

## Appendix A – Environmental Checklist

1. **Project Title:** Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin to include information on climate change adaptation projects.

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, California 94612

3. **Contact Person and Phone:**

Samantha Harper; (510) 622-2415

4. **Project Location:**

The San Francisco Bay region as defined in Water Code section 13200.

5. **Project Sponsor’s Name & Address:**

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, California 94612

6. **General Plan Designation:** Not Applicable

7. **Zoning:** Not Applicable

8. **Description of Project:**

The project proposes to amend portions of Chapters 1, 2, and 4 of the Basin Plan to update descriptions in the Basin Plan related to water quality challenges posed by climate change, update references, make non-substantive edits and corrections, and provide questions and information related to climate change and adaption that may be relevant to Water Board permitting of dredge or fill activities affecting the region’s coastal, shoreline, estuarine and nearshore waters of the state (collectively referred to in this report as “coastal waters” or “coastal waters of the state”). As the Water Board’s master planning document for water quality, the Basin Plan establishes beneficial uses of waters, water quality objectives to protect those beneficial uses, and implementation programs for achieving the water quality objectives. The following changes to the Basin Plan are proposed, by chapter:

Chapter 1

- Revision 1(1). In Section 1.1, remove text comparing the size of the region to the size of the state of Connecticut and insert text indicating that the changing climate is altering estuaries.

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- Revision 1(2). Insert a new Section 1.7 describing the effects of a changing climate on water quality and the need to address these effects on a landscape scale.

### Chapter 2

- Revision 2(1). In Section 2.2.3, update the name of the California Department of Fish and Game to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Update references to the Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report and EcoAtlas.

### Chapter 4

- Revision 4(1). Update references to planning documents related to wetland restoration and mitigation in Sections 4.23, 4.23.1, and 4.23.4.
- Revision 4(2). In Section 4.23.2, correct an erroneous reference to Table 2-3; the correct reference is Table 2-4. In the same section, update the reference sources that can help determine the beneficial uses for coastal waters in the region, including wetlands.  
Revision 4(3). Change the name of Section 4.23.4 to “Wetland Dredge or Fill” from “Wetland” to more accurately describe the section. Make minor edits to the description of how waters of the state are affected by dredging, diking, and filling in the same section. Add information on the State Water Resources Control Board’s (State Water Board) “Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State” (Dredge and Fill Procedures) to reflect the current regulatory landscape. Delete an obsolete reference to the Wetland Ecological Assessment.
- Revision 4(4). Insert a new Section 4.27 entitled “Climate Change and Aquatic Habitat Protection, Management, and Restoration,” which:
  - Acknowledges and describes how climate change can adversely impact aquatic habitats and their beneficial uses. Describes how certain climate adaptation projects can exacerbate impacts to aquatic systems. Describes efforts made to support the long-term resilience of aquatic habitats in the region.
  - Provides questions and information related to climate change and adaption that may be relevant to Water Board permitting of dredge or fill activities in or near coastal waters. When permitting such activities, under existing laws and regulations, the Water Board is required to ensure that adverse impacts to waters of the state have been appropriately avoided, minimized, and compensated. Understanding the reasonably foreseeable influence of climate change is important to adequately assess the impacts of these activities to waters of the state. In addition, the Water Board has increased its knowledge with respect to climate change adaption projects and their potential for adverse impacts

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to waters of the state and the questions and information incorporate this knowledge. The questions and information cover the following:

1. **Is the proposed project design, as well as assessment of its near-term and long-term impacts at site- and landscape-scales, based on the best available science describing climate change and its influence on the environment?** Projects should be based on the best available science on the anticipated future conditions over the life of the project, including but not limited to any reasonably foreseeable changes in (1) sea levels and nearshore groundwater levels; (2) the timing, frequency, intensity, and duration of seasonal precipitation, watershed runoff, Delta outflow, and wave events; and (3) the supply of sediment available to maintain healthy coastal habitats. Projects should be designed to avoid/minimize direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts by accommodating existing and likely future physical and ecological drivers and conditions at the project site. Sometimes, future conditions are presented in probabilistic risk aversion categories. In such cases, a project should be based on the appropriately protective risk aversion approach to ensure that water quality impacts from project performance are avoided and minimized where practicable.
2. **Is the proposed project designed as part of a phased adaptation strategy that anticipates potential future projects and accommodates these projects in a manner that protects future beneficial uses of the site and its landscape?** Phased adaptation strategies are actions to provide flood protection at different climate change thresholds over time. Initial actions are designed to provide flood protection in the near-term while allowing for a range of future actions to address uncertainty and allow flexibility over the long term. Preferable actions will maintain long-term lines of flood defense along San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean as far landward as practicable to minimize the isolation of wetlands and waters behind flood management infrastructure, reduce the risk of flooding of low-lying areas by surface water or groundwater, and create space for the restoration of complete estuarine wetland systems and other nature-based adaptation measures.
3. **Is the proposed project designed within a landscape-scale, cross-jurisdictional framework, such as an operational landscape unit?** Climate change operates on a landscape-scale. Therefore, strategies to address climate change are more likely to be successful in the long-term if they are planned, designed, permitted, and implemented on a landscape-scale, and not limited by political boundaries. Projects designed to consider current and anticipated future conditions not just at the project site, but also the broader landscape within which it is embedded are likely to have fewer long-

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term direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts than projects that only address near-term, site-specific conditions. In some cases, the least impacting project may be one that spans multiple jurisdictions, such as parcel or municipal boundaries. Projects that avoid or minimize direct impacts at the project site only to trigger indirect and/or cumulative impacts off-site are not preferable.

4. **Does the proposed project utilize practicable natural and/or nature-based design features, or a combination of traditional and nature-based features?** Properly designed and sited, projects that facilitate and/or leverage natural physical and ecological forms and processes in the long-term, and on a landscape-scale, are more likely to support beneficial uses presently and in the future than designs that impede those processes. Preferred nature-based design features include, but are not limited, to the following:
  - Living shorelines, such as oyster reefs and submerged aquatic vegetation beds
  - Beaches of sand, shell, gravel, cobble, or combinations thereof
  - Estuarine wetland protection, enhancement, and restoration, especially in locations with connectivity between supratidal, intertidal, and subtidal habitats
  - Reconnection of estuarine habitats with rivers, creeks, and flood control channels
  - Strategic placement of sediment in estuarine wetlands and mudflats
  - Gradually sloped (“ecotone”) and treated wastewater (“horizontal”) levees adjacent to estuarine wetlands
  - Making space for the sea level rise-driven migration of estuarine wetlands into adjacent uplands.
5. **For a proposed dredge or fill activity, what are the near- and long-term direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to the acreage, functions, and values of waters of the state when considering the reasonably foreseeable conditions from climate change?** Some dredge or fill activities, such as the construction of rip-rap or other similar grey infrastructure, can avoid near-term impacts to the acreage, functions, and values of waters of the state only to cause long-term impacts within the context of climate change. Other dredge or fill activities, such as the construction of natural and nature-based features described above under (4), can generate near-term impacts to the acreage, functions, and values of waters of the state, but over the long term have less impacts within the context of climate change. In fact, these projects can have long-term benefits. Thus, understanding both the near- and long-term impacts

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of dredge or fill activities when considering the reasonably foreseeable conditions from climate change is important to assess the totality of impacts. Assessing long-term impacts under climate change conditions can be difficult, especially considering uncertainties about future rates of sea level rise, the influence of extreme events, local and regional planning decisions, and how landscapes could change in response to these and other factors. To reduce uncertainties and help identify the circumstances under which proposed dredge or fill discharges appropriately avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to waters of the state, the following questions may be helpful:

- Environmental drivers:
  - What are the primary hydrologic, geomorphic, and ecological drivers of beneficial uses and habitat resilience at the site- and landscape-scale, and how are they likely to influence the landscape in the near- and long-term?
  - Where and how are processes such as upland migration (transgression), erosion, progradation, accretion, and/or drowning likely to impact the condition, location, and distribution of different habitat types?
  - How might the proposed dredge or fill activities influence these drivers?
- Impacts of no action:
  - How would the affected landscapes be likely to evolve in the absence of the proposed dredge or fill activities?
  - Given the likely range of anticipated environmental drivers, would the absence of the proposed activities likely result in less diverse, resilient, and/or complete habitats in the long-term?
- Coherent landscapes:
  - Are the proposed dredge or fill activities geographically and geomorphically situated and designed to work with both site-scale and landscape-scale natural processes, such as the movement of water and sediment, shifts in plant communities, and the movement of fish and wildlife between different habitats?
  - Will the proposed activities enhance or impede the ability of these natural processes to exert work on the landscape?
- Type conversions: Some dredge or fill activities may convert one type of water of the state to another (e.g., salt pond to tidal flat/tidal wetland), or convert one component of the estuarine

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wetland ecosystem to another (e.g., tidal wetland to estuarine-terrestrial zone, tidal wetland to high tide refugia, or tidal wetland to tidal channel). The overall impacts of proposed wetland type conversions can be assessed using technical guidance such as the Aquatic Resource Type Conversion Evaluation Framework.

- Does the landscape setting, including but not limited to local climate, hydrology, sediment supply, degree of urbanization, habitat connectivity, and geomorphic setting, support the intended habitat type?
- Does the intended habitat type require intensive management that will have to be funded and implemented in the long-term?
- What ecosystem functions will be gained or lost through type conversion, and what is the potential timing and magnitude of these changes? How are these changes likely to influence ecosystem functions within the broader landscape?
- Is the proposed type conversion consistent with strategies developed by collaborations of stakeholders to achieve regional goals such as recovering rare and/or historic habitat types, improving landscape connectivity/complexity, and/or supporting long-term habitat resilience?

### **9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:**

The land uses and setting are those of the entire San Francisco Bay region.

### **10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:**

The State Water Board must approve the Basin Plan amendment following adoption by the Water Board. The Basin Plan amendment will also be forwarded to the California Office of Administrative Law for concurrence on its non-regulatory status.

### **11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?**

California Native American tribes in the project area, namely, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Mishewal-Wappo Tribe of Alexander Valley, Tamien Nation, Wilton Rancheria, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation were informed of this project on August 11, 2021. Tamien Nation and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1. The Water Board and Tamien Nation had an initial meeting on October 18, 2021. There were no

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significant changes requested by Tamien Nation. The Water Board and Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria had an initial meeting on October 4, 2021. Consultation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is ongoing.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

I. <u>AESTHETICS</u> . Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<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"/>

There would be no impact. This project is a Basin Plan amendment to add information on climate change, including information that may be relevant to permitting dredge or fill projects in or near the shoreline, especially habitat restoration and climate adaptation projects. The Basin Plan amendment is informational and does not change or add any regulations. It would not result in any direct or indirect physical change to the environment. Additionally, there are no impacts from the reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance under Public Resources Code section 21159, because the Basin Plan amendment does not propose to adopt any new rule or regulation requiring the installation of pollution control equipment or a performance standard or treatment requirement.



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II. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental impacts, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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"/> |
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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| b) 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

- | <u>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:  | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact                           |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the DFG or 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 DFG or USFWS?   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally-protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?                          | <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 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 a tree preservation policy or ordinance?  | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

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<u>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5?	<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 as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>VI. ENERGY.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>VII. GEOLOGY and SOILS.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated in 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 & Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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- 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 soils, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect 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 alternate 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"/>
f) 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"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

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

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>IX. HAZARDS and HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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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?   | <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 ¼ 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 which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or to 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 a public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) 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"/> |
| g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

- | <u>X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.</u> Would the project:  | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact                           |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?                                  | <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 or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XII. MINERAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future 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"/>

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<u>XIII. NOISE.</u> Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project 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) Generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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 in or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., 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 people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XV. PUBLIC SERVICES.</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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a) 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:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XVI. RECREATION.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

<u>XVII. TRANSPORTATION.</u> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric 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"/> |
| d) Result in inadequate emergency access?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

We do not expect this project would have any impacts on tribal cultural resources. See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) 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"/> |
| d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

We do not anticipate that the project would impact utilities or service systems. This project is not revising existing policies or creating new policies. Information added to the Basin Plan for consideration during permitting of habitat restoration and climate change adaptation projects is general in nature and would not significantly alter the way these projects are implemented. Habitat restoration and climate change adaptation projects would occur with or without the proposed amendment. Further, the information describing the benefits of using a cross-jurisdictional landscape scale approach to address flooding concerns from sea level rise would potentially benefit hydrology and water quality by inspiring utilities, property owners and municipalities to collaboratively plan projects.

- | <u>XX. WILDFIRE.</u> If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:  | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact                           |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>                           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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?	<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"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects that 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"/>

See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

**Potential to Degrade and Cumulative impacts:** The project is not expected to cause degradation or cumulative impacts to the environment. The project will not compound or increase environmental impacts when considered with other related projects. See the discussion in Aesthetics, above.

**PRELIMINARY STAFF DETERMINATION**

The proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and, therefore, no alternatives or mitigation measures are proposed.

The proposed project **MAY** have a significant or potentially significant effect on the environment, and therefore alternatives and mitigation measures have been evaluated.

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**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21082, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21080.5, 21082.1, 21083, 21083.05, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21151, Public Resources Code; Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino, 202 Cal.App.3d 296 (1988); and Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors, 222 Cal.App.3d 1337 (1990).