



VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

A Public Agency Organized July 12, 1954

December 16, 2015
Item No. 6
Supporting Document No. 4

Board of Directors
Gary A. Broomell
President
Robert A. Polito
Vice President
Merle J. Aleshire
Director
Charles W. Stone, Jr.
Director
Randy D. Haskell
Director

May 15, 2015

Mr. David W. Gibson
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108-2700

Subject: Submittal of Report of Waste Discharge
Master Recycled Water Requirements
Expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

2015 MAY 19 AM 11 06
SAN DIEGO REGIONAL
WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD

Dear Mr. Gibson:

The Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) operates the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWF) under requirements established by Regional Water Board Order No R9-1998-009 and Addendum No. 1 thereto. The WVRWF currently treats wastewater from the Woods Valley Ranch development and golf course. The District proposes to expand the monthly average treatment capacity of the WVRWF from its current 70,000 gallon per day capacity to 275,000 gallons per day. The expanded WVRWF would allow the District to provide sewer service to the North Village and South Village areas of Valley Center.

As part of this expansion, the District proposes to expand the number of irrigation sites where recycled water is used. The District also proposes to install additional recycled water seasonal storage facilities that provide more than 84 days of storage at the 275,000 gpd WVRWF plant capacity. To address and accommodate the proposed WVRWF expansion, the District requests that Order No. R9-1998-009 be revised to:

- reflect the sewer service extensions to the North Village and South Village portions of Valley Center,
- increase the allowable treatment capacity at the WVRWF to 0.275 mgd,
- reflect recycled water treatment, use and seasonal storage facilities proposed by VCMWD to implement the 0.275 mgd WVRWF expansion, and
- provide VCMWD with master reclamation requirements to utilize WVRWF recycled water at any reuse site within the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA) that has been approved for recycled water use by the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health (DEH).

WWRWRF recycled water concentration limits established within Order No. R9-1998-009 implement groundwater quality objectives set forth within the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan) for the alluvial aquifer of the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA). All WWRWRF reuse sites proposed herein would be located within the Valley Center HA, and WWRWRF recycled water quality will continue to comply with groundwater quality objectives established within the Basin Plan for the Valley Center HA.

The District looks forward to working with you to further the Regional Water Board's goal of increasing recycled water use. Please note that, in keeping with the sustainable water supply element of the *San Diego Water Board Practical Vision*, 100 percent of WWRWRF recycled water will be utilized for irrigation or other beneficial use.

Please contact Mr. Wally Grabbe, P.E. at (760) 735-4500 if you have any questions concerning the information presented in this Report of Waste Discharge or if you need any additional information.

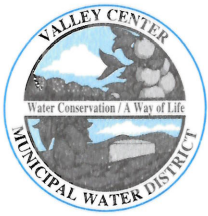
Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Gary T. Arant
General Manager

Attachment: Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility Report of Waste Discharge



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As part of this expansion, the District proposes to expand the number of irrigation sites where recycled water is used. The District also proposes to install additional recycled water seasonal storage facilities that provide more than 84 days of storage at the 275,000 gpd WVRWRF plant capacity. To address and accommodate the proposed WVRWRF expansion, the District requests that Order No. R9-1998-009 be revised to:

- reflect the sewer service extensions to the North Village and South Village portions of Valley Center,
- increase the allowable treatment capacity at the WVRWRF to 0.275 mgd,
- reflect recycled water treatment, use and seasonal storage facilities proposed by VCMWD to implement the 0.275 mgd WVRWRF expansion, and
- provide VCMWD with master reclamation requirements to utilize WVRWRF recycled water at any reuse site within the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA) that has been approved for recycled water use by the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health (DEH).

WWRWRF recycled water concentration limits established within Order No. R9-1998-009 implement groundwater quality objectives set forth within the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan) for the alluvial aquifer of the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA). All WWRWRF reuse sites proposed herein would be located within the Valley Center HA, and WWRWRF recycled water quality will continue to comply with groundwater quality objectives established within the Basin Plan for the Valley Center HA.

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Please contact Mr. Wally Grabbe, P.E. at (760) 735-4500 if you have any questions concerning the information presented in this Report of Waste Discharge or if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Gary T. Arant
General Manager

Attachment: Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility Report of Waste Discharge

REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE

***Proposed Expansion of
Woods Valley Ranch
Water Reclamation Facility***



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

May 2015

REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE

VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility Expansion to 0.275 mgd

May 2015

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) South Village Water Reclamation Project
Attachment 1A	Notice of Determination for Final EIR South Village Water Reclamation Project
Attachment 2	Addendum No. 1 to the Final EIR
Attachment 2A	Notice of Determination for Addendum No. 1
Attachment 3	Addendum No. 2 to the Final EIR
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Attachment 4	Mitigated Negative Declaration North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project
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List of Abbreviations

AF	acre-feet
AFY	acre-feet per year
Basin Plan	<i>Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin</i>
BOD	biochemical oxygen demand
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DDW	State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (formerly California Department of Health Services, or DHS)
DEH	County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
HA	Hydrologic Area
MBAS	methylene blue active substances (surfactants)
MBR	membrane bioreactor
mgd	million gallons per day
mg/l	milligrams per liter
ml	milliliters
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
Regional Board	Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
SAR	sodium adsorption ratio
TDS	total dissolved solids
TSS	total suspended solids
VCMWD	Valley Center Municipal Water District
WRF	Water Reclamation Facility
WVRWRF	Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

State of California Form 200

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility



State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
**APPLICATION/REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE
GENERAL INFORMATION FORM FOR
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS OR NPDES PERMIT**



I. FACILITY INFORMATION

A. Facility:

Name: Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility			
Address: 27743 Valley Center Road			
City: Valley Center	County: San Diego	State: CA	Zip Code: 92082
Contact Person: Wally Grabbe, P.E., District Engineer		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500	

B. Facility Owner:

Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District			Owner Type (Check One)	
Address: 29300 Valley Center Road			1. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual	2. <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation
City: Valley Center			3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental Agency	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership
State: CA			5. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Zip Code: 92082				
Contact Person: Gary T. Arant, General Manager		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500		Federal Tax ID:

C. Facility Operator (The agency or business, not the person):

Name: City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department			Operator Type (Check One)	
Address: 29300 Valley Center Road			1. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual	2. <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation
City: Valley Center			3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental Agency	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership
State: CA			5. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Zip Code: 92082				
Contact Person: Gary T. Arant, General Manager		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500		

D. Owner of the Land:

Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District			Owner Type (Check One)	
Address: 29300 Valley Center Road			1. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual	2. <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation
City: Valley Center			3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental Agency	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership
State: CA			5. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Zip Code: 92082				
Contact Person: Gary T. Arant, General Manager		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500		

E. Address Where Legal Notice May Be Served:

Address: 29300 Valley Center Road			
City: Valley Center	State: CA	Zip Code: 92082	
Contact Person: Gary T. Arant, General Manager		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500	

F. Billing Address:

Address: 29300 Valley Center Road			
City: Valley Center	State: CA	Zip Code: 92082	
Contact Person: Gary T. Arant, General Manager		Telephone Number: (760) 735-4500	



APPLICATION/REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE GENERAL INFORMATION FORM FOR WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS OR NPDES PERMIT



II. TYPE OF DISCHARGE

Check Type of Discharge(s) Described in this Application (A or B):

[X] A. WASTE DISCHARGE TO LAND

[] B. WASTE DISCHARGE TO SURFACE WATER

Check all that apply:

[X] Domestic/Municipal Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

[] Cooling Water

[] Mining

[] Waste Pile

[X] Wastewater Reclamation

[] Other, please describe:

[] Animal Waste Solids

[] Land Treatment Unit

[] Dredge Material Disposal

[] Surface Impoundment

[] Industrial Process Wastewater

[] Animal or Aquacultural Wastewater

[] Biosolids/Residual

[] Hazardous Waste (see instructions)

[] Landfill (see instructions)

[] Storm Water

Not applicable

III. LOCATION OF THE FACILITY

Describe the physical location of the facility.

1. Assessor's Parcel Number(s)

Facility: NA

Discharge Point: NA

2. Latitude

Facility: 33 12' 46" N

Discharge Point: Varies

3. Longitude

Facility: 117 01' 55" W

Discharge Point: Varies

Note: See attached report of waste discharge fListed facility location is site of North City WRP

IV. REASON FOR FILING

[] New Discharge or Facility

[] Changes in Ownership/Operator (see instructions)

[X] Change in Design or Operation

[] Waste Discharge Requirements Update or NPDES Permit Reissuance

[X] Change in Quantity/Type of Discharge

[] Other:

Note: This Report of Waste Discharge addresses facilities and operations that support increasing the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Plant treatment capacity and recycled water reuse from 0.070 mgd to 0.275 mgd.

V. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Name of Lead Agency: Valley Center Municipal Water District

Has a public agency determined that the proposed project is exempt from CEQA? [] Yes [X] No

If Yes, state the basis for the exemption and the name of the agency supplying the exemption on the line below.

Basis for Exemption/Agency: Not applicable

Has a "Notice of Determination" been filed under CEQA? [X] Yes [] No for applicable Notices of Determination.

If Yes, enclose a copy of the CEQA document, Environmental Impact Report, or Negative Declaration. If no, identify the expected type of CEQA document and expected date of completion. Final EIR for the South Village wastewater project was certified on 4/7/2008. Addendum No. 1 to the EIR was certified on 1/20/2011. Addendum No. 2 to the EIR was certified on 1/25/2013. Mitigated Negative Declaration for North Village Project was certified in 2015.

COMPLETED CEQA DOCUMENTS

[X] EIR [] Negative Declaration

Expected CEQA Completion Date: CEQA certification is complete



APPLICATION/REPORT OF WASTE DISCHARGE
GENERAL INFORMATION FORM FOR
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS OR NPDES PERMIT



VI. OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION

Please provide a COMPLETE characterization of your discharge. A complete characterization includes, but is not limited to, design and actual flows, a list of constituents and the discharge concentration of each constituent, a list of other appropriate waste discharge characteristics, a description and schematic drawing of all treatment processes, a description of any Best Management Practices (BMPs) used, and a description of disposal methods.

Also include a site map showing the location of the facility and, if you are submitting this application for an NPDES permit, identify the surface water to which you propose to discharge. Please try to limit your maps to a scale of 1:24,000 (7.5' USGS Quadrangle) or a street map, if more appropriate.

VII. OTHER

Attach additional sheets to explain any responses which need clarification. List attachments with titles and dates below:

See attached report of waste discharge.

You will be notified by a representative of the RWQCB within 30 days of receipt of your application. The notice will state if your application is complete or if there is additional information you must submit to complete your Application/Report of Waste Discharge, pursuant to Division 7, Section 13260 of the California Water Code.

VIII. CERTIFICATION

"I certify under penalty of law that this document, including all attachments and supplemental information, were prepared under my direction and supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

Print Name: Gary T. Arant Title: General Manager

Signature: Date: 5/15/2015

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Form 200 Received:	Letter to Discharger:	Fee Amount Received:	Check #:
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Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***SUPPLEMENTAL
TECHNICAL REPORT***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

Section 1

INTRODUCTION

Project Overview. The Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) operates the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF), which provides wastewater treatment for a service area within the central portion of the community of Valley Center. The treatment and reuse of WVRWRF recycled water is regulated by Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) Order No. R9-1998-009 and Addendum No. 1 thereto.

Order No. R9-1998-009 originally established requirements for the treatment and reuse of up to 0.070 million gallons per day (mgd) of WVRWRF recycled water. This 0.070 mgd WVRWRF capacity served the Woods Valley Ranch development and nearby properties.

In 2006, the Regional Board adopted Addendum No. 1 to Order No. R9-1998-009, which established provisions under which the permitted capacity of the WVRWRF could be expanded to 0.147 mgd to accommodate flows from the Orchard Run development, as follows:

- A.5 The 30-day average dry weather flow from the WVRWRF shall not exceed 0.070 million gallons per day (mgd) until such time that:*
- a. The certification report specified in Directive No. 2 of Addendum No. 1 to this Order is received and accepted as complete by the Regional Board, and*
 - b. The Region Board has been notified that the Title 22 report specified in Directive No. 3 of Addendum No. 1 to this Order is approved by the State DHS and County DEH, and*
 - c. The Regional Board has been notified that the expansion of the WVRWRF facilities has been completed by VCMWD, and*
 - d. An inspection of the new and expanded facilities has been made by the Regional Board, and*
 - e. The Regional Board notifies VCMWD by letter that the discharge can be increased up to 0.147 mgd.*

Proposed Expansion of WVRWRF. Current flows to the WVRWRF are approximately 0.04 mgd, and VCMWD has not yet initiated construction activities to expand the WVRWRF to the 0.147 mgd capacity addressed within Addendum No. 1 to Order No. R9-1998-009. Instead of implementing the permitted WVRWRF expansion to 0.147 mgd, VCMWD within the past year has approved a proposed wastewater and recycled water program that would:

- expand the tributary service area of the WVRWRF to include the South Village and North Village portions of Valley Center,

- increase the treatment capacity of the WVRWRF to 0.275 mgd, and
- implement additional recycled water use sites and seasonal storage facilities to accommodate the 0.275 mgd recycled water production rate.

Purpose of Report of Waste Discharge. To accommodate the proposed expansion of WVRWRF treatment and reuse operations, VCMWD requests that Order No. R9-1998-009 be revised to:

- reflect the sewer service extensions to the North Village and South Village portions of Valley Center,
- increase the allowable treatment capacity at the WVRWRF to 0.275 mgd,
- reflect recycled water treatment, use and seasonal storage facilities proposed by VCMWD to implement the 0.275 mgd WVRWRF expansion, and
- provide VCMWD with master reclamation requirements to utilize WVRWRF recycled water at any reuse site within the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA) that has been approved for recycled water use by the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health (DEH).

In revising Order No. R9-1998-009, VCMWD does not request any revisions in the effluent concentration standards, monitoring provisions or recycled water purveyance requirements established within Order No. R9-1998-009 and Addendum No. 1 thereto.

To support the VCMWD request to expand permitted recycled water treatment and reuse at the WVRWRF and allow reuse at DEH-approved sites within the Valley Center HA, this Report of Waste Discharge:

- identifies the expanded wastewater service area of the WVRWRF,
- describes proposed expanded and upgraded WVRWRF treatment facilities,
- summarizes existing and projected WVRWRF recycled water quality,
- describes WVRWRF solids handling operations,
- identifies recycled water use areas,
- describes proposed recycled water seasonal storage facilities, and
- documents compliance of proposed recycled water treatment, use, and storage operations with provisions and groundwater quality objectives established by the Regional Board within the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan).

Compliance with California Environmental Quality Act. VCMWD has completed environmental review of the proposed WVRWRF expansion (including associated

wastewater collection, recycled water use, and storage facilities), and has certified that the proposed WVRWRF expansion is consistent with requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Table 1-1 (page 1-3) summarizes key CEQA documents included as attachments to this Report of Waste Discharge. Table 1-1 also identifies the dates on which VCMWD filed Notices of Determination certifying CEQA compliance.

As shown in Table 1-1, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was completed in 2008 for the WVRWRF expansion project. The 2008 EIR assessed (1) program-level impacts associated with ultimate facilities at build-out, (2) project-level impacts associated with wastewater infrastructure for the South Village sewer service area, and (3) project-level impacts associated with initial phases of wastewater treatment, recycled water storage, and reuse facilities and operations.

Two addenda to the EIR were subsequently processed to address proposed changes in facilities sites, wastewater flows, and the WVRWRF sewer service area. Additionally, an initial study and mitigated negative declaration were processed to address wastewater infrastructure for the North Village portion of the WVRWRF sewer service area. CEQA documents and associated Notices of Determination are presented as Attachments 1 through 4.

Table 1-1
Summary of CEQA Documents and Certifications
Valley Center Municipal Water District, South Village and North Village Wastewater Facilities

Report of Waste Discharge Attachment	CEQA Document	Facilities/Operations Addressed	Certification Date¹
1	<i>Final Environmental Impact Report, South Village Water Reclamation Project</i> , (State Clearinghouse #2007101049)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater collection, treatment, recycled water use, and recycled water storage facilities proposed as part of the WVRWRF expansion Creation of an assessment district to fund facilities Program-level impacts associated with wastewater facilities and operations at build-out 	4/7/2008
2	Addendum No. 1 to Final EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative locations for WVRWRF seasonal storage facilities A reduction in the planned WVRWRF capacity 	1/20/2011
3	Addendum No. 2 to Final EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of North Village sewer service area as part of proposed WVRWRF expansion Revision of projected equivalent dwelling unit flow contributions 	1/25/2013
4	<i>Mitigated Negative Declaration, North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</i> (State Clearinghouse #2014111011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater facilities to convey wastewater from the North Village sewer service area to the WVRWRF 	1/07/2015

¹ Date on which VCMWD filed a Notice of Determination certifying compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Section 2

RECYCLED WATER TREATMENT AND QUALITY

Wastewater Service Area. The WVRWRF currently serves the Woods Valley Ranch development. Figure 2-1 (page 2-2) presents the location of the WVRWRF and the Woods Valley Ranch Development.

As part of the proposed expansion of WVRWRF to a 0.275 mgd capacity, the WVRWRF sewer service area would be expanded to include service areas within the North Village and South Village portions of Valley Center. Wastewater from the North Village and South Village service areas would be conveyed to the WVRWRF site via low pressure wastewater collection systems and a pump station/force main.

Existing and Projected Flows. Table 2-1 (page 2-3) summarizes WVRWRF flows during 2014. As shown in Table 2-1, current WVRWRF flows averaged approximately 0.04 mgd during 2014. The proposed 0.275 mgd expanded WVRWRF would be sized to handle future flows from the North Village and South Village service areas, but this 0.275 mgd capacity is not projected to be reached within the next 10 years.

Existing Wastewater Facilities. The existing WVRWRF is designed to handle an average monthly flow of 0.070 mgd and an instantaneous maximum flow of 0.280 mgd. The existing plant produces recycled water that complies with standards established within Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3 of the *California Code of Regulations* (Title 22). Existing WVRWRF treatment processes include:

- headworks/screening,
- flow equalization,
- anoxic/aeration basins and membrane bioreactor (MBR) treatment,
- sodium hypochlorite disinfection, and
- chlorine contact facilities that achieve a minimum contact time of 450 milligram-minutes/milliliter.

Solids from the existing WVRWRF are digested in an aerobic digester and are conveyed via truck to the VCMWD Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility for dewatering and disposal.

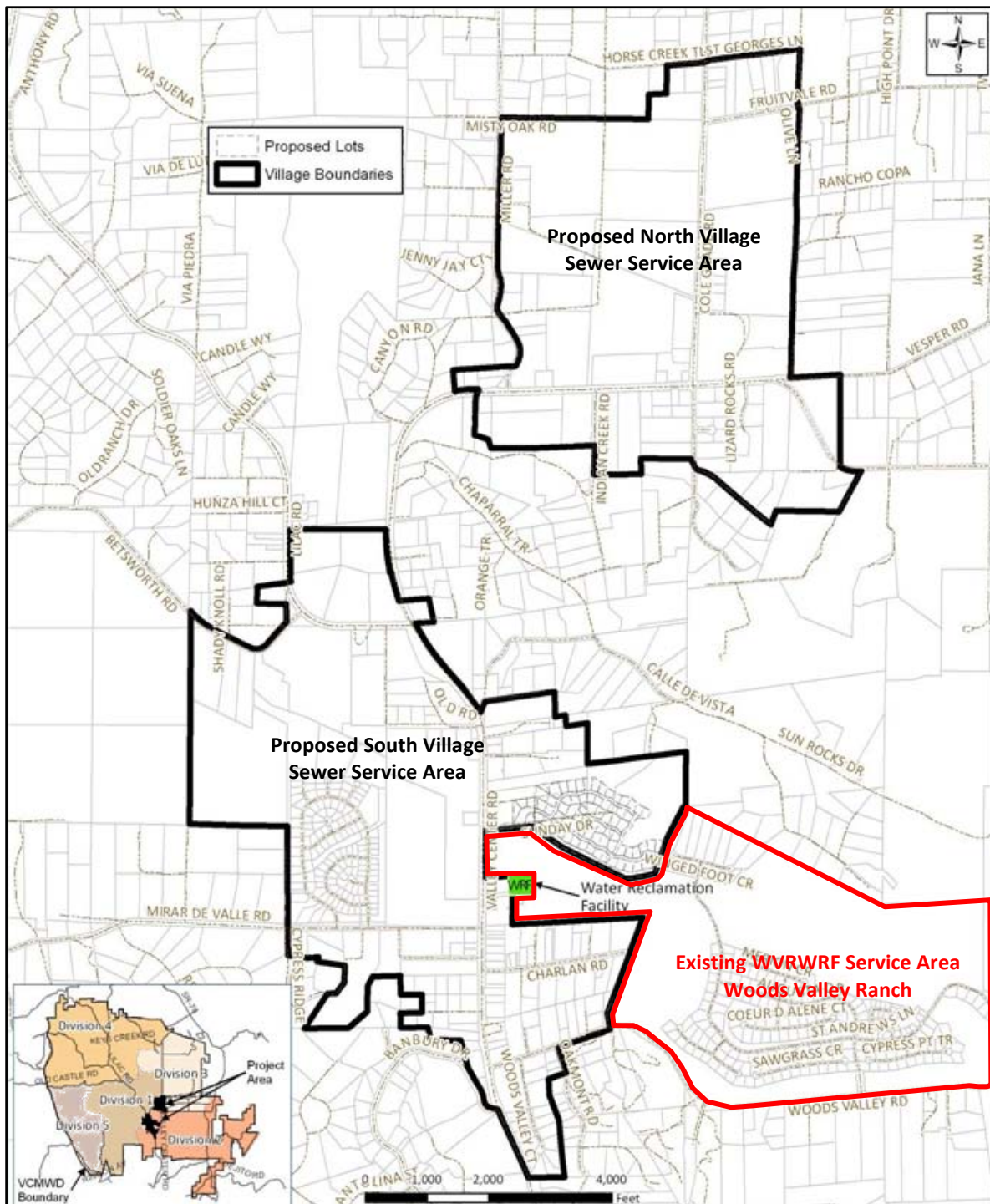


Figure 2-1 Existing and Proposed WRRWF Sewer Service Area

Table 2-1
WVRWRF Influent Flows, 2014¹

Month	Plant Inflow (mgd)	
	Monthly Average ²	Maximum Day
January	0.041	0.059
February	0.041	0.057
March	0.041	0.062
April	0.042	0.056
May	0.041	0.048
June	0.042	0.054
July	0.037	0.051
August	0.038	0.052
September	0.038	0.051
October	0.037	0.047
November	0.038	0.048
December	0.039	0.056
Average	0.040	---
Maximum Day	---	0.062

¹ From monthly monitoring reports submitted to the Regional Board by VCMWD during calendar year 2014.

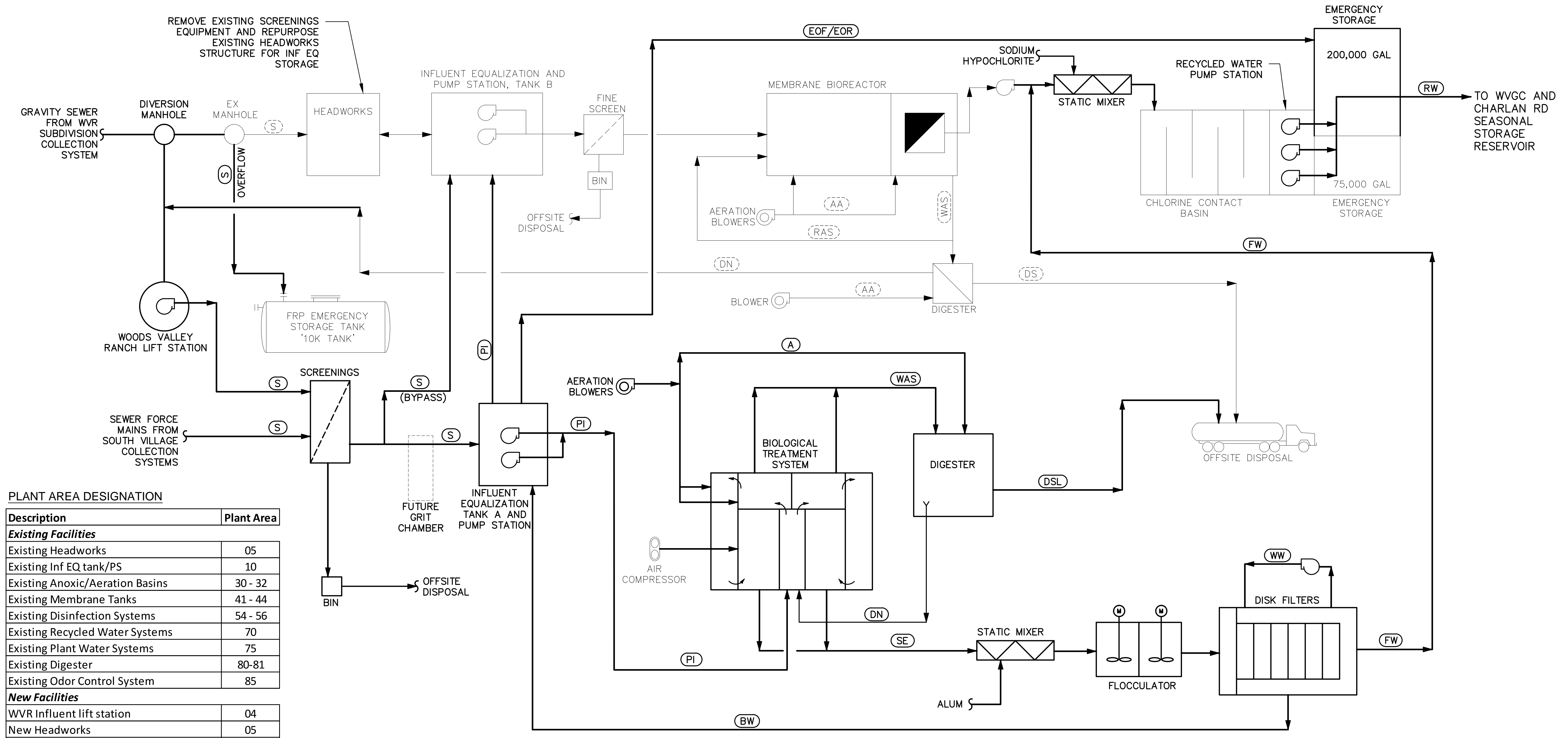
² Order No. R9-1998-009 establishes a 30-day average flow limit of 0.070 mgd. Addendum No. 1 to Order No. R9-1998-009 establishes a 30-day average flow limit of 0.147 mgd once the WVRWRF is expanded and the expansion is approved by the Regional Board.

Proposed WVRWRF Expansion. Figure 2-2 (page 2-4) presents a schematic of treatment processes proposed for the expanded 0.275 mgd WVRWRF. Figure 2-3 (page 2-5) presents the proposed site layout for the expanded facility. As shown in Figure 2-2, expansion of the WVRWRF will entail the construction of a parallel treatment train that features:

- screening,
- flow equalization,
- biological secondary treatment and secondary clarification,
- chemical addition and flocculation, and
- tertiary filtration using disk filters.

Tertiary treated water from this new treatment train (see Figure 2-2) will be blended with tertiary treated water from the existing MBR facility, and the comingled streams will be disinfected to reduce total coliform concentrations to less than 2 organisms per 100 milliliters. Chlorine contact facilities will provide a minimum contact time of 450 milligram-minutes per milliliter.

P:\01\Engineering\Valley Center\8016 Woods Valley WRF Ph2 Expansion\06-Design\CAD\WRF\8016 SH04 G-4 11/12/2014 4:39 PM



PLANT AREA DESIGNATION

Description	Plant Area
Existing Facilities	
Existing Headworks	05
Existing Inf EQ tank/PS	10
Existing Anoxic/Aeration Basins	30 - 32
Existing Membrane Tanks	41 - 44
Existing Disinfection Systems	54 - 56
Existing Recycled Water Systems	70
Existing Plant Water Systems	75
Existing Digester	80-81
Existing Odor Control System	85
New Facilities	
WVR Influent lift station	04
New Headworks	05
Grit Removal	06
Influent Equalization Tank/Pump Station	10
Aeromod Tanks	20
Aeromod Aeration and Air Equipment	21
New Tertiary Treatment System	50
Coagulation and Flocculation	53
Chemical Area (Chlorination)	54
Disinfection Facilities	55
Emergency Storage	56
Aeromod Digester	60
Future Sludge Dewatering	65
Odor Control System	85

- LEGEND**
- PUMP
 - AERATION BLOWER
 - AIR COMPRESSOR
 - STATIC MIXER
 - MIXER

NOTES:
1. SEE DRAWING G-3 FOR PIPE SERVICE SCHEDULE



WARNING
0 1/2 1
IF THIS BAR DOES NOT MEASURE 1" THEN DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE.

G-4
DRAWING

11-12-14
DATE
District Engineer

JOB# 8016
DATE: 11/12/2014
DRAWN BY: NH
CH'KD. BY: TF

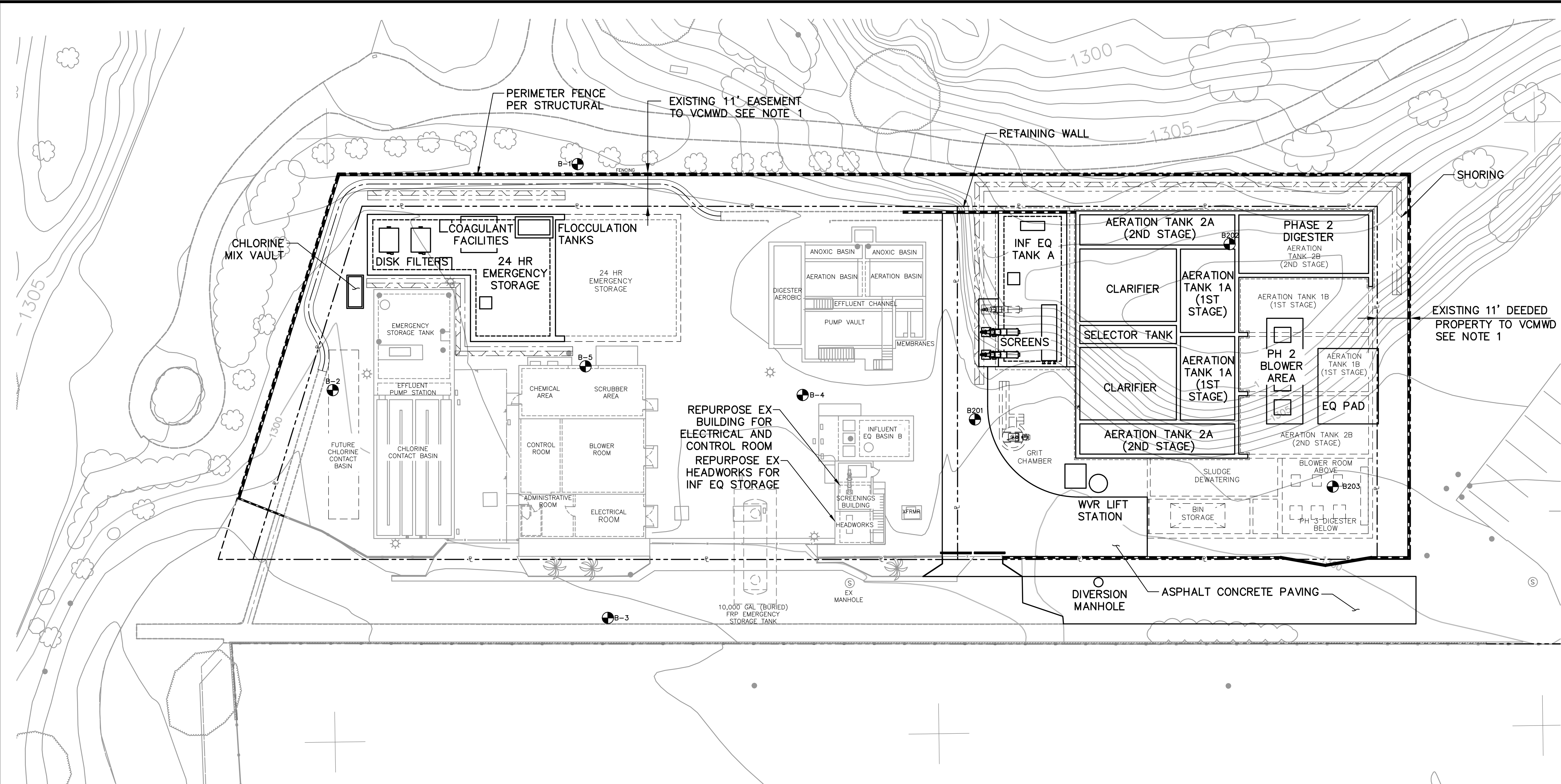
DUDEK
605 Third Street Encinitas, CA 92024
760.942.5147 Fax 760.942.4508

VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
29300 VALLEY CENTER ROAD IP. O. BOX 671 VALLEY CENTER, CALIFORNIA 92082
WOODS VALLEY RANCH WRF
PHASE 2 EXPANSION

Figure 2-2
WVRWRF Process Flow Diagram

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SHEET SHEETS

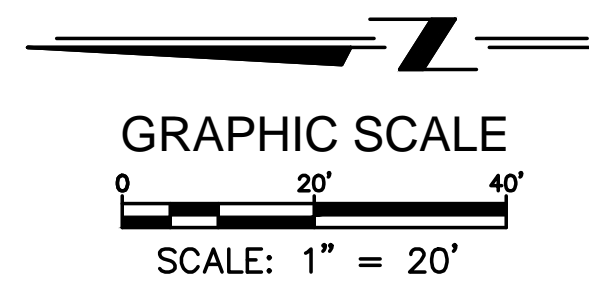
P:\101\Engineering\Valley Center\8016 Woods Valley WRF Ph2 Expansion\06-Design\CAD WRF_8016.SH07 G-7 11/12/2014 4:40 PM



PLAN
SCALE: 1"=20'

LEGEND	
[Solid Line]	PHASE
[Dashed Line]	EXISTING STRUCTURES (PH 1)
[Dotted Line]	PHASE 2 (PH 2)
[Dash-dot Line]	PHASE 3 (PH 3)
[Circle with cross]	GEOTECHNICAL BORING

- NOTES:
- EASEMENT DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT UPON REQUEST.
 - SOURCE OF TOPOGRAPHY SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS IS BASED ON AERIAL MAPPING FLOWN BY PHOTOGEODETIC CORPORATION ON 10-11-2013 AND PROVIDED BY RIGHT-OF-WAY ENGINEERING. EXISTING CONDITIONS MAY VARY FROM THOSE SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ADJUST WORK PLAN ACCORDINGLY PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
 - MAINTAIN, RELOCATE, OR REPLACE EXISTING SURVEY MONUMENTS, CONTROL POINTS, AND STAKES WHICH ARE DISTURBED OR DESTROYED. PERFORM THE WORK TO PRODUCE THE SAME LEVEL OF ACCURACY AS THE ORIGINAL MONUMENT(S) IN A TIMELY MANNER AND AT THE CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE.
 - CONTRACTOR STAGING AND LAYDOWN AREA SHOWN HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY VCMWD FOR THIS PROJECT ONLY. ANY ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED FOR COMPLETION OF THE WORK SHALL BE SECURED BY THE CONTRACTOR AT NO ADDITIONAL EXPENSE TO VCMWD. ALL SITES SECURED SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ACCESSIBLE TO VCMWD AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES AND SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A CLEAN AND SAFE CONDITION.
 - CONTRACTOR SHALL INSTALL AND MAINTAIN SECURITY FENCING AT ALL TIMES DURING CONSTRUCTION.
 - ELEVATIONS GIVEN ARE TO FINISH GRADE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
 - SLOPE UNIFORMLY BETWEEN CONTOURS AND SPOT ELEVATIONS SHOWN.
 - CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING EROSION CONTROL DEVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION. CONTRACTOR SHALL EXERCISE ALL MEASURES NECESSARY TO POSITIVELY PRECLUDE EROSION MATERIALS FROM LEAVING THE SITE. CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT AN EROSION CONTROL PLAN.
 - EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITIES WERE OBTAINED FROM AS-BUILTS, DISTRICT NOTES, AND FIELD OBSERVATIONS. CONTRACTOR SHALL FIELD VERIFY DEPTH AND LOCATION PRIOR TO EXCAVATION AS DESCRIBED ON THE YARD PIPING PLANS. PROTECT ALL EXISTING UTILITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION.
 - CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT UNDERGROUND SERVICE ALERT (USA OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OR 'DIGALERT') IN ADVANCE OF EXCAVATION. CONTRACTOR SHALL ALSO COORDINATE WITH PLANT OPERATOR FOR LOCATION OF EXISTING BURIED PLANT FACILITIES AND PIPING A MINIMUM OF 2 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF EXCAVATION.
 - TEMPORARY SHORING LIMITS AND SLOPING FOR EXCAVATIONS SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS ARE GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATIONS ONLY AND DO NOT REPRESENT ACTUAL EXCAVATION SLOPING AND SHORING FOR SAFE CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE WORK. CONTRACTOR IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING THE EXCAVATION SUPPORT NEEDED TO SAFELY COMPLETE THE WORK IN CONFORMANCE WITH ALL LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL CODES GOVERNING SHORING, SHEETING, AND BRACING OF EXCAVATIONS AND TRENCHES, AND FOR PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF THE WORKERS AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION-RELATED PERSONNEL.



	WARNING IF THIS BAR DOES NOT MEASURE 1" THEN DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE.	G-7 DRAWING
	SCALE: 1" = 20'	



11-12-14
DATE

 DISTRICT ENGINEER

JOB#	8016	REVISION
DATE:	11/12/2014	
DRAWN BY:	NH	
CH'KD. BY:	TF	

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VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 29300 VALLEY CENTER ROAD IP. O. BOX 671 VALLEY CENTER, CALIFORNIA 92082
WOODS VALLEY RANCH WRF
PHASE 2 EXPANSION

Figure 2-3
Proposed Site Layout for Expanded WVRWRF

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 SHEET SHEETS

Recycled Water Quality. Table 2-2 (below) and Table 2-3 (page 2-7) summarize the quality of disinfected tertiary recycled water produced during 2014 by the existing 0.070 mgd WVRWRF. As shown in Table 2-2, WVRWRF recycled water typically contains total suspended solids and biochemical oxygen demand concentrations of 2 milligrams per liter (mg/l) or less. Recycled water turbidity is typically less than 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU).

While mineral concentrations in the WVRWRF recycled water have increased slightly as a result of water conservation, WVRWRF recycled water achieved consistent compliance during 2014 with effluent mineral concentration limits established within Order No. R9-1998-009. Recycled water from the expanded WVRWRF is projected to be similar in quality to the recycled water produced by the existing WVRWRF treatment facilities.

Table 2-2
WVRWRF Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water Quality, 2014
Physical/Chemical Constituents and Total Coliform¹

Month	Disinfected Tertiary Treated Recycled Water Concentration			
	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Maximum Daily Turbidity ² (NTU)	Maximum Daily Total Coliform ³ (organisms/100 ml)
January	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
February	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
March	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
April	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
May	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
June	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
July	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
August	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
September	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
October	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
November	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
December	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
Annual Average	< 1.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
Maximum Value	< 2.0	< 2.0	< 2	< 2
Effluent Concentration Limit	30 ⁴	30 ⁴	2 ⁵	2 ⁶

- 1 From monthly monitoring reports submitted to the Regional Board by VCMWD during 2014.
- 2 Maximum daily turbidity (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) recorded during the listed month.
- 3 Maximum daily total coliform (organism per 100 milliliters) recorded during the listed month.
- 4 30-day average effluent concentration limit established in Order No. R9-1998-009. Order No. R9-1998-009 also establishes daily maximum concentration limits of 50 mg/l for TSS and BOD.
- 5 Turbidity is not to exceed a daily average of 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), nor exceed 5 NTU more than 5% of the time during any 24-hour period, nor exceed a maximum of 10 NTU at any time.
- 6 The median concentration of total coliform bacteria is not to exceed a weekly average of 2 organisms per 100 milliliters (ml), nor exceed a concentration of 23 per 100 ml in more than one sample during any 30-day period, nor exceed a concentration of 240 organisms per 100 ml at any time.

Table 2-3
WVRWRF Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water Quality, 2014
Dissolved Minerals and Nutrients¹

Constituent	Disinfected Tertiary Treated Recycled Water Concentration		
	Units	Value	Effluent Limit Established in Order No. R9-1998-009 ²
Total dissolved solids, TDS	mg/l	850	1100
Chloride	mg/l	198	300
Sulfate	mg/l	155	400
Fluoride	mg/l	0.62	1.0
Boron	mg/l	0.66	0.75
Iron	mg/l	0.064	0.30
Manganese	mg/l	0.01	0.05

1 From 2014 annual monthly monitoring report submitted to the Regional Board by VCMWD.

2 12-month average effluent concentration limit established by Order No. R9-1998-009.

Biosolids Operations. Waste biosolids from the WVRWRF secondary treatment process will be stabilized by onsite digestion. As is the current practice, sludge will be thickened within the WVRWRF digester using flat plate membranes.

During initial years of operation, digested WVRWRF biosolids will be hauled to the Moosa Canyon WRF for dewatering and disposal/reuse. Solids dewatering and solids reuse/disposal operations at the VCMWD Moosa Canyon WRF are regulated by Regional Board Order No. R9-1995-032 and Addendum No. 1 thereto. Biosolids dewatering and handling facilities at the Moosa Canyon WRF are sized to provide extra capacity over and above the permitted 0.440 mgd capacity of the Moosa Canyon WRF.

The layout of the WVRWRF site, however, has been designed to reserve adequate space for the onsite installation of future solids dewatering and handling facilities. In the future, VCMWD may choose to construct and operate onsite solids dewatering and handling facilities at the WVRWRF in lieu of directing WVRWRF digested solids to the Moosa Canyon WRF.

Section 3

RECYCLED WATER REUSE AND STORAGE

Recycled Water Use Sites. Accounting for an approximate 10 percent loss (biosolids and evaporative losses), the 0.275 mgd WVRWRF at full production capacity is projected to annually produce approximately 280 acre-feet per year (AFY) of recycled water that would be available for irrigation use.

The Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course has approximately 100 acres of irrigated landscaping, and has an annual irrigation demand of 500 AFY. One-half of this demand (250 AFY) is supplied by onsite groundwater, while VCMWD recycled water and potable water make up the remainder of the demand. Under a May 3, 2013 agreement between VCMWD and the golf course, all WVRWRF recycled water is to be delivered to the golf course through May 3, 2023. This Agreement is based on the projection that WVRWRF wastewater inflows will not be adequate to allow VCMWD to serve any other recycled water customers (other than the golf course) until May 2023.

After May 3, 2023, the agreement specifies that VCMWD has the right, but not the obligation, to annually provide 250 AFY to the golf course. This provision will allow VCMWD to divert WVRWRF recycled water to both the golf course and other local recycled water customers at this time.

Figure 3-1 (page 3-2) presents currently-proposed recycled water irrigation customers that could be served by the WVRWRF. Table 3-1 (page 3-3) summarizes projected recycled water irrigation demands at these sites. As shown in Table 3-1, more than ample irrigated acreages are available to account for the entire 280 AFY annual WVRWRF recycled water production flow when the plant reaches its capacity. Because additional reuse sites may be identified in the future, VCMWD requests that Order No. R9-1998-009 and Addendum No. 1 thereto be revised to implement master water reclamation requirements that would allow VCMWD to provide recycled water service to any DEH-approved reuse site within the Valley Center HA.

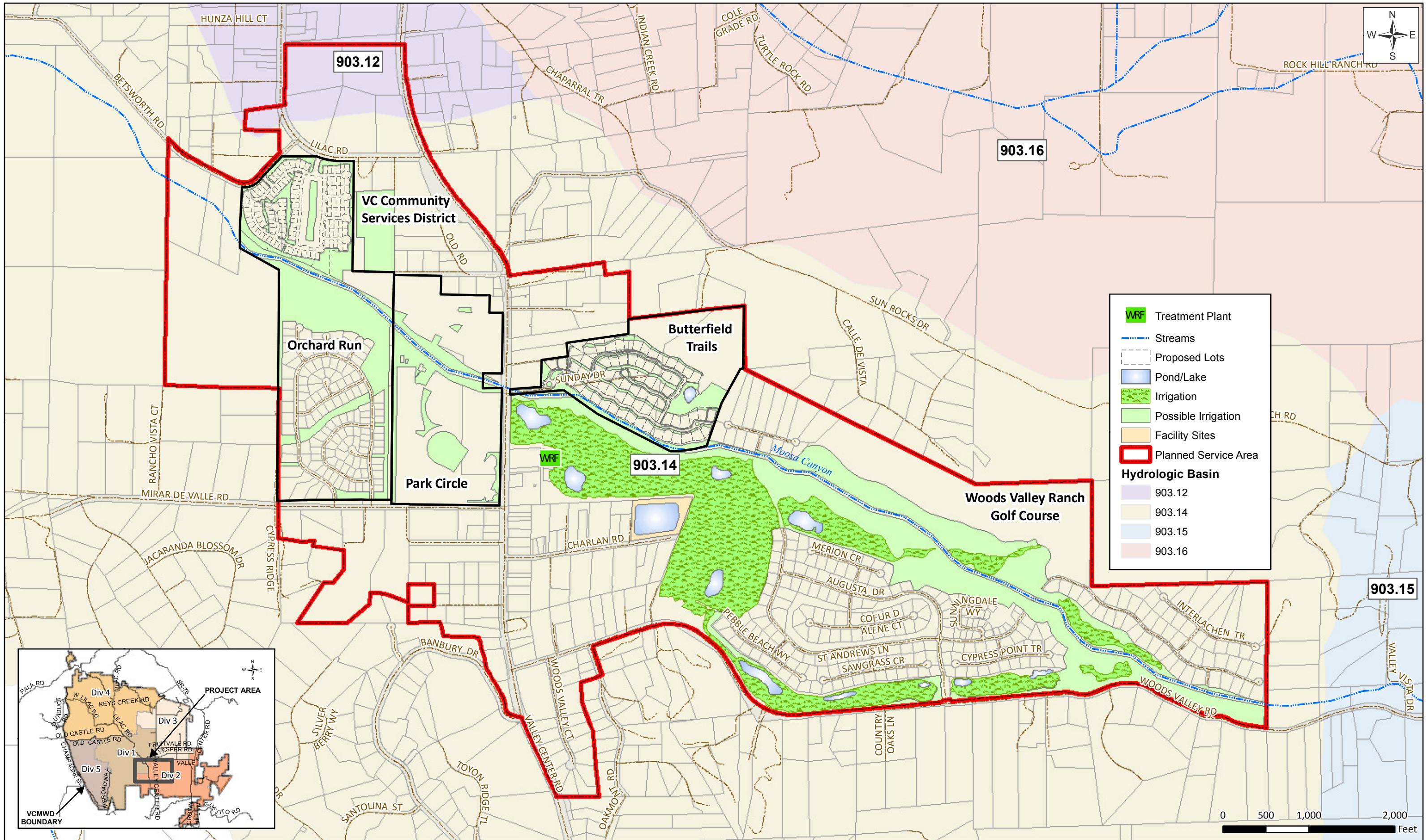


Figure 3-1
WVRWRF Recycled Water Irrigation Sites

**Table 3-1
WVRWRF Recycled Water Use Sites and Projected Demands**

Recycled Water Use Site	Total Area (acres)	Irrigated Landscape Area (acres)	Annual Recycled Water Application Rate (feet/year)	Total Potential Recycled Water Demand ¹ (AFY)
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course	183.2	100	2.5 ²	250
Butterfield Trails	13.5	10.8 ³	4.0 ⁴	43
Orchard Run	28.8	23.0 ³	4.0 ⁴	92
Park Circle	15.9	12.7 ³	4.0 ⁴	51
Community Service Area Ball Fields	8.8	7.0 ³	4.0 ⁴	28
Totals	250.2	153.5	---	464
Maximum WVRWRF Production		---	---	280

1 Values rounded to nearest acre-foot per year (AFY).

2 Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course has a total irrigation demand of approximately 5 feet per year. One-half of this demand (250 AFY) is provided through onsite groundwater. The remainder of the demand (250 AFY) is derived from VCMWD recycled water or potable supply. This translates to an effective recycled water annual application rate of approximately 2.5 feet per year.

3 The listed value represents the land area (acreage) at each site that would be irrigated. As shown above, actual sites have approximately 20 percent more net acreage, but it is projected that recycled water irrigation will only occur on the listed irrigated landscape acreage.

4 Annual evapotranspiration rates in the Valley Center area are approximately 5 feet per year, but it is presumed that irrigated areas will incorporate water conservation irrigation technology to allow for application rates that are below typical evapotranspirative demands within the Valley Center area.

Compliance with Basin Plan Groundwater Quality Objectives. All reuse sites shown in Figure 3-1 and Table 3-1 and all future potential WVRWRF reuse sites would be located within the Valley Center Hydrologic Area (HA 903.14).

Effluent limits established within Order No. R9-1998-009 implement Basin Plan groundwater objectives for the alluvial aquifer of the Valley Center HA. As shown in Table 2-3 (page 2-7) WVRWRF recycled water quality complies (and is projected to continue to comply) with the effluent limits of Order No. R9-1998-009 and the Basin Plan groundwater quality objectives for the alluvial aquifer of the Valley Center HA.

Compliance with Seasonal Storage Requirements. The Basin Plan requires recycled water projects that lack a fail-safe method of recycled water disposal (e.g. ocean outfall connection) to provide 84 days of storage capacity, unless the discharge documents that a lesser degree of storage is justified. Because recycled water demands at the Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course far exceed the existing 0.070 mgd recycled water production capacity of the WVRWRF, Order No. R9-1998-009 specifies that VCMWD must provide 45 days of seasonal storage capacity for the existing 0.070 mgd capacity of the WVRWRF.

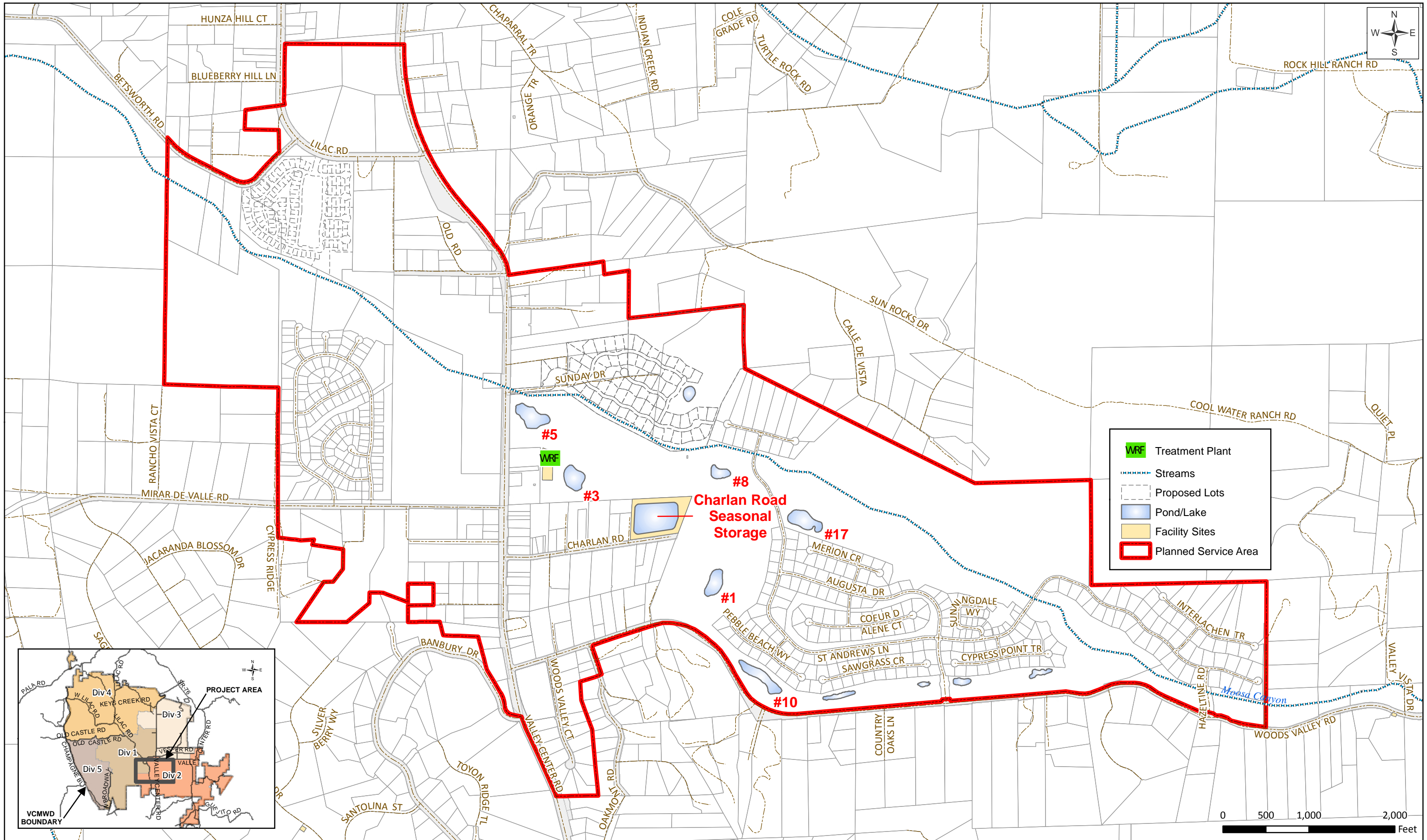


Figure 3-2
WVRWRF Seasonal and Operational Storage Reservoirs

With expansion of the WVRWRF, a greater degree of balance exist between WVRWRF recycled water production and use. As a result, it is appropriate for VCMWD to provide the full 84 days of seasonal storage capacity for the expanded 0.275 mgd WVRWRF. This 84-day seasonal storage capacity will be provided by five storage ponds at the Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course and a large seasonal storage reservoir at Charlan Road. Figure 3-2 (page 3-4) presents the location of the WVRWRF seasonal storage sites. Table 3-2 (page 3-6) summarizes the seasonal storage capacity of the WVRWRF seasonal storage facilities.

As shown in Table 3-2, a large (nearly 50 acre-feet) seasonal storage reservoir will be constructed at a site along Charlan Road. Recycled water seasonal storage provided by this new facility will be supplemented by seasonal storage provided by several of the Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course ponds. It should be noted that only a portion of the capacities of the Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course ponds are available for seasonal storage. As shown in Table 3-2, a portion of the golf course pond capacity is reserved for operational storage or for ensuring golf course aesthetics. Table 3-2 (below) summarizes available seasonal storage capacities of the ponds. As shown in Table 3-2, WVRWRF seasonal storage facilities provide more than the requisite 84 days of seasonal storage capacity mandated by the Basin Plan.

**Table 3-2
Summary of Seasonal Storage Capacity**

Seasonal Storage Site	Water Surface Elevations (feet above mean sea level)			Available Seasonal Storage Capacity ¹ (AF)	
	Operating Level ²	Elevation 2 feet below Overflow Point	Elevation of Pond Overflow Point	Typical Operating Conditions ³	Extreme Wet Weather Conditions ⁴
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 1	1314.5	--	--	0 ⁵	0 ⁵
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 3	1296	1298	1300	2.29	5.02
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 5	1290	1296	1298	9.59	14.4
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 8	1308	1310	1312	1.23	2.99
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 10	1316	1326	1328	10.25	13.65
Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course Pond No. 17	1324	1326	1328	3.41	7.86
Charlan Road Reservoir	NA	1324	1324.6	47.6	49.09
Totals	--	--	--	74.37	93.01
Days of Storage at 0.275 mgd WVRWRF Capacity	--	--	--	88 days ⁶	110 days ⁶

- 1 Excludes pond storage capacity reserved for operational storage or capacity reserved to maintain golf course aesthetics.
- 2 Pond water level (elevation above mean sea level) reserved for operational storage or reserved to maintain golf course aesthetics.
- 3 Represents the capacity devoted to seasonal storage between the pond water levels that are to be maintained for operational storage or aesthetic purposes and the pond water level two feet below the pond overflow point. Under typical (non-extreme) wet weather conditions, pond water levels will be maintained so that two feet of freeboard between the pond water level and the overflow point is maintained.
- 4 Represents the total capacity of the pond available for seasonal storage during extreme wet weather conditions. This total is calculated as the capacity of the pond between the water level that is to be maintained for operational storage or aesthetic purposes and the top of the pond berm (pond overflow level).
- 5 Pond No. 1 provides operational storage, but none of the Pond No. 1 storage capacity is dedicated toward seasonal storage.
- 6 Number of days of seasonal storage available at the maximum WVRWRF average monthly plant inflow of 0.275 mgd.

REFERENCES

- HDR (prepared for Valley Center Municipal Water District). *Final Mitigated Negative Declaration, North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project*. (State Clearinghouse #2014111011). December 2014.
- HDR (prepared for Valley Center Municipal Water District). *Final Environmental Impact Report, South Village Water Reclamation Project*. (State Clearinghouse #2007101049). March 2008.
- Regional Water Quality Control Board. *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan). Updated 2015.
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- Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD). Addendum No. 1 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH # 2007101049). January 2013.
- Valley Center Municipal Water District. *Notice of Determination, Addendum to South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR*. January 20, 2011
- Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD). Addendum No. 2 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH # 2007101049). January 2013.
- Valley Center Municipal Water District. *Notice of Determination, Addendum to South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR*. January 25, 2013.
- Valley Center Municipal Water District. *Notice of Determination, Mitigated Negative Declaration, North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project*. January 7, 2015.



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

ATTACHMENTS
CEQA Compliance Documents

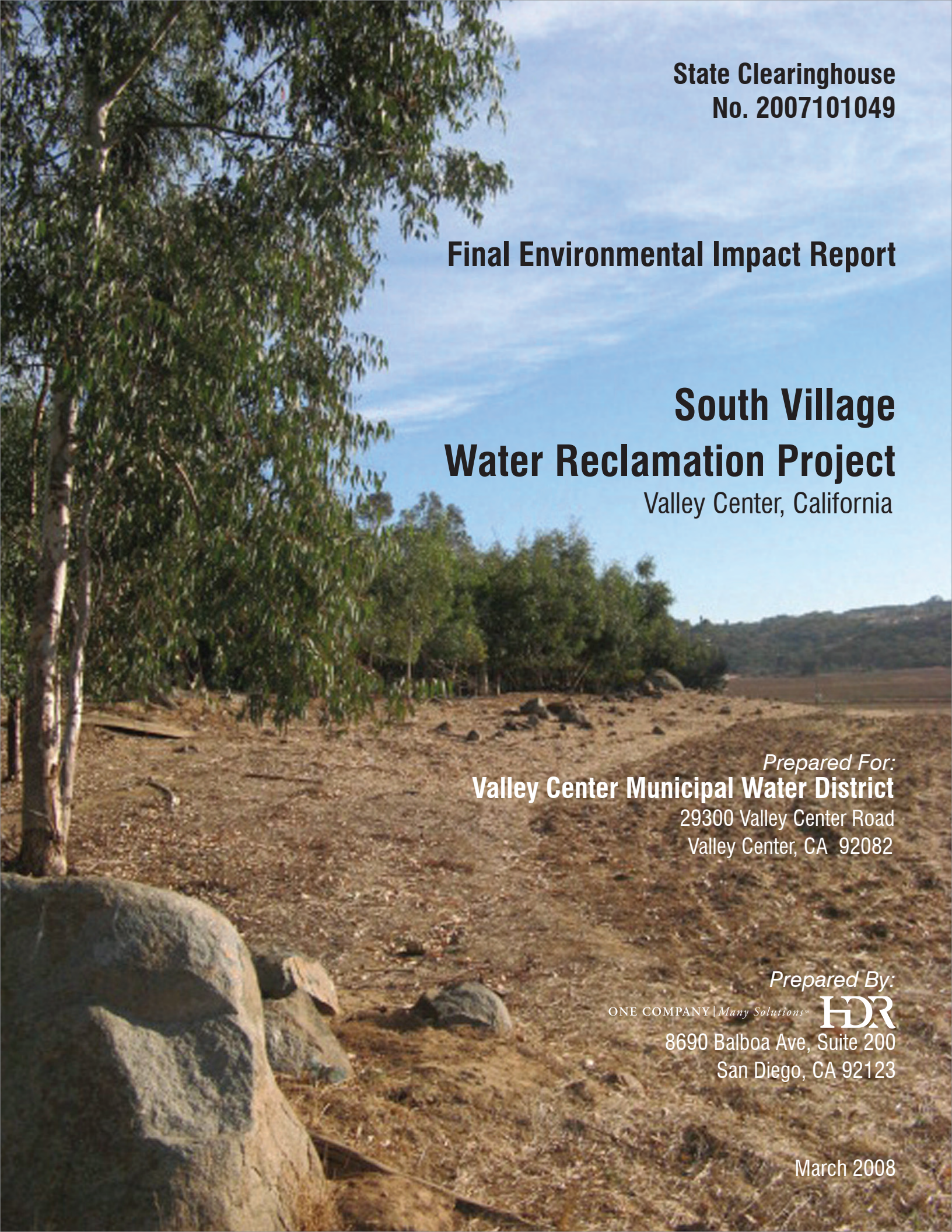
Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

Attachment 1
Final EIR - South Village
Water Reclamation Project

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility



**State Clearinghouse
No. 2007101049**

Final Environmental Impact Report

**South Village
Water Reclamation Project**
Valley Center, California

Prepared For:
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Prepared By:
ONE COMPANY | *Many Solutions*SM **HDR**
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March 2008

FEIR ERRATA
SOUTH VILLAGE WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT
(SCH # 2007101049)

This errata has been prepared to document revisions to Section 0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), Table 0.4-1, of the FEIR that have been implemented in response to comments to public and agency comments. These changes did occur and are reflected in the text of Sections 0.1, 0.3, 1.0 and 4.3 of the FEIR; however, they were not transposed in the MMRP table.

The following are the revisions to be included in Table 0.4-1, Section 0.4 MMRP, as shown in Sections 0.1, 0.3, 1.0 and 4.3. No substantial changes or new information is being added at this time. The revisions to Section 0.4 occur in Table 0.4-1 and are identified in line/strikeout below:

- MM 4.3-1** Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008. If the draft NCMSCP is approved prior to construction, mitigation ratios shall follow the ratios outlined in the approved plan. Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.
- MM 4.3-4** Prior to construction a preconstruction survey shall be conducted to map and avoid any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid ~~indirect~~ impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.
- MM 4.3-8** A jurisdictional wetland delineation shall be required to determine impacts to wetland areas prior to construction. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to wetland impacts. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Ag	Agriculture
AMSL	Above mean sea level
APCD	Air Pollution Control District
BMO	Biological Mitigation Ordinance
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
Cal/OSHA	California Occupational Safety and Health Agency
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CAM	Cismontane alkali marsh
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDC	California Department of Conservation
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	Carbon monoxide
County	County of San Diego
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DEV	Developed
DH	Disturbed habitat
District	Valley Center Municipal Water District
DLRP	Division of Land Resource Protection
DPF	diesel particulate filter
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substance Control
DW	Disturbed wetland
DWR	Department of Water Resources
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EDU	Equivalent Dwelling Unit
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
EW	Eucalyptus woodland
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FTB	Flat-top buckwheat
GPA	General Plan Amendment
gpd	Gallons per unit per day
I-15	Interstate 15
L _{eq}	Energy equivalent noise level
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
mg/m ³	Milligrams per cubic meter
MM	Mitigation Measure
MPH	Miles per hour
N/A	Not available
NCMSCP	North County Multiple Species Conservation Program
NNG	Non-native grassland
NOI	Notice of Intent
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO _x	Nitrogen oxides

Acronyms and Abbreviations

NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OAEP	Operational Area Evacuation Plan
OakW	Oak woodland
OARP	Operational Area Recovery Plan
OW	Open water
O ₃	Ozone
PAMA	Pre-approved Mitigation Area
PM _{2.5}	Ultra fine particulates
PM ₁₀	Fine particulates
ppm	parts per million
RAQS	Regional Air Quality Strategy
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	Recognized Environmental Condition
RL	Rural Land
ROGs	Reactive organic gases
ROW	Right-of-Way
RPO	Resource Protection Ordinance
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCIC	South Coastal Information Center
SCLORF	Southern coast live oak riparian forest
SDAB	San Diego Air Basin
SDRWQCB	San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
SEAC	Structural Engineers Association of California
sf	Square feet
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SMC	Southern mixed chaparral
SO _x	Sulfur oxide
SO ₂	Sulfur dioxide
SPA	Specific Plan Amendment
SR	Semi-rural Residential
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWS	Southern willow scrub
TCP	Traffic Control Plan
UBC	Uniform Building Code
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VCMWD	Valley Center Municipal Water District
VR	Village Residential
WVRWRF	Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility
VOCs	Volatile organic compounds
µg/m ³	Micrograms per cubic meter

0.1 FEIR INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as amended (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), *CEQA Guidelines* (California Administrative Code Section 15000 et seq.), and the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) CEQA procedures.

According to *CEQA Guidelines* §15132, the FEIR shall consist of the following:

- a) The Draft EIR (DEIR) or a revision of the Draft;
- b) Comments and recommendations received on the DEIR, either verbatim or in summary;
- c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the DEIR;
- d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process;
- e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

In accordance with these requirements, the Final South Village Water Reclamation Project is comprised of the following:

Section 0.1 Introduction

This section describes CEQA requirements and content of this FEIR.

Section 0.2 Corrections and Additions

This section provides a list of those revisions made to the DEIR text and figures as a result of comments received and/or clarifications subsequent to release of the DEIR for public review.

Section 0.3 Responses to Comment Letters Received on the DEIR

This section provides copies of the comment letters received and individual responses to written comments. In accordance with Public Resources Code 21092.5, copies of the written proposed responses to public agencies will be forwarded to the agencies at least 10 days prior to certifying an EIR. The responses will conform to the legal standards established for response to comments on DEIRs.

Section 0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This section includes the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) which identifies the mitigation measures, timing and responsibility for implementation of the measures.

Attachments

- Draft Environmental Impact Report, South Village Water Reclamation Project (February 2008) (SCH No. 2007101049)

0.2 CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

Sections 0.2.1 and 0.2.2 contain revisions to information included in the February 2008 Draft EIR based upon additional or revised information required to prepare a response to a specific comment and/or typographical errors. Given the minor changes associated with the document, the information added to the FEIR does not meet the requirements for recirculation pursuant to Section 150885.5 of the State *CEQA Guidelines*.

0.2.1 REVISED AND SUPPLEMENTAL TEXT

Changes to the DEIR were made in response to comments received on the DEIR. Overall, the new information clarifies information and analysis presented in the DEIR, or revises mitigation measures that were requested by commenters on the DEIR. Text that has been added to the document appears in an underline format. Text that has been deleted appears with strikeout.

The following table identifies the sections where revisions have been made to the DEIR, along with the accompanying page numbers.

Final EIR Section	Page Number
1.0 Introduction and Summary	Table 1.7-1 (pg. 1-5 through 1-9)
2.0 Project Description	2-1
4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated	4-23
4.2 Agricultural Resources	4-28, 4-29, 4-31, and 4-32
4.3 Biological Resources	4-34, 4-35, 4-42 through 4-50
4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources	4-58 through 4-61
4.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials	4-64
5.0 Alternatives	5-5 and 5-6
7.0 Inventory of Unavoidable Adverse Impacts	7-1

0.2.2 REVISED AND SUPPLEMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Based upon comment letters received on the DEIR, several mitigation measures were added and others revised in the FEIR. The following represent the additional and revised mitigation measures:

Biological Resources

MM 4.3-1 Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities ~~would~~ shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios ~~approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA.~~ Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed. ~~recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.~~ If the draft NCMSCP is approved prior to construction, mitigation ratios shall follow the ratios outlined in the approved plan. Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.

- MM 4.3-3** ~~Impacts that will occur along the pipeline alignment will be temporary. When project construction is completed a project as built would be prepared to identify impacts within the project and any associated staging areas created during construction. These impacts would be either purchased through acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an agency approved mitigation bank or through habitat restoration. Restoration may include a five year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.~~
- MM 4.3-4** ~~Prior to construction a preconstruction survey will~~shall be conducted to map and avoid any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid ~~indirect~~ impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.
- MM 4.3-5** ~~Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified in the by the wildlife agencies in March 2008 BMO, specifically Section 86.507(e).~~
- MM 4.3-6** ~~A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.~~
- MM 4.3-67** ~~Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible), recognized from February-January 15 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.~~
- MM 4.3-78** ~~A jurisdictional wetland delineation is~~shall be required to determine impacts to these wetland areas prior to construction. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to if measurable direct wetland impacts per recommendations occur to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas mitigation and permits would be required. If impacts to jurisdictional areas occur temporary impacts would be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio, while permanent impacts would at a 3:1 ratio, unless alternative mitigation ratios are negotiated between the District and the USACE and/or CDFG. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.

MM 4.3-89 Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the RWQCB would be required, in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the CWA (NPDES 2007). Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project.

Cultural Resources

MM 4.4-1 ~~Further testing for sites CA SDI 13598 and VC S 3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project redesign to avoid the site, or the completion of a data recovery program. Project design shall avoid cultural resource site CA-SDI-13598.~~

MM 4.4-2 A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading ~~of any area of activities at the project site as the project site sits is located~~ on potentially sensitive archeological resources. ~~If any archeological resources are identified during these activities, the archeologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.~~ In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.

In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

MM 4.4-3 A qualified paleontologist shall monitor all grading that includes initial cutting ~~into any area of the project site as the geology of the region consists of~~ that may affect Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. If any

paleontological resources are identified during these activities, the paleontologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.

MM 4.4-10 If the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing for site VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project design to avoid the site.

Hazards/Hazardous Materials

MM HAZ-14.5-1 The contractor shall prepare a Health and Safety Plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1926, Subpart C, which sets forth health and safety requirements specifically for the construction industry. Under the Health and Safety Plan, the contractor shall incorporate waste management provisions into the construction contract to reduce potential impacts from hazardous material to workers at the construction site.

0.3 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Section 0.3 contains responses to all comment letters received on the February 2008 Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). A notice from the State Clearinghouse stating they received no additional comments and eight comment letters were received during the comment period. The comment period closed March 26, 2008. A copy of each letter with bracketed comment numbers on the right margin is followed by the response for each comment as indexed in the letter.

The comment letters are listed in Table 0.3-1.

Table 0.3-1. Comment Letters – South Village Water Reclamation Project

Letter No.	Commenter	Letter Date
1	Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit (Memorandum)	03/27/08
2	County Clerk of San Diego County	02/07/08
3	San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.	02/18/08
4	Native American Heritage Commission	02/26/08
5	United State Fish and Wildlife Service	03/05/08
6	State of California Department of Fish and Game	03/10/08
7	County of San Diego	03/21/08
8	State Water Resources Control Board	03/25/08



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



CYNTHIA ERYANT
DIRECTOR

March 27, 2008

Dianne Kilwein
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Subject: South Village Water Reclamation Project
SCH#: 2007101049

Dear Dianne Kilwein:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on March 26, 2008, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(e) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

1-1

Letter 1
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit
March 27, 2008

1-1. This letter provides a summary of the agencies that the State Clearinghouse transmitted the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). This letter also includes all comments letters that were received during the public review process and confirms the public review closing date of March 26, 2008. Finally, this letter documents that the project has complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for environmental documents, pursuant to CEQA.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

1400 10th Street P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812-3044
(916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov

P.002

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

MAR-27-2008 11:104

Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH#	2007101049		
Project Title	South Village Water Reclamation Project		
Lead Agency	Valley Center Municipal Water District		
Type	EIR Draft EIR		
Description	The project is the Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF). This includes the creation of an Assessment District of approximately 350 EDUs, the expansion of the WVRWRF, installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines, and the creation of wet weather seasonal storage pond(s) and discharge area. Service will only be provided to existing and future development within the South Village area that has been identified in the County General Plan.		
Lead Agency Contact			
Name	Dianno Kilwein		
Agency	Valley Center Municipal Water District		
Phone	(760) 749-1803	Fax	
email			
Address	29300 Valley Center Road		
City	Valley Center	State	CA Zip 92082
Project Location			
County	San Diego		
City			
Region			
Cross Streets	Valley Center Road and Lilac Road		
Parcel No.	Multiple		
Township	11S	Range	1, 2W Section 13, 16 Base SBB&M
Proximity to:			
Highways	Lake Wohlford Resort Airstrip		
Airports			
Railways	Moosa Creek		
Waterways			
Schools			
Land Use	The planning area vicinity includes Extensive Agriculture, Intensive Agriculture, Undeveloped, Spaced Rural Residential, Recreation, Commercial/Offices, and Single-Family Detached.		
Project Issues	Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Cumulative Effects; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Other Issues; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Sewer Capacity; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife		
Reviewing Agencies	Resources Agency; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 9; Department of Parks and Recreation; Native American Heritage Commission; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Department of Water Resources; Caltrans, District 11; Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; Department of Toxic Substances Control; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights; State Water Resources Control Board, Clean Water Program		
Date Received	02/11/2008	Start of Review	02/11/2008 End of Review 03/26/2008

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

000 * d MAR-27-2008 11:04 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Letter 1 (Continued)
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit
March 27, 2008

RECEIVED

FEB 12 2008

VCMWD-ENGINEERING

Notice of Availability of
A Draft Environmental Impact Report

Filed With: County Clerk of San Diego County
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

Project Title: South Village Water Reclamation Program EIR.

Project Location: South Village of Valley Center, CA.

Project Location (City): Valley Center Project Location (County): San Diego County

Description of Project: The proposed project includes a modification of the currently held Waste Discharge Permit (RWQCB Order No. R9-1998-0009 as amended, WVRWRF), formation of an Assessment District, and adoption of the South Village Wastewater Master Plan for the Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion of wastewater service for the South Village area of Valley Center, CA. The project includes the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution pipelines, and the construction of wet weather seasonal storage pond(s) and irrigation disposal area.

Name of Lead Agency: Valley Center Municipal Water District

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dianne Kilwein, P.E., Project Manager

Telephone Number: (760) 749-1603, ext 259

Address where document may be reviewed: Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, CA 92082

FILED
Gregory J. Smith, Recorder/County Clerk

FEB 07 2008

A. Consul

BY _____ DEPUTY

2-1

Copies are available for review at:

- Library: Valley Center Library, 29200 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center, CA 92082
- District's website under the South Village Water Reclamation Project or:
<http://www.vcmwd.org/engineering/snodesewer/DraftEIR2008.pdf>

Public Review Period (45 days): Begins: February 6, 2008 Ends: March 21, 2008

Anyone interested in this matter is invited to comment on the document by written response or by personal appearance at the hearing.

For inquires please contact: Dianne Kilwein, Project Manager (760) 749-1603 , ext 259

Signed: 
Dianne Kilwein, P.E.
Project Manager

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK:
San Diego County on FEB 07 2008
Posted FEB 07 2008 Removed _____
Returned to agency on _____
Deputy A. Consul

Letter 2
Office of the County Clerk
February 7, 2008

2-1. This letter serves as a public notice by the County of San Diego that the DEIR is available for comment by written response or by personal appearance at the hearing.

This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.



San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.

Environmental Review Committee

18 February 2008

To: Ms. Dianne Kilwein, P.E.
Project Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, California 92082

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report
South Village Water Reclamation Project

Dear Ms. Kilwein:

I have reviewed the cultural resources aspects of the subject DEIR on behalf of this committee of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.

Based on the information contained in the DEIR and its Appendix D, we have the following comments:

Section 1.1 (Introduction) of the DEIR states that the document is a project-level evaluation of Phase II and a program-level evaluation of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. Section 4.4.3.1 (Phase II) of the DEIR indicates that site SDI-13598 is within the proposed pipeline alignment and site VC-S-3 "is located in the southwest corner of the location proposed for the seasonal storage pond." In both cases, 4.4.3.1 notes that potentially significant impacts to the sites would result and that mitigation is required. Furthermore, Section 4.4.3.2 (Ultimate Service Area) states of SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 that "These resources are located within the footprint of Phase II and would be mitigated at the project-level basis if they can not be avoided."

Section 4.4.5 (Environmental Mitigation Measures) included mitigation measure MM-4.4-1, which says that "Further testing for sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance." That sentence acknowledges that the testing is required to determine significance of the resources, it is not itself mitigation. The mitigation that will be required to reduce the project impacts to the level of insignificance cannot be determined until the testing program is completed. Deferring determination of the mitigation requirements until after project approval is not in accordance with the intent of CEQA, that impacts and mitigation measures be disclosed prior to project approval. The court case, *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino*, touches on this.

3-1

3-2

Letter 3

San Diego County Archaeological Society

February 18, 2008

3-1. This comment references Section 4.4.3.1 of the DEIR, which states that a potentially significant impact has been identified for cultural resource sites CA-SEI-13598 and VC-S-3 and mitigation is required if avoidance is not feasible.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

3-2. This comment suggests an inadequacy exists with Mitigation Measure (MM) 4.4-1, which states that "further testing for sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significant". According to the SDCAS, testing for significance is not adequate mitigation for potential impacts to cultural resources. Further, the SDCAS notes that adequate mitigation can not be determined until a significant test has been performed. Therefore, the SDCAS suggests that the approach taken in the DEIR of deferring mitigation requirements until a determination of significance can be completed for CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 is not in accordance with the intent of CEQA.

The District has determined that total avoidance of resource CA-SDI-13598 is the appropriate course of action. Resource CA-SDI-13598 was located within the Phase II pipeline alignment; however, the District will design the Phase II pipeline in this area to avoid CA-SDI-13598. The pipeline will be placed in the existing paved driveway for the Valley Center Community Center. This revision will be reflected in the FEIR and the MMRP. Consequently, Phase II MM 4.4-1 has been revised as follows:

P.O. Box 81106 • San Diego, CA 92138-1106 • (658) 538-0935

Letter 3 (Continued)
San Diego County Archaeological Society
February 18, 2008

- 3-2. MM-4.4-1 Further testing for sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project redesign to avoid the site, or the completion of a data recovery program. Project design shall avoid cultural resource site CA-SDI-13598.
- (cont.)

Resource VC-S-3 was found to be within proximity of the proposed storage pond area for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion on the West Site. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion is the program level component of this project. Thus, the location of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond has not been determined at this time and could potentially be situated on another site. If in the future, the District chooses the West site for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing will be conducted, prior to final design, for VC-S-3 to determine its significance and boundary.

Letter 3 (Continued)
San Diego County Archaeological Society
February 18, 2008

3-2. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond will be (cont.) designed to avoid any significant cultural resources impacts. This revision will be reflected in the FEIR and the MMRP. Consequently, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion mitigation measures have been revised to include the following additional mitigation:

MM 4.4-10 If the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing for site VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project design to avoid the site.

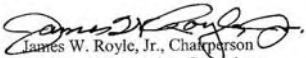
Accordingly, the District cannot accept this EIR and approve Phase II without conducting the necessary testing and making the resulting mitigation measures available for public review via a revision of Section 4.4 and Appendix D.

Ironically, the descriptions of SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 suggests that the sites may not even include a subsurface component. Thus, the deferred testing program might well result in a determination that the sites are not significant and a small expenditure up front might have entirely avoided MM-4.4-1 and this issue.

Regarding mitigation measure MM-4.4-2, the monitoring of grading and excavation by archaeological and Native American monitors is appropriate. However, the conditions need to be expanded to address various contingencies as well as curation requirements. We recommend that wording similar to the County's archaeological monitoring conditions be utilized. They can be found on the County's website, at http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/Resource/docs/3--pdf/Cultural_Report_Format.pdf, beginning on page 54. Wording for curation requirements is also included, on page 48. The contact person at the County's Department of Planning and Land Use is Donna Beddow (858-694-3656, or donna.beddow@sdcounty.ca.gov). The San Diego Archaeological Center (a separate organization from SDCAS), working with Ms. Beddow, has developed a generic version of the County's mitigation conditions. If you would like a copy, either she or I (jwroyle@cts.com) can provide an electronic copy, or you may contact the Center's Director, Cindy Stankowski, at cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

We agree that, as discussed in Sections 4.4.3.1 and 4.4.3.2, no impacts to historic (i.e., non-archaeological) resources are expected to result.

Thank you for providing SDCAS with this DEIR for our review. Please also include us in the public review of future environmental documents related to this project, and others issued by the District.

Sincerely,

James W. Royle, Jr., Chairperson
Environmental Review Committee

cc: Gallegos & Associates
SDCAS President
File

P.O. Box 81106 • San Diego, CA 92138-1106 • (858) 538-0935

Letter 3 (Continued)
San Diego County Archaeological Society
February 18, 2008

3-3
3-4
3-5
3-6

3-3. This comment recommends that the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) not approve Phase II of the South Village Water Reclamation Project without first conducting a significance test for cultural resources sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3, and, should the sites be found to be significant, provide mitigation measures for public review. The SDCAS also notes that a significance test may have avoided this issue, as the descriptions of the sites seem to suggest that they are not significant.

As outlined above, the District will completely avoid CA-SDI-13598 for Phase II, and if the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, and if the site is determined to have significant cultural resources, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion will also avoid CS-SDI-13598. Further, MM 4.4-10 has been incorporated into the FEIR to address potential impacts to VC-S-3 should the West Site be chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond.

3-4. This comment recommends that MM 4.4-2 be expanded to address various contingencies as well as curation requirements. The SDCAS provides references and contact information for the appropriate language to be inserted into the DEIR.

Based on the comment above, MM 4.4-2 has been revised as follows:

Letter 3 (Continued)
San Diego County Archaeological Society
February 18, 2008

- 3-4. MM 4.4-2 A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading of any area of activities at the project site as the project site is located on potentially sensitive archeological resources. ~~If any archeological resources are identified during these activities, the archeologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.~~ In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.

Letter 3 (Continued)
San Diego County Archaeological Society
February 18, 2008

3-4. (cont.) In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

3-5. The SDCAS agrees that no impacts to historic (i.e., non-archaeological) resources are anticipated to result from development of the proposed project.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

3-6. This comment requests that the SDCAS be included in the public review process for future environmental documents related to this project as well as other District issues.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-6251
Fax (916) 657-5390
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov
e-mail: ds_nahc@pacbell.net

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor



RECEIVED

FEB 29 2008

VCMWD-ENGINEERING

February 26, 2008

Ms. Dianne Kilwein
VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Re: SCH#2007101049, CEQA Notice of Completion, draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for South Village Water Reclamation Project, Valley Center Area, San Diego County, California

Dear Ms. Kilwein:

The Native American Heritage Commission is the state agency designated to protect California's Native American Cultural Resources. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c) (CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the 2007 CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance." In order to comply with this provision, the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE)', and if so, to mitigate that effect. To adequately assess the project-related impacts on historical resources, the Commission recommends the following action:

- √ Contact the appropriate California Historic Resources Information Center (CHRIS) for possible 'recorded sites' in locations where the development will or might occur. Contact information for the Information Center nearest you is available from the State Office of Historic Preservation (916/653-7278) <http://www.ohp.caixs.ca.gov>. The record search will determine:
 - If a part or the entire APE has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - If any known cultural resources have already been recorded in or adjacent to the APE.
 - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
- √ If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center.
- √ Contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for:
 - * A Sacred Lands File (SLF) search of the project area and information on tribal contacts in the project vicinity that may have additional cultural resource information. Please provide this office with the following citation format to assist with the Sacred Lands File search request: USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle citation with name, township, range and section.
 - The NAHC advises the use of Native American Monitors to ensure proper identification and care given cultural resources that may be discovered. The NAHC recommends that contact be made with Native American Contacts on the attached list to get their input on potential project impact (APE). In some cases, the existence of a Native American cultural resources may be known only to a local tribe(s).
- √ Lack of surface evidence of archeological resources does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archeological resources, per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) §15064.5 (f). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American, with knowledge in cultural resources, should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - A culturally-affiliated Native American tribe may be the only source of information about a Sacred Site/Native American cultural resource.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the disposition of recovered artifacts, in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.

4-1
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4-5

Letter 4
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008

4-1. This comment provides opening remarks and notes the role of the NAHC as a Trustee Agency pursuant to CEQA. It does not address the adequacy of the environmental document.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment

4-2. This comment contains recommendations for the project to conduct a records search to determine the presence of nearby cultural resource sites.

As outlined in Section 4.4.1.3, a records search has already been conducted at South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) and the research library at Gallegos & Associates in Carlsbad, California. That search identified four cultural resources within the project area. Further investigation (via pedestrian field survey) revealed one previously recorded cultural resource (CA-SDI-13598), one newly recorded cultural resource (VC-S-3), and three newly recorded isolates (VC-I-1, VC-I-2, and VC-I-4) located within various portions of the project site. No historic structures were identified within the project site. Detailed information on the record search and pedestrian field surveys are included in Appendix D of the FEIR. No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment

4-3. This comment recommends that the project conduct a cultural survey and prepare a cultural resources report.

A cultural resources survey was conducted and a report was prepared for the proposed project. The report is attached as Appendix D of the FEIR and was submitted to the SCIC.

Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008

- 4-3. The confidential appendices are located at the Lead Agency (cont.) (VCMWD) and are not available for public review. No change was made to the FEIR based upon this comment
- 4-4. This comment recommends that the project contact the NAHC to obtain a Sacred Lands File Search and listing of Tribes to contact for consultation.

The District conducted a Sacred Land File Search on November 8, 2007; no sacred lands were identified as a result of this search. Detailed information on the Sacred Lands File search is included in Appendix D of the cultural resources report, which is attached as Appendix D of the FEIR. NAHC further recommends that contact be made with the Native American Tribes identified in the comment letter for their input on potential project impacts to cultural resources. Nine Tribes were contacted via written correspondence to request any information and/or input that they may have regarding Native American concerns either directly or indirectly associated with the proposed project. The Pala Band of Mission Indians was the only Tribe to submit a response, which stated that they are not concerned that the proposed project would impact Native American cultural resources. The Pala did however request to receive project updates, reports of investigations and/or any documentation that might be generated regarding previously reported or newly discovered cultural resource sites. In response to this request, a Native American monitor representing the San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians provided monitoring services for all fieldwork conducted, as outlined in Section 4.4.1.2. Therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008

- 4-5. This comment encourages lead agencies to include provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archaeological resources found during construction.

As discussed on page 4-56 of the DEIR, a potentially significant impact has been identified for buried archaeological resources along proposed pipeline alignment and at the West Seasonal Storage Site. In order to mitigate this impact, MM 4.4-2 (page 4-59) was revised to include the following language:

“A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading ~~of any area of activities at the project site~~ as the ~~project site sits~~ is located on potentially sensitive archeological resources. ~~If any archeological resources are identified during these activities, the archeologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.~~ In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.”

Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008

- 4-5. In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.”

Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008

√ Lead agencies should include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains or unmarked cemeteries in their mitigation plans.

• CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(d) requires the lead agency to work with the Native Americans identified by this Commission if the initial Study identifies the presence or likely presence of Native American human remains within the APE. CEQA Guidelines provide for agreements with Native American, identified by the NAHC, to assure the appropriate and dignified treatment of Native American human remains and any associated grave liens.

√ Health and Safety Code §7050.5, Public Resources Code §5097.98 and Sec. §15064.5 (d) of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines) mandate procedures to be followed, including that construction or excavation be stopped in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery until the county coroner or medical examiner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American.

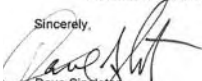
Note that §7052 of the Health & Safety Code states that disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony.

√ Lead agencies should consider avoidance, as defined in §15370 of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines), when significant cultural resources are discovered during the course of project planning and implementation

} 4-6
} 4-7

Please feel free to contact me at (916) 653-6251 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Dave Singleton
Program Analyst

Attachment: List of Native American Contacts

Cc: State Clearinghouse

4-6. This comment discusses requirements related to projects affecting Native American remains.

No human remains were identified in the area of potential effect. As outlined in MM 4.4-9, the accidental discovery of human remains is governed by State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. This section of the Health and Safety code states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 24 hours of notification by the NAHC. The MLD may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials. Since this mitigating is already included in the DEIR, no change will be made to the FEIR based upon this comment.

4-7. This comment encourages lead agencies to consider avoidance when significant cultural resources during the course of project planning are discovered.

Mitigation for potential impacts to cultural resources accidentally discovered during construction of the proposed project is included in MM 4.4-2 (page 4-59) of the FEIR.

**Native American Contacts
San Diego County
February 26, 2008**

Ma & Yuima
Carmen C. Devers, Chairperson
Box 369 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA 92061
areservation@aol.com
742-1289
742-3422 Fax

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
Carmen Mojado, Co-Chair
1889 Sunset Drive Luiseno
Vista, CA 92081
cimojado@slrmissionindians.org
(760) 724-8505

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
Mark Mojado, Cultural Resources
Box 68 Luiseno
1889 Sunset Drive
Vista, CA 92081 Cupeno
ril@rincontribute.org
749-1051
749-8901 Fax

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
Mark Mojado, Cultural Resources
1889 Sunset Drive Luiseno
Vista, CA 92081 Cupeno
(760) 724-8505
(760) 586-4858 (cell)

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
Shasta Gaughen, Assistant Director
Box 445 Luiseno
35008 Pala-Temecula Rd. PMB Box 445
Pala, CA 92059
cupa@palatribe.com
742-1590
(760) 742-4543 - FAX

Cupa Cultural Center (Pala Band)
Shasta Gaughen, Assistant Director
35008 Pala-Temecula Rd. PMB Box 445 Luiseno
Pala, CA 92059
cupa@palatribe.com
(760) 742-1590
(760) 742-4543 - FAX

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
Rob Roy, Environmental Director
Box 68 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA 92061
ril@rincontribute.org
749-1051
749-8901 Fax

La Jolla Band of Mission Indians
ATTN: Rob Roy, Environmental Director
22000 Highway 76 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA 92061
lajolla-sherry@aol.com and
(760) 742-3790
(760) 742-1704 Fax

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

This list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native American with regard to cultural resources for the proposed 07101049; CEQA Notice of Completion; draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for South Village Water Reclamation Project; Valley Center Municipal Water District; San Diego County, California.

**Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008**

**Native American Contacts
San Diego County
February 26, 2008**

Charles Devers, Chair
Cultural Committee; Pauma & Yuima Reservation
P.O. Box 369 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA 92061
(760) 742-1289
(760) 742-4543 FAX

Mel Vernon
San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
1044 North Ivy Street Luiseno
Escondido, CA 92026
(760) 703-1514 - cell
(760) 746-8692
melvern@aol.com

**Letter 4 (Continued)
Native American Heritage Commission
February 18, 2008**

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native American with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH#2007101049; CEQA Notice of Completion; draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for South Village Water Reclamation Project; Valley Center Municipal Water District; San Diego County, California.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ecological Services
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
6010 Hidden Valley Road
Carlsbad, California 92011

In Reply Refer To:
FWS-SDG-08B0375-08TA0406

MAR 5 2008

Ms. Dianne Kilwein, P.E.
Project Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, California 92082

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project,
Valley Center, San Diego, California

Dear Ms. Finn:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the above-referenced project, dated February 2008. The Service has identified potential effects of this project on wildlife and regional conservation planning. The comments provided herein are based on the information provided in the DEIR, the Service's knowledge of sensitive and declining vegetative communities, and our participation in regional conservation planning efforts.

5-1

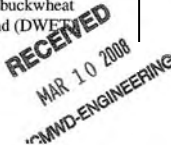
The primary concern and mandate of the Service is the protection of public fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. The Service has legal responsibility for the welfare of migratory birds, anadromous fish, and endangered animals and plants occurring in the United States. The Service is also responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

5-2

The proposed project is located within the unincorporated community of Valley Center, San Diego County, California. The proposed project would include the Phase II expansion and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. The Phase II expansion would include the following components: expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF); installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution lines; and, development of a seasonal storage pond. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would include further expansion of the WVRWRF; additional installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution lines; and increased capacity for the seasonal storage pond from approximately 5 acres to 20 to 25 acres.

5-3

The proposed project area contains 13 vegetation communities including: flat-top buckwheat (FTB), non-native grassland (NNG), eucalyptus woodland (EW), disturbed wetland (DWE)



Letter 5
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

- 5-1. This comment notes that the USFWS has reviewed the DEIR and has included comments in their response. It does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.
5-2. This comment outlines the mandate and legal authority for the USFWS to provide comments and recommendations for development projects under CEQA guidelines. This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.
5-3. These comments identify the location of the proposed project and provide general information regarding the project description. These comments also identify the vegetation communities and sensitive species that were identified within the project area during biological field surveys. These comments do not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

Ms. Dianne Kilwein (FWS-SDG-08B0375-08TA0406)

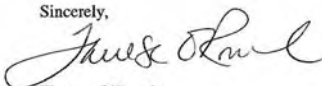
2

cismontane alkali marsh (CAM), southern coast live oak riparian forest (SCLORF), southern willow scrub (SWS), southern mixed chaparral (SMC), oak woodland (OW), open water (OPW), disturbed (DIST), agriculture (AG), and developed (DEVL).

The following sensitive species were detected within the project area: red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*).

We offer our recommendations and comments in the Enclosure to assist Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) in minimizing and mitigating project impacts to biological resources, and to assure that the project is consistent with ongoing regional habitat conservation planning efforts.

If you have questions or comments regarding the contents of this letter, please contact Michelle Moreno of my staff, at (760) 431-9440.

Sincerely,


Therese O'Rourke
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Enclosure

5-3
Cont.

5-4

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

5-4. This comment notes that the USFWS offers their recommendations and comments to assist the District in minimizing and mitigation potential impacts to biological resources. This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SOUTH VILLAGE
WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT

- 1. Page 4-33 of the DEIR and Page 21 of the Biological Technical Report (BTR) include discussions of the County of San Diego (County) Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). The proposed project is not located within the boundaries of the MSCP plan area, rather it is located within the boundaries of the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP), which is a separate plan that is still in draft form and has not yet been adopted. Therefore, the sections discussing the MSCP should be removed from the final EIR and replaced with a section describing how the project fits within the draft NCMSCP plan area.
- 2. Page 4-11 of the DEIR includes a discussion of the project's consistency with the County's Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO) for the NCMSCP. As stated above, the NCMSCP is still in draft form and the BMO has not been adopted. Please remove all references to the project's consistency with the BMO from the final EIR.
- 3. Throughout the DEIR and the BTR reference is made to tier classifications for habitat impacts and habitat mitigation. As stated above, the proposed project is not located within the approved MSCP plan boundaries; therefore, the tier classifications identified in the MSCP do not apply to the proposed project. All references to tier classifications should be removed from the final EIR.
- 4. Page 24 of the BTR included within the DEIR states that "the mitigation ratios presented in Table 3 are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA." The NCMSCP is still in draft form and mitigation ratios have not yet been approved or finalized for this plan area. In addition, Table 3 includes different mitigation ratios for each habitat type based on whether or not the impacts and/or mitigation would occur within the boundaries of the draft Pre-approved Mitigation Area (PAMA) for the draft NCMSCP. Since the NCMSCP has not been finalized, the mitigation ratios should be the same regardless of whether or not the impacts and/or mitigation are located within the draft PAMA.
- 5. We recommend that all impacts to OW, SCLORF, SWS, and CAM be mitigated at a minimum 3:1 ratio rather than the 2:1 ratio currently proposed.
- 6. Table 3 on page 26 of the BTR states that the Ultimate Expansion for the WVRWRF and Storage Pond was not analyzed as part of the impact analysis. Please clarify whether additional CEQA analysis and appropriate mitigation will be done for these portions of the project in the future.

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Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

5-5. This comment notes that both the DEIR and Biological Technical Report (BTR) refer to the project area as being located within the boundaries of the County of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). According to the USFWS, the proposed project is actually located within the boundaries of the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP), which is a separate plan that has yet to be adopted. The USFWS recommends that all references to the MSCP be removed from the DEIR and replaced with a section describing how the proposed project is consistent with the draft NCMSCP.

In response, page 4-34 of the DEIR and page 21 of the BTR have been revised by removing references to the MSCP and inserting a discussion of the draft NCMSCP. Specifically, the following text in Section 4.3.1.1 of the DEIR has been revised as follows:

~~In response to the continued loss of sensitive biological resources, especially coastal sage scrub, the County adopted the MSCP in 1997. To implement the MSCP Subarea Plan, the County enacted the BMO. Habitats are classified in different "Tier" levels that require different levels of mitigation. Application of the BMO to individual projects is the method by which the County will achieve the conservation goals set forth in the MSCP. Mitigation requirements for different habitat types are based on the location of both the impact and the proposed mitigation. Impacts within core habitat areas or pre-approved mitigation areas (PAMA) require higher mitigation ratios. Portions of the project area occur within PAMA as shown on Figure 4.3-1. Conversely, more credit is allowed for preservation or~~

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

5-5. ~~mitigation within core habitat areas or pre-approved~~
(cont.) ~~mitigation areas.~~

“At this time, the NCMSCP Plan is in draft format. The approach of the NCMSCP Plan will be based on the goals of the biological preserve design and will guide project-specific mitigation to those areas most critical to maintenance of ecosystem function and species viability.

The NCMSCP Plan will serve as a multiple species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), as well as a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the California NCCP Act. The NCMSCP Plan has been submitted to Wildlife Agencies in support of applications for permits and authorizations for incidental take of listed, threatened or endangered species or other species of concern. The County will be issued an incidental take permit for species that are found to be covered by implementation of the plan. The County, as a take authorization holder, may share the benefits of that authorization by using it to permit public or private projects, referred to as Third Party Beneficiaries, that comply with the NCMSCP Plan.

Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.”

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

- 5-6. This comment notes that the DEIR includes a discussion of the project's consistency with the County's Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO) for the draft NCMSCP.

As stated in the previous comment, the draft NCMSCP has yet to be adopted, and, therefore, the USFWS requests that all references to the project's consistency with the BMO be removed from the DEIR. Based on this comment, all references to the project's consistency with the BMO have been removed from the DEIR. Specifically, a reference to the BMO was deleted on page 4-34 and MM 4.3-5 (page 4-48) was revised as follows:

“Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified in the BMO, specifically Section 86.507(e), by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.”

It is worth noting that although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.

- 5-7. This comment notes that both the DEIR and BTR make reference to MSCP tier classifications for habitat impacts and habitat mitigation. As stated in comment 5-5, the proposed project is actually located within the boundaries of the draft NCMSCP, not the MSCP. As such, the USFWS notes that MSCP tier classifications do not apply to the proposed project, and, therefore, all such references should be removed from the DEIR.

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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5-7. In response, all references to MSCP tier classifications have (cont.) been removed from the DEIR. Specifically, references to tier classifications were deleted on pages 4-34 and 4-42 (including Table 4.3-2) and MM 4.3-1 was revised as follows:

“Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities ~~would~~ shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA. Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008. If the draft NCMSCP is approved prior to construction, mitigation ratios shall follow the ratios outlined in the approved plan. Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.”

Further, references to tier classifications were deleted on pages 8, 13 through 17, 30, 23 (including Table 2), 25 (including Table 3), and 26 in the BTR.

5-8. This comment notes that the mitigation ratios presented in Table 3 of the BTR are based on ratios approved by the draft NCMSCP. As stated in comment 5-5, the NCMSCP is still in draft form and all mitigation ratios associated with the program have yet to be approved or finalized. Additionally, this comment notes that Table 3 of the BTR includes different mitigation ratios for each habitat type based on

Letter 5 (Continued)
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5-8. whether or not the impacts and/or mitigation would occur (cont.) within the boundaries of a pre-approved mitigation site/bank for the draft NCMSCP. Since the draft NCMSCP has yet to be finalized, the USFWS recommends that all mitigation ratios be the same regardless of whether or not the impact and/or mitigation would be located within the draft NCMSCP.

Based on this comment, Table 4.3-3 in the DEIR and Table 3 in the BTR were revised by removing reference to the Pre-approved Mitigation Area (PAMA). Further, mitigation ratios for Oak Woodland (OW), Southern Coast Live Oak (SCLORF), Southern Willow Scrub (SWS), and Cismontane Alkali Marsh (CAM) were increased from 2:1 to 3:1 to reflect wildlife agency recommendations. It is worth noting that because the proposed project is not located within an approved subarea plan, the mitigation ratios for impacts to sensitive habitats fall back on the recommendations of the wildlife agencies.

5-9. The USFWS recommends that all impacts to Oak Woodland (OW), Southern Coast Live Oak (SCLORF), Southern Willow Scrub (SWS), and Cismontane Alkali Marsh (CAM) be mitigated at a ratio of 3:1 rather than the 2:1 ratio currently proposed in the DEIR.

As outlined above, mitigation ratios for OW, SCLORF, SWS, and CAM were increased from 2:1 to 3:1 in Table 4.3-1 in the DEIR and Table 3 in the BTR to reflect wildlife agency recommendations. See response 5-8 for additional clarification.

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
March 5, 2008

- 5-10. This comment notes that the Ultimate Expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF), which includes the seasonal storage pond, was not analyzed as part of the impact analysis in the BTR. The USFWS requests additional clarification as to whether additional CEQA analysis and appropriate mitigation will be provided for the Ultimate Expansion of the WVRWRF.

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond site was analyzed as part of an analysis of impacts to vegetation communities at the project level. Therefore, an additional biological analysis of the West site (or other alternate site(s)) will be required for CEQA compliance prior to the implementation of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the seasonal storage pond site. Page 26 of the BTR and page 4-47 of the DEIR were revised to include this additional clarification.

Ms. Dianne Kilwein (FWS-SDG-08B0375-08TA0406)

2

- 7. We recommend that all mitigation be identified, approved by the Service, purchased, and preserved in perpetuity within a conservation easement prior to the initiation of project impacts.
- 8. A management and monitoring plan (MMP), including a funding commitment, should be developed for any on- and/or off-site areas to be used as project mitigation, and implemented in perpetuity to protect the existing biological functions and values. The applicant should identify an appropriate natural lands management organization, subject to approval by the Service. The MMP should outline biological resources on the site, provide for monitoring of biological resources, address potential impacts to biological resources, and identify actions to be taken to eliminate or minimize those impacts. The applicant should complete a Property Analysis Record (PAR) to determine the amount of funding needed for the perpetual management, maintenance, and monitoring of the biological conservation easement areas by the natural lands management organization. The applicant should demonstrate how the proposed funding mechanism would ensure that adequate funds would be available on an annual basis to implement the MMP. The natural lands management organization should submit a draft MMP, PAR results, and proposed funding mechanism to the Service for review and approval prior to initiating construction activities.

} 5-11

} 5-12

Letter 5 (Continued)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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5-11. The USFWS recommends that all mitigation be identified, approved by the USFWS, purchased, and preserved in perpetuity within a conservation easement prior to the initiation of project impacts.

In response to this comment, MM 4.3-3 in the DEIR was revised as follows:

~~“Impacts that will occur along the pipeline alignment will be temporary. When project construction is completed a project as built would be prepared to identify impacts within the project and any associated staging areas created during construction. These impacts would be either purchased through acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an agency approved mitigation bank or through habitat restoration. Restoration may include a five year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.”~~

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- 5-12. The USFWS recommends that a management and monitoring plan (MMP), including a funding commitment, be developed for any on- and/or off-site area to be used as mitigation for the proposed project to protect the project area's existing biological resources. The USFWS further recommends that the District complete a Property Analysis Record (PAR) to determine the amount of funding needed for the perpetual management, maintenance, and monitoring of the biological conservation easement areas.

As outlined above, mitigation for direct impacts to biological resources shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.



State of California - The Resources Agency
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 South Coast Region
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ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor



March 10, 2008

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 MAR 11 2008
 VCMWD-ENGINEERING

Dianne Kilwean
 Valley Center Municipal Water District
 29300 Valley Center Road
 P.O. Box 67
 Valley Center, CA 92082

South Village Water Reclamation Draft EIR - County of San Diego (SCH # 2007101049)

Dear Ms. Kilwean:

The California Department of Fish and Game (Department) has reviewed the Valley Center Municipal Water District's (VCMWD) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the South Village Water Reclamation Project, dated February 11, 2008. The comments provided herein are based on information provided in the DEIR, our knowledge of sensitive and declining vegetation communities and species in the County of San Diego, and our participation in regional conservation planning efforts.

6-1

The Department is a Trustee Agency and a Responsible Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Sections 15386 and 15381, respectively) and is responsible for ensuring appropriate conservation of the state's biological resources, including rare, threatened, and endangered plant and animal species, pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and other sections of the Fish and Game Code. The Department is responsible for the administering the State's Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement program (Section 1600). The Department also administers the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Program. The County of San Diego (County) currently participates in the NCCP program by planning its North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan, the area in which the proposed project occurs.

6-2

The proposed project contains two components, a Phase II Expansion of the South Village Water Reclamation Project and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the Water Reclamation Project. The Phase II Expansion is addressed on a project-level basis in the DEIR, while the Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project is discussed and analyzed at a programmatic level. Additional environmental review will be initiated by the VCMWD on specific components of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project in the future.

6-3

The primary objectives of the project are: 1) creation and adoption of a Master Plan to guide future expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) to extend wastewater service to the South Village area of the VCMWD; 2) creation of an assessment district to fund WVRWRF expansion; 3) development of a comprehensive wastewater system that would allow existing and proposed development to transition from septic sewer to municipal wastewater service due to high groundwater table within the service area; 4) expansion of the WVRWRF to provide wastewater service to customers within the South Village service area of the District in accordance with current County of San Diego zoning; and 5) provide more reliable wastewater service.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

Letter 6 (Continued)
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March 11, 2006

- 6-1. This comment notes that the CDFG has reviewed the DEIR and has included comments in their response. It does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.
- 6-2. This comment outlines the mandate and legal authority for the CDFG to provide comments and recommendations for development projects under CEQA guidelines. This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.
- 6-3. These comments identify the location of the proposed project and provide general information regarding the project description and project objectives. These comments also summarize the potential impacts to vegetation communities and sensitive species that were identified in the DEIR. These comments do not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

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The Phase II project entails the expansion of the existing WWRWRF, installation of new wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines (8 inch), and development of a seasonal storage pond. Reclaimed water would be used for golf course irrigation, landscaping, parklands, and or agriculture. A 10-acre storage pond would be created to store treated wastewater. Pipelines would connect the storage pond to the WWRWRF, and a 20-foot-wide dirt access road across Moosa Creek would be needed to access the storage pond for maintenance purposes. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project would require an additional expansion of the WWRWRF, additional pipes, and expansion or creation of 30-acres of storage ponds.

The Phase II project proposes to impact through construction of pipeline routes, a storage pond, and an pond access road approximately 0.13 acre of southern willow scrub, 0.38 acre of disturbed wetland, 2.73 acres of oak woodland, 1.77 acres of southern mixed chaparral, 0.33 acre of flat-top buckwheat, 3.82 acres of non-native grassland, and 2.85 acres of eucalyptus woodland. Engelmann oak is the only sensitive species listed in the DEIR that could be indirectly impacted by the placing of pipelines. No wetland delineations were performed as a part of the DEIR analysis to accurately assess wetland impacts, and exact locations of pipelines are not depicted.

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project is a less well-defined project than the Phase II project. However, the expansion of the pipeline system and storage pond capacity has the potential to impact a significant acreage of oak woodland habitats (48.72 acres), non-native grasslands (52.05 acres), and wetlands (1.79 acres). Any future expansion of the wastewater system will require a more detailed evaluation of impacts to biological resources, and CEQA review.

The DEIR does not propose any specific mitigation measures (e.g., locations) for impacts to impacted vegetation communities, but states that significant impacts to these resources will be mitigated consistent with the requirements of the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Plan. Portions of the project are located within the County's proposed Pre-approved Mitigation Area (PAMA).

The Department offers the following comments and recommendations:

1. For the Phase II project, pipeline locations with the potential to impact biological resources (habitats and Engelmann oak trees) should be delineated in the field so that an accurate assessment of impacts can be determined. The location of all pipelines and construction activities should be kept outside of the dripline of all Engelmann oak trees.
2. For the Phase II project, wetland delineations should be conducted in all areas where wetland habitat could be impacted. The true level of impacts to wetlands cannot be ascertained without this assessment. Since this will likely be a requirement to obtain a Department Streambed Alteration Agreement, as well as an Army Corps 404 permit, it should also be included in the Final EIR. The Department must have an adequate CEQA document available to issue a Streambed Alteration Agreement. If the final EIR for this project is deficient with regard to assessing wetland impacts, the Department may require additional CEQA review to meet its requirements. Because the Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project is only evaluated at a programmatic level, specific wetland delineations of these areas can be postponed until future specific projects are proposed.
3. There is a significant deficiency in the biological surveys performed for this project that needs correction for the Final EIR. The field surveys for the biological

Letter 6 (Continued)
California Department of Fish and Game
March 11, 2006

6-4. This comment notes that the DEIR states that significant impact to biological resources will be mitigated consistent with the requirements of the draft NCMSCP. This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

6-5. The CDFG recommends that areas identified in the DEIR with potential impacts to sensitive vegetation communities/habitat be delineated so that an accurate assessment of impacts can be determined. The CDFG further recommends that all pipelines and construction activities should avoid the drip line of all Engelmann oak trees.

In response to this comment, additional mitigation has been included in the FEIR to ensure that the District has an accurate assessment of sensitive habitat that may be impacted during construction of the proposed project. Specifically, the following mitigation measure was inserted on page 4-48:

MM 4.3-6 A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.

6-3
Cont.

6-4

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Letter 6 (Continued)
California Department of Fish and Game
March 11, 2006

- 6-5. A preconstruction survey shall be conducted to map and (cont.) avoid Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable, as outlined in MM 4.3-4 (page 4-48) in the DEIR. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid impacts to the trees during construction.
- 6-6. The CDFG recommends that wetland delineations be conducted in all areas where wetland habitat could be impacted from the development of the proposed project. According to the CDFG, wetland impacts can not be ascertained without an adequate delineation. Further, the comment suggests that a Streambed Alteration Agreement and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 permit should be included in the FEIR given the potential for the proposed project to impact wetlands. In order to issue the Streambed Alteration Agreement, the CDFG must have an adequate CEQA document. According to the CDFG, if the FEIR is deficient with regard to adequately addressing wetland impacts, the CDFG may require additional CEQA review to meet its requirements.

In response, MM 4.3-7 (page 4-49) in the DEIR was revised as follows:

“A jurisdictional wetland delineation ~~is~~ shall be required to determine impacts to ~~these wetland areas~~ prior to construction. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to ~~If measurable direct wetland impacts per recommendations occur to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas~~ mitigation”

Letter 6 (Continued)
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6-6. ~~and permits would be required. If impacts to jurisdictional areas occur temporary impacts would be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio, while permanent impacts would at a 3:1 ratio, unless alternative mitigation ratios are negotiated between the District and the USACE and/or CDFG. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.~~

Additionally, the proposed project's impacts and mitigation pertaining to biological resources are compliant under CEQA. However, a wetland delineation will be conducted prior to initiating the biological permitting process.

6-7. This comment suggests that the biological surveys conducted for the proposed project are inadequate given the time of year they were conducted (November and December). The CDFG recommends that additional plant surveys be conducted during the spring to detect any listed or sensitive annual plants that may be present in the project area.

A rare plant survey will be conducted in the spring (March through June) because the initial biological survey was conducted outside the appropriate window for spring-time rare plant surveys (November). Until the survey is conducted the potential for impacts to rare plants exists. The DEIR was revised to reflect this change. Specifically, language was added to page 4-43, 4-44, 4-46 and 4-47. Further, the following mitigation measure was inserted on page 4-48 of the FEIR:

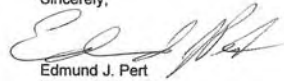
Ms. Kilwean
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assessment were conducted in November and December. This time of year is inappropriate to assess the presence of any sensitive annual plant species. Additional plant surveys should be conducted during the spring to detect any listed or sensitive annual plants that may be present in the project area.

4. Mitigation ratios for wetland impacts listed in Table 4.3-3 are likely too low for adequate mitigation. This can be better assessed when a more detailed delineation of impacts is conducted. The impact assessment should also include the quality of the habitat impacted and whether the impacts are temporary or permanent. Also, the mitigation ratios in Table 4.3-3 do not agree with those listed in Mitigation Measure 4.3-7 (page 4-49). Finally, the Final EIR should also discuss how wetland impacts will be mitigated and where. The Moosa Creek drainage would seem the best location to focus wetland mitigation.
5. Mitigation Measure MM4.3-3, page 4-47, states that project impacts will be assessed after the project has been built. This is the opposite of the appropriate procedure, where impacts are accurately calculated in the DEIR, and appropriate mitigation is proposed. Mitigation should be in place before, or at least concurrent with, project construction.
6. Engelmann oak trees along potential pipeline routes should be mapped accurately for the DEIR so that pipeline routes can be delineated and this information included in the DEIR. A preconstruction survey for oak trees, as Mitigation Measure MM4.3-4 (page 4-476) recommends, is not a mitigation measure, but should be part of a baseline assessment of potential project impacts to sensitive biological resources, and included in the DEIR.
7. The Department recommends that pond expansion or creation in the future for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion Project maximize avoidance to biological resources, especially in the County's Pre-approved Mitigation Area. As such, our preliminary recommendation is that any new ponds created be sited on agricultural lands.

6-7
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 6-9
 6-10
 6-11

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft MND for this project and to assist the VCMWD in further minimizing and mitigating project impacts to biological resources. If you have questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact David Lawhead at (858) 627-3997.

Sincerely,

 Edmund J. Pert
 Regional Manager
 South Coast Region

cc: State Clearinghouse
 Michelle Moreno, USFWS, Carlsbad Field Office

EP:dl

Letter 6 (Continued)
California Department of Fish and Game
March 11, 2006

6-7. MM 4.3-6 A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.

6-8. This comment suggests that the mitigation ratios listed in Table 4.3-3 (page 4-49) of the DEIR are too low to provide adequate mitigation but could be more adequately assessed with a detailed delineation of potential impacts. Further, this comment notes that the impact assessment should also include the quality of the habitat impacts and whether the impacts are temporary and permanent. The CDFG further notes that the mitigation ratios in Table 4.3-3 do not agree with those listed in MM 4.3-7 (page 4-49) in the DEIR. Finally, this comment recommends that the FEIR include a discussion on how and where wetland impact will be mitigated.

The mitigation ratios in Table 4.3-3 of the DEIR have been increased in the FEIR at the request of the CDFG because the mitigation ratios in the NCMSCP Plan have yet to be approved. Further, MM 4.3-7 was revised to specify that mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.

Letter 6 (Continued)
California Department of Fish and Game
March 11, 2006

- 6-8. It is worth noting that the mitigation ratios in Table 4.3-3 (Cont.) differ from those outlined in MM 4.3-7 because they do not take into account the difference between temporary and permanent impacts.
- 6-9. This comments notes that MM 4.3-3 (page 4-48), which states that “project impacts will be assessed after the project has been built”, is not in accordance with the intent of CEQA. According to the CDFG, impacts should be adequately addressed in the DEIR and appropriate mitigation proposed before, or at least concurrent with, project construction.

Based on this comment, MM 4.3-3 in the DEIR was revised as follows:

~~“Impacts that will occur along the pipeline alignment will be temporary. When project construction is completed a project as built would be prepared to identify impacts within the project and any associated staging areas created during construction. These impacts would be either purchased through acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an agency approved mitigation bank or through habitat restoration. Restoration may include a five year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes~~

Letter 6 (Continued)
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March 11, 2006

- 6-9. planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and
(cont.) monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.”

The DEIR disclosed the magnitude of biological impacts based upon preliminary project design. In the event that final design avoidance measures reduce impacts, then the final assessment of impacts and mitigation will be refined. Additionally, if unanticipated impacts occur to biological resources, additional compensatory mitigation will be required.

- 6-10. The CDFG recommends that all the Engelmann oaks along proposed pipeline alignments be delineated to accurately determine potential impacts during construction. This comment also notes that a preconstruction survey for oak trees, as outlined in MM 4.3-4 (page 4-48), is not mitigation. The CDFG suggests that a preconstruction survey be incorporated as part of a baseline assessment of potential project impacts to sensitive biological resources, and included in the DEIR.

In response, the following mitigation measures were revised on page 4-48 in the DEIR:

- MM 4.3-4** Prior to construction a preconstruction survey ~~will~~shall be conducted to map and avoid any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid ~~indirect~~ impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.

Letter 6 (Continued)
California Department of Fish and Game
March 11, 2006

- 6-10. **MM 4.3-5** (cont.) Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified ~~in the by~~ the wildlife agencies in March 2008 BMO, specifically Section 86.507(e).
- 6-11. The CDFG recommends that the District design the pond expansion and/or creation for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion so that it avoids biological resources to the greatest extent possible. As such, the CDFG recommends that any new ponds be created on agricultural land.

Based on this comment, the following language was revised on page 4-44 of the DEIR:

“Although ~~Currently,~~ design plans for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion seasonal storage pond have ~~not been finalized~~ yet to be finalized, the District will avoid sensitive vegetation communities to the maximum extent possible by expanding the existing pond or creating new pond(s) within agricultural land, where feasible, and impacts cannot be assessed.”



County of San Diego

ERIC GIBSON
INTERIM DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE

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March 21, 2008

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COMMENTS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SOUTH VILLAGE WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT

The County of San Diego has received and reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the South Village Water Reclamation Project dated February 2008 and appreciates this opportunity to comment. County Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU) and Department of Public Works (DPW) Transportation Division have completed review of the DEIR and have the following comments:

GENERAL COMMENTS

- 1. The impact analysis in each of the subject areas analyzed in the DEIR should focus on whether the thresholds have been met or exceeded. The analysis does not make a clear link as to whether the associated threshold was exceeded, and as a result it is difficult to determine whether the appropriate impact conclusion was reached and appropriate mitigation identified.

} 7-1

} 7-2

Letter 7
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

- 7-1. This comment states that the County of San Diego has reviewed the DEIR and has included comments in their response. It does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.
- 7-2. The County recommends that the impact analysis should focus on whether the thresholds for each issue area have been met or exceeded. The County suggests a clear distinction was not made as to whether the associated thresholds were exceeded, and as a result it is difficult to determine whether the appropriate impact conclusion was reached and appropriate mitigation identified.

As the Lead Agency, the District has evaluated each issue area according to the appropriate threshold criteria as outlined in the *CEQA Guidelines* (Section 15000 et seq.) and the Valley Center Municipal Water District Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA. Each issue has been analyzed and determined to either have no impact, less than significant, or significant impact, and, where necessary, appropriate mitigation has been identified.

**Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008**

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

2. The County of San Diego, Land Use and Environment Group has developed Environmental Impact Report Format and General Content Requirements (September 26, 2006) that discuss how cumulative impacts should be addressed for projects in the unincorporated County. The Guidelines can be found at: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/Resource/docs/3~pdf/EIR_Format_Content_Reqs.pdf. The existing analysis for each subject area does not provide enough detail to determine whether cumulative impacts could be significant. In addition, the cumulative analysis section for each subject area should identify the geographic area used for the cumulative analysis and explain the rationale for selecting the particular geographic area.

} 7-3

7-3. This comment suggests that the DEIR does not provide enough detail to determine whether cumulative impacts could be significant. Additionally, the comment states that the cumulative analysis section for each subject area should identify the geographic area used for the cumulative analysis and explain the rationale for selecting the particular geographic area.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3. Section 4.3, Biological Resources, is written as though the County's North County MSCP Plan has been approved, which it has not. The plan should be referred to as the Preliminary Draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program Plan (NCMSCP Plan).

} 7-4

The cumulative analysis for the proposed project was established in accordance with the *CEQA Guidelines* and the Valley Center Municipal Water District Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA. Due to the localized nature of the project, cumulative projects were assessed within the Valley Center area.

4. Section 4.3.3, Environmental Impacts, *Special Status Plant Species*. The DEIR should explain what the potential indirect impacts to the oak trees are.

} 7-5

5. Section 4.3.4, *Cumulative Impacts*

a. The section should address the cumulative impacts to biological resources for this project. The geographic boundary used to select the projects to be analyzed for cumulative effects should be stated and the rationale for the boundary should be provided. The projects that are within the geographical boundary should be listed, their impacts provided, and a conclusion drawn as to the significance of impacts from the combined projects. The rationale for the conclusion should also be included in this section.

} 7-6

7-4. This comments notes that the NCMSCP has yet to be approved; therefore, the County recommends that all references to the MSCP in the DEIR be revised to the Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan.

b. The County's Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan is no longer referred to as the MSHCP. The proposed project is within the area of the County's Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan, however, that plan has not yet been adopted. Therefore, consistency with the County's Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan cannot replace the cumulative analysis.

} 7-7

In response, Section 4.3.1.1 (page 4-34) of the FEIR and page 21 of the BTR have been revised by removing references to the MSCP and inserting a discussion of the Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan. Further, all references to the MSCP in the DEIR have been changed to NCMSCP Plan in the FEIR. It is worth noting that although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.

c. The Cumulative impact analysis should address each of the biological issues separately: Sensitive Vegetation Associations and Habitats, Special Status Plant Species, Special Status Wildlife Species, Jurisdictional Waters, and Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging.

} 7-8

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

- 7-5. The County suggests that a discussion of the potential indirect impacts to the Engelmann oaks be included in the FEIR.

Based on this comment, the following language was inserted into Section 4.3.3 (page 4-43) in the FEIR:

“In general oak tree roots are susceptible to compaction causing mortality. During construction indirect impacts may include encroachment under the canopy of the tree or impacts to limbs.”

- 7-6. The County recommends that the biological resources cumulative impact analysis be expanded to include the geographic boundary used in the analysis along with the rationale for using said geographic boundary. Further, the County recommends that the projects within the geographical boundary be listed, their impact provided, and a conclusion drawn as to the significance of impacts from the combined projects (including rationale for conclusion).

All project level potential biological impacts have been identified and adequate analysis has been provided in accordance with the *CEQA Guidelines* and the Valley Center Municipal Water District Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA. All biological impacts have been mitigated to a less than significant impact; thus, the proposed project does not considerably contribute to cumulative impacts.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
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7-6. Additionally, the proposed project would be consistent with (cont.) the NCMSCP Plan upon its adoption because mitigation measures have been identified which would reduce impacts to biological resources below a level of significance. Therefore, the proposed project would not considerably contribute to a cumulative impact on vegetation communities, special status plant species, special status wildlife species, jurisdictional waters, or raptor habitat, nesting, and foraging. Additionally, although impacts to wetlands have not yet been identified, there will be no net loss to wetlands. This language has been added to Section 4.3.4 (page 4-45) in the FEIR.

7-7. This comments notes that the project's consistency with the County's Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan cannot replace the cumulative analysis because the plan has not yet been adopted.

See 7-6 for a detailed response to this comment.

7-8. The County requests that the cumulative impact analysis address each biological issue area separately.

See 7-6 for a detailed response to this comment.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
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- d. It should be noted that cumulative impacts can be significant even if the impacts for each of the projects were found to be less than significant. } 7-9
- 6. Section 4.3.6, Mitigation Measures and Table 4.3-3. What these provide is unclear. The mitigation measures are for Phase II expansion and the pipelines of the Ultimate Service Area, but the note on the bottom of the table says the Ultimate Expansion for the WVRWRF and Storage pond site was not analyzed as part of this impact analysis. This is confusing. We recommend that the table be retitled to clearly identify what impacts and mitigation are given in it. For example, the title might be "Project Impact Acreage Summary and Proposed Mitigation (In Acres) for Phase II, the Pipelines for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, and the West Seasonal Pond Site" (or whatever it really is). } 7-10
- 7. Section 4.3.6 Environmental Mitigation Measures, MM 4.3-6. To ensure that nests of tree nesting raptors are protected and to be consistent with County Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources, it is suggested that the beginning of the nesting season be considered January 15, rather than February 1. } 7-11
- 8. Section 4.3.6, Environmental Mitigation Measures. MM 4.3-1, second sentence. The sentence should be revised to read, "The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios proposed by the Preliminary Draft North County MSCP Plan." The plan is not yet approved. } 7-12

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

- 9. The DEIR (Pg. 4-23) identifies that "an estimated 30 truck trips" per day would be generated during construction activities. A Passenger Car Equivalency (PCE) factor should be applied to the project's trip generation assumptions in order to adequately account for the traffic trips impacts due to truck traffic. } 7-13
- 10. The DEIR should identify the length of time it is estimated to complete the project's construction phase. } 7-14
- 11. The DEIR should identify the estimated number of daily trips that the project's post-construction operations are estimated to generate. } 7-15
- 12. The cumulative projects list (Table 4.0-1) primarily includes proposed/pending projects in the Valley Center community core area. There may be other proposed projects in the vicinity of the Valley Center community such as along the SR-76 corridor that may also add traffic to the study area roadway network in the cumulative scenario. } 7-16

7-9. This comment notes that the cumulative impacts can be significant even if the impacts for each of the project were found to be less than significant.

The District recognizes that cumulative impacts can be significant even if the impacts for individual projects are found to be less than significant. However, due to the proposed project's small scale and localized footprint, all impacts to biological resources have been mitigated to less than significant levels. Therefore, the proposed project would not considerably contribute to a cumulative impact.

7-10. This comment suggests that Section 4.3.6 and Table 4.3-3 are confusing. The County recommends that the table's title be revised to more accurately describe the information being presented in the section.

In response to this comment, the footnote to Table 4.3-3 (page 4-49) has been removed so that the title more accurately describes the contents of the table.

7-11. The County recommends revising the DEIR to state that the beginning of the nesting season is January 15, rather than February 1. In response MM 4.3-6 (page 4-48) has been revised as follows:

"Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible), recognized from ~~February~~ January 15 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird

Letter 7 (Continued)
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- 7-11. survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.”
- 7-12. This comment notes that the NCMSCP has yet to be approved; therefore, the County recommends that MM 4.3-1 (page 4-48) be revised to include a reference to the Preliminary Draft NCMSCP Plan.

Based on a comment from the USFWS, the reference to the NCMSCP in MM 4.3-1 was removed. Specifically, the mitigation was revised as follows:

“Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities ~~would~~ shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA. Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed. ~~recommended~~ by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.”

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- 7-12. Additionally, the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted; (cont.) therefore, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.
- 7-13. The County recommends that a Passenger Car Equivalency (PCE) be incorporated into the project's estimated number of truck trips during construction in order to adequately account for the traffic impacts associated with an increase number of trucks on area roadways.

Even if a PCE of two cars for one truck ratio was applied to the proposed project, the project would only result in approximately 60 ADT on a temporary basis, during non-peak hours, distributed throughout the day; thus, a less than significant impact would still be identified.

- 7-14. The County suggests that the DEIR be revised to identify the length of time the District has estimated to complete the project's construction phase.

The estimated completion period for construction is one year for Phase II. This language has been added to Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) in the FEIR.

- 7-15. The County recommends that the DEIR be revised to identify the estimated number of daily trips that the project's post-construction operations are estimated to generate.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
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- 7-15. The project's post-construction operations would not require (cont.) daily trips. Trips would only be made approximately once per week or on an as-needed basis for inspection and maintenance purposes. This language has been added to Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) in the FEIR.
- 7-16. This comment notes that there may be other proposed projects in the vicinity of the Valley Center community that may add traffic to the study area and should therefore be added to the cumulative projects list in Table 4.0-1 (page 4-2).

The cumulative analysis for the proposed project was established in accordance with the *CEQA Guidelines* and the Valley Center Municipal Water District Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA. Due to the localized nature of the project, cumulative projects were assessed within the Valley Center area in an approximate 3-mile radius. Specifically, most of the traffic associated with the proposed project would be localized within the Valley Center area. In addition, regional access would generally be provided by SR76 and I-15. Given that the proposed project would generate an additional 60 ADT during construction, it is unlikely that the project would significantly impact these two major freeways. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified and there would be no considerable contributions to cumulative impacts.

- 13. The DEIR identifies several roadways with existing District easements and rights-of-way that may be impacted during construction. The EIR should address cumulative impacts to the Circulation Element roadway in the project area for the construction and operation activities. } 7-17
 - 14. The DEIR should provide recommended mitigation measures for the project's long-term (post-construction) cumulative traffic impacts. The County's TIF program may provide a mechanism for the project to mitigate its cumulative impacts. } 7-18
 - 15. The DEIR should note that the County's "Guidelines for Determining Significance for Traffic and Transportation" were approved September 28, 2006 and revised effective December 5, 2007. } 7-19
 - 16. The EIR should identify where new access roads may be required for the proposed project. } 7-20
 - 17. The EIR should identify which pipelines will be located along/near/within public road right-of-way. The EIR should clearly identify along which existing and planned public roads the proposed pipelines would be located. } 7-21
 - 18. The EIR should identify if the pipelines would be placed along any roads that are part of the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) five-year plan. } 7-22
 - 19. The EIR should provide a Traffic Control Plan (TCP). The TCP should identify what County maintained public roads would be used for the detour route. The project applicant should coordinate closely with the DPW Traffic section in the development of the TCP. } 7-23
 - 20. The EIR should note that the County would require construction and encroachment permits for any work performed in the County's right-of-way. } 7-24
 - 21. The EIR should discuss the adequacy of sight distance from the project driveways and any necessary accommodation that may be necessary due to truck traffic. } 7-25
 - 22. The EIR should provide conceptual striping and signing plans for all proposed improvements to the project's frontage roads, access to existing roads, and/or the construction of new access roads. } 7-26
- The County of San Diego appreciates the opportunity to continue to participate in the environmental review process for this project. We look forward to receiving any future environmental documents related to this project, or providing additional assistance at } 7-27

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

7-17. This comment states that the DEIR does not address the project's cumulative impacts to the Circulation Element.

The project does not generate any significant long-term, operational traffic; therefore, there would be no direct, significant impact to the Circulation Element. Traffic related to construction would be temporary, much of which would not occur during peak traffic hours, and would be distributed throughout the day. Pipelines would be constructed via trench and fill and access would be maintained throughout the duration of the project and according to the project TCP. The TCP will be prepared by the contractor in coordination with the County's Department of Public Works Traffic Section. There is no cumulative impact to circulation in the project area.

7-18. The County recommends that the DEIR be revised to provide mitigation for the project's long-term (post-construction) cumulative traffic impacts. The County notes that the County's Traffic Improvement Fund (TIF) program may provide a mechanism for the project to mitigate its cumulative impacts.

As stated in Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) of the DEIR, the project's operational traffic impacts are less than significant. The proposed project would not generate additional daily traffic trips; therefore, it would not contribute to a cumulative traffic impact. Mitigation would not be required.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

- 7-19. This comment states that the FEIR should note that the County's "Guidelines for Determining Significance for Traffic and Transportation" were approved September 26, 2006 and revised effective December 5, 2007.

The Valley Center Municipal Water District recognizes that the County adopted guidelines for entitlement projects under County jurisdiction. The proposed project will have less than 60 ADT. As the Lead Agency, the District evaluated the project impacts in accordance with the *CEQA Guidelines* and the Valley Center Municipal Water District Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA. A less than significant impact was identified.

- 7-20. The County suggests that the FEIR identify where new access roads may be required.

No new access road would be created for the proposed project. The project would utilize existing paved and unpaved road and driveway. Access to the Phase II seasonal storage pond on the West Site would utilize an existing access roadway. The expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) would be accessed via the existing entrance.

- 7-21. The County recommends that the FEIR identify which pipeline would be located along/near/within public road right-of-way. Further, the DEIR should clearly identify along which existing and planned public roads the proposed pipelines would be located.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

7-21. Figure 2.3-1 (page 2-4) depicts the location of the pipelines (cont.) and corresponding roadways.

7-22. The County requests that the FEIR identify if the pipelines would be placed along any roads that are part of the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) five-year plan.

Please refer to Figure 2.3-2 (page 2-4) for the location of the pipelines.

7-23. The County suggests that the FEIR include a Traffic Control Plan (TCP). The County recommends that the District coordinate with the Department of Public Works (DPW) Traffic Section in the development of the TCP.

A TCP will be prepared by the contractor prior to construction. As part of the project's design, the District will coordinate with the contractor and the DPW during development of the TCP. This revision has been incorporated into Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) in the FEIR.

7-24. This comment states that the FEIR should note that the county would require construction and encroachment permits for any work performed in the County's right-of-way.

In response to this comment, the following language has been added to Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) in the FEIR:

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
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7-24 (cont.) “Any work performed in the San Diego County right-of-way will require a County construction and encroachment permit.”

7-25 The County suggests that the FEIR discuss the adequacy of sight distance from the project driveways and any accommodation that may be necessary due to truck traffic.

Based on this comment, the following language has been incorporated into Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) of the FEIR:

“During construction, adequate sight distance will be maintained and will meet San Diego County requirements. Adequate site distances will be addressed in the TCP.”

7-26. The County recommends that the DEIR be revised to provide conceptual striping and signing plans for all proposed improvements to the project’s frontage roadways, access to existing roads, and/or the construction of new access roads.

No such improvements are anticipated at this time. If any work is necessary in County rights-of-way, the appropriate permits will be secured prior to construction. This language has been added to Section 4.1.1.14 (page 4-23) in the FEIR.

7-27. This comment requests that the County be included in the public review process for future environmental documents related to this project.

No change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

South Village Water
Reclamation Project DEIR

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March 21, 2008

your request. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact
Bobbie Stephenson at (858) 694-3680.

7-27
Cont.

Letter 7 (Continued)
County of San Diego
March 21, 2008

Sincerely,



ERIC GIBSON, Interim Director
Department of Planning and Land Use

cc: Vince Nicoletti, CAO Staff Officer, DCAO, M.S. A-6
Dustin Steiner, Policy Advisor, Board of Supervisors, District 5, MS A500
Francisco "Nick" Ortiz, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, MS
0334
Valley Center Community Planning Group
Priscilla Jaszkwia, Administrative Secretary, Department of Planning and
Land Use, MS 0650
Bobbie Stephenson, Department of Planning and Land Use, M.S. O-650

Reference County Project IJN 3999 07-158



State Water Resources Control Board

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Division of Financial Assistance
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

MAR 25 2008

Ms. Dianne Kilwein
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
San Diego CA, 92082

Dear Ms. Kilwein:

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT); SOUTH VILLAGE WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2007101049.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above document. State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff has reviewed the DEIR. As a State agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Board is providing the following comments on the environmental document prepared for the Project.

We understand that the District is not currently pursuing a State Revolving Fund (SRF) for this Project. The District may want to consider the SRF Funding Program to provide funding for future construction. The SRF Program offers a low interest funding for building or improving wastewater treatment plants, sewers, water reclamation facilities, and storm water drainage. The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is currently responsible for administering SRF funding. Please refer to the State Water Board's SRF website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/funding/srf.html> for additional information.

Following are my specific comments on the DEIR:

1. On page 1-6 under Biological Impacts the DEIR states "A jurisdictional wetland delineation is required to determine impacts to these areas." Please include the wetland delineation in your final EIR and identify any potential impacts to wetlands, as well as associated measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate for these impacts.

2. Mitigation measure 4.3-1 on page 4-47 states "Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities would be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3." To be consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) terminology, please change "would" to "shall" or "must", since "shall" or "must" identifies a mandatory element. For more information on CEQA terminology refer to CEQA guidelines (Article 1, Section 15005). Please correct this terminology for all the mitigation listed.

3. On page 4-40 under Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands the DEIR states "Within the project area several areas were identified as wetland communities and avoidance may not be possible through project design." State the mitigation measures that will lessen the impacts that could occur to wetlands.

8-1

8-2

8-3

8-4

8-5

**Letter 8
State Water Resources Control Board
March 25, 2008**

8-1. This comment states that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has reviewed the DEIR and has included comments in their response. It does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

8-2. This comment notes that the District may want to consider pursuing a State Revolving Fund (SRF) to provide funding for future project construction. The SWRCB provides a reference for more information regarding the SRF. This comment does not address the adequacy of the environmental document; therefore, no change was made to the DEIR based upon this comment.

8-3. The SWRCB requests that a wetland delineation be included in the FEIR to identify any potential impacts to wetlands, as well as associated mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate for these impacts.

Based on this comment, MM 4.3-7 (page 4-50) in the DEIR was revised as follows:

"A jurisdictional wetland delineation ~~is~~ shall be required to determine impacts to ~~these wetland areas~~. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to If measurable direct wetland impacts per recommendations occur to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas mitigation and permits would be required. If impacts to jurisdictional areas occur temporary impacts would be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio, while permanent impacts would at a 3:1 ratio, unless

California Environmental Protection Agency

MAR-25-2008 10:19AM

From:

ID:UCM4D ENRG

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Letter 8 (Continued)
State Water Resources Control Board
March 25, 2008

- 8-3. ~~alternative mitigation ratios are negotiated between the District and the USACE and/or CDFG. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.~~
- 8-4. This comment notes that MM 4.3-1 (page 4-48) should use “shall” or “must” as opposed to “would”, in accordance with appropriate CEQA terminology.

In response, MM 4.3-1 was revised as follows:

~~“Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities would shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA. Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed. recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.”~~

- 8-5. This comment notes that the DEIR identified several areas within the project site as containing wetland communities that may be impacted during project construction. The SWRCB suggests that mitigation measures be included in the FEIR to lessen the impacts that could occur to wetlands.

See response 8-3 for a more detailed response to this comment.

Ms. Dianne Kilwein

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MAR 25 2008

Thank you once again for the opportunity to review the District's environmental document. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-6983 or by email at ML.Jones@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Michelle L. Jones
Environmental Scientist

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2007101049)
P. O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Letter 8 (Continued)
State Water Resources Control Board
March 25, 2008

California Environmental Protection Agency

MAR-25-2008 10:18AM From:

ID:UCM4D ENRG

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0.4 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Pursuant to Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code and the CEQA Guidelines Section 15097, public agencies are required to adopt a monitoring or reporting program to assure that the mitigation measures and revisions identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) are implemented. As stated in Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code:

“...the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project which it has adopted, or made a condition of project approval, in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment.”

Pursuant to Section 21081(a) of the Public Resources Code, findings must be adopted by the decision maker coincidental to certification of the DEIR. The Mitigation Monitoring Program must be adopted when making the findings (at the time of approval of the project).

As defined in the *CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15097, “reporting” is suited to projects that have readily measurable or quantitative measures or which already involve regular review. “Monitoring” is suited to projects with complex mitigation measures, such as wetland restoration or archaeological protection, which may exceed the expertise of the local agency to oversee, are expected to be implemented over a period of time, or require careful implementation to assure compliance. Both reporting and monitoring would be applicable to the proposed project.

The Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) is the designated lead agency for the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP). The District is responsible for review of all monitoring reports, enforcement actions, and document disposition. The District will rely on information provided by the monitors (e.g., construction manager, biologist, etc.) as accurate and up-to-date and will field check mitigation measure status as required.

0.4.1 MITIGATION MATRIX

To sufficiently track and document the status of mitigation measures, a mitigation matrix has been prepared and includes the following components:

- Mitigation measure number
- Mitigation measure (text)
- Implementation Action
- Monitoring Method
- Responsible Monitoring Party
- Monitoring Phase
- Verification/Approval Party
- Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N, and date)
- Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)

Mitigation measure timing of verification has been apportioned into several specific timing increments. Of these, the most common are:

1. Incorporation of measures into plans and specifications
2. During construction

The mitigation matrix is included in Table 0.4-1.

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Table 0.4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Checklist

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES								
MM 4.3-1	Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.	VCMWD to purchase habitat credits from a pre-approved mitigation site/bank in qualities and quantities established in Table 4.3-3 in the FEIR.	Review of off-site mitigation plans or banking agreement.	VCMWD	Prior to project initiation.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office*
MM 4.3-2	During construction, the identified sensitive vegetation communities adjacent to the project shall be flagged as Environmentally Sensitive Areas. Installation of construction fencing shall be required to avoid indirect impacts to these areas. Staging areas will be identified during construction for lay down areas, equipment storage, etc., to avoid indirect impacts to the Environmentally Sensitive Areas.	Contractor to implement construction measures as detailed.	Construction Manager to verify plan check and conduct site inspections during construction.	VCMWD	Prior to and during construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.3-3	Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.	Impacts shall be offset through the purchase of habitat credits from a pre-approved mitigation site/bank or through habitat creation/restoration.	Review of banking agreement or creation/ restoration plan.	VCMWD	Upon completion of construction activities.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
MM 4.3-4	Prior to construction a preconstruction survey shall be conducted to map any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid indirect impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.	Contractor to conduct preconstruction survey to identify Engelmann oak within the project site. If Engelmann oaks are identified, VCMWD to implement construction measures as detailed.	Review of summary report; Construction plan check and site inspections during construction.	VCMWD	Prior to and during construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.3-5	Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified by the wildlife agencies in March 2008.	VCMWD to purchase habitat credits from a pre-approved mitigation site/bank. VCMWD to provide documentation that compensatory habitat has been secured prior to the commencement of construction activities.	Review of off-site mitigation plans or banking agreement.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.3-6	A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.	VCMWD-retained biologist to conduct springtime rare plant survey. If rare plants are identified, VCMWD to implement construction measures as detailed.	Review of summary report; Construction plan check and site inspections during construction.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.3-7	Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible),	If construction is to occur during nesting season, VCMWD-retained biologist to	Review of migratory bird survey; Site inspections.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
	<p>recognized from January 15 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.</p>	<p>conduct a migratory bird survey. If active nests are found, biologist to flag area for avoidance.</p>						
MM 4.3-8	<p>A jurisdictional wetland delineation shall be required to determine impacts to wetland areas. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to wetland impacts. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.</p>	<p>VCMWD-retained biologist to complete a jurisdictional wetland delineation report. If impacts are identified, VCMWD to provide documentation that compensatory habitat has been secured prior to the commencement of construction activities.</p>	<p>Review of off-site mitigation plans or banking agreement.</p>	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
MM 4.3-9	Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the RWQCB would be required, in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A SWPPP would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (NPDES 2007). Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project.	VCMWD to obtain NOI and develop and implement a SWPPP.	Construction plan check and site inspections during construction.	VCMWD	Condition placed on plans and specifications; Prior to and during construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
CULTURAL RESOURCES								
MM 4.4-1	Project design shall avoid cultural resource site CA-SDI-13598.	VCMWD to redesign pipeline alignment to avoid cultural resource.	VCMWD-retained archeologist to verify avoidance of cultural resource.	VCMWD	Project design.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-2	A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading activities at the project site as the site is	VCMWD-retained archeologist and Native American	Site inspections; Notification of discovery; Review	VCMWD	During grading.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
	<p>located on potentially sensitive archeological resources. In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.</p> <p>In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.</p>	<p>monitor to monitor all ground disturbing activities. If resources are discovered, archeologist or Native American monitor to halt construction until significant can be determined.</p>	<p>of significant report.</p>					

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
MM 4.4-3	A qualified paleontologist shall monitor all grading that includes initial cutting that may affect Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. If any paleontological resources are identified during these activities, the paleontologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to monitor all ground disturbing activities. If resources are discovered, paleontologist to halt construction until significant can be determined.	Site inspections; Notification of discovery; Review of significant report.	VCMWD	During grading.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-4	Paleontological monitoring shall occur only for those undisturbed sediments wherein fossil plant or animal remains are found with no associated evidence of human activity or any archaeological context.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to implement mitigation measure as detailed.	Site inspections.	VCMWD	During construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-5	Paleontological monitors shall be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed to avoid construction delays, and to remove samples of sediments which are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. Monitors shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens. Monitoring may be reduced if the potentially fossiliferous units are not present or if the fossiliferous units present are determined by a qualified paleontological monitor to have low potential to contain fossil resources.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to implement mitigation measure as detailed.	Site inspections.	VCMWD	During construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-6	All recovered specimens shall be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to implement mitigation measure as detailed.	Site inspections.	VCMWD	During construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
MM 4.4-7	Specimens shall be identified and curated into an established, accredited, professional museum repository with permanent retrievable storage. The paleontologist shall have a written repository agreement in hand prior to the initiation of mitigation activities.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to implement mitigation measure as detailed.	Review of repository agreement; Site inspections.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-8	A report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of identified specimens shall be prepared. The report will address archaeological and paleontological items. This report shall incorporate the full results of the literature review, as well as the full results of the recommended review of the records of the South Coastal Information Center, San Diego, California. The report shall be submitted prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.	VCMWD-retained paleontologist to prepare report of findings for paleontological resources.	Review of summary report.	VCMWD	Post-construction (up to 60 days).	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
MM 4.4-9	If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the San Diego County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin. If the San Diego County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted within 24 hours. Subsequently, the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the "most likely descendant." The most likely descendant shall have 24 hours to make recommendations to the County for the disposition of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code 5097.98.	VCMWD-retained qualified archaeologist to halt construction if human remains are encountered and contact County Coroner.	Notification of discovery to the County Coroner and the NAHC.	VCMWD	During grading.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

0.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No.	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Action	Monitoring Method	Responsible Monitoring Party	Monitoring Phase	Verification/ Approval Party	Mitigation Measure Implemented? (Y/N) & Date	Documentation Location (Monitoring Record)
MM 4.4-10	If the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing for site VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project design to avoid the site.	VCMWD-retained archeologist to implement mitigation measures as detailed.	Site inspections; Review of significant report.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office
HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS								
MM 4.5-1	The contractor shall prepare a Health and Safety Plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1926, Subpart C, which sets forth health and safety requirements specifically for the construction industry. Under the Health and Safety Plan, the contractor shall incorporate waste management provisions into the construction contract to reduce potential impacts from hazardous material to workers at the construction site.	Contractor to prepare Health and Safety Plan.	Review of Health and Safety Plan; Construction plan check and site inspections.	VCMWD	Prior to construction.	VCMWD	_____	VCMWD District Office

*District Office – 29300 Valley Center Road, P.O. Box 67, Valley Center, CA 92082. Office hours: 7:30am – 4:00pm, M-F. (760) 749-1600

Draft Environmental
Impact Report
South Village Water
Reclamation Project

State Clearinghouse #2007101049

March 2008

Prepared for

**Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082**

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ONE COMPANY | *Many Solutions*SM

HDR

1.0 DEIR INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., the *CEQA Guidelines* (Section 15000 et seq.) as promulgated by the California Resources Agency and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. This document serves as an informational document which would inform public agency decision makers and the public generally of the significant environmental effects of the South Village Water Reclamation Project (project), identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and describe the reasonable alternatives to the project. The public agency shall consider the information in the Draft EIR, along with other information which may be presented to the agency (*CEQA Guidelines* §15121(a)).

This Draft EIR has been prepared for Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the South Village Water Reclamation project in Valley Center, California. This document will serve as both a project-level and program-level Draft EIR. Phase II (project-level) would extend wastewater service to the South Village area of Valley Center. Phase II is comprised of four primary components: the creation of an Assessment District, the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF), the installation of new wastewater collection and conveyance pipelines, and the creation of a seasonal wet weather storage pond.

This Draft EIR also provides analysis of the impacts associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion (program-level) which would be necessary to meet the demands of the South Village area upon build-out. Because design details of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion have not been identified at this time, the Draft EIR provides a program-level clearance for this portion of the project. Subsequent technical studies and environmental review may be required for future expansion within the Ultimate Service Area.

Phase I of the South Village Water Reclamation project was previously completed as a separate project that consisted of the construction of the WVRWRF to serve the Wood Valley Ranch Development. Phase I was analyzed in a separate environmental document and therefore is not included in this Draft EIR.

1.2 PURPOSE OF AN EIR

The purpose of an EIR is to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with a proposed project. CEQA (Section 15002) states that the purpose of an EIR is to (1) inform the public and decision makers of the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project; (2) identify methods that could reduce the magnitude of potentially significant impacts of a project; and (3) identify alternatives that could reduce the magnitude of environmental impacts.

1.3 EIR ADEQUACY

The principal use of this Draft EIR is to evaluate and disclose potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project. An EIR is an informational document and is not intended to determine the merits or recommend approval or disapproval of a project. Ultimately, Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) decision makers must weigh the environmental effects of a project among other considerations, including planning, economic, and social concerns.

District staff will summarize pertinent environmental and planning information contained in the Draft EIR in a Board Report that will be presented with recommendations to the District's Board of Directors. Given the important role of the EIR in this planning and decision making process, it is imperative that the information presented in the EIR be factual, adequate, and complete. The standards of adequacy of an EIR, defined by Section 15151 of the *CEQA Guidelines*, are as follows:

“An EIR should be prepared with a sufficient level of analysis to provide decision-makers with information which enables them to make a decision which intelligently takes account of environmental consequences. An evaluation of the environmental effect of a proposed project need not be exhaustive, but sufficiency of an EIR is to be reviewed in the light of what is reasonably feasible. Disagreement among experts does not make an EIR inadequate, but the EIR should summarize the main points of disagreement among the experts. The courts have not looked for perfection but for adequacy, completeness, and good faith effort at full disclosure.”

1.4 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The content and format of this Draft EIR are designed to meet the current requirements of CEQA and the *CEQA Guidelines*. This Draft EIR is organized into the following chapters so the reader can easily obtain information about the proposed project and its specific issues:

Section 1.0 – Introduction and Summary – provides a summary of the potential impacts, mitigation measures of the proposed project and impact conclusion. This section also describes the purpose and use of the Draft EIR as well as the organization and content of the Draft EIR.

Section 2.0 – Project Description – describes the location, site characteristics, and project characteristics including objectives and discretionary approvals required for the project. Project background is also provided, as well as components of the project.

Section 3.0 – Environmental Setting – summarizes the jurisdictional setting for the project site, identifies infrastructure and services to the project site, and summarizes surrounding land uses.

Section 4.0 – Environmental Impact Analysis – summarizes environmental effects eliminated from further review and presents, for each potentially significant environmental issue, the existing environmental setting or conditions before project implementation; thresholds of significance; impacts that would result from the revised project; cumulative impacts; applicable mitigation measures that would eliminate or reduce significant impacts; and level of significance after mitigation.

Section 5.0 – Project Alternatives – discusses alternatives for the proposed project. The Alternatives section of this Draft EIR evaluates the environmental effects of the project alternatives, including the No Project/No Development Alternative and East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative. This chapter also discusses four alternatives that were considered but rejected from further analysis. Additionally, this chapter also identifies an environmentally superior alternative.

Section 6.0 – Growth-Inducing Impacts – discusses whether or not the proposed project will induce substantial population growth in the area.

Section 7.0 – Inventory of Unavoidable Adverse Impacts – includes a discussion of significant environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the proposed project is implemented.

Section 8.0 – Persons and Organizations Consulted and References – lists the individuals involved in preparing this Draft EIR, organizations and persons consulted, and identifies the documents (printed references) and individuals (personal communications) consulted in preparing this Draft EIR.

Appendices – presents data supporting the analysis or contents of this Draft EIR.

1.5 EIR BACKGROUND AND CONTENT

Development of the proposed project is subject to the requirements of CEQA because it is an action that has the potential to result in a physical change in the environment subject to discretionary approval by a public agency (in this case, the District). The District began the process by sending out a Notice of Preparation (NOP), including a project description and the preliminary site plan (Appendix A.1). The NOP was circulated on October 10, 2007, and identified that an EIR would be necessary. The NOP served as a chance for the local community and interested agencies to comment on the project before the Draft EIR was written. There was a 30-day review period, during which comments regarding the proposed project were received by the District. The review period closed November 9, 2007; however, due to the southern California wildfires, the scoping meeting was rescheduled for November 14 and the comment period was extended to November 15. This information was posted on the District's website and an advertisement was placed in the local newspaper. Comments received on the NOP are also included in Appendix A.2.

1.5.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Based on the analysis presented in the Initial Study prepared by the District (Appendix A.3), the following environmental effects were found to be less than significant with the incorporation of particular project design features and compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and are discussed in Section 4.1 of this Draft EIR:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

1.5.2 Environmental Topics Addressed

Based on the analysis presented in the Initial Study prepared by the District and the information provided in the comments to the NOP, the following environmental topics are analyzed in Sections 4.2 through 4.5 of this Draft EIR:

- Agricultural Resources
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials

1.6 EIR PROCESSING

This Draft EIR has been distributed to affected federal, state, regional, county and city agencies and interested parties for a 45-day review period in accordance with § 15087 of the *CEQA Guidelines*. In

addition, this Draft EIR, including supporting technical documentation, is available to the general public for review during normal operating hours at the Valley Center Municipal Water District, at the following location:

Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, CA 92082

The Draft EIR is also available for review on the District's website at www.vcmwd.org/.

1.7 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

A detailed discussion of existing environmental conditions, environmental impacts, and recommended mitigation measures is included in Section 4.0, Environmental Impact Analysis. The mitigation measures presented in Table 1.7-1 summarize the environmental impacts, mitigation measures, and level of significance after mitigation associated with the proposed project.

Interested parties may provide written comments on the Draft EIR before the end of the 45-day public review and comment period. Written comments on the Draft EIR must be submitted to:

Valley Center Municipal Water District

Attn: Dianne Kilwein
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, CA 92082

Upon completion of the 45-day review period, written responses to all comments on environmental issues discussed in the Draft EIR will be prepared and incorporated into the Final EIR for consideration by the District, as well as any other public decision makers. Furthermore, written responses to comments received from any Public Agency will be made available to those agencies at least 10 days prior to the public hearing at which the Certification of the Final EIR will be considered.

1.8 AREAS OF CONTROVERSY/ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

Areas of Concern

Section 15123(b)(2) of the State *CEQA Guidelines* require that an EIR identify areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by other agencies and the public.

The comments submitted on the NOP during the public review and comment period are summarized in Table 1.8-1. This table also includes a reference to the section in which each issue is addressed. Comments received on the NOP are also included in Appendix A.2.

Table 1.7-1. Summary of Project-Level Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures and Levels of Significance After Mitigation

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
<i>Biological Resources</i>			
<p>Construction of the proposed project has the potential to significantly impact sensitive vegetation communities under both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion.</p>	<p>Significant</p>	<p>MM 4.3-1 Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities would shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA. Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed. <u>recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008. If the draft NCMSCP is approved prior to construction, mitigation ratios shall follow the ratios outlined in the approved plan. Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.</u></p> <p>MM 4.3-2 During construction, the identified sensitive vegetation communities adjacent to the project shall be flagged as Environmentally Sensitive Areas. Installation of construction fencing shall be required to avoid indirect impacts to these areas. Staging areas will be identified during construction for lay down areas, equipment storage, etc., to avoid indirect impacts to the Environmentally Sensitive Areas.</p> <p>MM 4.3-3 Impacts that will occur along the pipeline alignment will be temporary. When project construction is completed a project as built would be prepared to identify impacts within the project and any associated staging areas created during construction. These impacts would be either purchased through acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an agency approved mitigation bank or through habitat restoration. Restoration may include a five year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.</p>	<p>Less than significant</p>

1.0 DEIR Introduction and Summary

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Construction of the proposed project could result in a direct and/or indirect impact to Engelmann and coast live oak trees, which are listed as specific-status plant species.	Significant	<p>MM 4.3-4 Prior to construction a preconstruction survey will shall be conducted to map and avoid any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid indirect impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.</p> <p>MM 4.3-5 Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified in the by the wildlife agencies in March 2008 BMO, specifically Section 86.507(c).</p> <p>MM 4.3-6 A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.</p>	Less than significant.
Construction of the proposed project would temporarily and directly impact habitat that supports nesting and foraging habitats for raptors and migratory birds.	Significant	MM 4.3-6 7 Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible), recognized from February January 15 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.	Less than significant
Construction of the proposed project could result in significant impacts to wetlands associated with Moosa Creek and riparian vegetation.	Significant	MM 4.3-7 8 A jurisdictional wetland delineation is shall be required to determine impacts to these wetland areas prior to construction. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to if measurable direct wetland impacts per recommendations occur to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas mitigation and permits would be required. If impacts to jurisdictional areas occur	Less than significant

1.0 DEIR Introduction and Summary

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
		<p>temporary impacts would be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio, while permanent impacts would at a 3:1 ratio, unless alternative mitigation ratios are negotiated between the District and the USACE and/or CDFG. <u>Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.</u></p> <p>MM 4.3-89 Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the RWQCB would be required, in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A SWPPP would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (NPDES 2007). Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project.</p>	
<i>Cultural Resources</i>			
The proposed project has the potential to significantly impact one cultural resource (CA-SDI-13598) and one cultural resource site (VC-S-3) on the project site. Because the significance of these resources has not been determined at this time, a potentially significant impact has been identified.	Significant	MM-4.4-1 Further testing for sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project redesign to avoid the site, or the completion of a data recovery program. Project design shall avoid cultural resource site CA-SDI-13598.	Less than significant
The proposed project has the potential to impact buried archaeological resources on the project site.	Significant	MM 4.4-2 A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading of any area of activities at the project site as the project site sits is located on potentially sensitive archeological resources. If any archeological resources are identified during these activities, the archeologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained. In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have	Less than significant

1.0 DEIR Introduction and Summary

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
		<p><u>the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.</u></p> <p><u>In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.</u></p>	
Given the geology of the region, the proposed project has the potential to disturb undiscovered paleontological resources on the project site.	Significant	<p>MM 4.4-3 A qualified paleontologist shall monitor all grading that includes initial cutting into any area of the project site as the geology of the region consists of that <u>may affect</u> Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. If any paleontological resources are identified during these activities, the paleontologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.</p> <p>MM 4.4-4 Paleontological monitoring shall occur only for those undisturbed sediments wherein fossil plant or animal remains are found with no associated evidence of human activity or any archaeological context.</p> <p>MM 4.4-5 Paleontological monitors shall be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed to avoid construction delays, and to remove samples of sediments which are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. Monitors shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens. Monitoring may be reduced if the potentially fossiliferous units are not present or if the fossiliferous units present are determined by a qualified paleontological monitor to have low potential to contain fossil resources.</p>	Less than significant

1.0 DEIR Introduction and Summary

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
		<p>MM 4.4-6 All recovered specimens shall be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.</p> <p>MM 4.4-7 Specimens shall be identified and curated into an established, accredited, professional museum repository with permanent retrievable storage. The paleontologist shall have a written repository agreement in hand prior to the initiation of mitigation activities.</p> <p>MM 4.4-8 A report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of identified specimens shall be prepared. The report will address archaeological and paleontological items. This report shall incorporate the full results of the literature review, as well as the full results of the recommended review of the records of the South Coastal Information Center, San Diego, California. The report shall be submitted prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.</p>	
Ground disturbing activities associated with the proposed project have the potential to significantly impact undiscovered human remains.	Significant	MM 4.4-9 If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the San Diego County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin. If the San Diego County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted within 24 hours. Subsequently, the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the "most likely descendant." The most likely descendant shall have 24 hours to make recommendations to the County for the disposition of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code 5097.98.	Less than significant
<u>The Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the storage pond has the potential to impact buried archaeological resources on the project site.</u>	<u>Significant</u>	MM 4.4-10 <u>If the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing for site VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project design to avoid the site.</u>	<u>Less than significant</u>

1.0 DEIR Introduction and Summary

Environmental Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
<i>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</i>			
Shallow trenches (approximately 3-5 feet deep) that would be utilized to install new wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines have the potential to expose workers to hazardous vapors rising from contaminated soils.	Significant	MM 4.5-1 The contractor shall prepare a Health and Safety Plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1926, Subpart C, which sets forth health and safety requirements specifically for the construction industry. Under the Health and Safety Plan, the contractor shall incorporate waste management provisions into the construction contract to reduce potential impacts from hazardous material to workers at the construction site.	Less than significant

Table 1.8-1. Summary of NOP Comment Letters

Comment	Response
<i>Department of Toxic Substances Control, November 13, 2007</i>	
<p>The Department of Toxic Substances Control would like the EIR to adequately address any potential hazardous materials that may be found on the project site. Should hazardous materials be found, appropriate laboratory testing should be done by qualified agencies to assess the risk involved with the hazardous materials.</p>	<p>An Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was prepared for the proposed project to determine the risk posed by hazardous materials in the project area. The results of the ESA are discussed in Section 4.5. According to the ESA, shallow trenches (approximately 3-5 feet deep) that would be utilized to install new wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines were found to have the potential to expose workers to hazardous vapors rising from contaminated soils at the Mystik site, located at the corner of Valley Center Road and Old Road. As such, a potentially significant impact was identified and mitigation was included to reduce this impact to a less than significant level. See Section 4.5 for a more detail analysis of this issue area.</p>
<i>County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use, November 8, 2007</i>	
<p>The County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use expressed concerns regarding the impact the proposed project would have on land use compatibility, growth inducement, and transportation and traffic. The letter outlines a number of issues that the County feels should be addressed in the DEIR.</p>	<p>As discussed in Section 4.1, the proposed project would not conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project because it would occur only within areas already approved for development or within existing District easements and rights-of-way. Likewise, it was determined that the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to transportation and traffic. See Section 4.1 for a more detailed analysis. As outlined in Section 6.0, the proposed project would not result in a significant population growth in the project area because it would only provide wastewater service to development currently utilizing septic systems.</p>
<i>San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc., October 14, 2007</i>	
<p>The San Diego County Archaeological Society requests that it be included in the distribution list of the DEIR, once available, and that a copy of the cultural resources report accompany the DEIR.</p>	<p>The San Diego County Archaeological Society will be sent a copy the DEIR and the cultural resources report.</p>
<i>Native American Heritage Commission, October 30, 2007</i>	
<p>The Native American Heritage Commission would like the EIR to adequately address the impacts to historical or Native American resources. Recommendations on which specific issues to address are included in the comment letter.</p>	<p>A cultural resources report was prepared for the proposed project. This report will incorporate any recommendations made by the Native American Heritage Commission.</p>
<i>Pala Band of Mission Indians, November 13, 2007</i>	
<p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians has determined that the project area with not within the boundaries of the recognized Pala Indian Reservation. The Pala Band would like to be included on the distribution list for project updates to ensure that as the project progresses it does not encroach upon the Reservation. The Pala Band recommends that an approved Cultural Monitor be on-site during ground disturbing activities.</p>	<p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians is included on the distribution list to receive a copy of the DEIR and future documents analyzing the environmental impacts of the proposed project. A Native American monitor representing the San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians provided monitoring services during the cultural resources survey of the project site.</p>

Issues to be Resolved

- The final determination must be made by the District as to whether the benefits of the project outweigh the potentially significant and unmitigated project-level impacts related to agricultural resources due to the conversion of Prime Farmland to non-agricultural uses. Project- and program-level impacts are identified as significant and unmitigated because, as of the writing of this Draft EIR, no agricultural mitigation fee fund has been established. Should this fund be established, impacts relating to agricultural resources would be less than significant.

Table 1.8-1. Summary of NOP Comment Letters

Comment	Response
<i>Department of Toxic Substances Control, November 13, 2007</i>	
<p>The Department of Toxic Substances Control would like the EIR to adequately address any potential hazardous materials that may be found on the project site. Should hazardous materials be found, appropriate laboratory testing should be done by qualified agencies to assess the risk involved with the hazardous materials.</p>	<p>An Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was prepared for the proposed project to determine the risk posed by hazardous materials in the project area. The results of the ESA are discussed in Section 4.5. According to the ESA, shallow trenches (approximately 3-5 feet deep) that would be utilized to install new wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines were found to have the potential to expose workers to hazardous vapors rising from contaminated soils at the Mystik site, located at the corner of Valley Center Road and Old Road. As such, a potentially significant impact was identified and mitigation was included to reduce this impact to a less than significant level. See Section 4.5 for a more detail analysis of this issue area.</p>
<i>County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use, November 8, 2007</i>	
<p>The County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use expressed concerns regarding the impact the proposed project would have on land use compatibility, growth inducement, and transportation and traffic. The letter outlines a number of issues that the County feels should be addressed in the DEIR.</p>	<p>As discussed in Section 4.1, the proposed project would not conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project because it would occur only within areas already approved for development or within existing District easements and rights-of-way. Likewise, it was determined that the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to transportation and traffic. See Section 4.1 for a more detailed analysis. As outlined in Section 6.0, the proposed project would not result in a significant population growth in the project area because it would only provide wastewater service to development currently utilizing septic systems.</p>
<i>San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc., October 14, 2007</i>	
<p>The San Diego County Archaeological Society requests that it be included in the distribution list of the DEIR, once available, and that a copy of the cultural resources report accompany the DEIR.</p>	<p>The San Diego County Archaeological Society will be sent a copy the DEIR and the cultural resources report.</p>
<i>Native American Heritage Commission, October 30, 2007</i>	
<p>The Native American Heritage Commission would like the EIR to adequately address the impacts to historical or Native American resources. Recommendations on which specific issues to address are included in the comment letter.</p>	<p>A cultural resources report was prepared for the proposed project. This report will incorporate any recommendations made by the Native American Heritage Commission.</p>
<i>Pala Band of Mission Indians, November 13, 2007</i>	
<p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians has determined that the project area with not within the boundaries of the recognized Pala Indian Reservation. The Pala Band would like to be included on the distribution list for project updates to ensure that as the project progresses it does not encroach upon the Reservation. The Pala Band recommends that an approved Cultural Monitor be on-site during ground disturbing activities.</p>	<p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians is included on the distribution list to receive a copy of the DEIR and future documents analyzing the environmental impacts of the proposed project. A Native American monitor representing the San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians provided monitoring services during the cultural resources survey of the project site.</p>

Issues to be Resolved

- The final determination must be made by the District as to whether the benefits of the project outweigh the potentially significant and unmitigated project-level impacts related to agricultural resources due to the conversion of Prime Farmland to non-agricultural uses. Project- and program-level impacts are identified as significant and unmitigated because, as of the writing of this Draft EIR, no agricultural mitigation fee fund has been established. Should this fund be established, impacts relating to agricultural resources would be less than significant.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 LOCATION

The project area is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of the City of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the community of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south. Primary access into Valley Center is via Valley Center Road, which links the community to the City of Escondido. The South Village area of the District is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center. Figure 2.1-1 depicts the regional and local vicinity of the project.

2.2 SITE CHARACTERISTICS

Valley Center is characterized by rolling hills, low-density agricultural land uses, and a predominance of estate residential development. Although urbanization has greatly diminished agricultural uses in other areas of San Diego County, Valley Center has maintained a rural identity.

2.3 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

2.3.1 Objectives

The following objectives are identified for this project:

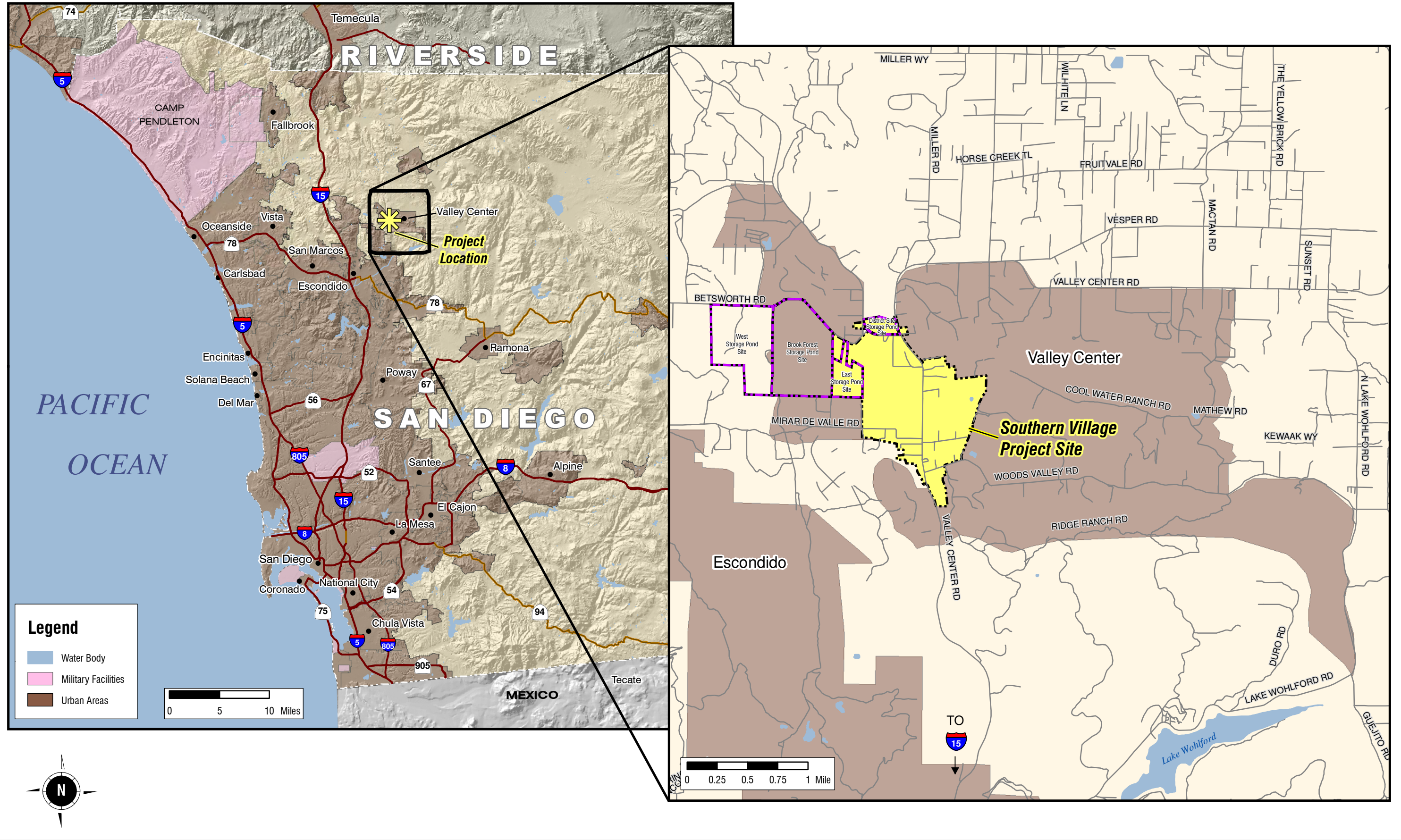
- Creation and adoption of a Master Plan to guide future expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) to extend wastewater service to the South Village area of the District;
- Creation of an Assessment District which would be used to fund the WVRWRF expansion;
- Development of a comprehensive wastewater system that would allow existing and proposed development to transition from septic sewer to municipal wastewater service due to the high groundwater table within the service area;
- Expansion of the WVRWRF to provide wastewater service to customers within the South Village service area of the District in accordance with current County zoning; and
- Provide more reliable wastewater service.

2.3.2 Discretionary Approvals

The following discretionary approvals have been identified for the proposed project:

- Modification of the currently held Waste Discharge Permit (RWQCB Order No. R9-1998-0009 as amended, WVRWRF)
- Formation of the Assessment District
- Adoption of the South Village Wastewater Master Plan
- Application for a County of San Diego Construction and Encroachment Permit

Source: VCMWD, September 2007; SanGIS, March 2007; G:\Projects\391609_VCMWD\0412_SWMR\map_docs\ymxd\ER_Regional_Vicinity.mxd | Last Updated: 02-05-2008



Regional & Vicinity Map
FIGURE 2.1-1

Other approvals by regulating agencies may include:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineering (USACE) 404 / 401 State Certification Permit
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement

2.3.3 Background

As the community of Valley Center developed, high groundwater was a periodic problem and constrained the use of septic systems in the central area of the community due to drainage and septic overflow problems. It was recognized that local area development would be limited unless more reliable wastewater service could be provided to support the land uses. In response, the District implemented the South Village Water Reclamation project to facilitate the community's transition from septic to municipal wastewater service.

Phase I of the reclamation project consisted of the construction of the 70,000 gallons per day (gpd) WVRWRF to serve the Woods Valley Ranch development. The 18,000-square-foot (sf) facility is located in Valley Center, approximately 500 feet east of Valley Center Road between Mirar de Valle Road and Sunday Drive, adjacent to the Wood Valley Ranch Golf Course. The WVRWRF was constructed to provide wastewater service to the 270-home Woods Valley Ranch development and 10 equivalent dwelling units¹ (EDUs) from the Woods Valley Ranch golf course. Wastewater from the Woods Valley Ranch development is conveyed through a gravity collection system to the WVRWRF, where it is processed and discharged as reclaimed water that is used to irrigate the golf course. Sludge from the WVRWRF is trucked to a disposal site at the Lower Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility.

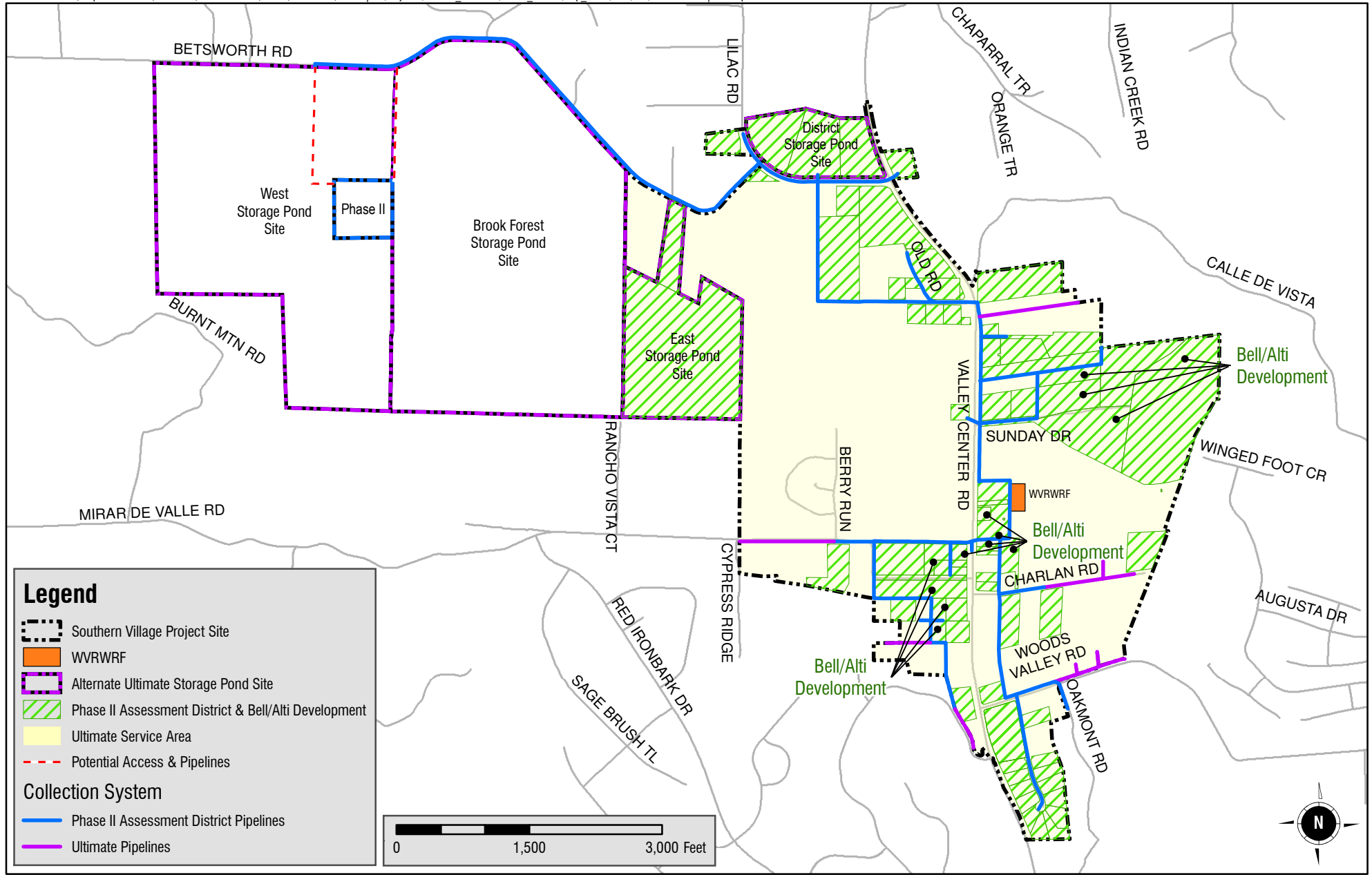
The Woods Valley Ranch and Orchard Run developments have received approvals for discharge permits from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and portions of the Woods Valley Ranch development have been developed, including the golf course and the WVRWRF. The installation of the WVRWRF (Phase I) provides an opportunity to expand wastewater treatment capacity for the South Village service area. The opportunities for wastewater expansion are defined in the South Village Wastewater Master Plan (Master Plan) currently being prepared by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants and are the subject of this Draft EIR. The next phase of the South Village Water Reclamation Project is Phase II. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion, as identified in the South Village Master Plan, includes future expansions of wastewater service to meet the District's ultimate service area, as defined in Section 2.3.5.

2.3.4 Phase II (Project Level)

Specifically, the following components have been proposed in Phase II and are shown in Figure 2.3-1. This Draft EIR provides project-level CEQA review of these components and includes:

- Creation of Assessment District;
- Expansion of the WVRWRF from 18,000 to 28,000 sf;
- Installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines; and
- Development of a seasonal storage pond.

¹ EDU is a measure where one unit is equivalent to wastewater effluent from one home, which is 250 gallons per day per home (1 EDU = 250 gallons per day).



Site Plan
FIGURE 2.3-1

Creation of Assessment District

Phase II would provide wastewater service to the South Village area of the District's service area, which consists of the Bell & Alti developments and those properties in the South Village area that have made reservations (cash deposits) to participate in the Assessment District. Figure 2.3-1 displays the proposed expansion area for the Bell & Alti developments and South Village Assessment District. This expansion would serve an additional 350 EDUs within the South Village service area.

Seasonal storage and irrigation discharge areas for the Bell & Alti developments would be provided within their development or at an off-site location(s) that would be required to receive all entitlements. Impacts to the Bell & Alti sites will be discussed in a separate environmental document. Bell & Alti developments would fund their share of the expansion of the treatment plant, which equates to 160 EDUs.

Detailed descriptions of the proposed project are described below.

Expansion of WVRWRF

Phase II would include expansion of the WVRWRF to accommodate the Bell & Alti developments together with the Assessment District in the South Village. The capacity of the expanded WVRWRF would be within the maximum allowed by current zoning for the South Village Service Area. The proposed project would increase the capacity of the WVRWRF by 350 EDUs, or from 70,000 to 157,500 gpd. The facility would be physically expanded from 18,000 to 28,000 sf, with an additional 10,000 sf of temporary on-site disturbance anticipated during construction. However, the proposed improvements to the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint.

Wastewater Collection and Reclaimed Water Pipelines

Wastewater from the service area would be conveyed through a low pressure wastewater collection system and would include small diameter (typically less than 8-inch) low pressure wastewater collection lines extending to properties within the service area. The proposed conveyance pipelines are shown on Figure 2.3-1. Each dwelling unit would be required to install individual grinder pumps that would discharge into the pressure wastewater system. The collection system would be constructed generally by trench and backfill and primarily in existing District easements along paved or non-paved roads, as well as along access roads serving existing and planned developments to the extent feasible. There would be routine maintenance of all easements and rights-of-way including landscaping and the clearing of vegetation along rights-of-way access points.

Phase II would provide a point of connection necessary to serve the Bell & Alti sites. The collection lines beyond the point of connection would be designed at a later time. Therefore, the project level analysis of the collection system for the Bell & Alti development would be discussed in a separate environmental document.

Wastewater processed at the WVRWRF would be discharged as reclaimed water for irrigation on the golf course, roadside landscaping, medians, parkland, and/or agriculture. To convey reclaimed water to these areas, pipelines would be installed underground, parallel to, and along the same alignment as the pressure wastewater collection system. The golf course uses existing pipelines for irrigation; therefore, additional pipelines to distribute reclaimed water would not be necessary at this location.

Seasonal Storage Pond

During wet-weather periods when irrigation needs are reduced, treated effluent would be stored in a storage pond with 84 days of seasonal storage capacity.² The seasonal storage site may also be used as a discharge area for reclaimed water in the form of irrigation when the adjacent golf course's irrigation needs are fulfilled. Wastewater from the Bell & Alti development would be stored at a separate site within the Bell & Alti property and therefore would not be included in the capacity of the Phase II storage pond. The reclaimed water storage pond for Phase II would be utilized to ensure adequate wet-weather storage solely for the Assessment District. The pond would be constructed to hold tertiary treated wastewater prior to discharge as reclaimed water and would be designed with sufficient storage capacity to allow for total containment during wet-weather or non-irrigation periods. Tertiary treated wastewater meets RWQCB requirements for irrigation uses.

The seasonal storage capacity required to accommodate the additional 350 EDUs associated with Phase II would be 87,500 gpd. Of this amount, 47,500 gpd would be stored at the Phase II seasonal storage pond while the remaining 40,000 gpd would be stored at a separate site within the Bell & Alti property. In order to accommodate 47,500 gpd, the Phase II seasonal storage pond would require a minimum 10-acre² site. The location of the proposed seasonal storage site is shown on Figure 2.3-1.

The proposed Phase II seasonal storage site (herein referred to as the west site) is located within an approximately 195-acre parcel along and immediately south of Betsworth Road, as shown in Figure 2.3-1. The topography of the site is generally flat. Moosa Creek traverses the northern portion of the site from east to west. The site is dominated by three vegetation communities: agriculture, native grasslands and coast live oak woodland. Currently, development on the site consists of an active nursery on the northern portion of the site and inactive nursery fields to the southeast. Access to the seasonal storage pond would be facilitated by one of two existing, 20-foot right-of-way dirt roads that have northern entry points along Betsworth Road. The easternmost access road currently runs north to south along the site's eastern boundary. The other access road traverses the central portion of the site, also from north to south. Both access roads cross Moosa Creek. Although the existing dirt roads would provide adequate access to the proposed pond, additional access roads may be required. The pond would be surrounded by fencing to prevent public access and may include above ground structures such as a pump station.

Pipelines would be extended from the WVRWRF to the storage pond. Although the alignments of these pipelines have not yet been finalized, it is anticipated that the lines would be within existing collection easements or within existing or planned roadway alignments. There would be routine maintenance of all easements and rights-of-way. Seasonal storage and irrigation for the Bell & Alti projects would be located on the Bell & Alti sites and discussed in a separate environmental document.

2.3.5 Ultimate Service Area Expansion (Program Level)

As indicated in the Master Plan, the WVRWRF would provide wastewater service for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion was proposed to accommodate the growth identified in the current County of San Diego General Plan, adopted in 1979, as well as the Draft General Plan Update. To serve the ultimate service area, the following components would be necessary:

² The 10 acres includes both the pond and its associated area of disturbance.

- Further expansion of the WVRWRF;
- Installation of additional wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines; and
- Expansion of existing pond or development of auxiliary storage ponds (Figure 2.3-1).

For the purpose of analysis within this Draft EIR, impacts associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion are assessed at maximum capacity and assume the proposed General Plan Update would be adopted at the time of the expansion.

Expansion of WVRWRF

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion capacity of the WVRWRF in accordance with current County zoning would allow for an additional 370 EDUs for a total of approximately 1,300 EDUs. Under the proposed General Plan Update the Ultimate Service Area Expansion capacity would increase to approximately 1,800 EDUs, or 450,000 ultimate gpd. Therefore, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would have the capacity to serve an additional 500 EDUs in the South Village area if the General Plan Update is adopted. The additional improvements to the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint.

Wastewater Collection and Reclaimed Water Pipelines

The wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be extended to accommodate the Ultimate Service Area within the South Village area. While final alignments of these lines have not been determined at this time, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion could include extending lines along Woods Valley Road, Charlan Road, and Banbury Drive, as shown on Figure 2.3-1.

Seasonal Storage Pond(s)

The additional capacity required for the ultimate service area would be approximately 30 acres. This would either require the expansion of the pond located on the west site developed under Phase II, or the development of auxiliary ponds on up to three alternate seasonal storage sites. This expansion would also result in an additional 20 acres of disturbance, for a total disturbance of 30-50 acres. The locations of the alternate ultimate seasonal storage sites are shown in Figure 2.3-1 and discussed below.

Brook Forest – The site is an approximately 230-acre, rectangular-shaped parcel located immediately south of Betsworth, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the west site. The topography of the site is dominated by a northwest to southeast-striking ridge. Moosa Creek traverses the northern portion of the site from east to west. The site contains several vegetation communities, including: native grasslands, wetland/riparian areas associated with the creek, coastal sage scrub, and oak woodland. The site is currently undeveloped.

East – The site is approximately 45-50 acres and is located south of Betsworth Road, immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Brook Forest site. The topography of the site is generally flat. The site is dominated by two vegetation communities: non-native grasslands and flat topped buckwheat scrub. The site is currently undeveloped.

District – The site is an approximately 22-acre, District-owned parcel bound by Lilac Road to the south and Valley Center Road to the east. The topography of the site is generally flat. The site is currently in active agriculture.

2.3.6 Project Area Land Use and Zoning

The project area for both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion is located within the Valley Center Community Plan of the County of San Diego General Plan. Figure 2.3-2 shows the current land uses for the project area and surrounding areas. Current General Plan designations for the project area include the following:

- Extensive Agriculture
- Intensive Agriculture
- Undeveloped
- Spaced Rural Residential
- Recreation
- Commercial and Office
- Single-family Detached

Zoning for the project area is as follows (Figure 2.3-3):

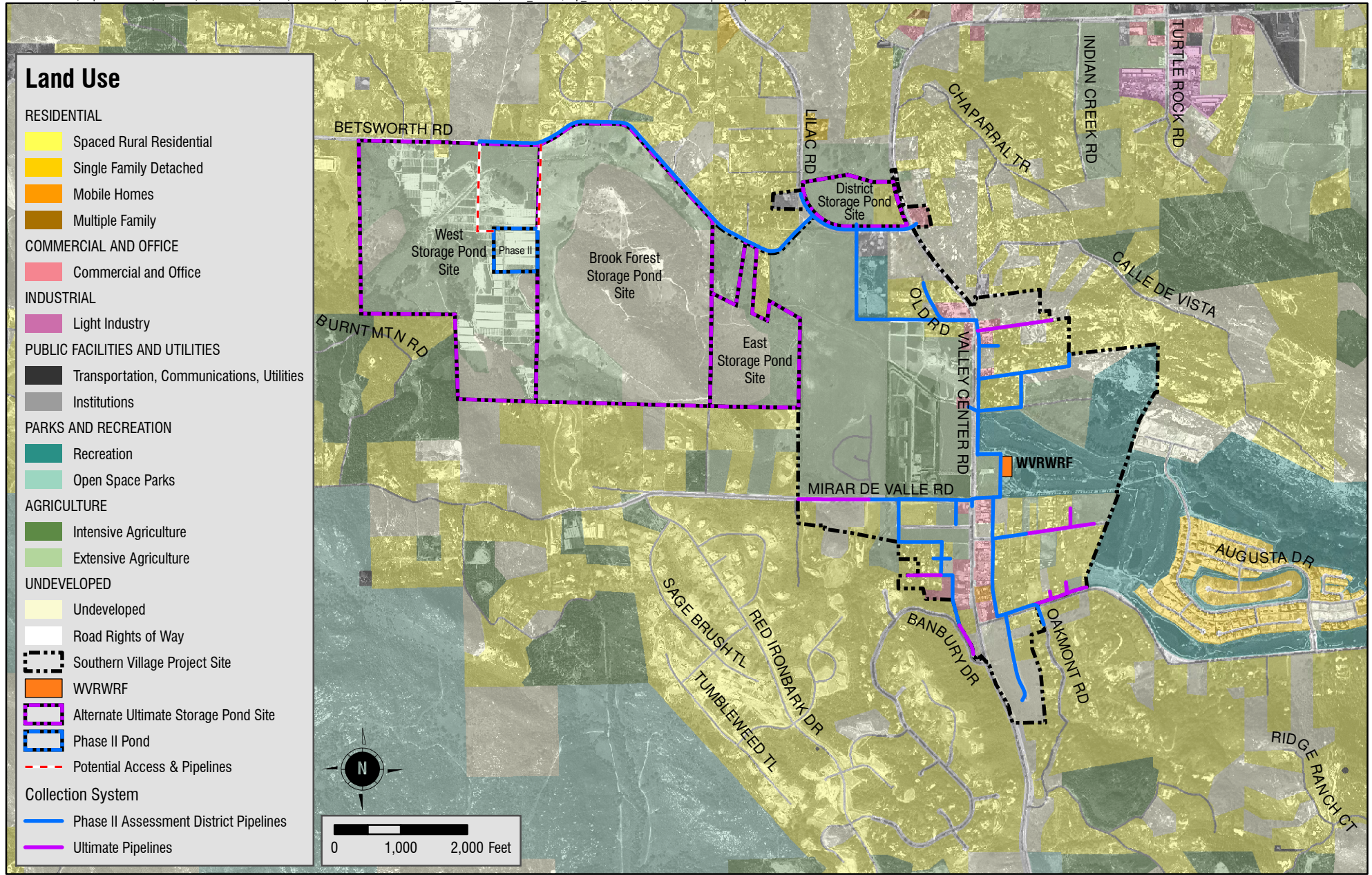
- Agriculture
- Rural Residential
- Specific Plan Area
- Commercial and Office

As of August 2006 and according to the General Plan Update Draft Land Use Map for Valley Center, future land use designations for the project area would include (Figure 2.3-4):

- Rural Lands (RL-20)
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-1)
- Specific Plan Area
- Open Space (Recreation)
- Public/Semi-public Facilities
- Village Residential (VR-2)
- Village Residential (VR-4.3)
- Village Residential (VR-7.3)
- Village Residential (VR-10.9)
- Village Core Mixed Use
- Office Professional
- Rural Commercial
- General Commercial
- Limited Impact Industrial

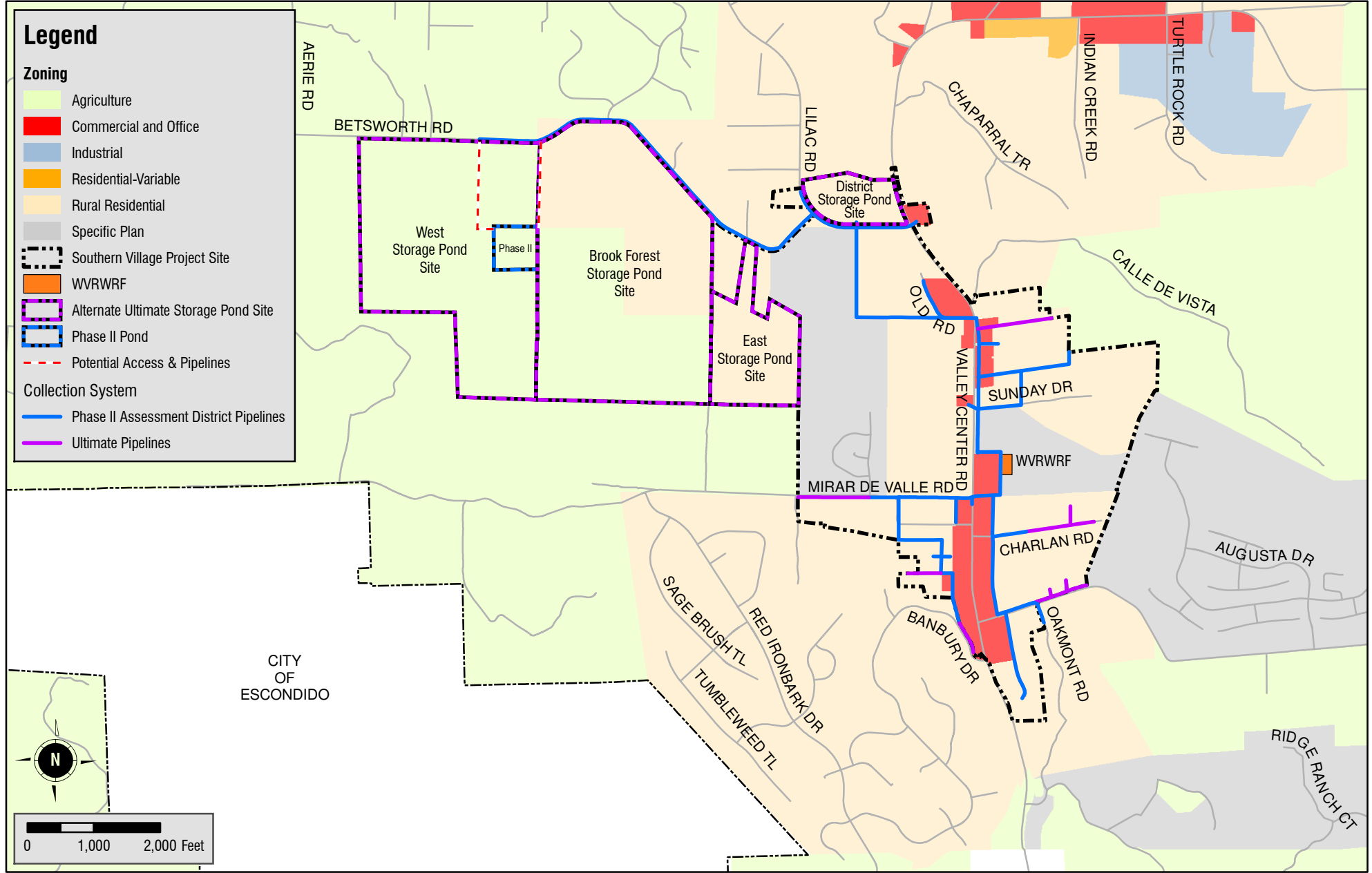
At this time the General Plan Update Zoning Maps are not available.

Figures 2.3-2 and 2.3-4 also display the current and proposed land use for the west site, respectively. The west site is currently utilized for agricultural activities with a planned designation for rural lands (1 DU/20 acres).



Current Land Use Designations

FIGURE 2.3-2



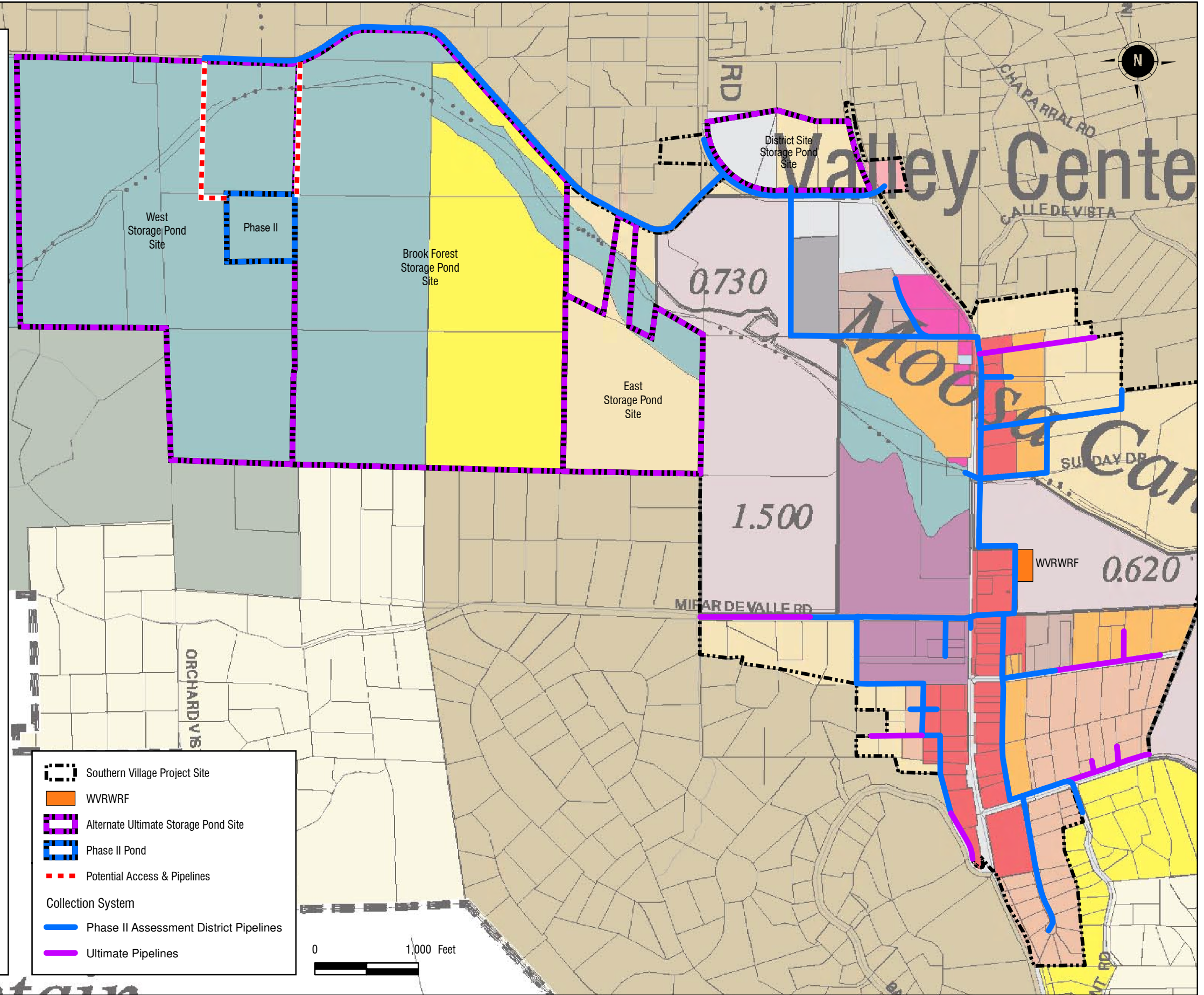
Current Zoning

FIGURE 2.3-3

Source: VCMWD, September 2007; Draft General Plan 2020 land use, DPLU, August 2006 | G:\Projects\391609_VCMWD\70412_SVWR\map_docs\mxd\ER\GP_2020_11x17.mxd | Last Updated: 02-05-2008

- Village Residential (VR-29), 29 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-24), 24 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-20), 20 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-15), 15 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-10.9), 10.9 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-7.3), 7.3 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-4.3), 4.3 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-2.9), 2.9 du/ac
- Village Residential (VR-2), 2 du/ac
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-1), 1 du/1,2,4 ac
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-2), 1 du/2,4,8 ac
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-4), 1 du/4,8,16 ac
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-10), 1 du/10,20 ac
- Rural Lands (RL-20), 1 du/20 ac
- Rural Lands (RL-40), 1 du/40 ac
- Rural Lands (RL-80), 1 du/80 ac
- Rural Lands (RL-160), 1 du/160 ac
- Specific Plan Area (densities indicated in italics)
- Office Professional
- Neighborhood Commercial
- General Commercial
- Rural Commercial
- Limited Impact Industrial
- Medium Impact Industrial
- High Impact Industrial
- Village Core Mixed Use
- Public/Semi-Public Facilities
- National Forest and State Parks
- Tribal Lands
- Open Space (Recreation)
- Open Space (Conservation)
- Military Installations
- Forest Conservation Initiative Overlay
- Area Subject to Further Refinements
- County Water Authority Boundary
- Valley Center Community Planning Area Boundary
- Adjacent Community Plan and Sponsor Group Boundary
- Jurisdictional Boundary

- Southern Village Project Site
- WWRWF
- Alternate Ultimate Storage Pond Site
- Phase II Pond
- Potential Access & Pipelines
- Collection System
- Phase II Assessment District Pipelines
- Ultimate Pipelines



Proposed Land Use Designations

FIGURE 2.3-4

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1 JURISDICTIONAL SETTING

San Diego County General Plan (1979)

Adopted in 1979, the current General Plan for the County of San Diego is undergoing updates for the year 2020. General Plans are the guidelines for all future development for the specific jurisdictions. Each General Plan is required to contain at least seven elements, which include: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. The County of San Diego General Plan consists of multiple documents containing regional elements and community/subregional plans.

Valley Center Community Plan (1979)

The Valley Center Community Plan supplements all existing elements of the San Diego County General Plan with specific emphasis on the planning needs of the Valley Center community. The intent of the Community Plan is to maintain the rural atmosphere of the planning area. According to the Community Plan the community character of Valley Center would be best maintained by a decrease in density from the Country Towns outward to the exterior limits of the planning area. It is the intent of the community to keep low density residential and agricultural areas of Valley Center free from industrial and major commercial encroachments.

South Village Wastewater Master Plan

Opportunities for wastewater expansion in the South Village area are outlined in the South Village Wastewater Master Plan (Master Plan) that is currently being prepared by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. The Master Plan indicates that the ultimate service area expansion capacity of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) would accommodate growth identified in the current County of San Diego General Plan. The ultimate service area expansion capacity of the WVRWRF according to current County zoning is 1,235 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs), including Woods Valley Ranch and Orchard Run.

3.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The District provides wastewater treatment and reclamation services for approximately 2,750 customers through two facilities: the 440,000 gallons per day (gpd) Lower Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility (Moosa), and the 70,000 gpd WVRWRF. It is the legal responsibility of the District to plan for and meet the water and wastewater needs of the land uses within its boundaries. The District assesses future service requirements based on land use decisions vested with general purpose municipal and county governments.

3.3 SURROUNDING LAND USES

Current land uses surrounding the WVRWRF include vacant and commercial property to the west and southwest (Figure 2.3-2). The area to the north, south, and east of the facility within the Woods Valley Ranch development consists of golf course uses. The property immediately west consists of a single building surrounded by vacant land that was previously used for agricultural purposes. The property to the southwest is commercially developed. As identified above, the County of San Diego is in the process of updating their General Plan for the year 2020 and land uses for the project and surrounding areas could be subject to change.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

This section provides information on existing conditions, evaluates the potential environmental consequences of the proposed project, and, where applicable, recommends mitigation measures for each issue area. As outlined in Section 1.5, this Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) addresses the following environmental issue areas considered under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Hazards and Hazardous Materials, as well as the environmental issue areas eliminated from further consideration based on conclusions of the Initial Study (Appendix A.3). The potential for cumulative impacts is also addressed. Subchapter 4.1 addresses environmental issue areas eliminated from further consideration, while subchapters 4.2 through 4.5 are organized under the following headings:

- Environmental Setting
- Thresholds of Significance
- Environmental Impacts (Including Project- and Program-level)
- Cumulative Impacts
- Mitigation Measures
- Level of Significance After Mitigation

The focus of the environmental analysis in each of the following sections is the proposed actions as described in Section 2.0, Project Description.

4.0.1 CUMULATIVE PROJECTS

The State *CEQA Guidelines* define cumulative effects as “two or more individual effects that, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.” The *CEQA Guidelines* further state that the individual effects can be the various changes related to a single project or the changes involved in a number of other closely related past, present, and reasonable foreseeable probable future projects (Section 15355). CEQA also notes that the discussion of cumulative impacts should be guided by standards of practicality and reasonableness (Section 15130). Only those projects whose impacts might compound or interrelate with those of the project at hand require evaluation. The *CEQA Guidelines* allow for the use of two alternative methods to determine the scope of projects for the cumulative impact analysis:

- List Method – A list of past, present, and reasonably anticipated future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including those projects outside the control of the agency.
- Regional Growth Projections Method – A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document which is designed to evaluate regional or area wide conditions (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15130).

For the purpose of this Draft EIR, the List Method combined with the Regional Growth Projections Method has been used to assess the project’s cumulative environmental effects. The List Method includes known specific projects located within the vicinity of the proposed project.

The list of cumulative projects assumed for this analysis is based upon the identification of related development in the vicinity of the proposed project. In other words, the cumulative projects identified for

4.0 Environmental Impact Analysis

this analysis have been selected based on either their significance, likelihood of implementation, and/or proximity to the proposed project. Projects identified in the list include current and planned projects identified by the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use and General Plan.

Table 4.0-1 provides a list of the cumulative projects. Figure 4.0-1 illustrates the location of these cumulative projects. Cumulative impacts associated with those projects were evaluated in their respective environmental review documents, or are currently under environmental review.

Cumulative impact analysis is based on environmental factor-specific related projects that would contribute to overall post-development build-out impacts. The 31 geographically related projects identified below have been incorporated into the cumulative impact analysis for agricultural resources, biological resources, cultural resources, and hazards and hazardous materials. All cumulative environmental impacts included in this Draft EIR are considered based upon information obtained from the District and County of San Diego planning departments.

Table 4.0-1. Cumulative Projects

Map ID	Project	Location ¹
1	Alti General Plan Amendment	14096 Sunday Drive 27845 Valley Center Road
2	Apro, LLC*	27406 Valley Center Road
3	Automotive Specialists Site Plan	28477 Lizard Rocks Road
4	Beers, TPM, 2 Lots	29192 Fox Run Lane
5	Brook Forest	12875 Betsworth Road
6	Caney Ridge	15660 Mathew Road
7	Brown Rancho's	27505 Cool Water Ranch Lane
8	Charles Froelich TM	South of Aerie Road
9	Deepark Monastery MUP Deviation	2499 Merlru Lane
10	Eucalyptus Hills – Cingular	25484 Lake Wohlford Road
11	Fredas Hill	14324 Calle de Vista
12	Gaughan/Zerva Land Development*	28960 Valley Center Road 28637 Miller Road
13	Haviland Tentative Map	12464 Betsworth Road
14	Keys Creek Estates	East of Via Piedra
15	T-Mobile Res / Cingular	14324 Calle de Vista
16	Souris TPM*	14174 Calle de Vista
17	Lizard Rocks Storage	28407 Lizard Rocks Road
18	No Title / Mangrum Tentative Map	North of Calle de Vista
19	Orchard Run	28290 Lilac Road 13675 Old Road
20	Orchard Vista	13278 Orchard Vista Road
21	Paris TPM	14149 Ridge Ranch Road
22	Rabbit Run, TM, 10 Lots	29270 Duffwood Lane 29222 Duffwood Lane
23	Ridge Canyon – AT&T	26945 Valley Center Road

4.0 Environmental Impact Analysis

Map ID	Project	Location ¹
24	Sage Meadow TPM	13510 Sage Meadow Lane
25	Spanish Trails (formally Loranda)	29906 Miller Road 13592 Anthony Ridge Road
26	TM Garcia TMS 5458	North of Matthew Road
27	Valley Center Community Church*	29010 Cole Grade Road
28	Valley Center Propane*	28425 Cole Grade Road
29	Weston Co. – Valley Center*	29025 Miller Road 29012 Valley Center Road
30	Woods Valley Ranch	27765 Valley Center Road 14187 Winged Foot Cr 14175 Winged Foot Cr 14163 Winged Foot Cr 14151 Winged Foot Cr 14139 Winged Foot Cr 14127 Winged Foot Cr 14115 Winged Foot Cr 14103 Winged Foot Cr 14152 Winged Foot Cr 14164 Winged Foot Cr 14176 Winged Foot Cr 14188 Winged Foot Cr
31	Live Oak Treatment Plant	Coble Lane at Valley Center Road

Source: Project File Review at County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use






Notes: ¹ Some projects contain multiple non-contiguous components with separate addresses.

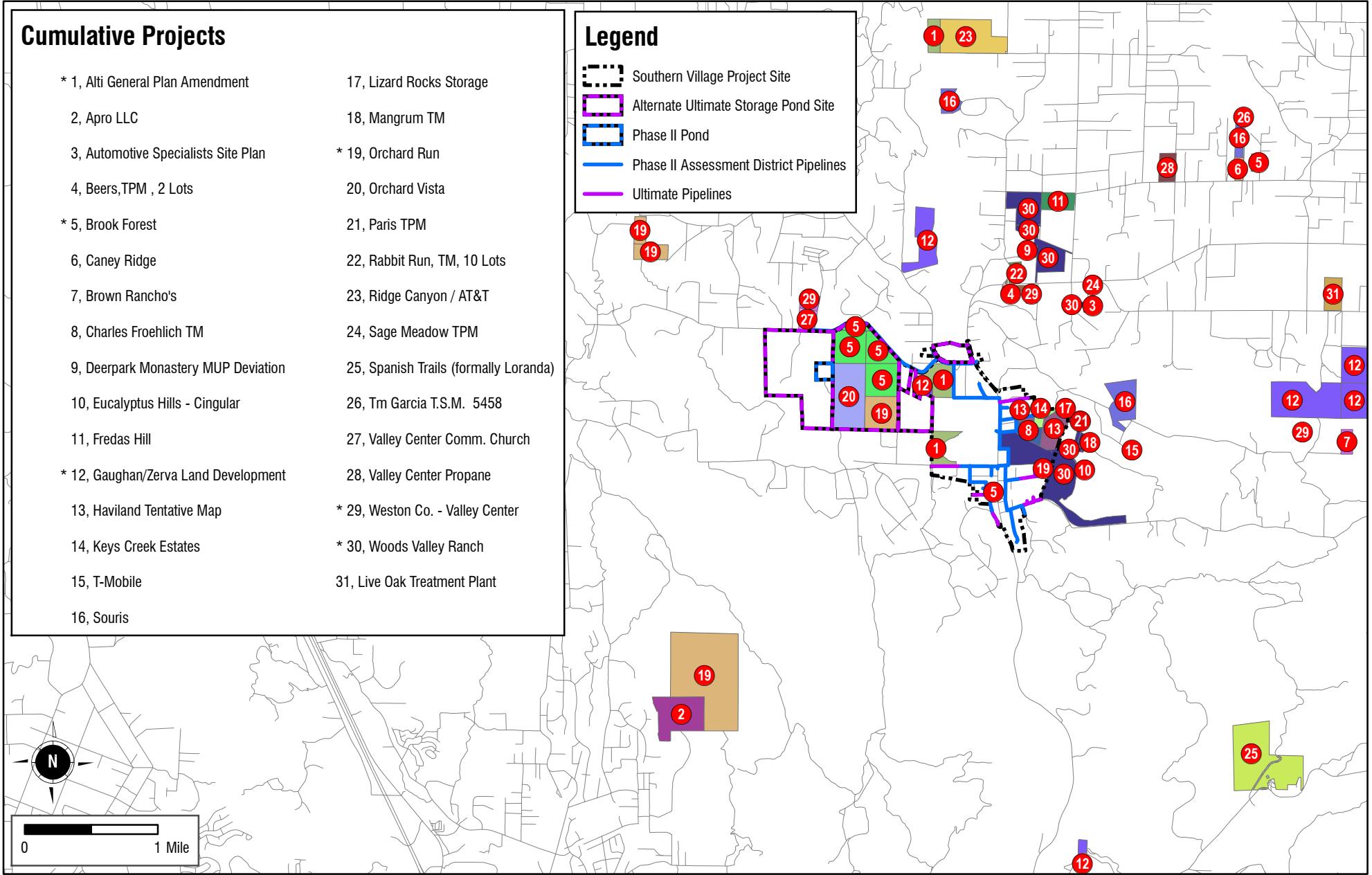
* File could not be found during project file review

Cumulative Projects

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| * 1, Alti General Plan Amendment | 17, Lizard Rocks Storage |
| 2, Apro LLC | 18, Mangrum TM |
| 3, Automotive Specialists Site Plan | * 19, Orchard Run |
| 4, Beers, TPM , 2 Lots | 20, Orchard Vista |
| * 5, Brook Forest | 21, Paris TPM |
| 6, Caney Ridge | 22, Rabbit Run, TM, 10 Lots |
| 7, Brown Rancho's | 23, Ridge Canyon / AT&T |
| 8, Charles Froehlich TM | 24, Sage Meadow TPM |
| 9, Deerpark Monastery MUP Deviation | 25, Spanish Trails (formally Loranda) |
| 10, Eucalyptus Hills - Cingular | 26, Tm Garcia T.S.M. 5458 |
| 11, Fredas Hill | 27, Valley Center Comm. Church |
| * 12, Gaughan/Zerva Land Development | 28, Valley Center Propane |
| 13, Haviland Tentative Map | * 29, Weston Co. - Valley Center |
| 14, Keys Creek Estates | * 30, Woods Valley Ranch |
| 15, T-Mobile | 31, Live Oak Treatment Plant |
| 16, Souris | |

Legend

-  Southern Village Project Site
-  Alternate Ultimate Storage Pond Site
-  Phase II Pond
-  Phase II Assessment District Pipelines
-  Ultimate Pipelines



*Projects contain multiple non-contiguous components.

Cumulative Projects
FIGURE 4.0-1

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER REVIEW IN INITIAL STUDY

4.1.1 Background

The Initial Study prepared by the District (Appendix A.3) determined that certain environmental effects of the proposed project¹ would be less than significant based upon compliance with federal, state, and local regulations as well as the incorporation of particular project design features. The following environmental effects were found to be less than significant and do not warrant any analysis above that provided in this section:

4.1.1.1 *Aesthetics*

Scenic Vista

According to the Valley Center Community Plan of the County of San Diego General Plan (2002), there are a number of scenic resources within Valley Center, including: Lancaster Mountain, Keys Creek, Valley Center Ridge, and Chaparral Ridge. However, there are no scenic vistas within the viewshed of the project area. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not impact any scenic vistas. Impacts would be less than significant.

Scenic Resources

San Diego County has two Official Scenic Highways: State Route 125 between State Route 94 and Interstate 8 and State Route 78 within the Anza-Borrego Desert Park. A number of scenic routes are also identified within the County, including Valley Center Road from Vista to State Route 76 (third priority scenic route). In addition, Interstate 15 (I-15) has been designated a scenic corridor. Neither of the officially-designated Scenic Highways is within the viewshed of the project area. Additionally, while Valley Center is characterized by many rock outcroppings, the project does not propose any structures that would obscure or obstruct these potentially scenic resources. Historic structures are also not present within the project area. Moreover, implementation of the proposed project would not impact the scenic qualities of the I-15 corridor. The WVRWRF would be expanded within the footprint approved for the existing facility and would utilize the same materials and be of a similar scale. All pipelines would be installed below grade within existing rights-of-way or District easements. None of the alternate seasonal storage sites would be visible from I-15. The pipeline alignments and/or seasonal storage pond site(s) may contain trees. During construction, however, trees would be avoided if possible or would be replaced in perimeter landscaping should they require removal. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Visual Character

Valley Center is characterized by its rolling hills, low-density rural agricultural land uses, and a predominance of estate residential development. Although urbanization has greatly diminished agricultural uses in other areas of the County, Valley Center has maintained its rural identity. This has resulted in the transition of several large areas of open space currently under agriculture production, such as fruit orchards, to residential and commercial development. In addition, this transition has resulted in ongoing construction activities and development in the project area, which has had an impact on the

¹ The proposed project refers to both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

area's visual character. The WVRWRF site is bordered on the west and southwest by vacant and commercial property. The area to the north, south, and east of the plant within Woods Valley Ranch consists of golf course uses. The property immediately west consists of a single building surrounded by vacant land that was previously used for agricultural purposes. The property to the southwest is commercially developed.

Under both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, the proposed expansions of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint. The improvements would utilize similar materials and would be of a similar scale. Therefore, these expansions would not represent a significant visual change in the area.

Additionally, the collection pipelines would be located within District easements along previously disturbed paved or non-paved roads, as well as along access roads serving existing and currently planned developments to the extent feasible. Construction would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. Reclaimed water pipelines would be installed underground, parallel to, and along the same alignment as the pressure wastewater collection system. Therefore, since the pipelines would be below grade within existing easements or rights-of-way, no visual change would occur due to installation of the pipelines.

The seasonal storage pond(s) and any appurtenant facilities, such as an above ground pump station, would be surrounded by fencing to prevent public access. This fencing would screen these facilities from casual view and would prevent the pond(s) from having an adverse effect on a scenic vista or impairing views of the surrounding area. Pipelines to the storage pond(s) would be aligned within existing collection easements or within existing or planned roadway alignments. Since the pipelines would be below grade within existing or planned roadway alignments, no visual change would occur.

Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the project area. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Light/Glare

The proposed project does not propose the construction, operation, or use of infrastructure that would create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. The expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would include exterior lighting for security purposes and would be confined to the WVRWRF property; there would be no operational lighting resulting from the underground pipelines; and the exterior security lighting at the seasonal storage site(s) would also be confined within that property. The lighting would be shielded downwards and would minimize spill light by strategically locating the lights away from surrounding residences. Additionally, the proposed project would occur in developed areas of the community of Valley Center; therefore, no light or glare will be introduced that exceeds existing light and glare sources. Potential project-related nighttime construction lighting would be temporary and would not represent a permanent new source of substantial light or glare because the area has existing lighting sources. No impact is identified for this issue area.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

4.1.1.2 *Agricultural Resources*

Conversion of Farmland

This issue area is considered potentially significant and discussed in further detail in Section 4.2, Agricultural Resources.

Agricultural Zoning

The WVRWRF is not located within a designated agricultural use area or Williamson Act contract. As identified above, the expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would occur within the site's existing footprint and therefore no impact is identified.

The alignment of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be located primarily within existing District easements and rights-of-way. The collection system would be underground and would not affect the future agricultural use of the land. No Williamson Act contracts exist within the project area and therefore no impact is identified.

The construction of the pond on the West site would convert land currently zoned for agriculture to a non-agricultural use. However, the site has a proposed land use designation of rural residential according to the General Plan Update. Therefore, this conversion of agriculture to a non-agricultural use would not conflict with the site's proposed land use designation, pursuant to the adoption of the General Plan Update. In addition, the site does not contain Williamson Act contracts. As such, Phase II would not conflict with the existing agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract and a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

There would be no impacts associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion in addition to those identified in the preceding project-level analysis, with the exception of the potential development of an auxiliary seasonal storage pond on the District site. The development of a pond on the District site would convert fallow agriculture to a non-agricultural use. However, the site is currently zoned rural residential according to the current General Plan. Therefore, the development of a seasonal storage pond on this site would not conflict with existing zoning. Since the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would not conflict with existing agricultural zoning or Williamson Act contract areas, a less than significant impact has been identified.

Indirect Conversion of Farmland

The proposed project would be developed within approved development areas (i.e., WVRWRF plant and planned designated spaced rural residential) and within existing and planned roadways and District easements. The proposed project is not of a type or size that due to its location or nature, would significantly impact surrounding farmland. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.3 *Air Quality*

Conflict with Applicable Air Quality Plan

Expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would occur within the footprint of the existing facility consistent with the current zoning for the South Village Service Area. The collection pipelines

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

would be underground and within existing rights-of-way and District easements along previously disturbed paved or non-paved roads, as well as along access roads serving existing and currently planned developments to the extent feasible. Reclaimed water pipelines would be installed underground, parallel to, and along the same alignment as the pressure wastewater collection system. Pipelines to the storage pond(s) would be aligned within existing collection easements or within existing or planned roadway alignments. Construction would primarily consist of below ground activities. No permanent or long term air emissions are associated with the proposed project.

Because the proposed project would not exceed an established air quality threshold, it would satisfy the Consistency Criterion of the San Diego Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS). Moreover, compliance with the RAQS ensures consistency with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for all criteria pollutants under examination by default. Since the proposed project is consistent with both the RAQS and SIP, it would not conflict or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plans. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Violation of Air Quality Standard

According to the County of San Diego, the San Diego Air Basin (SDAB) currently meets the federal standards for all criteria pollutants except eight-hour ozone (O_3) (San Diego Air Pollution Control District 2007). Federal standards identify particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in size (PM_{10}) as “unclassified,” which indicates that data are not sufficient for determining attainment or non-attainment status. Additionally, SDAB currently meets the state standards for all criteria pollutants except for O_3 (both one hour and eight hour measurements), PM_{10} (both the annual arithmetic mean and 24-hour measurements), and $PM_{2.5}$ (annual arithmetic mean measurement).

The San Diego Air Pollution Control District (APCD) establishes significance criteria for air quality emissions. These thresholds are shown in Table 4.1-1. Projects with daily construction- or operation-related emissions that exceed any of the following thresholds should be considered as having an individually and cumulatively significant air quality impact:

Table 4.1-1. San Diego APCD Significance Thresholds

Pollutant	Total Emissions (lbs per day)
CO	550
SO _x	250
ROG/VOC	75
NO _x	250
PM ₁₀	100
PM _{2.5}	55

Source: County of San Diego, Guidelines for Determining Significance and Report Format and Content Requirements, Air Quality, Table 5.

Although Phase II would expand the square footage of the WVRWRF by 10,000 sf, no associated operational emissions are anticipated.

Construction associated with Phase II would include trench and backfill. These activities may or may not occur in discrete phases and could overlap in occurrence. An URBEMIS Air Quality Model was performed to calculate the unmitigated and mitigated construction-related emissions associated with the construction of Phase II (Appendix B). The results are summarized in Table 4.1-2.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Table 4.1-2. Construction Emissions With Project Design Features for Phase II

Construction Activity	Emissions (lbs per day)					
	CO	SO _x	ROG/VOC	NO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Project Construction	217.79	0.19	33.21	231.55	23.82	8.50
APCD Threshold	550	250	75	250	100	55
Significant Impact?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Construction activities associated with Phase II would not exceed the established APCD threshold for a criteria pollutant with the incorporation of the following project design features², as needed:

- Application of soil stabilizers to inactive areas;
- Quick replacement of ground cover in disturbed areas;
- Watering of exposed surfaces twice daily during drought conditions, or as needed during rainy conditions;
- Reduction of speeds on unpaved roads to less than 15 MPH;
- Watering of haul road dust twice daily;
- Use of aqueous diesel fuel; and
- Use of diesel particulate filter (DPF) 1st tier and diesel oxidation catalyst.

Furthermore, all ground-disturbing activities, which could impact an additional 10,000 sf around the proposed expansion, would be required to adhere to APCD Rule 51 for the control of fugitive dust. The requirements of Rule 51 can be met by the implementation of standard construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) for fugitive dust control as outlined by APCD and applicable San Diego County ordinances. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Construction activities associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion could generate impacts above those identified in the preceding project-level analysis. However, similar to Phase II, activities associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would be subject to project design features which would ensure construction emissions would be less than significant.

Increase in Criteria Pollutants

The SDAB is either in attainment or unclassified for all federal standards of criteria pollutants except O₃ (eight hour). Additionally, the SDAB currently meets the state standards for all criteria pollutants except for O₃ (both one hour and eight hour measurements), PM₁₀ (both the annual arithmetic mean and 24-hour measurements), and PM_{2.5} (annual arithmetic mean measurement) (San Diego APCD 2007).

Based on the findings of the URBEMIS Air Quality Model, the San Diego APCD significance thresholds would not be exceeded for any of the criteria pollutants with implementation of the aforementioned project design features during Phase II. See the discussion above for a more detailed analysis.

² These project design features are outlined in the South Coast Air Quality Management District Air Quality Analysis Guidance Handbook, Table XI-A, Construction & Demolition.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

There are no operational emissions associated with Phase II; therefore, Phase II would not contribute to a non-attainment status for the region during operation.

According to the County's Guidelines for Determining Significance and Report Format and Content Requirements document, projects that conform to the County's General Plan and do not have emissions exceeding the APCD significance thresholds would not create a cumulatively considerable net increase in ozone since the emissions have been accounted for in the RAQS. Therefore, Phase II would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

The Ultimate Service Area expansion would not generate impacts above those identified in the preceding project-level analysis. While construction-related emissions could occur, project design features similar to those identified for Phase II would ensure construction-related emissions would not exceed any significance thresholds. Impacts would be less than significant.

Sensitive Receptors

Sensitive receptors are residences, schools, hospitals, resident care facilities, day-care centers, or other facilities that may house individuals with health conditions that would be adversely impacted by changes in air quality. Construction activities can generate substantial amounts of PM₁₀ in the form of fugitive dust, which can negatively affect the health of resident sensitive receptors.

Expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would occur within the site's existing footprint. The collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be within existing rights-of-way and District easements along previously disturbed paved or non-paved roads, which in some instances are adjacent to sensitive residential receptors. However, construction activities associated with the proposed project would not exceed the established APCD threshold for PM₁₀ emissions. Furthermore, all ground-disturbing activities would be required to adhere to APCD Rule 51 for the control of fugitive dust. The requirements of Rule 51 can be met by the implementation of standard BMPs for fugitive dust control as outlined by APCD and applicable San Diego County ordinances. Operational emissions are not associated with the proposed project and, therefore, it would not expose those adjacent sensitive residential receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Odors

APCD Rule 51 (Public Nuisance) and California Health and Safety Code, Division 26, Part 4, Chapter 3, Section 41700 prohibit the emission of any material which causes nuisance to a considerable number of persons or endangers the comfort, health, or safety of the public. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. The construction of projects of this type is typically not associated with creating objectionable odors. Therefore, odors are not anticipated during construction activities.

Odors associated with the operation of the WVRWRF are controlled by carbon filter canisters and/or odor absorption pads. Similarly, vent valves along the collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be fitted with carbon filter canisters. To control odors at the seasonal storage pond(s), aeration and circulation methods would be employed. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose a substantial number of people to objectionable odors during operation. No impact is identified for this issue area.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

4.1.1.4 *Biological Resources*

Sensitive Wildlife Species and Vegetation Communities

These issue areas are considered potentially significant and are discussed in further detail in Section 4.3, Biological Resources.

Jurisdictional USACE and CDFG Wetlands and Waters

This issue area is considered potentially significant and is discussed in further detail in Section 4.3, Biological Resources.

Wildlife Corridors

According to the North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP) Draft Sub Area Plan, the proposed project is not located within a regional biological corridor³ or linkage⁴. The nearest linkage to the project area is the Moosa Creek linkage which is located approximately two miles northwest.

Expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would occur within the facility's existing property footprint and therefore would not interfere with a wildlife corridor or linkage. The wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines do not occur within a local corridor or linkage and therefore would not interfere with wildlife movement. The West site has large blocks of habitat in the southwest corner of the site which provide a local linkage to adjacent blocks of habitat to the west and south. These offsite areas serve as a link to the Daley Ranch Habitat Preserve which is located southwest of the project area. However, the southwest corner of the West site is not currently planned for development; therefore, the proposed project would not impact the linkage. The East, Brook Forest, and District alternative storage sites are bound by major roadways and urban development and do not provide valuable linkages or corridors for wildlife movement. As such, the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or wildlife species or with established migratory wildlife corridors. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Conflict with Local Policies or Ordinances Protecting Biological Resources

The proposed project would be subject to all restrictions and guidelines outlined within the County's Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO) and Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)

The BMO was established to protect the County's biological resources and prevent their degradation and loss by guiding development outside of biological resource core areas, and by establishing mitigation standards which will be applied to discretionary projects. Adoption and implementation of the BMO enables the County of San Diego to achieve the conservation goals set forth in the Subarea Plan for the NCMSCP (San Diego County Code Title 8, Division 6, Chapter 5, BMO). The RPO was established to protect sensitive lands and prevent their degradation and loss by requiring a Resource Protection Study (RPS) for certain discretionary projects. The RPS must be completed and the approving authority shall make a finding that the project is consistent with the provisions outlined in the RPO. (San Diego County Code Title 8, Division 6, Chapter 6, Section 86.601 through 86.608).

³A corridor is a specific route that is used for movement and migration of species. A corridor may be different from a linkage because it represents a smaller narrower avenue for movement.

⁴A linkage is a habitat area that provides connectivity between habitat patches as well as year-round foraging, reproduction, and dispersal habitat for resident plants and animals.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Impacts identified in Section 4.3, Biological Resources, resulting from the implementation of the proposed project would be mitigated to BMO and RPO standards. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Conflict with Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would occur within the boundaries of the NCMSCP. Expansions of the WVRWRF would not conflict with the NCMSCP because potential biological impacts would be mitigated in accordance with NCMSCP standards, specifically the BMO and RPO. Construction and installation of the wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines have the potential to impact biological resources protected under the NCMSCP. As discussed in Section 4.3, these impacts would be assessed and mitigated in accordance with all NCMSCP standards. Construction of all seasonal storage ponds would also comply with all applicable NCMSCP standards. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. A less than significant impact has been identified.

4.1.1.5 Geology and Soils

Faults

The project area, which includes both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, is located in a seismically active area, but there are no known active faults crossing the project area. In addition, the project area is not located in or immediately adjacent to an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Therefore, the risk of loss, injury, or death due to the rupture of a known earthquake fault is considered unlikely. All structures associated with the proposed project shall be subject to the requirements of Uniform Building Code (UBC) Zone 4 for resistance to seismic shaking. In addition, all structures shall be constructed in accordance with other UBC criteria, current seismic design specifications of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAC), other applicable regulations, and on-going site specific geotechnical investigations. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not expose people or structures to potentially substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault and a less than significant impact has been identified.

Seismic Ground Shaking

As identified above, the project area is not located along a known geologic fault or within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. Seismic activity along nearby faults, which is common throughout the State of California, could result in ground shaking conditions and therefore all construction and design features would be required to meet or exceed the standard design parameters set forth in the UBC. However, there are no known seismic conditions existing that would expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Ground Failure Including Liquefaction

According to the San Diego County General Plan, the project area is not located within an area of high liquefaction potential (Seismic Safety Element 1991). All design and construction activities would be required to meet or exceed all relevant UBC parameters regarding seismic concerns common to the region. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not expose people or structures to the

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

risk of loss, injury, or death involving ground failure or liquefaction. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Landslides

Landslides are mass movements of the ground that include rock falls, relatively shallow slumping and sliding of soil, and deeper rotational or transitional movement of soil or rock. Because the project area is located in an area with gently rolling hills and no history of landslides, the risk of landslides is considered low. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in the exposure of people or structures to a substantially adverse risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Soil Erosion

According to data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) soil survey (1973) the project area consists of soils with erosion potential ranging from low to high. As previously discussed, the expansion of the WVRWRF would be within the approved footprint of the existing plant site. Although the proposed Phase II expansion would disturb up to 20,000⁵ sf during grading and construction, the project would not result in a significant impact to soil erosion because BMPs including erosion control practices would be implemented throughout construction. Adherence to these BMPs would minimize the amount of erosion and loss of topsoil resulting from construction activities associated with the proposed project. Therefore, a less than significant impact for this project component is identified.

There is a potential for soil erosion during the trenching and backfill of the wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines. However, as outlined above, BMPs would be implemented throughout the construction phase. A less than significant impact has been identified for this project component.

The construction of the seasonal storage pond(s) would require grading which could result in erosion. As identified above, BMPs would be implemented throughout the construction phase. After construction activities have been completed, the replacement of groundcover would be required in order to minimize the loss of topsoil. With the implementation of BMPs and post-construction revegetation, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Unstable Soils

Soils located within the project area include clayey alluvial land, Visalia Sandy Loam, Las Posas fine sandy loam, Fallbrook sandy loam, and Vista rocky coarse sandy loam. These soils are considered to have a low potential to experience landslides, liquefaction, and other ground failure conditions. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not occur on a geological 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. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

⁵ The proposed expansion would result in 10,000 sf of permanent impacts and 10,000 sf of temporary construction-related impacts.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Expansive Soils

The project area consists of clayey alluvial land, Visalia Sandy Loam, Las Posas fine sandy loam, Fallbrook sandy loam, and Vista rocky coarse sandy loam. Soils that exhibit moderate to high shrink/swell potential may cause damage to components, including underground utilities, pipelines, foundations, and infrastructure. However, the proposed project would be required to adhere to standard geotechnical considerations and design features to ensure that there would not be substantial risks to life or property resulting from expansive soils. Therefore, assuming adherence to standard geotechnical considerations and design features, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Septic Systems

The high water table of the Valley Center area has made it difficult for existing and planned developments to maintain and expand the use of septic systems. The proposed project would expand the wastewater treatment facilities and wastewater conveyance systems, as well as create a wet weather seasonal storage pond(s). The proposed project would not construct septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.6 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Routine Transport, Use, or Disposal of Hazardous Materials

Construction activities typically involve the transport of fuels, lubricants, and various other liquids needed for operation of construction equipment at the site. Workers would commute to the project site via private vehicles and would operate construction vehicles/equipment on both public and private streets. Materials hazardous to humans, wildlife, and sensitive environments would be present during construction activities associated with the proposed project. These materials may include diesel fuel, gasoline, equipment fluids, concrete, cleaning solutions and solvents, lubricant oils, adhesives, human waste, and chemical toilets. However, federal and state standards for the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials have been established and compliance with these standards is required. Therefore, no significant impacts related to the transport and/or use of these materials is anticipated.

Accidental Spills

The potential exists for direct impacts to human health and the environment from accidental spills of small amounts of hazardous materials during construction activities associated with the proposed project. However, existing federal and state standards are in place for the handling, storage, and transport of these materials. Because compliance with these standards is required through federal, state, and local regulations, no significant impacts are anticipated due to the accidental spill and release of hazardous materials.

Hazardous Materials Near Schools

The existing school closest to the project area is Community Lutheran Preschool, located approximately three miles south of the project area. There are no plans in proposed project to construct a school on or near the project area. Because the nearest school is over one-quarter mile away, the proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials near an existing or proposed school. A less than significant impact has been identified.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Hazardous Materials On-site

This issue area is considered potentially significant and discussed in further detail in Section 4.5, Hazards and Hazardous Materials.

Proximity to Public Airport

The project area is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area and a less than significant impact has been identified.

Proximity to Private Airstrip

The nearest private airstrip is the Lake Wohlford Resort Airport, which is approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the project area. Given the project area's distance to the airstrip, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No impacts are anticipated.

Interference with Emergency Response Plan

The County of San Diego currently has an Operational Area Recovery Plan (OARP) and an Operational Area Evacuation Plan (OAEP). These plans have been established to outline the appropriate actions to respond to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense operations. During installation of the pipelines, emergency access will be provided at all times during construction and no extensive changes to the existing circulation system are anticipated. The expansions of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint; therefore, expansion activities would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Wildfire Risk

The proposed project is not anticipated to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildfires because the project involves infrastructure improvement for existing customers rather than for an expected population growth. The proposed project would not include development of new housing and/or commercial and industrial uses. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a significant increase in population or structures in an area where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.7 Hydrology and Water Quality

Groundwater

The South Village Water Reclamation Project is a closed-loop wastewater treatment system. Wastewater collected from the South Village area is treated at the WVRWRF and redistributed as reclaimed irrigation water within the community. The proposed project does not involve tapping groundwater supplies and would not convey potable water. In addition, the reclaimed water generated by the proposed project would further reduce the community's use of potable water from groundwater supplies. No impacts have been identified for this issue area.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

Drainage Patterns

The proposed project would require ground disturbing activities at the WVRWRF site. However, since the proposed expansions would be both minimal and confined to the site's existing footprint, impacts to the site's drainage pattern would not be anticipated. The installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. The associated above ground impacts would be temporary, minimal and would not substantially alter existing drainage patterns in the project area. In addition, no component of proposed project would alter the course of a stream or river.

The grading, excavation and construction of the pond would alter the existing drainage pattern of the seasonal storage sites. However, appropriate project design features would be incorporated into the construction of the pond to ensure that those impacts would be minimal. Specifically, an earthen berm would be constructed around the pond's perimeter to divert surface flows around the pond and offsite, in the same manner as they would under natural conditions. After construction, the grade of the remaining portions of the sites would be made consistent with the natural drainage pattern of the area. Therefore, impacts to the sites' existing drainage pattern associated with the construction of the seasonal storage pond would be less than significant.

Stormwater Runoff

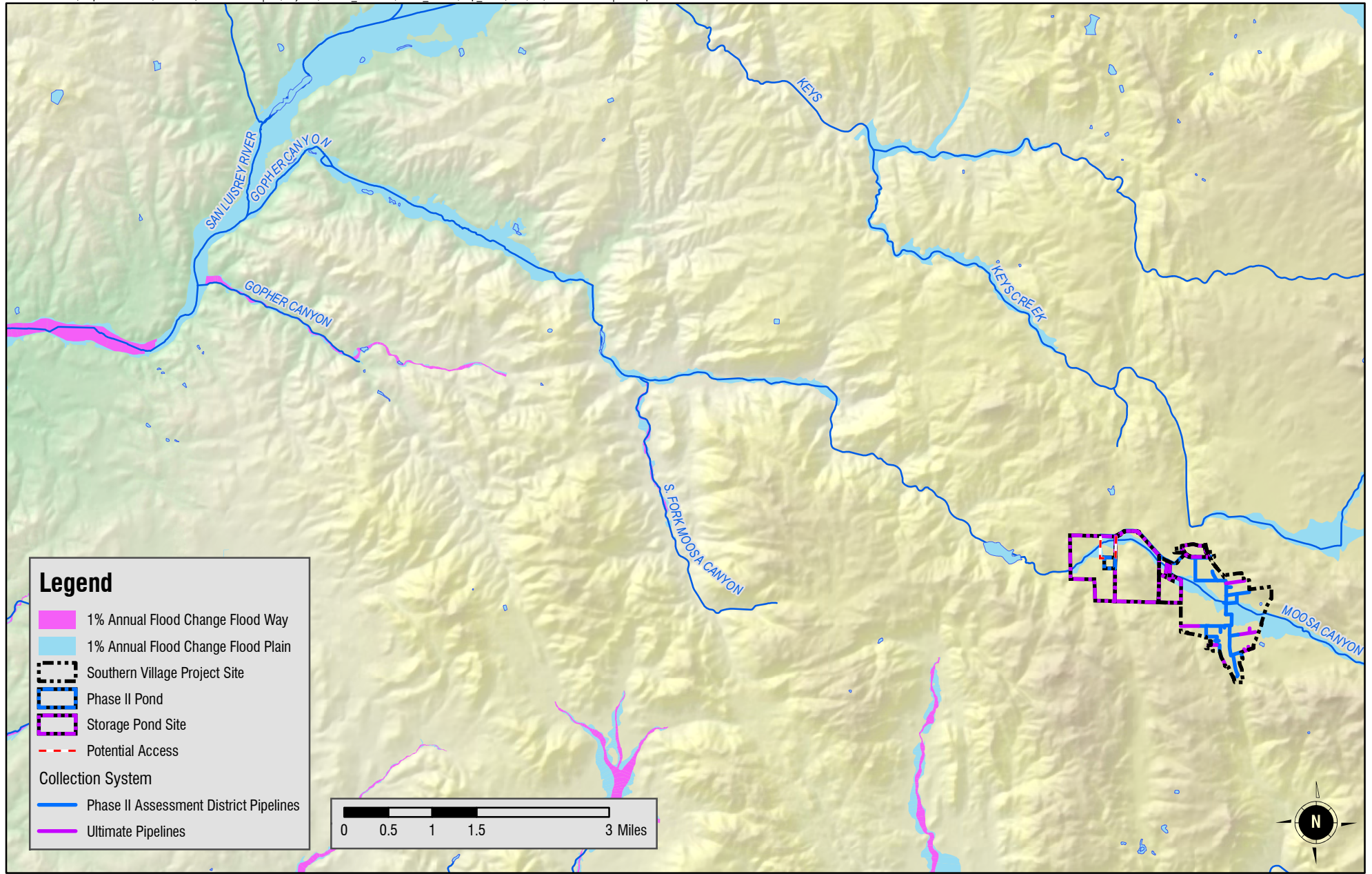
The Phase II expansion of the WVRWRF would result in an additional 10,000 sf of impervious surfaces on the site, which would decrease infiltration and increase surface runoff. Currently, a storm drain conveys stormwater on the WVRWRF site to a discharge point. Since the expansion would take place within the site's existing footprint, a new underground storm drain may be installed to convey stormwater displaced by the new expansion to the site's current discharge point. The installation of this drainage feature would ensure that the Phase II expansion of the WVRWRF would not significantly impact the site's existing drainage pattern in relation to stormwater flows.

For the proposed project, the collection and reclaimed water pipelines would not require additional stormwater facilities because they would be installed underground. The seasonal storage pond(s) would be able to accommodate stormwater flows during rain events and therefore would not require additional stormwater facilities. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Flooding and Other Hazards

Portions of the project area are located in a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year flood hazard area and are subject to flooding and flood regulations. Figure 4.1-1, Existing Floodway and Flood Plain, depicts the existing floodway and flood plain.

The South Village Water Reclamation Project does not include the development of new housing; therefore, the proposed project would not directly place housing within a 100-year floodplain. The WVRWRF is located within the 100-year floodplain of Moosa Creek. However, the 10,000-sf expansion would not substantially change the course of the Moosa Creek floodplain in a manner that could indirectly impact housing in the project area by redirecting flood flows because the facility is located adjacent to the golf course and is not located near residential housing. The wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be buried underground and therefore would not impact flood flows. All seasonal storage sites are within the floodplain of Moosa Creek with the exception of the District site however they are not



Floodway and Flood Plain

FIGURE 4.1-1

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located near residential housing. Therefore, the development of the seasonal storage pond(s) would not indirectly impact housing in the project area by redirecting flood flows. Impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed project would twice expand the WVRWRF within the 100-year floodplain of Moosa Creek. As outlined above, the facility is located adjacent to the golf course and is not located near residential housing. Therefore, the expansions of the facility would not impede or redirect flood flows in a manner that would indirectly impact housing in the project area. No other project components would impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows. Impacts would be less than significant.

As described above, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly expose people or structures to a significant risk of flooding. The closest dam to the project area is located at Tuner Lake. The dam is approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the nearest portion of the project area and approximately 250 feet lower in elevation. As such, the project area is not located within the dam's inundation zone and would not be subject to flooding as a result of a failure at the dam. Therefore, the proposed project would not 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. The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of a failure at the Turner Lake dam. Impacts would be less than significant.

Seiches are periodic oscillations of water in confined basins, typically caused by earthquakes (USGS 2006). The closest confined body of water to the project area is Tuner Lake, located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the project area and approximately 250 feet lower in elevation. Given that the project area is over 250 feet higher in elevation at its lowest point, seiches are not anticipated to represent a significant risk to the project area. No impacts are anticipated.

Water Quality

Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB) would be required for the proposed project, in accordance with the NPDES permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A SWPPP would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (NPDES 2007). Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.8 Land Use and Planning

Physically Divide an Established Community

The proposed expansions of the WVRWRF under both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would occur within the site's existing footprint. Therefore, the expansion of the facility would not occur in an area that would physically divide an established community. The construction and installation of

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would occur underground and primarily in District easements along previously disturbed paved and unpaved roads as well as along access roads serving existing and currently planned developments. Because these conveyance systems would be installed underground and would not be visible, they would not physically divide an established community. Furthermore, the seasonal storage sites currently do not support established communities. Therefore, construction of the seasonal storage pond(s) would not physically divide an established community. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not result in the physical division of an established community and therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Conflict with Any Applicable Land Use Plan

The expansions of the WVRWRF under the proposed project would occur within the site's existing footprint and would therefore not result in a conflict with any applicable land use plans. Construction and installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would occur primarily within District easements, existing and currently planned road rights-of-way, and areas designated as: active parkland, spaced rural residential, mixed uses, single-family residential, commercial, and multiple-family residential. Generally, public facilities such as underground pipelines are allowed within these land uses. The West seasonal storage site consists of public services and spaced rural residential land use designations. These designations generally permit the construction of public facilities such as seasonal storage ponds and associated water and wastewater infrastructure. Similarly, the alternate seasonal storage sites occur within areas already approved for development or within existing District easements and rights-of-way. Construction of public facilities is generally allowed within these land uses. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a conflict with any applicable land use plan and therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Conflict with Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would occur within the boundaries of the NCMSCP. Expansions of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint and would therefore not conflict with the NCMSCP, as any potential biological impacts would be mitigated in accordance with NCMSCP standards. Additionally, construction and installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines have the potential to impact biological resources protected under the NCMSCP. These impacts, further discussed in Section 4.03, Biology, would be assessed and mitigated in accordance with all NCMSCP standards. Construction of all ponds would also comply with all applicable NCMSCP standards. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan and a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.9 Mineral Resources

Mineral Resources

The proposed project would be constructed within approved urban developments, existing roadways, and areas designated for rural residential or public services. No areas within the project area have existing or planned aggregate operations. It is not anticipated that construction activities associated with the proposed project would result in the loss of mineral resources and therefore no impact has been identified for this issue area.

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4.1.1.10 Noise

Violation of Noise Standards

Construction

Equipment operation is the primary source of noise associated with construction activities. Construction activities associated with the proposed project, which include expansions of the WVRWRF, the installation of wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, and the construction of a seasonal storage pond(s), would generate both intermittent and continuous noise. Intermittent noise would result from periodic, short-term equipment operation (e.g., the use of a backhoe for trenching); while continuous noise would result from equipment operation over longer periods, such as the steady use of a generator.

The San Diego County Noise Ordinance prohibits construction activities during the nighttime hours (10p.m. to 7a.m.) and limits construction noise during the daytime hours (7a.m. to 10p.m.) to 75 A-weighted decibel (dBA) energy equivalent noise level (L_{eq})⁶ (CRO 2007). Although construction-related noise would be audible to residents in the project area during the expansions of the WVRWRF, the resulting noise levels would be temporary, phased over approximately eight months to one year, and in accordance with the County's standards for construction activities. Therefore, construction activities associated with the proposed project would not result in the exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the San Diego County Noise Ordinance. Impacts would be less than significant.

Operation

The San Diego County Noise Ordinance sets maximum daytime and nighttime operational noise limits at 50 and 45 dBA L_{eq} , respectively, for land uses in the project area (CRO 2007). The operation of the WVRWRF would not involve machinery, equipment or activities that would result in noise levels in exceedance of County thresholds. Specifically, mechanical equipment associated with the operation of the facility (e.g., pumps and generators) would incorporate standard project design features for noise control to ensure compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance. The wastewater collection lines, reclaimed water pipelines, and the seasonal storage pond(s) would not generate any operational noise.

Furthermore, the Noise Element of the County of San Diego General Plan sets maximum exterior and interior noise exposure levels at 60 and 45 dB Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL)⁷, respectively, for existing or future sensitive receptors in the project area (Noise Element 2006). Although the project area does contain sensitive rural-residential dwelling units, the operation of the WVRWRF would not expose sensitive receptors to noise levels in excess of the thresholds established by the County's Noise Element. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not result in the exposure of persons to or

⁶ Environmental noise often fluctuates over time. To be able to describe this in a practicable manner the L_{eq} was developed. L_{eq} is the A-weighted steady sound level that contains the same total acoustical energy as the actual fluctuating sound level. A one-hour equivalent noise level is a measurement of noise intensity, which is the equivalent sound level (L_{eq}) over a one hour averaging period.

⁷ This term applies weights to noise during evening and nighttime hours to compensate for the increased sensitivity of people to noise at those times. CNEL is the equivalent sound level for a 24-hour period with a +5 dB weighting applied to all sound occurring between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. and a +10 dB weighting applied to all sound occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. CNEL is expressed in the A-weighting frequency scale. In the case of airport or aircraft noise, CNEL is often expressed as a 365-day average.

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generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the San Diego County Noise Ordinance. Impacts would be less than significant.

Groundborne Noise and Vibration

Construction

Ground vibration from construction equipment could be perceptible to receptors in the immediate vicinity of the construction activity. For example, the tamping of ground surfaces, the passing of heavy trucks on uneven surfaces, and the excavation of trenches would each create perceptible vibration in the immediate vicinity of the activity. Specifically, the level of groundborne vibration that could reach sensitive receptors depends on the distance to the receptor, the type of equipment creating vibration, and the soil conditions surrounding the construction site. However, the impact from construction-related groundborne vibration would be short-term and confined to the immediate area around the activity (within approximately 25 feet). Because all proposed construction activities would be more than 25 feet from any occupied structure, construction of the proposed project would not result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. If bedrock is encountered during construction and intermittent blasting is required, the contractor will implement standard blasting practices to ensure that state requirements are met. Therefore, the construction of the proposed project would result in no impacts if blasting is not required and a less than significant impact if blasting is required.

Operation

No component of the proposed project would result in perceivable, long-term groundborne vibration or groundborne noise during operation. No impacts are anticipated.

Permanent/Temporary Ambient Noise Increases

Noise impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project are anticipated during construction only, and are therefore temporary. No significant long-term (operational) noise impacts are anticipated with any component of the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity.

Air Traffic

The project area is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impacts are anticipated.

The nearest private airstrip is the Lake Wohlford Resort Airport, which is approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the project area. Given the project area's distance to the airstrip, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impacts are anticipated.

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

4.1.1.11 Population and Housing

Substantial Population Growth

Phase II would provide the District with the infrastructure needed to serve residential uses in the South Village Service Area that are currently utilizing septic systems. Expansion of the WVRWRF would also accommodate the development of new housing and/or commercial and industrial uses consistent with the current County of San Diego General Plan. Expanded service would be provided to the Bell & Alti developments and properties in the South Village area that have made reservations to participate in the Assessment District. Consistent with the County's General Plan, Phase II would increase the capacity of the WVRWRF by 350 EDUs, or 87,500 gpd.

The objective of this project is to provide wastewater service only to existing and new development that is allowed under the zoning densities outlined in the current General Plan. Because the General Plan incorporates population growth in its zoning densities, Phase II would not result in unanticipated or substantial population growth in the area. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would accommodate growth beyond that identified in Phase II in accordance with the current County of San Diego General Plan and the proposed General Plan Update⁸. Under both scenarios, expansion would occur almost exclusively within the South Village Service Area. Therefore, substantial population growth is not identified in the area. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Displacement of Existing Housing

The proposed project consists of expansions of the WVRWRF, the installation of wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, and the construction of a seasonal storage pond(s) within District easements and rights-of-way or on undeveloped land. No housing would be displaced as a result of the proposed project; therefore, impacts are not anticipated.

Displacement of People

See response above for a more detailed analysis. The proposed project would not displace people, thereby necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact is identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.12 Public Services

Fire Protection/ Police Protection/ Schools/ Parks & Recreation/ Other Public Facilities

The proposed project consists of expansions of the WVRWRF, the installation of wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, and the construction of a seasonal storage pond(s) within District easements and rights-of-way or on undeveloped land. The proposed project would not create additional housing or induce population growth. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in an increased demand for fire and police protection services, schools, parks and recreation, or other public facilities. No impact is identified for this issue area.

⁸ Buildout conditions for the General Plan Update have not been determined at this time.

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4.1.1.13 Recreation

The proposed project does not include recreational facilities and is not of a land use that would directly increase demand for neighborhood and regional parks or recreational facilities, including the Valley Center Community Hall and/or Adams Community Park. Although the installation of underground pipelines may disrupt recreational facilities within the project area, impacts would be temporary. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.1.1.14 Transportation and Traffic

Traffic Increase/ Level of Service

Construction

An estimated 30 truck-trips per day would be necessary during construction activities associated with the proposed project. Trucks would be required to use designated truck routes when arriving to and departing from the project site. Truck deliveries would typically occur during off-peak hours and phased over the construction schedule to alleviate traffic impacts to local area roadways, ~~in addition to the implementation of a contractor prepared Traffic Control Plan (TCP).~~ The estimated completion period for construction is one year. A Traffic Control Plan (TCP) will be prepared by the contractor prior to construction. The contractor will coordinate with the San Diego County Department of Public Works Traffic Section during development of the TCP.

It is worth noting that any work performed in the San Diego County right-of-way will require a County construction and encroachment permit. During construction, adequate sight distance will be maintained and will meet San Diego County requirements. Adequate site distances will be addressed in the TCP. Further, no improvements to frontage roadways within the project area are anticipated at this time. If any work is necessary in County rights-of-way, the appropriate permits will be secured prior to construction.

During construction of the wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, periodic single-lane closures may be required along roadways adjacent to existing District easements and rights-of-way (e.g., Betsworth Road, Old Road, Sunday Drive, Mirar de Valle Road, Charlan Road, and Woods Valley Road), which could have a negative effect on traffic in the project area. However, the incorporation of additional traffic restrictions during peak traffic hours and/or the preparation of an adaptive TCP by the contractor would reduce this potentially significant impact to below a level of significance. Specifically, implementation of a TCP would ensure an adequate flow of traffic in both directions by: providing sufficient signage to alert drivers of construction zones, notifying emergency responders prior to construction, and conducting community outreach. Therefore, construction activities associated with the proposed project would not result in a substantial increase in traffic or decrease in level of service. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Operation

~~After completion of an expansion, daily visits would occur; thereafter, the~~ The WVRWRF would be automated, with electrical equipment remotely monitored and controlled by the District that would require only periodic visits to the facility by District personnel. These visits would include routine maintenance approximately once per week or on an as-needed basis, the periodic transport of a sludge truck from the facility to an off-site disposal site, and/or emergency repair. These visits would occur periodically and would not impact traffic in the project area. Furthermore, the wastewater collection and reclaimed water

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pipelines and the season storage pond(s) would not cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system during operation because these project components would not generate additional traffic. Therefore, from an operational standpoint, the proposed project would not cause an increase in traffic or decrease in level of service. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Air Traffic

As previously stated, the project area is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Furthermore, the project area is not located within the vicinity of a private or private use airport. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns that could result in substantial safety risks. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

Hazardous Design Features

The proposed project does not propose changes to the project area's circulation system that could substantially increase traffic hazards. Therefore, no impacts have been identified for this issue area.

Emergency Access

A TCP would be required, which would include traffic control measures to limit potential impacts to emergency services and ensure safe ingress and egress for local users. Specifically, these measures would ensure an adequate flow of traffic in both directions by providing sufficient signage to alert drivers of construction zones, notifying emergency responders prior to construction, and conducting community outreach. The implementation of a TCP for would result in adequate emergency access during construction activities associated with the proposed project. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Parking

During construction, workers' vehicles and construction equipment would be staged outside of local area roadways. As such, the proposed project would not impact parking capacity in the project area. Furthermore, upon completion of an expansion, the WVRWRF would be fully automated; therefore, employees would only be present during routine maintenance and/or emergency work. During those site visits, employees' vehicles would be parked at the facility, not on public streets. As such, operation of the proposed project would not impact parking capacity in the project area.

Alternative Transportation

Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion do not propose changes to the circulation system that could potentially conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation. See the response above more a more detailed analysis. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

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4.1.1.15 Utilities and Service Systems

Water

Water Facilities

The proposed project consists of expansions of the WVRWRF, the installation of wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, and the construction of a seasonal storage pond(s). Although the proposed project would not create additional housing, induce unanticipated or substantial population growth, or allow for land uses that exceed current zoning densities, it is recognized that this infrastructure would accommodate new development consistent with the current County of San Diego General Plan. Therefore, the construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in an increased demand for new water facilities or expansion of existing facilities. No impacts have been identified for this issue area.

Water Supply

The WVRWRF currently uses a small amount of potable water to operate a sink, toilet and eyewash. However, the expansions of this facility under the proposed project would not require additional potable water from groundwater supplies.

The proposed project provides for the use of reclaimed water, thereby decreasing the community's demand for potable water supplies. Specifically, irrigation for the Woods Valley Ranch Golf Course would be provided by reclaimed wastewater processed at the WVRWRF and therefore would not require tapping into additional water supplies. Moreover, the production of reclaimed water to be used for irrigation may reduce the amount of potable water currently used for these purposes. Therefore, no new or expanded water entitlements are needed. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

Wastewater

RWQCB Requirements

As previously discussed, the proposed project would provide wastewater treatment service to the Bell/Alti Development and to property owners/parcels participating in the District's Assessment District through expansions of the existing WVRWRF, the installation of wastewater and reclaimed water pipelines, and the construction of a seasonal storage pond(s). Per San Diego RWQCB regulations, the District will be required to submit a Report of Waste Discharge to accommodate wastewater flows. Reclaimed water would be used for irrigation or stored at the seasonal storage pond(s). Changes to existing effluent limits for the expanded WVRWRF are not anticipated, as the quality of the wastewater is expected to be similar to that already being treated by the facility. Therefore, the proposed project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the San Diego RWQCB. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Wastewater Facilities/ Treatment Capacity

Phase II includes the expansion of existing wastewater treatment facilities. Expansion of the WVRWRF would increase the capacity of the facility by 87,500 gpd, bringing the total treatment to 157,500 gpd. Sludge generated during the treatment process would continue to be processed at the Lower Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility, which has a capacity of 440,000 gpd. Because the nature of the

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

project is the expansion of a wastewater treatment facility, implementation of Phase II would not further require the construction of additional facilities. The sludge could be processed within the current capacity of the Moosa facility. No additional wastewater services would be required and no significant impacts are anticipated.

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would include extension of the initial expansion of the facilities identified above to 450,000 gpd. Because the nature of the project is the expansion of a wastewater treatment facility, implementation of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would not further require the construction of additional facilities. No additional wastewater services would be required.

Solid Waste

Landfill Capacity

Solid waste disposal in Valley Center is provided by a private franchise hauler, EDCO Waste and Recycling (EDCO). EDCO handles all residential, commercial, and industrial collections within Valley Center. Waste collected by EDCO is hauled to the Escondido Resource Recovery Transfer Station where it is then transported to the Sycamore Sanitary Landfill in Santee. The Escondido Transfer Station has a daily capacity of 2,500 tons (CIWMB 2008). The Sycamore Sanitary Landfill has a daily permitted capacity of 3,965 tons/day of solid waste (CIWMB 2008), with an anticipated closure date of 2031. Currently, daily throughput at the Sycamore Sanitary Landfill is 2,800 tons/day (City of San Diego 2007).

Construction associated with the proposed project would generate minor amounts of non-hazardous construction debris including asphalt, concrete and leftover scraps of building materials (from construction activities associated with the expansion of the WVRWRF). However, the construction debris generated during construction activities of the proposed project would not be of an amount that would significantly impact the Escondido Resource Recovery Transfer Station or the Sycamore Sanitary Landfill's overall storage capacity. Once completed, the proposed project would generate solid waste in the form of sludge that would be collected and transported to the Lower Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility for processing. As outlined above, this facility has the capacity to accommodate the sludge generated from the operation of the proposed project.

Given the remaining capacity of the Escondido Resource Recovery Transfer Station and Sycamore Sanitary Landfill and the processing capability of the Lower Moosa Canyon Water Reclamation Facility, the proposed project would be served by facilities with sufficient permitted capacities to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Federal, State, and Local Statutes and Regulations

The proposed project would not generate significant quantities of solid waste and therefore would not result in additional solid waste needs. See response above for a more detailed analysis. No impacts have been identified for this issue area.

Stormwater

The Phase II expansion of the WVRWRF would result in additional 10,000 sf of impervious surfaces on the site, which would decrease infiltration and increase surface runoff. Currently, a storm drain conveys stormwater on the WVRWRF site to a discharge point. Since the expansion of the WVRWRF would take

4.1 Environmental Effects Eliminated from Further Review in Initial Study

place within the site's existing footprint, a new underground storm drain may be installed to convey stormwater displaced by the new expansion to the site's current discharge point. The installation of this drainage feature would ensure that the Phase II expansion of the WVRWRF would not significantly impact the site's existing drainage pattern in relation to stormwater flows.

For the proposed project, the collection and reclaimed water pipelines would not require additional stormwater facilities because they would be installed underground. The seasonal storage pond(s) would be able to accommodate stormwater flows during rain events and therefore would not require additional stormwater facilities. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

4.2 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

4.2.1 Environmental Setting

4.2.1.1 *Applicable Plans and Regulations*

Of the nearly 2.7 million acres of land in San Diego County, approximately 12 percent (315,296 acres) of that acreage is currently under active agriculture (DAWM 2006). Agriculture in San Diego County ranks fifth as a component of the County's economy. According to the San Diego County 2006 Crop Statistics and Annual Report, the total gross value of the agricultural crops harvested in 2006 was \$1,461,665,261, with indoor flowering and foliage plants having the greatest value. In 2006, approximately 80 percent of the County's agricultural acreage was dedicated to production of field crops (i.e., hay, pasture, grain). Because of Southern California's mild climate, farming occurs year-round.

The California Department of Conservation (CDC) Division of Land Resource Protection (DLRP) developed the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) to assess present status, review trends, and plan for the future of California's agricultural land resources. FMMP produces farmland conversion data in the form of Important Farmland Maps and biennial California Farmland Conversion Reports. DLRP uses the following land designations:

Designation	Characteristics
Prime Farmland	Land with the best combination of physical and chemical features to sustain long-term agricultural production.
Farmland of Statewide Importance	Similar to Prime except with minor shortcomings such as slopes or less ability to store soil moisture.
Unique Farmland	Land with lesser quality soils used for the production of the state's leading agricultural crops.
Farmland of Local Importance	Land deemed to be of importance to the local economy by the County Board of Supervisors.
Grazing	Land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock.
Urban or Built Up Land	Land occupied by structures by a density of at least 1 unit per 1.5 acres.
Other Land	Land that does not meet the criteria for any other category. Typically includes low-density rural development, heavily forested land, mined land, or government land with use restrictions.
Water	Water areas with an extent of at least 40 acres.
Area Not Mapped	Area not mapped by the FMMP.

Table 4.2-1 lists the acreage for each DLRP land-use category that occurs in the South Village Water Reclamation Project Area (DOC 2007).

Phase II of the South Village Water Reclamation Project includes the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF), the installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines, and development of a seasonal storage pond. The ~~initial~~ expansion of the WVRWRF would take place within the site's existing footprint and is not located on land designated as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland.

The pipelines would be installed underground and primarily in existing District easements along paved or non-paved roads, as well as along access roads serving existing and planned developments to the extent feasible. A portion of the proposed collection system would occur within land designated as Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance.

Table 4.2-1. Farmland Located in the County of San Diego and the South Village Water Reclamation Project

DLRP Land Designation	Acreage				
	Project Area	West Site	Brook Forest Site	East Site	District Site
Prime Farmland	39.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Farmland of Statewide Importance	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unique Farmland	0.0	68.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Farmland of Local Importance	229.6	122.9	136.5	21.5	21.5
TOTAL AREA INVENTORIED	277.7	191.1	136.5	21.5	21.5

The pond would be located within the West site, an approximately 195-acre parcel located immediately south of Betsworth Road and adjacent to the western boundary of the Brook Forest site within the community of Valley Center. The West site contains approximately 68 acres of Unique Farmland and approximately 122 acres of Farmland of Local Importance, as shown in Table 4.2-1 and Figure 4.2-1. Within the site, the ten-acre Phase II seasonal storage pond would be specifically located on land in active agriculture for the production of nursery crops.

Under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, the pond on the West site or auxiliary ponds at the Brook Forest, East, or District sites would be expanded up to an additional 30 acres, for a maximum storage capacity of 40 acres. An additional 20 acres is anticipated to be disturbed during construction of the pond(s) associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. As shown in Table 4.2-1, the Brook Forest site contains approximately ~~127~~ 137 acres of Farmland of Local Importance while both the East and District sites contain approximately 22 acres of farmland of the same designation. None of the seasonal storage sites contain Prime Farmland.

4.2.2 Thresholds of Significance

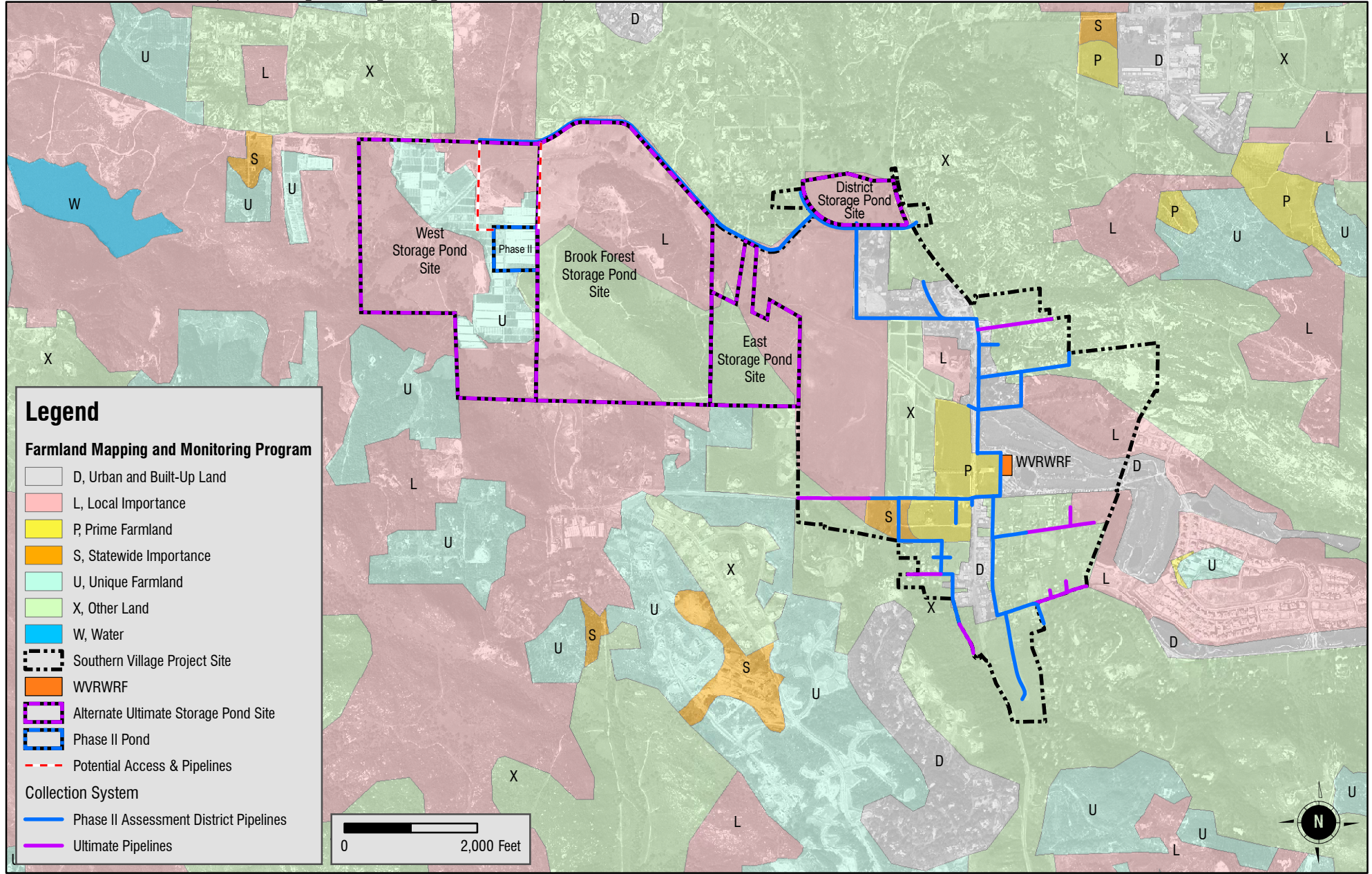
Based on CEQA State Guidelines, the following significance criteria have been developed for agricultural resource compliance:

- 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 non-agricultural use.

4.2.3 Environmental Impacts

4.2.3.1 Phase II

The ~~initial~~ expansion of the WVRWRF would take place within the site's existing footprint and is not located on land designated as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland; therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this project component and mitigation is not required.



Note: Nearest land under Williamson Act contract over 7500 feet northeast of project area.

Farmland Designations

FIGURE 4.2-1

The extension of the wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would occur primarily in existing District easements and rights-of-way. The installation of the new pipelines has the potential to temporarily impact Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance around Valley Center Road and Mirar de Valle Road. However, the pipelines would be buried and, therefore, would avoid permanent aboveground impacts to land uses in the project area. The farmland surrounding Valley Center Road and Mirar de Valle Road, which consists of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, would not be converted to a non-agricultural use during the installation of the new pipelines. Therefore, impacts associated with the extension of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be considered less than significant.

Construction of the pond at the West site has the potential to convert Unique Farmland to a non-agricultural use. As identified above, the West site contains approximately 68 acres of Unique Farmland. Within the site, the Phase II pond would be specifically located on ten acres of Unique Farmland. Therefore, during the Phase II construction of the seasonal storage pond, approximately ten acres of farmland would be converted to a non-agricultural use. This represents a potentially significant impact to agricultural resources and mitigation is required.

4.2.3.2 *Ultimate Service Area Expansion*

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would include further expansion of the WVRWRF, installation of additional wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines, and expansion of the pond on the West site or development of auxiliary ponds on the Brook Forest, East, or District sites.

Further expansion of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint. Therefore, the conversion of farmland to a non-agricultural use is not expected and impacts are considered less than significant. The extension of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would take place ~~within the southern portion of the project site~~ District easements and rights-of-way that, which does not contain Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, the extension of these pipelines would result in a less than significant impact to agricultural resources. As identified above, the expansion of the Phase II pond for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion on the West site ~~constructed during Phase II~~ would result in further conversion of Unique Farmland to a non-agricultural use. Specifically, approximately 30 additional acres of Unique Farmland would be converted to a non-agricultural use with the expansion of the seasonal storage pond at the West site under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. This represents a significant impact to agricultural resources.

The conversion of Farmland of Local Importance is not considered significant. Therefore, since the three alternate seasonal storage sites only contain Farmland of Local Importance, no additional impacts to important farmland have been identified for this issue area.

4.2.4 Cumulative Impacts

Implementation of Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would ~~convert Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use with the installation of underground pipelines and~~ convert Unique Farmland to non-agricultural use with the construction and subsequent expansion of the seasonal storage pond. According to project file review at the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use, three cumulative projects would impact Prime Farmland, three would impact Unique Farmland, and two would impact Farmland of Statewide Importance. Implementation of the proposed project in conjunction with these eight cumulative projects would contribute to significant impacts to the cumulative loss of farmland in Valley Center. It should be noted that six project files could

not be found during the course of cumulative research at the County of San Diego. Therefore, it is not known if there are ~~hazards or hazardous materials on~~ impacts to farmland associated with these project sites, ~~thus and what their significance is. Therefore, it would be~~ is speculative to make a conclusion as to these projects' contribution to a significant cumulative impact. However, as with the proposed project, these projects would be required to pay into the fund to mitigate their share of any impacts to important farmland, should an agricultural mitigation fee fund be established prior to the issuance of grading permits for the respective projects. However, as of January 2008, no fund is in place. Therefore, significant and unmitigated cumulative impacts are identified for the proposed project.

4.2.5 Mitigation Measures

Currently, the County of San Diego, the District, nor any other entities have a program in place to mitigate the proposed project's impacts to agriculture. Therefore, no mitigation is required at this time. If an approved entity establishes an agricultural impact mitigation program, then the District shall contribute fair share fees towards, and/or shall comply with, any applicable agricultural impact mitigation program initiated by the County of San Diego or approved entity, prior to grading of the project site.

4.2.6 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion have the potential to result in the conversion of Unique Farmland to a non-agricultural use. Although mitigation is not currently required, the District would pay into an agricultural mitigation fee fund should it be established. If the fund is established and fees are paid, the impact would be reduced to below a level of significance. However, since it is not known if the fee payment program will be in place prior to the issuance of grading permits, the impact has been identified as significant and unmitigated. Adoption of a Statement of Findings and Overriding Considerations for project- and cumulative-level impacts to agricultural resources pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15091 and 15093.

4.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The following document was used in the preparation of this section and is located in Appendix C of this Draft EIR:

Draft Biological Technical Report. Valley Center Municipal Water District South Village Water Reclamation Project. Prepared by HDR Engineering, Inc. January 2008

The Biological Technical Report identified the potential impacts on biological resources, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) wetlands and jurisdictional waters of the United States, and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) wetlands within and adjacent to the proposed project area (Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion). An evaluation of existing conditions and project impacts, and proposed mitigation measures to reduce impacts to less than significant levels were included.

4.3.1 Environmental Setting

4.3.1.1 *Applicable Plans and Regulations*

County of San Diego – General Plan (1979)

Adopted in 1979, the current General Plan for the County of San Diego (County) is undergoing updates for the year 2020. General Plans are the guidelines for all future development for the specific jurisdictions. The Open Space and Conservation Elements of the General Plan identifies natural and man-made resources within the County and establishes policies and implementation programs that encourage conservation, protection, and proper management of these resources. Although the General Plan is currently being updated and it is anticipated that it will carry forth the same policies and programs that encourage resource protection, analysis is based on the existing General Plan (1979).

Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)

The purpose of the RPO is to protect sensitive resources and prevent their degradation and loss. The sensitive resources protected by the RPO include wetlands, wetland buffer areas, sensitive habitat lands, and unique vegetation communities, which are defined as follows:

Lands having one or more of the following attributes are “wetlands”:

- At least periodically, the land supports a predominance of hydrophytes (plants whose habitat is water or very wet places);
- The substratum is predominantly undrained hydric soils; or
 - An ephemeral or perennial stream is present, whose substratum is predominately non-soil, and such lands contribute to the biological functions or values of wetlands in the drainage system.

“Wetland buffer” areas include lands that provide a buffer area of an appropriate size to protect the environmental and functional habitat values of the wetland, or which are integrally important in supporting the full range of the wetland and adjacent upland biological community. Buffer widths shall be 50 to 200 feet from the edge of the wetland, as appropriate, based on above factors. Where

4.3 Biological Resources

oak woodland occurs adjacent to the wetland, the wetland buffer shall include the entirety of the oak habitat (not to exceed 200 feet in width).

“Sensitive habitat lands” include those which support unique vegetation communities, or the habitats of rare or endangered species or sub-species of animal or plants, including the area which is necessary to support a viable population of any of these species in perpetuity, or which is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem or which serves as a functioning corridor.

“Unique vegetation community” refers to associations of plant species which are rare or substantially depleted. These may contain rare or endangered species, but other species may be included because they are unusual or limited due to a number of factors, for example: (a) they are only found in the San Diego region; (b) they are a local representative of a species or association of species not generally found in San Diego County; or (c) they are outstanding examples of the community type as identified in the California Department of Fish and Game listing of community associations.

Preliminary Draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program-Program Plan (NCMSCP Plan) and Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO)

At this time the North County MSCP (NCMSCP Plan) is in the draft format. The approach of the NCMSCP Plan will be based on the goals of the biological preserve design and will guide project-specific mitigation to those areas most critical to maintenance of ecosystem function and species viability.

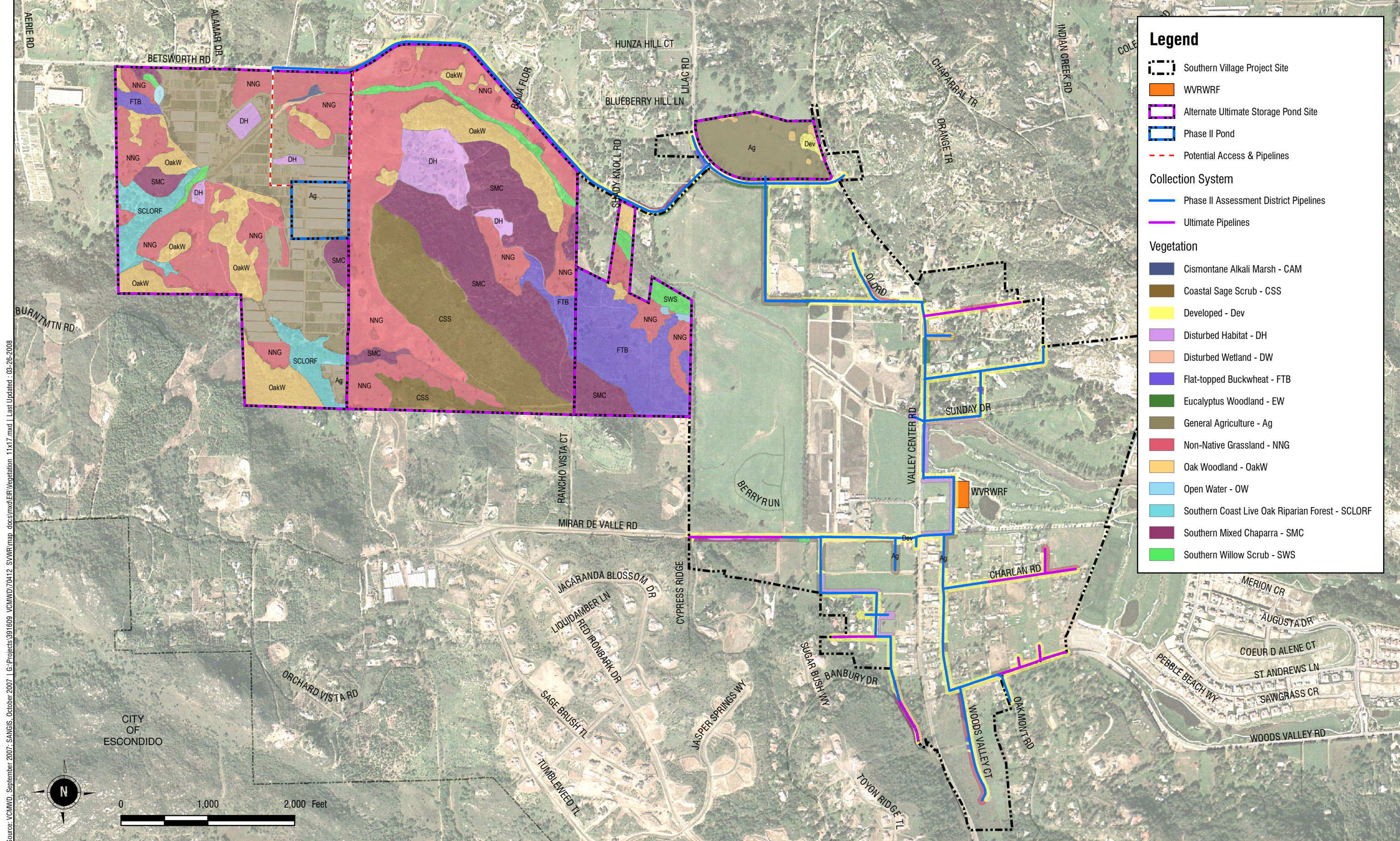
This PlanThe NCMSCP Plan will serve as a multiple species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), as well as a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the California NCCP Act. The NCMSCP Plan ~~The Plan~~ has been submitted to Wildlife Agencies in support of applications for permits and authorizations for incidental take of listed, threatened or endangered species or other species of concern. The County will be issued an incidental take permit for species that are found to be covered by implementation of the plan. The County, as a take authorization holder, may share the benefits of that authorization by using it to permit public or private projects, referred to as Third Party Beneficiaries, that comply with the- NCMSCP Plan~~plan.~~

Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.

~~In response to the continued loss of sensitive biological resources, especially coastal sage scrub, the County adopted the MSCP in 1997. To implement the MSCP Subarea Plan, the County enacted the BMO. Habitats are classified in different "Tier" levels that require different levels of mitigation. Application of the BMO to individual projects is the method by which the County will achieve the conservation goals set forth in the MSCP. Mitigation requirements for different habitat types are based on the location of both the impact and the proposed mitigation. Impacts within core habitat areas or pre-approved mitigation areas (PAMA) require higher mitigation ratios. Portions of the project area occur within PAMA as shown on Figure 4.3 1. Conversely, more credit is allowed for preservation or mitigation within core habitat areas or pre-approved mitigation areas.~~

4.3.1.2 Existing Conditions

The following discussion summarizes the existing biological resources within the project area including vegetation and wildlife, and then discusses those biological resources which are considered to be “sensitive resources” under appropriate regulations (sensitive habitats, plants, and animals).



Legend

- Southern Village Project Site
- WWRWRF
- Alternate Ultimate Storage Pond Site
- Phase II Pond
- Potential Access & Pipelines

Collection System

- Phase II Assessment District Pipelines
- Ultimate Pipelines

Vegetation

- Cismontane Alkali Marsh - CAM
- Coastal Sage Scrub - CSS
- Developed - Dev
- Disturbed Habitat - DH
- Disturbed Wetland - DW
- Flat-topped Buckwheat - FTB
- Eucalyptus Woodland - EW
- General Agriculture - Ag
- Non-Native Grassland - NNG
- Oak Woodland - OakW
- Open Water - OW
- Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest - SCLORF
- Southern Mixed Chaparra - SMC
- Southern Willow Scrub - SWS

Source: VCMWD, September 2007; SANGIS, October 2007 | G:\Projects\391609_VCMWD\70412_SVWRWRF\map_docs\mxd\ER\Vegetation_11x17.mxd | Last Updated: 03-26-2008

Vegetation Associations and Habitats

The biological resources within the project area include 13 habitat types: developed (DEV), disturbed habitat (DH), eucalyptus woodland (EW), non-native grassland (NNG), general agriculture (Ag), flat-top buckwheat (FTB), southern mixed chaparral (SMC), oak woodland (OakW), southern coast live oak riparian forest (SCLORF), southern willow scrub (SWS), disturbed wetland (DW), cismontane alkali marsh (CAM), and open water (OW), as shown on Figure 4.3-12. The location and site plan for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond are not yet finalized, and therefore, each alternative pond site is analyzed as a parcel. Analysis of the West site under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion excludes the impacts to biological resources located within the Phase II pond footprint.

Developed (DEV)

Developed refers to areas that have been manipulated by grading and compacting soils to build infrastructure such as roads, buildings, parks, fields, etc. These areas have no biological function or value. Developed areas occur within the WVRWRF site and pipeline alignment of the Phase II project footprint. Under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, developed areas occur within the WVRWRF site and the pipeline alignment. Also, developed areas occur within the West and East sites.

Disturbed Habitat (DH)

Disturbed habitat is usually associated with areas of previous development resulting in compacted soils. Areas identified as DH consisted of areas under regular weed control that were vegetated by weedy species such as brome grasses, tecalote, horseweed, sow thistle, and others. Areas that were denuded (i.e., bare ground) but not otherwise developed, such as dirt roads, were also designated this vegetation community.

Within the Phase II expansion area, the majority of the WVRWRF site is dominated by DH with mostly bare ground. However there are several weedy species including rip-gut brome and Russian thistle. DH is associated with the road shoulders within small areas within the pipeline alignment. These areas are comprised of strips of DH dominated by rip-gut brome, telegraph weed and bare ground. DH is located within the central portion of the West site in three distinct areas. Indicators in these areas include Russian thistle, white tumbleweed and bare ground.

Within the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, areas of DH occur within the WVRWRF expansion footprint and within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites.

Eucalyptus Woodland (EW)

Eucalyptus Woodland vegetation is generally made up of various species of eucalyptus trees with a sparse understory of non-native grasses. The dominant tree species that commonly occur in this vegetation community include Murray red gum, bluegum, and other eucalyptus species. The understory of this vegetation community is generally sparse due to high amount of leaf litter associated with the trees.

In the Phase II expansion, EW vegetation occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, EW occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint and within the East and District sites.

Non-native Grassland (NNG)

Non-native grasslands are often associated with numerous species of wildflowers and a dense to sparse cover of annual grasses. Characteristic plant species include rip gut brome, soft brome, foxtail brome, four-spot clarkia, sierra shooting star, and California melica. NNG often occurs as an understory within interstices of vegetation communities or in areas where previous disturbance has taken place.

In the Phase II expansion, NNG occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, NNG occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint and within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites.

General Agriculture (Ag)

General agriculture is often associated with active and agricultural practices such as, dairies, nurseries, field, and row crops.

In the Phase II expansion, Ag occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint and the West pond site.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, Ag occurs within the West and District sites.

Flat-top Buckwheat (FTB)

Flat-top buckwheat is generally associated with upland habitat dominated by flat-top buckwheat.

In the Phase II expansion, FTB occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, FTB occurs within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites.

Southern Mixed Chaparral (SMC)

Southern Mixed Chaparral is composed of a mixture of hard woody shrubs which form thick stands with little herbaceous ground cover. SMC is usually on more north-facing moist slopes and occasionally has patches of bare soil. Several indicators of SMC include chamise, laurel sumac, eastwood manzanita, mountain mahogany, mission manzanita, and flat-top buckwheat.

In the Phase II expansion, SMC occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint and the West pond site.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, SMC occurs within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites.

Oak Woodland (OakW)

Oak woodland is generally associated with one dominant tree, the coast live oak, and a sparse understory of NNG. OakW is typically found on north-facing slopes.

In the Phase II expansion, OakW occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, OakW occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint and within all four alternative pond sites.

Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest (SCLORF)

Southern coast live oak riparian forest is a dense evergreen riparian forest dominated by coast live oak. Several other indicators include: mugwort, western sycamore, poison oak, toyon, laurel sumac, and elderberry.

In the project area, SCLORF only occurs within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites and is generally associated with Moosa Creek.

Southern Willow Scrub (SWS)

Southern willow scrub is usually made up of a dense thicket of various willow species. This habitat occurs in loose, sandy alluvium near stream channels and is frequently flooded. The habitat is limited by the dense thicket of willows and frequent flooding which impacts the development of an understory.

In the Phase II expansion, SWS occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, SWS occurs within the West, East, and Brook Forest sites.

Disturbed Wetland (DW)

Disturbed Wetland vegetation consists of areas that are dominated by hydrophytic species that have been degraded through human disturbance such as recent clearing, dumping, etc.

In the Phase II expansion, DW occurs within the pipeline alignment footprint.

In the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, DW occurs within the West site.

Cismontane Alkali Marsh (CAM)

Cismontane alkali marsh is dominated by perennial, emergent herbaceous species which often form complete closed canopies. CAM is found in wet areas with standing water or saturated soil present during most or all of the year. CAM has characteristic brackish water resulting from freshwater input mixing with salt water from high tide and is more alkaline than the similar coastal brackish marsh. Dominants found in this vegetation community often include various sedges, salt grass, and rushes.

Cismontane alkali marsh is found only within the Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the West site.

Open Water (OW)

Open water is an area that has standing or flowing water. Little to no vegetation is associated with these areas.

Open water occurs as a man-made agricultural pond located in the northwest portion of the West pond site within the Ultimate Service Area Expansion project area.

Sensitive Vegetation Associations and Habitats

Vegetation communities (habitats) are generally considered “sensitive” if: (1) they are considered rare within the region by various agencies including U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California

Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and other local agencies; (2) if they are known to support sensitive animal or plant species; and/or (3) they are known to serve as important wildlife corridors. These sensitive habitats are typically depleted throughout their known ranges, or are highly localized and/or fragmented.

The project area supports nine sensitive vegetation communities: disturbed wetland, cismontane alkali marsh, flat-top buckwheat, non-native grassland, oak woodland, open water, southern willow scrub, southern coast live oak riparian forest, and southern mixed chaparral. Riparian habitats support a high diversity of plant and animal species, and provides habitat for the federally-listed threatened least Bell's vireo and a number of other sensitive species. Scrub communities, such as flat-top buckwheat, provide habitat for the federally-listed threatened California gnatcatcher. Non-native grassland provides valuable foraging habitat for nesting migratory birds, including raptors.

Special-Status Plant Species

Sensitive or special-interest plant species are those which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive plant species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, or particular susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors.

One sensitive plant species, the Engelmann oak, occurs sporadically throughout the project area. During the biological surveys no other USFWS, CDFG, or County sensitive plants were detected within the project area; however, this may be attributed to the timing of the survey during the winter when most rare plants are dormant.

Several hundred individual Engelmann oaks were observed within the project area along the proposed pipeline alignment and on the West pond site, specifically within OakW, SMC, and SCLORF habitats. Engelmann oaks occur as individuals within NNG and are in good condition and vary in size. The oaks also occur within the northern portion of the Brook Forest site adjacent to Moosa Creek

Wildlife Species

The majority of the project area is currently comprised of upland and riparian vegetation communities. Twenty-five species of birds, five species of mammals, and one reptilian species were observed or inferred from sign (e.g., tracks, scat, etc.). The fauna observed and expected to occur are representative of the vegetation communities in the area. Two sensitive wildlife species were observed within the project area.

Representative species of the upland and riparian habitats within the project area include bushtit, California towhee, and common yellowthroat. Six raptor species were observed within the project area, the sharp-shinned hawk, red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, turkey vulture, American kestrel, and an osprey. Areas of Ag, EW, OakW, and NNG located throughout the project area provide valuable raptor nesting and foraging habitat.

Sensitive Wildlife Species

Sensitive or special-interest wildlife species and habitats are those which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, or

particular susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors, as shown in Table 4.3-1. Sources used for the determination of sensitive biological resources include: USFWS (USFWS 2001), CDFG (CDFG 2000, 2001). Additional species receive federal protection under the Bald Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Animals.

Two sensitive species were observed within the project area; the osprey and the sharp-shinned hawk. These species are discussed below.

Table 4.3-1. Federal and State Classifications for Threatened and Sensitive Wildlife Species

Classification	Criteria
Federally Threatened	USFWS identifies a federally threatened species as one that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future in the absence of special protection and management efforts, although not presently threatened with extinction.
California Species of Concern	This status applies to species not listed under the federal ESA or the CESA but which are declining at a rate that could result in listing or historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist.

During the biological survey an osprey was observed flying over the project area, however, the bird was not observed nor is expected to roost or nest in the project area. The osprey is a large fish-eating raptor which has a home range of five to six miles. The birds inhabit areas with shallow water and large fish. Ospreys were once common throughout most of California but have declined significantly in southern California since the 1940s. Ospreys are opportunistic in roosting sites and will often use manmade structures, such as telephone poles, for their platform. The same nest site is normally used year after year or as long as the tree remains standing (Call 1978). Nesting materials consist of large sticks, driftwood, and grasses or bark. Nests are most often constructed in the tops of conifers, but deciduous trees may also be used.

During the site visit a single sharp-shinned hawk was observed on the West site in the OakW in the north eastern corner of the site. The hawk is a highly migratory species and generally winters in the lower 48 states. In California it is a fairly common migrant and winter resident, except in areas with deep snow. Although they seem to prefer riparian habitats they are not restricted to them, and are found in mid-elevation habitat such as pine forests, woodlands and mixed conifer forests. For nesting they occur in dense tree stands which are cool, moist, well shaded and usually near water. Sharp-shinned hawks forage primarily for small birds, usually no larger than the size of a jay; it also rarely takes small mammals, insects, reptiles, and amphibians (Brown and Amadon 1968). Sharp-shinned hawks perch and dart out in sudden flight to surprise prey; while it has also been known to cruise rapidly in search flights. Often the sharp-shinned hawk hunts as a harrier, in low, gliding flights. It often forages in openings at edges of woodlands, hedgerows, brushy pastures, and shorelines, especially where migrating birds are found (Zeiner, et al. 1990).

Additional Sensitive Species with the Potential to Occur

One sensitive wildlife species has the potential to occur within the project area. The California gnatcatcher (CAGN), a federally Threatened species and California Species of Concern, is a small gray songbird that is a resident of scrub-dominated communities in southwestern California from the Los Angeles Basin through Baja California, Mexico. CAGN populations have declined due to extensive loss of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat to urban and agricultural uses. CAGN are known to occur within

larger blocks of FTB habitat. Areas of FTB habitat located within the project area are small and fragmented and therefore, CAGN have a low potential to occur.

Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

Within the project area several areas were identified as wetland communities and avoidance may not be possible through project design. Wetland vegetation communities (SCLORF, SWS, DW, CAM, OW) and a known wetland (Moosa Creek) exists within the West site. In addition, two potential access roads from Betsworth Road to the West site are proposed. One is proposed to parallel the eastern boundary of the West site. This access would follow an existing dirt road which crosses Moosa Creek and would require improvements to the crossing. The second access road would follow an existing nursery road which crosses Moosa Creek on an already improved crossing. Moosa Creek also traverses the East and Brook Forest sites. There is riparian vegetation (SWS) and a small agricultural ditch located within the District site.

Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging

Several raptors, such as the red-tailed hawk and sharp-shinned hawk, were observed within the project area during the biological surveys. Potential foraging and nesting habitat that could support migratory bird species occurs in the project area (e.g., NNG, OakW, EW, SCLORF, SWS, and SMC).

4.3.2 Thresholds of Significance

The following impact significance thresholds were taken from the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G screening criteria. A significant impact to biological resources would be identified if the project was determined to:

- 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 CDFG or USFWS;
- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFG or USFWS; and
- Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means;

4.3.3 Environmental Impacts

Impacts on biological resources can be categorized as direct, indirect, or cumulative. Direct impacts are a result of project implementation, and generally include: the loss of vegetation and sensitive habitats and populations; the introduction of non-native species which may out-compete and displace native vegetation; activity-related to mortalities of wildlife; loss of foraging, nesting or burrowing habitat; destruction of breeding habitats; and fragmentation of wildlife corridors. Direct impacts consider both on-site and off-site impacts. Indirect impacts occur as a result of the increase in human encroachment in the natural environment and include: off-road vehicle use which impacts sensitive plant or animal species; harassment and or collection of wildlife species; intrusion and wildlife mortality by domestic pets in open space areas following residential development; increased noise and lighting; and inadvertent increased

wildlife mortalities along roads. Indirect impacts consider both on-site and off-site impacts. Table 4.3-2 summarizes the habitat impacts for the project.

Impacts to vegetation communities were analyzed relative to the project component which may result in adverse effects. Impacts resulting at the West pond site and the WVRWRF site were assessed based upon construction plans proposed for Phase II. At this time, the design for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion has not been completed. Therefore, the analysis of impacts at the alternative pond sites, including the West site, covers the entire parcel, rather than a specific site where the pond may be located. Analysis of impacts associated with the installation of pipelines covers a survey area of 50 feet on either side of the alignments proposed for Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. The majority of the proposed alignment is within existing roads; however, some pipelines would be installed in areas with no existing roads. This may result in impacts to vegetation communities. Table 4.3-2 summarizes direct impacts to vegetation communities relative to project components and Tier classifications of the MSCP. As shown, impacts to NNG, FTB, SMC, OakW, SCLORF, SWS, DW, CAM, and OW would be considered significant while impacts to Dev, DH, Ag, and EW would be considered less than significant.

Table 4.3-2. Summary of Vegetation Impacts for the South Village Water Reclamation Project

Vegetation Communities	WVRWRF Phase II Expansion	Wastewater Collection and Reclaimed Water Pipelines		West Seasonal Storage Pond Site	
		Phase II Expansion	Ultimate Service Area Expansion	Phase II Expansion	Ultimate Service Area Expansion
Developed (Tier IV)	0.87	41.56	9.46	0.0	0.0
Disturbed Habitat (Tier IV)	0.0	4.36	0.37	0.0	3.71
Eucalyptus Woodland (Tier IV)	0.0	2.85	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-native Grassland (Tier III)*	0.0	3.82	1.27	0.0	52.05
General Agriculture (Tier IV)	0.0	5.79	0.26	9.78	69.52
Flat-top Buckwheat (Tier II)*	0.0	0.33	0.0	0.0	2.33
Southern Mixed Chaparral (Tier III)*	0.0	1.71	1.13	0.06	6.54
Oak Woodland (Tier II)*	0.0	2.73	0.47	0.0	31.59
Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest (Tier I)*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.13
Southern Willow Scrub (Tier I)*	0.0	0.13	0.0	0.0	1.31
Disturbed Wetland (Tier I)*	0.0	0.38	0.0	0.0	0.48
Cismontane Alkali Marsh (Tier I)*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.50
Open Water (Tier I)*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.45

Note: The Ultimate Expansion for the WVRWRF and Storage Pond site was not analyzed as part of this impact analysis.

* Indicates sensitive vegetation communities as determined by USFWS, CDFG, and other local agencies.

Phase II

Sensitive Vegetation Associations and Habitats

Construction of the Phase II pipelines would occur primarily within developed roadways. However, construction would temporarily and directly impact the following sensitive vegetation communities:

NNG, FTB, OakW, SMC, SWS, and DW (Table 4.3-1). Therefore, a potentially significant impact has been identified.

The Phase II storage pond on the West site would impact SMC, a sensitive vegetation community (Table 4.3-2). Potential and known wetlands exist within the West site associated with Moosa Creek. Each of the potential access roads connecting Betsworth Road to the storage pond would cross Moosa Creek. The access road along the eastern boundary of the site would follow an existing dirt road and require improvements to the crossing at Moosa Creek. Impacts to SMC and wetlands are considered significant; therefore, a potentially significant impact has been identified.

Special Status Plant Species

Several Engelmann oak trees occur adjacent to the pipeline alignment. Current project design would avoid directly impacting oak trees, however, there is a potential for indirect impacts to the trees during construction. In general –oak tree roots are susceptible to compaction causing mortality. During construction indirect impacts may include encroachment under the canopy of the tree or impacts to limbs. Should direct or indirect impacts occur during construction, impacts would be considered significant. Therefore, a significant impact is identified.

It is worth noting that the initial biological survey was conducted in November which is outside the appropriate window for spring-time rare plant surveys. Therefore a rare plant survey would be required in the spring (March through June). Until a survey is conducted the potential for impacts to rare plants exists. Impacts to rare plants are considered significant. Therefore, a potentially significant impact is identified.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Construction of the pipelines would temporarily and directly impact NNG, FTB, SMC, and SWS which provide nesting and foraging habitats for raptors and migratory birds (Figure 4.3-12). Loss of these vegetation communities would be considered a significant and indirect impact. Additionally, sensitive species (sharp-shinned hawk), raptors, and other migratory birds were observed in the Phase II project area. Therefore, a significant impact is identified.

Construction of the storage pond on the West site would directly impact SMC which provides nesting and foraging habitat for migratory birds and raptors. Loss of this habitat represents a significant and indirect impact and would require mitigation.

Jurisdictional Waters

Within the Phase II project area, construction of the pipelines would potentially impact wetlands associated with Moosa Creek and riparian vegetation. Impacts to wetlands are considered significant. Pursuant to the CWA, a USACE-issued CWA Section 404 permit is required for any filling within waters of the U.S where impacts are greater than 0.1 acres. In addition, a California Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement request may be required if the project impacts Waters of the State. Therefore, a potentially significant impact is identified.

As previously identified, potential and known wetlands occur within the West site. A jurisdictional wetland delineation would be required to determine wetland boundaries and potential impacts to wetlands resulting from project implementation. There is an existing dirt access road along the eastern boundary of the West site and connects Betsworth Road to the Phase II pond site. This road crosses Moosa Creek and

would require improvements for use as part of the proposed project. Improvements and use of the access road would result in significant impacts to the creek. Impacts to wetlands are significant and require mitigation. As identified above, any filling activities within Waters of the U.S. and Waters of the State would require the appropriate permits from the USACE and CDFG. In addition, a RWQCB Water Quality Certification application would be necessary. Therefore, a potentially significant impact is identified.

Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging

Construction of pipelines would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat. Impacts to nesting birds are prohibited under the MBTA; however, there is potential to directly or indirectly impact these nests during construction. Construction of the storage pond would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat. Impacts to nesting birds are prohibited under the MBTA; however, there is potential to directly or indirectly impact these nests during construction. A significant impact is identified.

4.3.3.1 Ultimate Service Area Expansion

Sensitive Vegetation Associations and Habitats

Construction of the pipelines would occur primarily within developed roadways. However, construction would temporarily and directly impact the following sensitive vegetation communities: NNG, OakW, and SMC (Table 4.3-1). Therefore, a potentially significant impact has been identified.

As previously discussed in Section 4.3.1.2, the four alternative ultimate storage pond sites support the following sensitive vegetation communities: DW, CAM, FTB, NNG, OakW, OW, SCLORF, SMC, and SWS. Impacts to these vegetation communities would be considered significant. Therefore, a potentially significant impact has been identified. Although Currently, design plans for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion seasonal storage pond have not been finalized yet to be finalized, the District will avoid sensitive vegetation communities to the maximum extent possible by expanding the existing pond or creating new pond(s) within agricultural land, where feasible, and impacts cannot be assessed. Therefore, a potentially significant impact has been identified.

Special Status Plant Species

Several Engelmann oak trees occur within the West, East, and Brook Forest alternative pond sites. Project design would avoid impacts to Engelmann oak trees where feasible, however, there is a potential for indirect impacts to the trees during construction. These impacts are considered significant.

As outlined above, a rare plant survey would be required in the spring (March through June) because the initial biological survey was conducted outside the appropriate window for spring-time rare plant surveys. Until a survey is conducted the potential for impacts to rare plants exists. Impacts to rare plants are considered significant. Therefore, a potentially significant impact is identified.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Construction of the pipelines would temporarily and directly impact NNG and SMC which provides nesting and foraging habitats for raptors and migratory birds (including the sensitive avian species observed on site). Loss of these vegetation communities would be considered a significant and indirect impact on sensitive avian species. Construction within any of the four alternative storage pond sites

would have the potential to directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat (including the sensitive avian species observed on site). Project design would avoid impacts to foraging habitat where feasible. Impacts to nesting birds are prohibited under the MBTA; however, there is potential to directly or indirectly impact these nests during construction. Impacts are potentially significant.

Jurisdictional Waters

Impacts to vegetation communities associated with wetlands (SCLORF, SWS, DW, CAM, and OW) located within the West site would occur as a result of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. Impact calculations identified in Table 4.3-2 to potential wetlands are based specifically on vegetation community acreages. A jurisdictional wetland delineation would be required to quantify jurisdictional wetlands and waters occurring within the West site. Potential and known wetlands (including associated riparian vegetation) occur within the three additional alternative storage pond sites. A jurisdictional wetland delineation would be required to determine wetland boundaries. Impacts to wetlands are considered significant. Any filling activities within Waters of the U.S. and Waters of the State would require the appropriate permits from the USACE and CDFG. In addition, a RWQCB Water Quality Certification application would be necessary. Therefore, a potentially significant impact is identified.

Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging

Construction of the pipelines would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat (e.g., NNG). Construction within any of the four alternative storage pond sites under the ultimate expansion would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat. Impacts to nesting birds are prohibited under the MBTA; however, there is potential to directly or indirectly impact these nests during construction. A significant impact is identified.

4.3.4 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts occur as a result of on-going direct and indirect impacts from unrelated but similar type projects in the surrounding area, combined with the proposed project impacts. Cumulative impacts are assessed on a regional basis and determine the overall effect of numerous activities on a sensitive resource over a larger area.

Implementation of the proposed project in conjunction with related projects within the area would cumulatively add to the loss of open space, vegetation communities, and common plant and wildlife species. However, the proposed project would be consistent with the NCMSCP Plan (upon adoption) and would reduce impacts to biological resources to below a level of significance with implementation of identified mitigation measures. Therefore, the proposed project would not considerably contribute to a cumulative impact on vegetation communities, special status plant species, special status wildlife species, jurisdictional waters, or raptor habitat, nesting, and foraging. Additionally, although impacts to wetlands have not yet been identified, there will be no net loss of wetlands. Other projects in the area would also be required to comply with the provisions of the NCMSHCP Plan, CEQA, and state and federal regulations protecting biological resources such that impacts are less than significant.

~~Implementation of the proposed project in conjunction with related projects within the area would cumulatively add to the loss of open space, vegetation communities, and common plant and wildlife species. However, proposed with the NCMSCP Plan upon its adoption have been identified biological resources since the proposed project is consistent with the MSHCP, proposed by a no cumulative impact to biological resources on or is identified. Other projects in the area would also be required to comply with~~

~~the provisions of the MSHCP, CEQA, and state and federal regulations protecting biological resources such that impacts are less than significant.~~

4.3.5 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

4.3.5.1 Phase II

Vegetation Communities

Construction of the pipelines would impact approximately 3.82 acres of non-native grassland, 0.33 acres of flat-top buckwheat, 2.73 acres of oak woodland, 1.71 acres of southern mixed chaparral, 0.13 acres of southern willow scrub, and 0.38 acres of disturbed wetland. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Construction of the storage pond on the West site would impact approximately 0.06 acres of southern mixed chaparral. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Special-Status Plant Species

Engelmann and coast live oak trees occur within the pipeline alignment footprint. Pending a springtime rare plant survey sensitive plant species may occur within the project footprint. Direct and indirect impacts to these species are considered significant. Therefore, impacts resulting from project implementation are significant and require mitigation.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Several sensitive wildlife species ~~according to the NCMSCP~~, were observed within the pipeline alignment and West site. Construction of these project components may indirectly impact these species. Therefore, impacts resulting from project implementation are significant and require mitigation.

Jurisdictional Waters

Within the pipeline alignment footprint impacts would occur to 0.38 acres of disturbed wetland. A jurisdictional wetland delineation would be necessary to determine the extent and jurisdiction of wetlands occurring on site. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Potential and known wetlands occur within the Phase II West pond site. A jurisdictional wetland delineation would be necessary to determine the extent and jurisdiction of wetlands occurring on site. Impacts to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional wetlands due to project implementation would be considered significant unless mitigated. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging

Implementation of the pipelines and storage pond would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat. In addition, there is potential to directly impact nesting migratory bird nests during construction. Impacts are significant and require mitigation.

4.3.5.2 *Ultimate Service Area Expansion*

Vegetation Communities

Construction of the pipelines would impact approximately 1.27 acres of non-native grassland, 0.47 acres of oak woodland, and 1.13 acres of southern mixed chaparral. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Sensitive vegetation communities occur within the West, East, Brook Forest, and District sites. Project implementation would have potentially significant impacts and mitigation would be required.

Special-Status Plant Species

Engelmann oak trees were identified within the West and Brook Forest sites, and the potential for the species to occur within the East site is moderate. Pending a springtime rare plant survey, sensitive plant species may occur within the project footprint. Direct and indirect impacts to this species are considered significant. Therefore, impacts resulting from project implementation are potentially significant and require mitigation.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Several sensitive wildlife species, ~~according to the NCMSCP,~~ were observed within the pipeline alignment and storage pond alternative sites. Construction of these project components may indirectly impact these species. Therefore, impacts are potentially significant and require mitigation.

Jurisdictional Waters

As identified in Table 4.3-2, if the pond on the West site is further expanded under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, vegetation communities that are generally considered federal and/or state jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U.S. would be further impacted. Specifically, impacts would occur to 1.31 acres of southern willow scrub, 0.48 acre of disturbed wetland, 0.50 acre cismontane alkali marsh, and 0.45 acre of open water. These vegetation communities would require a jurisdictional wetland delineation to determine boundaries of wetlands and/or waters of the U.S. occurring within the West site. Potential wetlands occur within the additional three alternative pond sites and a wetland delineation would be necessary to determine the extent and jurisdiction of wetlands. Impacts to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional wetlands due to project implementation would be considered significant unless mitigated. This represents a significant impact and requires mitigation.

Raptor Habitat, Nesting, and Foraging

Implementation of the pipelines and storage pond sites would directly impact nesting migratory bird (including raptor) foraging habitat. In addition, there is potential to directly impact nesting migratory bird nests during construction. Impacts are potentially significant and require mitigation.

4.3.6 Environmental Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures are required to address the significant project impacts to sensitive vegetation communities resulting from both the Phase II expansion and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion (pipelines only). The Ultimate Expansion Service Area storage pond site was analyzed as part of an analysis of impacts to vegetation communities at the project level. Therefore, an additional

4.3 Biological Resources

biological analysis of the West site (or other alternate site(s)) will be required for CEQA compliance prior to the implementation of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion of the seasonal storage pond site.

MM 4.3-1 Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities ~~would~~ shall be mitigated at ratios identified in Table 4.3-3. The mitigation ratios presented in the table are based upon ratios approved by the Draft North County Sub Area Plan and its relationship to the PAMA. ~~Mitigation ratios are based upon the Tier of each vegetation community, location in or out of the PAMA and where mitigation is proposed~~ recommended by the wildlife agencies in March 2008. If the draft NCMSCP is approved prior to construction, mitigation ratios shall follow the ratios outlined in the approved plan. Although the draft NCMSCP Plan has not been adopted, the project has been analyzed per CEQA and would be consistent with the draft NCMSCP Plan once it is approved.

MM 4.3-2 During construction, the identified sensitive vegetation communities adjacent to the project shall be flagged as Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA). Installation of construction fencing shall be required to avoid indirect impacts to these areas. Staging areas will be identified during construction for lay down areas, equipment storage, etc., to avoid indirect impacts to the ESA.

MM 4.3-3 ~~Impacts that will occur along the pipeline alignment will be temporary. When project construction is completed a project as built would be prepared to identify impacts within the project and any associated staging areas created during construction. These impacts would be either purchased through acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an agency approved mitigation bank or through habitat restoration. Restoration may include a five year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be purchased through the acquisition of appropriate habitat credits in an off-site, wildlife agency approved mitigation bank. Temporary impacts shall be mitigated through habitat creation/restoration on-site. Creation/restoration shall include a five-year monitoring plan that includes planting/restoration measures, success criteria, and monitoring efforts as required by the wildlife agencies.~~

The following mitigation measures are required to address the significant project impacts to special status plant species resulting from both the Phase II expansion and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion (pipelines only).

MM 4.3-4 Prior to construction a preconstruction survey ~~will~~ shall be conducted to map and avoid any Engelmann oaks within the project area to the maximum extent practicable. The mapped individuals will be flagged and construction fencing placed around the drip line of the oaks to avoid ~~indirect~~ impacts to Engelmann oaks during construction.

MM 4.3-5 Should impacts to Engelmann Oaks occur, habitat based mitigation and in-kind mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to the ratios and standards identified ~~in the by the wildlife agencies in March 2008-BMO, specifically Section 86.507(c).~~

MM 4.3-6 A springtime rare plant survey shall be required to identify any special-status plant species which may occur on-site. Surveys should be conducted between the months of March and June. Should rare plants occur within the project footprint, the rare plants should be mapped and appropriate measures should be taken to avoid impacts during construction.

4.3 Biological Resources

Table 4.3-3. Project Impact Acreage Summary and Proposed Mitigation (In Acres)

Vegetation Communities	WWRWRF Phase II Expansion	Wastewater Collection and Reclaimed Water Distribution Lines		Storage Pond Site	West Storage Pond Site	Mitigation Ratio	Required Mitigation	
		Phase II Expansion	Ultimate Service Area Expansion	Phase II Expansion	Ultimate Service Area Expansion		Phase II	Ultimate Expansion Area
Developed	0.87	41.56	9.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Disturbed Habitat	0.00	4.36	0.37	0.00	3.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eucalyptus Woodland	0.00	2.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-native Grassland	0.00	3.82	1.27	0.00	52.05	1:1	3.82	53.32
General Agriculture	0.00	5.79	0.26	9.78	69.52	0.00	0.00	0.00
Flat-top Buckwheat	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	2.22	1.5:1	0.50	3.33
Southern Mixed Chaparral	0.00	1.71	1.13	0.06	6.54	1:1	1.77	7.67
Oak Woodland	0.00	2.73	0.47	0.00	31.59	2:1	5.46	64.12
Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.03	3:1	0.00	51.09
Southern Willow Scrub	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00	1.31	3:1	0.39	3.93
Disturbed Wetland	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.48	2:1	0.76	0.96
Cismontane Alkali Marsh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	.50	3:1	0.00	1.50
Open Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	.45	3:1	0.00	1.35

Note: The Ultimate Expansion for the WWRWRF and Storage Pond site was not analyzed as part of this impact analysis.

The following mitigation measure is required to address the significant project impacts to special status wildlife species and migratory birds (including raptors) resulting from both the Phase II expansion and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion (pipelines only).

~~**MM 4.3-67** — Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible), recognized from February 1 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.~~

MM 4.3-7 Removal of potential nesting vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, ground cover, etc.) supporting migratory birds/raptors shall be avoided during the nesting season (if feasible),

recognized from ~~February~~ January 15 through September 15. If vegetation removal must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a migratory nesting bird survey to ensure that vegetation removal would not impact any active nests. Surveys must be conducted no more than three days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are identified during nesting bird surveys, then the nesting vegetation would be avoided until the nesting event has completed and the juveniles can survive independently from the nest. The biologist shall flag the nesting vegetation and would establish 300-foot construction buffer (e.g., construction fencing) around the nesting vegetation. Clearing/grading shall not occur within the buffer until the nesting event has been completed. Noise abatement and/or seasonal restrictions may be required, as necessary.

The following mitigation measure is required to address the significant project impacts to USACE and CDFG jurisdiction wetlands and waters resulting from the Phase II expansion and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion (pipelines only):

MM 4.3-78 A jurisdictional wetland delineation ~~is shall be~~ required to determine impacts to ~~these wetland areas prior to construction. Pending the completion of a jurisdictional wetland delineation, ratios of 3:1 (permanent) and 2:1 (temporary) would be applied to if~~ measurable direct wetland impacts ~~per recommendations occur to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas mitigation and permits would be required. If impacts to jurisdictional areas occur temporary impacts would be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio, while permanent impacts would at a 3:1 ratio, unless alternative mitigation ratios are negotiated between the District and the USACE and/or CDFG. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be through habitat creation/restoration within the Moosa Creek drainage basin.~~

MM 4.3-89 Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the RWQCB would be required, in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the CWA (NPDES 2007). Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project.

4.3.7 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion

Significant and potentially significant impacts to vegetation communities would be mitigated with the incorporation of MM 4.3-1 through MM 4.3-3. Potentially significant impacts to sensitive plants (~~Engelmann oak~~) would be mitigated through the incorporation of MM 4.3-4 and MM 4.3-~~5~~6. Incorporation of MM 4.3-~~6~~7 would mitigate potential impacts to nesting and special status birds. Significant and potentially significant impacts to wetlands would be mitigated through the incorporation of MM 4.3-~~7~~8 and MM 4.3-~~8~~9. With implementation of regulatory requirements and mitigation measures as identified above, impacts to biological resources would be less than significant.

4.4 CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The following report was used in the analysis of impacts to cultural resources resulting from the proposed project and is included in Appendix D of this Draft EIR:

Cultural Resources Survey for the VCMWD South Village Water Reclamation Project, Valley Center, California. Prepared by Gallegos and Associates. January 2008.

4.4.1 Environmental Setting

Cultural resources are places, structures, or objects that are important for scientific, historic, and/or religious reasons to cultures, communities, groups, or individuals. Cultural resources include historic and prehistoric archaeological sites, architectural remains, structures, and artifacts that provide evidence of past human activity. They also include places, resources, or items of importance in the traditions of societies and religions.

Paleontological resources are any remains, traces, or imprints of a plant or animal that has been preserved in the Earth's crust since some past geologic time. Paleontological resources include: invertebrate fossils, microfossils, petrified wood, plants, trace, and vertebrate fossils.

Current land uses surrounding the WVRWRF include vacant, commercial, and recreational (Figure 2.3-2). The property immediately west consists of a single building surrounded by vacant land that was previously used for agricultural purposes. The property to the southwest is commercially developed. The areas to the north, south, and east of the facility within the Woods Valley Ranch development consist of golf course uses.

4.4.1.1 *Applicable Plans and Regulations*

San Diego County General Plan Conservation Element (1979, as Amended 2002)

The Conservation Element of the San Diego County General Plan outlines goals and objectives to provide a framework for the preservation of cultural and historical resources which maintain the traditional historic landscape of San Diego County. The loss of cultural resources has resulted primarily from urban development, agriculture, heavy recreation and vandalism. It is expected that continued population growth and subsequent development in San Diego County will intensify the rate of impacts to cultural and historical resources. The continued implementation of the discretionary permit process including subdivision map review, rezones, conditional use permits, specific plans, and general plan amendments, will contribute to the incorporation of environmental concerns into land use planning. By conducting an archaeological reconnaissance study and identifying any potentially significant adverse environmental impacts in this Draft EIR, the proposed project is meeting the goals of the San Diego County General Plan Conservation Element.

Valley Center Community Plan (1979, as Amended 2002)

The Valley Center Community Plan supplements all existing elements of the San Diego County General Plan with specific emphasis on the planning needs of the Valley Center community. The intent of the Community Plan is to maintain the rural atmosphere of the planning area. According to the Valley Center Community Plan, the character of Valley Center would be best maintained by a decrease in density from the Country Towns outward to the exterior limits of the planning area. It is the intent of the community to

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

keep low density residential and agricultural areas of Valley Center free from industrial and major commercial encroachments.

The Conservation Element of the Valley Center Community Plan has goals, objectives, and policies to identify and preserve significant structures, sites and life stories containing historic or cultural value for the enrichment and enjoyment of future generations. By conducting an archaeological reconnaissance study and identifying any potentially significant adverse environmental impacts in this Draft EIR, the proposed project is meeting the goals of the Valley Center Community Plan Conservation Element.

State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5

If human remains are encountered during construction activities associated with project development, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the San Diego County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin. If the San Diego County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be contacted within 24 hours. Subsequently, the NAHC shall identify the “most likely descendant.” The most likely descendant shall have 24 hours to make recommendations to the County for the disposition of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code 5097.98.

4.4.1.2 Methodology

The cultural resources study considered all previously conducted cultural resources studies and archaeological site records located within a one-mile radius of the project area. To provide an accurate account of cultural resources within the project area, a record search, literature review, and pedestrian field survey were performed in compliance with *CEQA Guidelines*.

Pedestrian Field Survey

A pedestrian field survey of nine linear miles of proposed pipeline and access road and two areas within the West seasonal storage pond site was conducted using 10-meter intervals between survey transects. The majority of the project site contained favorable conditions for survey. Ground visibility was good for portions of the project area adjacent to developed roads. Undeveloped portions of the project area had fair visibility due to moderate coverage of non-native grasses or recent discing. Disturbance within the project area included road construction, agricultural activity, and residential and commercial development.

Records Search/Literature Review

A records search and literature review were conducted at the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) at San Diego State University, San Diego, California, and at the research library at Gallegos & Associates in Carlsbad, California. A study area comprised of a one-mile radius around the project area was reviewed to identify any previously recorded cultural resources.

Tribal Consultation

The project area is within the territorial cultural boundaries of the Kumeyaay/Diegueño Indians. Therefore, the NAHC was consulted for a list of Native American Tribes which may have historical claims to the land. These Tribes were contacted to request information regarding cultural resources within the project area. One response letter was received from Joseph M. Nixon with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office for the Pala Band of Mission Indians. As a result, a Native American monitor

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

representing the San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians provided monitoring services for fieldwork conducted. Correspondence with Native American Tribes is included in Appendix D of the Cultural Resources Survey.

4.4.1.3 Existing Conditions

Historical Setting

The records search conducted at the SCIC indicated that 58 cultural resource studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project area. Twenty-five studies have been conducted and four cultural resources have been recorded in the vicinity of the project area. Further investigation by way of the pedestrian field survey revealed one previously recorded cultural resource (CA-SDI-13598), one newly recorded cultural resource (VC-S-3) and three newly recorded isolates (VC-I-1, VC-I-2, and VC-I-4) located within various portions of the project site. Additionally, site reconnaissance on the West seasonal storage pond site observed an abandoned residential structure. Formal evaluation of historical significance was not performed for the structure, as build-out of the seasonal storage pond on the West site would not impact the structure. The remaining three previously recorded cultural resources were either not relocated or were relocated outside of the project area.

Early period (11,000-1,300 BP) – Early period cultures are known for complex artifact assemblages used in more environmentally diverse landscapes compared to the Paleo-Indian Tradition. This economic strategy moved away from migratory herd based economy and made more direct use of access to a wide range of plant, animal, and lithic resources. The Early Period expressions are recognized to have a wide regional similarity of artifacts.

Inland Early/Archaic Period occupation sites have been reported in coastal settings, transverse valleys, sheltered canyons, benches, and knolls (True 1958; Warren et al. 1961). In northern San Diego County, non-coastal sites were termed “Pauma Complex” by True (1958, 1980), and were defined as containing a predominance of grinding implements (manos and metates), a general lack of shellfish remains, a greater tool variety, and expressing an emphasis on both gathering and hunting (True 1958, 1980; Warren et al. 1961; Waugh 1986).

Early Period/Archaic sites from 10,000 to 1,300 years ago within San Diego County include a range of coastal and inland valley inhabitation sites, inland hunting and milling camps, and quarry sites usually in association with fine-grained metavolcanic material.

Late Period (1,700 to 150 BP) – During the Late Period, a material culture pattern similar to that of Historic Period Native Americans becomes apparent in the archeological record. The economic pattern during this period appears to be one of more intensive and efficient exploitation of local resources. The prosperity of these highly refined economic patterns is well evidenced by the numerous Kumeyaay/Diegueño and Luiseño habitation sites scattered throughout San Diego County. Artifacts and cultural patterns reflecting this Late Period pattern include small projectile points, pottery, the establishment of permanent or semi-permanent seasonal habitation sites, and a proliferation of bedrock milling acorn processing sites in the uplands.

Historic Period (1769 to Present) – Historic phases include the Spanish Period (1769-1821), the Mexican Period (1821-1848) and the American Period (1848 to present). The earliest Spanish expedition known to the region was conducted by Hernando de Alarcon in 1540 with Cabrillo following in 1542. For San Diego County, the Spanish Period represents exploration and the establishment of the San Diego Presidio and missions at San Diego (1769) and San Luis Rey (1798). Spanish influence continued after 1821

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

when California became part of Mexico. The Mexican Period included the initial retention of Spanish laws and practices until the secularization of the missions in 1834. After secularization, large tracks of land were dispersed through land grants, which allowed cattle ranching and the development of the hide and tallow trade to increase during the early part of this period. The Mexican Period ended in 1848 as a result of the Mexican-American War.

American Period (1848 to Present) – The American Period began when Mexico ceded California to the United States under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Terms of the Treaty brought about the creation of the Lands Commission in response to the Homestead Act of 1851, which was adopted as a means of validating and settling land ownership claims throughout the state. Few Mexican ranchos remained intact because of legal costs and the difficulty of producing sufficient evidence to prove title claims. Much of the land that once constituted rancho holdings became available for settlement by immigrants to California. The influx of people to California, and the San Diego region in particular, resulted from several factors, including: the discovery of gold in the state, the conclusion of the Civil War, and the availability of free land through passage of the Homestead Act. Later, the importance of San Diego County as an agricultural area supported by roads, irrigation systems, and connecting railways would continue to draw an influx of people to the region. The growth and decline of towns occurred in response to an increased population and the economic boom and bust cycle in the late 1800s.

Ethnography

The project site is within the territorial cultural boundaries of the Kumeyaay/Diegueño Indians. The northern and southern Kumeyaay/Diegueño tribal boundary extends from about 100 miles south of the Mexican border and continues north to the drainage divide south of the San Luis Rey River, where the boundary eventually shares a divide with the Luiseño. This boundary continues north separating Valley Center from Escondido. The Kumeyaay belong to the Yuman language family and the Hokan group. Villages tended to be small, mostly temporary camps, with multiple bands gathering together during winter months.

Early European contact with Kumeyaay groups was probably during encounters with the Quechan by the Hernando de Alarcon expedition in 1540. Two years later Cabrillo landed at Point Loma in San Diego. Spanish “missionization” of Kumeyaay groups was slow, as these groups resisted vigorously with uprisings. Extermination of the native populations was imposed as federal policy after the Americans won the war at San Pasqual. By 1875 reservations were located near the larger villages resulting in a patchwork of reservations across San Diego County.

Paleontological Resources

The project is situated on a broad, flat valley bordered by steep terraces with elevations ranging between 1,200 to 1,500 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). The geology of the region consists of Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics (Kennedy and Tan 1996). Marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks have a high potential to yield fossils as historic marine invertebrates and vertebrates were likely to be preserved after falling to the earth’s crust after death. Quaternary alluvial and colluvial deposits are also present in the region. Granitic rock outcrops and boulders, common within the region, were frequently used by the Native Americans for grinding plant and animal parts as evidenced by grinding sticks and bedrock mortars.

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

4.4.2 Thresholds of Significance

Based on *CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G, a significant impact to cultural or paleontological resources would be identified if the project is determined to:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5;
- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15064.5;
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature or;
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Additionally, a historical structure may be listed in the California Register of Historic Resources if it meets any of the following criteria:

- It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- It is associated with the lives of persons important in California's past;
- It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic value; or
- It has yielded or is likely to yield information important in the prehistory or history of California.

4.4.3 Environmental Impacts

4.4.3.1 Phase II

Historic Resources

The expansion of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint. The records search and literature review did not identify any recorded historical resources within this area. Because the previous 25 cultural studies conducted within the project area did not identify any historical cultural resources within the footprint of the WVRWRF, it is not anticipated that the expansion of the WVRWRF would result in impacts to historical resources. No impacts to historical resources are identified with regard to initial expansion of the WVRWRF.

Extension of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would occur primarily in existing or planned road rights-of-way or within District easements. The field survey and records search did not identify any historical resources within the proposed pipeline alignment. Therefore, no impacts to historical resources are anticipated with the installation of pipelines.

The seasonal storage pond on the West site would be located near the eastern boundary of the West site. An abandoned residential structure was observed on the West storage site. This structure is located over 1,500 feet from the location proposed for the seasonal storage pond. Formal evaluation of the historical significance of the structure was not performed. Impacts to the structure are not anticipated as a result of build-out of the seasonal storage pond due to the distance between the structure and the proposed location.

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

of the seasonal storage pond. No other historical resources were identified during the pedestrian field survey or in the records search. Therefore, no impacts to historical resources are anticipated with regard to the seasonal storage pond.

Archaeological Resources

As previously identified, a records search conducted at the SCIC indicated that four cultural resources have been previously recorded within the project area. Further investigation by way of the pedestrian field survey revealed one previously recorded cultural resource (CA-SDI-13598) located off of Valley Center Road within the proposed pipeline alignment, and one newly recorded cultural resource site (VC-S-3) and two newly recorded isolates (VC-I-1 and VC-I-2) in portions of the West site. The three remaining previously recorded sites were either not relocated or were relocated outside of the project site.

The expansion of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint. No archaeological resources were identified within the project site at the time of survey. Additionally, this area has been previously graded and disturbed during initial construction of the WVRWRF and construction of the neighboring golf course. Therefore, it is unlikely for any buried archaeological resources to exist within the footprint of the WVRWRF. Impacts to archaeological resources resulting from the expansion of the WVRWRF would be less than significant.

The records search and literature review conducted on the project site revealed one recorded cultural resource (CA-SDI-13598) located within the proposed pipeline alignment near the western portion of the Valley Center Community Center parking lot. The site is identified as a bedrock milling feature with two mortars, which has been previously relocated. Per the cultural survey, further testing is necessary to determine site significance. Because the significance of CA-SDI-13598 has not yet been determined, impacts to archeological resources are considered potentially significant and require mitigation. Additionally, there is potential to impact buried archaeological resources in other sections of the proposed pipeline alignment. This represents a potentially significant impact to archaeological resources and mitigation is required.

The pedestrian field survey identified one newly recorded cultural resource site (VC-S-3) and two newly recorded isolates (VC-I-1 and VC-I-2) on the West site. The two isolates consist of metavolcanic debris which is generally considered a by-product in the manufacturing of stone tools. Therefore, because the isolates are considered a by-product, they would not be considered significant historical resources. VC-S-3 consists of a scatter of various granitic, quartz, and metavolcanic artifacts. The historical and cultural significance of VC-S-3 has not yet been established. The site measures 30x120 meters in area, and is located in the southwest corner of the location proposed for the seasonal storage pond. Build-out of the seasonal storage pond has the potential to impact VC-S-3 and other buried archeological resources. Because the significance of VC-S-3 has yet to be determined and there is potential for other archeological resources to exist, impacts to archaeological resources resulting from the seasonal storage pond are considered significant and require mitigation.

Paleontological Resources

The geology of the region consists of Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics (Kennedy and Tan 1996). There is potential for fossils to exist in these rock formations. Although no paleontological resources were identified at the time of survey, ground disturbing activities associated with the expansion of the WVRWRF have the potential to impact undiscovered paleontological resources. This represents a potentially significant impact and mitigation is required.

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

Expansion of wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would occur within existing District easements and rights-of-way. Although no paleontological resources were identified at the time of survey, installation of these pipelines has the potential to disturb undiscovered paleontological resources. Therefore, impacts are considered potentially significant and would require mitigation if paleontological resources are encountered.

Construction of the seasonal storage pond on the West site also has the potential to disturb undiscovered paleontological resources. This represents a potentially significant impact and mitigation is required.

Human Remains

No evidence of human remains was observed within the project area at the time of survey. However, ground disturbing activities associated with Phase II have the potential to impact undiscovered human remains. The potential to encounter human remains represents a potentially significant impact and, therefore, mitigation is required.

4.4.3.2 Ultimate Service Area

Historic Resources

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would include further expansion of the WVRWRF, installation of additional wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines, and expansion of the pond on the West site or development of auxiliary ponds on the Brookes Forest, East, or District alternate seasonal storage sites. No previously recorded historical resources were identified within the project area at the time of survey. Therefore, impacts to historical resources are not expected as a result of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. No impacts are identified.

Archaeological Resources

As previously identified, one cultural resource site (CA-SDI-13598), one newly recorded cultural resource site (VC-S-3), and two newly recorded isolates (VC-I-1 and VC-I-2) were identified within the proposed pipeline alignment and the West site at the time of survey. These resources are located within the footprint of Phase II and would be mitigated at the project-level basis if they can not be avoided. Additionally, one newly recorded isolate (VC-I-4) was identified in the proposed pipeline alignment for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. Similar to VC-I-1 and VC-I-2, this isolate exists as metavolcanic debris and is considered a by-product in the manufacture of stone tools. Therefore, VC-I-4 would not be considered a significant archaeological resource. However, as with the preceding project-level analysis, there is the potential to impact previously undiscovered archaeological resources during construction activities associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. This represents a potentially significant impact and mitigation would be required if archaeological resources are encountered.

Paleontological Resources

As identified above, the geology of the region is conducive to the preservation marine species. Although no paleontological resources were identified at the time of survey, there is potential for resources to exist on-site. Although impacts associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion are not expected to be greater than those identified in the preceding project-level analysis, there is still potential to impact undiscovered paleontological resources. This represents a potentially significant impact, and mitigation is required if paleontological resources are encountered.

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

Human Remains

Although no evidence of human remains was observed within the project site at the time of survey, excavation and grading during construction activities associated with the Ultimate Service Area Expansion could result in impacts to undiscovered human remains. The potential to encounter human remains represents a potentially significant impact and therefore mitigation would be required.

4.4.4 Cumulative Impacts

According to CEQA, the importance of cultural resources comes from the research value and the information they contain. Therefore, the issue that must be explored in a cumulative analysis is the cumulative loss of that information. For sites considered less than significant, the information is preserved through recordation and test excavations. Significant sites that are placed in open space easements avoid impacts to cultural resources and also preserve the data. Significant sites that are not placed within open space easement preserves the information through recordation, test excavations and data recovery programs that would be presented in reports and filed with the County of San Diego and the SCIC. The artifact collections would also be curated at the San Diego Archaeological Center and would be available to other archaeologists for further study.

The cumulative projects in the vicinity of Valley Center are listed in Section 4.0 of the Draft EIR. This section identifies the past, present and reasonably anticipated future projects in the project area. These projects are also identified in Figure 4.0-1. According to project file review at the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use, eight cumulative projects could potentially impact archaeological resources. In addition, it should be noted that six project files could not be found during the course of cumulative research. Therefore, it is not known if there are cultural resources on these project sites and what their significance is and it is speculative to make a conclusion as to these projects' contribution to a significant cumulative impact. However, similar to the proposed project, impacts to cultural resources shall be mitigated on a project-specific basis. Mitigation similar to that identified for the proposed project (e.g., provision of an archaeological monitor) would reduce any potential impacts to these resources to less than significant levels. Furthermore, none of the projects contained on this list have confirmed significant cultural resources. Cumulative impacts relating to cultural resources would be less than significant.

Implementation of Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion could potentially impact buried archaeological and/or paleontological resources. In addition, ground disturbing activities during construction of both phases have the potential to impact undiscovered human remains. However, no confirmed significant resources exist within the project area. As previously identified, the cultural significance of resource sites ~~CDCA~~-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 has not yet been determined. However, should Phase II result in significant impacts to these resources, mitigation would be provided on a project-specific basis to prevent a loss of information and reduce impacts to below a level of significance. As such, implementation of Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, in conjunction with the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects identified in Section 4.0, would not result in a significant cumulative impact to cultural and paleontological resources.

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

4.4.5 Environmental Mitigation Measures

Phase II

To minimize impacts to potentially significant cultural resource sites, the project proponent shall implement the following:

- MM-4.4-1** ~~Project design shall avoid cultural resource site CA-SDI-13598. Further testing for sites CA-SDI-13598 and VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project redesign to avoid the site, or the completion of a data recovery program.~~

To reduce the potential impacts to buried archeological resources, the project proponent shall implement the following:

- MM 4.4-2** ~~A qualified archeologist and Native American monitor shall monitor all grading of any area of the activities at the project site as the project site sits is located on potentially sensitive archeological resources. If any archeological resources are identified during these activities, the archeologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained. In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the Principal Investigator, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.~~

In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

To reduce the potential impacts to paleontological resources, the project proponent shall implement the following:

- MM 4.4-3** ~~A qualified paleontologist shall monitor all grading that includes initial cutting into any area of the project site as the geology of the region consists of that may affect Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. If any paleontological resources are identified during these activities, the paleontologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.~~

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

- MM 4.4-4** Paleontological monitoring shall occur only for those undisturbed sediments wherein fossil plant or animal remains are found with no associated evidence of human activity or any archaeological context.
- MM 4.4-5** Paleontological monitors shall be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed to avoid construction delays, and to remove samples of sediments which are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. Monitors shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens. Monitoring may be reduced if the potentially fossiliferous units are not present or if the fossiliferous units present are determined by a qualified paleontological monitor to have low potential to contain fossil resources.
- MM 4.4-6** All recovered specimens shall be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.
- MM 4.4-7** Specimens shall be identified and curated into an established, accredited, professional museum repository with permanent retrievable storage. The paleontologist shall have a written repository agreement in hand prior to the initiation of mitigation activities.
- MM 4.4-8** A report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of identified specimens shall be prepared. The report will address archaeological and paleontological items. This report shall incorporate the full results of the literature review, as well as the full results of the recommended review of the records of the South Coastal Information Center, San Diego, California. The report shall be submitted prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

The following mitigation measure shall be implemented by the project proponent to minimize potential impacts to human remains:

- MM 4.4-9** If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the San Diego County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin. If the San Diego County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted within 24 hours. Subsequently, the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the “most likely descendant.” The most likely descendant shall have 24 hours to make recommendations to the County for the disposition of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code 5097.98.

Ultimate Service Area Expansion

Project-level mitigation shall also apply to Program-level impacts. Refer to the above section for Program-level mitigation. To minimize impacts to potentially significant cultural resource sites from the development of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, the project proponent shall implement the following:

- MM 4.4-10** If the West Site is chosen for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion storage pond, further testing for site VC-S-3 shall be conducted to determine site significance. Testing shall be conducted such that the necessary information is collected to determine the site size, depths, content, integrity, and potential to address important research questions. If the site is not identified as significant, then no further action would be required. If the site is

4.4 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

determined to be significant, mitigation of impacts shall include project design to avoid the site.

4.4.6 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Two cultural resource sites are currently within the project area. One previously recorded cultural resource site lies within the proposed pipeline alignment along Valley Center Road and the other is located in the southwestern corner of the proposed seasonal storage pond on the West site. The cultural significance of either site has yet to be determined. Implementation of MM 4.4-1 would require that the significance of these resources be determined so that appropriate action may taken. Should the sites be established as significant, a redesign of the project or a data recovery program shall be required to avoid significant impacts. Additionally, the potential exists to encounter undiscovered archaeological and/or paleontological resources during ground disturbing activities associated with Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. Mitigation measures 4.4-2 and 4.4-3 would require qualified archaeological and paleontological monitors be present on-site during ground disturbing activities. Should archaeological resources be found, the archaeological monitor would be empowered to divert construction activities until the significance of the resources is determined. If paleontological resources are discovered on-site MM 4.4-4 through 4.4-8 would ensure that the appropriate actions are taken to curate and preserve these resources. Through implementation of these mitigation measures, impacts to archaeological and paleontological resources would be less than significant.

Additionally, there is potential to encounter human remains during ground disturbing activities associated with Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. If human remains are encountered, implementation of MM 4.4-9 would ensure that the San Diego County Coroner is contacted to determine the origin and, if appropriate, the “most likely descendent”. Through implementation of MM 4.4-9, potential impacts to human remains would be less than significant.

4.5 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The following report was used in the analysis of impacts to hazards and hazardous materials resulting from the proposed project and is included in Appendix E of this Draft EIR:

Hazardous Waste Evaluation for South Village Water Reclamation Project, Valley Center, San Diego County, California. Prepared by HDR Engineering, Inc. January 2008.

4.5.1 Environmental Setting

A material is considered hazardous if it appears on a list of hazardous materials prepared by a federal, state, or local agency, or if it has characteristics defined as hazardous by such an agency. Hazardous materials include solids, liquids, or gaseous materials that, because of their quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, could pose a threat to human health or to the environment. These properties are defined in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Sections 66261.20-66261.24. Hazards include the risks associated with potential explosions, fires, or release of hazardous substances in the event of an accident or natural disaster, which may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or serious illness, or pose substantial harm to human health or the environment. Within typical construction sites, materials that could be considered hazardous include diesel fuel, gasoline, equipment fluids, concrete, cleaning solutions and solvents, lubricant oils, adhesives, pipeline materials/equipment, human waste, and chemical toilets. A “hazardous waste” is any hazardous material that is discarded, abandoned, or to be recycled. The criteria that render a material hazardous also make a waste hazardous (California Health and Safety Code, Section 25117).

As specified in the American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM) Standard E 1527-00 “Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process” the term Recognized Environmental Condition (REC) is used to describe environmental conditions or impacts warranting further inquiry. An REC is defined by ASTM as the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substance or petroleum products on a property under conditions that indicate an existing release, a past release, or a material threat of a release of any said products into structures on the property or into the ground, groundwater, or surface water of the property. The term includes hazardous substances or petroleum products even under conditions in compliance with laws. The term is not intended to include conditions that generally do not present a material risk of harm to public health or the environment and that generally would not be the subject of an enforcement action if brought to the attention of appropriate governmental agencies. The terms “mineral,” “waste,” and “substances” are used interchangeably.

Existing Conditions

According to the Hazardous Waste Evaluation, six hazardous materials sites are located along Valley Center Road within the project area (HDR Engineering 2008b). However, based upon experienced evaluation, only one of these sites continues to remain active and would pose a potential impact to the public and/or the environment. The Mystik Valley Center Oil Corporation (Mystik) site is located at the corner of Valley Center Road and Old Road, in the northern portion of the project site. Leaky underground storage tanks associated with Mystik were identified in 1994. In response, the storage tanks were closed and the site is currently undergoing continuous groundwater well monitoring to delineate the contamination range.

4.5.1.1 *Applicable Plans and Regulations*

Federal Policies and Regulations

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the management of hazardous materials and wastes. The primary federal hazardous materials and waste laws are contained in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). These laws apply to hazardous waste management, soil and groundwater contamination, and the controlled use of particular chemicals.

State Policies and Regulations

In California, the EPA has delegated most of its regulatory responsibilities to the State. The TSCA allows the EPA to ban or phase out the use of chemicals that may present unreasonable risks to public health or the environment.

The state agencies most involved in enforcing public health and safety laws and regulations include the Cal-EPA Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC), the California Occupational Safety and Health Agency (Cal/OSHA), the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB).

DTSC enforces hazardous materials and waste regulations in California under the authority of the EPA. California's Hazardous Waste Control Law incorporates the federal hazardous materials and waste standards of RCRA, but California's regulations are more strict in many respects.

In California, Cal/OSHA assumes primary responsibility for enforcing worker safety regulations such as the federal Hazard Communication Program regulations. Cal/OSHA regulations are found in CCR Title 8. Although Cal/OSHA regulations have incorporated federal OSHA standards, Cal/OSHA regulations are generally more stringent than those of the federal government.

4.5.2 **Thresholds of Significance**

For the purposes of this Draft EIR and as defined in Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, project impacts to hazards and hazardous materials are considered significant if the project would:

- Be located on a site that 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.

4.5.3 **Environmental Impacts**

4.5.3.1 *Phase II*

Construction activities associated with Phase II have the potential to disturb soils contaminated by the leaky underground storage tanks (HDR Engineering 2008b). Since expansion of the WVRWRF would occur within the site's existing footprint, the expansion would not be impacted by contaminated soils around Valley Center Road. However, shallow trenches (approximately 3-5 feet deep) which would be utilized to install new wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines have the potential to expose

4.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

workers to hazardous vapors rising from contaminated soils. If these conditions are encountered, it would represent a significant impact and mitigation would be required.

The West seasonal storage site is not identified as a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (HDR Engineering 2008b). Therefore, construction of the seasonal storage pond would not expose the public or the environment to hazardous materials and a less than significant impact has been identified.

4.5.3.2 *Ultimate Service Area Expansion*

There are no hazardous materials sites within the area proposed for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion. No impacts have been identified for this issue area.

4.5.4 Cumulative Impact Analysis

A cumulative impact relating to hazards and hazardous materials would be identified if the proposed project, in conjunction with other projects in the area, resulted in the exacerbation of an already existing hazard or hazardous condition.

No component of the proposed project would generate a hazard or emit or produce a hazardous material. Therefore, there is no potential for the proposed project to add to a cumulative impact to hazards and hazardous materials. Cumulative impacts relating to hazards and hazardous materials would be less than significant.

4.5.5 Environmental Mitigation Measures

To reduce the impact to workers' safety resulting from the contaminated soils on and around the Mystik site, the proposed project shall implement the following mitigation measure:

HAZ-1MM 4.5-1 The contractor shall prepare a Health and Safety Plan pursuant to 29 CFR 1926, Subpart C, which sets forth health and safety requirements specifically for the construction industry. Under the Health and Safety Plan, the contractor shall incorporate waste management provisions into the construction contract to reduce potential impacts from hazardous material to workers at the construction site.

4.5.6 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of HAZ-1 would reduce the impact of hazardous materials on-site to below a level of significance by ensuring that workers and the public are not exposed to significant levels of vapors rising from contaminated soils. After installation of the wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines, the pipelines shall be buried and covered to prevent future exposure to hazardous vapors. Through the implementation of HAZ-1 and compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding the handling of hazards and hazardous materials, the proposed project would not result in a significant impact to the environment.

5.0 ALTERNATIVES

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The identification and analysis of alternatives is a fundamental concept under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This is evident in that the role of alternatives in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is set forth clearly and forthrightly within the CEQA Statutes. Specifically, CEQA Statute Section 21002.1(a) states:

“The purpose of an environmental impact report is to identify the significant effects on the environment of a project, to identify alternatives to the project, and to indicate the manner in which those significant effects can be mitigated or avoided.”

The *CEQA Guidelines* require an EIR to “describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives.” (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6(a)). The *CEQA Guidelines* direct that selection of alternatives focus on those alternatives capable of eliminating any significant environmental effects of the project or reducing them to a less-than significant level, even if these alternatives would impede to some degree the attainment of project objectives, or would be more costly. In cases where a project is not expected to result in significant impacts after implementation of recommended mitigation, review of project alternatives is still appropriate.

The range of alternatives required within an EIR is governed by the “rule of reason” which requires an EIR to include only those alternatives necessary to permit a reasoned choice. The discussion of alternatives need not be exhaustive. Furthermore, an EIR need not consider an alternative whose implementation is remote and speculative or whose effects cannot be reasonably ascertained.

Alternatives that were considered but were rejected as infeasible during the scoping process should be identified along with a reasonably detailed discussion of the reasons and facts supporting the conclusion that such alternatives were infeasible.

Based on the alternatives analysis, an environmentally superior alternative is designated among the alternatives. If the environmentally superior alternative is the No Project Alternative, then the EIR shall identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6(e)(2)).

5.2 CRITERIA FOR ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

As stated above, pursuant to CEQA, one of the criteria for defining project alternatives is the potential to attain the project objectives. Established objectives of the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) for the proposed project include:

- Creation and adoption of a Master Plan to guide future expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) to extend wastewater service to the South Village area of the District;
- Creation of an Assessment District which would be used to fund the WVRWRF expansion;

- Development of a comprehensive wastewater system that would allow existing development to transition from septic sewer to municipal wastewater service due to the high groundwater table within the service area;
- Expansion of the WVRWRF to provide wastewater service to customers within the South Village service area of the District in accordance with current County zoning and the General Plan Update when adopted; and
- Provide more reliable wastewater service.

The following alternatives analysis applies only to the environmental effects and project objectives of the Phase II expansion.

At this time, due to the lack of detail and design information about the Ultimate Service Area Expansion, the District is not able to choose an environmentally superior alternative for the ultimate expansion. Currently, all four alternative seasonal storage sites are considered to be potential sites. The District will further evaluate all potential seasonal storage pond sites prior to the finalization of the design details for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion.

5.3 ALTERNATIVES ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED CONSIDERATION

In addition to specifying that the EIR evaluate “a range of reasonable alternatives” to the project, Section 15126.6(c) of the *CEQA Guidelines* requires that an EIR identify any alternatives that were considered but were rejected as infeasible. The following alternatives: Valley Center Road pipeline, Off-site collection system, Brook Forest seasonal storage site, and District seasonal storage site were considered for analysis in the Draft EIR, but were not considered for further evaluation. These alternatives are described below, along with a discussion of why they were rejected from further consideration.

5.3.1 Valley Center Road Pipeline Alternative

Under the Valley Center Road pipeline alternative, approximately 2,000 feet of low pressure wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would be installed within a portion of Valley Center Road, between Mirar de Valle Road and Old Road. The installation of the pipelines within this portion of the road would however conflict with existing utilities and County of San Diego (County) pavement cut policy¹. The County’s pavement cut policy prohibits trenching within a road that has been newly paved within three years. Because implementation of this alternative would conflict with existing utilities and the County’s policy regarding trenching in newly paved roads, this alternative was considered to be infeasible and was eliminated from further consideration.

5.3.2 Off-site Collection System Alternative

The Off-site Collection System Alternative would place the low pressure wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines outside of VCMWD easements and/or disturbed rights-of-way. As such, implementation of this alternative could require the acquisition of private land and/or new VCMWD easements, which would be cost-prohibitive. Moreover, this alternative could result in greater constraints to project-site access because the alignments may be installed immediately adjacent to properties not owned by VCMWD. This alternative could also have a greater impact on environmental resources within

¹ County of San Diego, Department of Public Works, Policy POL-RO-7, effective June 1, 2000.

the project area because trenching would take place within areas not previously disturbed. These undisturbed areas could potentially contain quality biological habitat and/or cultural and paleontological resources. Because implementation of this alternative could impact private property, create access conflicts, and result in greater environmental impacts, this alternative was considered to be infeasible and was eliminated from further consideration.

5.3.3 Brook Forest Seasonal Storage Site Alternative

The Brook Forest seasonal storage site alternative would place the seasonal storage pond and infrastructure associated with connecting the pond to the reclaimed water pipelines within an approximately 230-acre, rectangular-shaped parcel located immediately south of Betsworth Road, as shown in Figure 5.1-1. In addition to the cost associated with the construction of and mitigation associated with the development of the pond, construction activities could be hindered by limited access to the project site, as there is no existing access. Specifically, access to the site from the north (Betsworth Road) would result in a new crossing of Moosa Creek, which traverses the northern portion of the site from east to west. It is anticipated that extensive agency coordination, permitting, and mitigation would be required for this crossing. Access from the south could be limited by steep slopes and may require a pumping system to deliver reclaimed water to the pond. Additionally, access from the south would be cost prohibitive as it would require a more extensive pipeline system within privately owned property, thus requiring the District to purchase additional easements.

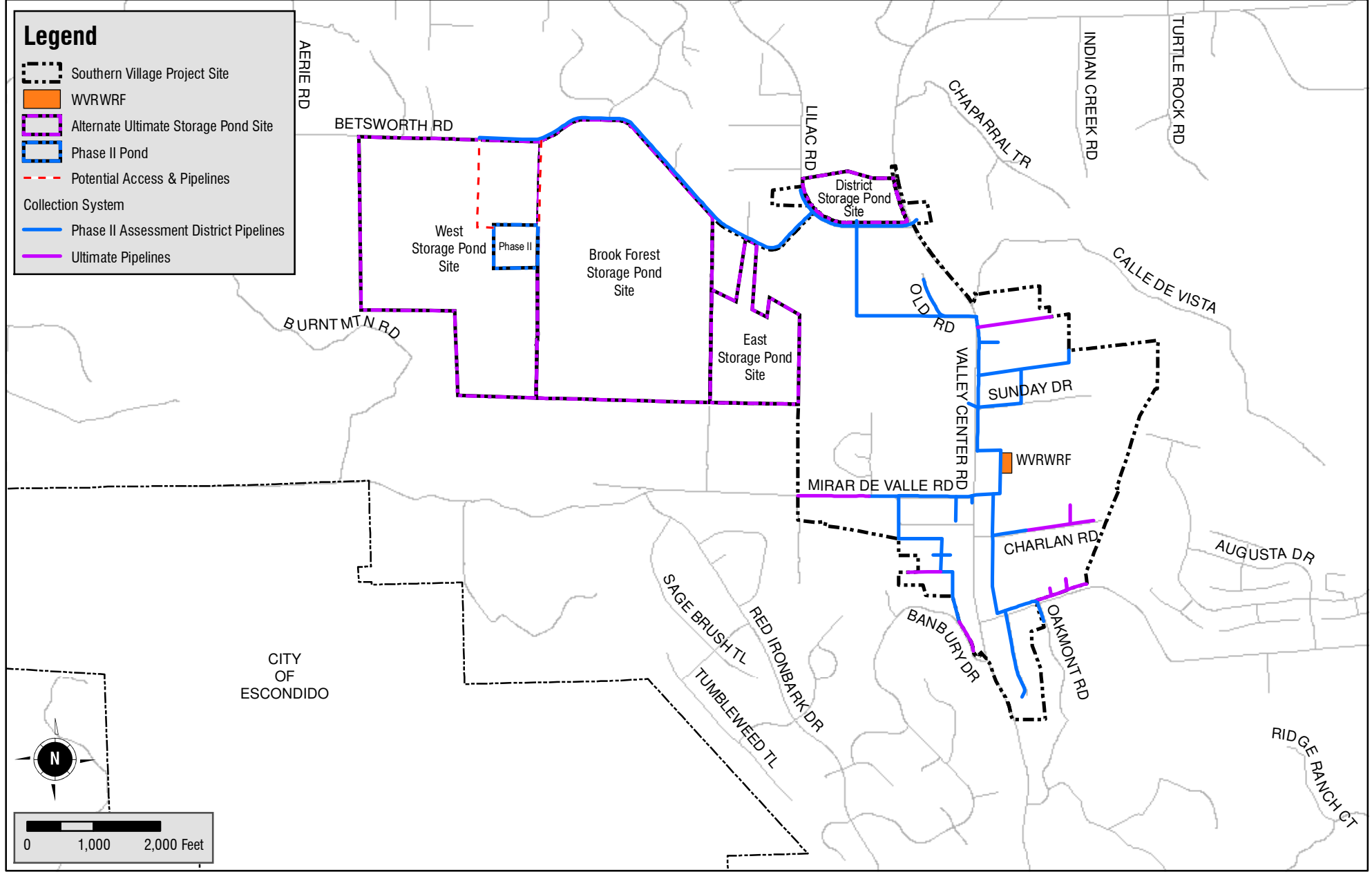
The Brook Forest site also contains a number of sensitive vegetation communities including native grasslands, wetland/riparian areas associated with Moosa Creek, coastal sage scrub (potential habitat for the federally-threatened California gnatcatcher) and oak woodland. Development of the pond and associated infrastructure within these communities are significant and require additional mitigation. Also, because the site is undisturbed, there is a high potential for cultural and paleontological resources onsite. Because implementation of this alternative could impact private property, create access conflicts, and result in greater biological and cultural environmental impacts, this alternative was considered to be infeasible and was eliminated from further consideration.

5.3.4 District Seasonal Storage Site Alternative

The District seasonal storage site alternative would place the seasonal storage pond and infrastructure associated with connecting the pond to the reclaimed water pipelines within two parcels owned by the District that total approximately 22 acres. The site is located immediately north of Lilac Road, as shown in Figure 5.1-1. Although the site is currently in active agriculture, the District has plans to develop the site in approximately 10-15 years for a new administrative building. To accommodate this future development, this alternative would require the construction and installation of an underground storage tank and associated infrastructure to replace the proposed seasonal storage pond. From an engineering standpoint, this alternative would require extensive geotechnical studies and earth work. In addition, the substantial amount of subsurface work required would be cost-prohibitive. Therefore, this alternative was considered to be infeasible and was eliminated from further consideration.

5.4 EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES

This section provides an analysis of the environmental impacts anticipated for each alternative in comparison to the proposed project. The comparison assumes that mitigation equivalent to those for the proposed project would be implemented for each alternative, unless otherwise indicated. Therefore, the analysis below focuses on the ability of the alternatives analyzed to reduce or eliminate the environmental impacts associated with the proposed project. In addition, each alternative is evaluated on its ability to meet the project objectives.



Alternatives
FIGURE 5.1-1

Furthermore, the following analysis of alternatives compares those impacts associated with the seasonal storage pond and its associated infrastructure. Because the expansion of the WWRWF would be confined to the facility's existing site, the potential impacts associated with the expansion would be the same for all alternatives. Similarly, the proposed wastewater collection pipelines would be the same for all alternatives; therefore, that component of the proposed project will likewise not be addressed in the following analysis of alternatives.

5.4.1 Alternative 1: No Project/No Development

Under the No Project/No Development Alternative, the facility would remain at its current capacity. Specifically, the WWRWF would not be expanded, wastewater collection and reclaimed water pipelines would not be installed, and seasonal storage ponds would not be developed. As a result, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would not be able to occur as further expansion, installation of additional lines, and expansion of storage ponds would not be possible. Wastewater service would remain in its existing condition.

Environmental Impacts

Agriculture: Under the No Project/No Development Alternative, there would be no conversion or disturbance of agricultural lands or resources. No impacts to agriculture are identified for this alternative. The proposed project identified significant and unmitigated impacts related to the loss of agricultural land. Therefore, this alternative would result in fewer impacts to agriculture compared to the proposed project.

Biological Resources: Under the No Project/No Development Alternative, there would be no disturbance to vegetation communities and wildlife species and no impact is identified for this alternative. The proposed project would result potentially significant impacts to sensitive vegetation communities, special-status plant species, special-status wildlife species, and jurisdictional wetlands and waters. Mitigation has been provided for the proposed project to reduce those impacts to less than significant levels. Compared to the proposed project, this alternative would reduce all impacts to biological resources and would not require mitigation.

Cultural Resources: Since there would be no development under the No Project/No Development Alternative, there would not be any soil disturbance or potential impacts to cultural or paleontological resources. No impacts to cultural resources are identified for this alternative. The proposed project identified potentially significant impacts to two cultural resources sites, buried archeological resources, paleontological resources, and undiscovered human remains. Mitigation has been provided for the proposed project to reduce those impacts to less than significant levels. Compared to the project, this alternative would reduce all impacts to cultural resources and would not require mitigation.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials: Under the No Project/No Development Alternative, people working and residing in the project area would not be subject to hazards or hazardous materials related to the project. Therefore, no impact is identified for this alternative. The proposed project identified potentially significant impact related to hazardous materials onsite. Compared to the proposed project, this alternative would reduce any impacts to hazards and hazardous materials, and would not require mitigation.

Comparison of the No Project/No Development Alternative to Project Objectives

The No Project/No Development Alternative would not meet any of the objectives of the District. Specifically, this alternative would not result in the creation and adoption of a Master Plan to guide future

expansion of the WVRWRF to extend sewer service to the South Village area of the District. Furthermore, this alternative would not result in the development of a comprehensive wastewater system that would allow existing development to transition from septic sewer to municipal sewer service. Additionally, this alternative would not result in the expansion of the WVRWRF to provide wastewater service to existing and planned-for customers within the South Village area of the District in accordance with current County zoning. Since this alternative does not meet any of the basic objectives of the proposed project, the No Project/No Development Alternative is rejected.

~~The following analysis of alternatives compares those impacts associated with the seasonal storage pond and its associated infrastructure. Because the expansion of the WVRWRF would be confined to the facility's existing site, the potential impacts associated with the expansion would be the same for all alternatives. Similarly, the proposed wastewater collection pipelines would be the same for all alternatives; therefore, that component of the proposed project will likewise not be addressed in the following analysis of alternatives.~~

5.4.2 Alternative 2: East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative

The East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative would place the seasonal storage pond and infrastructure associated with connecting the pond to the reclaimed water pipelines within an approximately 45-50 acre site located south of Betsworth Road and immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Brook Forest site, as shown in Figure 5.1-1. The topography of the site is generally flat. Access to the site is provided by a private road off Mirar de Valle Road. The site is dominated by two vegetation communities: non-native grasslands and flat topped buckwheat scrub.

Agriculture: The East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative is currently not under active agriculture and contains no Prime or Unique farmland. Therefore, development of the pond on this site would not convert active agricultural practices into a non-agricultural use and a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area. Compared to the proposed project, this alternative is anticipated to result in fewer impacts to agricultural resources because the proposed project identified a significant and unmitigated impact related to the loss of agricultural land (a portion of the preferred storage site location is located on Unique farmland).

Biological Resources: Similar to the proposed project, the East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative would result potentially significant impacts to sensitive vegetation communities, special-status plant species, special-status wildlife species, and jurisdictional wetlands and waters. However, the East site also contains sensitive habitat that may support populations of the federally-threatened California gnatcatcher and the federally and state-endangered least Bell's vireo. Additionally, construction of the seasonal storage pond on the East site would require a new crossing of Moosa Creek, which could result in additional impacts to USACE and CDFG jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the U.S. Compared to the proposed project, this alternative would result in greater impact to biological resources; however, those impacts would still be mitigated to below a level of significance.

Cultural Resources: Similar to the proposed project, implementation of the East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative would result in potentially significant impacts to buried archeological resources, paleontological resources, and undiscovered human remains because it would require ground disturbance of the same acreage in the project area. Additionally, this alternative would also incorporate mitigation measure to reduce potential impacts to cultural resources to less than significant levels. Compared to the project, this alternative would result is a similar level of impact to cultural resources.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials: Implementation of the East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative would result in similar level of impacts related to hazardous materials, accidental spills, airports, emergency

response plans, and wildfires as with the proposed project because both alternatives require the grading and construction of an approximately 10-acre pond. Furthermore, development of the East Storage Site alternative would not be of a land use or type that is likely to generate hazardous materials. A small quantity of materials typically utilized during construction would be present in similar quantities to those generated by the proposed project. As with the proposed project, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Comparison of the No Project/No Development Alternative to Project Objectives

The East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative could reduce impacts to agricultural resources, which would result in significant, unmitigated impacts under the proposed project. This alternative would also meet all of the objectives of the District. However, the selection of this alternative would result in both additional and greater impacts to biological resources.

5.5 ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE

Table 5.5-1 provides a qualitative comparison of the impacts for each alternative compared to the proposed project. As noted in Table 5.5-1, the No Project/No Development alternative would be considered the environmentally superior alternative, since it would eliminate all of the significant and unmitigated impacts identified for the project. However, *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6(e)(2) states that “if the environmentally superior alternative is the No Project Alternative, the Draft EIR shall also identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives.” The proposed project is identified as the environmentally superior alternative because its selection would result in both fewer and reduced impacts to biological resources as compared to the East Seasonal Storage Site Alternative.

Table 5.5-1. Comparison of Alternative Impacts to Proposed Project

Environmental Issue Area	Proposed Project ¹	Alternative 1 No Project/No Development ²	Alternative 2 East Seasonal Storage Site
Agricultural Resources	Project Level: Significant and unmitigated	CEQA Significance: No impact	CEQA Significance: Less than significant
	Cumulative Level: Significant and unmitigated	Comparison to Project: Less impact	Comparison to Project: Less impact
Biological Resources	Project Level: Mitigated to below a level of significance	CEQA Significance: No impact	CEQA Significance: Mitigated to below a level of significance
	Cumulative Level: Less than significant	Comparison to Project: Less impact	Comparison to Project: Greater impact
Cultural Resources	Project Level: Mitigated to below a level of significance	CEQA Significance: No impact	CEQA Significance: Mitigated to below a level of significance
	Cumulative Level: Less than significant	Comparison to Project: Less impact	Comparison to Project: Similar impact
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Project Level: Mitigated to below a level of significance	CEQA Significance: No impact	CEQA Significance: Mitigated to below a level of significance
	Cumulative Level: Less than Significant	Comparison to Project: Less impact	Comparison to Project: Similar impact

Note: This table provides a qualitative comparison of the level of impact for each issue area compared to the proposed project. Please see Sections 4.1 through 4.5 for a discussion of impacts for the proposed project.

6.0 GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS

This section discusses the ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth. Growth-inducing impacts are caused by those characteristics of a project that tend to foster or encourage population and/or economic growth. Inducements to growth include the generation of construction and permanent employment opportunities in the support sector of the economy. A project could also induce growth by lowering or removing barriers to growth or by creating an amenity that attracts new population or economic activity.

In accordance with Section 15126.2(d) of the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines* an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must “*discuss the ways in which the Proposed Project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Included in this are projects which would remove obstacles to population growth ... Increases in the population may tax existing community service facilities, requiring construction of new facilities that could cause significant environmental effects. Also discuss the characteristics of some projects which may encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment, either individually or cumulatively. It must not be assumed that growth in any area is necessarily beneficial, detrimental, or of little significance to the environment.*”

Two issues must be considered when assessing the growth-inducing impacts of a project:

- **Elimination of Obstacles to Population Growth:** The extent to which additional infrastructure capacity or a change in regulatory structure will allow additional development in the County.
- **Promotion of Economic Growth:** The extent to which the proposed project can cause increased activity in the local or regional economy. Economic impacts can include direct effects, such as the direction and strategies implemented within the project area, and indirect or secondary impacts, such as increased commercial activity needed to serve the additional population projected from the project.

6.1 ELIMINATION OF OBSTACLES TO POPULATION GROWTH

The elimination of either physical or regulatory obstacles to population growth is considered to be a growth-inducing impact. A physical obstacle to population growth typically involves the lack of public service infrastructure. The extension of public service infrastructure, including roadways, water mains, and sewer lines, into areas not currently provided with these services is expected to support new development. Similarly, the elimination of or change to a regulatory obstacle, including existing growth and development policies, can result in new population growth.

For Phase II, the capacity of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) would be expanded by 350 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs), or 87,500 gallons per day (gpd). This expansion would provide the District with the infrastructure needed to serve residential uses in the South Village Service Area that are currently utilizing septic systems. Expansion of the WVRWRF would also accommodate the development of new housing and/or commercial and industrial uses consistent with the current County of San Diego General Plan. Expanded service would be provided to the Bell & Alti developments and properties in the South Village area that have made reservations to participate in the Assessment District.

The objective of this project is to provide wastewater service only to existing and/or new development that is allowed under the zoning densities outlined in the current General Plan. Because the General Plan

incorporates population growth in its zoning densities, Phase II would not be considered growth inducing. In addition, Phase II would not directly result in an increase in residents or jobs to Valley Center.

The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would accommodate growth beyond that identified in Phase II in accordance with the current County of San Diego General Plan and the proposed General Plan Update. Under both scenarios, expansion would occur almost exclusively within the South Village Service Area.. While the WVRWRF would be expanded further, the objective of this project is to provide service to currently anticipated growth. Because the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would result in the extension of wastewater facilities that would serve only planned-for growth, the project would not be considered growth inducing.

In addition, the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would not directly result in an increase in residents or jobs to Valley Center.

Promotion of Economic Growth

Increased industrial, commercial, and residential development typically generates a secondary or indirect demand for other services. However, since both Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would not generate increased residents or jobs, secondary economic effects such as stimulated activity would not occur.

6.2 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In summary, Phase II would only service existing and planned for development under the existing General Plan and the Draft General Plan Update upon adoption. The Ultimate Service Area Expansion would accommodate growth beyond that identified in Phase II but in accordance with the current County of San Diego General Plan and the proposed General Plan Update. Because Phase II and the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would be consistent with both General Plans, the proposed project would not directly induce additional population or economic growth in the County.

7.0 Inventory of Unavoidable and Significant Adverse Impacts

7.0 INVENTORY OF UNAVOIDABLE AND SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

In accordance with *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines* Section 15126(b), Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) must include a discussion of significant environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the proposed project is implemented. The impact analysis, as detailed in Section 4.0 of this Draft EIR, concludes that the following impacts would remain significant after mitigation for the proposed project:

7.1 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

The West site contains 68 acres of Unique Farmland. Within the site, the Phase II pond would be specifically located on approximately ten acres of Unique Farmland. Therefore, at the project-level, ~~during the Phase II construction of the seasonal storage pond,~~ approximately ten acres of Unique Farmland would be converted to a non-agricultural use upon the construction and operation of the Phase II storage pond.

Further expansion of the seasonal storage pond ~~constructed during Phase II~~ as part of the Ultimate Service Area Expansion would result in additional conversion of Unique Farmland to a non-agricultural use only at the West site. Under this scenario, approximately 30 additional acres of Unique Farmland would be converted to a non-agricultural use with the expansion of the West seasonal storage pond under the Ultimate Service Area Expansion.

The conversion of Farmland of Local Importance is not considered significant. Therefore, since the three alternate seasonal storage sites (East, District, and Brook Forest) only contain Farmland of Local Importance, no additional impacts to important farmland have been identified for the Ultimate Service Area Expansion.

Furthermore, when the proposed project is considered in conjunction with other cumulative projects in the area, a significant cumulative impact is also identified. The conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use represents a significant and unmitigated impact.

8.0 Persons and Organizations Consulted and References

8.0 PREPARERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AND REFERENCES

8.1 PREPARATION OF EIR

The following individuals were responsible for the content of this Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

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8.2 REFERENCES

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Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***Attachment 1A
Notice of Determination
Final EIR - South Village
Water Reclamation Project***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

1 0 0 2 7 7

TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk County of: San Diego Address: 1600 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA92101	FROM:	City of: Valley Center Municipal Water Address: 29300 Valley Center Rd. Contact: Dianne Kilwein Phone: 760-749-1603, ext. 259
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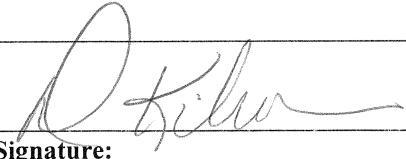
TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 <input type="checkbox"/> 1400 Tenth Street (overnight or hand delivery) Sacramento, California 95814
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR		
State Clearinghouse Number (If submitted to SCH): 2007101049	Contact Person: Dianne Kilwein	Telephone Number: 760-749-1603, ext. 259
Specific Project Location – Identify street address and cross street or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 ½' topographical map identified by quadrangle name): The project area is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of the City of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the community of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south. Primary access into Valley Center is via Valley Center Road, which links the community to the City of Escondido. The South Village area of the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center. Figure 2.1-1 depicts the regional and local vicinity of the project.		
General Project Location (City and/or County): Valley Center, CA.		
Project Description: The proposed project includes a modification of the currently held Waste Discharge Permit (RWQCB Order No. R9-1998-0009 as amended, WVRWRF), formation of an Assessment District, and adoption of the South Village Wastewater Master Plan for the Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion of wastewater service for the South Village area of Valley Center, CA. The project includes the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution pipelines, and the construction of wet weather seasonal storage pond(s) and irrigation disposal area (s).		

This is to advise that the Valley Center Municipal Water District (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) approved the above described project on: April 7, 2008 and made the following determinations:

1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project will have a significant effect on the environment.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	The project will NOT have a significant effect on the environment				
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An Environmental Impact Report was prepared and certified for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.				
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigation measures were NOT made a condition of the approval of the project.				
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was NOT adopted for this project.				
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Statement of Overriding Considerations was NOT adopted for this project				
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Findings were NOT made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.				
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This certifies that the location and custodian of the documents which comprise the record of proceedings for the Final EIR (with comments and responses) or Negative Declaration are available to the general public at the following location(s):				
		<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Custodian:</td> <td>Location:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Valley Center Municipal Water District</td> <td>29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082</td> </tr> </table>	Custodian:	Location:	Valley Center Municipal Water District	29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082
Custodian:	Location:					
Valley Center Municipal Water District	29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082					

Date: <u>Nov 15, 2010</u>	Signature: <u></u>
Date Received for Filing: _____	Title: <u>Project Manager</u>

FILED
David Butler, Recorder/County Clerk
NOV 29 2010
BY L. Kesian
DEPUTY

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
San Diego County on NOV 29 2010
Posted NOV 29 2010 Removed JAN 03 2011
Returned to agency on JAN 03 2011
Deputy L. Kesian



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

Attachment 2
Addendum No. 1 to Final EIR

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

**Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report
for the South Village Reclamation Project (SCH # 2007101049)
(October 22, 2010)**

1. BACKGROUND: The Valley Center Municipal Water District (“District”) adopted the South Village Master Plan (“Master Plan”) on August 4, 2008. The Master Plan addressed expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, recycled water use facilities and extension of wastewater service to the South Village ultimate service area. Prior to adopting the Master Plan, the District certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH #2007101049) (“EIR”). The South Village Water Reclamation project would facilitate the community’s transition from septic to municipal wastewater service. The EIR analyzed, at a project level, the potential environmental impacts that could result from: (1) the creation of an Assessment District, (2) the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF), (3) the installation of new wastewater collection and conveyance pipelines, and (4) the creation of a seasonal wet weather storage pond.

The District filed a Notice of Determination of the Master Plan approval and certification of the EIR on April 7, 2008. No lawsuit was filed challenging the District’s approval of the project or the environmental analysis. Therefore, pursuant to section 21167.2 of the Public Resources Code, the EIR must be conclusively presumed to be valid with regard to its use for later activities unless any of the circumstances requiring supplemental review exist. (Pub. Resources Code, §21167.2; *Laurel Heights Improvement Ass’n v. Regents of the University of California* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1112, 1130 (“[a]fter certification, the interests of finality are favored”); *Santa Teresa Citizen Action Group v. City of San Jose* (2003) 114 Cal. App. 4th 689, 705-706.)

Following certification of the EIR and adoption of the Master Plan, the District identified an alternative location for the seasonal wet weather storage pond that was not previously analyzed in the EIR, as well as a reduction in the ultimate capacity requirements of the treatment facilities. The State CEQA Guidelines provide that a lead agency “shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.” (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15164, subd. (a).) Section 15162 provides:

When an EIR has been certified or a negative declaration adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:

- (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;
- (2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or
- (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the Negative Declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:
 - (A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration;
 - (B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;

- (C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effect of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
- (D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effect on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

(State CEQA Guidelines, § 15162, subd. (a).) The District prepared an initial study (see below) to determine whether selection of a new location for the seasonal storage pond would require preparation of a subsequent EIR. As documented in the initial study, the new pond location would not result in any such circumstances. Therefore, preparation of a subsequent EIR is not necessary, and preparation of this Addendum is appropriate.

2. PROJECT: Woods Valley Ranch WRF Seasonal Storage Site and the South Village Master Plan Amendment

3. LEAD AGENCY: Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, CA 92082

4. CONTACT PERSON & PHONE: Wally Grabbe
District Engineer
(760) 749-1600

5. PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located on two separate lots (APNs 1890910100 and 1890910200) within southern California in an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the City of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south. The primary access into the community of Valley Center is via Valley Center Road, the community's town center and the main linkage between Valley Center and the City of Escondido. (See Figures 1, 2, and 3).



Figure 1
General Location Map

Woods Valley Ranch WRF Seasonal Storage Site Project

USGS Santa Ana (1:100,000 series)



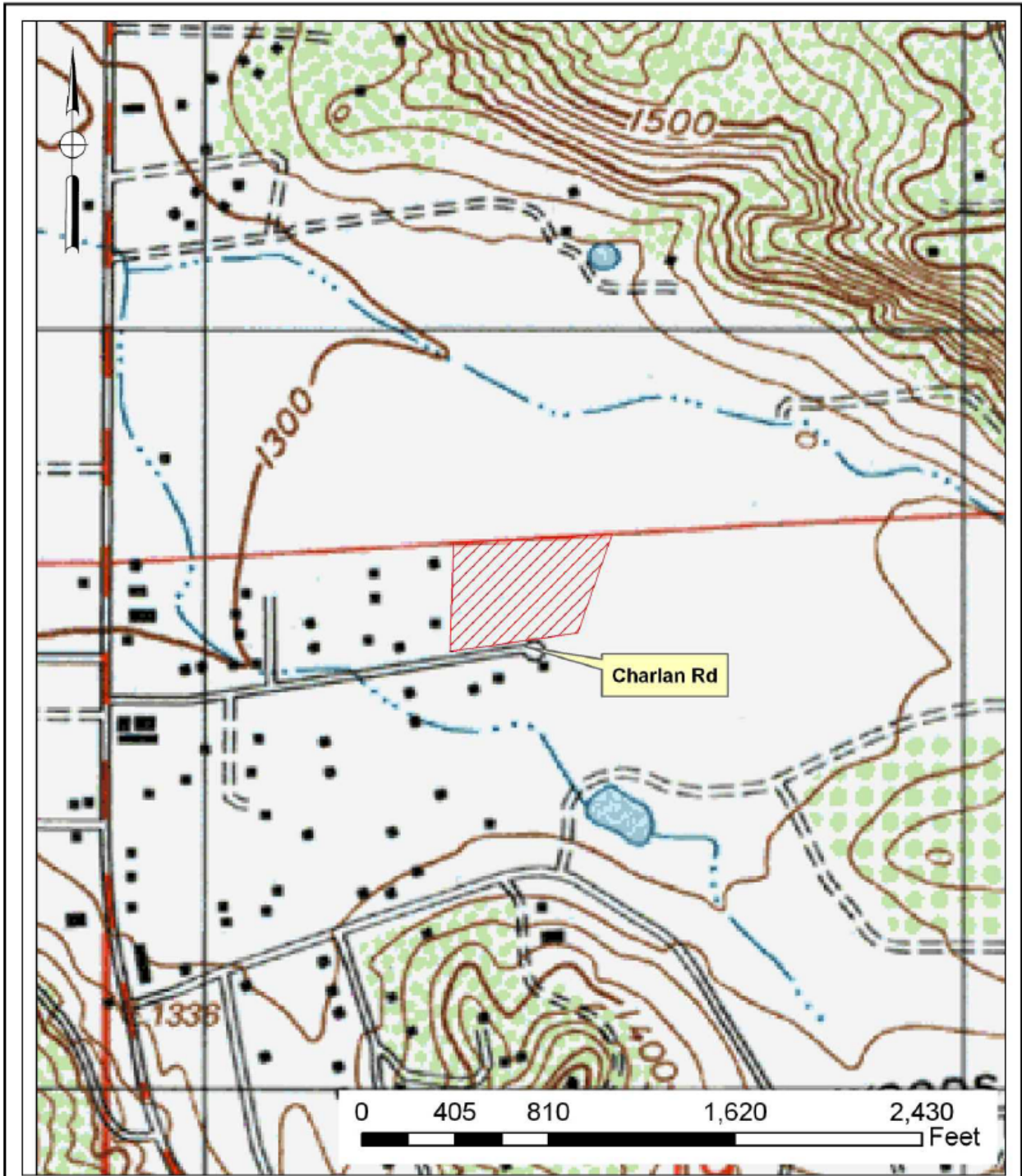


Figure 2

Project Location Map

Woods Valley Ranch WRF Seasonal Storage Site Project

USGS Valley Center Quadrangle (7.5 minute series)



6. APPLICANT: Valley Center Municipal Water District, Wally Grabbe – District Engineer, 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082

7. GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION: The project currently is Rural Residential 1 dwelling unit per acre; however, the proposed GP 2020 is Village Residential (VR-7.3)

8. ZONING: RR-1

9. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Master Plan for the South Village Water Reclamation Project is being amended to add a seasonal storage site located on Charlan Road and to modify the configuration of the treatment process resulting in a slightly lower ultimate capacity. The Charlan Road seasonal storage pond will provide 49 acre-feet (af) of the 116 af total volume required for full build-out of the South Village area and is the preferred site for the initial expansion phase. The initial phase of the Charlan Road seasonal storage pond will provide approximately 20 af of storage for recycled water during non-irrigation periods; sufficient volume for the proposed 350 EDU initial expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch WRF (157,500 gpd total capacity). The pond will be HDPE lined, thus the stored recycled water will not impact the groundwater quality or level. There will be a pipeline running from the north (which connects to an existing transmission pipeline within the golf course access road that runs east-west behind the northerly lots on Charlan Road) in a southerly direction into the pond and a drain line running from the pond northerly to the piping connecting the existing golf course ponds used to supply the irrigation system. Earth work for the initial construction phase of the storage pond will include excavating the interior of the pond approximately two feet and constructing a berm to form a pond of sufficient volume. The pond will ultimately have an average surface area of approximately 3.27 acres and a maximum water depth of 15 feet with an additional 2 feet of emergency freeboard depth available. The top of the berms will ultimately extend between 12 and 15 feet above the existing grade elevation. The initial expansion phase construction will have a lower berm height. Earthwork material for construction of the berm will be imported and unsuitable material exported offsite as required. It is anticipated that less than 400 truck hauling trips will be required during the initial phase construction, which is estimated to require approximately three months to complete.

The two lots proposed for the pond site have previously been graded as part of the grading for residential lots along Charlan Road. There are currently two constructed drainage ditches that run through the two lots from the south eastern corner of the east lot to the northwestern corner of the west lot. This existing drainage swale will be relocated to carry stormwater around the north eastern corner of the proposed pond and the storm water will be then directed to the current point of discharge off of the two lots along the northerly property line. A toe swale will be created on the southern and western faces of the pond to collect any surface runoff of rain water and direct this water away from adjoining properties to the same discharge point as described above. The runoff from the eastern and northern faces of the pond berm will already be directed to the relocated swale described above.

The configuration of the treatment process proposed for Woods Valley Ranch WRF was reduced from an additional two (2) 200,000 gallons per day (gpd) units for a total flow of 475,000 gpd (including the current 75,000 gpd) to an additional three (3) 125,000 gpd units for a total flow of 450,000 gpd. This modification provides for smaller incremental expansion phases, without excessively increasing total cost of the facility. It is anticipated that the reclamation facility will be expanded in multiple phases as required for approved development within the service area. The Charlan Road seasonal storage site would be sufficient for expansion of the WRF up to a total of 225,000 gpd. Expansion of this storage facility to its ultimate 49 af capacity is expected to occur in one additional future construction phase.

10. SURROUNDING LAND USE(S) & PROJECT SETTING: The Charlan Road seasonal storage pond is bordered on the west and south by rural residential and is bordered by a golf course to the north and east.

11. OTHER REQUIRED AGENCY APPROVALS: The project will require the approval of both the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and the State Water Resources Control Board.

12. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The project would not result in any new or substantially more severe impacts than were documented in the certified EIR. A summary of the environmental factors that were reviewed and would be potentially affected by this alternative, as compared to the originally analyzed alternative, consisting of a Potentially Significant Impact or Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated, More Severe Significant Impacts or New Significant Impact, are indicated in the following table, (none were adversely affected):

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Geological
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards	<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<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
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities Systems		

13. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST: This section analyzes the potential environmental impacts that may result from the proposed project to determine whether a supplemental or subsequent EIR is required. For the evaluation of potential impacts, the questions in the Initial Study Checklist (Section 2) are stated and answers are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study. The analysis considers the project's short-term impacts (construction-related), and its operational or day-to-day impacts. For each question, there are four possible responses. They include:

1. No Greater Impact. Future development arising from the project's implementation will not have any measurable impact on the environment, or the impact will be no greater than what was analyzed in the certified EIR, and no additional analysis is required.
2. New Mitigation is Declined. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows: mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible (or new mitigation measures or alternatives are considerably different) and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative .
3. More Severe Impact. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if project changes, changes in project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows that the project will result in impacts that are substantially more severe than were analyzed in the certified EIR.
4. New Significant Impact. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if project changes, changes in project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows that the project will have impacts that are considered significant, and were not analyzed as a significant impact in the certified EIR, and additional analysis is required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic building along a State-designated scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) ***Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*** The proposed storage pond on Charlan Road would be surrounded by permanent fencing for security. The footprint may also include small above ground utility equipment that may be visible from the east and south residential lots. Underground utilities would include the construction of two pipelines from existing pipelines in the golf course into the proposed pond. The EIR identified a number of scenic resources with Valley Center but none of these are in the viewshed of the proposed alternative location. Therefore, implementation of the proposed alternative location would not have a greater impact than the locations identified in the EIR.
- b) ***Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*** No scenic highways are in the project vicinity. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) ***Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?*** Refer to the response to a) above. The proposed alternative site would utilize similar construction materials and fencing as the originally proposed site. The remaining considerations regarding the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings are similar to the originally studied location therefore the alternative project would not have a greater impact than the original location. An architectural rendering of the proposed pond is provided in Appendix A.
- d) ***Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*** The proposed project would not create any significant source of lighting. Therefore, no impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance as depicted on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the CA. Resources Agency?	<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. Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, because of their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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 non-agricultural use?* The project site is zoned RR-1 and is not considered farmland. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?* The proposed project site is zoned rural residential not agricultural and is not subject to any Williamson Act contract. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) *Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, because of their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?* Neither the project site nor any surrounding properties is considered farmland, so no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
III. AIR QUALITY. Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Violate an air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under the applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?* The proposed project is governed by the San Diego Air Pollution Control District and is situated within the San Diego Air Basin, which currently is in Non-Attainment status for PM₁₀ and Ozone. The project includes construction of a seasonal pond to store tertiary treated

wastewater for irrigating the golf course to the north and east. The site for the seasonal storage pond now under consideration is smaller in size than the pond site considered in the EIR; therefore, less grading would be required, and fewer pollutant emissions would result. In addition, because of the project intent, the project is not expected to generate significant operational emissions from vehicular use by the project. The EIR found that the project as originally described would not exceed the San Diego Air Pollution Control District's thresholds, and since the new pond site would be smaller than originally analyzed, the new site would not cause the project to exceed the applicable thresholds. Because the project would not exceed an established air quality threshold, it would satisfy the Consistency Criterion of the San Diego Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS). Compliance with the RAQS ensures consistency with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for all criteria pollutants under examination by default. Since the project is consistent with both the RAQS and SIP, it would not conflict or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plans. No greater impacts are expected.

- b) *Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?*** Refer to the response to a) above. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) *Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?*** Refer to the response a) above. No greater impacts are expected.
- d) *Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*** Sensitive receptors within the vicinity of the project would be residential uses to the west and south and would be exposed to a small amount of construction diesel particulate matter over a three-month period. An URBEMIS 2007 model was run for the three month construction period and it was determined that the project would produce approximately 2.45 pounds PM_{10} exhaust per day and, given the size of the project site, would generate an emission rate of 1.42×10^{-6} grams/meter²/second. Utilizing the SCREEN3 dispersion model and the project emission rate, it was found that the proposed project would produce maximum PM_{10} exhaust concentration of 55 micro grams per meter³. A Heath Risk analysis was performed utilizing the maximum PM_{10} concentration and it was found that the cancer risk was 6.43 individuals per 1,000,000 individuals exposed to 100% of project PM_{10} exhaust emissions. The County of San Diego requires all projects increasing the cancer risk to greater than 10 in 1,000,000 implement mitigation measures to bring the risk down to below significant. The proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations and would not be an impact. A copy of the URBEMIS 2007 model results is included in Appendix B – Construction Health Risk Assessment.
- e) *Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?*** The proposed project would store tertiary treated wastewater, which does not produce any objectionable odors and is considered safe to irrigate with. Therefore, no objectionable odors are expected.

f)

	New Significant Impacts	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
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 Game or the USFWS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 Game (DFG) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy/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"/>

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 Game or the USFWS?*** The area impacted by the project has been previously disturbed. A habitat assessment has been prepared for the project site and included as Appendix C – Biological Assessment. Plant communities within the project area, as identified by *A Manual of California Vegetation* (John O. Sawyer and Todd Keeler-Wolf) Habitat Classification System, are California Annual Grassland Series consisting of non-native grasses and herbaceous plants. The proposed project would not have an adverse effect, either directly or indirectly 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 Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

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 Game (DFG) or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*** The Biological Assessment Report prepared for the site does not identify any federal or state jurisdictional areas within the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would have no 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 Game or U. S. Fish and Wild Service. The project site is void of riparian corridors and sensitive habitat. Thus, no greater impacts are expected.

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? No wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, exist or have been identified on-site or immediately adjoining the site. Thus, no greater impacts are expected.

- 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?***
The construction of the proposed project would not interfere with any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites, as none exist within the project area. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e. *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy/ordinance?*** There are no native oaks or other trees on the proposed project site. Because there are no species or habitat on the project site, there will be no conflict with local ordinances protecting biological resources. Therefore, no impacts are greater expected.
- 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?*** The project area is situated in the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Plan area of the San Diego County MSCP. Species or plant communities protected by the draft North County MSCP Plan do not occur on or near the proposed project site. The proposed project will not conflict with the draft North County MSCP Plan. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Decline	No Greater Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5 of CEQA?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5 of CEQA?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5 of CEQA?*** Based on Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, the project site and surrounding area are not designated as archaeological or historically sensitive areas. No cultural resources have been identified within the boundaries of this project.

According to a records and literature search at the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) located at San Diego State University, the project area has not been previously surveyed and no cultural resources have been documented within the project site. Additionally, a field survey conducted on May 14, 2010, yielded no evidence of cultural resources. Because of the highly disturbed nature of the property, due to prior grading activities, there is no potential for buried resources to be present. However, pursuant to MM 4.4-2 through MM 4.4-9 of the EIR, qualified monitors will observe grading of the project to address any unexpected discoveries of cultural resources. Therefore, no greater impacts on cultural resources are expected by the proposed alternative site. A copy of the field survey is included in Appendix D – Cultural Resource Survey.

- b) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5 of CEQA?* Refer to the response to a) above. No archaeological resources have been identified in or adjacent to the project area of potential effect (APE). Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?* Because of the project’s relative location and the totally disturbed surface, no subsurface paleontological resources are expected. Therefore, the project would not impact paleontological resources. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- d) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?* There are no known gravesites within the project boundaries. Therefore, no greater impacts to graves are expected relating to the alternative site. However, in the unlikely event that human remains are encountered, refer to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, which states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of any human remains find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery, and shall complete the inspection within 24 hours of notification by the NAHC. The MLD will have the opportunity to make recommendations to the NAHC on the disposition of the remains.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
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, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault (Refer to DM&G Pub. 42)?; or, (ii) strong seismic ground shaking?; or, (iii) seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?; or, (iv) landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the 1997 UBC, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:**
- 1) **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.** The project site is not located on any known geologic faults nor is the project within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. However, the project is located within southern California, which is known to be seismically active, which could cause ground shaking during an earthquake. Local building codes address these events. Therefore, there will be no greater impacts than the originally proposed project.
 - 2) **Strong seismic ground shaking?** See response to a) 1) above. The project would be required to utilize industry standard design parameters, conformance with applicable sections of the “Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Small Embankment Dams” published by the Division of Dam Safety, California Department of Water Resources and the final recommendations for the specific design identified in the geotechnical investigation, which would mitigate most ground shaking events. However, similar to the original site, there are no known seismic conditions existing that would expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects. Therefore, impacts would be no greater than the originally proposed location.
 - 3) **Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?** See response to a) 1) above. The project would be required to utilize industry standard design parameters, conformance with applicable sections of the “Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Small Embankment Dams” published by the Division of Dam Safety, California Department of Water Resources and the final recommendations for the specific design identified in the geotechnical investigation which would mitigate seismically-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Therefore, impacts would be no greater than the originally proposed project. The project would be constructed in a similar manner as that identified for the original location, therefore there will be no greater impacts than the original location.
 - 4) **Landslides?** See response to a) 1) above. Landslides are mass movements of the ground that include rock falls, relatively shallow slumping and sliding of soil, and deeper rotational or transitional movement of soil or rock. The alternative location is mostly flat therefore the likelihood of landslide activity is low. The alternative location will have no greater impacts than the originally proposed location.
- b) **Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?** The construction of the proposed seasonal storage pond will require grading that could result in erosion. However, standard erosion control methods utilizing best management practices (BMP) would be implemented throughout construction of the project. A Storm Water permit consistent with the State’s most current discharge permit will be required (i.e., 2009 General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activities). Following construction of the berms, the exterior slope faces will be landscaped to prevent erosion of the berms. Therefore, the impacts would be no greater than the original project.
- 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?** See response to a) 1), above. A final design geotechnical investigation will be performed to provide specific design direction for the construction of the pond. Based on construction and the associated geotechnical investigations performed in the immediate vicinity, it is not anticipated that 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. In addition, the project would be required to utilize industry standard design parameters, conformance with applicable sections of the “Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Small Embankment Dams” published by the Division of Dam Safety, California Department of Water Resources and the final recommendations for the specific design identified in the geotechnical investigation which would mitigate any potential of these types of

impacts. The project will not create any greater impacts than the originally proposed location.

- d) **Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1997), creating substantial risks to life or property?** The seasonal storage pond would be built on Visalia Sandy Loam, which is not typically considered to be an expansive soil. The project would be required to utilize industry standard design parameters, conformance with applicable sections of the “Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Small Embankment Dams” published by the Division of Dam Safety, California Department of Water Resources and the final recommendations for the specific design identified in the geotechnical investigation which would mitigate expansive soil failure. Therefore, a final design geotechnical investigation will be performed to provide specific design direction for the construction of the pond. As the soil associated with the proposed alternative location is similar in nature to that identified for the original location, no greater impacts are expected.

- d) **Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?** The proposed project is a tertiary treated wastewater storage pond. The storage basin will be lined with an impermeable liner. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?** The proposed project is expected to generate some increase in greenhouse gases over the existing environmental setting. Most of the greenhouse gases produced by the project would be during construction. BFSA modeled the construction activities proposed within the project and found that the proposed project would create 219.82 tons of CO₂ annually (See URBEMIS 2007 attachments within the project Construction Heath Risk Assessment). The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) published a white paper which suggested screening criteria of 900 metric tons of GHGs per year. Additionally, construction CO₂ is averaged over 30 years which means the project would produce 7.33 tons of CO₂ or 6.65 metric tons annually. The project would also create minimal CO₂ impacts from vehicle miles traveled during the typical work day but due to the very small project trip generation, impacts would not be possible. No plans or regulations for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions apply to this project. Therefore, the proposed project will not have any greater greenhouse gas emission impacts. A copy of the Construction Health Risk Assessment is included in Appendix B.

- b) **Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?** See response to a) above. No greater impacts expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site that 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 has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?* The proposed project would not involve any routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?* The proposed project would contain tertiary treated wastewater, which is not considered a hazardous material. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?* The proposed project would contain tertiary treated wastewater, which is not considered a hazardous material. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- d) *Be located on a site that 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?* The project site does not contain any hazardous materials as defined by Government Code Section 65962.5. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or*

working in the project area? The proposed project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

- 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?* The proposed project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- g) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* The proposed project would have no impacts on emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- 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?* The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of wild fires. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 that 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 that would result in 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 that would result in flooding on or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 that 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"/>

- a) ***Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?*** The installation of the seasonal storage pond could result in increased storm water runoff during construction activities. The proposed project would need to prepare a storm water pollution prevention plan in accordance with the State's 2009 Construction General Permit. Risk analysis and determination between Risk Level 1 and Risk Level 3 must be determined and requisite BMPs implemented. The pond will be constructed such that a minimum of two feet of free board depth will be provided. In the event the pond encroaches on the two foot free board, District operations staff will be able to divert flows to existing storage ponds located in another location. As a result of compliance with applicable permit requirements, the impacts would be no greater than the originally proposed project.
- 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 that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?*** The project would not be expected to use or deplete groundwater. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) ***Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?*** The proposed location of the pond on the two lots will require the relocation of a drainage swale that currently runs from the south eastern corner of the eastern most lot to a location approximately 100 feet west of the eastern property line of the same lot on the northern property line. The swale will be relocated, and concrete-lined, to carry the water around the north eastern corner of the proposed pond and the surface water will be then directed to the current point of discharge off of the two lots. A toe swale will be created on the southern and western faces of the pond to collect any surface runoff of rain water and direct this water away from adjoining properties to the same discharge point as described above. The runoff from the eastern and northern faces of the pond berm will already be directed to the relocated swale described above. The construction of the seasonal storage pond could result in erosion and sedimentation; however, BMPs as implemented by the required 2009 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for the project will prevent such erosion from occurring. Further, as explained in the EIR, appropriate project design features would be incorporated into the construction of the pond to minimize impacts. Specifically, an earthen berm would be constructed around the pond's perimeter to divert surface flows around the pond and offsite, in the same manner as they would under natural conditions. Therefore, impacts to the site's existing drainage pattern associated with the construction of the Charlan Road site would be no greater than the originally proposed project.
- 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 that would result in flooding on- or off-site?*** See response to c) above. Based on the findings, impacts to the site's existing drainage pattern associated with the construction of the Charlan Road site would be no greater than the originally proposed project.
- e) ***Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?*** See response to a) above. As a result of compliance with applicable permit requirements, the impacts would be no greater than the originally proposed project.
- f) ***Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?*** Because of the nature of the project, the proposed project would not degrade water quality. Therefore, the impacts would be no greater than the originally proposed project.
- 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?*** The proposed project area is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area. Therefore, no greater impacts than the originally proposed project would occur. A copy of

the applicable FEMA map (06073C0809F – Revised October 24, 2005) indicating the 100-year flood plain is located in Appendix E.

- h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?** The proposed project is not located within the 100-yr floodplain area. Therefore, no greater impacts would occur.
- 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?** The facilities are not located within the 100-yr floodplain area. No greater impacts than the originally proposed project are expected.
- j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?** The project is not located near any large bodies of water. There are no greater impacts expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

- a) Physically divide an established community?** The proposed project will not have an impact on the physical arrangement of an established community. The proposed project borders a golf course to the north and east and residential to the south and west. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- 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?** The proposed use will be installed in an area with a rural residential land use. However, public facilities such as the seasonal storage pond are allowed within this land use designation. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?** The proposed project is not located on any approved land identified within any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. Therefore, no impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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?** The proposed project site is not an area containing existing or planned aggregate operations. Therefore, the alternative project would have no greater impacts.
- 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?** The proposed project site would be located within an approved residential land use and is not an area containing existing or planned mining operations. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XII. NOISE. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, 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"/>

- 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?** The proposed project may create a short-term construction noise impact to nearby adjacent residential uses. BFSA conducted a construction noise assessment and it was determined that noise levels will not exceed the County of San Diego’s construction noise thresholds as defined within Section 3 6.409 of the Noise Ordinance (75 dBA over 8-hours). Average hourly construction noise levels at nearby property lines will be expected to range between 68 dBA and 73 dBA. A copy of the noise assessment is included in Appendix F. The construction at the alternative site would take place in generally the same manner as that identified for the original site location. The alternative site construction would be regulated by the same provisions of County Code as the original site. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected relating to the alternative site.
- b) **Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.** As with the originally proposed project, the impact from construction related groundbourne vibration would be short-term and confined to the immediate area around the activity (within approximately 25 feet). Because the proposed construction activities are to be more than 25 feet from any occupied structure, construction of the proposed project would not result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundbourne vibration or groundbourne noise levels. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) **A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?** Because of the nature and scope of the proposed project, a permanent increase in the ambient noise level in the project vicinity is not expected. Additionally, all mechanical equipment must incorporate design features to ensure compliance with the County of San Diego’s Municipal Code with respect to property line noise thresholds.
- d) **A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?** See response to a) above.
- e) **For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?** The proposed project is not located within two miles of any airport. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- 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?** The proposed project is not located within two miles of any airport. Therefore, no impacts are greater expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIII. POPULATION & HOUSING. Would the project:				
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"/>

- 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)?** The proposed project

is a component of a larger expansion project. The EIR for that project analyzed the potential growth inducing impacts of that expansion. The new pond location would not induce population growth beyond what was analyzed in the EIR. No greater impacts to population and housing beyond those analyzed in the original EIR and identified within the County's General Plan would occur.

- b) **Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?** The proposed project would not require the removal of existing housing, and therefore would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) **Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?** See response to a) and b) above. No greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIV PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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:				
Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Fire protection?** Implementation of the proposed project would not induce population growth requiring public services. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.
- b) **Police protection?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) **Schools?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- d) **Parks** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e) **Other public facilities?** The seasonal storage pond would not result in any foreseeable impacts to public services. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIV RECREATION. Would the project:				
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"/>

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?* The project would not generate any additional use to existing neighborhood or regional parks. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

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?* The construction of the proposed project will not include recreational facilities. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a. Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion/management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) ***Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?*** The proposed project would not increase daily operational trips for the project. Because of the nature of the proposed project, the seasonal storage pond would only create trips related to maintenance of the seasonal storage pond. A residential use for the lots would produce approximately 20 trips per day while the proposed project would be expected to produce no more than 10 trips per day. Construction related trips utilized in either import or export of material could be expected to be as high as 400 trips over a period of four weeks. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) ***Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?*** See response a) above. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) ***Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that result in substantial safety risks?*** The project would not alter air traffic patterns. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- d) ***Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?*** No public roadways are proposed as part of the project. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e) ***Result in inadequate emergency access?*** Adequate emergency access shall be provided during both construction and operation of the proposed project. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- f) ***Result in inadequate parking capacity?*** The proposed seasonal storage pond would not be expected to require significant parking spaces. Construction equipment will be staged onsite and would not be considered an impact. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- g) ***Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?*** The project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
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 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 storm water 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 from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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 sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the projects 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 waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) ***Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?*** Improvements associated with the proposed project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) ***Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*** The seasonal storage pond is designed to hold tertiary treated wastewater and is the subject of this initial study. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) ***Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*** See response to b) above. The project does include the construction of new concrete lined swales to direct storm water to existing discharge points; the construction of those swales was analyzed in the EIR and this addendum. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.
- d) ***Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?*** The seasonal storage pond will be filled with tertiary treated wastewater from Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). Therefore, no greater impacts expected.
- e) ***Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?*** See response to d) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- f) ***Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?*** The seasonal storage pond will not increase/create solid waste. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.
- g) ***Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*** The seasonal storage pond will not increase/create solid waste. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVIII MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE. Would the project:				
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 decrease 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 major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable (Cumulatively considerable means the project’s incremental effects are considerable when compared to the past, present, and future effects of other projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Does the project have environmental effects that will have substantial adverse effects on human beings, directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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 decrease 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 major periods of California history or prehistory?* The proposed project does not have the potential to impact sensitive biological or archeological resources. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) *Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?* The seasonal storage pond would be expected to have a less than significant short-term impact on the environment and mitigation is not required. Prior to construction, the project applicant would be required to notify the RWQCB and submit a Notice of Intent per the guidelines within the State’s 2009 Construction General Permit; however, compliance with all of the required BMPs and policies will ensure that no impacts would occur beyond what was analyzed in the EIR and this addendum. Therefore, the project would not achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals. Therefore this site has no greater impacts than the originally identified site.
- c) *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable (Cumulatively considerable means the project’s incremental effects are considerable when compared to the past, present, and future effects of other projects)?* During the construction of the proposed project construction traffic could add vehicles to nearby roads; however, the impacts would not be significant because of the fact that construction traffic volumes would be minimal compared to near-term roadway volumes. Operationally, the alternative location would not be expected to have any greater impacts on population growth in the area than the original project.
- d) *Does the project have environmental effects that will have substantial adverse effects on human beings, directly or indirectly?* The seasonal storage pond construction would not have any greater impacts on the environment than what was analyzed in the EIR. All applicable mitigation measures from that EIR will be implemented for this project.

14. PREPARATION. The initial study for the subject project was prepared by:

Ryan Taylor
Project Engineer
Brian F. Smith and Associates
760-855-3389

15. DETERMINATION. Based on this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- 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 the mitigation measures described herein have been included in this project. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- 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.

16. ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix A – Architectural Rendering of the proposed Charlan Road Pond
- Appendix B – Construction Health Risk Assessment
- Appendix C – Biological Assessment
- Appendix D – Cultural Resources Survey
- Appendix E – FEMA Map
- Appendix F – Noise Assessment



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***Attachment 2A
Notice of Determination
Addendum No. 1 to Final EIR***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	FROM:	City of:	Valley Center Municipal Water
	or	F I L E D Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr., Recorder County Clerk Address: 29300 Valley Center Rd. Contact: Dianne Kilwein Phone: 760-735-4500		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk				
County of:	San Diego			
Address:	1600 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA92101			
		JAN 20 2011 L. Kesian DEPUTY		

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
 San Diego County on JAN 20 2011
 Posted JAN 20 2011 Removed _____
 Returned to agency on _____
 Deputy **L. Kesian**

TO:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1400 Tenth Street (overnight or hand delivery) Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Addendum to South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR		
State Clearinghouse Number (If submitted to SCH): 2007101049	Contact Person: Dianne Kilwein	Telephone Number: 760-735-4500
Specific Project Location – Identify street address and cross street or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15’ or 7 ½’ topographical map identified by quadrangle name): The project area for the EIR is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of the City of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the community of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south. Primary access into Valley Center is via Valley Center Road, which links the community to the City of Escondido. The South Village area of the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center. The project site for the addendum is located on two separate lots (APNs 1890910100 and 1890910200) within the community of Valley Center. (See Figures 1, 2, and 3).		
General Project Location (City and/or County): Valley Center, CA.		
Project Description: The EIR was certified on April 7, 2008 for the proposed project which includes adoption of the South Village Wastewater Master Plan (for the Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion of wastewater service for the South Village area), formation of an Assessment District, and a modification of the currently held Waste Discharge Permit (RWQCB Order No. R9-1998-0009 as amended). The project includes the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution pipelines, and the construction of wet weather seasonal storage pond(s) and pipelines to the irrigation disposal area (s).		

Following certification of the EIR and adoption of the Master Plan, the District identified an alternative location for the seasonal wet weather storage pond that was not previously analyzed in the EIR, as well as a reconfiguration of the treatment modules which resulted in a slight reduction in the ultimate capacity requirements of the reclamation facilities. It was determined from the initial study that the preparation of a subsequent EIR is not necessary, and preparation of this Addendum is appropriate.

The Charlan Road seasonal storage pond will provide 49 acre-feet (af) of the 116 af total volume required for full build-out of the South Village area and is the preferred site for the initial expansion phase. The initial phase of the Charlan Road seasonal storage pond will provide approximately 20 af of storage for recycled water for the proposed 350 EDU initial expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch WRF (157,500 gpd total capacity).

This is to advise that the Valley Center Municipal Water District (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) approved the above described project on: January 18, 2011 and made the following determinations:

1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The project will have a significant effect on the environment.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> The project will NOT have a significant effect on the environment		
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Environmental Impact Report was prepared and certified for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.		
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation measures were NOT made a condition of the approval of the project.		
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was NOT adopted for this project.		
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Statement of Overriding Considerations was NOT adopted for this project		
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Findings were NOT made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.		
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This certifies that the location and custodian of the documents which comprise the record of proceedings for the Final EIR (with comments and responses) or Negative Declaration are available to the general public at the following location(s):		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Custodian/Applicant Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District Applicant Phone Number: 760-735-4500</td> <td>Location/Applicant Address: 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082</td> </tr> </table>	Custodian/Applicant Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District Applicant Phone Number: 760-735-4500	Location/Applicant Address: 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082
Custodian/Applicant Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District Applicant Phone Number: 760-735-4500	Location/Applicant Address: 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082		

Date: <u>1/20/2011</u>	Signature: <u><i>D. Kilian</i></u>
Date Received for Filing: _____	Title: <u><i>Project Manager</i></u>



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

Attachment 3
Addendum No. 2 to Final EIR

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

**Addendum No. 2 to the Final Environmental Impact Report
for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH # 2007101049)
(January 2013)**

1. BACKGROUND: Valley Center Municipal Water District (“District”) adopted the South Village Master Plan (“Master Plan”) for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (“Project”) on August 4, 2008. The Master Plan addressed expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF) and construction of seasonal storage, recycled water distribution and low pressure wastewater collection facilities to extend wastewater service to the South Village area of Valley Center. Prior to adopting the Master Plan, the District certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH #2007101049) (“EIR”). The Project would facilitate the community’s transition from septic to municipal wastewater service. The EIR analyzed, at a project level, the potential environmental impacts that could result from the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project, including: (1) the creation of an Assessment District, (2) the expansion of the WVRWRF with the maximum development allowed under zoning for the South Village Service Area at that time, (3) the installation of new wastewater collection and conveyance pipelines, and (4) the creation of a seasonal wet weather storage pond. The EIR also analyzed, at a program-level, the impacts associated with the expansion and installation of wastewater collection, treatment, seasonal storage and water reclamation facilities necessary to meet the demands of the South Village area upon build-out in accordance with the San Diego County General Plan update proposed at that time.

The District filed a Notice of Determination for the Master Plan approval and certification of the EIR on April 7, 2008. No lawsuit was filed challenging the District’s approval of the Project or the environmental analysis. Therefore, pursuant to section 21167.2 of the Public Resources Code, the EIR must be conclusively presumed to be valid with regard to its use for later activities unless any of the circumstances requiring supplemental review exist. (Pub. Resources Code, §21167.2; *Laurel Heights Improvement Ass’n v. Regents of the University of California* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1112, 1130 (“[a]fter certification, the interests of finality are favored”); *Santa Teresa Citizen Action Group v. City of San Jose* (2003) 114 Cal. App. 4th 689, 705-706.)

Following certification of the EIR and adoption of the Master Plan, the District identified an alternative location for the seasonal wet weather storage pond that was not previously analyzed in the EIR, as well as a reduction in the ultimate capacity requirements of the treatment facilities, necessitating Amendment No. 1 to the Master Plan. The District prepared an initial study to determine whether selection of a new location for the seasonal storage pond would require preparation of a subsequent EIR. As documented in the initial study, the new pond location would not result in any such circumstances. Therefore the District approved Addendum No. 1 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH#2007101049) and filed the corresponding Notice of Determination on January 20, 2011.

The District now intends to amend the Master Plan to be consistent with the recently updated San Diego County General Plan (August 2011), revise the average capacity requirement per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) to reflect historic trends, and extend the WVRWRF Service Area to allow development in the North Village Area to utilize the resulting available capacity. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan includes a) decreasing the total number of EDUs expected at full build out of the South Village Area from 1,800 EDU to 1,625 EDU, b) decreasing the average capacity requirement per EDU from 250 gallons per day (gpd) per EDU to 200 gpd per EDU, c) extending the WVRWRF Service Area to include the North Village Area as defined in the San Diego County planning documents for wastewater service capacities up to 125,000 gpd, and d) additional piping within a

shared trench within previously identified alignments within the South Village area. The State CEQA Guidelines provide that a lead agency “shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.” (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15164, subd. (a)). State CEQA Guidelines section 15162, subd. (a) provides:

When an EIR has been certified or a negative declaration adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:

- (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;
- (2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or
- (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the Negative Declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:
 - (A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration;
 - (B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;
 - (C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effect of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
 - (D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effect on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

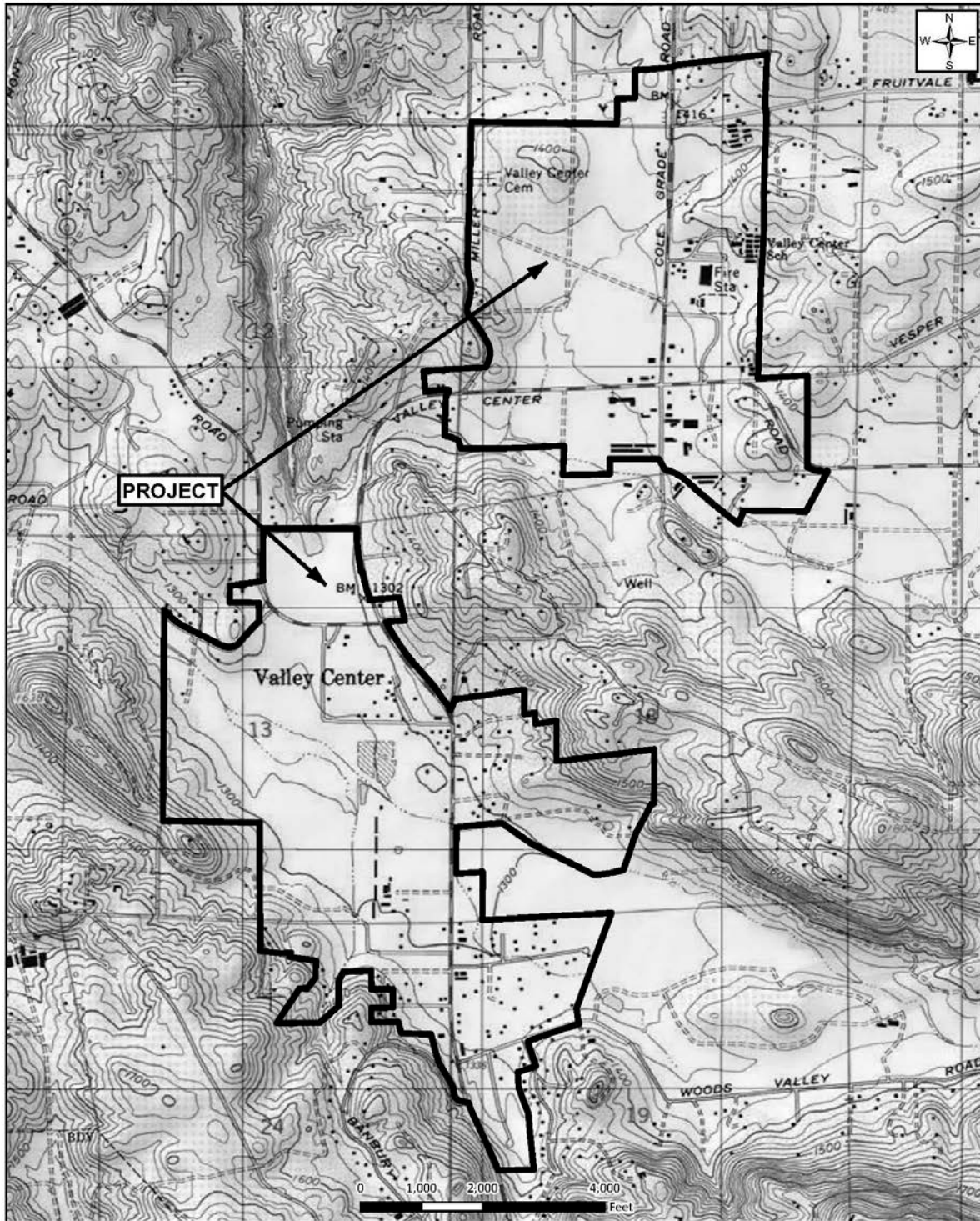
The District prepared an initial study (see below) to determine whether Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would require preparation of a subsequent EIR. As documented in the initial study, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not result in any such circumstances as list above. Therefore, preparation of a subsequent EIR is not necessary, and preparation of this Addendum is appropriate.

2. PROJECT: Amendment No. 2 to the South Village Master Plan

3. LEAD AGENCY: Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
P.O. Box 67
Valley Center, CA 92082

4. CONTACT PERSON & PHONE: Wally Grabbe
District Engineer
(760) 735-4500

5. PROJECT LOCATION: The North Village Service Area is located approximately 1.75 miles north and east of the South Village Service Area along Valley Center Road between Miller and Cole Grade Roads as shown on Figure 1 (USGS Valley Center Quadrangle) and Figure 2 (Service Area Map)

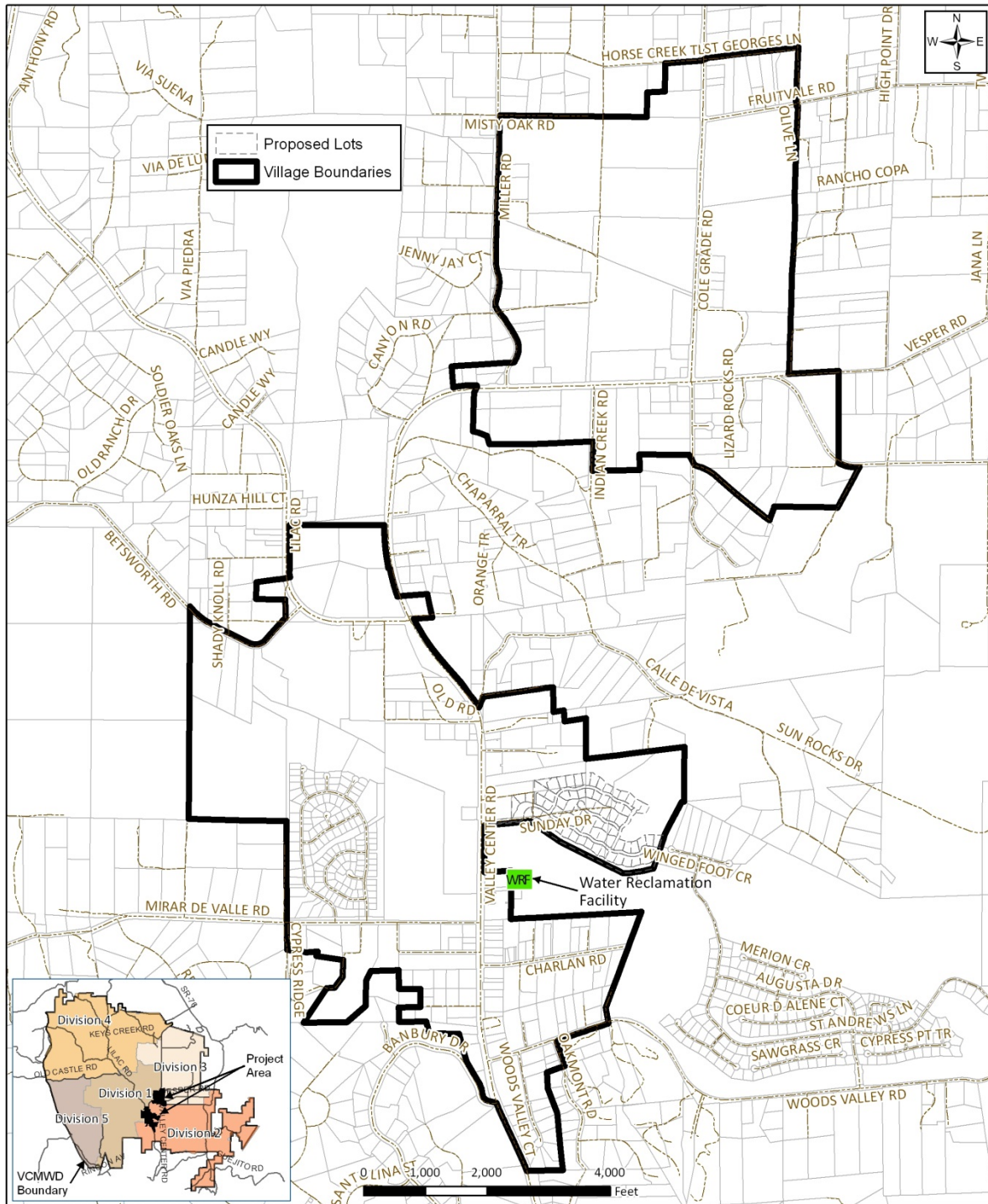


Valley Center
Municipal Water District

WOODS VALLEY RANCH WRF
Master Plan Amendment

12/5/2012
Y:\GISProjects\Sewer\SouthVillage\No_So_Village_Topo_Ltr.mxd
Source: Copyright: © 2011 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

FIGURE 2



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

WOODS VALLEY RANCH WRF
Service Area Map

12/5/2012
Y:\GISProjects\Sewer\SouthVillage\No_So_Village_Area_Ltr.mxd
Source: SanGIS/SANDAG, VCMWD

6. APPLICANT: Valley Center Municipal Water District, Wally Grabbe – District Engineer, 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082

7. GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION: The project area for both the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project and Ultimate Service Area Expansion is located within the Valley Center Community Plan of the County of San Diego General Plan. Current General Plan designations for the project area include but are not limited to the following:

- Rural Lands (RL-20)
- Semi-rural Residential (SR-1)
- Specific Plan Area
- Open Space (Recreation)
- Public/Semi-public Facilities
- Village Residential (VR-2)
- Village Residential (VR-4.3)
- Village Residential (VR-7.3)
- Village Residential (VR-10.9)
- Village Core Mixed Use
- Office Professional
- Rural Commercial
- General Commercial
- Limited Impact Industrial

8. ZONING: Zoning designations vary throughout the project area and reflect use-types per the General Plan.

9. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The District intends to amend the Master Plan to extend the WVRWRF service area to provide up to 125,000 gpd of wastewater service to the North Village area. This modification to the Master Plan includes an analysis of the required capacity for the South and North Villages, adding a portion of pipelines required to connect the North Village Service Area to the South Village Service Area within a joint trench that was previously anticipated and planned for within the South Village Area, and a recommendation for re-rating the current 250 gpd per EDU capacity requirement to 200 gpd per EDU. These modifications would allow North Village property owners to participate in the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project and assessment district for a capacity allocation of up to 125,000 gpd (625 EDUs) without exceeding the capacity of the facilities proposed in the original Master Plan.

Before the North Village properties would be allowed to connect to the WVRWRF, the District would need to approve a Master Plan to show how construction of a new North Village water reclamation facility would be utilized to provide wastewater capacity for the balance of the capacity required to serve the North Village Area, including provisions for seasonal storage and beneficial reuse of the treated effluent. The precise location and design details of this additional water reclamation facility are unknown at this time. It is intended that this North Village Water Reclamation Master Plan would be completed during the design and construction phases of the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project. Adoption of this future Master Plan would be subject to subsequent environmental analysis, as required under CEQA, prepared by the North Village developers as part of their development process with the County of San Diego as lead agency.

With County approval of the General Plan Update in August 2011 and re-rating the current capacity requirements for an EDU from 250 gpd to 200 gpd, the planned ultimate capacity of the WVRWRF is more than sufficient to accommodate the projected build out of the South Village Area. Ultimate capacity of the WVRWRF was planned at 450,000 gpd, which was based on the previously project build out of 1,800 EDUs at 250 gpd per EDU. With adoption of the General Plan Update in August 2011, the ultimate capacity requirements for the South Village Area were reduced to 1,625 EDUs. Applying the re-rated EDU capacity requirement of 200 gpd per EDU, the ultimate capacity requirement for the South Village Service Area is reduced to 325,000 gpd. This leaves 125,000 gpd of additional capacity available for approved developments outside the South Village Service Area.

Full development of the North Village Area in accordance with the approved General Plan is expected to require approximately 280,000 gpd of wastewater capacity (an estimated 1,400 EDUs at 200 gpd). Two owners of property in the North Village Area (Valley Center View Properties, LP and Weston – Valley Center, LLC) have proposed a residential, commercial and professional business park development requiring 850 EDUs of capacity. These developers have previously proposed constructing a separate North Village water reclamation facility to treat the wastewater from the proposed development and supply recycled water to meet irrigation needs of their development with some excess recycled water being available for the beneficial use of nearby agriculture customers.

Given the timing of development and the Project's gradual increasing need for wastewater capacity, North Village participation in the Project was proposed as a means to reduce construction and operating costs through better economies of scale with the construction and operation of one facility, in lieu of two separate facilities. Once the WVRWRF has been expanded to its planned ultimate capacity, the balance of capacity needed for the service area would be constructed at the North Village site as a scalping/skimming plant with all solids handling facilities being located at the WVRWRF.

No physical modifications to the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project components are needed to accommodate Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan to include the proposed North Village capacity allocation of up to 625 EDUs, with the exception of a portion of the pipeline facilities needed to service the North Village area. These pipeline improvements include portions of the recycled water transmission main and wastewater forcemain needed to serve the North Village that can be co-located in the same joint trench with facilities that were previously anticipated and planned for the South Village project, and thus were analyzed in the EIR. Any improvements required to connect the North Village Area to the WVRWRF not included with the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project would be reviewed, approved and constructed as part of the subsequent North Village development project and environmental analysis.

No new significant environmental impacts are associated with the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project since 1) no new areas will be disturbed with the installation of the North Village portions of recycled water line and forcemain included with the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project and 2) the growth accommodation provided by the North Village capacity allocation (maximum 625 EDUs) is well within the densities allowed by the current Land Use Designations of the approved General Plan.

10. SURROUNDING LAND USE(S) & PROJECT SETTING: Valley Center is characterized by rolling hills, low-density agricultural land uses, and a predominance of estate residential development. Although urbanization has greatly diminished agricultural uses in other areas of San Diego County, Valley Center has maintained a rural identity. The recently approved General Plan has concentrated growth potential of Valley Center in the central Village Areas through high density land use classifications while maintaining rural/agricultural land use classifications in the balance of the District.

11. OTHER REQUIRED AGENCY APPROVALS: The project will require the approval of the following:

- Waste discharge permit modification by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- State Revolving Fund loan by the State Water Resources Control Board; and
- San Diego County Consent to form an assessment district.

12. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The project would not result in any new or substantially more severe impacts than were documented in the certified EIR. A summary of the environmental factors that were reviewed and would be potentially affected by this alternative, as compared to the originally analyzed alternative, consisting of a Potentially Significant Impact or Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated, More Severe Significant Impacts or New Significant Impact, are indicated in the following table, (none were adversely affected):

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology & Soils
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards	<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	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None

13. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST: This section analyzes the potential environmental impacts that may result from the Project to determine whether a supplemental or subsequent EIR is required. For the evaluation of potential impacts, the questions in the Initial Study Checklist (Section 2) are stated and answers are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study. The analysis considers the project's short-term impacts (construction-related), and its operational or day-to-day impacts. For each question, there are four possible responses. They include:

1. No Greater Impact. Future development arising from the project's implementation will not have any measurable impact on the environment, or the impact will be no greater than what was analyzed in the certified EIR, and no additional analysis is required.
2. New Mitigation is Declined. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows: mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible (or new mitigation measures or alternatives are considerably different) and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative .
3. More Severe Impact. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if project changes, changes in project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows that the project will result in impacts that are substantially more severe than were analyzed in the certified EIR.
4. New Significant Impact. A subsequent or supplemental EIR is required if project changes, changes in project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows that the project will have impacts that are considered significant, and were not analyzed as a significant impact in the certified EIR, and additional analysis is required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic building along a State-designated scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) ***Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any above ground facilities that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) ***Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any above ground facilities that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) ***Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any above ground facilities that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- d) ***Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?***
Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any above ground facilities that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance as depicted on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the CA. Resources Agency?	<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. Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, because of their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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 non-agricultural use? Neither the Project site nor any surrounding properties is considered farmland, so no greater impacts are expected.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? The Project does not conflict with current zoning regulations nor is it subject to a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, because of their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use? Neither the Project site nor any surrounding properties is considered farmland, so no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
III. AIR QUALITY. Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Violate an air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under the applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?
Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would affect air quality over and above that previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?
Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would affect air quality over and above that previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would affect air quality over and above that previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would produce any significant amount of pollutant

concentrations over and above that previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- (e) ***Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would create any significant amount of objectionable odors over and above that previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impacts	More Severe Significant Impacts	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
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 Game or the USFWS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 Game (DFG) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy/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"/>

- 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 Game or the USFWS?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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 Game (DFG) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*** The Project is outside known riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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?*** The Project is located outside the limits of any known wetlands.

Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will not impact movement of wildlife nor does it include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- e. **Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy/ordinance?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Decline	No Greater Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5 of CEQA?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5 of CEQA?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5 of CEQA?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5 of CEQA?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) **Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- d) **Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include disturbing any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
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, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault (Refer to DM&G Pub. 42)?; or, (ii) strong seismic ground shaking?; or, (iii) seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?; or, (iv) landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the 1997 UBC, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

1) 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.

Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

2) Strong seismic ground shaking

Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

3) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

4) Landslides?

Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment

No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- d) **Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1997), creating substantial risks to life or property?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- e) **Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?** The Project would facilitate the community’s transition from septic to municipal wastewater service and does not involve the additional use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements in any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would either directly or indirectly increase greenhouse gas emissions over and above the previously analyzed original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) **Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?** See response to a) above. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:				

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site that 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 has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) ***Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not involve any routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials beyond that previously analyzed for the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) ***Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any new types of facilities or improvements that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) ***Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include additional facilities that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, the Project will have no greater impact.
- d) ***Be located on a site that 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?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not contain any hazardous materials as defined by Government Code Section 65962.5. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- e) ***For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?*** The Project is located outside an airport land use plan. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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?* The Project is located outside the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- g) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would have no impacts on emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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.* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any areas that were not previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 that 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 that would result in 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 that would result in flooding on or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 that 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"/>

- a) ***Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements beyond those analyzed with the original project that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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 that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?*** The Project does not include any facilities or improvements that would adversely affect ground water supplies. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) ***Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any facilities or improvements that would alter existing drainage patterns beyond those previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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 that would result in flooding on- or off-site?*** Amendment No. 2 does not include any facilities or improvements that would alter existing drainage patterns beyond those previously analyzed with the original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- e) ***Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include additional facilities or improvements that would increase runoff over and above the previously analyzed project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- f) ***Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities or improvements that would degrade water quality over and above the previously analyzed project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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?*** The Project does not include housing nor place any improvements within a 100-year flood hazard area. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- h) ***Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?*** The Project does place any structures within a 100-year flood hazard area. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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?*** The Project does not 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. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- j) ***Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?*** The Project is not located near any large bodies of water. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact..

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

- a) ***Physically divide an established community?*** The project does not include additional facilities that would physically divide an established community. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities that would conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) ***Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?*** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities or ground disturbance that would conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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?*** The Project would not result in the loss of a known mineral resource. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- 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?*** The Project is not located within a mineral resource recovery site. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XII. NOISE. Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, 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"/>

- 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?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities that would increase noise levels over the previously analyzed project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) *Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities that would generate groundborne vibrations or noise levels over the previously analyzed project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) *A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include additional facilities that would cause a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels over the previously analyzed project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- d) *A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities that would cause a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels over that previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?* The project is located outside of any known airport land use plan and greater than 2 miles from a public airport. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

- 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?** The project is not in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIII. POPULATION & HOUSING. Would the project:				
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"/>

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)?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan adds the North Village area to the service area of the WVRWRF. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan, in and of itself, does not induce nor indirectly allow population growth beyond what is allowed under the San Diego County approved General Plan in accordance with San Diego County Policy LU 14.4 and only responds to and accommodates planned-for-growth (See Pages 6-1 to 6-2 of EIR for further discussion). No greater impacts to population and housing beyond those analyzed in the original EIR and identified within the County’s General Plan would occur.

“San Diego County Policy LU 14.4 - Sewer Facilities. Prohibit sewer facilities that would induce unplanned growth. Require sewer systems to be planned, developed, and sized to serve the land use pattern and densities depicted on the Land Use Map. Sewer systems and services shall not be extended beyond either Village boundaries or extant Urban Limit Lines, whichever is more restrictive, except: a) When necessary for public health, safety, or welfare; b) When within existing sewer district boundaries; c) When necessary for a conservation subdivision adjacent to existing sewer facilities; or d) Where specifically allowed in the Community Plan.”

b) **Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not require the removal of existing housing, and therefore would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

c) **Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?** See response to a) and b) above. No greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIV PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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:				
a. Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Fire protection?** Implementation of Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not, in and of itself, induce population growth requiring public services nor include additional facilities or structures requiring additional public services beyond those previously analyzed in the original project. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) **Police protection?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) **Schools?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- d) **Parks?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e) **Other public facilities?** See response to a) above. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XIV RECREATION. Would the project:				
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"/>

- 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?** The

Project would not generate any additional use to existing neighborhood or regional parks. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

- 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?* The construction of the Project will not include recreational facilities. Therefore, no greater impacts expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
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 circulations 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) *Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not cause an increase in traffic over and above the original project that was previously analyzed. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- b) *Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?* See response a) above. No greater impacts are expected.
- c) *Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that result in substantial safety risks?* The Project would not alter air traffic patterns. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

- d) **Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?** No public roadways are proposed as part of the Project. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- e) **Result in inadequate emergency access?** Adequate emergency access shall be provided during both construction and operation of the Project. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities or infrastructure that would change this conclusion. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- 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?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not involve any additional facilities or infrastructure beyond those analyzed in the original project that could conflict with adopted transit policies, plans or programs. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
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 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 storm water 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 from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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 sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the projects 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 waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?** Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan would not involve any changes to the previously analyzed original project that would exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- b) **Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?** The original project analyzed in the EIR involves the expansion of the District's existing WWRWF. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any additional facilities or infrastructure beyond that previously analyzed in the EIR. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.
- c) **Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing**

facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include the construction of any additional storm water drainage facilities nor require such additional facilities. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

- d) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not increase water supply needs over that of the previously analyzed original project. Therefore, the Project will have no greater impact.
- e) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan, in and of itself, does not increase wastewater capacity needs over that of the previously analyzed original project. While the service area of the project would increase, available physical capacity is limited to the original physical capacity requirements. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- f) *Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not contemplate an increase in overall wastewater treatment capacity or construction debris above what was previously analyzed in the original project, and thus there would be no increase in solid waste production. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- g) *Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will not increase/create any additional solid waste. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

	New Significant Impact	More Severe Significant Impact	New Mitigation is Declined	No Greater Impact
XVIII MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE. Would the project:				
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 decrease 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 major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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 decrease 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 major periods of California history or*

prehistory? Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not include any change to the original project analyzed in the EIR that would result in increased land disturbance or the potential to impact sensitive biological or archeological resources. Therefore, no greater impacts are expected.

- b) *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan does not affect the cumulative impacts of the previously analyzed original project. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.
- c) *Does the project have environmental effects that will have substantial adverse effects on human beings, directly or indirectly?* Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will not have any substantial direct or indirect adverse environmental effects on human beings. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan will have no greater impact.

14. **PREPARATION.** The initial study for the subject project was prepared by:

Wally Grabbe, P.E
District Engineer
Valley Center Municipal Water District
760-735-4500

15. **DETERMINATION.** Based on this initial evaluation:

[] I find that the Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

[] I find that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described herein have been included in this project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

[] I find that the Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

[X] I find that although the 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 Project, nothing further is required.



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***Attachment 3A
Notice of Determination
Addendum No. 2 to Final EIR***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	FROM:	City of: Valley Center Municipal Water
	or		Address: 29300 Valley Center Rd.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk		Contact: Wally Grabbe
	County of: San Diego		Phone: 760-735-4500
	Address: 1600 Pacific Highway		
	San Diego, CA92101		

FILED

Ernest J. Blumenthal, Jr. Registrar County Clerk

JAN 25 2013

**BY H. Ayuyao
DEPUTY**

TO:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1400 Tenth Street (overnight or hand delivery) Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Addendum to South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR		
State Clearinghouse Number (If submitted to SCH): 2007101049	Contact Person: Wally Grabbe	Telephone Number: 760-735-4500
Specific Project Location – Identify street address and cross street or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 ½' topographical map identified by quadrangle name): The project area for the EIR is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of the City of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the community of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south. Primary access into Valley Center is via Valley Center Road, which links the community to the City of Escondido. The South Village area of the Valley Center Municipal Water District (District) is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center. The project site for the addendum is located within the South Village and North Village Planning Areas as defined in the San Diego County General Plan (Aug. 2011) and as shown on the Figure 2.		
General Project Location (City and/or County): Valley Center, CA.		
Project Description: The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was certified on April 7, 2008 for the proposed project which includes adoption of the South Village Wastewater Master Plan (for the Phase II and Ultimate Service Area Expansion of wastewater service for the South Village area), formation of an Assessment District, and a modification of the currently held Waste Discharge Permit (RWQCB Order No. R9-1998-0009 as amended). The project includes the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, installation of wastewater collection and reclaimed water distribution pipelines, and the construction of wet weather seasonal storage pond(s) and pipelines to the irrigation disposal area(s).		

Following certification of the EIR and adoption of the Master Plan, the District identified an alternative location for the seasonal wet weather storage pond that was not previously analyzed in the EIR, as well as a reduction in the ultimate capacity requirements of the treatment facilities, necessitating Amendment No. 1 to the Master Plan. The District approved Addendum No. 1 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH#2007101049) addressing Amendment No. 1 to the Master Plan and filed the corresponding Notice of Determination on January 20, 2011.

The District subsequently prepared a second amendment to the Master Plan to be consistent with the updated San Diego County General Plan (August 2011), revise the average capacity requirement per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) to reflect historic trends, and extend the WVRWRF Service Area to allow development in the North Village Area to utilize the resulting available capacity. Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan includes a) decreasing the total number of EDUs expected at full build out of the South Village Area from 1,800 EDU to 1,625 EDU, b) decreasing the average capacity requirement per EDU from 250 gallons per day (gpd) per EDU to 200 gpd per EDU, c) extending the WVRWRF Service Area to include the North Village Area as defined in the San Diego County planning documents for wastewater service capacities up to 125,000 gpd, and d) additional piping within a shared trench within previously identified alignments within the South Village area. It was determined from the initial study that the preparation of a subsequent EIR is not necessary, and preparation of this Addendum is appropriate and that this amendment to the master plan will have no greater impact than initially identified in the EIR.

This is to advise that the Valley Center Municipal Water District (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) approved the above described project on: January 22, 2013 and made the following determinations:

1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
	<input type="checkbox"/> The project will NOT have a significant effect on the environment
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Environmental Impact Report was prepared and certified for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation measures were NOT made a condition of the approval of the project.
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was NOT adopted for this project.
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Statement of Overriding Considerations was NOT adopted for this project
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Findings were NOT made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This certifies that the location and custodian of the documents which comprise the record of proceedings for the Final EIR (with comments and responses) or Negative Declaration are available to the general public at the following location(s):

Custodian/Applicant Name: Valley Center Municipal Water District Applicant Phone Number: 760-735-4500	Location/Applicant Address: 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Date: <u>1/24/2013</u>	Signature: <u>Wally Palle</u>
Date Received for Filing: _____	Title: District Engineer



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***Attachment 4
Mitigated Negative Declaration
North Village
Wastewater Infrastructure Project***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility



Final Mitigated Negative Declaration

North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project

SCH No. 2014111011

Valley Center, CA

December 2014

HDR, Inc.
3230 El Camino Real, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92602

FINAL IS/MND INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) distributed the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project for public review on November 6, 2014, with the public review period ending on December 6, 2014. During this time, nine comment letters were received. Comment letters were accepted and considered timely through December 8, 2014.

This Final IS/MND has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as amended (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et seq.). CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b) states:

“(b) Prior to approving a project, the decision-making body of the lead agency shall consider the proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration together with any comments received during the public review process. The decision-making body shall adopt the proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration only if it finds on the basis of the whole record before it (including the initial study and any comments received), that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration reflects the lead agency’s independent judgment and analysis.”

CONTENTS OF THE FINAL IS/MND

This final version of the IS/MND includes changes that were made to the Draft IS/MND based on comments received. Revisions were also made to clarify information presented in the Draft IS/MND and only minor technical changes or additions have been made. These changes and additions to the IS/MND do not constitute substantial revisions that would result in new, avoidable significant effects. The IS/MND has been completely reprinted from the Draft IS/MND and changes made since public review are signified as a replacement, addition, or revision to existing text. Revisions to existing text are signified by ~~strikeout~~ (i.e., ~~strikeout~~) where text is removed, and by underline (i.e., underline) where text is added for clarification.


The Final IS/MND contains all comments received on the Draft IS/MND and responses to comments.



COMMENT LETTER A	RESPONSE
<p>From: George E. Lucia Sr. [mailto:georgel@vcfpd.org] Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 1:21 PM To: Dennis Williams Cc: Gaby Olson; North Village Infrastructure Project Subject: Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</p> <p>Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project. Section XIV. Public Services (a) (i).</p> <p>Dennis / Gabriela: I have reviewed the MND document for the above captioned project. Could we set up a short meeting to discuss VCFPD ability to deal with increased "confined space" (technical rescues) exposures with the additions of "lift stations" and other CS structures to the VCMWD system. Also an item for discussion is the VCFPD's ability to deal with "trench rescues during construction (technical rescues).</p> <p>Yours in Safety,</p> <p>George E. Lucia Sr. Battalion Chief / Fire Marshal Valley Center Fire Protection Cell 760-644-9933 georgel@vcfpd.org</p>	<p>Letter A Valley Center Fire Protection District November 12, 2014</p> <p>Response to Comment A-1: In response to the Valley Fire Protection District's request, Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) staff met with representatives of the Valley Center Fire Protection District on November 19, 2014 to discuss technical rescues and address the Fire District's concerns as they relate to the construction of the proposed project. Specific questions and/or comments on the IS/MND were provided by George Lucia (Fire Marshal) in a follow-up letter dated November 25, 2014. This letter is provided as Comment Letter B. Please refer to response to comment B-1.</p>

} A-1



COMMENT LETTER B	RESPONSE
<p>From: George Lucia [mailto:georgel@vcfpd.org] Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 2:42 PM To: Dennis Williams Cc: Gaby Olson; North Village Infrastructure Project; byrne@vcfpd.org Subject: Comments on the MND / Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</p> <p><u>Comments on the MND / Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</u></p> <p>XIV. Public Services. Would the project: <i>Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 to other performance objectives for any of the public services:</i></p> <p>i) <u>Fire protection.</u></p> <p>I would agree that the project will not increase the demographic impact towards the Valley Center Fire Protection District's (normal fire and medical responses) ability to service the general public, I am concerned that the product of the project may raise the odds of a technical rescue event. Specific areas of concern are the VCFPD ability to respond and mitigate a Confined Space Rescue and / or a Trench Rescue event. A technical rescue requires special trained and certified first responders using speciality equipment. Response and mitigation (victim rescue) has a limited success time based upon the response time of the closest available and certified crew. This involves reaction time, contact time, response time, assessment time, preparation time and rescue time. I understand that the options in confined space are non entry, entry by others or entry by trained employees from the VCMWD. It is good that the VCMWD has designed all their new facilities as Non-Entry Rescue Technique. The odds of Trench Rescues Events may also increase during and after this project. Private Property systems will need to be disconnected from the septs and connected to the sewer system. I am suggesting that this project may be the catalyst for the development of a joint rescue plan between the VCMWD and the VCFPD. Joint training and equipment was done in the past and perhaps a consolidated effort towards awarness, training, equipment and response should be in our future. The VCFPD will have a new fire chief on board by the first of the year and as he reviews the operations side of the fire district, I am sure there may be additional comments.</p> <p>Thank you all for your continuing cooperation and interest in community safety.</p> <p>Yours in Safety,</p> <p>George E. Lucia Sr. Battalion Chief / Fire Marshal Valley Center Fire Protection District cell 24/7 @ 760-644-9933 georgel@vcfpd.org</p> 	<p>Letter B Valley Center Fire Protection District November 25, 2014</p> <p>Response to Comment B-1: As noted in this comment, VCMWD has designed all its new facilities as Non-Entry Rescue Technique. The proposed project can also be designed to accommodate non-access confined space rescue, which would address the service concern identified in this comment. For the proposed project, the project will be designed in a manner such that a davit crane (or similar) could be utilized where appropriate and/or necessary for project construction. Use of a davit crane would minimize or eliminate the need for construction crews to be in trenched locations. Regardless of what type of construction techniques are employed for the proposed project, the Initial Study conclusion that the project will not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 to other performance objectives for fire services would not change.</p> <p>A joint rescue plan will not be prepared by VCMWD. At this time, VCMWD and the Valley Center Fire Protection District have not committed to joint rescue plans or training. However, VCMWD will pursue the opportunity for joint training in the future should the opportunity arise. As part of its Safety Policies, VCMWD has an established confined space safety program which includes contact with the local fire/rescue departments. After construction, VCMWD will coordinate with the Valley Center Fire Protection District when accessing confined space facilities.</p>

} B-1



COMMENT LETTER C	RESPONSE
<div> <p>PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE</p> </div> <div> <p>PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA 92059 760-891-3510 Office 760-742-3189 Fax</p> </div> <div> </div> <p>November 19, 2014</p> <p>Dennis Williams, Project Manager Valley Center Municipal Water District 29300 Valley Center Road Valley Center, CA 92082</p> <p>Re: North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</p> <p>Dear Mr. Williams,</p> <p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office has received your notification of the NOI to adopt a mitigated negative declaration for the above-referenced project. This letter constitutes our response on behalf of Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman.</p> <p>In reviewing the project documents, we note that the Pala THPO was not included on the distribution list for consultation provided by the NAHC. This was very surprising considering that the project is in close proximity to the Pala Reservation and is within the boundaries of the territory that the tribe considers its Traditional Use Area (TUA). We also noted that no other Luiseno tribe in close proximity was consulted (e.g. Rincon, Pauma, and La Jolla). This oversight appears to have occurred at the NAHC and not at your agency; nevertheless, it is troubling as we would have responded to the request for consultation. Fortunately, in reviewing the documents we concur with the mitigation measures for protection of cultural resources.</p> <p>We request to be kept in the information loop as the project progresses and would appreciate being maintained on the receiving list for project updates, reports of investigations, and/or any documentation that might be generated regarding previously reported or newly discovered sites.</p> <p>We appreciate involvement with your initiative and look forward to working with you on future efforts. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 760-891-3515 or by e-mail at sgaughen@palatribe.com.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <div> </div> <p>Shasta C. Gaughen, Ph.D. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Pala Band of Mission Indians</p> <p>ATTENTION: THE PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL REQUESTS FOR CONSULTATION. PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO SHASTA C. GAUGHEN AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ALSO SEND NOTICES TO PALA TRIBAL CHAIRMAN ROBERT SMITH.</p>	<p>Letter C Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office November 19, 2014</p> <p>Response to Comment C-1: Comment noted.</p> <p>Response to Comment C-2: Comment noted. VCMWD acknowledges that the commenter agrees with the proposed cultural resources mitigation measures. As a component of preparation of the cultural resources study for the project, the Native American Heritage Commission was contacted, and subsequently letters were sent to the 19 Native American individuals/groups listed in the Native American Heritage Commission response. Follow-up phone calls were placed to the 18 individuals/group that had not responded. A total of three responses were received which included the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, and the Kumeyaay</p> <p>Response to Comment C-3: Comment noted. As requested in this comment, the VCMWD will continue to keep the Pala Band of Mission Indians informed as the project progresses. The VCMWD will include the Pala Band of Mission Indians on the receiving list for project updates, reports, and or documentation regarding previously reported or newly discovered sites.</p>



COMMENT LETTER D	RESPONSE
<p>From: Cultural [mailto:Cultural@pauma-nsn.gov] Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 10:45 AM To: North Village Infrastructure Project Cc: pdixon@palomar.edu; Jeremy Zagarella Subject: North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>The Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians has received the notice to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project. The Cultural Study provided in the mailing identified multiple sites near the proposed project(s). On a side note, there were no copies of any letters that were sent to the Luiseno Bands on the disk that was provided. The Pauma, Pala, Rincon and La Jolla Bands of Luiseno have a high probability of being the Most Likely Descendants to sites within the Valley Center Area. There is a high probability that culturally related resources could be discovered near the identified sites. The Cultural report recommends training construction personnel to identify cultural resources. We disagree with this recommendation. The ability to sift through soil, identify soil changes or even see small fragments takes some time to learn. We would recommend the drafting and implementation of a Monitoring Agreement to include Mitigation Measures for any potential discoveries. We would also request that an archaeologist and Native Monitor be onsite for all ground disturbing activities.</p> <p>If you should have any questions please contact us.</p> <p>Chris Devers Cultural Clerk Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians</p>	<p>Letter D Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians November 26, 2014</p> <p>Response to Comment D-1: Comment noted. The VCMWD, through its cultural resources consultant HDR, contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 9, 2014. On September 16, 2014, letters were sent to the 19 Native American individuals/groups listed in the NAHC letter. The Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians were not identified on the list provided by the NAHC; but nonetheless received direct notice of the draft IS/MND from VCMWD. Please refer to response to comment D-2.</p> <p>Response to Comment D-2: In response to this comment, Mitigation Measure CR-1 has been revised to include the requirement that a Native American monitor be present on site specifically during construction at the lift station sites where there has been limited or no past subsurface disturbance. The pipeline portion of the proposed project is located in existing paved roadway right of way and this component of the project will be monitored by an archaeologist; however, should potential cultural resources be discovered during construction of this portion of the project, the project archaeologist would contact the appropriate Native American monitor (assumed to be the same as will be required for the lift stations). Mitigation Measure CR-1 has been revised as follows:</p> <p>Mitigation Measure CR-1: <u>Cultural resources monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified archaeologist for all phases of construction that involve ground disturbing activities. A Native American monitor shall be present during ground disturbance at the lift station sites, and as deemed necessary by the archaeologist during the pipeline construction.</u> In the event of a discovery, work will be stopped within the immediate area of the find until a professional archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American monitor, can determine the nature of the resources discovered. The Native American monitor shall be requested from a group identified by the Native</p>



American Heritage Commission as having affiliation with the project vicinity. On agreement between the qualified archaeologist and the Native American monitor, the archaeological monitor may notify the Native American monitor in the event of an archaeological discovery for the pipeline portion of the project. As appropriate, the archaeologist and/or Native American monitor will assist Project personnel in avoiding the newly discovered resources or in implementing management measures to evaluate the significance and potential eligibility of the resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), or any local registers, as appropriate.

If the archeologist determines that the find is significant or may qualify as significant, the archaeologist shall prepare a treatment plan. Preservation in place shall be implemented as treatment, where feasible. Results of monitoring and any archaeological treatment shall be reported in an appropriate technical report to be filed with Valley Center Municipal Water District and the California Historical Resources Information System. Any artifacts recovered during monitoring or treatments shall be curated at an appropriate facility. ~~discovery is determined to be a site, after securing the work area from additional disturbance, in concert with the Construction Foreman or Field Supervisor, the archaeological monitor will notify the Principal Investigator (PI). The PI will determine what additional fieldwork is necessary, such as a limited test excavation, to determine the site's potential eligibility for the CRHR or the NRHP. It may be determined that a site visit by the PI is necessary to make that determination. If test excavation is required to evaluate a discovery, this will be discussed in consultation with the lead agency.~~



COMMENT LETTER E

RESPONSE



State Water Resources Control Board

DEC 03 2014

Dennis Williams
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Dear Mr. Williams:

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT); NORTH VILLAGE WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (PROJECT); SAN DIEGO COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2014111011

We understand that the District is pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project (CWSRF No. C-06-7454-110). As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information on the IS/MND being prepared for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program. The primary purpose for the CWSRF Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution, recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, provide for estuary enhancement, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state. The CWSRF Program provides low-interest funding equal to one-half of the most recent State General Obligation Bond Rates with a 30-year term. Applications are accepted and processed continuously. Please refer to the State Water Board's CWSRF website at:
www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional "California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)-Plus" environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package please visit:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/forms.shtml. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli, at (916) 341-5855.

E-1

Letter E
State Water Resources Control Board
December 3, 2014

Response to Comment E-1: These comments regarding the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and CEQA-Plus processes are noted. The VCMWD has, and will continue, to coordinate with the State Water Resources Control Board as it relates to processing the proposed project. The IS/MND was prepared in accordance with the content and process requirements for CEQA documents that are processed through the SRF.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, Ca 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov





- 2 -

The District's IS/MND, Cultural Resources Technical Report, and Biological Technical Report have been received. The State Water Board requests additional Cross-Cutter documents which can be found in the Environmental Package at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/application_environmental_package.pdf

E-2

Following are specific comments on the District's draft IS/MND:

1. Page 53 of the District's IS/MND references a Traffic Control Plan that will be implemented. Please include a copy of this plan in the IS/MND or a reference to the location where this document can be found.

E-3

2. Please make sure to include a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) as a part of the District's IS/MND.

E-4

3. Page 35 of the Biological Report mentions that Lilac Creek provides potentially suitable habitat for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. Please indicate the location of Lilac Creek in relation to the Project area through discussion and on a map.

E-5

4. Page 49 states that potential winter foraging habitat may be lost for the Swainson's hawk as a result of Project activities, and page 50 states potential foraging habitat would be lost for the white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike and the golden eagle as a result of Project activities. Please make a determination for the impacts to each of these species based on the findings presented.

E-6

5. It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special-status species. Consultation with the USFWS will be necessary for impacts related to San Diego Ambrosia, San Diego Thorn-mint, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Least Bell's Vireo, and California Gnatcatcher.

E-7

Please be advised that the State Water Board will consult with the USFWS, and/or the NMFS regarding all federal special-status species that the Project has the potential to impact if the Project is to be financed by the CWSRF Program. The District will need to identify whether the Project will involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement, that may affect federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that are known, or have a potential to occur in the Project site, in the surrounding areas, or in the service area, and to identify applicable conservation measures to reduce such effects.

E-8

Please provide us with the following documents applicable to the proposed Project following the District's CEQA process: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND, (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and making CEQA findings, (3) all comments received during the review period and the District's response to those comments, (4) the adopted MMRP, and (5) the Notice of Determination filed with the San Diego County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

E-9

Response to Comment E-2: Comment noted. VCMWD will submit the additional Cross-Cutter documents to the State Water Resources Control Board as part of the SRF process for this project.

Response to Comment E-3: The proposed project is located in unincorporated San Diego County; therefore, any public roadways affected by pipeline construction are owned and maintained by the County of San Diego. Submittal of a Traffic Control Permit Application and preparation of a Traffic Control Plan are required as part of the application package for a County of San Diego Excavation Permit. As such, the Traffic Control Plan will be prepared by the project construction contractor prior to, or at the construction phase of the project. The Traffic Control Plan will be submitted to and must be approved by the County of San Diego prior to any excavation work and must comply with County requirements such as identifying the work being performed and the exact location of work being performed. Upon approval of an Excavation Permit, the project contractor will be responsible for implementing the Traffic Control Plan during construction of the proposed project.

Response to Comment E-4: A Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) is included as part of this Final IS/MND.

Response to Comment E-5: The Biological Report has been revised to indicate the location of Lilac Creek in relation to the Project Area. The following text (in underline) has been added:

Lilac Creek, located in the southwest portion of the North Village Lift Station site, provides potentially suitable habitat for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher where it supports southern arroyo willow riparian forest as depicted on Figure 4B.

Response to Comment E-6: Please refer to Section 5.4.1.2 of the Biological Report for the determination of impacts to Swainson's hawk, and Section 5.4.2.2 of the Biological Technical Report for the determination of impacts to white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike and the golden eagle. As stated, no significant impacts to these species has been identified.

- 3 -

Thank you for the opportunity to review the District's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Elysar Naja at (916) 341-5799 or by email at Elysar.Naja@waterboards.ca.gov, or contact me at (916) 341-5855, or by email at Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Ahmad Kashkoli
Senior Environmental Scientist
Enclosures (3)

1. Clean Water State Revolving Fund Environmental Review Requirements
2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2014111011)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Response to Comment E-7: Comment noted. Valley Center Municipal Water District understands that consultation with the USFWS will be necessary for impacts to San Diego Ambrosia, San Diego Thorn-mint, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Least Bell's Vireo, and California Gnatcatcher.

As addressed on page 45 of this Initial Study, if San Diego Ambrosia and San Diego Thorn-mint are present, project construction would have potential to result in direct impacts to these species. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

As addressed on pages 45-46 of this Initial Study, no direct impacts to habitat with potential to support southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher will occur. However, if breeding southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher were present during construction, construction-related noise and lighting could result in indirect impacts to these species. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-2 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Response to Comment E-8: Comment noted. The proposed project's effects on federal special-status species is analyzed in the IS/MND and Biological Technical Report (dated December 2014.)

Response to Comment E-9: Comment noted. Following the District's approval of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, the following will be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board:

- One copy of the draft and final IS/MND
- Resolution adopting the IS/MND
- All comments received during the review period and the District's response to those comments
- Adopted MMRP
- Notice of Determination



COMMENT LETTER F

RESPONSE



San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.

Environmental Review Committee

4 December 2014

To: Mr. Dennis Williams, Project Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, California 92082

Subject: Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Dear Mr. Williams:

I have reviewed the subject DMND on behalf of this committee of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.

Based on the information contained in the DMND, we have the following comments:

1. We concur with the impact analysis for the sites specifically mentioned in the DMND.
2. Mitigation Measure CR-1, based on paragraph 8.1 of the cultural resources report, is poorly written and incomplete. It appears to have been patched together from two other, unrelated documents. The second paragraph refers to an archaeological monitor (and no Native American monitor) who is not called for by the first paragraph. The first paragraph has the vague "if somebody spots something" wording which places no archaeologist involvement on the project unless someone does. It is also devoid of any specifics on analysis, report preparation and curation for any recovered. Meanwhile, CR-7 melds reporting and treatment of archaeological and paleontological material, resulting in some ambiguity. It also appears to assume the South Coastal Information Center has some responsibility for recording paleontological sites.
3. CR-5 is also ambiguous whether it applies to archaeological resources, paleontological resources, or both, while CR-6 appears to apply only to paleontological material.
4. We recommend rewriting the mitigation measures section to clearly separate and identify the treatment of archaeological and paleontological resources, from treatment of discoveries through curation.

F-1
F-2
F-3
F-4

Thank you for including SDCAS in the public review of this DMND.

Sincerely,

James W. Royle, Jr., Chairperson
Environmental Review Committee

P.O. Box 81106 San Diego, CA 92138-1106 (858) 538-0935

Letter F
San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.
December 4, 2014

Response to Comment F-1: Comment noted.

Response to Comment F-2: Mitigation Measure CR-1 has been revised to include a Native American monitor on site during project construction. Mitigation Measure CR-1 has been revised as follows:

Mitigation Measure CR-1: Cultural resources monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified archaeologist for all phases of construction that involve ground disturbing activities. A Native American monitor shall be present during ground disturbance at the lift station sites, and as deemed necessary by the archaeologist during the pipeline construction. In the event of a discovery, work will be stopped within the immediate area of the find until a professional archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American monitor, can determine the nature of the resources discovered. The Native American monitor shall be requested from a group identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as having affiliation with the project vicinity. On agreement between the qualified archaeologist and the Native American monitor, the archaeological monitor may notify the Native American monitor in the event of an archaeological discovery for the pipeline portion of the project. As appropriate, the archaeologist and/or Native American monitor will assist Project personnel in avoiding the newly discovered resources or in implementing management measures to evaluate the significance and potential eligibility of the resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), or any local registers, as appropriate.

If the archeologist determines that the find is significant or may qualify as significant, the archaeologist shall prepare a



~~treatment plan. Preservation in place shall be implemented as treatment, where feasible. Results of monitoring and any archaeological treatment shall be reported in an appropriate technical report to be filed with Valley Center Municipal Water District and the California Historical Resources Information System. Any artifacts recovered during monitoring or treatments shall be curated at an appropriate facility. discovery is determined to be a site, after securing the work area from additional disturbance, in concert with the Construction Foreman or Field Supervisor, the archaeological monitor will notify the Principal Investigator (PI). The PI will determine what additional fieldwork is necessary, such as a limited test excavation, to determine the site's potential eligibility for the CRHR or the NRHP. It may be determined that a site visit by the PI is necessary to make that determination. If test excavation is required to evaluate a discovery, this will be discussed in consultation with the lead agency.~~

Mitigation Measure CR-7 has been revised to specify the treatment of paleontological resources only. The treatment of archaeological resources has been deleted. Additionally, the responsibility of the South Coastal Information Center has been deleted from this mitigation measure.

Mitigation Measures CR-7 has been revised as follows:

Mitigation Measure CR-7: A report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of identified paleontological specimens shall be prepared and submitted to Valley Center Municipal Water District. The report will address ~~archaeological and~~ paleontological items. The report and inventory, when submitted to Valley Center Municipal Water District, will signify completion of the program to mitigate impacts on paleontological resources. This report shall incorporate the full results of the literature review, as well as the full results of the recommended review of the records of the South Coastal Information Center, San Diego, California. The report shall be submitted prior to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.



Response to Comment F-3: Mitigation Measures CR-5 and CR-6 have been revised to specify the treatment of paleontological resources only. Mitigation Measures CR-5 and CR-6 have been revised as follows:

Mitigation Measure CR-5: All recovered paleontological specimens shall be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.

Mitigation Measure CR-6: Paleontological Sspecimens shall be identified and curated into an established, accredited, professional museum repository with permanent retrievable storage. The paleontologist shall have a written repository agreement in hand prior to the initiation of mitigation activities.

Response to Comment F-4: Please refer to Response to Comments F-2 and F-3. Mitigation Measures CR-1, CR-5, CR-6, and CR-7 have been revised.



COMMENT LETTER G	RESPONSE
<p>From: Duke, Bryand@Wildlife [mailto:Bryand.Duke@wildlife.ca.gov] Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2014 3:57 PM To: North Village Infrastructure Project Subject: Draft MND for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project</p> <p>Dear Mr. Dennis Williams:</p> <p>The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), dated November 2014, for the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project. The comments provided herein are based upon information provided in the MND (and associated reference materials), our knowledge of sensitive and declining vegetation communities, and ongoing regional habitat conservation planning in the County of San Diego (County).</p> <p>We offer the comments and recommendations in this email to assist in avoiding, minimizing, and adequately mitigating project related impacts to biological resources, and to ensure that the project is consistent with ongoing regional habitat conservation planning efforts. Please note that additions to text are denoted by underlining the text and deletions are denoted by using a strikethrough line.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Page 22, Migratory Birds section states "The project has the potential to impact nesting birds if clearing and grubbing occurs during the bird breeding season (February 15 through August 5)." Since some raptor species begin nesting in January we recommend the following edit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migratory Birds Mature trees (>24-inch diameter) including coast live oak and Eucalyptus occur within the survey area. These trees provide suitable habitat for Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) covered species, which include nesting migratory birds and raptors. In addition to mature trees, all vegetated areas (including but not limited to sage scrub, chaparral, native landscaping, etc.), and power poles located within the survey area provide suitable habitat for MBTA covered species. The project has the potential to impact nesting birds if clearing and grubbing occurs during the bird breeding season (February 15 through August 15; <u>as early as January for some raptor species</u>). The MBTA prohibits take of active migratory bird nests. Impacts on active nests would be considered significant prior to mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-4 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. Page 23, Mitigation Measure BR-3: <i>BR-2: California Gnatcatcher/Least Bell's Vireo/Southwestern Willow</i> section discusses avoidance (pre-construction) survey mitigation measures for burrowing owls as it relates to the project. The Department recommends that the following edits concerning this section. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Measure BR-2: California Gnatcatcher/Least Bell's Vireo/Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. The following measures will be implemented to minimize indirect impacts on listed species during construction: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Construction will be timed to avoid the breeding season for listed avian species (February 15 to September 15; <u>as early as January for some raptor species</u>) to the maximum extent feasible. 	<p>Letter G California Department of Fish and Wildlife December 6, 2014</p> <p>Response to Comment G-1: The discussion of migratory birds on Initial Study page 50 has been modified as suggested in this comment as follows:</p> <p>The project has the potential to impact nesting birds if clearing and grubbing occurs during the bird breeding season (February 15 through August 15; <u>as early as January for some raptor species</u>).</p> <p>Response to Comment G-2: Mitigation Measure BR-2 has been revised to include the text "<u>as early as January for some raptor species</u>" and "<u>< 3 days prior to initiation of project construction</u>" as requested in this comment. Please see Initial Study page 48 for revised Mitigation Measure BR-2.</p>



2. If construction must occur within 500 feet of potentially suitable habitat during the breeding season, then pre-construction surveys (≤3 days prior to project initiation) will be conducted by a qualified biologist. If active nests are identified during pre-construction surveys and noise levels at the nest exceed 60dBA Leq, noise attenuation structures will be placed or other noise attenuation measures (e.g., reducing the number of construction vehicles or using different types of construction vehicles) will be implemented to reduce noise levels at the nest to 60 dBA Leq (or ambient noise level if greater than 60 dBA Leq). During construction adjacent to these areas, noise monitoring shall occur during the breeding season and be reported daily to the USFWS. Construction activities that create noise in excess of the aforementioned levels will cease operation until effective noise attenuation measures are in place to the extent practicable.
3. Page 23, Mitigation Measure BR-3: Burrowing Owl section discusses avoidance (pre-construction) survey mitigation measures for burrowing owls as it relates to the project. Implementation of avoidance and minimization measures would be triggered by positive owl presence on the site where project activities will occur. Because burrowing owls may re-colonize a site after only a few days, time lapses between project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance. Therefore, the Department recommends that the following edit concerning this section.

G-2
cont'd

Mitigation Measure BR-3: Burrowing Owl. Valley Center Municipal Water District will conduct take avoidance (pre-construction) surveys for burrowing owl no more than ~~30-14~~ days (CDFW 2012) prior to initiating ground disturbance activities. Burrowing owls may re-colonize a site after only a few days, therefore, time lapses between project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance.

G-3

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this MND. We are hopeful that further consultation between you and us will ensure the protection we find necessary for the biological resources that would be affected by the project. If you have questions regarding our comments on the Project, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Bryand
[Bryand M. Duke, Ph.D.](mailto:Bryand.M.Duke@wildlife.ca.gov)
Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Program, South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123

Voice: 858.637.5511; Fax: 858.467.4299
Bryand.Duke@wildlife.ca.gov

Response to Comment G-3: Mitigation Measure BR-3 has been revised to modify the requirement for pre-construction surveys to take place no more than 14 days before ground disturbance activities, and also to include that the final burrowing owl survey be conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance as requested in this comment. Please see Initial Study page 49 for revised Mitigation Measure BR-3.

COMMENT LETTER H

RESPONSE



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Ken Alex
Director

December 8, 2014

Dennis Williams
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Subject: North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project
SCH#: 2014111011

Dear Dennis Williams:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on December 5, 2014, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

RECEIVED
DEC 12 2014
VCMWD-ENGINEERING

} H-1

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044
TEL (916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.cpr.ca.gov

Letter H
State Clearinghouse
December 8, 2014

Response to Comment H-1: Comment noted. This comment acknowledges that the MND was distributed to selected state agencies for public review by the State Clearinghouse (SCH). No comment letters from state agencies were received by the SCH. It also acknowledges that the VCMWD complied with the SCH review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to CEQA.



Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2014111011
Project Title North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project
Lead Agency Valley Center Municipal Water District

Type MND Mitigated Negative Declaration

Description The Valley Center Municipal Water District is proposing infrastructure improvement consisting of two lift stations and collection system pipelines (force main, gravity main, and low pressure system). These improvements would be constructed within the Valley Center Municipal Water District service area boundaries.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Dennis Williams
Agency Valley Center Municipal Water District
Phone 760 735 4577 **Fax**
email
Address 29300 Valley Center Road
City Valley Center **State** CA **Zip** 92082

Project Location

County San Diego
City
Region
Lat / Long 33° 13' 40.1" N / 117° 2' 14.9" W
Cross Streets Valley Center Drive and Old Road
Parcel No. Various
Township 11S **Range** Variou **Section** Varies **Base** SBB&M

Proximity to:

Highways No
Airports No
Railways No
Waterways
Schools Valley Center ES
Land Use Paved Right-of-Way and Vacant/C-36, S-88/General Commercial, Specific Plan Area, Local Street

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects; Other Issues

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5; Cal Fire; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Caltrans, District 11; Air Resources Board; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 9; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 11/06/2014 **Start of Review** 11/06/2014 **End of Review** 12/05/2014



COMMENT LETTER I

RESPONSE



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Ken Alex
Director

December 9, 2014

Dennis Williams
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Subject: North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project
SCH#: 2014111011

Dear Dennis Williams:

The enclosed comment (s) on your Mitigated Negative Declaration was (were) received by the State Clearinghouse after the end of the state review period, which closed on December 5, 2014. We are forwarding these comments to you because they provide information or raise issues that should be addressed in your final environmental document.

The California Environmental Quality Act does not require Lead Agencies to respond to late comments. However, we encourage you to incorporate these additional comments into your final environmental document and to consider them prior to taking final action on the proposed project.

Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions concerning the environmental review process. If you have a question regarding the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number (2014111011) when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044
TEL (916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov

RECEIVED
DEC 12 2014
VCMWD-ENGINEERING

} I-1

**Letter I
State Clearinghouse
December 9, 2014**

Response to Comment I-1: Comment noted. This comment states that the SCH received a comment letter on the proposed project after the close of the public review period. SCH has enclosed the comment letter from the State Water Resources Control Board dated December 3, 2014. Although the SCH received the comment letter on December 8, 2014 (after the public review period), the State Water Resources Control Board mailed this same comment letter directly to VCMWD while the public review period was still open. VCMWD considers the State Water Resources Control Board's comment letter as timely, and has provided response to comments under Comment Letter E. Please refer to Responses E-1 through E-9 above.

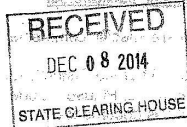


State Water Resources Control Board

DEC 03 2014

Dennis Williams
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

late
12/5/14



Dear Mr. Williams:

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT); NORTH VILLAGE WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (PROJECT); SAN DIEGO COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2014111011

We understand that the District is pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project (CWSRF No. C-06-7454-110). As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information on the IS/MND being prepared for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program. The primary purpose for the CWSRF Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution, recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, provide for estuary enhancement, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state. The CWSRF Program provides low-interest funding equal to one-half of the most recent State General Obligation Bond Rates with a 30-year term. Applications are accepted and processed continuously. Please refer to the State Water Board's CWSRF website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional "California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)-Plus" environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoi, at (916) 341-5855.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, Ca 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

RECYCLED PAPER

- 2 -

The District's IS/MND, Cultural Resources Technical Report, and Biological Technical Report have been received. The State Water Board requests additional Cross-Cutter documents which can be found in the Environmental Package at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/application_environmental_package.pdf

Following are specific comments on the District's draft IS/MND:

1. Page 53 of the District's IS/MND references a Traffic Control Plan that will be implemented. Please include a copy of this plan in the IS/MND or a reference to the location where this document can be found.
2. Please make sure to include a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) as a part of the District's IS/MND.
3. Page 35 of the Biological Report mentions that Lilac Creek provides potentially suitable habitat for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. Please indicate the location of Lilac Creek in relation to the Project area through discussion and on a map.
4. Page 49 states that potential winter foraging habitat may be lost for the Swainson's hawk as a result of Project activities, and page 50 states potential foraging habitat would be lost for the white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike and the golden eagle as a result of Project activities. Please make a determination for the impacts to each of these species based on the findings presented.
5. It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special-status species. Consultation with the USFWS will be necessary for impacts related to San Diego Ambrosia, San Diego Thorn-mint, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Least Bell's Vireo, and California Gnatcatcher.

Please be advised that the State Water Board will consult with the USFWS, and/or the NMFS regarding all federal special-status species that the Project has the potential to impact if the Project is to be financed by the CWSRF Program. The District will need to identify whether the Project will involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement, that may affect federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that are known, or have a potential to occur in the Project site, in the surrounding areas, or in the service area, and to identify applicable conservation measures to reduce such effects.

Please provide us with the following documents applicable to the proposed Project following the District's CEQA process: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND, (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and making CEQA findings, (3) all comments received during the review period and the District's response to those comments, (4) the adopted MMRP, and (5) the Notice of Determination filed with the San Diego County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

- 3 -

Thank you for the opportunity to review the District's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Elysar Naja at (916) 341-5799 or by email at Elysar.Naja@waterboards.ca.gov, or contact me at (916) 341-5855, or by email at Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Ahmad Kashkoli
Senior Environmental Scientist
Enclosures (3)

1. Clean Water State Revolving Fund Environmental Review Requirements
2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2014111011)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

This document is a Mitigated Negative Declaration/~~an~~ Initial Study for evaluation of environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project. For purposes of this document, this proposed development as described in Section 2.0, Project Description, will be called the “proposed project.”

1.2 Background

Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) adopted the South Village Master Plan (“Master Plan”) for the South Village Water Reclamation Project on August 4, 2008. The Master Plan and South Village Water Reclamation Project addressed expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (“WVRWRF Expansion”) and construction of seasonal storage, recycled water distribution and low pressure wastewater collection facilities to extend wastewater service to the South Village Area of Valley Center. Prior to adopting the Master Plan, VCMWD certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH #2007101049) (“EIR”). The WVRWRF Expansion would facilitate the community’s transition from septic to municipal wastewater service. The EIR analyzed, at a project level, the potential environmental impacts that could result from the South Village Wastewater Expansion Project, including: (1) the creation of an Assessment District, (2) the expansion of the WVRWRF with the maximum development allowed under zoning for the South Village Service Area at that time, (3) the installation of new wastewater collection and conveyance pipelines, and (4) the creation of a seasonal wet weather storage pond. The EIR also analyzed, at a program-level, the impacts associated with the expansion and installation of wastewater collection, treatment, seasonal storage and water reclamation facilities necessary to meet the demands of the South Village Area upon build-out in accordance with the San Diego County General Plan update proposed at that time.

VCMWD filed a Notice of Determination for approval of the South Village Water Reclamation Project and certification of the EIR on April 7, 2008. No lawsuit was filed challenging VCMWD’s approval of the South Village Water Reclamation Project or the environmental analysis. Therefore, pursuant to section 21167.2 of the Public Resources Code, the EIR was conclusively presumed to be valid with regard to its use for later activities.

Subsequently, VCMWD applied for, and ultimately secured, a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan from the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for the WVRWRF Expansion to expand the existing facility, install corresponding collection system piping, and construct seasonal storage improvements necessary to extend wastewater service within the WVRWRF Service Area and develop an alternative water supply to help reduce imported potable water demand. Assessment District No. 2012-1 was ultimately formed to provide the funding source for repayment of the SRF Loan.

Following certification of the EIR, adoption of the Master Plan and submittal of the SRF Loan application to fund the WVRWRF Expansion, VCMWD identified an alternative location for the seasonal wet weather storage pond that was not previously analyzed in the EIR, as well as a reduction in the ultimate capacity requirements of the treatment facilities, necessitating Amendment No. 1 to the Master Plan. VCMWD prepared an Initial Study to determine whether

selection of a new location for the seasonal storage pond would require preparation of a subsequent EIR. As documented in the Initial Study, the new pond location would not result in any such circumstances. Therefore VCMWD approved Addendum No. 1 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH#2007101049) and filed the corresponding Notice of Determination on January 20, 2011.

Following the filing of the Notice of Determination for Amendment No. 1 to the Master Plan, VCMWD further amended the Master Plan to be consistent with the recently updated San Diego County General Plan (August 2011), revised the average capacity requirement per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) to reflect historic trends, and extended the WVRWRF Service Area to allow development in the North Village Area to utilize the resulting available capacity. VCMWD prepared an Initial Study to determine whether Amendment No. 2 to the Master Plan required preparation of a subsequent EIR. As documented in the Initial Study, the changes to the Master Plan location would not result in any such circumstances. Therefore VCMWD approved Addendum No. 2 to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the South Village Water Reclamation Project (SCH#2007101049) and filed the corresponding Notice of Determination on January 22, 2013.

Following certification of the EIR Amendment No. 2 and adoption of the revised Master Plan, VCMWD formed Assessment District No. 2012-1, the SWRCB approved VCMWD's SRF Loan application for the WVRWRF Expansion and executed a Finance Agreement to fund the facilities to provide wastewater service to 350 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) located within the VCMWD's North and South Village Areas. VCMWD and SWRCB executed said agreement on May 23, 2013.

VCMWD thereafter modified the SRF Loan application to reflect costs associated with increasing the WVRWRF capacity to provide wastewater service up to a total of 1,095 EDUs, as allowed under the San Diego County General Plan update, and adding collection facilities within the South and North Village Areas necessary to serve the increased capacity reservation requests from project participants in both the South and North Village Areas. In response to the increased level of participation, VCMWD now intends to pursue the proposed North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project consisting of the facilities necessary to extend the wastewater collection infrastructure from the South to the North Village Area, add additional wastewater collection facilities in the South Village Area and to increase the previously proposed treatment and seasonal storage infrastructure necessary to serve the increased participation in the WVRWRF Expansion. Improvements within the South Village Area include a lift station and force main pipeline; improvements within the North Village Area include a lift station and collection system pipelines including a force main, gravity main, and low pressure collection system (Figure 3). The facilities necessary to implement the proposed project were not previously identified or analyzed under CEQA.

VCMWD is currently processing three individual State Revolving Fund loans for the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility Expansion Project: C-06-7454-110 (Collection System); C-06-7454-120 (Treatment Plant Expansion); and, C-06-7454-130 (Seasonal Storage). The facilities addressed in this document are identified in the collection system loan (C-06-7454-110). Revisions to the approved Finance Agreement with the SWRCB and modifications to Assessment District No. 2012-1 to provide funding for the additional facilities are being processed at this time.

1.3 Project Objectives

The following objectives are identified for this project:

- Expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility to provide wastewater service to customers within the North Village service area of the District in accordance with current County zoning and consistent with the General Plan; and
- Provide more reliable wastewater service.

1.24 California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

~~Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD)~~ is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency responsible for the review and approval of the proposed North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project. Based on the findings of the Initial Study, VCMWD has made the determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is the appropriate environmental document to be prepared in compliance with CEQA (California Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.). As stated in CEQA Section 21064, an MND may be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when an Initial Study has identified no potentially significant effects on the environment.

The purpose of the MND and the Initial Study checklist is to determine if any potentially significant impacts are associated with the proposed project and to incorporate mitigation measures into the project design as necessary to reduce or eliminate the significant or potentially significant effects of the project.

1.35 CEQA-Plus Evaluation

VCMWD is seeking a loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Financial Assistance. The SRF Program is partially funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is, therefore, subject to federal environmental regulations. To comply with applicable federal statutes and authorities, EPA established specific “CEQA-Plus” requirements in the Operating Agreement with the SWRCB for administering the SRF Program. The results of this evaluation are provided in the CEQA-Plus Evaluation sections within each relevant resource area (e.g., biological resources).

1.46 List of Discretionary Actions

Approval of the following discretionary actions will be required in order to implement the proposed project:

- Approval of the project by the VCMWD Board of Directors
- County of San Diego Encroachment permit
- County of San Diego Excavation permit

1.57 Other Agencies that May Use the Mitigated Negative Declaration

This MND is intended for use by responsible and trustee agencies that may have an interest in reviewing the project. All responsible and trustee agencies for the project, listed as follows, will, therefore, be asked to review this document:

- SWRCB
- ~~Regional Water Quality Control Board~~
- County of San Diego
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife

1.68 Public Review Process

In accordance with CEQA, a good-faith effort has been made during the preparation of this MND to contact affected agencies, organizations, and persons who may have an interest in this project.

In reviewing the MND, affected public agencies and the interested public should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the project's potential impacts on the environment. A copy of the Draft MND and related documents are available for review at VCMWD:

Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

The document is also available on VCMWD's website (<http://www.vcmwd.org/>).

Comments on the MND may be made in writing before the end of the public review period. A 30-day review and comment period from November 6, 2014 to December 6, 2014, has been established in accordance with Section 15072(a) of the CEQA Guidelines. Following the close of the public comment period, VCMWD will consider this MND and comments thereto in determining whether to approve the proposed project.

Written comments on the MND should be sent to the following address by 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Dennis Williams, Project Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

Comments may also be submitted electronically at NorthVillage@vcmwd.org.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Location

The proposed project is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. Valley Center is located approximately 20 miles north of the City of San Diego and is approximately equidistant between the community of Fallbrook to the north and the City of Escondido to the south (Figure 1). The proposed project is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center (Figure 2). Regional access to the project area is via Interstate 15. Local access to the project site is via Valley Center Road.

2.2 Environmental Setting and Surrounding Land Uses

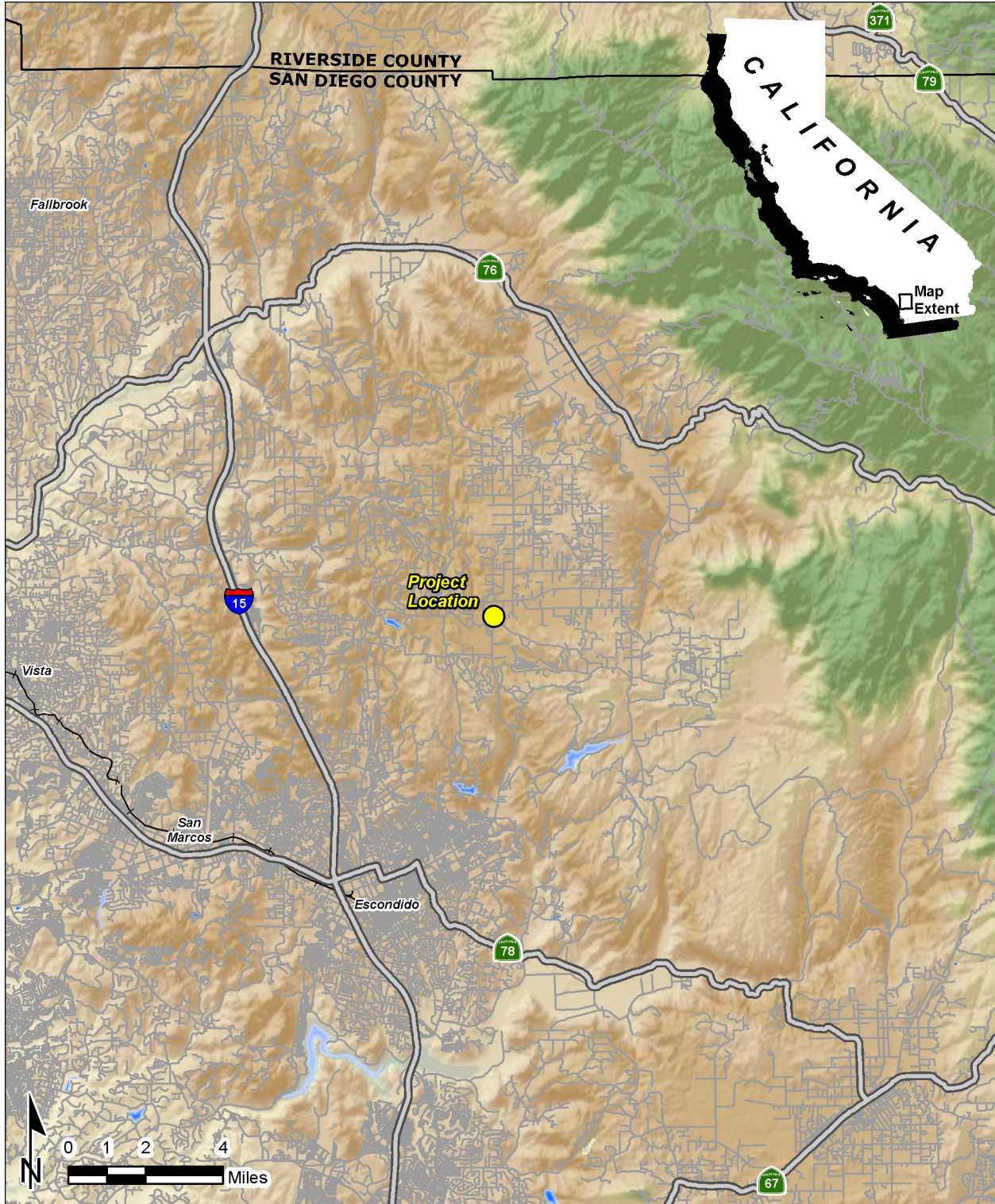
Valley Center is characterized by its rolling hills, low-density rural agricultural land uses, and a predominance of estate residential development. Although urbanization has greatly diminished agricultural uses in other areas of the County, Valley Center has maintained its rural identity. This has resulted in the transition of several large areas of open space currently under agricultural production, such as fruit orchards, to residential and commercial development. The North Village Lift Station site is bordered by Valley Center on the north, Indian Creek Road and vacant land on the east, estate residential on the south, and vacant land on the west. The Orchard Run Lift Station site is bordered by the Valley Center Community Center on the north, and vacant land on the east, south, and west.

2.3 Project Characteristics

VCMWD is currently processing three individual SRF loans for the WVRWRF Expansion: C-06-7454-110 (Collection System); C-06-7454-120 (Treatment Plant Expansion); and C-06-7454-130 (Seasonal Storage). The facilities addressed in this document are identified in the collection system loan (C-06-7454-110). Under the amendment to the WVRWRF Expansion, ~~The Valley Center Municipal Water District~~VCMWD is proposing infrastructure improvements consisting of two lift stations and collection system pipelines (force main, gravity main, and low pressure system) (Figure 3). These improvements would be constructed within the Valley Center Municipal Water District service area boundaries and are proposed in order to collect wastewater from additional properties that were not previously contemplated in the originally approved WVRWRF Expansion. The increased capacity of the Water Reclamation Facility that would treat this additional wastewater, as well as the Seasonal Storage volumes would not change from those anticipated, and evaluated in the South Village Water Reclamation Project EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2007101049).

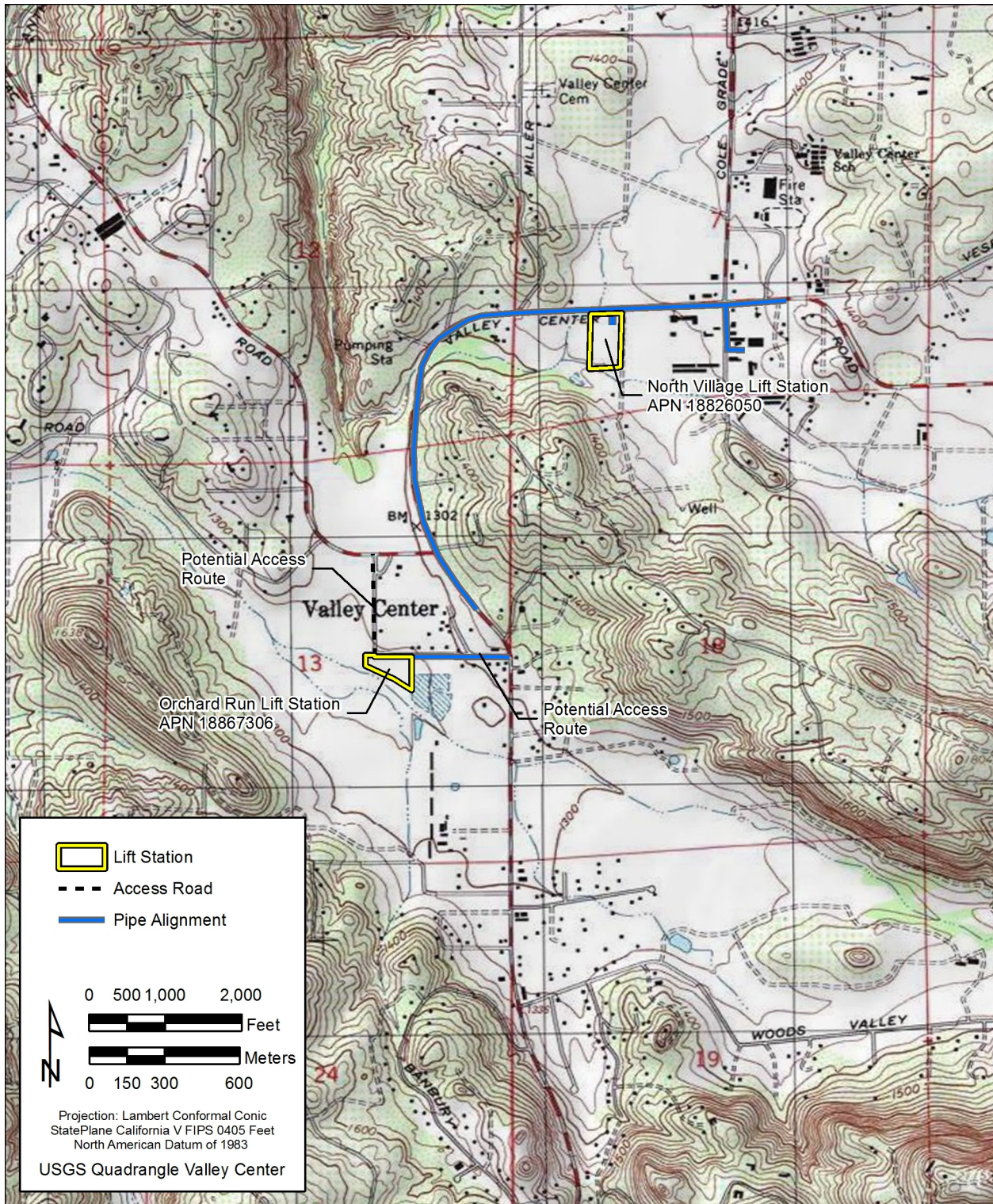
North Village Lift Station

The North Village Lift Station would be located on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 18826050. This parcel comprises approximately 6.5 acres, and is located, on the southwest side of the Valley Center Road and Indian Creek Road intersection. While the entire parcel comprises approximately 6.5 acres, only a small portion of the parcel would be disturbed in order to construct the North Village Lift Station. Specifically, ~~the~~ North Village Lift Station would be 90 feet by 50 feet, and can be located anywhere within the parcel should it be necessary to avoid impacts (such as biological resources).



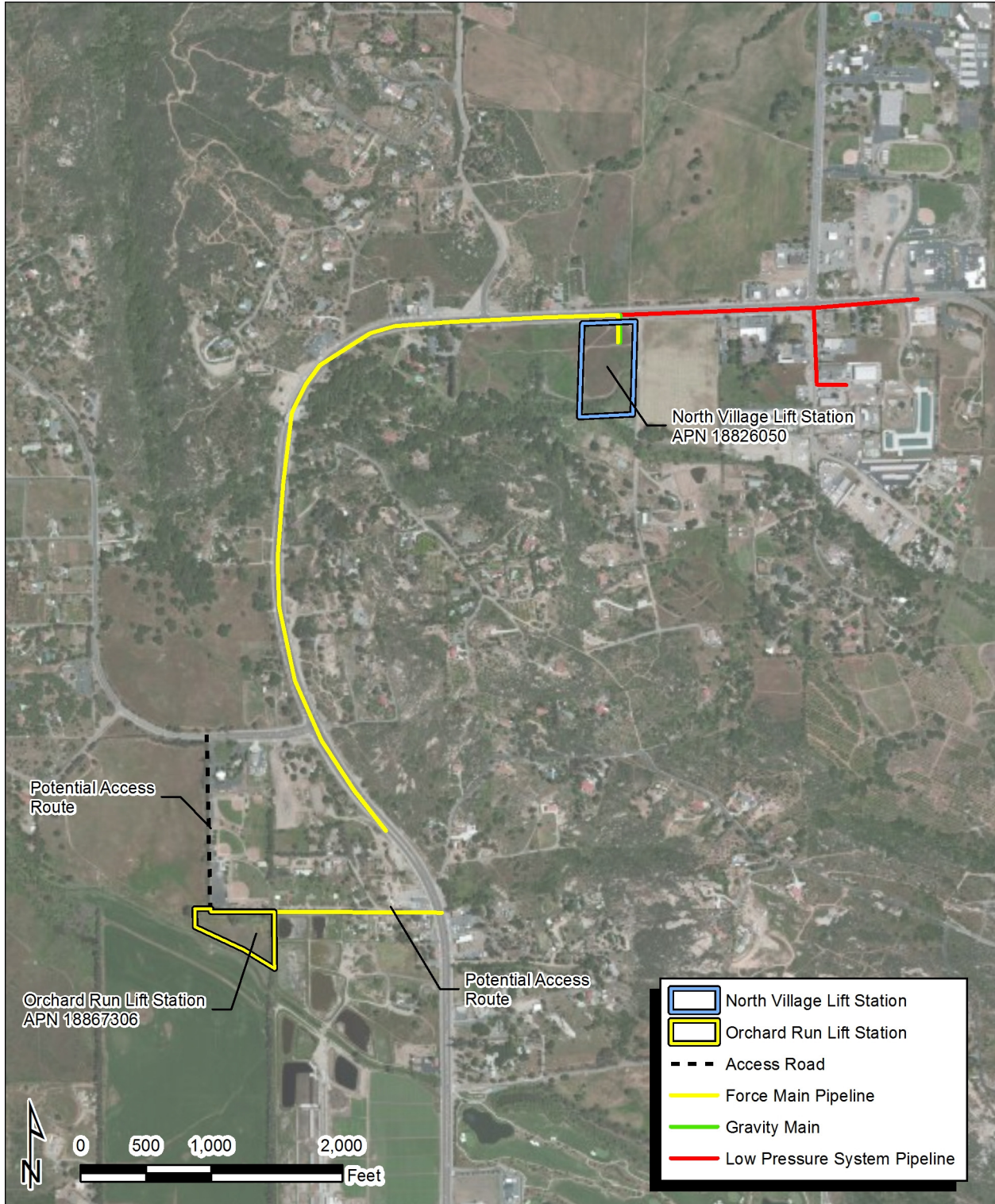
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Figure 1. Regional Location



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Figure 2. Vicinity Map



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Figure 3. Project Components

The North Village Lift Station and associated 20-foot wide off-road easement area for the gravity main and force main connection and 20-foot wide access road covers approximately 1.5 acres totals approximately 20,000 square feet. The depth of excavation required to install the lift station is no more than 20 feet. The remainder of the parcel will remain undeveloped. The entire North Village Lift Station site and related offsite areas are considered in the environmental analysis.

The lift station will consist of three submersible pumps, and has a firm capacity of 663 gpm. The lift station will include a wet well, backup generator, electrical control panels, and an emergency storage basin. The lift station site will be enclosed by a block wall with wrought iron gate and paved (inside the block wall).

Orchard Run Lift Station

The Orchard Run Lift Station would be located on APN 18867306. This parcel comprises 3.76 acres, and is located approximately 0.25 miles west of Valley Center Road and immediately south of the Valley Center Community Center (28246 Lilac Rd, Valley Center, CA 92082). While the entire parcel comprises 3.76 acres, only a small portion of the parcel would be disturbed in order to construct the Orchard Run Lift Station. Specifically, the Orchard Run Lift Station would be 90 feet by 50 feet and can be located anywhere within the parcel should it be necessary to avoid impacts (such as biological resources). The depth of excavation required to install the lift station is no more than 20 feet. The remainder of the parcel will remain undeveloped. The entire Orchard Run Lift Station site and related offsite areas are considered in the environmental analysis.

The lift station will consist of three submersible pumps, and has a firm capacity of 663 gpm. The lift station will include a wet well, backup generator, electrical control panels, and an emergency storage basin. The lift station site will be enclosed by a block wall with wrought iron gate and paved (inside the block wall).

Pipeline Improvements

Pipeline improvements would be constructed within existing paved right-of-way, except where the pipeline leaves Valley Center Road to connect to the North Village Lift Station and the western portion of Old Road. Approximately 1.2 linear miles of force main pipeline (6-inch diameter) would be constructed within Valley Center Road to connect to the South Village Force Main on Old Road. Approximately 0.25 linear miles of force main pipeline (6-inch diameter) would be constructed within Old Road to connect to the proposed Orchard Run Lift Station. Gravity main pipeline (8 inch diameter) would also be constructed within Valley Center Road. The gravity main pipeline alignment would then leave Valley Center Road to connect to the North Village Lift Station. The length of the gravity main pipeline from Valley Center Road to the North Village Lift Station would not exceed 0.11 linear miles. Approximately 0.7 linear miles of low-pressure system pipeline (2 inch diameter) would be constructed within Valley Center Road, south of Cole Grade Road, and east of Juba Road. Shallow trenches (no more than 6 feet deep) would be utilized to install pipeline improvements, unless at utility crossings, if necessary.



2.4 Project Construction

Construction activities are proposed to start in 2015 and last for up to 10 months. Final construction scheduling would be completed during engineering and contractor bidding, which may result in variations to the planned construction schedule. The proposed project's construction phases include:

- Grading
- Lift Station Construction
- Paving (Lift Station)
- Trenching (Pipeline Installation)
- Paving (Pipeline Installation).

The construction equipment mix for the proposed project is shown in Table 1. The equipment mix is meant to represent a reasonably conservative estimate of construction activity.

Table 1. Anticipated Construction Equipment

Construction Phase	Equipment	Quantity
Lift Stations		
Site Preparation	Truck trips, no equipment	n/a
Grading	Backhoe (Tractors, Loaders, Backhoes)	1
	Front End Loader (Tractors, Loaders, Backhoes)	1
	Scraper	1
Lift Station Construction	Cranes	1
	Excavator	1
	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1
	Generator Sets	1
	Water Truck	1
	Concrete Truck	1
Paving (Lift Station)	Pavers	1
	Paving equipment	1
Pipelines		
Trenching (Pipeline Installation)	Excavators	1
	Hand Compactor/Drum Roller	1
	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	2
	Welders	2
Paving (Pipeline Installation)	Pavers	1
	Paving equipment	1

INITIAL STUDY

1. **Project Title:** North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**

Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Dennis Williams, Project Manager, VCMWD,
760- 735-4577
4. **Project Location:**

North Village Lift Station: Located on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 18826050, on the south side of the Valley Center Road and Indian Creek Road intersection.

Orchard Run Lift Station: Located on APN 18867306, approximately 0.25 miles west of Valley Center Road and immediately south of the Valley Center Community Center (28246 Lilac Rd, Valley Center, CA 92082).

Pipeline Improvements: Located primarily within existing paved right-of way (Valley Center Road, Cole Grade Road, Juba Road, and Old Road).
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**

Valley Center Municipal Water District
29300 Valley Center Road
Valley Center, CA 92082
6. **General Plan Designation:**

North Village Lift Station: General Commercial
Orchard Run Lift Station: Specific Plan Area
Pipeline Improvements: Local Street
7. **Zoning:**

North Village Lift Station: C-36 General Commercial
Orchard Run Lift Station: S-88 Specific Planning Area
Pipeline Improvements: Located within existing road right-of-way, no zoning designation assigned. The areas outside of the existing road right-of-way are designated for residential and commercial uses.
8. **Description of Project:** Please see Section 2.0 for project description.
9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:** Please see Section 2.0 for information on surrounding land uses and setting.



10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):**

~~Regional Water Quality Control Board~~

- County of San Diego – Encroachment Permit
- County of San Diego – Excavation Permit

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

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

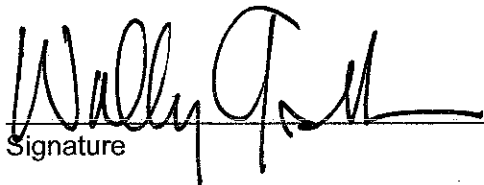
- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Forest Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <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 |



DETERMINATION (To be completed by the Lead Agency):

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the project could not have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- 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.
- I find that proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- 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.
- 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 an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.


Signature

12.18.14
Date

Wally Grabbe
Printed Name

For Valley Center Municipal Water District

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 in the parentheses following each question. 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 off-site as well as on-site, 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 there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries 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, as discussed below).
- 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) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) 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 significance.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Issues:

I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

According to the Valley Center Community Plan of the County of San Diego General Plan (2011), there are a number of scenic resources within Valley Center, including: Lancaster Mountain, Keys Creek, Valley Center Ridge, and Chaparral Ridge. However, there are no designated scenic vistas within the viewshed of the project site. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not impact any scenic vistas. No significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

The proposed project is not located within a state scenic highway (Caltrans, 2011). San Diego County has two formally-designated scenic highways: State Route 125 between State Route 94 in Spring Valley to Interstate 8 in La Mesa and State Route 78 through the Anza-Borrego Desert Park. A number of scenic routes are identified within the County, including Lilac Road and Valley Center Road route (State Route 76 to State Route 76 segment). In addition, Interstate 15 has been designated a scenic corridor. The Valley Center area has varied topography and includes many rock outcroppings, however, the project does not propose any development (e.g., grading) or structures that would remove, obscure, obstruct or otherwise impact these potentially scenic resources. Historic structures are also not present within the project site. Furthermore, pipeline improvements would be underground and would not be visible. The proposed lift stations are small, and are not located on sites with these types of resources. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

The Valley Center area is characterized by its rolling hills, low-density rural agricultural land uses, and a predominance of estate residential development. Although urbanization has greatly diminished agricultural uses in other areas of the County, Valley Center has largely maintained its rural identity. The North Village Lift Station site is bordered by Valley Center on the north, Indian Creek Road and vacant land on the east, and vacant land on the south and west. The Orchard Run Lift Station site is bordered by Valley Center Community Center on the north, and vacant land on the east, south, and west.

Pipeline improvements would be constructed within existing paved right-of-way, except where the pipeline leaves Valley Center Road to connect to the North Village Lift Station and the western portion of Old Road. Construction would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. Therefore, since the pipelines would be below grade within existing easements or rights-of-way, no visual change would occur due to installation of the pipelines.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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The proposed lift stations would be placed underground, but would include above ground components such as a back up generator and electrical control panels. The lift stations would be surrounded by a block wall with a wrought iron gate to prevent public access. This block wall would screen these facilities from casual view. Also, minimal topographical alteration would be required as the sites are relatively flat.

Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the project site and its surroundings. A less than significant is identified for this issue area.

- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

The proposed project does not propose the construction, operation, or use of infrastructure that would create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. There would be no operational lighting resulting from the underground pipelines and lift station. Potential project-related nighttime construction lighting would be temporary and would not represent a permanent new source of substantial light or glare. No impact is identified for this issue area.

II. AGRICULTURE AND 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 the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in the Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

- 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?



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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The State of California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, "San Diego County Important Farmland 2010" designates the North Village Lift Station site as "Other Land" and the Orchard Run Lift Station site as "Farmland of Local Importance." According to the Department of Conservation, Farmland of Local Importance is either currently producing, or has the capability of production, but does not meet the criteria of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland (Department of Conservation, 2010). It should be noted that analysis of Farmland of Local Importance is not required under CEQA significance criteria, as this designation is not considered an "agricultural land" per CEQA Statute Section 21060.1(a).—Based on this context, the conversion of Farmland of Local Importance is not considered significant under CEQA. Furthermore, the Orchard Run Lift Station site is not currently being used for farming and would not likely be used for farming given that it is owned by VCMWD and is zoned S-88 Specific Planning Area. Pipeline improvements would be constructed primarily within existing paved right-of-way. Therefore, the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use. No impact is identified for this issue area.

- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act Contract?

The proposed project is not located within a designated agricultural use area or Williamson Act contract. The North Village Lift Station site is currently zoned C-36 General Commercial under the County of San Diego Zoning Ordinance. The Orchard Run Lift Station site is zoned S-88 Specific Planning Area. The alignment of pipeline improvements would be located primarily within existing road right-of-way. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. No impact is identified for this issue area.

- 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))?

The proposed project is not located on forest lands as defined in PRC Section 12220(g). There are no existing forest lands, timberlands, or timberland zoned Timberland Production either on-site or in the immediate vicinity. Therefore, the project would not conflict with existing zoning of forest land or cause rezoning of any forest land. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.

- d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

There are no existing forest lands either on-site or in the immediate vicinity of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact is identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The proposed project would be developed within approved development areas (designated for commercial and Specific Plan uses) and within existing road right-of-way. Due to the nature of the project (utility improvements) and its location the project would not result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Farmland Protection Policy Act:

Is any portion of the project site located on important farmland?

- No. The project will not impact farmland**
- Yes. Include information on the acreage that would be converted from important farmland to other uses. Indicate if any portion of the project site is located within Williamson Act control and the amount of affected acreage.**

The State of California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, "San Diego County Important Farmland 2010" designates the Orchard Run Lift Station site as "Farmland of Local Importance." The Orchard Run Lift Station site is approximately 3.76 acres. However, only a portion of the site (a maximum of 0.5 acres), will be developed to construct the Orchard Run Lift Station.

The proposed project is not located within a Williamson Act contract.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. 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:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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A project is deemed inconsistent with the applicable air quality plan if it would result in population and/or employment growth that exceeds growth estimated in the applicable air quality plan. The proposed project does not include development of housing or employment centers, and would not induce population or employment growth. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of any air quality plan and no impact is identified for this issue area.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Emissions of criteria air pollutants would result in conjunction with construction and operation of the proposed project.

Project Construction

Air emissions are generated during construction through activities such as grading, clearing, hauling, and structural assembly. Diesel exhaust emissions are generated through the use of heavy equipment such as dozers, loaders, scrapers, and vehicles such as dump/haul trucks. During site clearing and grading, PM₁₀ is released as a result of soil disturbance. Construction emissions vary from day-to-day depending on the number of workers, number and types of active heavy-duty vehicles and equipment, level of activity, the prevailing meteorological conditions, and the length over which these activities occur.

Construction activities are proposed to start in 2015 and last for up to 10 months. Final construction scheduling would be completed during engineering and contractor bidding, which may result in variations to the planned construction schedule. The proposed project’s construction phases include:

- Grading
- Lift Station Construction
- Paving (Lift Station)
- Trenching (Pipeline Installation)
- Paving (Pipeline Installation)

As shown in Table 2, construction emissions would not exceed San Diego Air Pollution Control District’s significance thresholds for ROG, NO_x, CO, SO_x, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}.

Furthermore, all construction activity within the project site will comply with the dust control provisions outlined in Section 87.428 of the County of San Diego Grading Ordinance, including:

- All clearing and grading shall be carried out with dust control measures adequate to prevent creation of a nuisance to persons or public or private property.
- Clearing, grading or improvement plans shall require that measures such as the following be undertaken to achieve this result: watering, application of surfactants, shrouding, control of vehicle speeds, paving of access areas, or other operational or technological measures to reduce dispersion of dust.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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These project design measures are to be incorporated into all earth disturbing activities to minimize the amount of particulate matter emissions from construction.

Project Operation

Once the proposed lift stations and pipelines are constructed, no routine daily operational activities that would generate air pollutant emissions would occur. The proposed project would not require additional employees to operate the lift stations; as such there would be no additional vehicular traffic or associated mobile source emissions.

Summary

The proposed project would not generate emissions that would exceed San Diego Air Pollution Control District’s significance thresholds during construction and operation of the project. Therefore, the proposed project would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

Table 2. Construction Emissions Summary

Phase	Pollutant					
	ROG (lb/day)	NOx (lb/day)	CO (lb/day)	SOx (lb/day)	PM ₁₀ (lb/day)	PM _{2.5} (lb/day)
Grading	1.77	2.61	12.30	0.02	3.76	2.37
Lift Station Construction	1.86	13.96	11.13	0.02	1.05	0.97
Paving (Lift Station)	1.29	12.10	8.48	0.01	0.86	0.76
Trenching (Pipeline Installation)	1.12	7.68	6.58	0.01	8.69	4.96
Paving (Pipeline Installation)	1.29	12.10	8.48	0.01	0.86	0.76
Maximum Daily Emissions	1.86	13.96	12.30	0.02	8.69	4.96
Thresholds of Significance	75	250	550	250	100	55
Significant?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: CalEEMod.2013.2.2

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

Refer to Responses III. a) and b), above. The proposed project would result in short-term temporary air emissions associated with the construction phase. However, due to the relatively limited scale of construction required for the proposed project, the level of emissions generated during the construction phase would not exceed SDAPCD significance thresholds. Furthermore, the proposed project would not generate substantial emissions during operations. Based on these considerations, the proposed project would not contribute to cumulative air quality emissions and a less than significant impact is identified.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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- d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Refer to Response III. b). above. Several residences are located along the Valley Center Road alignment and Old Road, and south of the North Village Lift Station site. The nearest sensitive receptors are the homes located immediately north and south of the Old Road alignment. Due to the limited construction activities necessary to construct the proposed project, fine particulate matter (PM₁₀) and vehicle emissions (NO_x) would be minimal. In addition, all construction activity within the project site will comply with the dust control provisions outlined in Section 87.428 of the County of San Diego Grading Ordinance to minimize the amount of particulate matter emissions from construction. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations and a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. Potential sources that may emit odors during construction activities include diesel equipment and gasoline fumes and asphalt paving material. The emissions will not be excessive and would be of a relatively short duration during construction. Odors associated with the operation of the lift stations would be controlled by carbon filter canisters and/or odor absorption pads. Based on these considerations, the proposed project would not expose a substantial number of people to objectionable odors. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.



CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Clean Air Act:

Identify Air Basin Name: San Diego Air Basin

Name of the Local Air District for Project Area: San Diego Air Pollution Control District

Is the project subject to a State Implementation Plan conformity determination?

- No. The project is in an attainment area.**
- Yes. The project is in a nonattainment area or attainment area subject to maintenance plans. Include information to indicate the nonattainment designation (e.g., moderate, serious, or severe), if applicable. If estimated emissions are above the federal de minimis levels, but the project is sized to meet only the needs of current population projects that are used in the approved State Implementation Plan for air quality then quantitatively indicate how the proposed capacity increase was calculated using population projects.**

The estimated project construction and operational air emissions (in tons per year) are provided in Table 3. Refer to Appendix A for the calculations used to quantify the proposed project's emissions of criteria air pollutants.

Table 3. San Diego Air Basin Attainment Status and Estimated Construction Air Emissions

Pollutant	Attainment Status		SDAPCD Thresholds of Significance (Pounds/Day)	Construction Emissions (Pounds/Day)		Operational Emissions (Tons/Year)
	National	State		(Pounds/Day)	Tons/Year	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Attainment	Attainment	550	12.30	<u>2.04</u>	0.72
Ozone (O3)	Nonattainment	Nonattainment	n/a	n/a		n/a
Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)	n/a	n/a	250	13.96	<u>2.31</u>	0.78
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)	Attainment	Attainment	n/a	n/a		n/a
Particulate Matter (PM10)	Unclassified	Nonattainment	100	8.69	<u>1.44</u>	0.40
Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	Attainment	Nonattainment	55	4.96	<u>0.82</u>	0.24
Reactive Organic Gases	n/a	n/a	75	1.86	<u>0.31</u>	0.12

CEQA-Plus integrates regulations from the Clean Air Act (CAA) to projects in areas that are subject to the General Conformity Rule. CEQA-Plus requires that an analysis is conducted for each criteria pollutant for which the air basin is considered nonattainment or maintenance. Section 176(c) of the 1990 CAA Amendments contains the General Conformity Rule (40 CFR 51.850–860 and 40 CFR 93.150–160). The General Conformity Rule requires any federal agency responsible for an action in a non-attainment or maintenance area to determine that the action conforms to the applicable SIP. This means that federally supported or funded activities will not (1) cause or contribute to any new air quality standard violation, (2) increase the frequency or severity of any existing standard violation, or (3) delay the timely attainment of any standard, interim emission reduction, or other milestone. The rule allows for approximately 30 exemptions that are assumed to conform to an applicable SIP. Emissions of attainment pollutants are exempt from conformity analyses. Actions would conform to a SIP if their annual direct and indirect



emissions remain less than the applicable de minimis thresholds. Formal conformity determinations are required for any actions that exceed these thresholds. However, if the total emissions of a pollutant from a federal action exceed 10% of a nonattainment area's emissions inventory of that pollutant, the action is defined as a regionally significant action and it would also require a conformity determination. Under the Federal Clean Air Act, Federal actions may be exempt from conformity determinations if they do not exceed designated de minimis levels for criteria pollutants (40 CFR 51.853[b]).

The San Diego Air Basin (SDAB) is classified as a federal non-attainment region for ozone. Based on the present attainment status of the San Diego Air Basin (SDAB), the proposed project would conform to the most recent USEPA-approved SIP if its annual construction or operational emissions do not exceed 100 tons of NOx per year and 50 tons of ROG emissions per year. The General Conformity Rule has been adopted by the San Diego Air Pollution Control District as Rule 1501.

A summary comparison of estimated emissions from construction and de minimis thresholds is provided in Table 4. As shown in Table 4, the project's construction emissions would not exceed the de minimis thresholds for NOx and ROG emissions.

A comparison of the estimated emissions from construction and the total emissions for San Diego Air Basin is provided in Table 5. As shown in Table 5, the estimated emissions from construction would not exceed 10 percent of the total emissions in the project area.

As discussed above, if project emissions are below the de minimis levels and less than 10 percent of the nonattainment area's emissions inventory of that pollutant, further analysis under the General Conformity Rule is not required. Therefore, the project would be consistent with the General Conformity rule and no further analysis is required.



Table 4. Comparison of Estimated Emissions from Construction and De Minimis Thresholds

	Criteria Pollutant	
	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO _x)	Reactive Organic Gases (ROGs or VOCs)
CONSTRUCTION		
Total Estimated Emissions (Tons/year)	2.31	0.31
De Minimis Threshold (Tons/year)	100	50
Above De Minimis Threshold?	No	No
OPERATION		
Total Estimated Emissions (Tons/year)	0.78	0.31
De Minimis Threshold (Tons/year)	100	50
Above De Minimis Threshold?	No	No

Table 5. Comparison of Estimated Emissions from Construction and Total Emissions from Project Area

	Criteria Pollutant	
	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO _x)	Reactive Organic Gases (ROGs or VOCs)
Total Estimated Construction Emissions (Tons/year)	2.31	0.31
SDAB Air Basin Emissions Forecast, 2010 (Tons/Year) ¹	40,400	97,450
Percentage	0.00005717821	0.00000318111
Exceeds 10% of nonattainment area's emissions inventory?	No	No

¹ – California Air Resources Board, 2013

	Less than Significant	
Potentially Significant Impact	with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact
		No Impact

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- 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?

The following information is summarized from the Biological Technical Report prepared by HDR, dated December 2014 ~~September 14~~. This report is provided as Appendix B of this Initial Study.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Botanical Species

San Diego Ambrosia and San Diego Thorn-mint

The survey area exhibits the potential to support the federally and state endangered Nevin’s barberry, federally endangered San Diego Ambrosia, federally threatened and state endangered San Diego thorn-mint and federally threatened spreading navarretia. The proposed project would impact non-native grassland, disturbed, developed and Eucalyptus woodland cover types. Nevin’s barberry and spreading navarretia do not have potential to occur in these cover types. Therefore, the proposed project would not have impacts to Nevin’s barberry and spreading navarretia. However, San Diego ambrosia has potential to occur in non-native grassland and disturbed habitat on the upper floodplain terraces at the Orchard Run and North Village Lift Station sites. In addition, San Diego thorn-mint has potential to occur in the clay soils vegetated with non-native grassland at the Orchard Run Lift Station site. If present, project construction would have potential to result in direct impacts to these species. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Other Special-Status Botanical Species

The survey area supports California black walnut and exhibits the potential to support Orcutt’s brodiaea, Ramona horkelia, Parry’s tetraococcus, round-leaved filaree, Nuttall’s scrub oak, San Diego milk vetch, variegated dudleya, Coulter’s saltbush, San Diego aster, beach aster, Palmer’s goldenbush, smooth tarplant and southern tarplant. However, as described above the project will only impact non-native grassland, disturbed, developed and Eucalyptus woodland cover types. Ramon horkelia, Parry’s tetraococcus, Nuttall’s scrub oak, San Diego aster, beach aster and Palmer’s goldenbush do not have potential to occur in these cover types and the Coulter’s saltbush was not observed during general biological surveys. Orcutt’s brodiaea, round-leaved filaree, smooth tarplant and southern tarplant have potential to occur in clay soils supporting non-native grassland at the Orchard Run Lift Station site. Orcutt’s brodiaea, round-leaved filaree, smooth tarplant and southern tarplant are listed in the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants on list 1B.1 (rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere). Impacts at the Orchard Run Lift Station site total less than 10 percent of the site (approximately 0.3 acre including 4,500 square feet for lift station construction and up to 8,000 square feet for access road construction). If other special status botanical species are present, project construction would have potential to result in direct impacts to the species. Direct impacts to other special status botanical species have potential to be significant. Impacts at the Orchard Run Lift Station Site total approximately 0.5 acre. Loss of 0.5 acre of potentially suitable habitat for these species is not significant in the context of over 109,800 acres of permanently preserved biological core and linkage habitat within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas). Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Implementation of construction BMPs (i.e., placement of straw waddles, silt fencing, watering bare areas for dust control) and SWPPP measures will minimize potential impacts on avoided habitat resulting from dust or erosion.

Zoological Species

Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Least Bell’s Vireo, California Gnatcatcher, and Swainson’s Hawk

The survey area exhibits the potential to support the federally and state endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell’s vireo, federally threatened California gnatcatcher and state threatened



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Swainson's hawk. However, as described above the project will only impact non-native grassland, disturbed, developed and Eucalyptus woodland cover types. Therefore, no direct impacts to habitat with potential to support southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher will occur. Swainson's hawk is not anticipated to breed in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, potential impacts to Swainson's hawk would be limited to loss of less than one acre of potential winter foraging habitat (0.3 acre at the Orchard Run Lift Station site and 0.6 acre at the North Village Lift Station site). In the context of over 109,800-148,000 acres of agricultural and non-native grassland habitats available for winter foraging in San Diego County, permanently preserved biological core and linkage habitat within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas), the loss of approximately 2-5.9 acres of potential foraging winter habitat would not be significant.

If breeding southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher were present during construction, construction-related noise and lighting could result in indirect impacts to these species. Indirect impacts to federally-listed species would require consultation with USFWS and would be considered significant prior to mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-2 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Other Special-Status Species

The survey area exhibits the potential to support burrowing owl, golden eagle, white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike, yellow-breasted chat, yellow warbler, Dulzura pocket mouse, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse, western red bat, San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego desert woodrat, American badger, orangethroat whiptail, coast horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake and two-striped garter snake. However, as described above the project will only impact non-native grassland, disturbed, developed and Eucalyptus woodland cover types. Yellow-breasted chat, yellow warbler, Dulzura pocket mouse, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse, western red bat, San Diego desert woodrat, coast horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake and two-striped garter snake are not expected to occur in these cover types. Potential impacts to white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike and golden eagle would be limited to loss of less than one acre of potential foraging habitat (0.3 acre at the Orchard Run Lift Station site and 0.6 acre at the North Village Lift Station site). The lift stations are not anticipated to prohibit foraging on the remaining undeveloped portions of the property (3.4 acres and 5.9 acres). In the context of over 109,800-148,000 acres of agricultural and non-native grassland habitats available for winter foraging in San Diego County, permanently preserved biological core and linkage habitat within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas), the loss of approximately up to 0.9 acres 2.5 acres of potential foraging habitat would not be significant. Similarly, the loss of approximately up to 0.9-2.5 acres of potentially suitable habitat for San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, American badger and orangethroat whiptail is also not significant in the context of over one million acres of grassland, sage scrub, chaparral and oak woodland habitats with potential to support these species in San Diego County, of over 109,800 acres of permanently preserved biological core and linkage habitat within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas).

Although no burrowing owls were observed, the project site supports suitable nesting and foraging habitat for the burrowing owl. The project permanently impacts up to 0.9 acre of potential burrowing owl habitat (0.3 acres at Orchard Run Lift Station site and 0.6 acre at the North Village Lift Station site). At each location, non-impacted habitat will continue to provide habitat function, however, permanent loss of breeding habitat would be considered significant. This species could also be directly impacted if present during construction activities. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-3 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Migratory Birds

Mature trees (>24-inch diameter) including coast live oak and Eucalyptus occur within the survey area. These trees provide suitable habitat for Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) covered species, which include nesting migratory birds and raptors. In addition to mature trees, all vegetated areas (including but not limited to sage scrub, chaparral, native landscaping, etc.), and power poles located within the survey area provide suitable habitat for MBTA covered species. The project has the potential to impact nesting birds if clearing and grubbing occurs during the bird breeding season (February 15 through August 15; as early as January for some raptor species). The MBTA prohibits take of active migratory bird nests. Impacts on active nests would be considered significant prior to mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-4 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measure BR-1: Protection of Special Status Plants and Habitat with Potential to Support Special Status Species. The following measures shall be implemented to protect habitat with the potential to support special-status species during project-related construction.

1. A qualified biologist will conduct focused surveys for ~~San Diego ambrosia and San Diego thorn-minis~~ special-status plant species prior to construction of the Orchard Run and North Village Lift Stations. The surveys shall be conducted during the blooming season for the species. ~~If either species~~ special-status species are observed, the lift stations (4,500 square foot) and 20-foot wide access roads will be relocated as needed within the properties ~~to avoid the species.~~ In the unlikely event that ~~the special-status species are~~ identified on site and impacts cannot be avoided then Valley Center Municipal Water District will consult with USFWS and CDFW as required by the federal and state law for federally or state listed endangered or threatened species. Mitigation for unavoidable impacts to federally or state listed endangered or threatened species may include an in-lieu fee payment, preservation of occupied habitat and/or restoration of habitat through seed collection and dispersal. Although unlikely, if other special status species are identified and the lift station and access roads cannot be relocated to provide 90-percent avoidance, then a seed collection and dispersal program shall be implemented under the guidance of a restoration specialist/botanist with rare plant propagation experience. ~~Mitigation may include an in lieu fee payment, preservation of occupied habitat and/or restoration of habitat through seed collection and dispersal.~~
2. Valley Center Municipal Water District will comply with all regulatory permit requirements and ~~Valley Center Municipal Water District shall designate an approved biologist (project biologist) who will be responsible for overseeing compliance with regulatory permits including with~~ protective measures for the biological resources during clearing and work activities within and adjacent to areas of native habitat. The project biologist will be familiar with the local habitats, plants, and wildlife and maintain communications with the contractor to ensure that issues relating to biological resources are appropriately and lawfully managed. The project biologist will review final plans, designate areas that need temporary fencing, and monitor construction. The biologist will monitor activities within designated areas during critical times such as vegetation removal, the installation of BMPs and fencing to protect the open space buffer, and ensure that all avoidance and minimization measures are properly constructed and followed.
3. Project employees and contractors that will be on-site shall complete environmental worker-awareness training conducted by the project biologist. The training will advise workers of potential impacts on sensitive habitats and listed species and the potential penalties for impacts on such habitats and species. At a minimum, the program will include the following topics:



Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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occurrences of the listed species and sensitive vegetation communities in the area, a physical description and their general ecology, sensitivity of the species to human activities, legal protection afforded these species, penalties for violations of Federal and State laws, reporting requirements, and work features designed to reduce the impacts on these species; and to the extent practicable, promote continued successful occupation of areas adjacent to the work footprint. Included in this program will be color photos of the listed species, which will be shown to the employees. Following the education program, the photos will be posted in the contractor and resident engineer's office, where they will remain through the duration of the work. Photos of the habitat in which sensitive species are found will also be posted on-site. The contractor will be required to provide Valley Center Municipal Water District with evidence of the employee training (e.g., sign-in sheet or stickers) upon request. Employees and contractors will be instructed to immediately notify the project biologist of any incidents, such as construction vehicles that move outside of the work area boundary. The project biologist will be responsible for notifying the USFWS within 72 hours of any similar incident.

4. Prior to construction, Valley Center Municipal Water District shall delineate staging areas and the construction limits for lift stations. Limits of the exclusionary fencing shall be confirmed by the project biologist prior to habitat clearing. Exclusionary fencing shall be maintained throughout the duration of construction work or until permanent fencing is in place.

All construction-related vehicles and equipment storage shall occur in the construction area and/or previously disturbed areas as approved by the project biologist. Project-related vehicle traffic shall be restricted to established roads, construction areas, storage areas, and staging and parking areas.

If construction activity extends beyond the exclusionary fencing into avoided native habitat, areas of disturbance shall be quantified and an appropriate restoration approach shall be developed in consultation with the USFWS and the CDFW. For example, if construction extends beyond the limits of the exclusionary fencing, temporarily disturbed areas shall be restored to the natural (preconstruction) conditions, which may include the following: salvage and stockpiling or topsoil, re-grading of disturbed sites with salvaged topsoil, and re-vegetation with native locally available species.

Mitigation Measure BR-2: California Gnatcatcher/Least Bell's Vireo/Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. The following measures will be implemented to minimize indirect impacts on listed species during construction:

1. Construction will be timed to avoid the breeding season for listed avian species (February 15 to September 15; as early as January for some raptor species) to the maximum extent feasible.
2. If construction must occur within 500 feet of potentially suitable habitat during the breeding season, then pre-construction surveys (≤3 days prior to project initiation) will be conducted by a qualified biologist. If active nests are identified during pre-construction surveys and noise levels at the nest exceed 60dBA Leq, noise attenuation structures will be placed or other noise attenuation measures (e.g., reducing the number of construction vehicles or using different types of construction vehicles) will be implemented to reduce noise levels at the nest to 60 dBA Leq (or ambient noise level if greater than 60 dBA Leq). During construction adjacent to these areas, noise monitoring shall occur during the breeding season and be reported daily to the USFWS. Construction activities that create noise in excess of the aforementioned levels will cease operation until effective noise attenuation measures are in place to the extent practicable.



Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mitigation Measure BR-3: Burrowing Owl. ~~Valley Center Municipal Water District will conduct take avoidance (pre-construction) breeding season surveys for burrowing owl no more than 30 days no more than 14 days prior to initiating ground disturbance activities. Burrowing owls may re-colonize a site after only a few days, therefore, time lapses between project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance.~~

1. ~~If burrowing owl is identified during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), and the project cannot be refined to avoid occupied habitat, then off-site mitigation will be provided as described below: then an appropriate buffer will be established by the biological monitor in accordance with the 2012 Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG 2012). Construction within the buffer will be avoided until a qualified biologist determines that burrowing owl is no longer present or until young have fledged and a CDFW-approved exclusion plan has been implemented. In addition to avoidance of the occupied habitat, off-site mitigation will be provided as described below:~~
 - a. Replacement of occupied habitat with occupied habitat: 1.5 times 6.5 (9.75) acres per pair or single bird.
 - b. Replacement of occupied habitat with habitat contiguous to currently occupied habitat: 2 times 6.5 (13.0) acres per pair or single bird.
 - c. Replacement of occupied habitat with suitable unoccupied habitat: 3 times 6.5 (19.5) acres per pair or single bird.

The location of off-site mitigation will be identified during negotiations with CDFW if permanent loss of occupied habitat cannot not be avoided. There is suitable habitat in the vicinity, including, but not limited to, fallow agricultural lands, pasture lands and non-native grasslands which are common in the vicinity of the project.

2. If burrowing owl is not identified during breeding season surveys, but suitable burrows occur within 50 meters of the proposed project, then take avoidance (pre-construction) surveys for burrowing owl will be conducted no more than 7 days prior to initiating disturbance.
 - If burrowing owl is not-identified during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), then a 50 meter buffer will be established by the biological monitor. Construction within the buffer will be avoided until a qualified biologist determines that burrowing owl is no longer present or until a CDFW-approved exclusion plan has been implemented. The buffer distance may be reduced if noise attenuation buffers such as hay bales are placed between the occupied burrow and construction activities.
 - If burrowing owl is identified during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), then an appropriate buffer will be established by the biological monitor in accordance with the 2012 Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). Construction within the buffer will be avoided until a qualified biologist determines that burrowing owl is no longer present or until young have fledged. The buffer distance may be reduced in consultation with CDFW if noise attenuation buffers such as hay bales are placed between the occupied burrow and construction activities.
3. ~~Permanent impacts on potential BUOW habitat will be off-set through preservation of 33 acres of on-site buffer as described herein.~~



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mitigation Measure BR-4: MBTA Covered Species.

Should clearing and grubbing be required during the avian breeding season (February 15-August 15; as early as January for some raptor species), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nest survey (in suitable areas) for migratory birds within 10 days of construction. Should an active nest of any MBTA covered species occur within or adjacent to the project impact area, a 100-foot buffer (300 feet for raptors) shall be established around the nest and no construction shall occur within this area until a qualified biologist determines the nest is no longer active or the young have fledged. Construction may occur within the buffer if a biologist determines that nesting behavior is not affected by construction activities or natural buffers such as the river levee adequately protect the active nest(s).

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| 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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The proposed project results in no impacts on special-status plant communities¹. The proposed project is located entirely within non-native grassland, Eucalyptus woodland, disturbed or developed cover types. Specifically, the pipeline improvements are located primarily within existing rights-of-way (except where the pipeline leaves Valley Center Road to connect to the North Village Lift Station and the western portion of Old Road) and will utilize only developed or disturbed areas for staging. The North Village Lift Station will be located entirely within the northern half of the property within a combination of non-native grassland, developed and disturbed cover types. Likewise, the Orchard Run Lift Station Site supports only non-native grassland and Eucalyptus woodland. Therefore, the proposed project would not have substantial adverse effects on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

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| 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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No impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State are anticipated, however USACE and CDFW make the final determination if aquatic features and proposed activities are regulated. In particular, the Orchard Run Lift Station site exhibits a potential area of sheet flow. The feature exhibits no bed and bank and no indicators of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) were present at the time of observation in the field. Given the absence of bed and bank and riparian vegetation, it is unlikely the feature is subject to CDFW's jurisdiction. However, given the current drought, indicators of OHWM may become apparent after a normal rain year. In that case, USACE could assert jurisdiction, and a 401 certification and 404 permit would be required. If USACE determines that 404 wetlands were present and that a net loss of

¹ For the purposes of this analysis, special-status vegetation communities are defined as those with an S1, S2, or S3 state ranking on the CDFW September 2010 Hierarchical List of Natural Communities.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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wetlands would occur, then mitigation would be required to assure no net loss of aquatic function. As a result, compliance with any required 404 permit would ensure that no significant impact would occur. The feature does not exhibit wetland characteristics and impacts would not be considered significant.

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| 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Wildlife movement corridors, also called dispersal corridors or landscape linkages, are linear features primarily connecting at least two significant habitat areas. Wildlife corridors and linkages are important features in the landscape, and the viability and quality of a corridor or linkage are dependent upon site-specific factors. Topography and vegetative cover are important factors for corridors and linkages. These factors should provide cover for both predator and prey species. They should direct animals to areas of contiguous open space or resources and away from humans and development. The corridor or linkage should be buffered from human encroachment and other disturbances (e.g., light, loud noises, and domestic animals) associated with developed areas that have caused the habitat fragmentation. Wildlife corridors and linkages may function at various levels depending upon these factors and, as such, the most successful wildlife corridors and linkages will accommodate all or most of the necessary life requirements of predator and prey species.

The study area is not identified as a regionally significant corridor by the South Coast Missing Link Projects. However, it overlaps with Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas identified by the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program as having high habitat value, including functioning to link core foothill habitat to the lower San Luis Rey River through Valley Center.

The project would permanently place two lift stations within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas), however the lift stations are located in proximity to existing development and will not impact native habitats or prohibit wildlife movement. Impacts to the future preserve would be less than significant.

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| 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"/> |
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The project would permanently place two lift stations within San Diego County Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas), however the lift stations are located in proximity to existing development and will not impact native habitats or prohibit wildlife movement. Impacts to the future preserve would not be significant. By avoiding impacts to native habitats including trees, the project is consistent with the policies and recommendations in the Valley Center Community Plan. The project is not subject to any local tree preservation policy or ordinance. No impact has been identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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"/>

At this time, the North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP) Plan has not been adopted. Once adopted, the plan will serve as a multiple species HCP pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal ESA, as well as a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the California NCCP Act of 1991. Because this plan has not yet been adopted, no impact has been identified for this issue area.

CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 7:

Does the project involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement that may affect federally listed threatened or endangered species that are known, or have a potential, to occur on site, in the surrounding area, or in the service area.

- No. Discuss why the project will not impact any federally listed special-status species:**
- Yes. Include information on federally listed species that could potentially be affected by this project and any proposed avoidance and compensation measures so that the SWRCB can initiate informal/formal consultation with the applicable federally designated agency. Document any previous ESA consultations that may have occurred with the project.**

Refer to Appendix B for the Biological Technical Report, evaluations analyzing the project’s direct and indirect effects on special-status species, and a current list of species list for the project area.

San Diego Ambrosia and San Diego Thorn-mint

Federally endangered San Diego Ambrosia San Diego ambrosia has potential to occur in non-native grassland and disturbed habitat on the upper floodplain terraces at the Orchard Run and North Village Lift Station sites. In addition, federally threatened and state endangered San Diego thorn-mint has potential to occur in the clay soils vegetated with non-native grassland at the Orchard Run Lift Station site. If present, project construction would have potential to result in direct impacts to these species. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Least Bell’s Vireo, and California Gnatcatcher, ~~and Swainson’s Hawk~~

The survey area exhibits the potential to support the federally and state endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell’s vireo, and federally threatened California gnatcatcher ~~and state threatened Swainson’s hawk~~. However, as described above the project will only impact non-native grassland, disturbed, developed and Eucalyptus woodland cover types. Therefore, no direct impacts to habitat with potential to support southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell’s vireo or California gnatcatcher will occur. ~~Swainson’s hawk is not anticipated to breed in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, potential impacts to Swainson’s hawk would be limited to loss of potential winter foraging habitat. In the context of over 109,800 acres of permanently preserved biological core and linkage habitat within San Diego County~~

~~Multiple Habitat Planning Area (Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas), the loss of approximately 2.5 acres of potential foraging habitat would not be significant.~~

If breeding southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher were present during construction, construction-related noise and lighting could result in indirect impacts to these species. Indirect impacts to federally-listed species would require consultation with USFWS and would be considered significant prior to mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-2 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Essential Fish Habitat:

Does the project involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement that may adversely affect essential fish habitat?

No. Discuss why the project will not impact essential fish habitat:

There are no marine fisheries habitats or anadromous fisheries habitats that would be affected implementation of the proposed project.

Yes. Provide information on essential fish habitat that could potentially be affected by this project and any proposed avoidance and compensation measures. Document any consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service that may have occurred for the project. Include any comments below:

Coastal Barriers Resources Act:

Will the project impact or be located within or near the Coastal Barrier Resources System or its adjacent wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and near-shore waters? Note that since there is currently no Coastal Barrier Resources System in California, projects located in California are not expected to impact the Coastal Barrier Resources System in other states. If there is a special circumstance in which the project may impact a Coastal Barrier Resource System, indicate your reasoning below.

No. The project will not impact or be located within or near the Coastal Barrier Resources System or its adjacent wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and near-shore waters.

Yes. Describe the project location with respect to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, and the status of any consultation with the appropriate Coastal Zone management agency and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act:

Will the project affect protected migratory birds that are known, or have a potential, to occur on site, in the surrounding area, or in the service area?

No.

Yes. Discuss the impacts (such as noise and vibration impacts, modification of habitat) to migratory birds that may be directly or indirectly affected by the project and mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate these impacts. Include a list of all migratory birds that could occur where the project is located:

Refer to Appendix F of the Biological Technical Report (Appendix B of this Initial Study) for a list of migratory birds with the potential to occur within the survey area.

Mature trees (>24-inch diameter) including coast live oak and Eucalyptus occur within the survey area. These trees provide suitable habitat for MBTA covered species, which include nesting migratory birds and



raptors. In addition to mature trees, all vegetated areas (including but not limited to sage scrub, chaparral, native landscaping, etc.), and power poles located within the survey area provide suitable habitat for MBTA covered species. The project has the potential to impact nesting birds if clearing and grubbing occurs during the bird breeding season (February 15 through August 15; as early as January for some raptor species). The MBTA prohibits take of active migratory bird nests. Impacts on active nests would be considered significant prior to mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-4 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Protection of Wetlands:

Does any portion of the project area contain areas that should be evaluated for wetland delineation or require a permit from the ACOE?

- No. Provide the basis for such a determination.**
- Yes. Describe the impacts to wetlands, potential wetland areas, and other surface waters, and the avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to reduce such impacts. Provide the status of the permit and information on permit requirements.**

As described below, the survey area does support potential non-wetland waters subject to USACE jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. No impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State are anticipated, however USACE makes the final determination if aquatic features and proposed activities are regulated. In particular, the Orchard Run Lift Station site exhibits a potential area of sheet flow. The feature exhibits no bed and bank and no indicators of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) were present at the time of observation in the field. However, given the current drought, indicators of OHWM may become apparent after a normal rain year. In that case, USACE could assert jurisdiction, and a 401 certification and 404 permit would be required. If USACE determined that 404 wetlands were present and that a net loss of wetlands would occur, then mitigation would be required to assure no net loss of aquatic function. As a result, compliance with any required 404 permit would ensure that no significant impact would occur. The feature does not exhibit wetland characteristics and impacts would not be considered significant.

The survey area contains several linear aquatic features that qualify as USACE jurisdictional non-wetland waters and/or CDFW jurisdictional streambeds as defined by Section 404 of the CWA, and Section 1600 of the Code. Descriptions of each feature are provided below and a summary of jurisdictional acreages is provided in Table 4. Figures 6A through 6D (see Appendix B of this Initial Study) depict the location of the jurisdictional aquatic features.

Table 4. ~~USACE and CDFW~~ Jurisdictional Areas within the Survey Area

Jurisdiction	USACE			GDFW		
	Non-Wetland Acres	Wetland Acres	Total Acres	Unvegetated Streambed Acres	Riparian Acres	Total Acres
Lilac Creek	0.000	0.272	0.272	0.000	0.601	0.601
Lilac Creek Tributary A	0.028	0.176	0.204	0.028	0.193	0.221
Lilac Creek Tributary B	0.076	0.000	0.076	0.149	0.000	0.149
Lilac Creek Tributary C	0.004	0.000	0.004	0.005	0.000	0.005
Total	0.108	0.448	0.556	0.182	0.794	0.976

Source: Appendix B

Lilac Creek Watershed

Lilac Creek originates southeast of the survey area, travels northwest roughly parallel to Valley Center Road until it traverses beneath Valley Center Road at an existing bridge (see Figure 6B in Appendix B of

this ~~EIR~~ Initial Study) and exits the survey area to the northwest. This feature exhibits a predominance of hydrophytes including arroyo willow, yerba mansa, umbrella sedge (*Cyperus* spp.), and cattails. Wetland hydrology was indicated by oxidized rhizospheres. Lateral wetland limits were extended to a break in slope which was characterized by an abrupt change in vegetation community. Indicators of OHWM were absent from upland terraces. Redoximorphic features were present to the surface and soils exhibited a reduced matrix where they were sampled in Tributary B to Lilac Creek (approximately 200 feet from the main stem of Lilac Creek).

Three highly altered tributaries to Lilac Creek also traverse the study area. Tributary A originates at a small culvert where sheet flow is concentrated sufficiently to generate indicators of OHWM including flow lines and destruction of terrestrial vegetation. The channel supports a few scattered arroyo willows. As noted above, the understory supports dense yerba mansa and exhibits indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology approximately 200 feet upstream of the confluence with the Lilac Creek main stem.

Tributary B originates to the north of Valley Center Drive. Portions of the channel have been placed underground or have been channelized. The above-ground reaches are generally unvegetated. Indicators of OHWM include the presence of litter and debris, sediment deposit, and destruction of terrestrial vegetation. Storm flows eventually reach Lilac Creek outside of the study area.

The historic flow path of Tributary C has also been highly altered at Valley Center Drive. The tributary appears to have historically discharged to Lilac Creek through a culvert in the vicinity of the North Lift Station. A double box culvert was constructed at Valley Center Drive west of the North Village Lift Station Site in 2008. Indicators of OHWM are absent between the culvert and Lilac Creek and only weak indicators of sheet flow are apparent north of Village Center Drive.

Moosa Creek Watershed

Two basins, totaling 0.65 acre, occur east of Orchard Run Lift Station along the 0.25-mile force main pipeline alignment. These two basins are dairy ponds that were formerly used for agricultural purposes. Based on historic aerial and USGS topography, these artificially irrigated basins were not constructed within wetlands or streambed, so would not be subject to USACE or CDFW jurisdiction.

Impact Analysis

No impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State are anticipated, however USACE and CDFW make the final determination if aquatic features and proposed activities are regulated. In particular, the Orchard Run Lift Station site exhibits a potential area of sheet flow. The feature exhibits no bed and bank and no indicators of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) were present at the time of observation in the field. However, given the current drought, indicators of OHWM may become apparent after a normal rain year. In that case, USACE could assert jurisdiction, and a 401 certification and 404 permit would be required. The feature does not exhibit wetland characteristics and impacts would not be considered significant.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

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| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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The following information is summarized from the Cultural Resources Technical Report prepared by HDR, dated ~~December~~^{September} 2014. This report is provided as Appendix C of this Initial Study.

The purpose of the Cultural Resources Technical Report was to review available archaeological, Native American, and historic literature covering the project site, to conduct a pedestrian survey of the area, and to provide a cultural resources technical report documenting the results of the inventory and to provide a finding of effect and management recommendations. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) covers four areas: North Village Lift Station that covers 6.5 acres, Orchard Run Lift Station that covers ~~5.33~~^{3.76} acres, pipeline improvements that cover 2.01 linear miles along Valley Center Road, Cole Grade Road and Juba Road, and 0.25 linear miles along Old Road, and an access road that covers 1,300 linear feet.

On August 18, 2014, a request was submitted to the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) for a records search of all archaeological and historical resources within one-half mile of the project APE. Within or adjacent to the project APE there are eight known cultural resources; four of which are historic-age sites. These sites are described in detail below.

CA-SDI-13728

Site SDI-13728 was recorded by the County of San Diego, Department of Public Works in 1992. It was described as an historic trash scatter containing tin cans, adobe bricks, buttons, and hundreds of glass and ceramic fragments.

As mapped by the SCIC, the site appears to be bisected by the project APE. Upon field inspection however, the site was relocated and found to be mapped incorrectly. The site is located 25 m outside the project APE to the west. An updated DPR form was completed and submitted to the SCIC to document the new location.

Based on the corrected location of this site outside of the APE, it will be avoided and will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-13729

Site SDI-13729 was recorded by the County of San Diego, Department of Public Works in 1991. It was described as an historic one-story, irregularly shaped board-and-batten structure with a water tower. It housed Corral Liquor and is believed to have been the oldest remaining commercial structure in Valley Center at the time of recording. It had previously held a general store, gas station, and post office.



During the field survey, the site could not be relocated. Further research shows the building was destroyed by a fire in 2003 and a modern structure now occupies the lot. An updated DPR form was completed and submitted to the SCIC to document the destruction.

Based on the previous destruction of this site and its original location outside the project APE, it will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-13755

Site SDI-13755 was recorded by the County of San Diego, Department of Public Works in 1992. It was described as stone and cement bridge abutments. The bridge itself is no longer present, but the abutments likely predate a 1912 road survey.

During the field survey the site could not be relocated. The bridge abutments appear to have been destroyed by the construction of the current overpass. An updated DPR form was completed and submitted to the SCIC to document the destruction.

Based on the previous destruction of this site and its original location outside the project APE, it will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-13756

Site SDI-13756 was recorded by the County of San Diego, Department of Public Works in 1992. It was described as stone and mortar well. The site form indicates the well may be in the area mapped as the “Old Valley Center Town Hall” or the “Old Store.”

During the field survey the site could not be relocated. It is likely within a fenced and walled off private residence with “No Trespassing” and “24 hour video surveillance” signs.

Based on the location of this site outside the project APE, it will not be impacted by any project-related work.

Conclusion

A project is considered to have a significant effect on historic properties if it directly or indirectly alters the characteristics that qualify the property for inclusion in the ~~National~~ California Register of Historic Places Resources. According to the Cultural Resources Technical Report (see Appendix C of this Initial Study), Sites CA-SDI-13728, CA-SDI-13729, CA-SDI-13755, and CA-SDI-13756 are located outside of the APE. Therefore, no historic properties would be affected with development of the North Village Lift Station, Orchard Run Lift Station, and pipelines. No impact is identified for this issue area.

- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?

As described above, a request was submitted to the SCIC for a records search of all archaeological and historical resources within one-half mile of the project APE. Within or adjacent to the project APE there are eight known cultural resources; four of which are archaeological sites. These sites are described in detail below.

CA-SDI-10556

Site SDI-10556 was first recorded by Paul G. Chase and Associates in 1986. It was described as a single bedrock outcrop with six milling basins and three slicks. No artifacts were observed. The site was revisited by RMW Paleo Associates in 1993 and updated to include the original six basins as well as 14 slicks and one additional outcrop containing one slick.

As mapped by the SCIC, the site appeared to be in the middle of the project access road. Upon field inspection, the site was relocated and found to be mapped incorrectly. The site is located off the road and 25 m south of the project APE, in the front yard of private property. A search outside of the property found no artifacts. An updated DPR form and map was completed and submitted to the SCIC to correct this error.

Based on the corrected location of this site outside of the APE, it will be avoided and will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-12636

Site SDI-12636 was first recorded by Gallegos and Associates in 1992. It was described as a series of low bedrock outcrops with at least five milling slicks. No artifacts were observed. The site was revisited and tested by RMW Paleo Associates in 1993. They observed a total of eight slicks. A total of 20 shovel test pits were excavated. Two pieces of historic amethyst glass were recovered from 0 to 20 cm and 20 to 40 cm, and a fragment of wire was recovered from 40 to 45 cm. This shows soil disturbance from either farming related activities or rodent activity. They determined the site to be insignificant under CEQA.

As mapped by the SCIC, the site appears to be partially within the project APE. Upon field inspection, the site was relocated and found to be mapped incorrectly. The site is located approximately 40 meters northwest of the mapped location and outside the project APE, 18 m to the west. A reconnaissance of the site showed it to be as listed in the updated site record and no artifacts observed on the surface. An updated DPR form and map was completed and submitted to the SCIC to correct this error.

Based on the corrected location of this site outside of the APE, it will be avoided and will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-13590

Site SDI-13590 was recorded by RMW Paleo Associates in 1993. It was described as two bedrock outcrops with at a total of four milling slicks. No artifacts were observed.

As originally mapped, the site is partially within the project APE; however the milling features are all located off the road and outside of the APE, 10 m to the west. A reconnaissance of the site showed it to be as listed in the original site record and no artifacts observed on the surface.

Based on the location of the bedrock milling features outside of the APE, the site will be avoided and will not be impacted by any project-related work.

CA-SDI-13598

Site SDI-13598 was recorded by RMW Paleo Associates in 1993. It was described as one bedrock outcrop with two mortars. No artifacts were observed.

As mapped, the site is partially within the project APE: however, the milling features are all located 10 m off the access road APE to the west. A reconnaissance of the site showed it to be as listed in the original site record and no artifacts observed on the surface.

Based on the location the bedrock milling features outside of the APE, the site will be avoided and will not be impacted by any project-related work.

Native American Heritage Commission and Response from Tribes

On September 9, 2014, a request was submitted to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a search of their records of sacred sites. The results of the NAHC Sacred Land Files indicated no areas of concern within the one-half mile radius. The search also included a contact list of Native American individuals or organizations who may have additional information regarding sacred resources in the area and who should be contacted regarding the proposed scope of the project. On September 16, 2014, letters were mailed to all 19 individuals/groups on the list. On September 26, 2014, follow-up phone calls were placed to the 18 individuals/group that had not responded. A total of three responses were received which included the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, and the Kumeyaay. See Appendix B of the Cultural Resources Technical Report (Appendix C of this Initial Study) for copies of these letters and any responses received.

Two comment letters were received from Native American individuals or organizations on the Draft IS/MND. The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office submitted a comment letter on November 19, 2014 and the Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians submitted a comment letter on November 26, 2014. These letters are provided as Comment Letters C and D in the Response to Comments Section of this MND. Revisions to the IS/MND were made in response to these comments.

Conclusion

According to the Cultural Resources Technical Report (see Appendix C of this Initial Study), Sites CA-SDI-10556, CA-SDI-12636, CA-SDI-13590, and CA-SDI-13598 are located outside of the APE. Therefore, these previously recorded archaeological sites would not be affected with development of the North Village Lift Station, Orchard Run Lift Station, and pipelines. However, there is a potential to impact unknown or not previously recorded archaeological resources during construction activities. Based on the deep ground excavation (approximately 20 feet) required for construction of the lift stations, unknown archaeological resources could be unearthed. Disturbances to these resources, if present, would be considered a potentially significant impact. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure CR-1: Cultural resources monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified archaeologist for all phases of construction that involve ground disturbing activities. A Native American monitor shall be present during ground disturbance at the lift station sites, and as deemed necessary by the archaeologist during the pipeline construction. In the event of a discovery, work will be stopped within the immediate area of the find until a professional archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American monitor, can determine the nature of the resources discovered. The Native American monitor shall be requested from a group identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as having affiliation with the project vicinity. On agreement between the qualified archaeologist and the Native American monitor, the archaeological monitor may notify the Native American monitor in the event of an archaeological discovery for the pipeline portion of the project. As appropriate, the archaeologist and/or Native American monitor will assist Project personnel in avoiding the newly discovered resources or in implementing management measures to evaluate the significance and potential eligibility of the resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), or any local registers, as appropriate.



~~If the archeologist determines that the find is significant or may qualify as significant, the archaeologist shall prepare a treatment plan. Preservation in place shall be implemented as treatment, where feasible. Results of monitoring and any archaeological treatment shall be reported in an appropriate technical report to be filed with Valley Center Municipal Water District and the California Historical Resources Information System. Any artifacts recovered during monitoring or treatments shall be curated at an appropriate facility. discovery is determined to be a site, after securing the work area from additional disturbance, in concert with the Construction Foreman or Field Supervisor, the archaeological monitor will notify the Principal Investigator (PI). The PI will determine what additional fieldwork is necessary, such as a limited test excavation, to determine the site's potential eligibility for the CRHR or the NRHP. It may be determined that a site visit by the PI is necessary to make that determination. If test excavation is required to evaluate a discovery, this will be discussed in consultation with the lead agency.~~

- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The geology of the region consists of Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. There is potential for fossils to exist in these rock formations. Ground disturbing activities associated with the proposed project would have the potential to impact undiscovered paleontological resources. This represents a potentially significant impact and mitigation is required. Implementation of Mitigation Measures CR-2 through CR-7 would reduce the impact to paleontological resources to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure CR-2: A qualified paleontologist shall monitor all grading that includes initial cutting that may affect Jurassic marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks and Mesozoic granitics. If any paleontological resources are identified during these activities, the paleontologist shall temporarily divert construction until the significance of the resources is ascertained.

Mitigation Measure CR-3: Paleontological monitoring shall occur only for those undisturbed sediments wherein fossil plant or animal remains are found with no associated evidence of human activity or any archaeological context.

Mitigation Measure CR-4: Paleontological monitors shall be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed to avoid construction delays, and to remove samples of sediments which are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. Monitors shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens. Monitoring may be reduced if the potentially fossiliferous units are not present or if the fossiliferous units present are determined by a qualified paleontological monitor to have low potential to contain fossil resources.

Mitigation Measure CR-5: All recovered paleontological specimens shall be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.

Mitigation Measure CR-6: Paleontological Specimens shall be identified and curated into an established, accredited, professional museum repository with permanent retrievable storage. The paleontologist shall have a written repository agreement in hand prior to the initiation of mitigation activities.

Mitigation Measure CR-7: A report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of identified paleontological specimens shall be prepared and submitted to Valley Center Municipal Water District. The report will address ~~archaeological and~~ paleontological items. The report and inventory, when submitted to Valley Center Municipal Water District, will signify completion of the program to mitigate impacts on paleontological resources. ~~This report shall incorporate the full results of the literature review,~~



~~as well as the full results of the recommended review of the records of the South Coastal Information Center, San Diego, California. The report shall be submitted prior to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.~~

- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

It is unlikely that any human remains would be found or disturbed on the project site. However, California law recognizes the need to protect historic-era and Native American human burials, skeletal remains, and items associated with Native American interments from vandalism and inadvertent destruction. The procedures for the treatment of Native American human remains are contained in California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and 7052 and California PRC Section 5097. In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities, the contractor and/or the project proponent are required to immediately halt potentially damaging excavation in the area of the burial and notify the San Diego County Coroner and a professional archaeologist to determine the nature of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5[b]). If the coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, he or she must contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by phone within 24 hours of making that determination (Health and Safety Code Section 7050[c]). Following the coroner's findings, the property owner, contractor or project proponent, an archaeologist, and the NAHC-designated Most Likely Descendent (MLD) shall determine the ultimate treatment and disposition of the remains and take appropriate steps to ensure that additional human interments are not disturbed. The responsibilities for acting on notification of a discovery of Native American human remains are identified in California PRC Section 5097.9. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Natural Historic Preservation Act, Section 106:

Identify the APE, including construction, staging areas, and depth of any excavation. (Note that the APE is three-dimensional and includes all areas that may be affected by the project, including the surface area and extending belowground to the depth of any project excavations.)

The APE includes consideration of the direct and indirect effects of the proposed project. The direct APE has four components: North Village Lift Station, Orchard Run Lift Station, Pipeline Improvements, and access roads.

The North Village Lift Station will be located on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 18826050. This parcel is 123 x 217 m. Within this parcel, VCMWD will construct a lift station that extends ~~10060~~ 100 feet (ft) by ~~460-60~~ 460 feet (ft) with an excavation depth of no more than 20 feet deep. This APE includes a 10 ft temporary impact buffer on all sides of the lift station.

The Orchard Run Lift Station will be located on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 18867306. This parcel is 180 x 120 m. Within this parcel, VCMWD will construct a lift station that extends ~~10060~~ 100 feet (ft) by ~~460-60~~ 460 feet (ft) with an excavation depth of no more than 20 feet deep. This APE includes a 10 ft temporary impact buffer on all sides of the lift station.

Pipeline improvements which include a force main pipeline, a gravity main, and a low pressure system pipeline will occur within the paved Valley Center Road, Cole Grade Road, and Juba Road. Pipeline improvements will also occur within Old Road. The length of the APE is 1.2 linear miles. The width of the



APE includes the paved road and a five foot buffer on each side, but within the right-of-way (ROW) for a total width of 95 ft. This direct APE also extends six feet deep.

Refer to Appendix C for the records search with maps showing all sites and surveys drawn in relation to the project area, and records of Native American consultation.

According to the Cultural Resources Technical Report (see Appendix C of this Initial Study), no historic properties or previously recorded archaeological sites would be affected with development of the North Village Lift Station, Orchard Run Lift Station, and pipelines. However, there is a potential to impact unknown or not previously recorded archaeological resources during construction activities. Based on the deep ground excavation (approximately 20 feet) required for construction of the lift stations, unknown archaeological resources could be unearthed. Disturbances to these resources, if present, would be considered a potentially significant impact. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

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| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

The project is located in a seismically active area, but there are no known active faults crossing the project site. In addition, the project site is not located in or immediately adjacent to an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. All structures shall be constructed in accordance with the California Building Code (CBC) standards, which address seismic issues. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not expose people or structures to potentially substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault and a less than significant impact has been identified.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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- ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

As identified in Response VI.a)i), the project is not located along a known active fault or within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. Seismic activity along nearby faults, which is common throughout the State of California, could result in ground shaking conditions and therefore all construction and design features would be required to meet or exceed the standard design parameters set forth in the CBC. However, there are no known existing seismic conditions that would expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

According to the Draft – Liquefaction County of San Diego Hazard Mitigation Planning Map, the project is located in a low liquefaction risk area (SanGIS, 2009). Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- iv) Landslides?

Landslides are mass movements of the ground that include rock falls, relatively shallow slumping and sliding of soil, and deeper rotational or transitional movement of soil or rock. Because the project is located in an area with gently rolling hills and no history of landslides, the risk of landslides is considered low. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in the exposure of people or structures to a substantially adverse risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

According to the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Survey for San Diego, California, the project area consists of soils with erosion potential ranging from moderate to severe (USDA, 1973). Refer to Appendix B for a detailed discussion of soils on the project site. The proposed project would not result in a significant impact to soil erosion because BMPs including erosion control practices (i.e., mulching, preservation of existing vegetation) would be implemented throughout construction. The proposed project will also be required to comply with NPDES permit requirements, including preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) which would include BMPs to address soil erosion. Adherence to these BMPs would minimize the amount of erosion and loss of topsoil resulting from construction activities associated with the proposed project. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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| 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 offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Refer to responses VI. a) iii) and iv) above. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

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| 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"/> |
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The project area consists of clayey alluvial land, Visalia Sandy Loam, Placencia sandy loam, and Vista rocky coarse sandy loam. Soils that exhibit moderate to high shrink/swell potential may cause damage to pipelines, foundations, and infrastructure. However, the proposed project would be required to adhere to standard geotechnical considerations and design features to ensure that there would not be substantial risks to life or property resulting from expansive soils. Construction standards have been developed to ensure structures can withstand changes in the integrity of the soil. Structural engineering standards have been incorporated into the California Building Code (CBC). If the area is located within a zone that has high shrink-swell soils, compliance with the structural and engineering standards set forth within the CBC are required as project design considerations. The provisions of the CBC require that a geotechnical investigation be performed to provide data for the engineer to responsibly design the project. Therefore, assuming adherence to standard geotechnical considerations and design features, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

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| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems in areas where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

The proposed project would expand the wastewater conveyance system in Valley Center. The proposed project would not construct septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

Would the project:

- a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

The County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance, Climate Change document was prepared to identify the emissions level for which a project would have significant GHG impacts, in accordance with CEQA. It also determined the emissions level that would not be expected to substantially conflict with existing California legislation adopted to reduce statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. If a project generates GHG emissions above the threshold level, the project would contribute substantially to cumulative climate change effects, and it would have a significant climate change impact.

Proposed projects would have a less-than-cumulatively considerable contribution to the significant cumulative impact of climate change if the GHG emissions for that project would not exceed 2,500 metric tons (MT) or 5,511,556.55 pounds of CO₂e (the Bright Line Threshold). Projects of this type would be considered less than significant under CEQA.

Construction

Construction of the proposed project would result in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which are primarily associated with use of off-road construction equipment and vehicles on-road construction worker vehicles. CalEEMod was used to calculate the annual GHG emissions, expressed in units of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), based on the project’s construction scenario (see Appendix A). The estimated total GHG emissions during construction would be 102 MTCO₂e. This is well below the County’s allowable 2,500 MT threshold. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Operation

Electricity would be required to power the proposed lift station pumps. Operational greenhouse gas emissions will result from the electricity demand from the lift stations, which is estimated to be 35 kW continuous demand. Using the emission factors published by U.S. EPA in the eGRID system², this electrical demand would result in incremental GHG emissions of 85 MTCO₂e. This is well below the County’s allowable 2,500 MT threshold. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

² http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/eGRID/eGRID_9th_edition_V1-0_year_2010_Summary_Tables.pdf



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with any 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"/>

The California Global Warming Solutions Act establishes regulatory, reporting, and market mechanisms to achieve quantifiable reductions in GHG emissions and establishes a cap on statewide GHG emissions. CARB's Scoping Plan includes measures to achieve the GHG reductions in California required by the California Global Warming Solutions Act. Measures included in the Scoping Plan would indirectly address GHG emission levels associated with construction activities, including the phasing-in of cleaner technology for diesel engine fleets (including construction equipment) and the development of a low-carbon fuel standard. Policies formulated under the mandate of the California Global Warming Solutions Act that are applicable to construction-relatively activity, either directly or indirectly, are assumed to be implemented statewide and would affect the proposed project if those are policies are implemented before construction begins. The proposed project's construction emissions would comply with any mandate or standards set forth by the Scoping Plan. Therefore, it is assumed that project construction would not conflict with the Scoping Plan.

As discussed in response VII.a) above, the project's GHG emissions are below the County's allowable 2,500 MT threshold. Implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:

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"/>
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Construction activities typically involve the transport of fuels, lubricants, and various other liquids needed for operation of construction equipment at the site. Workers would commute to the project site via private vehicles. Materials hazardous to humans, wildlife, and sensitive environments would be present during construction activities associated with the proposed project. These materials may include diesel fuel, gasoline, equipment fluids, concrete, cleaning solutions and solvents, and lubricant oils. However, federal and state standards for the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials have been established and compliance with these standards is required. Therefore, a less than significant impact related to the transport and/or use of these materials is anticipated.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

The potential exists for direct impacts to human health and the environment from accidental spills of small amounts of hazardous materials during construction activities associated with the proposed project. However, existing federal and state standards are in place for the handling, storage, and transport of these materials. Because compliance with these standards is required through federal, state, and local regulations, no significant impacts are anticipated due to the accidental spill and release of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or involve handling hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

The closest school to the project is Valley Center Elementary School, located approximately 0.30 miles north of the project. Because the nearest school is over one-quarter mile away, the proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials near an existing or proposed school. A less than significant impact has been identified.

d) Be located on a site that 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?

Based on a review of the Cortese List data resources (DTSC EnviroStor database; DTSC corrective action sites; Leaking underground storage tank sites from State Water Resources Control Board [SWRCB] GeoTracker database; Solid waste disposal sites identified by SWRCB with waste constituents above hazardous waste levels outside the waste management unit; and "Active" cease and desist orders and cleanup abatement orders from SWRCB), the project site is not listed as a hazardous materials site pursuant to Code Section 65962.5 (California Department of Toxic Substances Control, 2012). Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, 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"/>
<p>The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
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"/>
<p>The nearest private airstrip is the Lake Wohlford Resort Airport, which is located approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the project area. Give the project area's distance to the airstrip, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No impacts are anticipated.</p>				
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"/>
<p>The County of San Diego currently has an Operational Area Recovery Plan (OARP) and an Operational Area Evacuation Plan (OAEP). These plans have been established to outline the appropriate actions to respond to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense operations. During installation of the pipelines, emergency access will be provided at all times during construction and no extensive changes to the existing circulation system are anticipated. The proposed project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
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"/>



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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According to the United States Department of Agriculture's Wildland Fire Potential Map³, the project is located in an area with moderate potential for wildland fires. Pipeline improvements would be installed underground primarily within existing paved right-of-way. The proposed lift stations would be placed underground, but would include some above ground components such as a back up generator, electrical control panels, and block wall enclosure. However, no habitable structures are proposed, and the risk of loss, injury, or death is considered less than significant.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.

Would the project:

- a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Construction activities associated with the proposed project can introduce hydrocarbons, fluids, lubricants, and other toxic substances from construction equipment into the surrounding environment. To ensure that water quality standards and discharge requirements would not be violated, a Notice of Intent (NOI) from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board would be required for the proposed project, in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. NPDES compliance requires the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be required during construction to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. Implementation of a SWPPP would satisfy NPDES requirements, which in turn would ensure that significant water quality impacts would not result from construction activities associated with the proposed project. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- 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 that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

The proposed project does not involve tapping groundwater supplies and would not convey potable water. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

³ http://maps1.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/RMRS_Wildland_Fire_Potential/MapServer



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on site or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>After construction of the lift stations, the existing ground surface elevations would be restored to pre-construction conditions and existing drainage patterns would not be permanently modified. Installation of pipelines would primarily consist of trench and backfill (i.e., below ground) activities. The associated above ground impacts would be temporary, minimal, and would not substantially alter existing drainage patterns in the project area. In addition, no component of the proposed project would alter the course for a stream or river. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
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 that would result in flooding on site or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>See Response IX. c) above. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
e) Create or contribute runoff water that 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"/>
<p>The proposed project is not anticipated to generate a significant increase in the amount of runoff water. Water will continue to percolate through the ground, as a majority of the surfaces on the project site will remain pervious. The proposed pipelines would not require additional stormwater facilities because they would be installed underground. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>See Response IX. a) above. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.</p>				
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"/>



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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The proposed project does not include the development of housing. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.

- h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?

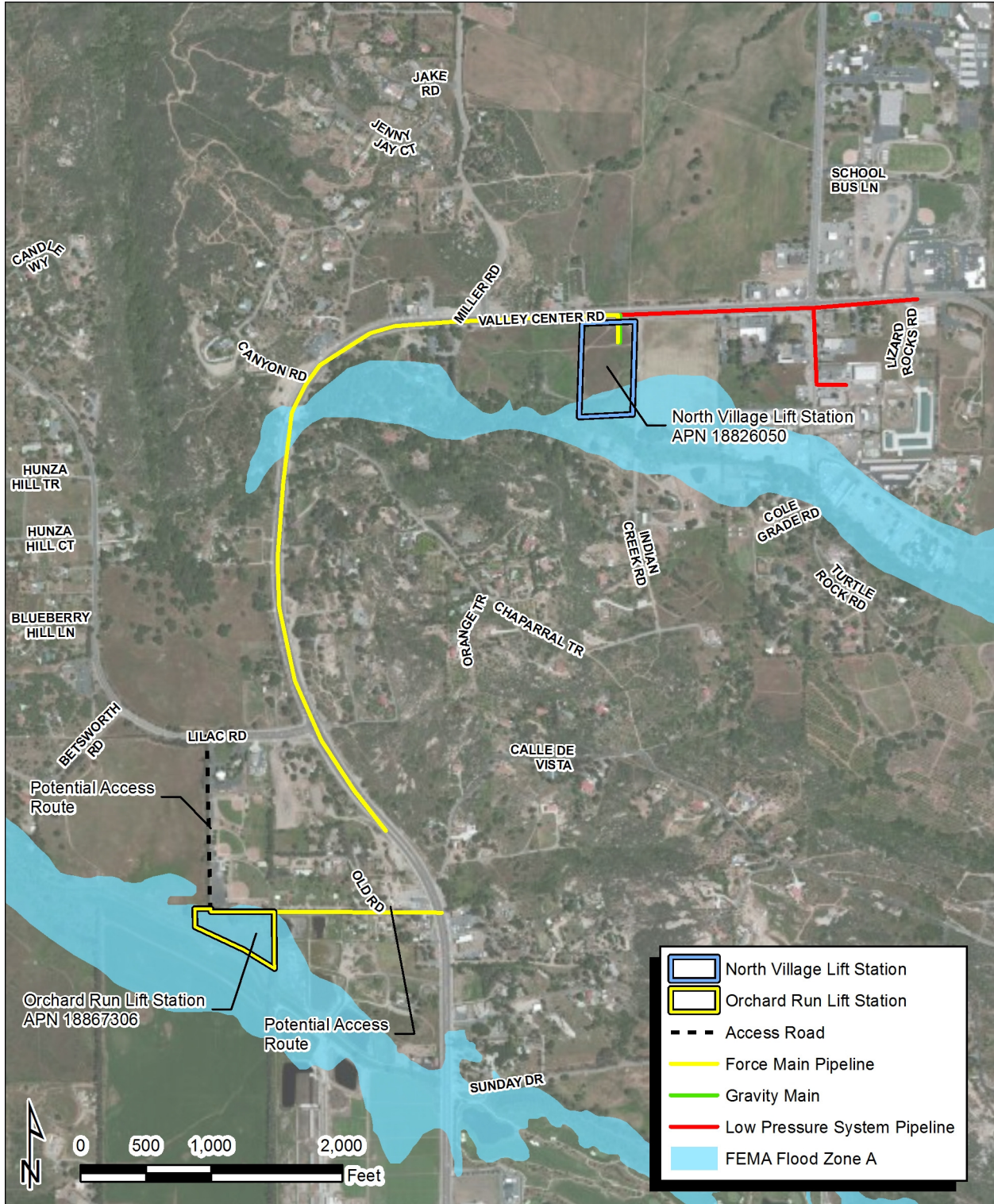
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps identify flood zones and areas that are susceptible to 100-year and 500-year floods. As shown in Figure 4, the Orchard Run Lift Station site, southern portion of the North Village Lift Station site, and a portion of the proposed pipeline alignment within Valley Center Road are within FEMA Flood Zone A. Zone A is identified as areas subject to inundation by the 1 percent annual chance flood event. The proposed project would place structures within a 100-year flood hazard area; however, these structures would be limited to above ground components (block wall enclosure, back up generator and electrical control panels) associated with the lift station which would not impede or redirect flood flows. All other project components would be installed underground. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- 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?

The closest dam to the project area is located at Turner Lake. The dam is approximately two miles west of the nearest portion of the project area and is approximately 250 feet lower in elevation. As such, the project is not located within the dam's inundation zone and would not be subject to flooding as a result of a failure at the dam. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- j) Contribute to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

Seiches are periodic oscillations of water in confined basins, typically caused by earthquakes. The closest confined body of water to the project is Turner Lake, located approximately two miles west of the project and approximately 250 feet lower in elevation. Based on this consideration, seiches are not anticipated to represent a significant risk to the project area. No impacts are anticipated.



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Figure 4. FEMA Floodplain Map



CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Floodplain Management – Executive Order Number 11988:

Is any portion of the project site located within a 100-year floodplain as depicted on a floodplain map or otherwise designated by FEMA?

- No. Provide a description of the project location with respect to streams and potential floodplains:
- Yes. Describe the floodplain, and include a floodplain map and a floodplains/wetlands assessment. Describe any measures and/or project design modifications that would minimize or avoid flood damage by the project.

The project site is included on Federal Insurance Rate Map Panel No. 06073C0810G. The wetlands assessment is discussed in Section IV., Biological Resources of this Initial Study.

As shown in Figure 4, the Orchard Run Lift Station site, southern portion of the North Village Lift Station site, and a portion of the proposed pipeline alignment within Valley Center Road are within FEMA Flood Zone A. The proposed project would place structures within a 100-year flood hazard area; however, these structures would be limited to above ground components (block wall enclosure, back up generator and electrical control panels) associated with the lift station which would not impede or redirect flood flows. All other project components would be installed underground. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:

Identify watershed where the project is located: **San Luis Rey Watershed**

Is any portion of the project located within a wild and scenic river?

- No. The project will not impact a wild and scenic river.
- Yes. Identify the wild and scenic river watershed and project location relative to the affected wild and scenic river.

Source Water Protection:

Is the project located in an area designated by the U.S. EPA, Region 9, as a Sole Source Aquifer? (For more information, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/ssa.html>.)

- No. The project is not within the boundaries of a sole source aquifer.
- Yes. Identify the aquifer (e.g., Santa Margarita Aquifer, Scott's Valley, the Fresno County Aquifer, the Campo/Cottonwood Creek Aquifer or the Ocotillo-Coyote Wells Aquifer).



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

- a) Physically divide an established community?

Pipeline improvements would be installed underground primarily within existing paved right-of-way. The proposed lift stations would be placed underground, but would include some above ground components such as a back up generator and electrical control panels. Because the proposed project would primarily be installed underground, it is not expected to physically divide an established community. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- 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?

Pipeline improvements would be installed underground primarily within existing paved right-of-way. The North Village Lift Station site is currently zoned C-36 General Commercial under the County of San Diego Zoning Ordinance. -Minor impact utilities are permitted under the C-36 zoning designation. The Orchard Run Lift Station site is zoned S-88 Specific Planning Area. According to the Orchard Run Specific Plan, the Orchard Run Lift Station site is designated for a wastewater treatment plant. ~~A Major Use Permit is required for development and operation of the wastewater treatment plant. The Major Use Permit may also allow the site to be used for other sewage treatment facilities, such as a pump station.~~ Because the pipelines and lift stations are generally allowed within these zoning designations, the proposed project would not result in a conflict with any applicable land use plan. Even so, pursuant to California Government Code Section 53091(e), zoning ordinances shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, treatment, or transmission of water by a local agency. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a conflict with any applicable land use plan. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

At this time, the North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP) Plan has not been adopted. Once adopted, the plan will serve as a multiple species HCP pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal ESA, as well as a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the California NCCP Act of 1991. Because this plan has not yet been adopted, no impact has been identified for this issue area.



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Coastal Zone Management Act:

Is any portion of the project site located within the coastal zone?

- No. The project is not within the coastal zone.**
- Yes. Describe the project location with respect to coastal areas, and the status of the coastal zone permit, and provide a copy of the coastal zone permit or coastal exemption.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

According to Figure C-4 of the County of San Diego General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element, the project is not located within a Mineral Resource Zone. The project area does not have existing or planned aggregate operations. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the loss of mineral resources and no impact has been identified for this issue area.

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Refer to Response XI. a) above. No mineral resources have been identified in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact on a locally important mineral resource recovery site.

XII. NOISE. Would the project result in:

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Exposure of persons to, or generate, noise levels in excess of standards established in a 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"/> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

Pursuant to Section 36.408 of the San Diego County Noise Ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate construction equipment between the hours of 7:00 p.m. of any day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day. In addition, pursuant to Section 36.409 of the San Diego County Noise Ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate construction equipment or cause construction equipment to be operated, that exceeds an average sound level of 75 decibels for an eight-hour period, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., when measured at the boundary line of the property where the noise source is located or on any occupied property where the noise is being received.

Equipment operation is the primary source of noise associated with construction activities. Construction activities associated with the proposed project includes the installation of pipelines



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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and the construction of two lift stations. The proposed project would create short-term noise associated with construction activities. Although construction noise would be audible to residents in the project area, the resulting noise levels would be temporary and phased over approximately 10 months. ~~However~~ Furthermore, construction at the project site would occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, in accordance with ~~the Section 36.408 of the San Diego County Noise Ordinance~~ County of San Diego Municipal Code Section 59.5.0404. Therefore, construction activities associated with the proposed project would not result in the exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the San Diego Noise Ordinance.

The operation of the lift stations would not involve machinery, equipment or activities that would result in noise levels in exceedance of County thresholds. Specifically, mechanical equipment associated with the operation of the lift stations (e.g. pumps and generators) would incorporate standard project design features for noise control to ensure compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance. The pipelines would not generate any operational noise. Operation of the proposed project would not result in the exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the San Diego County Noise Ordinance. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- b) Exposure of persons to or generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

No component of the proposed project would result in perceivable, long-term groundborne vibration or groundborne noise during operation. However, ground vibration from construction equipment could be perceptible to receptors in the vicinity of the construction activity. For example, the tamping of ground surfaces, the passing of heavy trucks on uneven surfaces, and the excavation of trenches would each create perceptible vibration in the immediate vicinity of the activity. The level of groundborne vibration that could reach sensitive receptors depends on the distance to the receptor, the type of equipment creating vibration, and the soil conditions surrounding the construction site. However, the impact from construction-related groundborne vibration would be short-term and confined to the immediate area around the activity ~~(within approximately 25 feet).~~ ~~Because all proposed construction activities would be more than 25 feet from any occupied structure, construction of the proposed project would not result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise level.~~ Furthermore, construction at the project site would occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, in accordance with the County of San Diego Municipal Code Section 59.5.0404. Therefore, construction of the proposed project would not result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Aa less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Noise impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project are anticipated during construction only, and are therefore temporary. No significant long-term (operational) noise impacts are anticipated with any component of the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not result a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

See Response XII. a. Construction of the proposed project would not result in any significant temporary or periodic noise impacts. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

- f) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The nearest private airstrip is the Lake Wohlford Resort Airport, which is located approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the project area. Give the project area's distance to the airstrip, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impacts are anticipated.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:

- 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)?



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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The proposed project would construct facilities that will ultimately be required to provide wastewater service to the North Village Area. Although the proposed project would construct additional infrastructure, wastewater capacity requirements for the North Village Area are based on the approved County General Plan land use designation. The proposed project would enable VCMWD to ~~The project would~~ provide wastewater service only to existing and new development that is allowed under the zoning densities outlined in the current General Plan. Because the General Plan incorporates population growth in its zoning densities, the proposed project would not result in unanticipated or substantial population growth in the area. A less than significant impact is identified for this issue area.

- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No housing exists within the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact is identified for this issue area.

- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No people reside within the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

CEQA-Plus Evaluation

Environmental Justice:

Does the project involve an activity that is likely to be of particular interest to or have particular impact upon minority, low-income, or indigenous populations, or tribes?

- No. Selecting “No” means that this action is not likely to be of any particular interest to or have an impact on these populations or tribes. Explain.**

Most frequently, adverse environmental effects have been associated with environmental insults thrust upon communities involving the siting or continued existing of operations involving the use, manufacture, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials. Another common form of insult is the development of environmentally beneficial benevolent projects that impose aesthetic or use limitation burdens upon selected communities or neighborhoods. However, the proposed project does not involve any of the above issues. The proposed project would construct facilities that will ultimately be required to provide wastewater service to the North Village Area. The proposed project is not likely to be of particular interest to or have particular impact upon minority, low-income, or indigenous populations, or tribes.

- Yes. If you answer yes, please check at least one of the boxes and provide a brief explanation below:**

- The project is likely to impact the health of these populations.**



- The project is likely to impact the environmental conditions of these populations.
- The project is likely to present an opportunity to address an existing disproportionate impact of these populations.
- The project is likely to result in the collection of information or data that could be used to assess potential impacts on the health or environmental conditions of these populations.
- The project is likely to affect the availability of information to these populations.
- Other reasons, describe:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project:

a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 to other performance objectives for any of the public services:

i) Fire protection?

The proposed project would not include the addition of housing, schools, or other community facilities that might require fire protection. Due to the limited number of construction workers and the duration of the construction schedule (10 months), no impact to fire protection services is anticipated.

ii) Police protection?

The proposed project would not include the addition of housing, schools, or other community facilities that might require police protection. Construction of the lift stations and pipelines would not change local police protection response times or affect demand for police protection services in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact to police protection.

iii) Schools?

The proposed project does not include the development of residential land uses that would result in an increase in population or student generation. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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iv) Parks?

The proposed project would not increase population, generating an increase in demand on existing public or private parks or other recreational facilities that would either result in or increase physical deterioration of the facility. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.

v) Other public facilities?

The proposed project does not include the development of residential land uses that would result in an increase in population. Thus, the proposed project is not anticipated to adversely affect other public facilities (such as post offices). Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.

XV. RECREATION. Would the project:

a) 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?

Development of housing is not proposed as part of the project. The proposed project would not increase population, generating an increase in demand on existing public or private parks or other recreational facilities that would either result in or increase physical deterioration of the facility. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.

b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

The proposed project consists of infrastructure improvements consisting of two lift stations and collection system pipelines ~~is a solar facility~~ and would not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. No impact is identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVI. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC.

Would the project:

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance,, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance 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"/> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

An estimated 20 truck trips per day would be necessary during construction activities associated with the proposed project. Trucks would be required to use designated truck routes when arriving to and departing from the project site. Truck deliveries would typically occur during off-peak hours and phased over the construction schedule to alleviate traffic impacts to local area roadways. The project has a potential to create temporary lane closures on Valley Center Road during construction of the pipelines, which may increase congestion during peak travel times. However, the addition of temporary construction-related traffic would not cause a substantial increase in traffic in relation to existing traffic. These trips would be temporary and short-term during project construction.—A Traffic Control Plan (TCP) will be implemented to minimize impacts to area roadways. Implementation of a TCP would ensure an adequate flow of traffic in both directions by: providing sufficient signage to alert drivers of construction zones, notifying emergency responders prior to construction, and conducting community outreach. Submittal of a Traffic Control Permit Application and preparation of a Traffic Control Plan are required as part of the application package for a County of San Diego Excavation Permit. The Traffic Control Plan will be submitted to and must be approved by the County of San Diego prior to any excavation work and must comply with County requirements such as identifying the work being performed and the exact location of work being performed. Upon approval of an Excavation Permit, the project contractor will be responsible for implementing the Traffic Control Plan during construction of the proposed project. Therefore, with implementation of a TCP, impacts would be less than significant.

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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"/> |
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Refer to Response XVI.a) above. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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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?

The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Furthermore, the project is not located within the vicinity of a private or private use airport. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns that could result in substantial safety risks. No impact has been identified for this issue area.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The project does not proposed changes to the project area's circulation system that could substantially increase traffic hazards. Therefore, no impact has been identified for this issue area.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

A Traffic Control Plan would be required, which would include traffic control measures to limit potential impacts to emergency services and ensure safe ingress and egress for local users. Specifically, these measures would ensure an adequate flow of traffic in both directions by providing sufficient signage to alert drivers of construction zones, and notifying emergency responders prior to construction. The implementation of the Traffic Control Plan would result in adequate emergency access during construction activities associated with the proposed project. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

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?

The existing surrounding circulation network would not change with the implementation of the proposed project. As such, the proposed project would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. Therefore, no impact is identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would the project:

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control board?

The project has been proposed to increase Valley Center's ability to sufficiently collect and convey wastewater generated by development contemplated in the County's General Plan. Although the proposed project would result in additional infrastructure to accommodate the treatment of additional flows from the North Village Area, wastewater capacity requirements for the North Village Area are based on the approved County General Plan land use designation.—The proposed project is not anticipated to exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control board. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

~~The project has been proposed to increase Valley Center's ability to sufficiently collect and convey wastewater generated by development contemplated in the County's General Plan. The proposed project would not require the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. No impact is identified for this issue area. Although the proposed project would result in additional infrastructure to accommodate the treatment of additional flows from the North Village Area, wastewater capacity requirements for the North Village Area are based on the approved County General Plan land use designation. The proposed project would not generate population growth and would increase the Valley Center's ability to sufficiently collect and convey wastewater generated by development contemplated in the County's General Plan. The construction of additional infrastructure would be beneficial and the impact would be less than significant. The proposed project would not require the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. No impact is identified for this issue area.~~



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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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?

The proposed project is not anticipated to generate a significant increase in the amount of runoff water. The proposed North Village and Orchard Run Lift Station would have a minimal footprint of 90 feet by 50 feet (approximately 4,500 square feet each). The proposed project would not develop the remainder of the lift station parcels. Water will continue to percolate through the ground, as a majority of the surfaces on the project site will remain pervious. The proposed pipelines would not require additional stormwater facilities because they would be installed underground. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or would new or expanded entitlements be needed?

The proposed project would require minimal water during construction. During operations, irrigation water would be used for minor landscaping. However, drought-tolerant species would be planted. The required water would not be substantial because the plants would not be watered on a daily basis. Therefore, no new or expanded entitlement would be needed. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?

Refer to Response XVII. a) above. A less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

The proposed project, once complete, would not require solid waste disposal. No demolition is proposed as part of the project; therefore, the project is not anticipated to generate a substantial amount of solid waste. In addition, any waste generated during construction would be disposed off site in accordance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Refer to Response XVII. f) above. Construction of the proposed project would require minimal solid waste material disposal and all waste generated during construction would be disposed off site in accordance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, a less than significant impact has been identified for this issue area.

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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, substantially 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?

As discussed in Response IV. a), potential impacts to biological resources, including endangered species or habitat, would be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of Mitigation Measures ~~BR-1~~ through BR-4. Additionally, as discussed in Response V. b), potential impacts to archaeological resources would be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to aesthetics, agricultural and forestry resources air quality, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems. Mitigation measures recommended for biological resources and cultural resources would reduce impacts to below a level of significance. The proposed project would incrementally contribute to cumulative impacts for projects occurring within the VCMWD service area. However, with mitigation, no residually significant impacts would result with implementation of the project. In the absence of residually significant impacts, the incremental accumulation of effects would not be cumulatively considerable.

c) Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, all impacts related to the proposed project can be mitigated to a level below significance. Therefore, substantial adverse impacts on human beings would not occur as a result of the proposed project.

References

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California Department of Transportation. Scenic Highway Information Page. Available at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic_highways/scenic_hwy.htm Viewed September 18, 2014.

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SanGIS, 2009. Draft – Liquefaction County of San Diego Hazard Mitigation Planning. Available at: http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/oes/docs/DRAFT_COSD_Liquefaction1.pdf. Viewed September 23, 2014.

USDA, 1973. Soil Survey: San Diego Area, California. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service.



Valley Center
Municipal Water District

***Attachment 4A
Notice of Determination
North Village
Wastewater Infrastructure Project***

Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk County of: San Diego Address: 1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260 San Diego, CA 92101	FROM:	Public Agency/Lead Agency: Valley Center Municipal Water District Address: 29300 Valley Center Road Valley Center, CA 92082 Contact: Dennis Williams Phone: (760) 735-4577
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TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1400 Tenth Street (overnight or hand delivery) Sacramento, CA 95814	FROM:	Lead Agency (if different from above) Address: Contact: Phone:
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (If submitted to SCH):	2014111011	
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Project Title: North Village Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Project Applicant/Public Agency Approving Project: Valley Center Municipal Water District

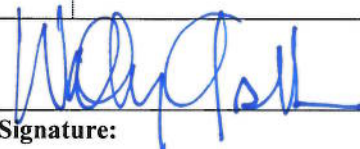
Specific Project Location – Identify street address and cross street or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15’ or 7 ½’ topographical map identified by quadrangle name): The project is located in southern California within an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County within the community of Valley Center. The proposed project is located in the central portion of the community of Valley Center. See attached project location figure.

The North Village Lift Station would be located on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 18826050, on the southwest side of the Valley Center Road and Indian Creek Road intersection. The Orchard Run Lift Station would be located on APN 18867306, approximately 0.25 miles west of Valley Center Road and immediately south of the Valley Center Community Center (28246 Lilac Rd, Valley Center, CA 92082). Pipeline improvements would be located primarily within existing paved right-of way (Valley Center Road, Cole Grade Road, Juba Road, and Old Road).

General Project Location (City and/or County): County of San Diego

Project Description: On January 5, 2015, the Valley Center Municipal Water District approved infrastructure improvements consisting of two lift stations and collection system pipelines (force main, gravity main, and low pressure system). These improvements will be constructed within the Valley Center Municipal Water District service area boundaries. The improvements will collect wastewater from additional properties that were not previously contemplated in the expansion of the Woods Valley Ranch Water Reclamation Facility approved by Valley Center Municipal Water District in 2008.

This is to advise that the (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on January 5, 2015 after holding a noticed public hearing and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project will NOT have a significant effect on the environment
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An Environmental Impact Report was prepared and certified for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigation measures were NOT made a condition of the approval of the project.
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was NOT adopted for this project.
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Statement of Overriding Considerations was NOT adopted for this project
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Findings were NOT made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
This is to certify that the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:		
Custodian: Valley Center Municipal Water District, District Engineer		Location: Valley Center Municipal Water District Engineering Services Division 29300 Valley Center Road Valley Center, CA 92082
Date:	<u>1-7-15</u>	 Signature:
Date Received for Filing:	_____	<u>District Engineer</u> Title:

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Recourse Code.
Reference Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.