features entering the site, only Santa Anita Wash outlet would be temporarily impacted during construction hours (daytime). The Project would not significantly impact or restrict general wildlife movement due to the temporary location of Project activities, relegated to a small portion of the site and construction occurring during the day. Although some wildlife may be temporarily displaced during construction, wildlife would not be physically prevented from moving around and into the basin area.</p>	

1.3 ORGANIZATION OF THE IS/MND

This IS/MND is organized into the following sections:

Section 1.0 – Executive Summary: This section provides an introduction to the IS/MND process and a brief overview of the findings of the environmental analysis.

Section 2.0 – Project Description and Environmental Setting: This section describes the Project and provides a description of the project location, the existing environmental setting, and the Project objectives. This section also identifies approvals needed for implementation of the Project.

Section 3.0 – Environmental Determination: This section identifies environmental factors that would potentially be affected by the Project and determines what level of CEQA documentation is needed based on the environmental analysis.

Section 4.0 – Environmental Analysis: This section describes how the environmental analysis is organized. Additionally this section describes how environmental impacts are evaluated and provides a list of terminology used in the analysis.

Section 5.0 – Report Authors and Consultants: This section identifies individuals responsible for preparation of the IS/MND.

Section 6.0 – Source References: This section identifies references used in the preparation of the IS/MND.

SECTION 2.0 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.1 PROJECT PURPOSE

The Peck Road Spreading Basin (spreading basin) has low percolation rates and major sediment accumulation due to uncontrolled storm flows from Santa Anita Wash and Sawpit Wash. The spreading basin's percolation rate into the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin is reduced due to sediment accumulation at the bottom of the basin and an underlying clay layer. The low percolation rate in the spreading basin limits the amount of water that can be captured for recharge and can cause the basin to fill up quickly, allowing the water to be wasted through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel to the ocean. Additionally the sediment accumulation restricts water flows and causes a separation between the northern and southern portions of the spreading basin.

The Project has been designed to address these adverse conditions. The Project would construct a pump station and a 7,000-foot pipeline to transfer water to the soft-bottom San Gabriel River. The San Gabriel River has much greater percolation rates and also percolates into the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin, which would improve water supply sustainability efforts. The Project also involves the excavation and removal of the accumulated sediment within the spreading basin, thereby removing water flow constrictions.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

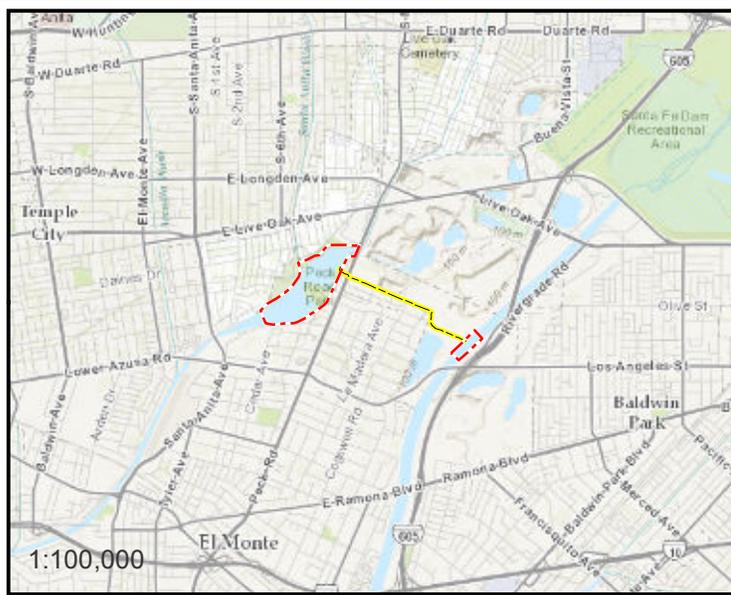
2.2.1 Location

The Project is located in the Los Angeles River Watershed in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia, the southernmost portion of the City of Monrovia, and the southwestern portion of the City of Irwindale (see Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map). The spreading basin is surrounded by the Cities of Irwindale to the east and El Monte to the south. Staging area activities, the truck access route, and a portion of excavation activities located near the northern portion of the spreading basin are within the City of Monrovia (see Figure 2: Project Site Map). The pump station and inlet structure and the majority of the excavation activities are within the City of Arcadia. The proposed pipeline extends eastward from the spreading basin along a narrow strip of land within the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia and is surrounded by the Cities of Irwindale to the north and El Monte to the south. The easternmost segment of the proposed pipeline and the outlet structure that connects to the San Gabriel River are located in the City of Irwindale.

2.2.2 Project Site

The Project site consists of a former gravel mining pit that spans over 0.75 mile in length by 0.25 mile in width. The spreading basin consists of one deep basin with a total storage capacity of 3,600 acre-feet and current maximum depth of 55 feet; however, due to sediment accumulation, the current capacity is approximately 3,230 acre-feet. The facility is owned by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) and is one of the largest water conservation facilities that recharges the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. The spreading basin contains areas of dense riparian scrub surrounded by bare ground high along the banks.

The spreading basin is fed by uncontrolled storm flows from two main channels (Santa Anita Wash and Sawpit Wash) on the north side of the basin. Water within the spreading basin exits through a concrete



- Legend**
- Project Boundary
 - Pipeline Alignment
 - City Boundaries

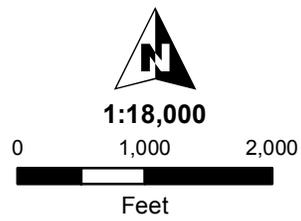


Figure 1
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Project Location and Vicinity Map

Author: msimmons
 Version Date: 3/25/2014



spillway on the southwest end of the basin. Flows travel southwestwardly through the Rio Hondo Channel and connect with the Los Angeles River, eventually terminating into the Pacific Ocean. The proposed pipeline alignment generally traverses Clark Street east to the San Gabriel River. The San Gabriel River also recharges the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin and terminates at the Pacific Ocean.

2.2.3 General Plan Designation/Zoning

The spreading basin has a City of Arcadia General Plan Land Use and zoning designation of Open Space – Resources Protection, which is applied to areas that require special management or regulation due to unusual environmental conditions. The northern portion of the spreading basin, located in the City of Monrovia, has a City of Monrovia General Plan Land Use and zoning designation of Public/Quasi Public, which is applied to all public uses including government facilities (City of Monrovia 2008, 2010). The majority of the 7,000-foot pipeline will cross City of Arcadia land. The General Plan land use designations in this area are Industrial or Commercial/Industrial in the General Plan (City of Arcadia 2010a) and are zoned as Planned Industrial District and Commercial Manufacturing (City of Arcadia 2010b). The eastern end of the pipeline will also cross City of Irwindale land designated as Quarry Overlay – Commercial/Recreation in the General Plan (City of Irwindale 2008). This segment of land has been zoned as M-2 Heavy Manufacturing (City of Irwindale 1972). The pipeline route also runs adjacent to City of El Monte land designated as Medium Low Residential in the General Plan (City of El Monte 2011a). These segments of land have been zoned as RHOD - Rurban Homestead Overlay District (City of El Monte 2011b).

2.2.4 Adjacent Land Uses

The spreading basin is located in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia immediately adjacent to four recreational opportunities. Peck Road Water Conservation Park encompasses the eastern peninsula of the spreading basin and provides visitors with passive recreation. Peck Spreading Basin is open to the public for fishing and other passive water recreation activities. A portion of the Rio Hondo Bike Path follows the western shore of the spreading basin up to the Santa Anita Wash and the eastern shore up to the Peck Road Water Conservation Park. The Arcadia Golf Course is located west of the Rio Hondo Bike Path. Land immediately east of the spreading basin consists of industrial development. The basin is bordered to the north by a car storage facility and residential development within the City of Monrovia. Land south of the spreading basin consists of residential development within El Monte. Land immediately along the pipeline alignment consists of industrial development, residential uses, vacant land within the City of Arcadia, a gravel mining pit within the City of Irwindale, and the San Gabriel River Trail adjacent to the San Gabriel River.

2.3 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Peck Road Spreading Basin is owned and operated by LACFCD. The spreading basin and surrounding area was originally a gravel mining pit that was converted to a spreading basin by LACFCD in the late 1950s. LACFCD is now administered by County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (LACDPW).

The adjacent Peck Road Water Conservation Park was established in 1975 by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. Recreation opportunities include bicycle riding, picnicking, hiking, and fishing; trout are periodically stocked by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (USEPA 2012). Visitors are not allowed to boat or swim in the basin.

Over the years, storm flows have brought sediment into the basin which has accumulated south of the Santa Anita Wash outlet and west of the Sawpit Wash outlet. The sediment accumulation at the mouth of Santa Anita Wash restricts water flows and causes a separation between the northern and southern portions of the spreading basin, decreasing the overall storage capacity. In addition, the facility's percolation is currently limited due to the accumulated sediment. High uncontrolled flows from Santa Anita Wash and Sawpit Wash can cause the basin to fill up quickly and allow the water to be wasted through the Rio Hondo Channel to the ocean.

2.4 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The Project will involve constructing a pump station located on the northeastern shore of the spreading basin, constructing a pipeline that connects to a new outlet structure into the San Gabriel River, and removing accumulated sediment from the spreading basin (Figure 2: Project Site Map).

2.4.1 Pump Station

The Project will involve construction of a 784-square-foot pump station on the eastern shore of Peck Road Spreading Basin to transfer water to the San Gabriel River. The pump station will house two 225-horsepower electric motor pumps, electrical equipment, and connection to the intake structure. The pump station will be connected to an existing electrical service, and an enclosed power transformer will be constructed adjacent to the pump station.

2.4.2 Pipeline

Pumped water from the basin will be conveyed to the San Gabriel River by an approximately 7,000-foot-long pipeline connecting the two water bodies. The pipeline will be placed at a depth approximately 4 to 10 feet underground. Construction of the pipeline would involve a construction area that would extend the length of the proposed pipeline alignment. The westernmost segment of the pipeline alignment will traverse the parking area of an industrial building and cross Peck Road. The pipeline alignment will then traverse Clark Street. The remainder of the pipeline alignment will traverse undeveloped land south of the gravel mining pit located east of the spreading basin within the City of Irwindale. The eastern terminus of the pipeline to the San Gabriel River will include an outlet structure. The pipeline will be constructed in segments to limit the length and duration of any lane closures along Clark Street.

2.4.3 Sediment Removal

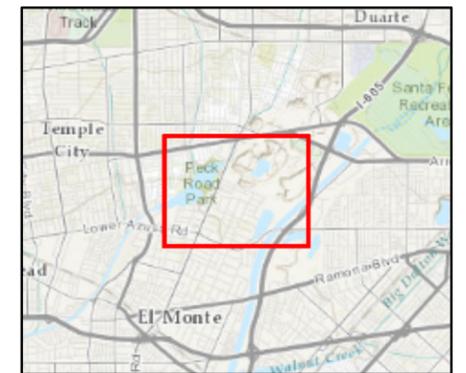
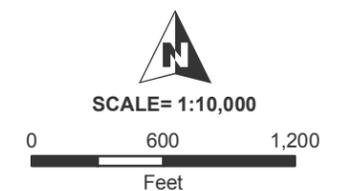
The Project would involve the excavation and removal of up to an estimated 110,000 cubic yards (cy) of sediment to restore basin capacity, improve water flows, and allow for the transport of water to the soft-bottom San Gabriel River. The spreading basin near the outlet of Santa Anita Wash would be excavated to an elevation of 290 feet to achieve a capacity of 3,290 acre-feet. Approximately 1 to 22 feet of sediment would be removed from an area of about 7.85 acres. In order to provide a conservative analysis, this IS/MND assumes that sediment removal would include draining the spreading basin to approximately 280 feet and removing vegetation in the excavation area.

Construction staging for sediment excavation would be located on approximately 1.5 acres of land along the western bank of the spreading basin immediately north of the Santa Anita Wash outlet in the City of Monrovia. This area is located immediately adjacent to the excavation area within the spreading basin. Access to the construction staging area would be provided by a gated access road that connects to Peck.

Figure 2
Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
Project Site Map

Legend

-  Project Boundary
-  Pipeline Alignment
-  Staging Area
-  Excavation Area
-  Truck Access Route
-  Existing Trails & Bike Paths
-  City Boundaries



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, Increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, MEI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community
 Copyright: © 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom
 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, I-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and

I:\gisdata\GIS_DATA\Projects\200005\20601 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 2 Project Site Map.mxd

Road. The gated access road begins adjacent to the northeastern corner of the spreading basin and travels along the northern and western shores of the basin before terminating at the staging area. Where necessary, temporary access roads would be created from the existing access road into the basin.

It is estimated that removal of excavated sediment from the Project site would be accomplished by transporting a maximum of approximately 200 truck trips per day over 60 working days. It is likely that fewer truck trips per day and/or for the overall total will be required. Excavated sediment will be hauled away from the Project site to one of the following sediment disposal sites: Peck Road Gravel Pit, Manning Pit Sediment Placement Site (SPS), or Azusa Land Reclamation. These sites are located in the Cities of Irwindale and Azusa, less than 1 to 7 miles east of the spreading basin. Most of the sediment will be hauled to the closest sediment disposal site, Peck Road Gravel Pit, located less than 1 mile east of the spreading basin. Vegetation and organic material will be hauled to Azusa Land Reclamation.

The potential haul routes to the sediment disposal sites are delineated on Figure 3: Project Haul Routes.

The water level in the basin can vary between elevations of 280 to 315 feet depending on the amount of rainfall and inflow from the Santa Anita Wash and the Sawpit Wash. After the removal of the sediment, the water level will not be pumped below an elevation of 290 feet.

Maintenance for the Project would require periodic sediment removal from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Maintenance of the spreading basin would occur in the excavation area identified in Figure 2. Up to 2,000 cy of accumulated sediment may need to be removed per year. It is anticipated that the hauling of sediment during maintenance activities would have an approximate duration of two weeks and require approximately 25 truck trips/day. Excavated sediment during maintenance activities would be hauled to one of the three aforementioned sediment disposal sites.

2.4.4 Project Schedule

The Project is expected to occur over a 12-month period, approximately between Fall 2015 and Winter 2016. Excavation activities are anticipated to be completed in 60 working days. The remaining time will be dedicated to the construction of the pump station, outlet structure, and a 7,000-foot pipeline. Activities will take place between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

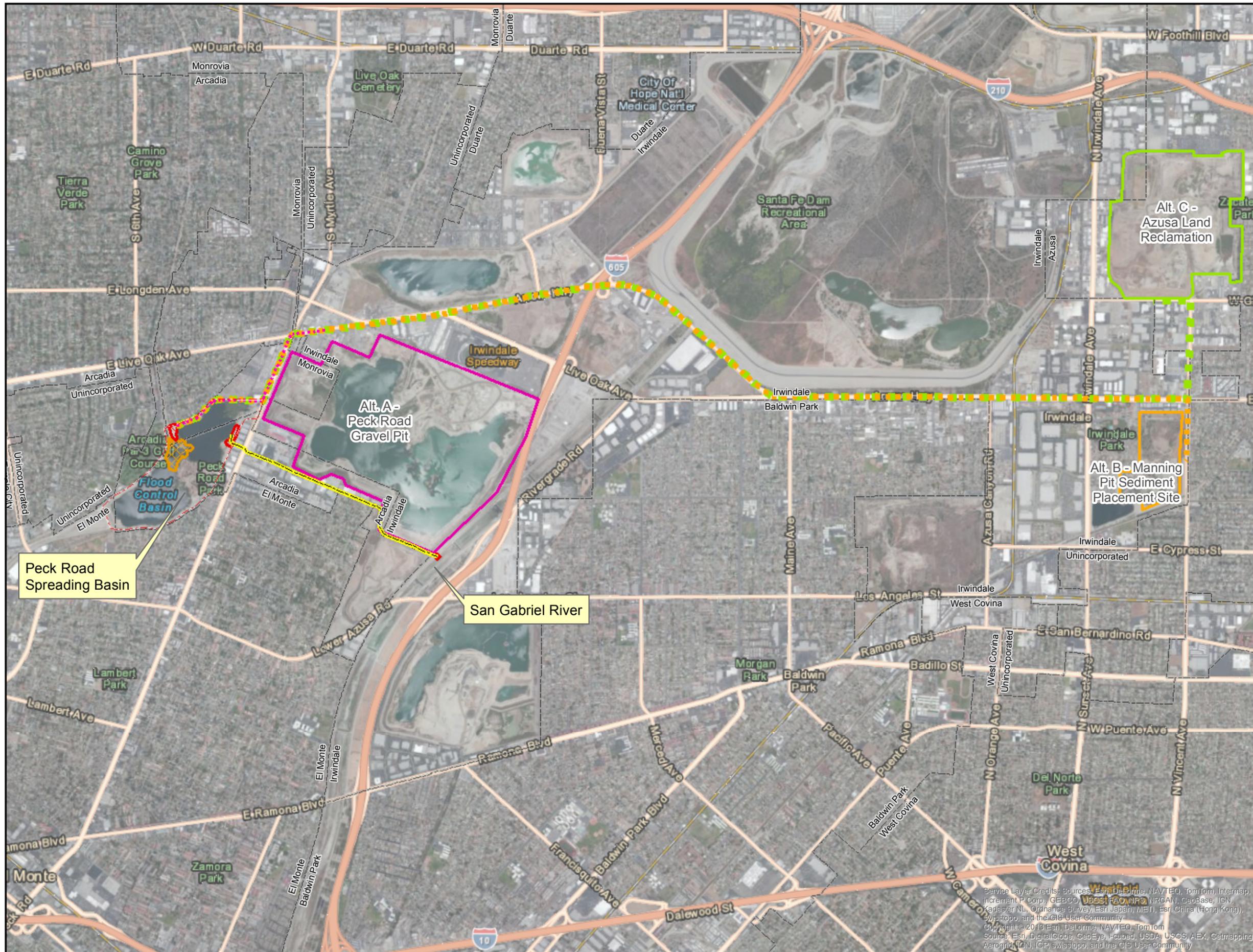
2.5 REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

As required by the CEQA Guidelines, this section provides, to the extent the information known to LACFCD, the CEQA Lead Agency, a list of the agencies that are expected to use this IS/MND in their decision making, and a list of permits and other approvals required to implement the Project.

2.5.1 Lead Agency Approval

In accordance with Section 15074 of the State CEQA Guidelines, prior to approving the Project, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board), acting as governing body of LACFCD, will consider the proposed IS/MND together with any comments received during the public review process. The Board may adopt the proposed MND only if it finds no substantial evidence that the Project will have a

Figure 3
Peck Water Conservation
Improvement Project
Project Haul Routes

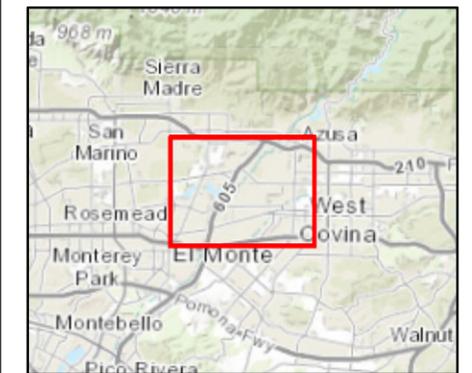
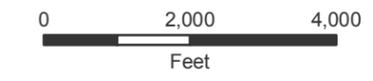


Legend

- Project Boundary
- Pipeline Alignment
- Staging Area
- Excavation Area
- Alternate Haul-out Sites**
- Alt. A-Peck Road Gravel Pit
- Alt. B-Manning Pit Sediment Placement Site
- Alt. C-Azusa Land Reclamation
- Alternate Haul Routes**
- to Peck Road Gravel Pit
- to Manning Sediment Placement Site
- to Azusa Land Reclamation
- City Boundaries



SCALE= 1:30,000



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 Copyright © 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom
 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aergrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Author: msimmons
 Version Date: 4/3/2014



I:\gis\data\GIS_DATA\Projects\200005\20601 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 3 Project Haul Routes Map.mxd

significant effect on the environment and that the MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board.

The IS/MND has been submitted to potentially affected agencies. A Notice of Intent to Adopt an MND (NOI) was mailed to affected agencies and interested organizations and individuals and is on file at the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk in the City of Norwalk. A summary of the NOI was published in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, and the *Arcadia Weekly* to announce the public review period. The IS/MND and associated technical reports are available for public for viewing on www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/PeckWater and at the Arcadia Public Library, located at 20 West Duarte Road in Arcadia, California.

In accordance with Section 15073 of the State CEQA Guidelines, a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration must be subject to a 30-day public review period when submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review by state agencies. The public review period for this IS/MND is from July 10, 2014, to August 8, 2014. In reviewing the IS/MND, the reviewer should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the potential impacts on the environment and ways in which the potentially significant effects of the proposed Project are avoided or mitigated. Comments on the analysis contained herein may be sent via email during the public comment period to SpreadingGrounds@dpw.lacounty.gov or by fax to (626) 979-5436. Include “Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project” in the subject line. Comments can also be mailed to the following address:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
 Attn: Water Resources Division
 900 South Fremont Avenue
 Alhambra, California 91803-1331

2.5.3 Other Required Permits and Approvals

A Responsible Agency is a public agency, other than the lead agency, that typically has permitting authority or approval power over an aspect of the overall project for which the lead agency is conducting CEQA review (Remy et al. 2006). The Responsible Agencies, and their corresponding approvals, for this Project include the following:

Table 2: Other Agency Approvals and Requirements

Agency	Approval Required	Purpose
USACE	Section 404 Permit	To allow the discharge of dredge and fill material into waters of the United States.
USACE	Section 408 Permit	To authorize alteration/modification to a previously existing USACE facility.
USFWS	Section 7 Consultation	To ensure the protection of species under the Endangered Species Act
SWRCB	Construction General Permit	For coverage under the Construction General Permit.

Table 2: Other Agency Approvals and Requirements

Agency	Approval Required	Purpose
RWQCB	Section 401 Water Quality Certification	To protect water quality within waters of the United States.
CDFW	Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA)	To authorize changes to the natural flow or bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake and associated impacts to biological resources.
City of Arcadia	Construction/Encroachment Permit	To haul the sediment and install the pipeline within city limits
City of Azusa	Revocable Haul Route Permit	To haul the sediment within city limits
City of Irwindale	Construction/Encroachment Permit	To haul the sediment within city limits
City of Monrovia	Construction/Encroachment Permit	To haul the sediment within city limits

USACE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; USFS: U.S. Forest Service; SWRCB: State Water Resources Control Board; DSOD: California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams; USFWS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; RWQCB: Regional Water Quality Control Board; CDFW: California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

2.5.4 Reviewing Agencies

Reviewing Agencies include those agencies that do not have discretionary powers but that may review the IS/MND for adequacy and accuracy. Potential Reviewing Agencies include the following:

State of California

- Office of Historic Preservation
- Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)
- San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC)

Regional Agencies

- Watershed Conservation Authority
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)
- County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

2.6 CUMULATIVE PROJECTS

Cumulative impacts refer to the combined effect of Project impacts with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. As set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, the discussion of cumulative impacts must reflect the severity of the impacts as well as the likelihood of their occurrence; however, the discussion need not be as detailed as the discussion of environmental impacts attributable to the project alone. As stated in CEQA, “a project may have a significant effect on the environment if the possible effects of a project are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.”

According to the CEQA Guidelines:

“Cumulative impacts” refer to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable and which compound or increase other environmental impacts.

- The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects.
- The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the Project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

In addition, as stated in the CEQA Guidelines, it should be noted that:

“The mere existence of significant cumulative impacts caused by other projects alone shall not constitute substantial evidence that the Project’s incremental effects are cumulatively considerable.”

As previously stated, and as set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, related projects consist of “closely related, past, present, and reasonable foreseeable probable future projects that would likely result in similar impacts and are located in the same geographic area.” The majority of the lands adjacent to the study area are already highly urbanized. The ability to develop new projects within or adjacent to the study area is limited. Two projects were identified, one proposed and the other is completed, which are described below and shown on Figure 4: Cumulative Project Locations.

2.6.1 Reasonably Foreseeable Projects

Emerald Necklace/Quarry Clasp Projects

The intent of the proposed Emerald Necklace/Quarry Clasp projects is to connect Peck Road Water Conservation Park as a regional recreation area to the San Gabriel River Trail as part of the Emerald Necklace recreational system. Construction for the whole Project is estimated to begin in late 2014 and finish in early 2016. This part of the proposed improvements to the Emerald Necklace recreational system involves the following components:

- Rio Hondo Multi-Use Trail and Class I Bicycle Path Connection in Peck Road Water Conservation Park: A 10-foot-wide, decomposed granite, soft surface multiuse trail and a Class I bicycle path

will extend north from the existing parking area in Peck Road Water Conservation Park with space for trees and greening for approximately a half-mile to its terminus at Peck Road.

The following tentative components are being explored for feasibility:

- The Peck Park Bike Trail is proposed to split from the proposed Quarry Clasp Bike Trail at Peck Road, providing access to the north edge of the Park via a bridge to be installed over Sawpit Wash and following the northerly boundary of the spreading basin easterly until it reconnects with Santa Anita Wash. This new Peck Park Bike Trail will utilize an existing bike/pedestrian bridge at Daines Drive in order to connect to the existing Santa Anita Wash Bike Trail and Live Oak Avenue.
- Peck Road Signalized Crossing: A signalized crossing at the Foothill Transit traffic light on Peck Road to allow equestrians, pedestrians, and bicyclists to safely cross the street and to connect the Rio Hondo Bike Path to the San Gabriel River Trail.
- Quarry Clasp Multi-Use Trail and Bike Paths: The creation of two trails (one multiuse and one bicycle trail) along the southern edge of Hanson Quarry, connecting the Rio Hondo Bike Path and the San Gabriel River Trail.
- Quarry Clasp Park: Land acquisition of one or more industrial sites currently for sale would allow a large green staging/parking area for equestrians, bicyclers, pedestrians, and hikers.

Peck Park Swale Project

Passage of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, Proposition A, on November 5, 1996, provided funding for the development, acquisition, improvement, restoration, and maintenance of parks, recreational, cultural and community facilities, and open space lands within the County of Los Angeles. This included \$200,000 for refurbishment of picnic areas and campgrounds and/or general improvements at Peck Road Water Conservation Park (Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation 2013a).

Also known as the Peck Park Swale project, the first phase of this project included: soft bottom, rock-lined swales; native plantings; decomposed granite walking path; and seating areas (Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation 2013b). This phase was completed in 2011. The second phase of the project involves: improving the entrance areas and driveways, hydroseeding near the entrance, and renovating the restrooms and office facilities. The remainder of the project will be completed by May 2014 prior to the start of the Project.

Figure 4
Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
Cumulative Projects Locations



Legend

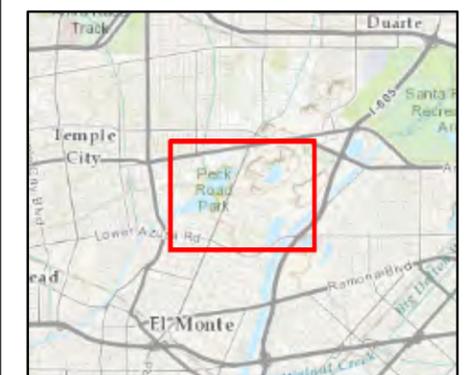
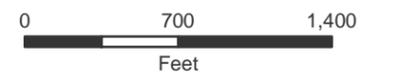
- Project Boundary
- Pipeline
- Staging
- City Boundaries

Emerald Necklace/Quarry Clasp (proposed)

- Rio Hondo Multi-Use Trail and Class I Bike Path Connection
- Peck Road Signalized Crossing
- Quarry Clasp Multi-Use Trail and Bike Paths
- Quarry Clasp Park
- Peck Road Water Conservation Park Vision Project (anticipated completion May 2014)



SCALE= 1:10,000



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

\\cg-jgsdata01\GIS_DATA\Projects\200805\206101 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 4 Cumulative Projects Locations.mxd

SECTION 3.0 – ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM AND ASSESSMENT

This section includes the completed CEQA environmental checklist form, as provided in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. The checklist form is used to assist in evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project and identifies whether the Project is expected to have potential significant impacts.

1. Project Title: Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: Los Angeles County Flood Control District
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803
3. Contact Person: Ms. Grace Yu
Water Resources Division
SpreadingGrounds@dpw.lacounty.gov
4. Project Location: The Project is located in the Los Angeles River Watershed in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia, the southernmost portion of the City of Monrovia, and the southwestern portion of the City of Irwindale. The spreading basin is surrounded by the Cities of Monrovia to the north, Irwindale to the east, and El Monte to the south. The proposed pipeline extends eastward from the spreading basin along a narrow strip of land within the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia and is surrounded by the Cities of Irwindale to the north and El Monte to the south. The easternmost segment of the proposed pipeline and the outlet structure that connects to the San Gabriel River are located in the City of Irwindale.
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803
6. General Plan Designation/Zoning: *City of Arcadia* (spreading basin): Open Space – Resource
City of Monrovia (access road and spreading basin): Public/Quasi Public
City of Arcadia (pipeline): Industrial or Commercial/Industrial; Planned Industrial District and Commercial Manufacturing
City of Irwindale (pipeline): Quarry Overlay – Commercial/Recreation; M-2 Heavy Manufacturing
City of El Monte (adjacent to pipeline): Medium Low Residential; RHOD - Rurban Homestead Overlay District

7. Description of the Project:

The Project would construct a 784-square-foot pump station at the Peck Road Spreading Basin (spreading basin) and a 7,000-foot pipeline to transfer water to the soft-bottom San Gabriel River where it will percolate to recharge the groundwater basin for water supply. Additionally, the Project involves the excavation and removal of accumulated sediment within the spreading basin to alleviate water flow constrictions. After the removal of the sediment, the water will not be pumped below an elevation of 290 feet. Maintenance for the Project would require periodic sediment removal from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Up to 2,000 cy of accumulated sediment may need to be removed per year.

8. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The spreading basin is located in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia immediately adjacent to four recreational opportunities. Peck Road Water Conservation Park encompasses the eastern peninsula of the spreading basin and provides visitors with passive recreation. Peck Spreading Basin is open to the public for fishing. A portion of the Rio Hondo Bike Path follows the western shore of the spreading basin up to the Santa Anita Wash and the eastern shore up to the Peck Road Water Conservation Park. The Arcadia Golf Course is located west of the Rio Hondo Bike Path. Land immediately east of the spreading basin consists of industrial development. The basin is bordered to the north by a car storage facility and residential development within the City of Monrovia. Land south of the spreading basin consists of residential development within El Monte. Land immediately along the pipeline alignment consists of industrial development, residential uses, vacant land within the City of Arcadia, a gravel mining pit within the City of Irwindale, and the San Gabriel River Trail adjacent to the San Gabriel River.

9. Other public agencies whose approval may be required:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- California Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
- City of Arcadia
- City of Azusa
- City of Irwindale
- City of Monrovia

3.1 AVAILABILITY OF THE NOI AND IS/MND

The NOI and the IS/MND have been distributed directly to responsible and reviewing agencies and are available for review at the following locations:

- Live Oak Library, 4153 E. Live Oak Avenue, Arcadia
- Norwood Public Library, 4550 Peck Road, El Monte
- County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, available at the 2nd floor public counter

In addition, the NOI and IS/MND are also available online at the following website:
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/PeckWater>.

3.2 PUBLIC REVIEW / HEARING

A thirty-day (30-day) public review period for the Draft IS/MND shall commence on July 10, 2014. Written comments must be sent to LACDPW, by August 8, 2014. Comments should include “Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project” in the subject line and the name of a contact person. Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

Mail	Email	Fax
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Attn: Water Resources Division 900 South Fremont Avenue Alhambra, CA 91803-1331	SpreadingGrounds@dpw.lacounty.gov	(626) 979-5436

The Final IS/MND must be certified by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (Board) as to its adequacy in complying with the requirements of CEQA before taking any action on the Project. The Board will consider the information contained in the IS/MND in making a decision to approve or deny the Project.

3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would potentially be affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact," as indicated by the checklists on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality/GHG Emissions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

3.4 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

1. I find that the Project could not have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
2. I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the Project have been made by or agreed to by the Project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
3. I find the proposed Project may have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
4. I find that the proposed Project may have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated impact" on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
5. I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Patricia Wood
Signature

7/8/14
Date

Patricia Wood
Name

Senior Civil Engineer
Title

SECTION 4.0 – ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

4.1 ORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Section 4.0 presents a discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. The evaluation of environmental impacts follows the questions outlined in the Environmental Checklist Form provided in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines.

4.2 TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS ANALYSIS

For each question listed in the IS checklist, a determination of the level of significance of the impact is provided. Impacts are categorized in the following categories:

- **No Impact.** A designation of no impact is given when no adverse changes in the environment are expected.
- **Less than Significant.** A less than significant impact would cause no substantial adverse change in the environment.
- **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** A potentially significant (but mitigable) impact would have a substantial adverse impact on the environment but could be reduced to a less than significant level with incorporation of mitigation measure(s).
- **Potentially Significant.** A significant and unavoidable impact would cause a substantial adverse effect on the environment, and no feasible mitigation measures would be available to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

4.3 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including offsite as well as onsite, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if substantial evidence exists that an effect may be significant. If one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries are marked when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to

- a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from earlier analyses may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
 6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
 7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
 8. The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

4.4 AESTHETICS

1.	AESTHETICS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.4.1 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia, the southernmost portion of the City of Monrovia, and the southwestern portion of the City of Irwindale. The nearest Officially Designated State Scenic Highway is State Highway 2 – Angeles Crest Highway (SR-2) located 14 miles northwest of the Project site. No designated scenic vistas are located in the vicinity of the Project site. The Project site is surrounded by residential, recreational, commercial, and industrial uses. The nearest Eligible State Scenic Highways is State Highway 39 (SR-39), located 6 miles northeast of the Project site (Caltrans 2013).

4.4.2 Impact Analysis

- (a) The Project site possesses moderate scenic quality and offers views of, and across, the spreading basin from Peck Road Water Conservation Park, Arcadia Golf Course, and private residences surrounding the Project site. Sediment removal activities and construction of the pump station would disrupt views of, and across, the spreading basin due to the presence of heavy construction equipment and temporary stockpiling of excavated sediment; however, disruptions of existing views would be temporary in nature and cease once construction is completed. In addition, as discussed below under Section 4.7, Biological Resources, enhancement of riparian communities would take place onsite in the acreage made available through the reduction of the average water level of the spreading basin. The enhanced acreage would appear similar to and blend in with the existing park riparian communities. Therefore, impacts on scenic vistas would be less than significant.

Construction of the 7,000-foot pipeline would occur within the existing right-of-way (ROW), predominantly within an urbanized industrial area that does not possess any scenic vistas. The easternmost segment of the pipeline and outlet structure would be constructed south of the Peck Road Gravel Pit in the City of Irwindale. Although land surrounding this segment of the Project is undeveloped, this area possesses low scenic quality. Furthermore, construction activities at this location would be less intensive than at the spreading basin and would require a shorter construction time period. Therefore, impacts on scenic vistas would be less than significant.

- (b) No rock-outcroppings are located at the Project site. No structures are located immediately adjacent to the spreading basin that could be affected by sediment excavation activities, and the 7,000-foot pipeline would be constructed within the existing ROW of Clark Street, avoiding impacts to surrounding structures. Therefore, the Project does not have the potential to impact any historic buildings. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) designates Official and Eligible scenic highways within the state. The Project is not located in the vicinity of any Officially Designated State Scenic Highway or Eligible State Scenic Highways (Caltrans 2013). Sediment excavation activities would result in the removal of vegetation within the spreading basin; however, this vegetation does not possess high scenic value and its loss would not adversely affect the visual quality of the Project site. Therefore, impacts on scenic resources would be less than significant.
- (c) The Project site possesses moderate scenic quality and offers views of, and across, the spreading basin from Peck Road Water Conservation Park, Arcadia Golf Course, and private residences surrounding the Project site. Heavy construction equipment and temporary stockpiling of excavated sediment during construction would temporarily degrade the visual character of the Project site; however, these impacts to visual character would be temporary in nature and cease once construction is completed. Removal of the accumulated sediment may improve the visual character of the Project site by reducing visual clutter and creating a more open view across the spreading basin. The pump station would be relatively small compared to the entire spreading basin and would not alter the existing visual character. As discussed below under Section 4.7, Biological Resources, enhancement of riparian communities would take place onsite in the acreage made available through the reduction of the average water level of the spreading basin. The enhanced acreage would appear similar to and blend in with the existing park riparian communities. Construction of the westernmost segment of the 7,000-foot pipeline and outlet structure would temporarily degrade the visual character of the undeveloped area south of the gravel mining pit; however, this impact would be temporary and would cease once construction is completed. Once completed, the outlet structure would be relatively small and would not affect the existing visual character. Therefore, impacts on visual character would be less than significant.
- (d) Existing lighting in the surrounding area currently consists of street lights, building outdoor, and security lighting. The Project would add security lighting to the pump station, limited to low-wattage outdoor security lighting. This type of nighttime lighting will be similar to that of existing surrounding properties. All lighting will be shielded and directed onto the Project site. New lighting impacts would be less than significant. The pump station and outfall structure would be constructed of nonreflective material and would not introduce glare. The proposed pipeline would be constructed underground and would not be visible. Therefore, the Project would not create a source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area and impacts would be less than significant.

4.5 AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES

2.	AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES. (In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland.) In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.) Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to nonforest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to nonagricultural use or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.5.1 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located in the southeastern portion of the City of Arcadia, the southernmost portion of the City of Monrovia, and the southwestern portion of the City of Irwindale. The Project site is not in agricultural use or near any agricultural uses. The California Department of Conservation administers the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) pursuant to Section 65570 of the *California Government Code*. Due to the predominance of urban development in this section of Los Angeles County, this area was not included in the mapping effort by the FMMP (FMMP 2014).

4.5.2 Impact Analysis

- (a) Review of the Land Use Element of the Arcadia General Plan and Irwindale General Plan indicated that both cities do not contain any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. No active farmlands are located within or surrounding the Project site. Therefore, the Project would not convert farmland to nonagricultural use.
- (b) The City of Arcadia does not have a zone for agricultural uses. Construction of the outlet structure to the San Gabriel River within the City of Irwindale would occur on land zoned as A-1: Agricultural; however, this segment of land is not in agricultural production, and the City of Irwindale General Plan indicates that the City intends to update its Zoning Ordinance so as to eliminate the agricultural (A-1) zone (City of Irwindale 2008). Additionally, no Williamson Act contracts exist on any parcels within either city. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural uses, and a Williamson Act Contract is not applicable to the Project site.
- (c) No forest lands are located within either the City of Arcadia or the City of Irwindale; additionally, neither city has a zone for forest land or timberland. No impacts would occur.
- (d) No forest lands are located within either city. No impacts would occur.
- (e) No active farmlands or forest land are within or surrounding the Project site. Therefore, the Project would not convert farmland to nonagricultural use or forest land to nonforest use.

4.6 AIR QUALITY

3.	AIR QUALITY. (Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.) Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.6.1 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County, which is part of the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) that includes all of Orange County as well as the nondesert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. The SCAB is located on a coastal plain with connecting broad valleys and low hills to the east. Regionally, the SCAB is bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the southwest and high mountains to the east forming the inland perimeter. The Project site is located toward the northeastern portion of the SCAB near the foot of the San Bernardino Mountains, which define the eastern boundary of the SCAB.

4.6.2 Atmospheric Setting

The climate of southeastern Los Angeles County, technically called an interior valley subclimate of southern California’s Mediterranean-type climate, is characterized by hot, dry summers and mild, moist winters with infrequent rainfall, moderate afternoon breezes, and generally fair weather. Occasional periods of strong Santa Ana winds and winter storms interrupt the otherwise mild weather pattern. The clouds and fog that form along the area’s coastline rarely extend as far inland as eastern Los Angeles County. When morning clouds and fog form, they typically burn off quickly after sunrise. The most important weather pattern from an air quality perspective is associated with the warm season airflow across the populated areas of the SCAB. This airflow brings polluted air into eastern Los Angeles County late in the afternoon. This transport pattern creates unhealthful air quality that may extend to the Project site, particularly during the summer months.

Winds are an important parameter in characterizing the air quality environment of a project site because they both determine the regional pattern of air pollution transport and control the rate of

dispersion near a source. Daytime winds in eastern Los Angeles County are usually light breezes from off the coast as air moves regionally onshore from the cool Pacific Ocean to the warm Mojave Desert interior of southern California. These winds allow for good local mixing; but, as discussed above, these coastal winds carry significant amounts of industrial and automobile air pollutants from the densely urbanized western portion of the SCAB into the interior valleys where they become trapped by the mountains that border the eastern edge of the SCAB.

In the summer, strong temperature inversions may occur that limit the vertical depth through which air pollution can be dispersed. Air pollutants concentrate because they cannot rise through the inversion layer and disperse. These inversions are more common and persistent during the summer months. Over time, sunlight produces photochemical reactions within this inversion layer that create ozone, a particularly harmful air pollutant. Occasionally, strong thermal convections occur which allow the air pollutants to rise high enough to pass over the mountains, ultimately diluting the smog cloud.

In the winter, light nocturnal winds result mainly from the drainage of cool air off the mountains toward the valley floor while the air aloft over the valley remains warm. This forms a type of inversion known as a radiation inversion. Such winds are characterized by stagnation and poor local mixing that trap pollutants such as automobile exhaust near their source. Despite light wind conditions, especially at night and in the early morning, winter is generally a period of good air quality in the Project vicinity.

4.6.3 Regulatory Setting

The air quality at the Project site is addressed through the efforts of various international, federal, state, regional, and local government agencies. These agencies work jointly, as well as individually, to improve air quality through legislation, regulations, planning, policy-making, education, and a variety of programs. The agencies responsible for improving the air quality are discussed below.

Federal – United States Environmental Protection Agency

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for setting and enforcing the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for atmospheric pollutants. It regulates emission sources that are under the exclusive authority of the federal government, such as aircraft, ships, and certain locomotives.

As part of its enforcement responsibilities, the EPA requires each state with federal nonattainment areas to prepare and submit a State Implementation Plan (SIP) that demonstrates the means to attain the national standards. The SIP must integrate federal, state, and local components and regulations to identify specific measures to reduce pollution, using a combination of performance standards and market-based programs within the timeframe identified in the SIP.

As indicated below in Table 3: South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status, the SCAB has been designated by EPA as a nonattainment area for ozone (O₃) and suspended particulates (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and partial nonattainment for lead. Currently, the SCAB is in attainment with the ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

Table 3: South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status

Pollutant	Averaging Time	Standard Level	National Standards Attainment Designation	National Standards Attainment Date ¹	California Designations ²
Ozone (O ₃)	1-Hour (1979) ³	0.12 ppm	Nonattainment (Extreme)	11/15/2010 (not attained)	Nonattainment
	8-Hour (1997) ⁴	0.08 ppm	Nonattainment (Extreme)	6/15/2024	
	8-Hour (2008)	0.075 ppm	Nonattainment (Extreme)	12/31/2032	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1-Hour	35 ppm	Attainment (Maintenance)	6/11/2007 (attained)	Maintenance
	8-Hour	9 ppm			
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) ⁵	1-Hour	100 ppb	Unclassifiable/Attainment	Attained	Nonattainment
	Annual	0.053 ppm	Attainment (Maintenance)	9/22/1998	
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂) ⁶	1-Hour	75 ppb	Designation Pending	Pending	Attainment
	24-Hour	0.14 ppm	Unclassifiable/Attainment	3/19/1979 (attained)	
	Annual	0.03 ppm			
PM ₁₀	24-Hour	150 µg/m ³	Nonattainment (Serious)	12/31/2006 (redesignation submitted) ⁷	Nonattainment
PM _{2.5}	24-Hour	35 µg/m ³	Nonattainment	12/14/2014	Nonattainment
	Annual	15.0 µg/m ³	Nonattainment	4/5/2015	
Lead (Pb)	3-Months Rolling	0.15 µg/m ³	Nonattainment (Partial) ⁸	12/31/2015	Nonattainment

¹ Obtained from Draft 2012 AQMP, SCAQMD, 2012. A design value below the NAAQS for data through the full year or smog season prior to the attainment date is typically required for attainment demonstration.

² Obtained from <http://www.arb.ca.gov/deg/adm/adm.htm>.

³ 1-hour O₃ standard (0.12 ppm) was revoked, effective June 15, 2005; however, the SCAB has not attained this standard based on 2008-2010 data and has some continuing obligations under the former standard.

⁴ 1997 8-hour O₃ standard (0.08 ppm) was reduced (0.075 ppm), effective May 27, 2008; the 1997 O₃ standard and most related implementation rules remain in place until the 1997 standard is revoked by U.S. EPA.

⁵ New NO₂ 1-hour standard, effective August 2, 2010; attainment designations January 20, 2012; annual NO₂ standard retained.

⁶ The 1971 annual and 24-hour SO₂ standards were revoked, effective August 23, 2010; however, these 1971 standards will remain in effect until one year after U.S. EPA promulgates area designations for the 2010 SO₂ 1-hour standard. Area designations are expected in 2012, with SCAB designated Unclassifiable/Attainment

⁷ Annual PM₁₀ standard was revoked, effective December 18, 2006; redesignation request to Attainment of the 24-hour PM₁₀ standard is pending with U.S. EPA

⁸ Partial Nonattainment designation – Los Angeles County portion of SCAB only.

ppm = parts per million; ppb = parts per billion; µg/m³ = micrograms per cubic meter; Attainment Date = the date determined through the AQMP as the earliest practical date for the criteria pollutant to meet the Federal or State standards.

In 2011, the SCAB exceeded federal standards for either ozone or PM_{2.5} at one or more locations on a total of 124 days, based on the current federal standards for 8-hour ozone and 24-hour PM_{2.5}. Despite substantial improvements in air quality over the past few decades, some air monitoring stations in the SCAB still exceed the NAAQS for ozone more frequently than any other stations in the United States. In 2011, three of the top five stations that exceeded the 8-hour ozone NAAQS were located in the SCAB (Central San Bernardino Mountains, East San Bernardino Valley, and Metropolitan Riverside County).

PM_{2.5} in the SCAB has improved significantly in recent years, with 2010 and 2011 being the cleanest years on record. In 2011, only one station in the SCAB (Metropolitan Riverside County at Mira Loma) exceeded the annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS and the 98th percentile form of the 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS, as well as the 3-year design values for these standards. Basin-wide, the federal PM_{2.5} 24-hour standard level was exceeded in 2011 on 17 sampling days.

The SCAB is currently in attainment for the federal standards for SO₂, CO, and NO₂. While the concentration level of the new 1-hour NO₂ federal standard (100 ppb) was exceeded in the SCAB at two stations (Central Los Angeles and Long Beach) on the same day in 2011, the NAAQS NO₂ design value has not been exceeded. Therefore, the SCAB remains in attainment of the NO₂ NAAQS.

The EPA designated the Los Angeles County portion of the SCAB as nonattainment for the recently revised (2008) federal lead standard (0.15 µg/m³, rolling 3-month average), due to the addition of source-specific monitoring under the new federal regulation. This designation was based on two source-specific monitors in the City of Vernon and the City of Industry exceeding the new standard in the 2007-2009 period of data used. For the most recent 2009-2011 data period, only one of these stations (Vernon) still exceeded the lead standard.

State – California Air Resources Board

The California Air Resources Board (CARB), which is a part of the California Environmental Protection Agency, is responsible for the coordination and administration of both federal and state air pollution control programs within California. In this capacity, the CARB conducts research, sets the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS), compiles emission inventories, develops suggested control measures, provides oversight of local programs, and prepares the SIP. The CAAQS for criteria pollutants are shown above in Table 3. In addition, the CARB establishes emission standards for motor vehicles sold in California, consumer products (e.g., hairspray, aerosol paints, and barbeque lighter fluid), and various types of commercial equipment. It also sets fuel specifications to further reduce vehicular emissions.

The SCAB has been designated by the CARB as a nonattainment area for ozone, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and lead. Currently, the SCAB is in attainment with the ambient air quality standards for CO, SO₂, NO₂, and sulfates and is unclassified for visibility reducing particles and hydrogen sulfide.

Regional – South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)

SCAQMD is the agency principally responsible for comprehensive air pollution control in the SCAB. To that end, as a regional agency, SCAQMD works directly with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), county transportation commissions, and local governments and cooperates actively with all federal and state agencies.

SCAQMD develops rules and regulations, establishes permitting requirements for stationary sources, inspects emission sources, and enforces such measures through educational programs or fines when necessary. SCAQMD is directly responsible for reducing emissions from stationary, mobile, and indirect sources. It has responded to this requirement by preparing a sequence of Air Quality Management Plans (AQMPs). A revised draft of the 2012 AQMP was released on September, 2012; was adopted by the SCAQMD Board on December 7, 2012; and was adopted by CARB via Resolution 13-3 on January 25, 2013. The 2012 AQMP was prepared in order to meet the federal Clean Air Act requirement that all 24-hour PM_{2.5} nonattainment areas prepare a SIP that was required to be submitted to the U.S. EPA by December 14, 2012, and demonstrate attainment with the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard by 2014. The 2012 AQMP demonstrates attainment of the federal 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard by 2014 in the SCAB through adoption of all feasible measures; and, therefore, no extension of the attainment date is needed.

The following SCAQMD rules will be implemented during the construction of the Project:

- RR AQ-1 All construction activities shall be conducted in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403, Fugitive Dust, for controlling fugitive dust and avoiding nuisance. Compliance with this rule will reduce short-term particulate pollutant emissions. Contractor compliance with Rule 403 requirements shall be mandated in the Contractor's specifications.

- RR AQ-2 All construction activities shall be conducted in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 402, Nuisance, which states that a project shall not "discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property."

Monitored Air Quality

The air quality at any site is dependent on the regional air quality and local pollutant sources. Regional air quality is determined by the release of pollutants throughout the SCAB. Estimates of the existing emissions in the SCAB are provided in the 2012 Air Quality Management Plan, prepared by SCAQMD, December 2012, indicate that collectively, mobile sources account for 59 percent of the volatile organic compounds (VOC), 88 percent of the nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions, and 40 percent of directly emitted PM_{2.5}, with another 10 percent of PM_{2.5} from road dust.

SCAQMD has divided the SCAB into 38 air-monitoring areas with a designated ambient air monitoring station representative of each area. The Project site is located in the East San Gabriel Valley Monitoring Area (Area 9), which covers the area from Sierra Madre in the west to State Route 57 in the east. The nearest air monitoring station to the Project site is the Azusa Monitoring Station (Azusa Station). The Azusa Station is located approximately 5.2 miles northeast of the Peck Road Spreading Basin at 1803 N. Loren Avenue, Azusa. Table 4: Local Area Air Quality Monitoring Summary presents the monitored pollutant levels from the Azusa Station. It should be noted that due to the air monitoring station distance from the Project site, recorded air pollution levels at the air monitoring station reflect with varying degrees of accuracy local air quality conditions at the Project site. The monitoring data presented in Table 4 shows that ozone and PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are the air pollutants of primary concern in the Project area.

Table 4: Local Area Air Quality Monitoring Summary

Pollutant (Standard)	Year ¹		
	2011	2012	2013
Ozone:			
Maximum 1-Hour Concentration (ppm)	0.111	0.134	0.115
Days > CAAQS (0.09 ppm)	13	18	7
Maximum 8-Hour Concentration (ppm)	0.092	0.095	0.085
Days > NAAQS (0.08 ppm)	12	10	6
Days > CAAQS (0.070 ppm)	19	20	15
Carbon Monoxide:			
Maximum 1-Hour Concentration (ppm)	2.4	1.8	1.4
Days > NAAQS (20 ppm)	0	0	0
Maximum 8-Hour Concentration (ppm)	1.36	1.13	N/D
Days > NAAQS (9 ppm)	0	0	0
Nitrogen Dioxide:			
Maximum 1-Hour Concentration (ppb)	79.5	71.8	76.8
Days > NAAQS (100 ppb)	0	0	0
Inhalable Particulates (PM₁₀):			
Maximum 24-Hour California Measurement (ug/m ³)	65	78	76
Days > NAAQS (150 ug/m ³)	0	0	0
Days > CAAQS (50 ug/m ³)	8	6	6
Annual Arithmetic Mean (AAM) (ug/m ³)	32.7	30.3	33.0
Annual > NAAQS (50 ug/m ³)	No	No	No
Annual > CAAQS (20 ug/m ³)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ultra-Fine Particulates (PM_{2.5}):			
Maximum 24-Hour National Measurement (ug/m ³)	94.6	39.6	29.6
Days > NAAQS (35 ug/m ³)	2	1	0
Annual Arithmetic Mean (AAM) (ug/m³)	N/D	N/D	N/D
Annual > NAAQS (15 ug/m ³)	N/D	N/D	N/D
Annual > CAAQS (12 ug/m ³)	N/D	N/D	N/D

Notes: Exceedance of standards are listed in **bold**. CAAQS = California Ambient Air Quality Standard; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standard; ppm = parts per million; ppb = parts per billion; N/D = no data available.

¹ Data obtained from Azusa Station.

Source: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/>

4.6.4 Impact Analysis

- (a) The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a discussion of any inconsistencies between a Project and applicable General Plans and regional plans (CEQA Guidelines Section 15125). The regional plan that applies to the Project includes the SCAQMD AQMP. Therefore, this section discusses any potential inconsistencies of the Project with the AQMP.

The purpose of this discussion is to set forth the issues regarding consistency with the assumptions and objectives of the AQMP and discuss whether the Project would interfere with the region's ability to comply with federal and state air quality standards. If the decision-makers

determine that the Project is inconsistent, the lead agency may consider project modifications or inclusion of mitigation to eliminate the inconsistency.

The SCAQMD CEQA Handbook states that “New or amended General Plan (GP) Elements (including land use zoning and density amendments), Specific Plans, and significant projects must be analyzed for consistency with the AQMP.” Strict consistency with all aspects of the plan is usually not required. A Project should be considered to be consistent with the AQMP if it furthers one or more policies and does not obstruct other policies. The SCAQMD CEQA Handbook identifies two key indicators of consistency:

- (1) Whether the project will result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations or cause or contribute to new violations, or delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emission reductions specified in the AQMP (except as provided for CO in Section 9.4 for relocating CO hot spots).
- (2) Whether the project will exceed the assumptions in the AQMP in 2010 or increments based on the year of project buildout and phase.

Both of these criteria are evaluated in the following sections.

Criterion 1 - Increase in the Frequency or Severity of Violations?

The Project’s construction-related air emissions from fugitive dust and onsite diesel emissions may have the potential to exceed the state and federal air quality standards in the Project vicinity, even though these pollutant emissions may not be significant enough to create a regional impact to the basin. The emission thresholds were calculated based on the East San Gabriel Valley source receptor area and a disturbance of 2 acres, which is the nearest acreage available to the daily disturbed area. The nearest sensitive receptors consist of single-family residential units located on the north side of the basin and as near as 50 feet (15 meters) from where construction equipment would operate. According to the localized significance thresholds (LST) Methodology, any receptor located closer than 25 meters (82 feet) shall be based on the 25-meter threshold. Table 5: Local Construction Emissions at the Nearest Receptors Prior to Mitigation shows the onsite emissions from the CalEEMod model for the different construction phases and the calculated emissions thresholds.

Table 5: Local Construction Emissions at the Nearest Receptors Prior to Mitigation

Phase	Pollutant Emissions (pounds/day)			
	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Pipeline Construction	16.64	9.11	0.8	0.82
Paving	17.5	10.9	1.0	0.9
Dewatering of Basin	31.85	23.38	2.3	2.3
Removal of Vegetation	32.37	19.71	8.11	4.80
Sediment Removal	63.67	33.28	9.72	6.28
Pump Station Construction	18.90	11.76	1.20	1.14
SCAQMD Threshold for 25 meters (82 feet) or less ¹	128.00	953.00	7.00	5.00
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	Yes	Yes

Notes:

¹ The nearest sensitive receptors are single-family homes as near as 50 feet (15 meters) from the onsite construction activities. According to LST methodology any receptor closer than 25 meters should be based on the 25-meter threshold.

Source: Vista Environmental, calculated from CalEEMod and SCAQMD's Mass Rate Look-up Tables for two acres in Central Orange County.

The data provided in Table 5 shows that the vegetation removal phase and sediment removal phases of Project construction would temporarily exceed the local emissions threshold for PM₁₀ at the nearest sensitive receptors, and the sediment removal phase of Project construction would temporarily exceed the local emissions threshold for PM_{2.5} at the nearest sensitive receptors. This would be considered a temporary significant impact; however, implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirements RR AQ-1 and RR AQ-2 would reduce these impacts to a level less than significant.

Mitigation measure MM AQ-1 would require the contractor to water all exposed areas a minimum of three times per day for the duration of earth-moving activities during the vegetation removal and sediment removal phases of construction. Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 would reduce onsite PM₁₀ emissions during the vegetation removal phase of construction to 4.11 pounds per day and during the sediment removal phase to 5.72 pounds per day, which are within the SCAQMD local threshold for PM₁₀ of 7 pounds per day where sensitive receptors are located 82 feet or nearer to construction activities. Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 would also reduce the PM_{2.5} emissions during the sediment removal phase to 4.23 pounds per day, which is within the SCAQMD local threshold for PM_{2.5} of 5 pounds per day. Therefore, local PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations would be reduced to less than significant with implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1.

Regulatory requirement RR AQ-1 would require compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403, Fugitive Dust, which will reduce short-term particulate pollutant emissions. Regulatory requirement RR AQ-2 would require compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 402, Nuisance, which would limit discharge of air contaminants.

Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirements RR AQ-1 and RR AQ-2 would bring the Project into conformance with Criterion 1 and reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

The long-term operation of the Project would generate air pollutant emissions that are inconsequential on a regional basis and that would not exceed SCAQMD thresholds. The analysis for long-term local air quality impacts showed that local pollutant concentrations would not be projected to exceed the air quality standards. Therefore, based on the information provided above, the Project would be consistent with the first criterion. No long-term impact would occur during operation of the Project, and no mitigation would be required. Impacts would be less than significant.

Criterion 2 - Exceed Assumptions in the AQMP?

Consistency with the AQMP assumptions is determined by performing an analysis of the Project with the assumptions in the AQMP. The emphasis of this criterion is to ensure that the analyses conducted for the Project are based on the same forecasts as the AQMP. The 2012-2035 Regional Transportation/Sustainable Communities Strategy consists of three sections: Core Chapters, Ancillary Chapters, and Bridge Chapters. The Growth Management, Regional Mobility, Air Quality, Water Quality, and Hazardous Waste Management chapters constitute the Core Chapters of the document. These chapters currently respond directly to federal and state requirements placed on SCAG. Local governments are required to use these as the basis of their plans for purposes of consistency with applicable regional plans under CEQA. For this Project, the City of Arcadia Land Use Plan defines the assumptions that are represented in the AQMP.

The Project site is currently designated as Open Space in the General Plan Land Use Plan. The Project is consistent with the current land use designation and would not require a General Plan Amendment or zone change. Therefore, the Project would not result in an inconsistency with the current land use designation. The Project is not anticipated to exceed the AQMP assumptions for the Project site and therefore is found to be consistent with the AQMP for the second criterion. Impacts would be less than significant.

- (b) The Air Quality Impact Analysis prepared for the Project investigated the potential for the Project to violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation (Appendix A). Potential impacts associated with both construction and operation of the Project are presented below.

Construction Emissions

Construction-Related Regional Impacts

The Air Quality Impact Analysis prepared for the Project investigated the potential for each phase of Project construction to violate existing air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or proposed air quality violation (Appendix A). Table 6: Construction-Related Criteria Pollutant Emissions shows the construction-related criteria pollutant emissions for each phase of Project construction. Table 6 shows that none of the analyzed criteria pollutants would exceed the regional emissions thresholds. Therefore, a less than significant regional air quality impact would occur from construction of the Project.

Table 6: Construction-Related Criteria Pollutant Emissions

Activity	Pollutant Emissions (pounds/day)					
	VOC	NOx	CO	SO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Pipeline Construction						
Onsite ¹	1.64	16.64	9.11	0.02	0.86	0.82
Offsite ²	0.04	0.06	0.61	0.00	0.09	0.02
Total	1.68	16.70	9.72	0.02	0.95	0.84
Paving						
Onsite	1.76	17.51	10.91	0.02	1.02	0.94
Offsite	0.10	0.14	1.53	0.00	0.23	0.06
Total	1.86	17.65	12.44	0.02	1.25	1.00
Dewatering of Basin						
Onsite	4.47	31.85	23.38	0.04	2.39	2.39
Offsite	0.05	0.07	0.76	0.00	0.11	0.03
Total	4.52	31.92	24.14	0.04	2.50	2.42
Removal of Vegetation						
Onsite	2.76	32.37	19.71	0.03	8.11	4.80
Offsite	0.12	0.68	1.52	0.00	5.70	0.61
Total	2.88	33.05	21.23	0.03	13.81	5.40
Sediment Removal						
Onsite	5.57	63.67	33.28	0.05	9.72	6.28
Offsite	2.11	20.64	30.77	0.05	8.52	1.13
Total	7.68	84.31	64.05	0.10	18.24	7.41
Pump Station Construction						
Onsite	2.36	18.90	11.76	0.02	1.20	1.14
Offsite	0.15	0.74	2.04	0.00	0.26	0.08
Total	2.51	19.64	13.08	0.02	1.46	1.22
SCAQMD Thresholds	75.00	100.00	550.00	150.00	150.00	55.00
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Notes:¹ Onsite emissions from equipment not operated on public roads.

² Offsite emissions from vehicles operating on public roads.

Source: CalEEMod Version 2013.2.2.

Construction-Related Local Impacts

As discussed in Section 4.6.4(a) above, the vegetation and sediment removal phases of Project construction would temporarily exceed the local emissions threshold for PM₁₀ at the nearest sensitive receptors, and the sediment removal phase of Project construction would temporarily exceed the local emissions threshold for PM_{2.5} at the nearest sensitive receptors. This would be considered a significant impact; however, implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirements RR AQ-1 and RR AQ-2 would reduce temporary local impacts associated with construction of the Project to a level less than significant.

Operational Emissions

The ongoing operation of the Project would require LACDPW staff to make occasional periodic visits to the Project site, which already occur and result in air emissions from the vehicle transporting the workers to and from the Project site. Although the duration of the visits may be

expanded to include inspection of the new equipment, no change in the number of trips to the Project site and resultant change in air emissions would be anticipated to occur from implementation of the Project.

The ongoing operation of the Project would also require the periodic removal of sediment from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Up to 2,000 cy of accumulated sediment may need to be removed each year. It is anticipated that the hauling of sediment during maintenance will follow the same truck haul route, hauling rates, and onsite equipment used during the sediment removal phase detailed above in the construction emissions analysis.

The above analysis for the construction emissions found that the regional criteria pollutant emissions generated from the removal of vegetation and sediment removal activities would not exceed the SCAQMD regional thresholds of significance. Therefore, a less than significant regional air quality impact would occur from operation of the Project.

The above analysis for the construction emissions also shows that the local concentrations of criteria pollutants would exceed the PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} threshold during sediment removal activities. This would be considered a significant operation-related local air quality impact; however, implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirement RR AQ-1 would reduce local impacts associated with operation of the Project to a level less than significant. Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 would also reduce the PM_{2.5} emissions during the sediment removal phase to 4.23 pounds per day, which is within the SCAQMD local threshold for PM_{2.5} of 5 pounds per day. Therefore, local operational PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations would be reduced to less than significant with implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1.

- (c) The Project may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors).

Cumulative projects include local development as well as general growth within the Project area. As with most development, the greatest source of emissions is from mobile sources which travel throughout the local area. Therefore, from an air quality standpoint, the cumulative analysis would extend beyond any local projects and, when wind patterns are considered, would cover an even larger area. Accordingly, the cumulative analysis for the Project's air quality must be regional by nature. The Project area is out of attainment for both ozone and PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} particulate matter. Construction and operation of cumulative projects will further degrade the local air quality as well as the air quality of the basin.

Construction-Related Cumulative Impacts

The Project site is located in the SCAB, which is currently designated by EPA as a nonattainment area for ozone, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. Ozone, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} emissions associated with the Project are presented above in Section 4.6.4(a). Construction of the Project would result in locally significant emissions of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. This would be a significant impact; however, implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirements RR AQ-1 and RR

AQ-2 would reduce local impacts associated with construction of the Project to a level less than significant.

Operational-Related Cumulative Impacts

The greatest cumulative operational impact on regional air quality will be the incremental addition of pollutants mainly from increased traffic from residential, commercial, and industrial development. In accordance with SCAQMD methodology, projects that do not exceed SCAQMD criteria or can be mitigated to less than criteria levels are not significant and do not add to the overall cumulative impact. As described in Section 4.6.4(b) above, operation of the Project would not exceed the SCAQMD regional thresholds of significance; however, annual maintenance activities during operation of the Project would result in locally significant emissions of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. This would be a significant impact. Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirement RR AQ-1 would reduce local impacts associated with operation of the Project to a level less than significant.

- (d) The Project may expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. The following section analyzes the potential impacts to the nearby sensitive receptors from local CO emission impacts and from the health risks associated with diesel emissions.

Local CO Emissions Impacts

CO is the pollutant of major concern along roadways because motor vehicles are the most notable source. For this reason, CO concentrations are usually indicative of the local air quality generated by a roadway network and are used as an indicator of potential local air quality impacts. Local air quality impacts can be assessed by comparing future without and with Project CO levels to the state and federal CO standards presented in Table 3: South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status, above.

To determine if the Project could cause emission levels in excess of the CO standards discussed above in Section 4.6.3, a sensitivity analysis is typically conducted to determine the potential for CO “hot spots” at a number of intersections in the general Project vicinity. Because of reduced speeds and vehicle queuing, “hot spots” typically occur at intersections with a Level of Service (LOS) E or worse.

The Project is anticipated to generate, at the most, up to 200 truck trips per day during the removal of sediment phase of the Project. It is likely that fewer truck trips per day and/or for the overall total will be required. The truck trips are anticipated to occur relatively evenly between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., which will result in relatively few trips generated during the peak travel hours on the nearby roadways, when CO hotspots have the potential to occur. Therefore, the Project contribution to the local CO levels is anticipated to be nominal, and no long-term significant CO impacts are anticipated.

Toxic Air Contaminants Impacts

The Project would generate toxic air contaminant emissions from diesel truck emissions and onsite diesel equipment used during both the sediment removal activities and the annual maintenance activities of the Project. According to SCAQMD methodology, health effects from carcinogenic air toxins are usually described in terms of individual cancer risk. “Individual Cancer Risk” is the likelihood that a person exposed to concentrations of toxic air contaminants over a

70-year lifetime will contract cancer, based on the use of standard risk-assessment methodology.

The cancer risks have been calculated for the sediment removal activities for both the removal of the initial estimated maximum of 110,000 cy of material that is anticipated to occur over 60 workdays and the annual maintenance sediment removal, which is anticipated to be as high as 2,000 cy of material a year and could be removed in one day, which was analyzed in order to provide a worst-case analysis, although it would most likely occur over a couple of weeks.

Table 7: Diesel PM₁₀ Levels and Cancer Risks shows that the point of maximum impact (PMI) of offsite PM₁₀ emissions that would occur on the northwest corner of Peck Road Water Conservation Park, with concentration levels of 0.1614 µg/m³ from the sediment removal and 0.0073 µg/m³ from the annual maintenance activities. The cancer risk calculated at the PMI was found to result in a cancer risk increase of 0.4 per million people. As shown in Figure 5: Diesel Particulate Emissions Levels and Cancer Risks at Nearby Receptors, Sensitive Receptor 1, at the corner of Lynd Avenue and 8th Avenue, represents the nearest residence to the Project site that would experience the highest level of Project-related diesel emissions and would result in a cancer risk increase of 1.4 per million people. All offsite diesel emissions concentrations were found to be below the established cancer risk threshold of 10.0 in a million. Therefore, no significant long-term health impacts would occur from the operation of diesel trucks and equipment on the Project site, and impacts would be less than significant.

In order to provide a perspective of risk, it is often estimated that the incidence in cancer over a lifetime for the U.S. population ranges between 1 in 3 to 4 and 1 in 3, or a risk of about 300,000 per million persons. The MATES-III study referenced a Harvard Report on Cancer Prevention which estimated that of cancers associated with known risk factors, about 30 percent were related to tobacco, about 30 percent were related to diet and obesity, and about 2 percent were associated with environmental pollution-related exposures that include hazardous air pollutants.

Table 7: Diesel PM₁₀ Levels and Cancer Risks

Sensitive Receptors	Receptor Types	Receptor Location (meters) ¹		Annual Concentration (µg/m ³)		
		X	Y	Sediment Removal	Annual Maintenance	Cancer Risk Per Million People ²
1	Residential	406,368	3,774,208	0.0216	0.003	1.4
2	Residential	406,610	3,774,353	0.0206	0.0013	0.9
3	Offsite Worker	406,920	3,774,202	0.0255	0.0013	0.2
4	Offsite Worker	406,754	3,773,799	0.0145	0.0014	0.1
PMI ³	Park	406,429	3,773,862	0.1614	0.0073	0.4
Threshold of Significance						10

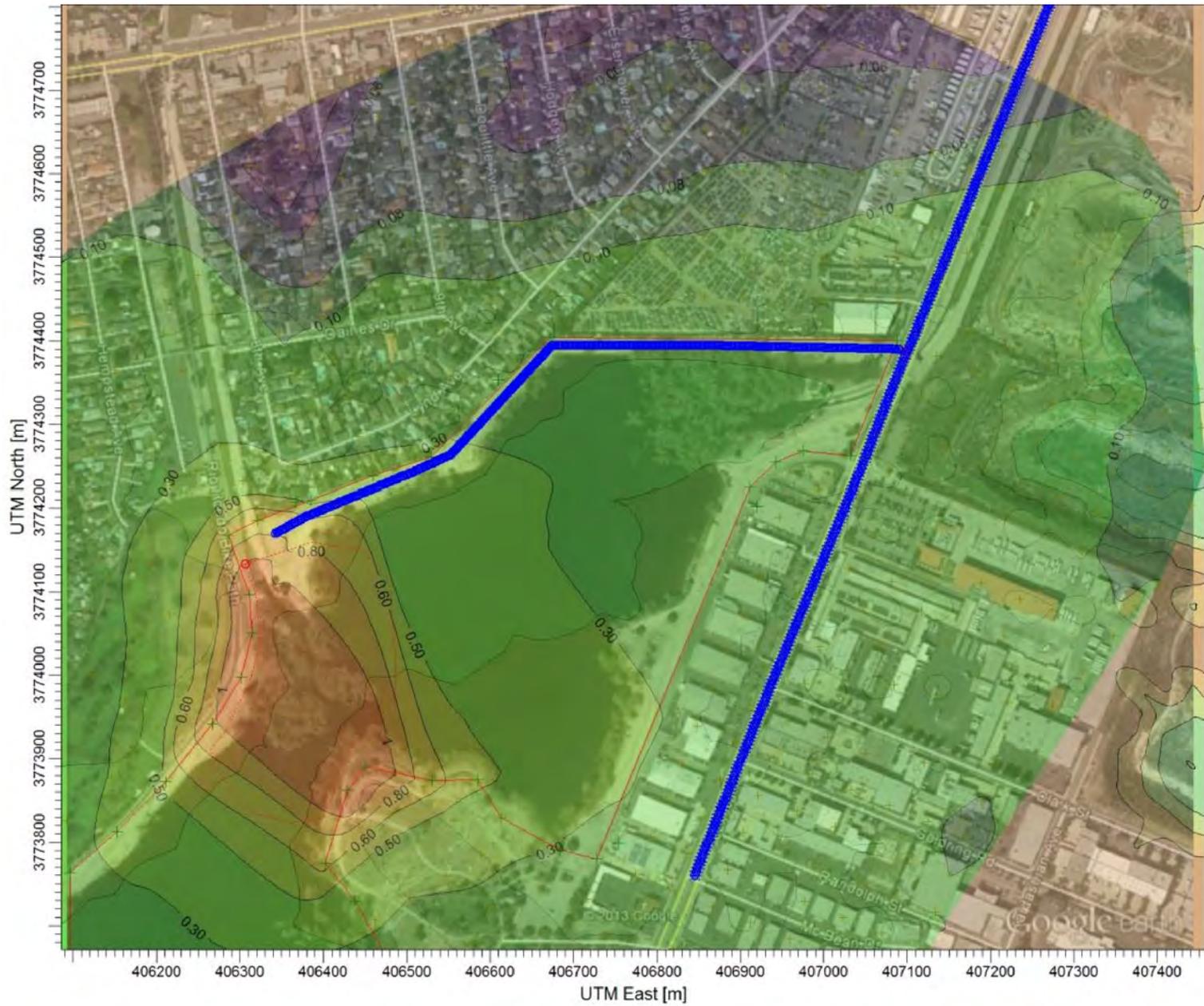
Notes:

¹ Receptor location based on World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84), Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM)

² Cancer risk based on a residential receptor cancer risk = 318.5 x C_{air}; offsite worker cancer risk = 62.9 x C_{air}; or park cancer risk = 21.2 x C_{air}.

³ Point of Maximum Impact.

Source: Calculated from ISC-AERMOD View Version 8.2.0.



$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
 1.37
 1.00
 0.80
 0.60
 0.50
 0.30
 0.10
 0.08
 0.06
 0.05
 0.04
 PLOT FILE OF HIGH 1ST HIGH 24-HR VALUES FOR SOURCE GROUP: ALL
 Max: 1.372 [$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$] at (406428.82, 3773861.75)

Legend

PMI = Point of Maximum Impact
 1 - Sensitive Receptor Locations

Figure 5
 Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
 Diesel Particulate Emissions Levels and Cancer Risks at Nearby Receptors

Non-Cancer Risks

The relationship for acute or chronic non-cancer health effects is given by the equation:

$$HI_{DPM} = C_{DPM}/REL_{DPM}$$

Where

HI_{DPM} = Hazard Index; an expression of the potential for non-cancer health effects.

C_{DPM} = Annual average diesel particulate matter concentration in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

REL_{DPM} = Reference Exposure Level (REL) for diesel particulate matter; the diesel particulate matter concentration at which no adverse health effects are anticipated.

The REL_{DPM} is $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment has established this concentration, which found that a project with a hazard index greater than one could result in adverse health effects of various sorts. The resulting maximum annual average diesel particulate matter concentrations (C_{DPM}) for each receptor analyzed is shown above in Table 7, which found the highest concentration of $0.1614 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ would occur at Peck Road Park during the sediment removal activities. The resulting Hazard Index is:

$$HI_{DPM} = 0.1614/5 = 0.0323$$

The criterion for significance is a Hazard Index increase of 1.0 or greater. Therefore, the Project would result in a less than significant impact due to the non-cancer risk from diesel emissions created by the Project.

- (e) The Project would not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Individual responses to odors are highly variable and can result in a variety of effects. Generally, the impact of an odor results from a variety of factors such as frequency, duration, offensiveness, location, and sensory perception. The frequency is a measure of how often an individual is exposed to an odor in the ambient environment. The intensity refers to an individual's or group's perception of the odor strength or concentration. The duration of an odor refers to the elapsed time over which an odor is experienced. The offensiveness of the odor is the subjective rating of the pleasantness or unpleasantness of an odor. The location accounts for the type of area in which a potentially affected person lives, works, or visits; the type of activity in which he or she is engaged; and the sensitivity of the impacted receptor.

Sensory perception has four major components: detectability, intensity, character, and hedonic tone. The detection (or threshold) of an odor is based on a panel of responses to the odor. The two types of thresholds are the odor detection threshold and the recognition threshold. The detection threshold is the lowest concentration of an odor that will elicit a response in a percentage of the people that live and work in the immediate vicinity of the Project site and is typically presented as the mean (or 50 percent of the population). The recognition threshold is the minimum concentration that is recognized as having a characteristic odor quality; this is typically represented by recognition by 50 percent of the population. The intensity refers to the perceived strength of the odor. The odor character is what the substance smells like. The

hedonic tone is a judgment of the pleasantness or unpleasantness of the odor. The hedonic tone varies in subjective experience, frequency, odor character, odor intensity, and duration.

Potential sources that may emit odors from implementation of the Project would include emissions from diesel equipment and odors created from moving decomposing organic material, as well as the potential for fish odors when the basin is partially drained. The objectionable odors that may be produced during Project activities would be temporary and would not likely be noticeable for extended periods of time beyond the Project site's boundaries. Odor emission during Project activities would be short-term in nature and primarily limited to the operational time of the diesel equipment, which would result in transitory odor impacts at the nearby residences that would not be anticipated to impact 50 percent of the nearby population at any time. Therefore, a less than significant odor impact would occur, and no mitigation would be required.

4.6.5 Mitigation Measures

- MM AQ-1 The Project applicant shall require that all contractors used for the removal of vegetation and removal of sediment during both the initial construction and ongoing annual maintenance activities water all exposed areas a minimum of three times per day, throughout the duration of earth-moving activities.

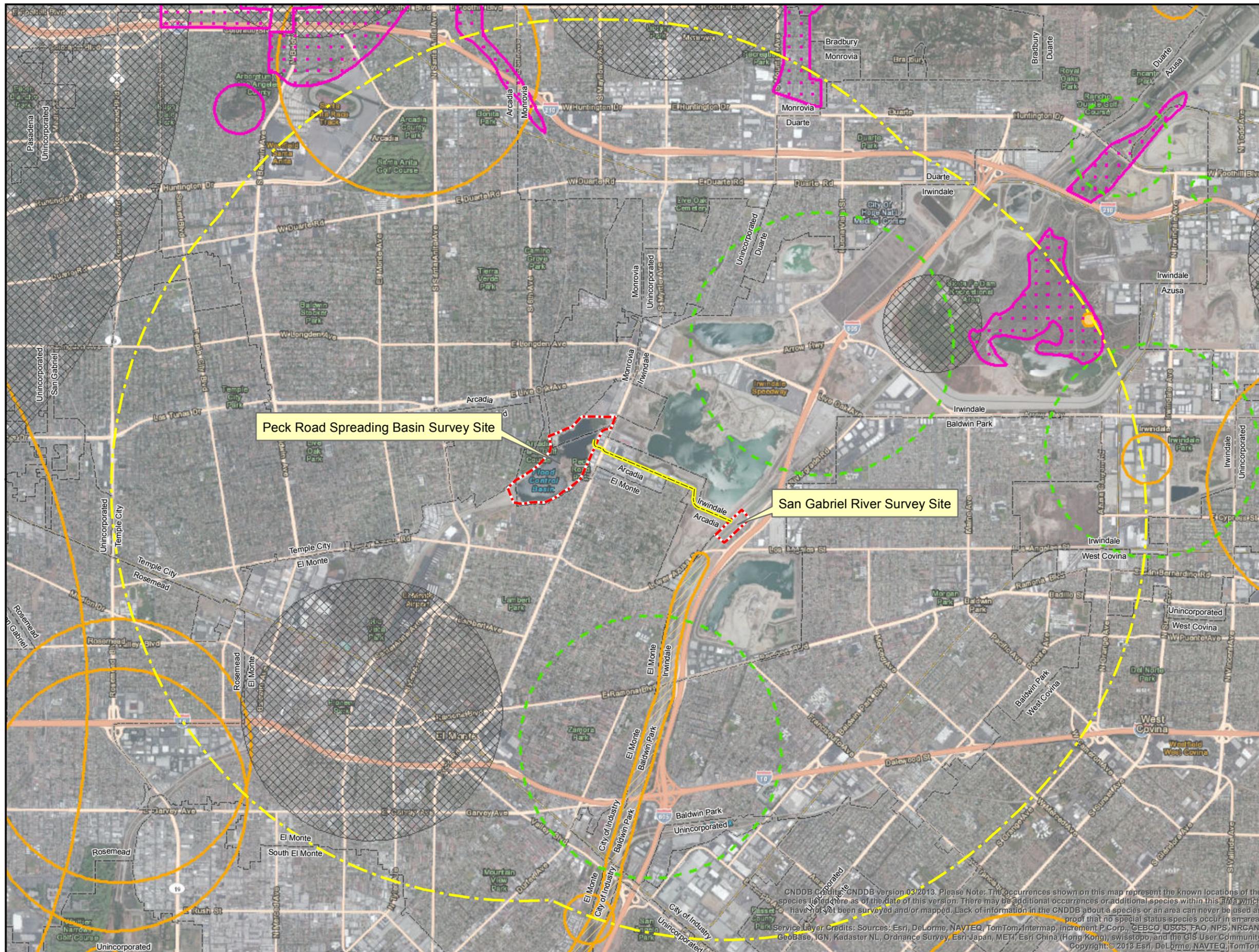
4.7 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.7.1 Literature Review

Chambers Group, Inc. (Chambers Group) biologists reviewed the most recent records of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database and the California Native Plant Society’s Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California for the quadrangles containing and surrounding the Project area (i.e., *El Monte*, *Azusa*, *Baldwin Park*, and *Mount Wilson* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles). The databases contain records of reported occurrences of federally or state listed as endangered or threatened species, proposed endangered or threatened species, California Species of Special Concern (SSC), or otherwise sensitive species or habitats that may occur within or in the vicinity of the Project area (Chambers Group 2013a). According to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) literature review, 26 special status plant (or sensitive community) and 9 special status wildlife species were documented to occur within 3 miles of the Project area. The results of the records search are presented on Figure 6: CNDDDB Occurrences Map.

Figure 6
Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
CNDDB Occurrences Map

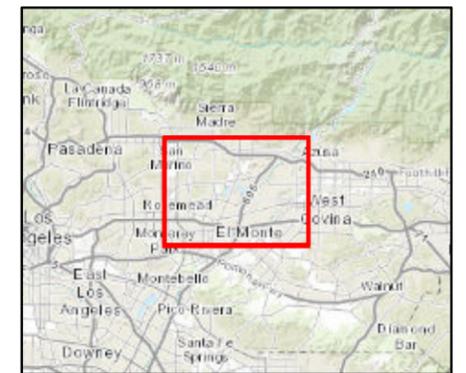
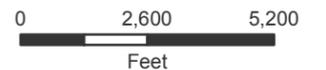


Legend

- Pipeline Alignment
- Biological Survey Boundary
- 3 Mile Project Buffer
- City Boundaries
- CNDDB Occurrences**
- Plant (circular)
- Animal (80m)
- Animal (non-specific)
- Animal (circular)
- Terrestrial Comm. (specific)
- Terrestrial Comm. (circular)
- Multiple (circular)



SCALE=1:45,000



CNDDB Credits: CNDDB version 03/2013. Please Note: The occurrences shown on this map represent the known locations of the species listed here as of the date of this version. There may be additional occurrences or additional species within this area which have not yet been surveyed and/or mapped. Lack of information in the CNDDB about a species or an area can never be used as proof that no special status species occur in an area.
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, and the GIS User Community
 Copyright © 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom

\\g-gisdata\1\GIS_DATA\Projects\20000s\20601 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 6 CNDDB Occurrences Map.mxd

4.7.2 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

A biological reconnaissance survey was conducted in order to identify the potential for sensitive species to occur and identify habitats that can support special status species. The biological survey was conducted at two distinct locations within the Project area. The spreading basin, a former gravel mining pit, spans over 0.75 mile in length by 0.25 mile in width. The San Gabriel River site is situated in the San Gabriel River channel between the first and second drop structures north of Lower Azusa Road (immediately west of Interstate 605), approximately 6,500 feet to the southeast of the basin. All wildlife and wildlife sign detected, including tracks, scat, carcasses, and vocalizations were recorded. Binoculars were used to scan for wildlife and to survey areas where access was not feasible in order to survey 100 percent cover of the Project area. Overall, 116 species of plants and 58 species of wildlife were observed on both sites.

No sensitive plant species were observed on either site, while six sensitive species of wildlife (western pond turtle, Cooper's hawk, least Bell's vireo, yellow-breasted chat, osprey, and yellow warbler) were observed at the spreading basin site during the biological reconnaissance survey. Fish species were not observed; however, communication with local anglers revealed that largemouth bass, rainbow trout, common carp, and channel catfish are commonly caught in this basin. Based on a personal communication with CDFW, the basin has been stocked with trout (nonnative stocked trout) for recreational purposes. The results of the biological reconnaissance survey and focused surveys are presented on Figure 7: Biological Survey Results Map. A comprehensive list of wildlife species observed during the survey was recorded and is provided in Appendix B: Biological Technical Report.

Plant Communities

The Project site comprises six vegetation communities including Disturbed/Developed, California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket, Open Water, Black Willow Thicket, and Escaped Ornamental Vegetation. These vegetation communities were mapped and are presented in Figure 8: Wetland/Riparian Vegetation Map.

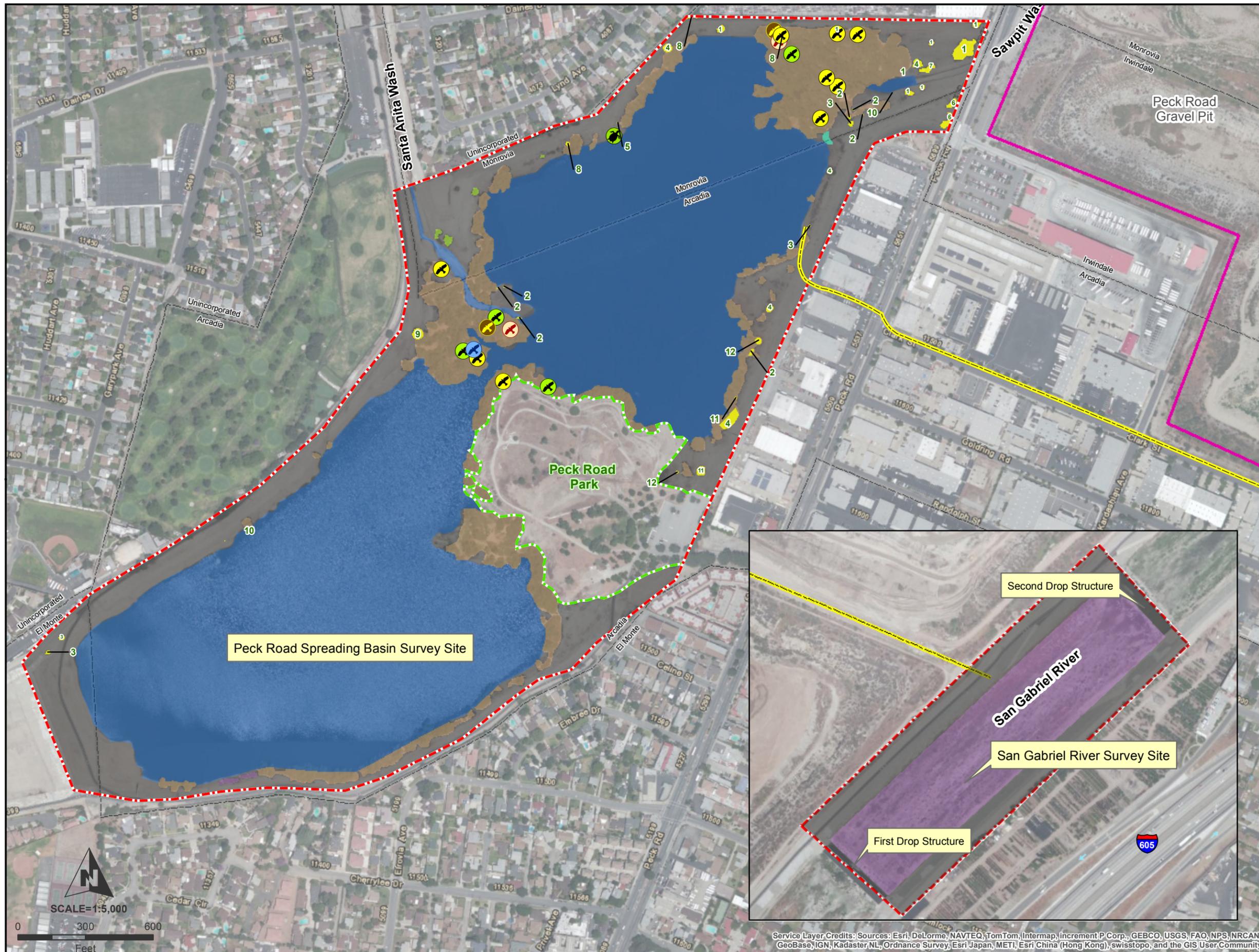
Black Willow Thicket

Black Willow Thicket is dominated by black willow (*Salix gooddingii*) and interspersed willow species (*Salix* spp.) and saplings of riparian forest. Common willow species of this community may include: arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) and narrow-leaf willow (*S. exigua*) with lesser amounts of mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia* subsp. *salicifolia*).

A large area on the northeastern corner of the spreading basin site has been mapped as Black Willow Thicket, with lesser amounts of Black Willow Thicket scattered along the periphery of the area. Plant species found on the spreading basin site typical of this vegetation community include: black willow, narrow-leaf willow, mule fat, red willow (*S. laevigata*), California cottonweed (*Epilobium ciliatum*), velvet ash (*Fraxinus velutina*), and western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). Wetland areas identified as Freshwater Emergent Wetland and Freshwater Forest/Shrub Wetland were identified within the Black Willow Thicket community (these wetland communities are USFWS National Wetlands Inventory [NWI] recognized communities composed of riparian communities).

The Project site has a total of 3.71 acres of Black Willow Thicket. Within the sediment removal and pump station areas, 3.18 acres of wetland habitat is comprised of Black Willow Thicket. Of this 3.18

Figure 7
Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project
Biological Survey Results Map



Legend

- Pipeline Alignment
- Peck Road Park
- Biological Survey Boundary

Species Observations

- Brown-headed cowbird
- Least Bell's vireo
- Willow flycatcher
- Yellow warbler
- Yellow-breasted chat
- Western pond turtle

Escaped Ornamental Vegetation (0.68 Acre)

- 1. Blue Gum Tree
- 2. Carrotwood Tree
- 3. Castor Bean
- 4. Chinese Flame Tree
- 5. Crimson Bottlebrush Tree
- 6. Deodar Cedar Tree
- 7. Elm Tree
- 8. Giant Reed
- 9. Horsetail Beefwood Tree
- 10. Mediterranean Tamarisk
- 11. Peruvian Pepper Tree
- 12. White Mulberry Tree

Vegetation Communities/Other Areas

- Developed/Disturbed (38.34 Acres)
- Disturbed Freshwater Marsh (0.04 Acre)
- Disturbed Mulefat Thickets (9.04 Acres)
- Open Water (86.54 Acres)
- Black Willow Thicket (16.9 Acres)
- California Sagebrush – California buckwheat scrub (*Artemisia californica* – *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance) (0.08 Acre)



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

\\gisdata01\GIS_DATA\Projects\20000s\20601 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 7 Biological Survey Results Map.mxd

Figure 8
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Wetland/Riparian Vegetation Map

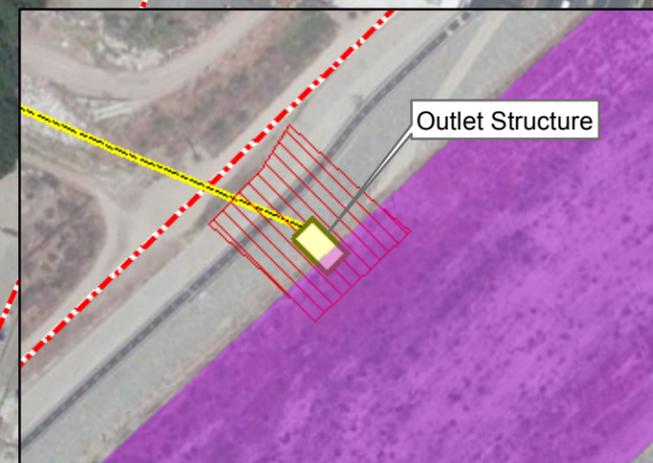
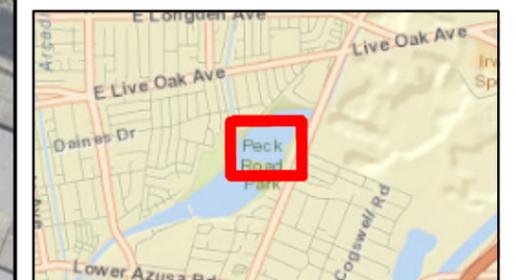
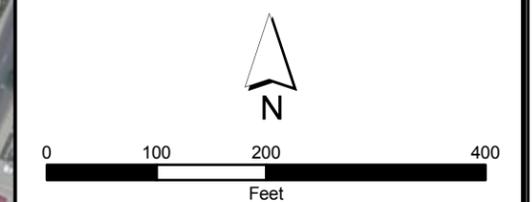
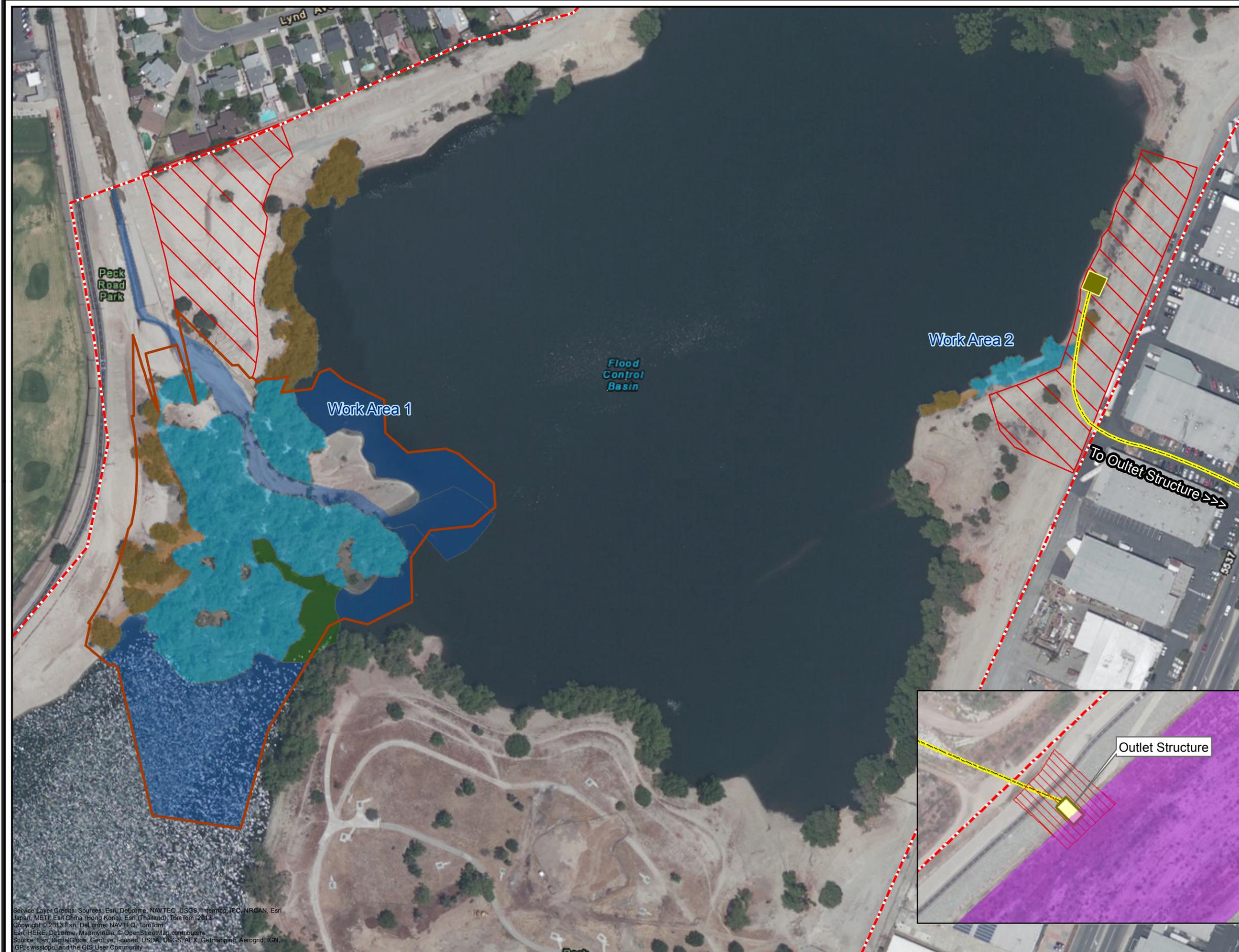
Legend

Project Features

-  Pipeline Alignment
-  Pump Station and Intake Structure
-  Excavation Area
-  Staging Area
-  Biological Survey Boundary

Wetland/Riparian Vegetation

-  Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
-  Freshwater Emergent Wetland
-  Open Water
-  Black Willow Thicket
-  Disturbed Mulefat Thickets



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acres, approximately 2.89 acres of Freshwater Forest/shrub Wetland and 0.25 acre of Freshwater Emergent Wetland comprised of Black Willow Thicket were identified within the sediment removal area; and 0.04 acre of Freshwater Forest/shrub Wetland comprised of Black Willow Thicket was identified within the pump station area. Approximately 0.53 acre of Black Willow Thicket within the sediment removal area is not considered wetland.

Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket

Mule Fat Thicket consists of dense stands of mule fat with lesser amounts of willow species. This community usually occupies intermittent streambeds, seeps, and the toe of landslides where seeps develop (Gray and Bramlet 1992). A high percentage of nonnatives is found within Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket. Species found on the site typical of this vegetation community include: mule fat, tree tobacco, and narrow-leaf willow. Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket makes up the majority of the channel within the San Gabriel River outlet area. Approximately 0.08 acre of Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket is in the Project site within the San Gabriel River outlet area.

California Sagebrush – California Buckwheat Scrub (*Artemisia californica* – *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance)

California Sagebrush – California Buckwheat Scrub is characterized by low, soft-woody shrubs up to 1 meter (3.3 feet) in height. Species typical of this community are drought-deciduous and dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) with laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*) and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). California Sagebrush – California Buckwheat Scrub can be found on steep, xeric slopes or clay-rich soils that are slow to release water. California Sagebrush – California Buckwheat Scrub is located in small patches on the Project site. Plant species observed that are typical of this community include California sagebrush and California buckwheat. The Project site has 0.05 acre of California Sagebrush – California Buckwheat Scrub above the east bank of the Santa Anita Wash outlet near the sediment removal area and the staging area.

Open Water

Open Water often contains a number of phytoplankton species and filamentous blue-green and green algae. In shallow water, vascular species including horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*), duckweed fern (*Azolla filiculoides*), and duckweed (*Lemna* sp.) may be found floating on the water surface (Chambers Group 2013a). Open Water makes up approximately 3.14 acres within the sediment removal area of the Project site.

Disturbed/Developed

Developed areas are areas that have been altered by humans and now display man-made structures such as houses, paved roads, buildings, parks, and other maintained areas. Disturbed areas are mostly devoid of vegetation due to recent disturbances. The small amount of vegetation that begins to reclaim the soil is dominated by nonnative, weedy species adapted to frequent disturbance. Species found on the spreading basin site typical of this community include: flax-leaved horseweed (*Erigeron bonariensis*), horseweed, western marsh cudweed (*Gnaphalium palustre*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), cheeseweed (*Malva parviflora*), everlasting cudweed (*Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum*), and common groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*). Areas within the Project

site include the upper slopes of the basin and areas cleared by transients. Disturbed/Developed areas make up 2.24 acres within the sediment removal area and 1.55 acres in the pump station area.

Escaped Ornamental Vegetation

Escaped Ornamental Vegetation consists of areas where the vegetation is dominated by nonnative horticultural plants used for landscaping that were not originally planted but may have been located nearby and have escaped to colonize the spreading basin site (Chambers Group 2013a) or exotic vegetation spreading/colonizing in the area. Typically, the species composition consists of introduced trees, shrubs, flowers, and turf grass.

Large patches of exotic vegetation have been mapped throughout the spreading basin site. Smaller patches of scattered castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), exotic palm saplings, short-pod mustard, passion fruit, and giant reed (*Arundo donax*) were also present within the Black Willow Thicket community and have not been mapped (primarily isolated individuals). Plant species found on the spreading basin site within this community include: crimson bottlebrush tree (*Callistemon citrinus*), deodar cedar tree (*Cedrus deodara*), carrotwood tree (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*), blue gum tree (*Eucalyptus globules*), Chinese flame tree (*Koelreuteria bipinnata*), white mulberry tree (*Morus alba*), Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*), castor bean, Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*), and Mediterranean tamarisk (*Tamarix ramosissima*).

Sensitive Wildlife and Plant Species

The following information was used to determine the potential for biological resources to occur within the Project area. The criteria used to evaluate the potential for sensitive species to occur on the Project are outlined in Table 8: Criteria for Evaluating Sensitive Wildlife and Plan Species Potential for Occurrence (PFO). Species occurrences resulting in the CNDDDB and CNPSEI searches were used to analyze potential for species occurrence. Special species status rankings are outlined below.

Special Species Status Rankings

California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR; formally known as CNPS List)

List 1A = Plants presumed extinct in California.

List 1B = Plants rare and endangered in California and throughout their range.

List 2 = Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere in their range.

List 3 = Plants about which we need more information; a review list.

List 4 = Plants of limited distribution; a watch list.

RPR Extensions

0.1 = Seriously endangered in California (greater than 80 percent of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat).

0.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20 to 80 percent occurrences threatened).

0.3 = Not very endangered in California (less than 20 percent of occurrences threatened).

Federal

- FE = Federally listed; Endangered
- FT = Federally listed; Threatened
- FC = Federal Candidate for Listing

State

- CDF = California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- ST = State listed; Threatened
- SE = State listed; Endangered
- RARE = State-listed; Rare (Listed “Rare” animals have been re-designated as Threatened, but Rare plants have retained the Rare designation.)
- SSC = California Species of Special Concern
- WL = CDFW Watch List

Table 8: Criteria for Evaluating Sensitive Wildlife and Plant Species Potential for Occurrence (PFO)

PFO	CRITERIA
Absent:	Species is restricted to habitats or environmental conditions that do not occur within the survey area or no historical records within 3 miles of the survey area.
Low:	Historical records for this species do not exist within the immediate vicinity of the survey area (within 3 miles), and/or habitats or environmental conditions needed to support the species are of poor quality.
Moderate:	Either a historical record exists of the species within the immediate vicinity of the survey area (less than 3 miles) and marginal habitat exists on the survey area, or the habitat requirements or environmental conditions associated with the species occur within the survey area, but no historical records exist within 3 mile of the survey area.
High:	Both a historical record exists of the species within the survey area or its immediate vicinity (less than 1 mile), and the habitat requirements and environmental conditions associated with the species occur within the survey area.
Present:	Species was detected within the survey area at the time of the survey.

Sensitive Plant Species

Spreading Basin Site

The following seven special status plant species were determined to have a low potential to occur on the spreading basin site due to the presence of low quality suitable habitat during the biological reconnaissance; however, no historical occurrences have been recorded within a 3-mile radius of the Project area. These species were not observed during the focused plant surveys conducted by Chambers Group in 2013 (Section 4.7.3).

Descriptions of the species can be found in Appendix B.

- Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*) – FE, CE, CRPR List 1B.1
- southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*) – CRPR List 1B.1
- California satintail (*Imperata brevifolia*) – CRPR List 2.1
- California muhly (*Muhlenbergia californica*) – CRPR List 4.3
- white rabbit-tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*) – CRPR List 2.2
- Greata's aster (*Aster greatae*) – CRPR List 1B.3
- Sonoran maiden fern (*Thelypteris puberula* var. *sonorensis*) – CRPR List 2.2

The following three special status plant species have a moderate potential to occur on the spreading basin site due to the presence of moderate quality suitable habitat and historical records of the species occurring within 3 miles of the Project area:

California Sawgrass (Cladium californicum) – CRPR List 2.2

California sawgrass is a CRPR List 2 species. This perennial rhizomatous herb flowers from June to September. This species is known to occur in meadows and seeps and alkaline or freshwater marshes and swamps at elevations between 200 and 2,865 feet above mean sea level (amsl). This species is known from only 20 historical occurrences.

Marginal suitable habitat is located in a small portion of Disturbed Freshwater Marsh on the northeastern portion of the spreading basin site. Historical records show this species occurs within 3 miles of the Project area, to the north at the mouth of Santa Anita Canyon in Monrovia; however, this occurrence was documented in 1861.

Peruvian Dodder (Cuscuta obtusiflora Kunth var. glandulosa) – CRPR List 2.2

Peruvian dodder is a CRPR List 2 species. This parasitic annual vine flowers from July to October. This species is known to occur in freshwater marshes and swamps at elevations between 50 to 918 feet amsl.

Marginal suitable habitat is located in a small portion of Disturbed Freshwater Marsh on the northeastern portion of the spreading basin site. Historical records show this species occurs within 3 miles of the Project area in El Monte; however, this record is presumed to be documented over 70 years ago (no date on the CNDDDB).

Southern Mountains Skullcap (Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. austromontana) – CRPR List 1B.2

Southern mountains skullcap is a CRPR List 1B species. This perennial rhizomatous herb flowers from June to August. This species is known to occur in mesic sites of chaparral, cismontane woodlands, and lower montane coniferous forests at elevations between 1,400 and 6,561 feet amsl. Threats to this species include grazing and recreational activities.

Marginal suitable habitat is located on the eastern portion of the spreading basin site within the Black Willow Thicket habitat. Historical records show this species is found within 3 miles of the Project area in El Monte; however, this record is presumed to be documented over 70 years ago (no date on the CNDDDB).

Focused surveys were conducted by Chambers Group in 2013 for these species (Section 4.7.3). No sensitive plants were identified during the survey effort.

San Gabriel River Site

The following special status plant species has a low potential to occur on the San Gabriel River site due to the presence of low quality suitable habitat; however, no historical occurrences have been recorded within a 3-mile radius of the Project area.

- California satintail (*Imperata brevifolia*) – CRPR List 2.1

Sensitive Wildlife Species

Spreading Basin Site

The following three special status wildlife species have a low potential to occur on the spreading basin site due to the presence of low quality suitable habitat. These species were not observed during the biological reconnaissance survey or during focused surveys for southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) and least Bell's vireo (LBVI) (Section 4.7.3).

- pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*); foraging only -SSC
- San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*)- SSC
- western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) -FC, SE

The following special status wildlife species has a moderate potential to occur on the spreading basin site due to the presence of moderate quality suitable habitat and historical records of the species occurring within 3 miles of the spreading basin site.

- coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) –SSC

The coast horned lizard is a SSC. It is found along the Pacific coast of California on the western side of the Sierra Mountains to the Baja peninsula area in Mexico. Adults are approximately 2 to 4 inches in snout to vent length with numerous elongated and pointed scales or spines on the dorsal side. Two rows of enlarged scales are also present along the flank. This species is brown, yellowish, reddish, or gray with several dark bands that cross the back and highlighted white areas along the rear of the bands (Chambers Group 2013a). This species is found in many habitats, including oak woodlands, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, grasslands, valleys, foothills, riparian wetlands, conifer forests, and semiarid mountains up to 8,000 feet amsl. It inhabits sandy washes or areas with loose, fine, sandy soils for burying and low brush for cover and open areas for basking. It feeds primarily on harvester ants and other native ant species. Populations of this species have been reduced due to development, agriculture, and the introduction of Argentine ants that heavily compete with native ant species (Chambers Group 2013a).

Habitat exists in several areas of the spreading basin site for coast horned lizards. The spreading basin site has open canopy areas with sand and riparian vegetation that allow for adequate cover. The spreading basin site also had several different species of ants suitable for foraging. CNDDDB records indicate that the species was found within 1 mile of the spreading basin site as recently as 2001. This species has a moderate potential to occur on the spreading basin site.

The following six special status wildlife species were present on the spreading basin site.

Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperii) –WL

The Cooper's hawk (nesting) is a WL species. This species occurs as a migrant and/or resident over most of the United States from southern Canada to northern Mexico. It is similar in appearance to the sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) but is distinguished by its larger size, more rounded tail, and darker crown. Favored habitats include open woodlands, mature forests, woodland edges, and river groves. More recently, the Cooper's hawk has been known to breed in suburban and urban areas with tree structure similar to native habitats. This medium-sized (14 to 20 inches) hawk is well-adapted for hunting birds as prey with its long tail and short, rounded wings; these features allow maneuverability while in pursuit and on the ambush. In addition to birds, it may also take amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals as supplemental prey items. Historic population losses resulted from the widespread use of DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane). Other threats include habitat loss and illegal hunting (Chambers Group 2013a).

Cooper's hawks (nesting) are found in a variety of habitats. CNDDDB records indicated that this species was detected 2 to 5 miles from the Project area as recently as 2001. This species was observed foraging during the SWFL and LBVI focused surveys. Due to the favorable habitat, including foraging areas and the presence of tall trees that allow for adequate nesting habitat, this species has a high potential to nest on the spreading basin site.

Least Bell's Vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus) – FE, SE

The least Bell's vireo (LBVI) (nesting) is a federal and state listed endangered subspecies of the Bell's vireo. This small passerine subspecies has a breeding range that is restricted to lower elevations of coastal California and northwestern Baja California, Mexico, with a few inland populations (Chambers Group 2013a); its winter range extends into southern Baja California, Mexico (Chambers Group 2013a). This bird is approximately 4.3 to 4.7 inches in length with an overall drab appearance (brownish grey upperparts and a whitish underside) and a faint white eye-ring; it is most easily identified by its unique song. The LBVI typically nests in willows (*Salix* spp.) and other riparian trees/shrubs (typically 3 to 6 feet above the ground). This species requires densely vegetated riparian habitat along streams and rivers during the spring and summer months to breed, foraging in habitat adjacent to its nesting territory, which is typically riparian or chaparral (Chambers Group 2013a). Least Bell's vireos forage by gleaning insects from the leaves of trees and shrubs. The two major threats and subsequent factors in the decline of LBVI populations are loss of riparian habitat from urban and agricultural development, overgrazing, logging operations, and nest parasitism by the brown headed-cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) (Chambers Group 2013a). Despite historic population losses (followed by federal protection in the 1980s), recent trends indicate that populations are increasing, with populations returning to parts of their former range and colonizing some new areas (Chambers Group 2013a).

The dense riparian stand on the northeast corner of the spreading basin site provides quality foraging and nesting habitat for the LBVI. An earthen flowing channel passing through a section of a storied riparian zone allows for a moderate potential for the species to occur on the spreading basin site. According to the results of the CNDDDB search, the species was found within 1 to 5 miles of the Project area as recently as 2011. Three LBVI territories were observed within the survey areas. No leg bands were observed on any least Bell's vireos. A general discussion for each territory is presented in Section 4.7.3. Although no SWFL records exist within 3 miles, focused surveys for SWFL were conducted in concurrence with LBVI surveys. No SWFL were identified during the focused surveys.

Yellow-Breasted Chat (Icteria virens) –SSC

The yellow-breasted chat (nesting) is a SSC. The breeding range of this species includes most of the United States, south-central Canada, and northern Mexico. It winters from the southern United States to Panama. In southern California, the population is very locally distributed throughout the Coast and Peninsular ranges. The yellow-breasted chat is the largest wood warbler. The upperparts from forehead to upper tail-coverts are olive green, becoming slightly grayer on lower rump, with a white supercilium, lower eye-lid also bordered by white crescent, and the underparts are a bright yellow (Chambers Group 2013a). Habitats include swamplands, riparian willow thickets and other dense brush, often near watercourses. The yellow-breasted chat feeds on insects, larvae, spiders, berries, and fruits (Chambers Group 2013a). It mimics songs (often at night), sports an impressive array of sounds, and is often conspicuous within its territory early in the breeding season. It has a characteristic display flight whereupon it takes off from a perch and jumbles through the air, singing all the while. Predators include snakes, accipiters, and small mammals. Population declines are due to the loss and degradation of riparian habitats rangewide. The decline is also due to parasitism by the brown-headed cowbird.

The dense stand of riparian growth at the northeast corner of the spreading basin site and the northern side of the spreading basin site near the Sawpit and Santa Anita washes provides for quality foraging and nesting habitat for the chat. CNDDDB records indicate that species was found within 2 to 5 miles of the spreading basin site as recently as 2001. Yellow-breasted chats were incidentally observed in both the Santa Anita and Sawpit washes during every focused survey for LBVI and SWFL prior to the fire at the Santa Anita Wash. During the May 13, 2013, LBVI survey, one pair was observed flying with nesting material into the emergent mule fat and willows growing in the middle of the Santa Anita Wash riparian area. At least one yellow-breasted chat was observed in each wash during all surveys prior to the fire.

Western Pond Turtle (Actinemys marmorata pallida) – SSC

The western pond turtle (WPT) is a SSC. WPT are relatively small turtles less than 22 cm with an olive brown, dark brown, or grayish carapace that may exhibit a pattern of lines or spots. The plastron is generally a pale yellow and may have dark blotches along the rear margins of the scutes. The skin is grayish with some pale yellow on the neck, chin, forelimbs and tail (Chambers Group 2013). This species inhabits ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, marshes, and irrigation ditches that host abundant vegetation and have either rocky or muddy bottoms. In the stream habitats, WPT are found in areas that host pools with logs, rocks, cattail mats or exposed banks for basking in the sun. They eat a variety of foods including crustaceans, insects, fish, frogs, plants, and snails and are generally active from February to November. This species will hibernate in the winter under water and aestivate during the hot summer months in the muddy bottom of pools or move onto land to hibernate under dense brush. Mating occurs in April and May, and nesting occurs between April and August. Females will deposit eggs in a vegetated upland location that may be a considerable distance (400 meters or more) from the aquatic habitat to the nest. Eggs are generally deposited in grassy upland areas adjacent to streams during May and June on south-facing slopes, although some individuals may deposit eggs as early as April and as late as August.

A WPT was identified on the spreading basin site on the north bank (south-facing slope) of the basin at GPS point Zone 11 406593, 3774248 (UTM NAD 83). The WPT was observed basking and digging with both hind legs near the water close to riparian vegetation. The WPT fled for cover once it detected the biologist's presence, a typical response for such a timid species. In addition, over 30 red-eared sliders were found throughout the basin. The basin has ample areas for turtles to forage, bask, nest, and hide in

cover on the north and east sections of the basin. Unlike red-eared sliders, WPT are highly skittish of human presence and will flee for cover quickly once human presence is detected. During the survey, several splashes were heard, suggesting that several more WPT may inhabit the basin area. This species is considered present within the spreading basin site. Figure 6 shows the exact location of the turtle. At least one WPT was observed during the focused LBVI survey conducted on June 18, 2013.

Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) –WL

The osprey is a WL and a California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) sensitive species. Although this species may breed in many areas of its summer range, it breeds primarily from the northern United States up through Canada and into Alaska. Most of the North American population winters south of the United States in Central and South America, as well as along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts of Mexico. Wintering grounds also include coastal California and southeastern California. The osprey is a large raptor with a white belly and chest and black back and wings. Its forehead and crown are white with a thick, black eye stripe that extends down onto the back. This raptor species forages primarily on fish and is strongly associated with open water throughout its range. It builds a large nest of twigs, sticks, moss, and other materials high on a tree or artificial structure and may use it for several seasons. Osprey populations have increased greatly since the ban of agricultural DDT, although shooting, electrocution at power lines, and habitat degradation still pose threats to populations (Chambers Group 2013a).

Although the osprey was not found in the CNDDDB records findings, an osprey was observed on the spreading basin site during the survey. The osprey was observed foraging over the water, most likely in search of fish. The osprey is protected while nesting and will typically nest in the same location every year; however, no osprey nests were identified.

Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) – SSC

The yellow warbler (nesting) is a SSC. Its breeding range includes most of North America from northern Alaska and northern Canada to the southern United States and Mexico. Wintering birds occur from Mexico to Peru. Breeding habitats include wet areas, such as riparian woodlands, orchards, gardens, swamp edges, and willow thickets. Most breeding habitats generally contain medium to high-density tree and shrub species with ample early successional understories. In migration, yellow warblers may occur in other habitats, including early seral stages of riparian habitats. Its plumage is more extensively yellow than other North American wood-warblers, and it is also unique in having yellow on the inner webs of its tail feathers (except middle pair). Males show rusty streaking on the breast. Yellow warblers are almost entirely insectivorous, but they also eat a few berries. Populations are in decline in California due to habitat loss, grazing of riparian understories, and brood parasitism by the brown-headed cowbird.

Although this species was not found in the CNDDDB records findings, the yellow warbler was observed on the spreading basin site. Territorial and paired yellow warblers were incidentally observed during several surveys within both the Santa Anita and Sawpit washes. The maximum number of yellow warblers observed at the Santa Anita Wash was six individuals during the June 28, 2013, survey. The maximum number of yellow warblers observed at the Sawpit Wash was 10 individuals during the June 4, 2013, survey.

San Gabriel River Site

The following six special status wildlife species have a low potential to occur on the San Gabriel River site due to the presence of low quality suitable habitat.

- Cooper’s hawk; foraging only – WL
- least Bell's vireo; foraging only – FE, SE
- pallid bat; foraging only
- San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit – SSC
- western pond turtle – SSC
- western yellow-billed cuckoo; foraging only – FC, SE

4.7.3 Focused Surveys

Focused Plant Surveys

Chambers Group biologists conducted a focused plant survey on July 18 and 19, 2013. During the survey, the biologists visually scanned the entire basin area for the presence of: the federally and state listed endangered Nevin’s barberry, California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1B.1 southern tarplant, CRPR 2.2 California sawgrass, CRPR 2 Peruvian dodder, CRPR 2 California satintail, CRPR 2 white rabbit-tobacco, CRPR 1B southern mountains skullcap, CRPR 1B Greata’s aster, and CRPR 2 Sonoran maiden fern. Two annual plants’ (southern tarplant and Peruvian dodder) blooming periods are in the fall. The remaining plants are perennial species that can be identified outside the blooming period. The targeted rare plants and their blooming periods are found in Table 9: Targeted Sensitive Plant and Blooming Periods.

Table 9: Targeted Sensitive Plant and Blooming Periods

Species	Blooming Period (when to survey)
Nevin’s barberry	March – June (perennial)
southern tarplant	May – November (annual)
California sawgrass	June – September (perennial)
Peruvian dodder	July – October (annual)
California satintail	September – May (perennial)
white rabbit-tobacco	July – December (perennial)
southern mountains skullcap	June – August (perennial)
Greata’s aster	June – October (perennial)
Sonoran maiden fern	January – September (perennial)

A total of 127 common plant species was observed within the basin area during the survey (Appendix D). One species was taken to the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens to compare to their Peruvian dodder specimen. This species was identified as field dodder (*Cuscuta campestris*), a non-sensitive species. No sensitive plant species were observed during the survey, which was conducted for the annual species during the appropriate blooming period when each species would be identifiable and conspicuous.

Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Focused Surveys

Chambers Group biologists conducted nine focused LBVI and SWFL surveys according to United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) protocols (Chambers Group 2013b). Species observations from the biological reconnaissance survey and focused surveys are presented on Figure 7: Biological Survey Results Map. Although no SWFL records are recorded within 3 miles, focused surveys for SWFL were conducted. No confirmed SWFL were found during the surveys. Three LBVI territories were observed within the survey areas. No leg bands were observed on any least Bell's vireos. A general discussion for each territory is presented below in the discussion for LBVI. The focused LBVI and SWFL survey report is included as Appendix C.

Territory 1: The pair at Territory 1 was first observed during the May 13, 2013, survey foraging along the southeastern shore along the banks of Santa Anita Wash. During the May 24, 2013, survey, the pair was observed approaching and leaving a patch of shrubbery (inaccessible by the surveyors), one at a time, during regular 15-minute intervals, suggestive of incubation on a possible nest. The pair was not observed returning to that location during the June 4 survey, even though they were observed in the area. During the June 28, 2013, survey, a singing LBVI was observed on the northeastern shore of Peck Road Water Conservation Park and was presumed to be the male of the same pair.

Territory 2: The pair at Territory 2 was first observed during the June 4, 2013, survey. The male at Territory 2 was counter singing with the male LBVI at Territory 1. The pair occupied the western half of the Black Willow Thicket habitat of Santa Anita Wash. During the July 18, 2013, survey, a fledgling was observed begging to the male.

Territory 3: The male at Territory 3 was first observed during the June 4 survey within the western half of Sawpit Wash. During the June 18 and 28 and July 8, 2013, surveys, the pair at this territory was observed feeding at least one fledgling.

During the weekend of July 19 to 21, 2013, a 5-acre fire burned approximately 80 percent of the habitat within the Santa Anita Wash riparian area. Small patches of vegetation remain along the water's edge and within the western corner near the golf course. A survey visit was conducted on July 22, 2013. No LBVI were detected in the Santa Anita Wash. Most of Territory 1 was burned, and only scattered habitat remains within Territory 2; however, it appeared that LBVI in Santa Anita Wash relocated to the Sawpit Wash. Three males were heard singing in the Sawpit Wash approximately 100 feet north of the mouth of the river. Two males and one fledgling were heard along the eastern end of the outlet of Sawpit Wash, and one male was heard on the western end of the outlet. The three males were vocalizing and are likely competing over suitable habitat and foraging grounds.

Due to the fire and subsequent extensive loss of habitat at the Santa Anita Wash, this area is not expected to support nesting LBVI during the 2014 nesting season; however, suitable habitat still exists at the Sawpit Wash riparian area. If the LBVI pairs displaced by the Santa Anita Wash fire attempt to nest in this area in future seasons, competition for space and resources will be higher.

4.7.4 Jurisdictional Waters/Wetland Habitats

Applicable Regulations

Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act)

The Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended, (33 USC 1251 et seq.) establishes the basic structure for water quality standards for surface waters and regulating discharges into the waters of the United States. The CWA gives the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement pollution control programs such as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which sets limits on the amounts of specific pollutants that are discharged to surface waters in order to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the water as established by ambient water quality standards.

These include setting wastewater standards for industry and water quality standards for contaminants in surface waters. The discharge of any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters is illegal unless a permit under its provisions is acquired. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the nine RWQCBs are responsible for implementing the CWA. Section 404 of the CWA regulates the discharge of dredged, excavated, or fill material in wetlands, streams, rivers, and other waters of the United States. USACE is the federal agency authorized to issue Section 404 Permits for certain activities conducted in wetlands or other waters of the United States. Section 401 of the CWA grants each state the right to ensure that the state's interests are protected on any federally permitted activity occurring in or adjacent to waters of the State. In California, RWQCBs are the agencies mandated to ensure protection of waters of the State. For a Project that requires a USACE CWA Section 404 permit and has the potential to impact waters of the State, RWQCB will regulate the Project and associated activities through a Water Quality Certification determination (Section 401). Specifically, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) will regulate the Project and associated activities through a Section 401.

California Fish and Game Code, Section 1600, as amended

Under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code (CFGF), CDFW regulates activities that would divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake that supports fish or wildlife. CDFW has jurisdiction over riparian habitats (e.g., Black Willow Thicket) associated with watercourses. Jurisdictional waters are delineated by the outer edge of riparian vegetation or at the top of the bank of streams or lakes, whichever is wider. CDFW jurisdiction does not include tidal areas or isolated resources. Section 1602 of the CFGF requires any person who proposes a project that will substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake or use materials from a streambed to notify CDFW before beginning the project. If CDFW determines that the project may adversely affect existing fish and wildlife resources within CDFW-jurisdictional water, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement is required.

Jurisdictional authority of CDFW over wetland areas is established under Section 1600 of the Fish and Game Code, which pertains to activities that would disrupt the natural flow or alter the channel, bed, or bank of any lake, river, or stream. The Fish and Game Code stipulates that it is unlawful to substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake without notifying CDFW, incorporating necessary mitigation, and obtaining a Streambed Alteration Agreement. The Project will need to adhere to CDFW's Section 1600 Streambed Alteration

Agreement (SAA) since Project activities will alter the flow, bed, channel, or bank of the streams in the Project area. Coordination with CDFW will take place during project development regarding protected species or other natural resources and habitat that could be impacted by the sediment removal activities.

Existing Conditions

The Project site was surveyed for jurisdictional features and potential wetland habitats from March 3 through 5, 2014. Results of this survey are found in Appendix G. USACE and RWQCB potential wetland areas were evaluated based upon the presence of three parameters: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology, in accordance with USACE guidelines (USACE 1987; USACE 2008). Vegetation communities were identified to be of CDFW interest if at least one of the three wetland parameters was present.

Soils

Soil characteristics were assessed in the field by digging pits, checking for soil indicators, and verifying or determining actual soil types present. Substrates and soils identified within the Project site include gravel, sand, silts, sandy clay loam, silty clay loam, and clay loam type soils.

Vegetation

The Project site is composed of six vegetation communities including Disturbed/Developed, California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, Disturbed Mule Fat Thicket, Open Water, Black Willow Thicket, and Escaped Ornamental Vegetation.

Drainage Features and Connectivity

The spreading basin is fed by uncontrolled storm flows from two main channels (Santa Anita Wash and Sawpit Wash) on the north side of the basin. Water within the spreading basin exits through a concrete spillway on the southwest end of the basin. Flows travel southwestwardly through the Rio Hondo Channel and connect with the Los Angeles River approximately 11 miles downstream, eventually terminating at the Pacific Ocean approximately 13 miles downstream from the convergence with the Rio Hondo.

The water level in the basin can vary between elevations of 280 to 315 feet depending on the amount of rainfall and inflow of water from the Santa Anita Wash and the Sawpit Wash. After the removal of the sediment, the water will not be pumped below an elevation of 290 feet.

The proposed pipeline would transport water to the San Gabriel River, which has much greater percolation rates and also percolates into the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. From the outlet structure at the San Gabriel River, the flows travel southwestwardly through the San Gabriel River and connect with Walnut Creek approximately 2.6 miles downstream and continue south approximately 25 miles, eventually terminating in the Pacific Ocean at Alamitos Bay between the Cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach. Based on the designs, only the outlet structure at the San Gabriel River would be exposed to the river.

The San Gabriel River Watershed is seasonal, flowing during the wet season after rain events. The headwaters are located at in the San Gabriel Mountains, and waters terminate at the Pacific Ocean.

Hydrology

Several indicators of wetland hydrology were present at the time of the field delineation. Characteristics included evidence of positive indicators for all three wetland parameters (hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology). Evidence of hydrology included saturation, surface soil cracks, inundation visible on aerial imagery, drift deposits, salt crust, hydrogen sulfide odor, and aquatic invertebrates as the primary indicators. Drainage patterns were observed as a secondary indicator of hydrology.

Eleven formal soil pits were investigated throughout the Project site (Figure 9: USACE and RWQCB Jurisdiction Areas). Prominent and distinct redoxomorphic features were observed in many of the wetland soil pits, and many met the conditions of the F6 – Redox Dark Surface indicator for hydric soils. Many of the soil pits explored revealed a multilayer soil profile of clay, silt, loam, and sand textured soils. The descriptions of soil, vegetation, and hydrology for each soil pit area are presented in Appendix G.

Two main wetland areas were identified in the Project site: Wetland Area 1, located at the inlet of Santa Anita Wash, and Wetland Area 2, located at the pipe alignment and pump station and intake structure along the east bank of the basin (see Figure 8: Wetland/Riparian Vegetation Map). Wetland Area 1 is the main wetland area within the excavation area, and Wetland Area 2 is a thin strip of wetland with scattered vegetation along the eastern banks of the basin.

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Jurisdiction

The waters within the spreading basin ultimately connect to the Los Angeles River and terminate in the Pacific Ocean, a traditional navigable water (TNW), and are therefore considered USACE jurisdictional. A significant nexus analysis was performed to determine potential USACE jurisdiction. A significant nexus was determined to exist for the Project based on the following facts:

- The Rio Hondo is a Relatively Permanent Water (RPW) and is hydrologically connected to the Pacific Ocean, a Traditionally Navigable Water (TNW). RPWs, by definition, are USACE-jurisdictional;
- The drainage has the capacity to carry pollutants, nutrients, and organic carbon to the nearest TNW; and,
- The nutrients and organic carbon support in-stream and downstream food webs.

The Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) for the Santa Anita Wash outlet channel ranged from 1.5 to 28.5 feet in width and 0.1 to 3.1 feet in depth. At the southeastern end where the channel terminates in the open water of the basin, the OHWM spread out in fan shape and ranged from 32.4 to 121.1 feet in width and 0.1 foot in depth.

Of the approximately 0.69 acre of drainage feature under USACE jurisdiction within the Project site, approximately 0.61 acre is located in the sediment removal area; and approximately 0.08 acre is located in the San Gabriel River. Approximately 0.07 acre in the San Gabriel River will be temporarily impacted,

and approximately 0.61 acre in the sediment removal area and 0.01 acre in the San Gabriel River will be permanently impacted.

Approximately 3.14 acres of open water are located within the sediment removal area and fall under USACE jurisdiction; temporary impacts will occur to all 3.14 acres.

Of the approximately 3.18 acres of wetland under USACE jurisdiction within the Project site, approximately 3.14 acres are located within the sediment removal area; and approximately 0.04 acre of wetland is located within the pump station area. The approximately 0.04 acre in the pump station area will be temporarily impacted, and the 3.14 acres in the sediment removal area will be permanently impacted.

One erosional feature approximately 372 feet in length is located in the northern area of the basin in the staging area. Erosional features are not under the jurisdiction of USACE. Table 11 summarizes the area of waters of the United States under the jurisdiction of USACE to be impacted by this Project. These areas are shown in Figure 9: USACE and RWQCB Jurisdiction Areas.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Jurisdiction

The Project could affect the quantity and/or quality of surface and/or ground waters of the Rio Hondo Channel. The limit of RWQCB jurisdiction includes the basin and associated wetlands and the area within the OHWM of the observed drainage, which are RPWs that are hydrologically connected to a TNW.

Of the approximately 0.69 acre of drainage feature under RWQCB jurisdiction within the Project site, approximately 0.61 acre is located in the sediment removal area; and approximately 0.08 acre is located in the San Gabriel River. Approximately 0.07 acre in the San Gabriel River will be temporarily impacted, and approximately 0.61 acre in the sediment removal area and 0.01 acre in the San Gabriel River will be permanently impacted.

Approximately 3.14 acres of open water are located within the sediment removal area and fall under RWQCB jurisdiction; temporary impacts will occur to all 3.14 acres.

Of the approximately 3.18 acres of wetland under RWQCB jurisdiction within the Project site, approximately 3.14 acres are located within the sediment removal area; and approximately 0.04 acre of wetland is located within the pump station area. The approximately 0.04 acre in the pump station area will be temporarily impacted, and the 3.14 acres in the sediment removal area will be permanently impacted.

One erosional feature approximately 372 feet in length is located in the northern area of the basin in the staging area. Erosional features are generally not under the jurisdiction of RWQCB. Table 11 summarizes the area of waters of the state under the jurisdiction of RWQCB to be impacted by this Project. These areas are shown in Figure 9: USACE and RWQCB Jurisdiction Areas.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Jurisdiction

Waters of the state under the jurisdiction of CDFW were field-delineated as the area within the top of the banks and an associated vegetation dripline and the basin area that holds water and associated wetlands. The Santa Anita Wash outlet is within the Project site and contains associated riparian

vegetated banks along the wash channel. The bank to bank measurements for the Santa Anita Wash outlet channel ranged from 3 to 55 feet in width and 0.1 to 16 feet in depth. At the southeastern end where the channel terminates in the open water of the basin, the bank to bank spread out in fan shape and ranged from 65 to 121 feet in width and 0.1 to 4 feet in depth.

Of the approximately 0.82 acre of waters of the State that exists as a drainage feature within the Project site, approximately 0.61 acre is located in the sediment removal area; and 0.21 acre of riprap is located in the San Gabriel River. Of these drainage features, approximately 0.21 acre in the San Gabriel River will be temporarily impacted; and approximately 0.61 acre in the sediment removal area will be permanently impacted.

Approximately 3.14 acres of open water are located within the sediment removal area and fall under CDFW jurisdiction; temporary impacts will occur to all 3.14 acres.

Of approximately 3.79 acres of vegetation under CDFW jurisdiction within the Project site, 3.67 acres are located within the sediment removal area, 0.04 acre is located within the pump station area, and 0.08 acre is located in the San Gabriel River. Table 12 summarizes the area of waters of the State under the jurisdiction of CDFW to be impacted by this Project. These areas are shown in Figure 10: CDFW Jurisdiction Areas.

4.7.1 Impact Analysis

(a) Sensitive Plant Species

No sensitive plant species were observed during the focused plant survey (Section 4.7.3), which was conducted during the appropriate blooming period when each species would be identifiable and conspicuous. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not impact any sensitive plant species. No impacts would occur.

Wildlife Species

A total of seven sensitive wildlife species could occur on the spreading basin site. Coast horned lizard has a moderate potential to occur on the spreading basin site. Additionally, least Bell's vireo, yellow-breasted chat, yellow warbler, western pond turtle, Cooper's hawk, and osprey were observed on the spreading basin site. Least Bell's vireo (nesting) is a federally and state listed endangered species. Direct harm or take of these species during sediment removal activities would result in a significant impact. Implementation of mitigation measures MM BIO-1 through MM BIO-4 would reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

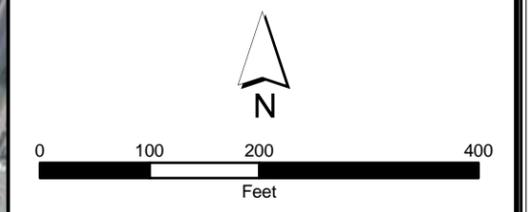
During sediment excavation, tree and vegetation removal would significantly affect nesting birds, if present. Disturbance of active nests would violate the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and result in a significant impact. Implementation of mitigation measure MM BIO-5 would reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

Maintenance for the proposed project would require periodic sediment removal from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Maintenance of the spreading basin would occur within the previously disturbed excavation area. Up to 2,000 cy of accumulated sediment may need to be removed per year.

Figure 9
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Jurisdictional Delineation Results Map
 USACE & RWQCB

Legend

- Project Features**
- Pipeline Alignment
 - Pump Station and Intake Structure
 - Excavation Area
 - Staging Area
 - Biological Survey Boundary
- Jurisdiction Delineation**
- USACE & RWQCB Jurisdiction
 - OHWM
 - Soil Pit
- Wetland/Riparian Vegetation**
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
 - Open Water
 - Black Willow Thicket
 - Disturbed Mulefat Thickets
 - Erosional Feature
 - Culvert



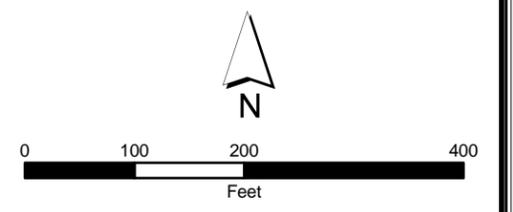
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, IPC, NRCAN, Esri, Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2013, Copyright © 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, iSat, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Figure 10
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Jurisdictional Delineation Results Map
 CDFW

Legend

- Project Features**
- Pipeline Alignment
 - Pump Station and Intake Structure
 - Excavation Area
 - Staging Area
 - Biological Survey Boundary
- Jurisdiction Delineation**
- CDFW
 - Bank-to-Bank
 - Soil Pit
- Wetland/Riparian Vegetation**
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
 - Open Water
 - Black Willow Thicket
 - Disturbed Mulefat Thickets
 - Erosional Feature
 - Culvert



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, IPC, NRCAN, Esri, Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2013. Copyright © 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, iSatellite, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Implementation of mitigation measures MM BIO-1, MM BIO-3, MM BIO-4, and MM BIO-5 would reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

The following six species have low potential to occur on the San Gabriel River site: Cooper’s hawk (nesting), least Bell’s vireo, pallid bat, San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, western pond turtle, and western yellow-billed cuckoo. The San Gabriel River site is subject to frequent scouring events. As a result, many species that have been known to occur in riparian scrub habitat and alluvial scrub habitat have no potential to occur on the San Gabriel River site.

- (b) The Project would permanently impact approximately 3.65 acres of Black Willow Thicket, 0.002 acre of California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, and 0.01 acre of disturbed Mulefat Thicket. Additionally, the Project would have temporary impacts on approximately 0.06 acre of Black Willow Thicket, 0.04 acre of California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub, 0.07 acre of disturbed Mulefat Thicket, and 3.14 acres of open water. Table 10 provides the permanent and temporary impacts to vegetation communities within the Project site.

Table 10: Project Impacts to Vegetation Communities

Vegetation Community	Temporary Impact (acres)	Permanent Impact (acres)
California Sagebrush-California Buckwheat Scrub	0.04	0.002
Disturbed Mulefat Thicket	0.07	0.01
Open Water	3.14	0.00
Black Willow Thicket	0.06	3.65

Impacts to these vegetation communities would result in a significant impact requiring mitigation. To minimize impacts due to loss of these vegetation communities, mitigation measures MM BIO-6 and MM BIO-7 have been provided. With implementation of these mitigation measures, impacts to these vegetation communities would be reduced to a level below significance.

Implementation of BIO-6 would require the development of a Habitat Restoration and Monitoring Plan, and implementation of mitigation measure MM BIO-7 would require LACFCD to obtain regulatory permits and adhere to compensatory mitigation conditions. These mitigation measures would result in onsite restoration of riparian communities at no less than a 1:1 ratio. Additionally, site restoration of riparian communities would take place onsite through the enhancement of additional acreage made available through the reduction of the average water level of the spreading basin.

Wetland within the Project site receives hydrology from the Santa Anita Wash channel, local stormwater runoff, and direct precipitation. The water level observed in the basin was below the water levels in 2013. Evidence of hydrology included saturation, surface soil cracks, inundation visible on aerial imagery, drift deposits, salt crust, hydrogen sulfide odor, and aquatic invertebrates as the primary indicators. Drainage patterns were observed as a secondary indicator of hydrology. Wetland, as defined by USACE, exists within the spreading basin. All three agencies have jurisdiction over this wetland within the Project site where permanent impacts will occur. USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB have jurisdiction of the riparian habitat within the Project boundary up to the OHWM. Jurisdictional acreages were calculated within the Project site.

Table 11: RWQCB and USACE Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix shows the jurisdictional acreages for USACE and RWQCB, and Table 12: CDFW Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix shows the jurisdictional acreages for CDFW. Impacts to jurisdictional waters found within these water features would result in a significant impact requiring mitigation. To minimize impacts due to loss of jurisdictional waters, mitigation measure MM BIO-7 has been provided.

Table 11: RWQCB and USACE Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix

Sediment Removal Area	Temporary	Permanent	Total
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	0.0	0.25	0.25
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	0.0	2.89	2.89
Open Water	3.14	0.0	3.14
Drainage Feature	0.0	0.61	0.61
Subtotal	3.14	3.75	6.89
Pump Station Area	Temporary	Permanent	Total
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	0.04	0.0	0.04
Drainage Feature	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	0.04	0.00	0.04
San Gabriel River	Temporary	Permanent	Total
Drainage Feature (OHWM)	0.07	0.01	0.08
Subtotal	0.07	0.01	0.08
Total	3.25	3.76	7.01

Table 12: CDFW Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix

Wetland Area 1	Temporary	Permanent	Totals
Open Water	3.14	0.0	3.14
Vegetation Under CDFW Jurisdiction	0.0	3.67	3.67
Drainage Feature	0.0	0.61	0.61
Subtotal	3.14	4.28	7.42
Wetland Area 2	Temporary	Permanent	Totals
Vegetation Under CDFW Jurisdiction	0.04	0.002	0.04
Open Water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drainage Feature	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	0.04	0.002	0.04
San Gabriel River	Temporary	Permanent	Totals
Vegetation Under CDFW Jurisdiction (within the OHWM)	0.07	0.01	0.08
Drainage (bank to bank rip/rap)	0.21	0.0	0.21
Subtotal	0.28	0.01	0.29
Total	3.46	4.292	7.75

- (c) Impacts to jurisdictional waters were calculated within the Project site. Table 11: RWQCB and USACE Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix shows the jurisdictional acreages for USACE and RWQCB, and Table 12: CDFW Jurisdictional Acreage Matrix shows the jurisdictional acreages for CDFW. Impacts to jurisdictional waters found within these water features would result in a significant impact requiring mitigation. To minimize impacts due to loss of jurisdictional waters, mitigation measure MM BIO-7 has been provided.
- (d) The Project area is predominantly open for wildlife movement and habitat connectivity. It is not anticipated that the Project would have a significant effect on wildlife movement corridors. The Peck Road Spreading Basin Survey Site consists of a spreading basin feature that spans over 0.75 mile in length by 0.25 mile in width in a former gravel mining pit, contains a maintained park with trails, and is adjacent to a golf course. The Project area is completely isolated within densely populated private residences and commercial industries in Arcadia. The proposed activities would be contained within a small portion of the basin area. One of two drainage features entering the basin could potentially be used as migration corridors for wildlife species. The drainages are concrete-lined and have limited cover/shelter for wildlife refuge; therefore, migration for terrestrial species such as mammals would primarily occur during the night. Of the two drainage features entering the site, only Santa Anita Wash outlet would be temporarily impacted during construction hours (daytime). The Project would not significantly impact or restrict general wildlife movement due to the temporary location of Project activities, relegated to a small portion of the site and construction occurring during the day. Although some wildlife may be temporarily displaced during construction, wildlife would not be physically prevented from moving around and into the basin area. The mitigation measures outlined in MM BIO-1, MM BIO-4, and MM BIO-5 would avoid and minimize any impacts associated with Project activities. Therefore, the potential impacts to wildlife movement are anticipated to be less than significant.
- (e) The City of Arcadia has policies and ordinances for the protection of trees, including Oak Tree Regulations and a Street Tree Master Plan. The Project would not impact any oak trees or trees lining streets within Arcadia. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with a tree preservation policy or ordinance. No impact would occur.
- (f) No adopted, approved, or proposed Habitat Conservation Plans, Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans that cover habitats are located within the Cities of Arcadia and Irwindale. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not conflict with any such provisions. No impact would occur.

4.7.2 Mitigation Measures

MM BIO-1: A biological monitor shall be present during initial Project-related activities to assist crews in avoiding and minimizing temporary impacts to biological resources. If special status species are observed in harm's way, the monitoring biologist shall implement protection measures; these measures may include redirecting the species, construction exclusionary devices (e.g., fencing), or capture/relocation outside the work area. Species relocation techniques and locations shall require approval from CDFW.

MM BIO-2: In order to comply with the Endangered Species Act, LACFCD will undertake a Section 7 Consultation with USFWS for potential impacts by the Project to nesting least Bell's

vireo within the vicinity of the Project. LACFCD will submit a Biological Assessment that includes an impact assessment, minimization measures to avoid or minimize impacts, and mitigation for impacts. The Biological Assessment will be reviewed by USFWS for a determination of appropriate minimization and mitigation measures.

MM BIO-3: Within 90 days prior to ground-disturbing activities, a sensitive species educational briefing for construction personnel shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The biologist will identify all sensitive resources that may be encountered onsite, and construction personnel will be instructed to avoid and report any sightings of sensitive species to LACFCD or the monitoring biologist.

MM BIO-4: Prior to the commencement of construction activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct focused surveys, monitoring and/or trapping, and relocation for western pond turtle. Capture, relocation techniques, and locations shall require approval from CDFW and shall be conducted prior to the initiation of construction activities. Surveys for western pond turtle will be conducted in consultation with CDFW.

MM BIO-5: If vegetation removal takes place within bird breeding season (February 15 through August 31), LACFCD, in consultation with a qualified biologist, will employ bird exclusionary measures (e.g., mylar flagging, exclusionary netting) prior to the start of bird breeding season to prevent birds from nesting within established boundaries of the Project.

Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities within bird breeding season (February 15 through August 31), a preconstruction bird nesting survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist for the presence of any bird nesting within 300 feet of the construction work area. The surveys shall be conducted 30 days prior to the disturbance of suitable nesting habitat by a qualified biologist with experience in conducting nesting bird surveys. The surveys shall continue on a weekly basis, with the last survey being conducted no more than three days prior to the initiation of clearance/construction work. Preconstruction surveys shall be repeated annually for the duration of the sediment removal.

If an active nest is found, the qualified biologist will develop and implement appropriate protection measures for the nest. These protection measures shall include, as appropriate, avoidance buffers. The biologist shall have the discretion to adjust the buffer area as appropriate based on the proposed construction activity, the bird species involved, and the status of the nest and nesting activity; but the buffer shall be no less than 30 feet. Work in the buffer area can resume once the nest is determined by the monitoring biologist to be inactive.

MM BIO-6 A Habitat Restoration and Monitoring Plan shall be developed by LACFCD and approved by USACE and CDFW. The plan shall include onsite habitat restoration and enhancement of no less than a 1:1 ratio for impacted sensitive habitat, utilization of willow cuttings, and exotic removal programs. The Invasive/Exotic Vegetation and Aquatic Species Removal Programs shall include: removal of invasive/exotic vegetation in the Peck Road Spreading Basin prior to the commencement of and post the completion of the Project; and removal of invasive/exotic aquatic species by a qualified biologist, when such

species are observed during biological monitoring of Project construction. The plan shall be monitored for success for five years following transplanting. A report of the monitoring results shall be submitted to the resource agencies.

MM BIO-7 Prior to commencement of construction activities, LACFCD shall obtain all necessary permits for impacts to CDFW, USACE, and RWQCB jurisdictional areas including Section 401 Certification, Section 404 permit, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement. Mitigation for impacts related to the wetlands and drainages under the jurisdiction of the resource agencies shall be negotiated with the resource agencies during the regulatory permitting process. Clean Water Act Section 404 (b)(1) guidelines shall be followed as a framework for compensatory mitigation. Through 404(b)(1) discussions with USACE and discussions with CDFW under Fish and Game Code Sections 1600-1616, a determination of the functions and values of impacted jurisdictional waters shall result in the coordination of appropriate mitigation measures for sediment removal. Potential mitigation options may include: (1) removal of exotic species from onsite LACFCD facilities; (2) payment to a mitigation bank or regional riparian enhancement program (e.g., invasive plant or wildlife species removal); and/or (3) restoration of riparian habitat either on site or off site at a ratio of no less than 1:1, determined through consultation with USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW.

4.8 CULTURAL RESOURCES

5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.8.1 Regulatory Requirement

RR CUL-1 Should archaeological resources be found during ground-disturbing activities for the Project, an Archaeologist shall be hired to first determine whether it is a “unique archaeological resource” pursuant to Section 21083.2(g) of the *California Public Resources Code* (PRC) or a “historical resource” pursuant to Section 15064.5(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines. If the archaeological resource is determined to be a “unique archaeological resource” or a “historical resource,” the Archaeologist shall formulate a mitigation plan in consultation with LACFCD that satisfies the requirements of the above-referenced sections. If the Archaeologist determines that the archaeological resource is not a “unique archaeological resource” or “historical resource,” s/he may record the site and submit the recordation form to the California Historic Resources Information System at the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton.

RR CUL-2 If human remains are encountered during excavation activities, all work shall halt in the immediate vicinity of the discovery and the County Coroner shall be notified (*California Public Resources Code* §5097.98). The Coroner shall determine whether the remains are of forensic interest. If the Coroner, with the aid of the Archaeologist approved by LACFCD, determines that the remains are prehistoric, s/he will contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC shall be responsible for designating the most likely descendant (MLD), who will be responsible for the ultimate disposition of the remains, as required by Section 7050.5 of the *California Health and Safety Code*. The MLD shall make his/her recommendation within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD’s recommendation shall be followed, if feasible, and may include scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of the human remains and any items associated with Native American burials (*California Health and Safety Code* §7050.5). If the landowner rejects the MLD’s recommendations, the landowner shall rebury the remains with appropriate dignity on the property in a location that will not be subject to further subsurface disturbance (*California Public Resources Code* §5097.98).

4.8.2 Impact Analysis

(a) and (b) The analysis of impacts to cultural resources presented below is based on the Archaeological Survey Report prepared for the Project (Appendix E). Chambers Group requested a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) cultural resources records search for the Project area in July 2013. The records search included a 0.8-km (0.5-mile) radius around the Project area and was conducted to identify prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic buildings and structures previously recorded within and around the Project area. Chambers Group also reviewed the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility as well as numerous historic maps for the presence of possible historic structures or archaeological site locations, covering a date range from 1892 through 1957. Results of the records search determined that no previously recorded archaeological sites or isolated artifacts lie within the area of potential effect (APE). The records search identified four historic-period cultural resources within a 1-mile radius of the APE which are presented below in Table 13: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Study Area. The Project would not involve any of these four cultural resources.

Table 13: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Study Area

Primary Number ¹	Trinomial ²	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility ³	Recorder and Year	Proximity to Project Area
19-3117	CA-LAN-3117H	Historic: trash scatter	Not Evaluated	Pacific Legacy. 2010	Outside
19-186876	-	Historic: transmission line	Recommended Ineligible	Becker, W. 2010	Outside
19-190506	-	Historic: transmission line	Recommended Ineligible	Becker, W. 2010	Outside
19-190510	-	Historic: aqueduct	Not Evaluated	Becker, W. 2010	Outside

¹ Primary numbers are unique identifiers used by the Office of Historic Preservation to identify cultural resources.

² Trinomial numbers are numerical identifiers assigned to archaeological sites.

³ Cultural resources, including archaeological sites, are considered eligible/ineligible based on criteria established by state and federal laws.

Chambers Group conducted a cultural resources survey on the Project area in July 2013. The entire Project area was surveyed by walking an east-west linear transect line and examining the ground surface for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools), historic artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), sediment discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, and depressions and other features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., post holes, foundations). The cultural resources field survey did not identify archaeological sites or isolated cultural resources in the Project area. The Project area is developed land situated on a relatively flat, open space with no geographic obstructions or impediments, allowing the entire Project area to be completely surveyed. During the 2013 intensive-level field survey for cultural resources, ground

visibility in the Project area was good, with approximately 75 percent visibility. The remaining 25 percent was obstructed by pavement and vegetation consisting of dry ruderal grasses. The Project area is in a disturbed context, and the likelihood of encountering previously unrecorded resources is low. The exposure of historic and archaeological resources during ground-disturbing activities is addressed by adherence to Section 21083.2(g) of the *California PRC*, see regulatory requirement RR CUL-1. Therefore, impacts to historic and archaeological resources would be less than significant.

- (c) Chambers Group requested a vertebrate paleontology records search for the Project area from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to identify fossil localities previously recorded within and around the Project area. The records search did not identify any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the Project area boundaries but did identify fossil localities nearby from sedimentary deposits similar to those that occur in the Project areas. The relatively coarse deposits of Quaternary gravels exposed in the Project area are unlikely to contain significant vertebrate fossils, at least in the uppermost layers. Although finer-grained, the younger Quaternary fluvial deposits as exposed in the Project area parcels also typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the uppermost layers. Both of these deposits may contain significant vertebrate fossils in older Quaternary Alluvium at modest depth; however, the closest vertebrate fossil locality in these older Quaternary deposits is located approximately 8 miles southwest of the Project just east of the Long Beach Freeway (Interstate 710) between the San Bernardino Freeway (Interstate 10) and the Pomona Freeway (State Highway 60). The exposure of a paleontological resource during ground-disturbing activities is addressed by adherence to Section 21083.2(g) of the *California PRC*, see regulatory requirement RR CUL-1. Therefore, impacts to paleontological impacts would be less than significant.
- (d) No burial grounds are known within or near the Project site. Therefore, the Project would not be expected to disturb human remains. The discovery of human remains during ground disturbances is addressed by adherence to State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, see regulatory requirement RR CUL-2. Therefore impacts would be less than significant.

4.9 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
	i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.9.1 Impact Analysis

(a)

- i. The Project site is located in the seismically active region of southern California. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act was passed in 1972 to mitigate the hazards of surface faulting and fault rupture to built structures. Fault rupture generally occurs within 50 feet of an active fault line and is limited to the immediate area of the fault zone where the fault breaks along the surface. The Project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (City of Arcadia 2010a). Therefore, the Project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault. No impact would occur.

- ii. Review of the Arcadia General Plan indicated that the Project is located approximately 3.5 miles south of the Sierra Madre and Raymond faults. Because southern California is

a seismically active region, it is highly likely that regional earthquakes would occur in the vicinity of the Project site. The Project site could be subjected to moderate to severe ground shaking in the event of a major earthquake on any of the faults listed above or other faults in southern California; however, the Project is limited to sediment excavation and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure that would not expose people to risks associated with ground shaking. Therefore, the Project would not introduce additional risk significantly greater than the risk already present in the Project area. Impacts would be less than significant.

- iii. Review of the Arcadia General Plan indicated that the Project is located within a liquefaction zone; however, the Project is limited to sediment excavation and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure that would not expose people to risks associated with liquefaction. Therefore, the Project would not introduce additional risk significantly greater than the risk already present in the Project area. Impacts would be less than significant.
- iv. Review of the Arcadia General Plan indicated that potential landslide hazards within Arcadia are limited to the foothills areas adjacent to the San Gabriel Mountains. The Project is located in the southernmost portion of the city and is not located within a landslide hazard area. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- (b) Erosion could occur during sediment excavation and removal from the spreading basin. Additionally, removal of nonnative vegetation, including grasses and brush, may temporarily increase the risk of erosion of soils. With compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2, impacts would be less than significant.

A stormwater pollution prevention program (SWPPP) would be prepared for the Project that would include Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are required to be implemented onsite during all construction-related activities to prevent erosion. With compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2, impacts would be less than significant.

- (c) As described above in Section 4.9.1(a)(iii), the Project is located within a liquefaction zone. Additionally, the Project may be subject to lateral spreading and subsidence during a seismic event; however, the Project is limited to sediment excavation and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure that would not expose people to risks associated with liquefaction. Therefore, the Project would not introduce additional risk significantly greater than the risk already present in the Project area. Impacts would be less than significant.
- (d) Review of the Arcadia General Plan EIR determined that expansive clays would most likely be present in older alluvial, bedrock formation soils in the hillside areas, and in sag-pond areas (e.g., the Los Angeles Arboretum and Santa Anita Racetrack areas) (Arcadia 2010c). The Project is located in the southernmost portion of the city and is not underlain by these soils with the potential for expansion. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (e) The Project does not include the construction of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. No impacts would occur.

4.10 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

7.	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.10.1 Impact Analysis

(a) The Project would consist of the removal of up to an estimated 110,000 cy of sediment and construction of a pump station and 7,000 foot long pipeline. The ongoing operation of the Project would also require the annual removal of up to 2,000 cubic yards of sediment and vegetation from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions for the Project were calculated with CalEEMod model based on the parameters detailed above. A summary of the results for the worst-case initial year of activities is shown below in Table 14. Details for the CalEEMod model run conducted for the Project are provided in Appendix A: Air Quality and Global Climate Change Impact Analysis.

Table 14: Project Related Greenhouse Gas Annual Emissions

	Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Metric Tons per Year)					
	Bio CO ₂	NonBio-CO ₂	Total CO ₂	CH ₄	N ₂ O	CO ₂ e
Project Emissions	0.00	476.19	476.19	0.09	0.00	477.98
SCAQMD Draft Threshold of Significance						3,000.00

Source: CalEEMod Version 2013.2.2.

The data provided in Table 14 above shows that the Project would create 477.98 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂e) for the worst-case initial construction year. According to the SCAQMD draft threshold of significance for GHG emissions, a cumulative global climate change impact would occur if the GHG emissions created from the ongoing operations would exceed 3,000 MTCO₂e per year. Therefore, a less than significant generation of greenhouse gas emissions would occur from development and operation of the Project.

(b) The Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Neither Los Angeles County nor any of the local jurisdictions has a Climate Action Plan or Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. Instead, the County and local jurisdictions rely on the expertise of the SCAQMD and utilize the SCAQMD as guidance for the environmental review of plans and development proposals within their jurisdictions. Therefore, the SCAQMD's GHG emission threshold is applicable to the Project.

In order to identify significance criteria under CEQA for development projects, SCAQMD initiated a Working Group, which provided detailed methodology for evaluating significance under CEQA. At the September 28, 2010, Working Group meeting, the SCAQMD released its most current version of the draft GHG emissions thresholds, which recommends a tiered approach that provides a quantitative annual threshold of 3,000 MTCO₂e for all land use projects. Although the SCAQMD provided substantial evidence supporting the use of the above threshold, it has not been formally adopted because the SCAQMD is awaiting resolution of the pending appeal of the California Building Industry Association v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).

According to the Project GHG emissions calculations presented in Table 14 above, implementation of the Project would result in the generation of 477.98 MTCO₂e for the worst-case initial year of activities. The Project would be below the SCAQMD's proposed threshold of 3,000 MTCO₂e. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases and impacts would be less than significant.

4.11 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

8.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Be located 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan had not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h)	Expose 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.11.1 Regulatory Requirements

RR HAZ-1 Activities at the Project site shall comply with existing federal, state, and local regulations regarding hazardous material use, storage, disposal, and transport to prevent Project-related risks to public health and safety. All waste generated on site that meets hazardous waste criteria shall be stored, manifested, transported, and disposed of in accordance with the *California Code of Regulations* (Title 22).

4.11.2 Impact Analysis

- (a) and (b) The Project would not require the extended use of acutely hazardous materials or substances. Project activities involving construction equipment would be short-term and would involve the limited transport, use, disposal, and storage of hazardous materials. Some examples of the hazardous materials that may be handled include fuels, lubricating fluids, and solvents. These types of materials, however, are not acutely hazardous; and all storage, handling, and disposal of these materials is regulated by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the Los Angeles County Health Department. Adherence to the regulations set forth by county, state, and federal agencies would reduce the potential for hazardous materials impacts to a less than significant level and would not pose a safety hazard to sensitive receptors.
- (c) The Project is located approximately 0.25 mile from Rio Hondo Elementary School. Heavy equipment used during sediment excavation and construction activities would emit emissions associated with internal combustion engines, i.e., diesel and gasoline; however, the Project is not located immediately adjacent to Rio Hondo Elementary School; nor would the proposed haul route pass by Rio Hondo Elementary School. Consequently, emissions associated with internal combustion engines would likely dissipate prior to reaching Rio Hondo Elementary School. Furthermore, adherence to county, state, and federal agency regulations governing the use of hazardous materials during construction (see regulatory requirement RR HAZ-1) would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level and would not pose a safety hazard to sensitive receptors. No mitigation measures are required.
- (d) A search of the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database determined that the Project is located in close proximity to one property, 11800 East Goldring Road, that has been identified as a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanup site. The property is owned by the City of Arcadia and is located approximately 350 feet south of the proposed pipeline alignment where it crosses the intersection of Clark Street and Kardashian Avenue. According to the SWRCB GeoTracker website, the release of material that consisted only of petroleum was stopped, no free product was encountered, groundwater was not affected, and the site is considered a low-threat for direct contact and outdoor air exposure. A remedial action plan was authorized (County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 2007), and the site is currently listed as “Open – Eligible for Closure.” Therefore, corrective action at 11800 East Goldring Road has been determined to be completed and any remaining petroleum constituents from the release are considered to be a low threat to Human Health, Safety, and the Environment. The case is going through the process of being closed. (GeoTracker 2014). In addition, the proposed 7,000-foot pipeline would not cross the property located at 11800 East Goldring Road. Therefore, construction of the Project would not be expected to encounter soils and groundwater that have been contaminated. No impacts are expected.
- (e) The Project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of the El Monte Airport, which is a public airport. The Project is not located within the Airport Influence Area of El Monte Airport. Furthermore, the Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. It would not introduce structures that could disrupt air traffic patterns or construct housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that could place people at risk in the event of an aircraft mishap. Therefore, implementation of the

Project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area, and impacts would be less than significant.

- (f) The Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. No impacts would occur.
- (g) Construction of the underground pipeline within the existing Clark Street roadway would require temporary road closures. Clark Street is not identified as an emergency response or evacuation route in the City of Arcadia General Plan. The pipeline would be constructed in segments to limit the length and duration of any lane closures along Clark Street. Implementation of regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 during the construction phase would ensure that emergency evacuation and response were maintained and reduce impacts to a level less than significant.
- (h) The Project site is surrounded by a mixture of recreational, industrial, and residential development and is not located adjacent to wildlands. Therefore, the potential for the Project site to be exposed to wildfires is minimal, and impacts would be less than significant.

4.12 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

9.	HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Substantially alter 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 a substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Substantially alter 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 off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g)	Place 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(i)	Expose 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.12.1 Regulatory Requirements

RR HYD-1 Prior to the start of construction activities, LACFCD shall file a Permit Registration Document (PRD) with SWRCB in order to obtain coverage under that National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with the Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-009-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002) or the latest approved general permit. This permit is required for construction activities (including demolition, clearing, grading, and excavation) and other land disturbance activities that result in the disturbance of one

acre or more of total land area. The PRD consists of a Notice of Intent (NOI), Risk Assessment, Site Map, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP), annual fee, and a signed certification statement. Pursuant to permit requirements, the Contractor shall develop and incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing or eliminating construction-related pollutants in site runoff. In addition, during construction LACFCD shall comply with the appropriate requirements listed in the adopted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit (Order No. R4-2012-0175, NPDES No. CAS004001), which regulates municipal discharges of stormwater and nonstormwater.

- RR HYD -2 Discharges during construction are regulated under SWRCB Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges That Have Received State Water Quality Certification," which requires compliance with all conditions of the Water Quality Certification issued by RWQCB. Compliance with the Water Quality Certification issued by RWQCB would ensure that any discharge from the Project does not conflict with the applicable provisions of Sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, or any other applicable requirements of state law.

4.12.2 Impact Analysis

- (a) Excavation and removal of sediment from the spreading basin could generate runoff or erosion that could violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements; however, with compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2 temporary construction impacts on water quality would be less than significant.

Operation of the Project would not generate runoff or erosion that could impact water quality. Therefore, operational impacts on water quality would be less than significant.

- (b) Excess sediment within the spreading basin limits groundwater recharge by causing the basin to fill up quickly and allow water to be wasted through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel to the ocean. Sediment excavation and removal would preserve water that currently exits through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel by removing existing water flow constrictions and increasing storage capacity. Furthermore, the Project would transfer water to the soft-bottom San Gabriel River, which has much greater percolation rates than the clay-bottom spreading basin and percolates into the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. Therefore, the Project would improve groundwater recharge and improve water supply sustainability efforts. No impacts would occur.
- (c) With compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2, the Project would not result in a substantial erosion or siltation on or off site. The Project would improve the existing drainage pattern by excavating and removing excess sediment that currently restricts water flow and restricts storage capacity. The 7,000-foot pipeline and pump station would transfer water that currently exits through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel to the San Gabriel River. The resulting improved storage capacity and lowering of the water level would reduce the potential

for the spreading basin to generate runoff that would result in a substantial erosion or siltation on or off site. No impacts would occur.

- (d) The Project would improve the existing drainage pattern by excavating and removing excess sediment that currently restricts water flow and restricts storage capacity. The 7,000-foot pipeline and pump station would transfer water that currently exits through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel to the San Gabriel River. Removal of the excess sediment would reduce the risk of upstream flooding along the Santa Anita and Sawpit washes. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (e) With compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2, the Project would not exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Operation of the Project would not generate runoff or erosion that could impact water quality. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (f) With compliance of regulatory requirements RR HYD-1 and RR HYD-2, the Project would not impact water quality. Operation of the Project would not generate runoff or erosion that could impact water quality. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (g) The Project does not include the construction of housing and is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area. No impacts would occur.
- (h) The Project area is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area. No impacts would occur.
- (i) The Project is located within the inundation area for the Santa Fe Dam; however, the Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. The Project would not construct new housing or other structures that expose people to a significant risk of injury or death due to a failure of Santa Fe Dam. Therefore, impacts would remain unchanged from the existing condition.
- (j) The Project is located approximately 27 miles inland at its nearest point to the Pacific coastline and, therefore, does not have the potential to be impacted by a tsunami. As described in Section 4.9.1(a)iv, the Project is not located within a landslide hazard area and, therefore, does not have the potential to be impacted by mudflow. During ground-shaking activities the Project could be subject to seiche from Santa Fe Dam or one of several other reservoirs within Arcadia. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure; the Project would not construct new housing or other structures that expose people to inundation from a seiche. Therefore, impacts would remain unchanged from the existing condition.

4.13 LAND USE AND PLANNING

10.	LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.13.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. The Project would not permanently sever an existing roadway or construct new structures that could alter existing community character. Removal of excavated sediment from the spreading basin would follow an approved haul route on existing roads and would not adversely affect traffic patterns. Construction of the underground pipeline within the existing Clark Street roadway would require temporary road closures within Arcadia; however, the pipeline would be constructed in segments to limit the length and duration of any lane closures along Clark Street. Furthermore, implementation of regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 during the construction phase would maintain adequate traffic circulation. Construction of the easternmost segment of the pipeline and outfall structure within Irwindale would occur within undeveloped land and would not adversely affect any surrounding land uses. Once construction is completed, the pump station at the spreading basin and outfall structure at the San Gabriel River would not affect surrounding land uses. Therefore, the Project would not divide an established community, and impacts would be less than significant.

- (b) The Resource Sustainability Element of the Arcadia General Plan states that the spreading basin has been designated for continued use for flood control and groundwater recharge. Implementation of the Project would improve these functions of the spreading basin. All impacts associated with construction of the Project within Arcadia would be temporary and cease upon Project completion. See mitigation measures throughout the IS/MND for a discussion of how all impacts would be mitigated to a level less than significant. Construction of the easternmost segment of the pipeline and outfall structure within Irwindale would occur within undeveloped land and would not adversely affect any surrounding land uses. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any goals and policies with the general plans of the Cities of Arcadia or Irwindale, and impacts would be less than significant.

- (c) No adopted, approved, or proposed Habitat Conservation Plans, Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans that cover habitats are located within the Cities of Arcadia and Irwindale. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not conflict with any such provisions. No impact would occur.

4.14 MINERAL RESOURCES

11.	MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.14.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) Sediment excavation and pipeline construction would be located in an area designated as Mineral Resource Zone 2 (MRZ-2) in the Resource Sustainability Element of the City of the Arcadia General Plan. The State Mining and Geology Board applies the MRZ-2 designation to land where “adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present or there is a high likelihood for their presence, and development should be controlled (City of Arcadia).” The Peck Road Spreading Basin currently is not used for mineral extraction and serves to provide flood control and groundwater recharge. The Resource Sustainability Element of the Arcadia General Plan states that the spreading basin has been designated for continued use for flood control and groundwater recharge. Implementation of the Project would improve these functions of the spreading basin. Furthermore, implementation of the Project would not preclude future mineral resource extraction from the spreading basin. Therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of known mineral resources that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state, and impacts would be less than significant.
- (b) As described in Section 4.14.1(a) above, the Peck Road Spreading Basin, classified as MRZ-2, currently is not used for mineral extraction and serves to provide flood control and groundwater recharge. The general plan designates the spreading basin for continued use as flood control and groundwater recharge, and implementation of the Project would not preclude future mineral resource extraction from the spreading basin. Therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan; and impacts would be less than significant.

4.15 NOISE

12.	NOISE Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan had not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.15.1 Environmental Setting

Noise is defined as unwanted sound. Sound becomes unwanted when it interferes with normal activities, when it causes actual physical harm or when it has adverse effects on health. The vibration of sound pressure waves in the air produces sound. Sound pressure levels are used to measure the intensity of sound and are described in terms of decibels. The decibel (dB) is a logarithmic unit that expresses the ratio of the sound pressure level being measured to a standard reference level. A-weighted decibels (dBA) approximate the subjective response of the human ear to a broad frequency noise source by discriminating against very low and very high frequencies of the audible spectrum. They are adjusted to reflect only those frequencies that are audible to the human ear.

Noise Equivalent sound levels are not measured directly but are calculated from sound pressure levels typically measured in dBA. The equivalent sound level (Leq) represents a steady-state sound level containing the same total energy as a time-varying signal over a given sample period. The peak traffic hour Leq is the noise metric used by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for all traffic noise impact analyses.

4.15.2 Regulatory Setting

California Department of Health Services Office of Noise Control

Established in 1973, the California Department of Health Services Office of Noise Control (ONC) was instrumental in developing regulatory tools to control and abate noise for use by local agencies. One significant model is the “Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Environments Matrix,” which allows the local jurisdiction to clearly delineate compatibility of sensitive uses with various incremental levels of noise, which are presented on Figure 11: Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Environments Matrix.

City of Arcadia

The City of Arcadia General Plan and Municipal Code have established thresholds for acceptable levels of noise and vibration. Specific policies from the General Plan and municipal code are presented below.

City of Arcadia General Plan

The City of Arcadia General Plan establishes the following applicable policies related to noise and vibration:

- Goal N-1: Effective incorporation of noise considerations into land use planning decisions.
 - Policy N-1-1 Consider noise impacts as part of the development review process relative to residential and other noise-sensitive land uses.
 - Policy N-1-2 Ensure that acceptable noise levels are maintained near schools, hospitals, and other sensitive areas in accordance with the Noise/Land Use Compatibility Guidelines in Table 15: City of Arcadia Interior/Exterior Noise Level Standards and the City’s Noise Ordinance.
 - Policy N-1-5 Require that Projects that have the potential to result in noise impacts include an acoustical analysis and appropriate mitigation to achieve the interior and exterior noise standards indicated in Table 15: City of Arcadia Interior/Exterior Noise Level Standards.
- Goal N-2: Reduced noise impacts from transportation sources
 - Policy N-2-5 Enforce truck routes established in the Circulation and Infrastructure Element and the Municipal Code.
- Goal N-3: Limited intrusion of point-source noise within residential neighborhoods and on noise-sensitive uses.

COMMUNITY NOISE EXPOSURE

L_{dn} or CNEL, dB

55 60 65 70 75 80

	55	60	65	70	75	80
<i>Residential – Low Density Single Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes</i>						
<i>Residential – Multifamily</i>						
<i>Transient Lodging – Motels, Hotels</i>						
<i>Schools, Libraries, Churches, Hospitals, Nursing Homes</i>						
<i>Auditorium, Concert Halls, Amphitheaters</i>						
<i>Sports Arena, Outdoor Spectator Sports</i>						
<i>Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks</i>						
<i>Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Recreation, Cemeteries</i>						
<i>Office Buildings, Business Commercial and Professional</i>						
<i>Industrial, Manufacturing, Utilities, Agriculture</i>						

LEGEND:



NORMALLY ACCEPTABLE

Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction without any special noise insulation requirements.



NORMALLY UNACCEPTABLE

New construction or development should generally be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made and noise insulation features included in the design.



CONDITIONALLY ACCEPTABLE

New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements is made. Conventional construction, but with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning, will normally suffice.



CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE

New construction or development should generally not be undertaken.

Source: California Department of Health. *Guidelines for the Preparation and Content of Noise Elements of the General Plan*. November, 1990.

Figure 11
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Land Use Compatibility Matrix

Policy N-3-3 Explore requiring the use of noise suppression devices and techniques on all exterior noise sources (construction operations, pumps, fans, leaf blowers) to lower exterior noise levels that are compatible with adjacent land uses.

- Policy N-3-5 Require noise created by new non-transportation noise sources to be mitigated so as not to exceed acceptable interior and exterior noise level standards identified in this Noise Element.

Table 15: City of Arcadia Interior/Exterior Noise Level Standards

Land Use	Maximum Exterior Noise Level	Maximum Interior Noise Level
Residential; Rural, Single-Family, and Multi-Family	65 dBA CNEL	45 dBA CNEL
Schools		
Classroom	70 dBA CNEL	45 dBA Leq
Playground	70 dBA CNEL	--
Libraries	--	45 dBA
Hospitals/Convalescent Facilities		
Sleeping Areas	65 dBA CNEL	45 dBA CNEL
Living Areas	--	50 dBA CNEL
Reception, Office	--	50 dBA Leq
Hotels/Motels		
Sleeping Areas	--	45 dBA CNEL
Reception, Office	--	50 dBA Leq
Places of Worship	65 dBA CNEL	45 dBA Leq
Open Space/Recreation		
Wildlife Habitat	60 dBA CNEL	--
Passive Recreation Areas	65 dBA CNEL	--
Active Recreation Areas	70 dBA CNEL	--
Commercial and Business Park		
Office	--	55 dBA Leq
Restaurant, Retail, Service	--	65 dBA Leq
Warehousing/Industrial	--	70 dBA Leq

Source: City of Arcadia, 2010.

City of Arcadia Municipal Code

The City of Arcadia Municipal Code establishes the following applicable standards related to noise.

Section 4610.3. Noise Limits

- i. It shall be unlawful for any person within the City of Arcadia to produce or cause or allow to be produced sound or noise which is amplified by the use of sound amplifying equipment and which amplified noise or sound is received on property occupied by another person within the designated region, in excess of the following levels presented in Table 15: City of Arcadia Noise Limits, except as expressly provided otherwise or exempted hereinafter:

Table 16: City of Arcadia Noise Limits

Region	Day (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.)	Night (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.)
Residential Zone	55 dBA	50 dBA
Commercial Zone	65 dBA	60 dBA
Industrial Zone	70 dBA	70 dBA

Source: City of Arcadia, 2013.

- ii. At the boundary line between two of the above zones, the noise level of the quieter zone shall be used.
- iii. It shall be unlawful for any person to produce or cause or allow to be produced sound or noise from air-conditioning equipment, pumps, fans or similar machinery which is received on residentially zoned property occupied by another person in excess of 55 dBA, provided, however, that if such machinery was installed prior to December 1, 1970, the noise level shall not be in excess of 60 dBA.

Section 4261. Prohibited Hours Defined

The term “prohibited hours” as used in this Part shall mean any time after the hour of 7:00 p.m. of any day; any time before the hour of 7:00 a.m. of any day; any time on any Sunday; and any time on any of the following holidays: January 1 (New Year’s Day); May 30 (Memorial Day); July 4; Labor Day; November 11 (Veteran’s Day); Thanksgiving Day; and December 25 (Christmas Day); provided that if in any calendar year any such holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall constitute the holiday.

Section 4262. Construction Limited

Unless a permit so to do shall first have been obtained as provided in Section 4263, no person shall during prohibited hours engage in any earth excavation, land fill or earth moving operation or in the construction of any portion of a building or structure, nor shall any person during prohibited hours use or operate any truck, tractor, crane, rig, or any mechanical equipment of any kind in connection with, in the performance of or in furtherance of any of the foregoing.

4.15.3 Existing Noise Conditions

Noise measurements were taken in the vicinity of the Project site to determine the existing noise level environment. The field survey noted that noise within the Project area is generally characterized by vehicular traffic on the nearby roadways. The following describes the measurement locations, noise measurement results, and the modeling of the existing noise environment.

Noise Measurement Locations

The noise monitoring locations were selected in order to obtain noise measurements of the current noise levels in the Project study area and to provide a baseline for any potential noise impacts that may be created by development of the Project. The noise measurement sites were selected to provide a representative sampling of the noise levels created by nearby noise sources as well as experienced by

nearby sensitive receptors. Descriptions of the noise monitoring sites are provided below in Table 17: Existing (Ambient) Noise Level Measurements; and Figure 12: Noise Measurement Locations shows the noise monitoring site locations. A photo index of the study area and noise level measurement locations is included in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis.

Noise Measurement Timing and Climate

The noise measurements were recorded between 3:18 p.m. and 4:59 p.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2013. When the noise measurements were started the sky was clear, the temperature was 96 degrees Fahrenheit, the humidity was 22 percent, barometric pressure was 29.42 inches of mercury, and the wind was blowing around 8 miles per hour.

Noise Measurement Results

The results of the noise level measurements are presented in Table 17. The existing noise level measurements ranged from 45.3 to 72.9 dBA Leq, with the highest noise measurement at Site 3. The noise measurement data printouts are provided in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis.

Table 17: Existing (Ambient) Noise Level Measurements

Site No.	Site Description	Primary Noise Source	Start Time	Duration (min:sec)	Noise Levels	
					dBA Leq	dBA L _{max}
1	Located at the proposed staging area next to the Santa Anita Wash and approximately 260 feet south of the nearest home.	Aircraft noise	3:18 p.m.	15:00	45.3	59.3
2	Located on the front yard of the residence at 12012 Clark Street approximately 35 feet south of Clark Street centerline and 150 feet east of Cogswell Road centerline.	Traffic noise on Clark Street	3:49 p.m.	15:00	55.8	71.7
3	Located east of the entry way of the Irwindale Senior Center at 16116 Arrow Highway and approximately 60 feet south of Arrow Highway centerline.	Traffic noise on Arrow Highway	4:44 p.m.	15:30	72.9	87.2

Source: Noise measurements taken with a Larson Davis Model 831 Type 1 precision sound level meter on Thursday August 22, 2013.

According to Section 2.2.3 of the Caltrans Technical Noise Supplement, the CNEL values are generally within plus or minus 2 dBA of the measured peak hour Leq dBA. Table 17 shows that only Site 3 currently exceeds the normally acceptable residential exterior noise standard of 65 dBA CNEL.

Figure 12
 Peck Water Conservation
 Improvement Project
 Noise Measurement Locations



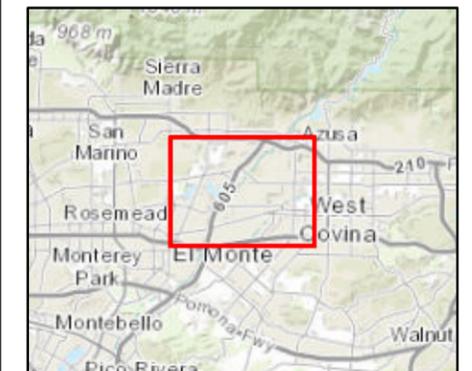
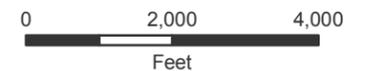
Legend

-  Project Boundary
-  Excavation Area
-  Noise Measurement (Obtained from Vista Environmental)
- Alternate Haul-out Sites**
-  Alt. A-Peck Road Gravel Pit
-  Alt. B-Manning Pit Sediment Placement Site
-  Alt. C-Azusa Land Reclamation
- Alternate Haul Routes**
-  to Peck Road Gravel Pit
-  to Manning Sediment Placement Site
-  to Azusa Land Reclamation

*Noise measurement locations obtained from Vista Environmental



SCALE= 1:30,000



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, MEI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community
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I:\gis\data\GIS_DATA\Projects\200005\20601 - 20800\20690 Peck Road Basin\20690 Figure 12 Noise Measurement Locations.mxd

4.15.4 Impact Analysis

- (a) Potential impacts associated with noise were modeled in the Noise Impact Analysis prepared for the Project. Details of the parameters used in the noise model are provided in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis.

Construction Noise

Construction of the Project would occur in phases that would include: (1) pipeline construction, (2) paving, (3) dewatering of basin, (4) removal of vegetation, (5) sediment removal; and (6) pump station construction. The nearest sensitive receptors consist of single-family residential units located on the northwest side of the basin in the City of Arcadia and as near as 50 feet from where construction equipment would operate within the spreading basin. Single-family homes are also located on the south side of Clark Street in the City of El Monte that are as near as 35 feet from the where pipeline construction would occur within the Clark Street right-of-way.

Section 4261 of the City of Arcadia Municipal Code exempts construction noise from the city's noise level standards provided construction activities take place between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., except for Sundays and holidays. Section 8.36.050(C)(1) of the City of El Monte Municipal Code exempts construction noise for the city's noise level standards provided construction activities take place between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Through adherence to the limitation of allowable construction times provided in Section 4261 City of Arcadia Municipal Code and Section 8.36.050(C)(1) of the City of El Monte Municipal Code, the construction-related noise levels would not exceed any standards. Impact would be less than significant.

Operational Pump Station Noise

The ongoing operation of the Project would include periodic operation of electric pumps in the proposed pump station. The electric pumps would be located partially underground and within the fully enclosed pump station. The nearest receptors to the pump station consist of industrial uses as near as 110 feet southeast of the proposed pump station and single-family residential units located as near as 1,000 feet northwest of the proposed pump station. All nearby receptors are in the City of Arcadia.

Section 4610.3 of the City of Arcadia Municipal Code limits stationary source noise impacts for residential uses to 55 dBA between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and 50 dBA between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. and for industrial uses to 70 dBA any time of the day.

In order to determine the noise impacts created by the pump station, a reference noise measurement was taken of an operational electric water pump at 22958 Mission Drive in Carson, which measured a noise level of 68.1 dBA Leq at 5 feet from the electric pump. Based on a point noise source sound drop-off rate of 6 dB per of the distance between the source and receptor, this results in noise levels from the electric water pump of 41.3 dB at the nearest industrial use and 22.1 dB at the nearest residential use. These two noise levels are below the

noise threshold standard for stationary sources defined in Section 4610.3 of the City of Arcadia Municipal Code. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- (b) Potential impacts associated with vibration were modeled in the Noise Impact Analysis prepared for the Project. Details of the parameters used in the noise model are provided in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis.

Construction-Related Vibration Impacts

Construction activities can produce vibration that may be felt by adjacent uses. The primary source of vibration during construction would be from the operation of a bulldozer, which would create a vibration level of 0.089 inch per second peak particle velocity (PPV) at 25 feet. The nearest sensitive receptors to where a bulldozer would operate consist of single-family residential units located on the northwest side of the basin in the City of Arcadia and as near as 250 feet from potential bulldozer operations. Based on typical propagation rates, the vibration level at the nearest offsite receptor would be 0.01 inch per second PPV. This vibration level at the nearest offsite receptor is well below the threshold of perception for transient sources of 0.25 inch per second PPV. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Operations-Related Vibration Impacts

The ongoing operation of the Project would not include the operation of any known vibration sources. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- (c) Periodic operation of electric pumps at the proposed pump station would introduce a new permanent noise source that could affect industrial uses as near as 110 feet southeast of the proposed pump station and single-family residential units located as near as 1,000 feet northwest of the proposed pump station. As described in Section 4.15.4(a) above, a noise source sound drop-off rate of 6 dB per of the distance between the source and receptor would result in noise levels from the electric water pump of 41.3 dB at the nearest industrial use and 22.1 dB at the nearest residential use. These two noise levels are below the noise threshold standard for stationary sources defined in Section 4610.3 of the City of Arcadia Municipal Code. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

(d) Onsite Construction Equipment Noise

As described in Section 4.15.4(a), the Project would comply with construction noise standards established in Section 4261 of the City of Arcadia Municipal Code; however, the City construction noise standards do not provide any limits to the noise levels that may be created during construction activities at the nearby sensitive receptors; and even with adherence to the City standards, the resultant construction noise levels may result in a significant substantial temporary noise increase at the nearby sensitive receptors.

The Noise Impact Analysis prepared for the Project modeled potential noise increases associated with construction utilizing OSHA agency limits for noise exposure. Details of the OSHA agency limits and parameters used in the noise model are provided in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis. The results of the noise model are presented below in Table 18: Construction Noise Levels at Nearby Receptors.

Table 18: Construction Noise Levels at Nearby Receptors

Construction Phase	Distance to Nearest Receptor (feet)	Construction Noise Levels ¹	
		dBA Leq	dBA L _{max}
Pipeline Construction	35	86	93
Paving	35	79	82
Dewatering of Basin	165	72	71
Removal of Vegetation	250	69	68
Sediment Removal	250	68	68
Pump Station Construction	110	74	77
OSHA Construction Noise Standards		90	105

Notes:

¹ L_{max} is based on the maximum noise from the loudest piece of equipment and the Leq is the average noise from all equipment. Since there are multiple pieces of equipment being modeled the average noise may exceed the maximum noise from one piece of equipment.

Source: RCNM, Federal Highway Administration, 2006

Table 18 shows that greatest noise impacts would occur during the pipeline construction phase of construction, with noise levels as high as 86 dBA Leq and 93 dBA Lmax at the nearest offsite residential use. Table 18 shows that the noise levels from each phase of construction activities would be within the 90 dBA Leq and 105 dBA Lmax thresholds detailed above. Furthermore, the calculated noise levels above do not account for the attenuation of the residential or industrial structures, which would reduce construction noise levels by 15 to 30 dB, depending on whether the windows are open or closed. Therefore, impacts associated with the periodic increase in ambient noise levels during construction would be less than significant.

Offsite Vehicular Noise

The sediment removal activities for the Project would generate at the most up to 200 daily round trips from haul trucks traveling between the Project site and sediment disposal sites, located approximately less than 1 to 7 miles east of the Project site in the Cities of Irwindale and Azusa. It is likely that fewer truck trips per day and/or for the overall total will be required. Most of the sediment will be hauled to the closest sediment disposal site, Peck Road Gravel Pit, located less than 1 mile east of the spreading basin. Vegetation and organic material will be hauled to Azusa Land Reclamation.

As shown in Figure 12, the California Department of Health has established a noise/land use compatibility threshold of 60 dB CNEL for single-family homes. Neither the California Department of Health nor any of the local jurisdictions provide any direction for sensitive receptors that already exceed the normally acceptable noise levels for the without Project condition; however, the Federal Transit Administration (2006), which assesses noise and vibration impacts from transit projects, found that when the ambient noise is between 60 and 64, a noise exposure increase of 2 dB is allowed before a significant impact would occur. When the ambient noise is between 65 and 74 dB Ldn, a noise exposure increase of 1 dB is allowed

before a significant impact would occur, and when the ambient noise exceeds 74 dB Ldn, any increase in noise exposure would create a significant impact.

The potential offsite traffic noise impacts created by the offsite vehicle trips generated from the Project were analyzed in the Noise Impact Analysis prepared for the Project through utilization of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Model. Details of the FHWA Model and parameters are provided in Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis. A comparison of the existing conditions with the Project’s sediment removal haul truck trips is provided in Table 19: Project Haul Truck Traffic Noise Contributions.

Table 19: Project Haul Truck Traffic Noise Contributions

Roadway	Segment	dBA CNEL at Nearest Residence ¹			Threshold
		Existing	Existing Plus Route 1A	Project Contribution	
Peck Road	South of Live Oak Avenue	61.7	61.8	0.1	> +2 dB
Live Oak Avenue	East of Peck Road	62.9	63.0	0.1	> +2 dB
Arrow Highway	East of Live Oak Avenue	60.6	60.7	0.1	> +2 dB
Arrow Highway	East of Azusa Canyon Road	67.6	67.7	0.1	> +1 dB
Arrow Highway	East of Irwindale Avenue	70.1	70.1	0.0	> +1 dB
Vincent Avenue	South of Arrow Highway	65.8	66.0	0.2	> +1 dB

Notes:

¹ Distances to nearest receptors are shown in Table E of Appendix F: Noise Impact Analysis. Distances to nearest receptor shown in Table E do not take into account existing noise barriers.

Source: FHWA Traffic Noise Prediction Model- FHWA-RD-77-108.

Table 19 shows that the Project’s haul truck traffic noise contributions to the preferred route to Manning Pit would increase the roadway noise by up to 0.2 dB. The Project would not cause the noise level at any nearby home to exceed the normally compatible noise residential standard for the Project condition that did not already exceed the standards for the without Project condition. The Project’s contribution to offsite vehicular noise would result in a less than significant impact.

- (e) The Project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of the El Monte Airport, which is a public airport. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. It would not introduce structures that could expose people to elevated noise levels associated with El Monte Airport. No impacts would occur.
- (f) The Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. No impacts would occur.

4.16 POPULATION AND HOUSING

13.	POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.16.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. The Project would not construct new housing or new roads that could induce future growth. No impacts would occur.
- (b) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not displace any housing. No impacts would occur.
- (c) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not displace any people or necessitate the construction of replacement housing. No impacts would occur.

4.17 PUBLIC SERVICES

14.	PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.17.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) Fire protection for the Project area within Arcadia is currently provided by the Arcadia Fire Department. The Arcadia Fire Station that would respond to calls in the area of the Project site is Fire Station 105, located approximately 2.2 miles from the site at 710 S. Santa Anita Avenue. Fire protection for the Project area within the City of Irwindale is currently provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, which provides a single station located at 15546 Arrow Highway. It is most likely that fire protection services would be provided by the Arcadia Fire Department should they become necessary. Construction activities may temporarily increase the need for fire protection services; however, avoidance measures will be coordinated with the Arcadia Fire Department prior to sediment removal activities to reduce the potential for accidental fire during Project implementation. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that could increase demand for fire protection services. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- (b) Police protection and law enforcement services for the Project area within Arcadia are currently provided by the Arcadia Police Department, which maintains a single station at 250 W. Huntington Drive. The City of Irwindale also provides police services from its single station located at 5050 Irwindale Ave. Construction of the Project would not increase demand for police protection services. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that could increase demand for police protection services. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- (c) Rio Hondo Elementary School is located approximately 0.25 mile west of the Project site. The Project would not impact Rio Hondo Elementary School or any other school within the Cities of Arcadia or Irwindale. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing that could increase demand for schools. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- (d) The spreading basin is located immediately adjacent to three recreational facilities. Peck Road Water Conservation Park encompasses the eastern shore of the spreading basin. Although construction of the Project would disrupt access to Peck Road Water Conservation Park, the Project work plan would include provisions to maintain access to portions of the park. Limited park access would be temporary and cease upon Project completion. The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing that could increase demand for parks. Therefore, no significant impact would occur.

A portion of the Rio Hondo Bike Path follows the western shore of the spreading basin up to Santa Anita Wash and the eastern shore up to Peck Road Water Conservation Park. Although construction of the Project would have the potential to disrupt access to the existing Rio Hondo Bike Path, compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would include provisions to maintain access to during construction. Compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would also include provisions to facilitate coordination with construction of the proposed Quarry Clasp Multi-Use Trail and Bike Paths. Furthermore, limited park access would be temporary and would cease upon Project completion. Arcadia Golf Course is located west of the Rio Hondo Bike Path and would not be impacted by Project construction. Therefore, impacts to park facilities would be less than significant.

- (e) No other public facilities are anticipated to be impacted by the Project. No impact would occur.

4.18 RECREATION

15.	RECREATION. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.18.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. The Project would not construct new housing that would induce population growth that could increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks. No impacts would occur.

- (b) The spreading basin is located immediately adjacent to three recreational facilities. Peck Road Water Conservation Park encompasses the eastern shore of the spreading basin. Although construction of the Project would disrupt access to Peck Road Water Conservation Park, the Project work plan would include provisions to maintain access to portions of the park. Limited park access would be temporary and would cease upon Project completion. The Project would not include the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. In addition, the temporary limited park access is not expected to cause a demand for the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

4.19 TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

16.	TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e. g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.19.1 Regulatory Requirements

RR TRA-1 The movement of large equipment on public roadways shall be made in compliance with the Los Angeles County Code (Title 16, Highway), which requires a moving permit and which includes provisions regarding the size of vehicles/equipment; night moves; moving in inclement weather; parking on streets; travel outside peak hours and holidays; over-length, over-height, and over-width requirements; lighting; signs; and restricted routes. Oversized transport vehicles on state highways, if required, would need to obtain a transportation permit from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Oversized transport vehicles on local roadways, if required, would need to obtain a transportation permit from the Cities of Arcadia, Irwindale, Monrovia, and Azusa.

RR TRA-2 The County’s general construction requirements require the implementation of temporary traffic control in accordance with the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Greenbook), which contains standards for traffic and access (i.e.,

maintenance of access, traffic control, and notification of emergency personnel). The Contractor shall provide temporary traffic control in accordance with the Greenbook during construction activities. This RR shall be included by LACFCD as noted in the Contractor specifications.

4.19.2 Impact Analysis

- (a) and (b) Excavated sediment would be hauled away from the Project site to one of the following sediment disposal sites: Peck Road Gravel Pit, Manning Pit SPS, or Azusa Land Reclamation. These sites are located in the Cities of Irwindale and Azusa, less than 1 to 7 miles east of the spreading basin. It is anticipated that the majority of the sediment would be hauled to the closest sediment disposal site, Peck Road Gravel Pit, located less than 1 mile east of the spreading basin. Vegetation and organic material will be hauled to Azusa Land Reclamation. The Alternative A Peck Road Gravel Pit truck haul route would travel north on Peck Road, turn right onto Live Oak Avenue, and terminate at the Peck Road Gravel Pit (see Figure 3). The Alternative B Manning Pit Sediment Replacement Site truck haul route would travel north on Peck Road, turn right onto Live Oak Avenue, continue on Arrow Highway, turn right on Vincent Avenue, and terminate at the Manning Pit SPS (see Figure 3). The Alternative C Azusa Land Reclamation truck haul route would travel north on Peck Road, turn right onto Live Oak Avenue, continue on Arrow Highway, turn left on Vincent Avenue, turn left on West Gladstone Street, and terminate at Azusa Land Reclamation.

Hauling of excavated sediment during construction would increase the number of vehicles traveling on the roadways included in the preferred truck haul route. It is estimated that removal of excavated sediment from the Project site will be accomplished with up to approximately 200 truck trips per day over 60 working days. It is likely that fewer truck trips per day and/or for the overall total will be required. It is not anticipated that the additional maximum of 200 truck trips per day generated by excavation and hauling activities would adversely affect existing traffic level of service on any of the roadways included in the three truck haul route alternatives or on the surrounding circulation system.

Construction of the underground pipeline within the existing Clark Street roadway would require temporary closures of portions of the road within Arcadia; however, the pipeline would be constructed in segments to limit the length and duration of any lane closures along Clark Street. Adherence to regulatory requirements RR TRA-1 and RR TRA-2 would further ensure consistency with traffic ordinances and policies governing the existing roadway network. Furthermore, compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 during the construction phase would maintain adequate traffic circulation. Compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would result in provision of temporary traffic controls that, at a minimum, will include provisions to maintain adequate traffic circulation during Project construction, even if temporary lane closures are required on Clark Street.

Maintenance for the Project would require periodic removal of up to 2,000 cy of accumulated sediment per year from the Santa Anita Wash outlet. It is anticipated that the hauling of sediment during maintenance activities would have an approximate duration of one week and require approximately 25 truck trips per day. Excavated sediment during maintenance activities would be hauled to one of the three sediment disposal sites described above, following one of the three truck haul route alternatives proposed for construction. The 25 truck trips per day

required for maintenance activities would be far less than the number of trips required for excavation and sediment removal during construction. Consequently, maintenance for the Project would not adversely affect existing traffic level of service on any of the roadways included in the three truck haul route alternatives or on the surrounding circulation system. Furthermore, the Project would not construct housing or other structures that could generate new traffic trips, and additional traffic trips associated with sediment excavation would cease upon Project completion. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system or a congestion management plan. Impacts would be less than significant.

- (c) The Project is located approximately 1 mile northeast of the El Monte Airport. Implementation of the Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure. It would not introduce structures that could disrupt air traffic patterns or construct housing that could increase travel demand at El Monte Airport. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns. No impact would occur.
- (d) The Project would not make any permanent modifications to the existing circulation system. Construction of the 7,000-foot pipeline would require excavation within the existing right-of-way for Clark Street, but the road would be restored to its original condition once pipeline construction was completed. The Project would not result in any other changes to the existing circulation system. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (e) Construction of the underground pipeline within the existing Clark Street roadway would require temporary closures of portions of the road within Arcadia; however, the pipeline would be constructed in segments to limit the length and duration of any lane closures along Clark Street. Adherence to regulatory requirements RR TRA-1 and RR TRA-2 would further ensure consistency with traffic ordinances and policies governing the existing roadway network. Furthermore, compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 during the construction phase would maintain adequate traffic circulation. Compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would result in provision of temporary traffic controls that, at a minimum, will include provisions to maintain adequate emergency access during Project construction, even if temporary lane closures are required on Clark Street. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- (f) Construction of the Project would have the potential to disrupt access to the existing Rio Hondo Bike Path that follows the western shore of the spreading basin up to Santa Anita Wash and the eastern shore up to Peck Road Water Conservation Park. Compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would result in provision of temporary traffic controls that, at a minimum, include provisions to maintain access to the Rio Hondo Bike Path during construction. Compliance with regulatory requirement RR TRA-2 would reduce impacts on alternative transportation facilities to a level less than significant.

4.20 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

17.	UTILITIES/SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities (including sewer (waste water) collection facilities) or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project (including large-scale developments as defined by Public Resources Code Section 21151.9 and described in Question No. 20 of the Environmental Information Form) from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(f)	Be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.20.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) and (b) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that would generate wastewater. No impacts would occur.

- (c) Implementation of the Project would not impact existing stormwater drainage facilities. The Project would improve water storage capacity within the spreading basin by excavating and removing excess sediment. The 7,000-foot pipeline and pump station would transfer water that currently exits through the concrete-lined Rio Hondo Channel to the San Gabriel River. The resulting improved storage capacity and lowering of the water level would reduce the amount of water requiring conveyance to stormwater facilities and the risk of upstream flooding along the Santa Anita and Sawpit washes. No impacts would occur.

- (d) The Project is limited to short-term use of water for dust suppression during sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that would require long-term water supplies. Impacts would be less than significant.
- (e) The Project is limited to sediment excavation activities and construction of a pump station, pipeline, and outlet structure and would not construct new housing, commercial businesses, offices, or other structures that would require wastewater services. No impacts would occur.
- (f) The excavated sediment will not be disposed of at landfills; instead the sediment will be hauled away from the Project site to one of the following sediment disposal sites: Peck Road Gravel Pit, Manning Pit Sediment Placement Site (SPS), and Azusa Land Reclamation, located less than 1 to 7 miles east of the spreading basin in the Cities of Irwindale and Azusa. Most of the sediment will be hauled to the closest sediment disposal site, Peck Road Gravel Pit, located less than 1 mile east of the spreading basin. Vegetation and organic material will be hauled to Azusa Land Reclamation. All the sediment disposal sites have adequate storage capacity for the sediment that will be disposed of as part of the Project. Therefore, no impacts to landfills are expected.
- (g) Disposal of excavated sediment and any other materials during Project construction would be required to comply with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. As the Project will comply with these existing regulations, no impact would occur.

4.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

18.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.21.1 Impact Analysis

- (a) As described in Section 5.4.6, implementation of mitigation measures MM BIO-1 through MM BIO-7 would reduce impacts to sensitive plant and wildlife species to a level less than significant. The cultural resources record search and field survey conducted for the Project did not identify any archaeological sites or isolated artifacts within the Project APE. If unanticipated cultural resources are exposed during ground-disturbing activities, implementation of regulatory requirement RR CUL-1 would reduce impacts to a level less than significant.
- (b) All impacts associated with the Project would be reduced to a level of less than significant through implementation of mitigation measures described throughout this IS/MND. Consequently, the Project would not result in any significant impacts that could contribute to cumulative impacts resulting from past, present, and future projects. Furthermore, the relatively small size and isolated location of the Project would ensure that the Project would not contribute to cumulatively significant impacts.
- (c) Implementation of the Project would not result in substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The Project would not displace any homes or businesses or divide an established community. Implementation of mitigation measure MM AQ-1 and regulatory requirements RR AQ-1 and RR AQ-2 described in Sections 4.6.5 and 4.6.6, respectively, would reduce impacts associated with air quality to a level of less than significant. No significant impacts were identified for noise.

SECTION 5.0 – REPORT AUTHORS AND CONSULTANTS

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Paul Morrissey	Biological Resources

SECTION 6.0 – SOURCE REFERENCES

The following is a list of references used in the preparation of this document.

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