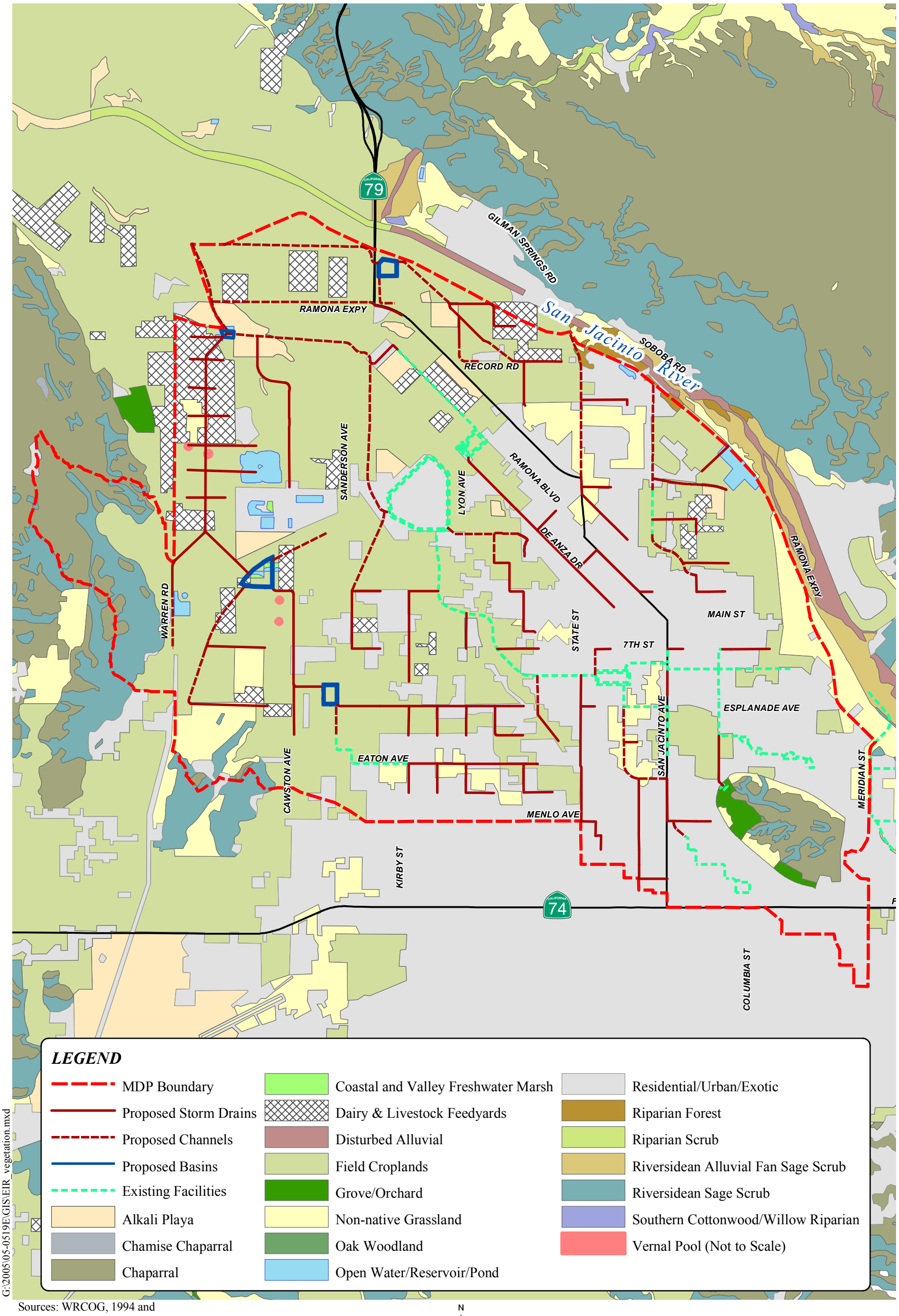


Sources: WRCOG, 1994 and
County of Riverside, 2003.

Figure 3.4-6
Vegetation

into account mitigation offered to offset the loss of functions associated with riparian/riverine areas and/or vernal pools as they pertain to the Covered Species.

With the incorporation of mitigation, the Project will comply with the requirements of the MSHCP, and will therefore, be consistent with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.3

Under Section 6.1.3, *Protection of Narrow Endemic Plant Species*, site-specific focused surveys for narrow endemic plant species shall be required where appropriate or suitable habitat is present within the Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA). The western/central portion of the Project area coincides with NEPSSA number 3, which includes the following target species:

- Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*)
- San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*)
- Many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*)
- Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*)
- California Orcutt's grass (*Orcuttia californica*)
- Wright's trichocoronis (*Trichocoronis wrightii* var. *wrightii*)

At least two of the plants, Munz's onion and many-stemmed dudleya, are not expected to occur within the SJV-MDP area due to a lack of suitable habitat. Other Narrow Endemic Plants on the list may have the potential to occur based on potentially suitable habitat (see **Table 3.4-B, Special Status Plants**). The area of the Project coinciding with Cell Group V will need to be thoroughly evaluated for vernal pool plant species, including the Narrow Endemic Plants that are associated with vernal pools/playas. Facility-specific surveys would be required during the appropriate time of the year to determine the presence/absence of all Narrow Endemic Plants and Criteria Area Plants (see **MM Bio 6**).

With the incorporation of mitigation, the Project will comply with the requirements of the MSHCP and therefore be consistent with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.4

Section 6.1.4, *Guidelines Pertaining to the Urban/Wildlife Interface*, outlines the minimization of indirect effects associated with locating development in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area. To minimize these effects, guidelines in Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP shall be implemented in conjunction with review of individual public and private development projects in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area and address the following: drainage, toxics, lighting, noise, invasive species, barriers, and grading/land development. Portions of the Project area coincide with or occur in proximity to Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 6, Existing Constrained Linkage C, and Proposed Core 5.

Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 6 is comprised of Cell Group V and independent Cells 2775 and 2878. Treatment and management of edge conditions will be necessary to ensure that habitat quality and vernal pool hydrology are maintained as planned land uses are developed and major Covered Activities are implemented along the edge of this habitat block.

Existing Constrained Linkage C consists of the middle segment of the San Jacinto River. This Constrained Linkage is largely surrounded by an open space/conservation planned land use. Thus edge effects may not affect the Linkage to such a strong degree. In areas of the Linkage bordering a planned land use designated city, however, treatment and management of edge conditions along the Linkage will still be necessary to ensure that it provides habitat and movement functions for species using the Linkage.

Proposed Core 5 is comprised of the portion of the upper San Jacinto River extending from the San Jacinto Mountains to just west of State Street. This Core likely provides for movement of mammals such as mountain lion and bobcat, connecting to Core Areas in the San Jacinto Mountains, Lake Perris, and San Jacinto Wildlife Refuge. Maintenance of floodplain processes and water quality of the San Jacinto River is important for these species, as well as maintenance of habitat quality. In addition to indirect effects associated with adjacent planned land uses, flood control activities resulting from adjacent planned land uses may also adversely affect species such as arroyo toad, San Bernardino kangaroo rat, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and LAPM.

Through adherence to the guidelines of the MSHCP Section 6.1.4, the Project will minimize indirect effects associated with the development of the SJV-MDP; therefore, the proposed Project is consistent with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.3.2

Portions of the Project area occur within MSHCP survey areas for Narrow Endemic Plants, Criteria Area Plants, the western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), the LAPM (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), and SBKR (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*). Within designated Survey Areas, the MSHCP requires habitat assessments, and focused surveys within areas of suitable habitat.

The majority of the Project area occurs within the MSHCP Survey Area for the western burrowing owl. For areas where access was granted, focused owl surveys were conducted on July 31 and August 7, 8, 11, 12, 20, 22, and August 26, 2008. For areas without access, a general roadside assessment was conducted unless view obstruction prevented such assessments.

Potentially suitable burrows were mapped throughout the SJV-MDP survey areas; however, no burrowing owls were detected during focused surveys. Though no burrowing owls were detected during the focused surveys, much of the Project area has a moderate to high probability to support owls, whether they are breeding pairs, resident individuals, or transient individuals. Future habitat assessments and focused surveys (if suitable habitat/burrows are present) shall be conducted for areas that could not be accessed for the current study. In addition, updated facility-specific focused surveys shall be conducted for areas that have been previously surveyed.

MSHCP Objective 5 for the burrowing owl states that if burrowing owls are detected on a project site then appropriate action(s) shall be taken as follows:

If the site is within the Criteria Area, then at least 90 percent of the area with long-term conservation value will be included in the MSHCP Conservation Area. Otherwise:

1. If the site contains, or is part of an area supporting less than 35 acres of suitable habitat or the survey reveals that the site and the surrounding area supports fewer than 3 pairs of burrowing owls, then the on-site burrowing owls will be passively or actively relocated following accepted protocols.
2. If the site (including adjacent areas) supports three or more pairs of burrowing owls, supports greater than 35 acres of suitable habitat, and is non-contiguous with MSHCP Conservation Area lands, at least 90 percent of the area with long-term conservation value and burrowing owl pairs will be conserved on site.

Since the majority of the Project area occurs outside of the Criteria Area, the basis for long-term conservation would depend on the number of breeding pairs present within a facility footprint (three or more pairs versus fewer than three pairs). If the 90-percent avoidance requirement would apply, but avoidance was not feasible, then a DBESP would need to be approved to mitigate for the loss of occupied owl habitat. Furthermore, whether avoidance is not required or not feasible, any burrowing owls present at a facility site must be relocated following accepted protocols, and take of active nests must be avoided.

The extreme northern end of Line K terminates at the edge of the mammal survey area for LAPM and SBKR, however, the rest of the facility alignments are located outside of the mammal survey areas. SBKR (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) was determined to have a low potential to occur within the Project area. The LAPM (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*) was also determined to have a low potential to occur within the Project area.

With implementation of mitigation measure **MM Bio 8,** the Project will be consistent with Section 6.3.2 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.4

Section 6.4 (Fuels Management*)* of the MSHCP focuses on hazard reduction for human safety in a manner compatible with public safety and conservation of biological resources. According to the Fuels Management Guidelines of the MSHCP, new development that is planned adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area, or other undeveloped areas, shall incorporate brush management within the development boundaries and shall not encroach into the MSHCP Conservation Area. The majority of the proposed facilities are not located directly adjacent to MSHCP Conservation Areas and are surrounded by already developed or highly disturbed lands; however, those facilities located adjacent to MSHCP Conservation Areas will incorporate brush management consistent with the protection of biological resources. Any necessary fuel modification associated with the Project will remain within the Project area. The proposed Project is consistent with Section 6.4 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 7.5.3, Construction Guidelines; Appendix C, BMPs

In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and its Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The NPDES permits cover all construction and subsequent drainage improvements that disturb one acre or more, industrial activities, and separate municipal storm drain systems. Construction and industrial activities are typically regulated under statewide general permits that are issued by the SWRCB. The SWRCB also issued a statewide general small MS4 stormwater NPDES permit for public agencies that fall under that Phase II NPDES regulation. Future development projects within the Project area will be required to comply with all provisions of the NPDES permit program, including the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), thus potential impacts to receiving waters from future development would be reduced through compliance with the NPDES regulations.

The Project is consistent with Section 7.5.3 through compliance with NPDES regulations. See Section 3.7, Hydrology of this Draft EIR for further details.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat HCP

The Project area is located within the Fee Area boundary of the Western Riverside County Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP. If the SJV-MDP facilities or portions of the SJV-MDP facilities were to be constructed by a public agency (such as San Jacinto, Hemet, or Riverside County), then this type of project would be considered a "public works project," it is exempt from payment of the fee, according to Section 10 (d) of Riverside County Ordinance 663.10. However, if the SJV-MDP facilities or portions of the SJV-MDP facilities were to be constructed as part of a private development, then the Project would be required to pay the Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP mitigation fee.

The proposed Project is located within the boundary of the RCHCA Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the SKR. The SKR HCP establishes a mechanism for the long-term conservation of the species. Potential impacts to the SKR are mitigated on a regional basis through compliance with the MSHCP and the SKR HCP. As the Project is not in a core reserve, **the Project will not conflict with the SKR HCP and impacts are less than significant.**

With implementation of mitigation measures **MM Bio 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8,** the Project is consistent with the MSHCP. The proposed Project is not located within any other adopted HCP or NCCP. The proposed Project will not conflict with an approved local, regional, or state conservation plan and **potential impacts are less than significant**.

Threshold: *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or establish native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.*

Portions of the Project area coincide with Proposed Core 5 which is comprised of the portion of the upper San Jacinto River extending from the San Jacinto Mountains to just west of State Street. Maintenance of floodplain processes and water quality of the San Jacinto River is important for these species, as well as maintenance of habitat quality. There are no other waterways within the project area that could serve as movement corridors. This Core likely provides for movement of mammals such as mountain lion and bobcat, connecting to Core Areas in the San Jacinto Mountains, Lake Perris, and San Jacinto Wildlife Refuge. In addition to indirect effects associated with adjacent planned land uses, flood control activities resulting from adjacent planned land uses may also adversely affect species such as arroyo toad, San Bernardino kangaroo rat, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and Los Angeles pocket mouse. With implementation of mitigation measures **MM Bio 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8,** the impact is considered **less than significant**.

Threshold: *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance.*

The San Jacinto Valley Area Plan (SJVAP) has the following applicable policies relating to the protection of biological resources:

SJVAP 3.3: Minimize the disruption of sensitive vegetation and species, as called out in the Floodplain and Riparian Area Management and Environmentally Sensitive Lands sections of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.

SJVAP 15.1 Protect sensitive biological resources in the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan through adherence to policies found in the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.

SJVAP 15.2 Conserve Willow-Domino-Travers soils supporting plants such as spreading navarretia (core population), San Jacinto Valley crownscale (core population), Parish’s brittlescale, Coulter’s goldfields, vernal barley and Davidson’s saltbush (core population).

SJVAP 15.3 Conserve clay soils intermixed with or near vernal pools occurring in the upper reaches of the San Jacinto River supporting California Orcutt grass and core populations of thread-leaved brodiaea.

SJVAP 15.4 Conserve alkaline soils associated with the upper San Jacinto River and Bautista Creek to support known populations of smooth tarplant and little mousetail.

SJVAP 15.5 Conserve clay soils in grasslands and open sage scrub supporting populations of small-flowered morning glory.

SJVAP 15.6 Conserve alluvial fan sage scrub and chaparral supporting slender-horned spineflower and Parry’s spineflower, known to occur in the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan.

SJVAP 15.7 Conserve existing known populations of least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher in the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan, including locations at the San Jacinto River and Bautista Creek. Maintain existing breeding habitat for these species at the San Jacinto River and Bautista Creek.

SJVAP 15.8 Conserve wetland habitats along the San Jacinto River including existing vernal pools and associated watersheds. Maintain watershed processes that enhance water quality and contribute to the hydrologic regime.

SJVAP 15.9 Maintain and enhance linkage value of the upper San Jacinto River including locations at the San Jacinto River and Bautista Creek for wildlife movement and live-in habitat.

SJVAP 15.10 Conserve intact upland habitat block, consisting of grasslands, open sage scrub, rangelands and chaparral, in the southern Badlands, Lakeview Mountains, and Mica Butte for the benefit of raptors, burrowing owl, orange-throated whiptail, and other MSHCP species.

SJVAP 15.11 Conserve large patches of undisturbed high quality scrub and chamise chaparral to support known populations of Bell's sage sparrow.

SJVAP 15.12 Conserve sufficient upland habitat in the southern Badlands, Lakeview Mountains, and Mica Butte to support known locations of gnatcatcher.

SJVAP 15.13 Conserve open grasslands and sparse shrublands that support populations of Stephens' kangaroo rat, with a focus on suitable habitat in the southern Badlands.

The San Jacinto Valley General Plan has the following applicable policies relating to the protection of biological resources:

Policy 1.1: Conserve important natural resources such as mature trees, rock outcroppings, hills, ridges, and other prominent land forms, as open space.

Policy 1.2: Work closely with the County of Riverside to implement the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan that meets the goal of preservation, but allows for economic development of the community.

Policy 1.3: Conserve and protect important plant communities and wildlife habitats, such as riparian areas, wetlands, vernal pools, oak woodlands and other significant tree stands, and rare and endangered species.

The City of Hemet General Plan has a goal on page II-E-24 to manage rare, endangered, and candidate species and their habitats through appropriate and accepted preservation programs.

The Project does not propose any above-ground structures that would require the removal of important natural resources and, through compliance with the MSHCP, will conserve important resources such as mature trees, rock outcroppings, hills, ridges, and other prominent land forms, as open space. The location of specific SJV-MDP facilities is dictated by engineering and hydraulic concerns. The Project shall meet the goal of the City of Hemet and comply with the policies of the SJVAP through compliance with the MSHCP.

3.4.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Mitigation measures were evaluated for their ability to eliminate or reduce the potential significant adverse impacts to special-status species and loss of foraging habitat. The following measures shall be implemented to eliminate or reduce potentially significant impacts to biological resources to below the level of significance.

MM Bio 1: In order to avoid violation of the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code site-preparation activities (removal of trees and vegetation) shall be avoided, to the greatest extent possible, during the nesting season (generally February 1 to August 31) of potentially occurring native and migratory bird species.

If site-preparation activities are proposed during the nesting/breeding season (February 1 to August 31), a pre-activity field survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the issuance of grading permits, for private development projects, or prior to construction for public agency contracts, to determine if active nests of species protected by the MBTA or the California Fish and Game Code are present in the construction zone. If active nests are not located within the Project area and appropriate buffer, 500 feet of an active listed species or raptor nest, 300 feet of other sensitive or protected bird nests (non-listed), or within 100 feet of sensitive or protected songbird nests, construction may be conducted during the nesting/breeding season. However, if active nests are located during the pre-activity field survey, no grading or heavy equipment activity shall take place within at least 500 feet of an active listed species or raptor nest, 300 feet of other sensitive or protected (under MBTA or California Fish and Game Code) bird nests (non-listed), or within 100 feet of sensitive or protected songbird nests until the nest is no longer active.

MM Bio 2: Facility-specific habitat assessments and focused surveys for burrowing owls will be conducted within burrowing owl survey areas. A pre-construction survey for resident burrowing owls will also be conducted by a qualified biologist within 30 days prior to commencement of grading and construction activities within those portions of the Project site containing suitable burrowing owl habitat. If ground-disturbing activities in these areas are delayed or suspended for more than 30 days after the pre-construction survey, the area shall be resurveyed for owls. Take of active nests shall be avoided. The pre-construction survey and any relocation activity will be conducted in accordance with MSHCP instructions and/or guidelines.

MM Bio 3: Project-specific delineations will be required to determine the limits of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE), RWQCB, and CDFG jurisdiction. Impacts to jurisdictional waters will require authorization by the corresponding regulatory agency. If impacts are indicated, then jurisdictional water will either a) be avoided or b) necessary permits from requisite jurisdictions will be obtained.

MM Bio 4: The project-specific mapping of riparian and unvegetated riverine features will be required pursuant to Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP. For areas not excluded as artificially created, the MSHCP requires 100 percent avoidance of riparian/riverine areas. If avoidance is not

feasible, then individual projects will require the approval of a DBESP including appropriate mitigation, i.e., on-site or off-site enhancement, restoration, establishment (creation), preservation, payment into habitat mitigation banks or in lieu fee programs, or a combination of one or more of these options, to offset the loss of functions and values as they pertain to the MSHCP covered species. Riparian vegetation will also need to be evaluated for the least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and western yellow-billed cuckoo. If suitable habitat is present, focused surveys for the species will be required. If avoidance is not feasible, then individual projects will require the approval of a DBESP including appropriate mitigation, i.e., on-site or off-site enhancement, restoration, establishment (creation), preservation, payment into habitat mitigation banks or in lieu fee programs, or a combination of one or more of these options.

MM Bio 5: The project-specific mapping of vernal pools will be required pursuant to Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP. As noted above, vernal pools (or similar seasonal ponding alkali playa areas) are expected to occur at least in the area comprising Cell Group V, but have the potential to occur elsewhere within the Project area. For areas not excluded as artificially created, the MSHCP requires 100 percent avoidance of vernal pools. If avoidance is not feasible, then individual projects will require the approval of a DBESP including appropriate mitigation to offset the loss of functions and values as they pertain to the MSHCP covered species. Vernal pools and other seasonal ponding depressions will also need to be evaluated for Riverside and Vernal pool fairy shrimp.

MM Bio 6: Within areas of suitable habitat associated with the Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA) and Criteria Area Plant Species Survey Area (CAPSSA), facility-specific focused plants surveys will be required. Including the smooth tarplant mapped as part of this study, the MSHCP requires at least 90 percent avoidance of areas providing long-term conservation value for the NEPSSA and CAPSSA target species. If avoidance is not feasible, then individual projects will require the approval of a DBESP including appropriate mitigation, i.e., on-site or off-site enhancement, restoration, establishment (creation), preservation, payment into habitat mitigation banks or in lieu fee programs, or a combination of one or more of these options. Furthermore, the smooth tarplant mapped within Cell Group V is expected to be required for conservation as part of the Cell Group V criteria.

MM Bio 7: Focused surveys shall be conducted within potentially suitable habitat for Chaparral sand-verbena and South coast salt scale by a qualified biologist during the flowering season of these species and prior to construction activities. If special status plant species are found to be present in the footprint, further measures as recommended by a qualified biologist shall be taken to avoid or minimize adverse project effects to these species and their habitat. If avoidance is not feasible, then individual projects will require the approval of a DBESP including appropriate mitigation.

MM Bio 8: Focused surveys shall be conducted within potentially suitable habitat for the San Bernardino kangaroo rat and Los Angeles pocket mouse by a qualified biologist during the appropriate season of these species and prior to construction activities. If these species are found to be present in the footprint, occupied habitat shall be fenced and avoided. If occupied habitat

cannot be avoided, further measures as recommended by a qualified biologist and in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game, shall to be taken to avoid or minimize adverse project effects to these species and their habitat.

3.4.8 Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures Are Implemented

Based on compliance with the MSHCP and with implementation of the mitigation measures identified above, potential adverse impacts associated with special-status species and their habitat are reduced to a less than significant level.

Although the Project can be considered growth-inducing, the MDP will reduce existing pollutant discharges by reducing flooding from dairies and filtering agricultural runoff (utilizing methods such as grass swales, infiltration trenches, and grass filter strips) (see Section 3.7, Hydrology and Water Quality of the DEIR for details). Future development within the SJ-MDP area will be required to implement SWPPPs and WQMPs in accordance with NPDES regulations.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Potential impacts related to the disturbance of human remains were found to be less than significant in the Initial Study/NOP prepared for this project (Appendix A); therefore, the following analysis is focused on potential impacts related to:

- a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*;
- a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource; pursuant to § 15064.5 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* and
- the direct or indirect destruction of a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature.

In addition to other documents, the following references were used in the preparation of this section of the DEIR:

- CRM TECH, *Historical/Archeological Resources Survey Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 8, 2008. (Appendix D.1) (CRM-A)
- CRM TECH, *Paleontological Resources Assessment Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 13, 2008. (Appendix D.2) (CRM-B)
- U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Registrar of Historic Places Website, Frequently Asked Questions.* (Available at http://www.nps.gov/nr/faq.htm, accessed on May 14, 2009.) (NPS)
- City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto Final Environmental Impact Report Findings*, April 2006. (Available at the San Jacinto City Clerk's Office.) (SJGP FEIR)

3.5.1 Setting

3.5.1.1 Ethnohistoric Context

The area of potential effects (Project footprint) lies in an area where the traditional territories of two Native American groups, the Luiseño and the Cahuilla, overlapped. Together, the homelands of these two Takic-speaking peoples extend from the Coachella Valley in the northeast to present-day Oceanside in the southwest, encompassing most of the western and central portions of Riverside County (CRM-A, p. 5).

Despite their differences in the linguistic affiliation and environmental setting, Native Americans who lived in the vicinity of the Project footprint exhibited similar social organization and resource procurement strategies. The traditional societies of both the Luiseño and the Cahuilla were structured around villages based on clan or lineage groups. Archaeologically, the village sites are usually marked by midden deposits and habitation debris, and sometimes include bedrock boulders with evidence of food-processing and/or ritual activities on them. The various clans, and the two groups in general, interacted with one another through trade, intermarriage,

ceremonies, and occasionally tribal warfare. During the seasonal rounds to exploit plant resources, small groups often ranged some distances from the villages in search of specific plants and animals. Their gathering strategies often left behind signs of special use sites, such as boulder slicks and metates at certain resource locations (CRM-A, p. 5).

Since at least the early 1800s, an area to the east of the Project footprint has been the site of the Luiseño village of Soboba, the name of which has also been recorded by Spanish missionaries, early U.S. surveyors, and modern ethnographers as Saboba, Savabo, Sovovo, and Sevobe, among a host of other versions. During the historic period, the village was home to five Luiseño clans: *Litcic, Pokhat, Amurax, Tcipmal,* and *Tulotcuwat* (who were collectively known as *Sovovoyam*). Situated on the northeastern frontier of Luiseño territory, the *Sovovoyam* maintained ceremonial exchange with neighboring Mountain Cahuilla, Gabrielino, and Serrano groups. Considering that it was one of only 19 Luiseño villages remaining in 1856 and one of only 10 by 1873, Soboba was clearly an important settlement for the Luiseño people (CRM-A, pp. 5–6).

3.5.1.2 Historic Context

In California, the so-called "historic period" began in 1769, when an expedition sent by the Spanish authorities in Mexico founded Mission San Diego, the first European outpost in Alta California. For several decades after that, Spanish colonization activities were largely confined to the coastal regions, and left little impact on the arid hinterland of the territory. Although the first explorers, including Pedro Fages and Juan Bautista de Anza, traveled through the San Jacinto Plains as early as 1772–1774, there is no evidence of Europeans settling in the vicinity until the beginning of the 19th century.

Throughout much of the Spanish and Mexican Periods in California history, the San Jacinto Valley was nominally under the control of Mission San Luis Rey, which was established near present-day Oceanside in 1798. By 1821, it had become a part of the loosely defined, Rancho San Jacinto, a vast cattle ranch for that mission. The rancho was headquartered on a small hill near the Lakeview Mountains, where an adobe house for the *mayordomo,* known in later years as Casa Loma, was built sometime before 1827 (CRM-A, p. 6).

In the 1840s, after secularization of the mission system, three large land grants were created on the former mission rancho of San Jacinto. Among these were Rancho San Jacinto Viejo, granted in 1842 to José Antonio Estudillo, then the *mayordomo* of Mission San Luis Rey, and Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Potrero, granted in 1846 to Miguel de Pendrorena of San Diego. As elsewhere in southern California, cattle raising was the most prevalent economic activity on these and other nearby land grants, until the influx of American settlers eventually brought an end to this much-romanticized lifestyle in the second half of the 19th century.

After the American annexation of Alta California in 1848, the first Euroamerican settlers arrived in the San Jacinto Valley in the late 1860s, and settled mostly around the old town of San Jacinto, the earliest non-Indian community in the area. During the great southern California land boom of the 1880s, the new town of San Jacinto was founded in 1883, and soon overtook the old town as the nucleus of the community. In 1888, San Jacinto became the terminus of the newly

completed San Jacinto Valley Railway, a Santa Fe subsidiary, and the City of San Jacinto was incorporated in the same year.

To the south of San Jacinto, the town of Hemet was created by the Hemet Land Company in 1893. A relative late-comer among the communities in the San Jacinto Valley, and founded at the onset of a severe drought that hampered development throughout southern California, Hemet prospered nevertheless, thanks to the reliable water supply provided by the Hemet Reservoir that the company constructed in the San Jacinto Mountains. In 1910, Hemet became the second incorporated city in the valley.

Through much of the 20th century, both Hemet and San Jacinto remained small rural towns serving the needs of one of Riverside County's most important agricultural regions. During the recent decades, however, with residential and commercial development increasingly becoming the driving force in regional growth, the forces of urbanization has begun to significantly transform the landscape of the two cities (CRM-A, p. 7).

3.5.1.3 Paleontological Context

Paleontological resources constitute the remains of prehistoric life, exclusive of any human remains, and include the localities where fossils were collected as well as the sedimentary rock formations from which they were derived. The defining character of fossils or fossil deposits is their geologic age which is typically regarded as older than 10,000 years, the generally accepted temporal boundary marking the end of the last late Pleistocene glaciation and the beginning of the current Holocene epoch (CRM-B, p. 3).

Paleontological resources are defined as the remains or traces of prehistoric plant and animal life. Fossil remains commonly include marine shells; the bones and teeth of fish, reptiles, and mammals; leaf assemblages; and petrified wood. Fossil traces include internal and external molds (impressions) and casts created by these organisms.

The Project footprint lies in the northern portion of the Peninsular Ranges province, which is bounded on the north by the Transverse Ranges province, on the northeast by the Colorado Desert province, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. The Peninsular Ranges province extends southward to the southern tip of Baja California. More specifically, the Project footprint is located in the northern portion of the San Jacinto Valley, some distance from the outcropping of basement rocks that mark the northeastern and western edges of the valley (CRM-B, p. 5).

The San Jacinto Valley is one of several tectonically controlled valleys within the valley and ridge systems within the Perris Structural Block. These structurally depressed troughs are filled with sediments of upper Pliocene through Recent age, and the ridges are composed of plutonic igneous rocks, metasedimentary rocks, and late-stage intrusive dikes. The Perris Block was defined as a region between the San Jacinto and Elsinore-Chino fault zones; bounded on the north by the Cucamonga (San Gabriel) Fault and on the south by a vaguely delineated boundary near the southern end of the Temecula Valley. This structural block is considered to have been active since Pliocene times (CRM-B, p. 5).

3.5.1.4 Resource Survey and Assessment Report Methodology

Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report

Between March and October, 2008, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on the Project footprint. The purpose of the study was to provide the necessary information and analysis to determine whether future construction activities in the project footprint would cause substantial adverse changes to any historical/archaeological resources, as mandated by CEQA. In order to identify and evaluate such resources, CRM TECH conducted an historical/archaeological resource records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out a systematic field survey. The resulting report, which is included as Appendix D.1 to this Draft EIR, is a complete account of the methods and results of the various avenues of research, and the final conclusion of the study.

A records search at the Eastern Information Center (EIC), located at the University of California, Riverside was conducted in March 2008. The records search included an examination of maps and records on file at the EIC to determine if any previously identified cultural resources are located within or near the Project footprint, and cultural resources reports pertaining to the Project area. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Riverside County Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory (CRM-A, p. 7).

On March 21, 2008, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California's Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC or Commission) for a records search in the Commission's sacred lands file. CRM TECH also contacted the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, who had previously provided comments on the Project to San Jacinto in 2007, to solicit additional comments. Following the NAHC's recommendations, CRM TECH contacted 15 Native American representatives in the region in writing on March 25 to seek local Native American input regarding any potential cultural resources concerns in connection with the SJV-MDP. Members of the Soboba, Cahuilla, and Temecula (Pechanga) Bands were also notified of the upcoming fieldwork in e-mails sent on March 26, 2008.

On July 15–18, 2008, CRM TECH conducted a systematic field survey of the Project's area of potential effects (APE) or Project footprint. Nearly half of the Project footprint, including many of the proposed drainage lines and the proposed basins, could not be surveyed due to restricted access. **Figure 3.5-1, Proposed Project**, shows the proposed alignments and location of SJV-MDP facilities; **Figure 3.5-2, Area of Potential Effects,** identified the APE for the SJV-MDP facilities; and **Figure 3.5-3, Survey Coverage Area** illustrates the SJV-MDP facilities that were able to be physically surveyed and those that were not physically surveyed. **Table 3.5-A, Project Alignments Field Surveyed and Table 3.5-B, Project Alignments not Field Surveyed** list the SJV-MDP facilities that were able to be physically surveyed and those that were not physically surveyed, respectively.

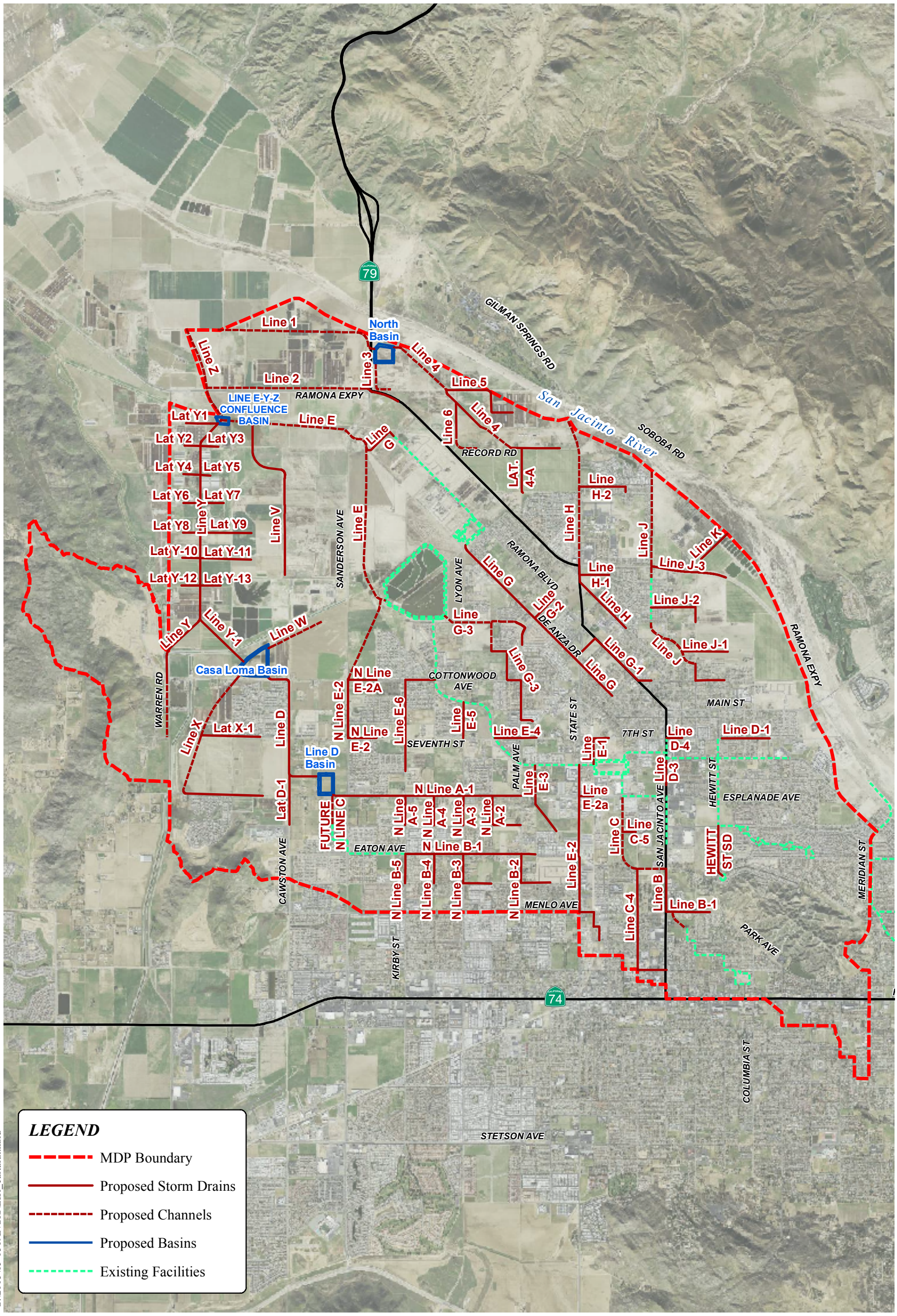
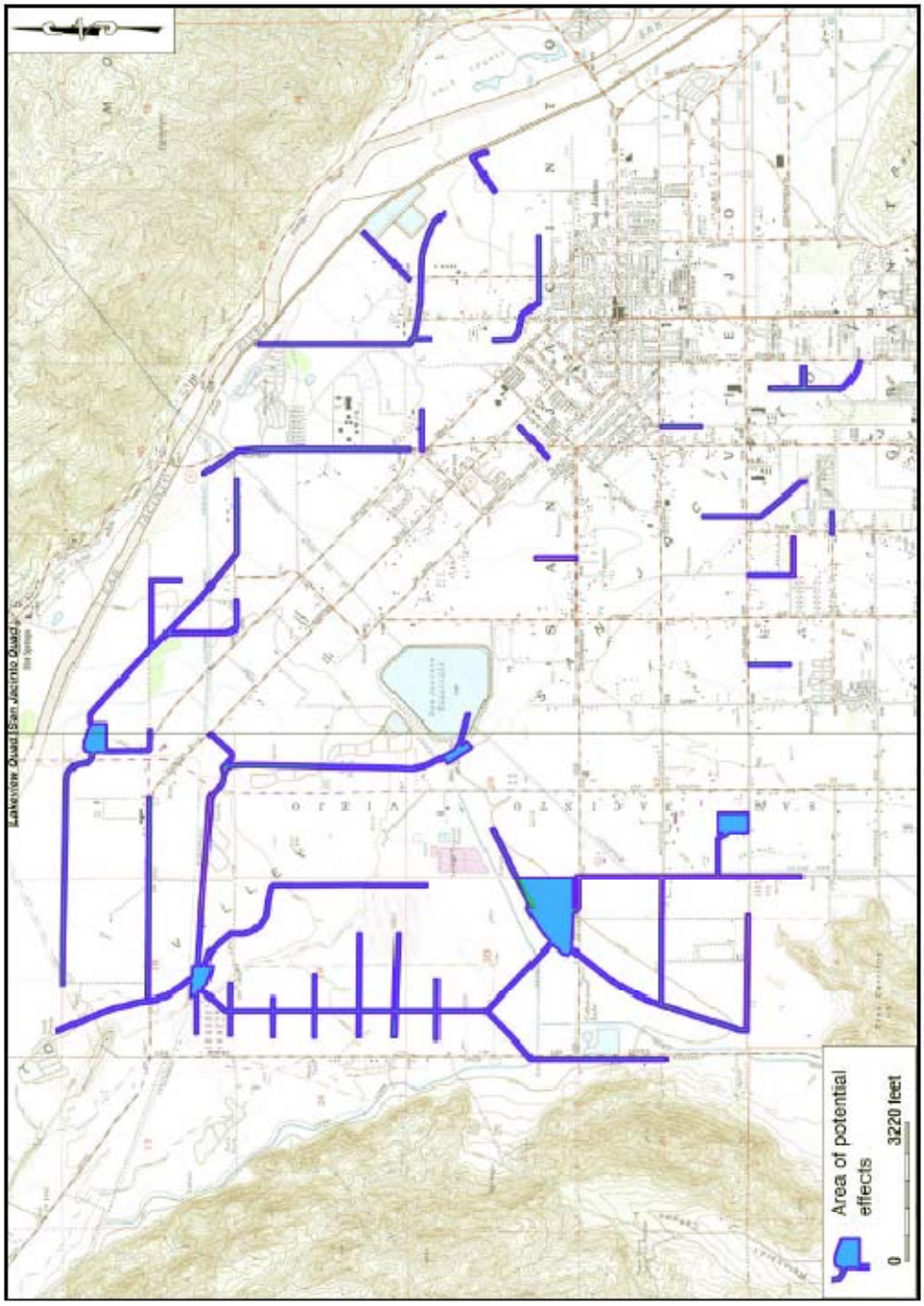


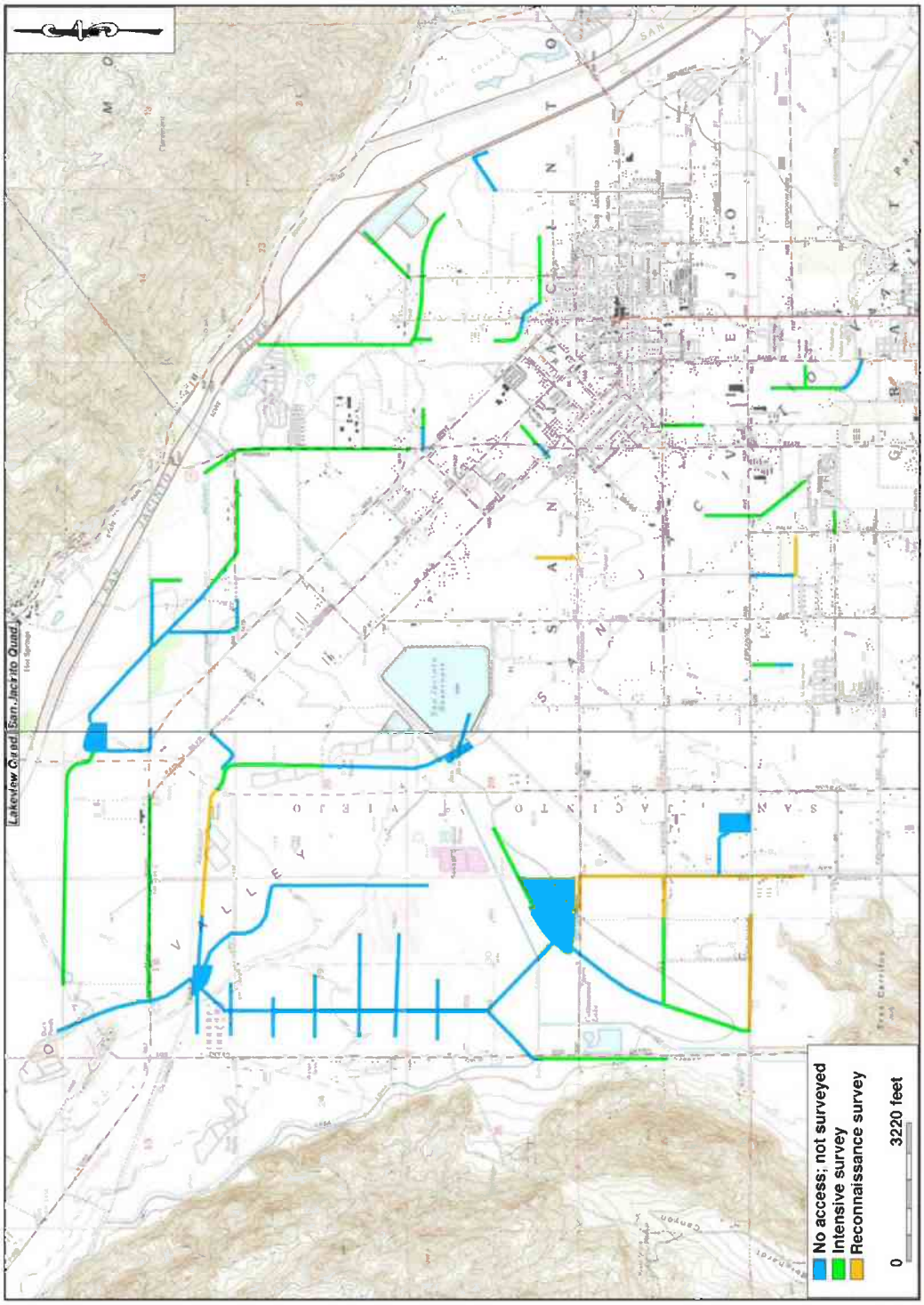
Figure 3.5-1
Proposed Project

Figure 3.5-2, Area of Potential Effect



Source: CRM TECH, *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 8, 2008 and *Paleontological Resources Assessment Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 13, 2008 (Appendices D.1 and D.2).

Figure 3.5-3, Survey Coverage Area



Source: CRM TECH, *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 8, 2008 and *Paleontological Resources Assessment Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 13, 2008 (Appendices D.1 and D.2).

All SJV-MDP facilities identified in **Table 3.5-A** were surveyed at either an intensive or a reconnaissance level to adequately cover the centerline and width of proposed construction along each facility segment. Facility alignments that follow existing roads, due to the highly disturbed nature of the rights-of-way, were surveyed at a reconnaissance level by driving along the route and examining the facility footprint for buildings, structures, objects, or features that appear to be more than 45 years old.

Table 3.5-A, Project Alignments Field Surveyed[1]

Project Alignment/Segment[2]	Alignment/Segment Type[2]	Type of Survey
Line C (northern portion of Line C, before the alignment curves east)	Channel	Intensive
Line C-5	Channel	Intensive
Line D	Storm Drain	Reconnaissance
Lateral D-1	Storm Drain	Reconnaissance
Line E (portions)	Channel	Intensive
Line E (portions)	Channel	Reconnaissance
Line E-1 (south of 7th Street)	Channel	Intensive
Line E-3 (north of West Esplanade)	Channel	Intensive
Line E-3 (south of West Esplanade)	Storm Drain	Intensive
Line E-5	Storm Drain	Reconnaissance
Line G-1 (portion northeast of North State Street)	Storm Drain	Intensive
Line H (north of Ramona Expressway)	Channel	Intensive
Line H-1 (eastern portions)	Storm Drain	Intensive
Line J (portions)	Channel	Intensive
Line J-3	Channel	Intensive
Line K	Channel	Intensive
Line W (northeast of Casa Loma Basin)	Channel	
Line X (7th Street to West Esplanade)	Channel	Intensive
Line X (portion in West Esplanade)	Storm Drain	Intensive
Lateral X-1	Storm Drain	Intensive
Line 1	Channel	Intensive

Project Alignment/Segment[2]	Alignment/Segment Type[2]	Type of Survey
Line 2	Channel	Intensive
Line 4 (eastern portions)	Channel and Storm Drain	Intensive
Line 5 (north and south oriented segment)	Storm Drain	Intensive
N Line A-2 (portion)	Storm Drain	Reconnaissance
N Line A-3 (portion)	Storm Drain	Intensive
N Line B-2 (west of Palm Avenue)	Storm Drain	Intensive

[1] As reported by CRM TECH in the project-specific Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report and Paleontological Resources Assessment Report (Appendices D.1 and D.2 of this Draft EIR).
[2] As indicated on Figure 3.5-1.

Undeveloped fields and other portions of the Project footprint with permissible access were surveyed at an intensive level by walking parallel transects along the facility alignment route at 10- to 15-meter (approx. 30- to 50-foot) intervals, covering a corridor that was wide enough to encompass the facility footprint. In this manner, the facility footprints that CRM TECH had access to were systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic periods (i.e., 45 years ago or older). Visibility on the native ground surface was excellent (90-100%) in most of the undeveloped areas due to the sparse vegetation, but was poor (0-40%) in developed areas due to the presence of landscaping and pavement.

Table 3.5-B, Project Alignments Not Field Surveyed[1]

Project Alignment/Segment[2]	Alignment/Segment Type[2]
Line Z	Channel
Line E-Y-Z Confluence Basin	Basin
Line V	Storm Drain
Line Y	Storm Drain
Lat Y-1	Storm Drain
Lat Y-2	Storm Drain
Lat Y-3	Storm Drain
Lat Y-4	Storm Drain
Lat Y-5	Storm Drain
Lat Y-6	Storm Drain
Lat Y-7	Storm Drain
Lat Y-8	Storm Drain
Lat Y-9	Storm Drain
Lat Y-10	Storm Drain
Lat Y-11	Storm Drain

Project Alignment/Segment[2]	Alignment/Segment Type[2]
Lat Y-12	Storm Drain
Lat Y-13	Storm Drain
Line Y	Storm Drain
Line Y-1	Storm Drain
Line X	Channel
Line D Basin	Basin
N Line	Storm Drain
Line C-4	Storm Drain
North Basin	Basin
Line 3	Channel
Line 4	Channel
Line 5	Storm Drain
Line 6	Storm Drain
Line E	Channel
Line G	Storm Drain
Line H-1	Storm Drain

[1] As reported by CRM TECH in the project-specific Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report and Paleontological Resources Assessment Report (Appendices D.1 and D.2 of this Draft EIR).
[2] As indicated on Figure 3.5-1.

The historical background research was conducted on the basis of published literature in local history and historic maps of the San Jacinto area. Among maps consulted for this study were the U.S. General Land Office's (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1865–1880, and the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) topographic maps dated 1901, 1942–1943 and 1953. These maps are collected at the Science Library of the University of California, Riverside, and the California Desert District of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, located in Moreno Valley (CRM-A, p. 8).

Paleontological Resources Assessment Report

Between March and September, 2008, CRM TECH performed a paleontological resource assessment of the project footprint. The records search service was provided by the San Bernardino County Museum, in Redlands, and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, in Los Angeles. These institutions maintain files of regional paleontological localities as well as supporting maps and documents. The records search results were used to identify any known paleontological localities within the project's footprint or in the general vicinity.

In addition to the records searches, a literature search was conducted using materials in the CRM TECH library, including unpublished reports produced during surveys of other properties in the area, and the personal library of CRM TECH geologist/paleontologist personnel.

The field survey of the Project's footprint was conducted on July 15–18, 2008, by CRM TECH paleontological surveyors at the same time the archaeological survey was conducted. The

portions of the Project footprint surveyed have been previously discussed in the "Historical/Archeological Resources Survey Report" section, above.

3.5.1.5 Cultural Resources Known in the Project Vicinity

One historic resource was identified within the Project APE – Site 33-015743, which is south of Seventh Street. Site 33-015743 is located within the boundaries of a segment of the former San Jacinto Valley Railway that dates to 1888. The site was previously recorded and evaluated for historical significance, and it appears to qualify as a "historical resource" as defined by CEQA (CRM-A, p. 8).

A vernacular commercial building at 301 N. State Street, known as "Rocios Party Rentals," is located within Project's footprint. Based on a review of historic aerial photographs, CRM-Tech was able to determine the structure was constructed after 1967, and therefore is not considered a potential historical resource (CRM-A, p. 18). No other potential historical resources were encountered within or adjacent to the Project footprint.

Outside the SJV-MDP boundaries but within a one-mile radius of the Project, EIC records show that a total of 106 previous cultural resource studies have been conducted on various tracts of land and linear features. Resources identified these studies and reported to the EIC include a total of 210 historical/archaeological sites and isolates (i.e., localities with fewer than three artifacts). The great majority of these cultural resources were buildings and built-environment features dating to the late 19th century or the early and mid-20th century, attesting to the relatively long history of settlement and land development activities in the San Jacinto area. Some historic-period refuse deposits have also been encountered during previous studies (CRM-A, p. 8).

No evidence of any prehistoric, i.e., Native American, cultural resources, were found within or adjacent to the Project Footprint (CRM-A, p. 18).

3.5.2 Comments Received in Response to the Notice of Preparation

A comment letter was received from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) the state agency designated for the protection of California's Native American cultural resources dated May 14, 2009. The NAHC comments are summarized below and the comment letter is included in Appendix A.

The NAHC recommends the following actions:

- Contact the appropriate California Historic Resources Information Center.
- If an archaeological inventory survey is required, provide a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
- Use of Native American Monitors when professional archaeologists (or the equivalent) are employed by project proponents.
- Correspondence with the list (attached to the comment letter) of Native American contacts be prepared.

- Include mitigation measures identifying plan provisions for the identification, evaluation, and disposition of accidentally discovered archaeological resources.
- Include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains or unmarked cemeteries in mitigation plan.
- Consider avoidance, if significant cultural resources are discovered during the course of the project implementation.

This section of the Draft EIR addresses NAHC's comments by providing a summary of the *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, San Jacinto Master Drain Plan*, which is included in its entirety in Appendix D.1 of this document. In preparing the *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report*, the California Historic Resources Information Center, NAHC, and Native American contacts as provided by the NAHC were contacted as summarized in this section. Mitigation measures, **MM Cultural 2a and 2b,** require the proponent for any specific SJV-MDC facility to notify local Native American tribes prior to ground-disturbing activities and allow tribal monitors to be present during grading, excavation, and other ground-disturbing activities. Mitigation measure, **MM Cultural 2c,** includes provisions for the accidental discovery of archaeological resources.

3.5.3 Thresholds of Significance

San Jacinto has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. However, San Jacinto's "Environmental Checklist" for the subject project (see Appendix A of this Draft EIR) as well as Hemet's and RCFCWCD's environmental checklists indicates that impacts to cultural resources may be considered potentially significant if the project would:

- cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines;
- cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines; or
- directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature.

3.5.4 Related Regulations

The treatment of cultural resources is governed by federal, state, and local laws and guidelines. There are specific criteria for determining whether prehistoric and historic sites or objects are significant and/or protected by law. Federal and state significance criteria generally focus on the resource's integrity and uniqueness, its relationship to similar resources, and its potential to contribute important information to scholarly research. Some resources that do not meet federal significance criteria may be considered significant by state criteria. The laws and regulations seek to mitigate impacts on significant prehistoric or historic resources. The federal and state laws and guidelines for protecting historic resources are summarized below.

3.5.4.1 Federal Regulations

National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as the official federal list of cultural resources that have been nominated by state offices for their historical significance at the local, state, or national level. Properties listed in the NRHP, or "determined eligible" for listing, must meet certain criteria for historical significance and possess integrity of form, location, and setting. Significance is determined by four aspects of American history or prehistory recognized by the NRHP Criteria (NPS):

- association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history; or
- association with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction, or
- has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history.

Eligible properties must meet at least one of the above criteria and exhibit integrity. The integrity of a subject property is measured by the degree to which the resource retains its historical properties and conveys its historical character. Integrity also depends on the degree to which the original fabric has been retained, and the reversibility of any changes to the property.

Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

3.5.4.2 State Regulations

California Register of Historic Resources (Public Resources Code Section 5020, et seq.)

State law also protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources in CEQA documents. A cultural resource is an important historical resource if it meets any of the criteria found in Section 15064.5(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. These criteria are nearly identical to those listed above for the NRHP. The California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) is maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Properties listed, or formally designated eligible for listing, on the NRHP are automatically listed on the CRHR, as are state Landmarks and Points of Interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

The CRHR includes historic resources of importance in accordance with the following designation criteria:

- associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
- associated with the lives of people important to local, California or national history.
- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possess high artistic values.
- has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or nation.

Public Resources Code (Section 5097.98)

California Senate Bill 297 (1982), which is codified in Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code (PRC) addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project; and establishes the NAHC to resolve disputes regarding the disposition of such remains. It has been incorporated into Section 15064.5(e) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

3.5.5 Project Design Considerations

No specific designs were considered that would avoid or reduce potential impacts to cultural resources. The type, size, and locations of the proposed drainage facilities are limited by the hydrologic constraints and existing development within the SJV-MDP. The proposed Project is intended to identify those facilities needed to provide flood protection to existing and future development as the Project area develops in accordance with the land use policies of the cities of San Jacinto and Hemet and, for the unincorporated territory, the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan.

3.5.6 Environmental Impacts Before Mitigation

Threshold: *The project would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5.*

Significant effects upon historic structures or features are evaluated by determining the presence or absence of historic status with respect to the feature in question, and then determining the potential for project implementation to affect the structure or feature if it possesses historic status. The basis for this analysis is in the historical/archeological resources survey performed by CRM TECH for the project (included in Appendix D.1).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act mandates that federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings upon historic properties and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on such properties (36 CFR 800.1(a)). Similarly, CEQA establishes that *…a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the*

significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment (PRC §21084.1). *Substantial adverse change means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired* (PRC §5020.1(q)).

The "Historical/Archeological Resources Survey Report" (previously discussed in Section 3.5.1.4) provides background information on the archaeological and historical resources within the portions of the Project footprint that could be surveyed. One historic resource, Site 33-015743, is within the boundaries of a segment of the former San Jacinto Valley Railway that dates to 1888.

According to the conceptual alignments and facilities identified in the SJV-MDP, Project-related activities at this location will be limited to trenching for the installation of an underground storm drain within the railway ROW. If construction within the railway ROW is limited to underground facilities, and does not include the intersection of any facilities with the rail line or associated railway structures, the Project will not result in the destruction or relocation of the railway nor will it alter the basic characteristics of the site. Therefore, the proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of Site 33-015743, the only historical resource encountered in the portions of the Project footprint studied (CRM-A, p. 25).

The alignments are conceptual at this time. If at final design of any SJV-MDP facilities in the vicinity of the railway, the conceptual plans change to include construction of above-ground structures or the removal of existing tracks or other railroad-related structures within the ROW, this would be considered a modification of the Project for which subsequent CEQA analysis (i.e., initial study, negative declaration, addendum to the EIR, subsequent EIR, supplemental EIR) will be required.

A vernacular commercial building at 301 N. State Street, known as "Rocios Party Rentals," is located within Project's footprint. A review of historic aerial photographs, it post-dates 1967 and therefore is not considered a potential historical resource and no mitigation is required. No other potential historical resources were encountered within or adjacent to the project footprint during this study.

As listed in **Table 3.5-B** and illustrated on **Figure 3.5-1**, portions of the Project footprint were inaccessible to field survey personnel and could not be surveyed; thus, it is possible that historical resources could be present on the portions of the Project's footprint that could not be surveyed and a field survey will be required for these facilities per mitigation measure **MM Cultural 2a**. Therefore, the implementation of mitigation measures **MM Cultural 2a to 2c** are required to reduce potential impacts to historical resources to **less than significant**.

Threshold: *The project would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5.*

Numerous prehistoric—i.e., Native American—archaeological sites have been found in the area consisting of various amounts of habitation debris such as: ceramic shards, chippedstone and groundstone tools, debitage, midden soils, fire-affected rock, and sometimes human remains.

Bedrock milling features and, less frequently, petroglyphs, have been found in the San Jacinto Valley in areas where bedrock outcrops are present. However, no evidence of any prehistoric archaeological cultural resources was found within or adjacent to that portion of the Project footprint that could be surveyed (CRM-A, p. 18).

The NAHC reported that the sacred lands record search identified the presence of Native American cultural resources within the project's boundary and suggested the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians and 10 other local Native American representatives be contacted for further information. CRM TECH initiated correspondence contacts of the 11 organizations on the referral list provided by NAHC, in addition to the to the Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians, Morongo Band of Indians, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians and Temecula Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, were also contacted.

As of May 2009, representatives of the Cahuilla Band, Soboba Band, and Temecula Band responded to CRM TECH's request for comment. The Soboba Band commented directly to San Jacinto in June 2007 regarding this Project and requested a Native American monitor (from the tribe) be present during all Project-related ground-disturbing activities and the tribe be involved in all future consultations between the Project proponent and the Lead Agency. This request was reiterated in correspondence (dated April 14, 2008) from the Soboba Band's Cultural Resources Coordinator to CRM-TECH.

In a letter dated March 28, 2008, the Temecula Band identified the Project area as a part of the tribe's ancestral lands, requested further consultation with the Project proponent and Lead Agency, and copies of all archaeological documentation pertaining to the Project.

In a telephone conversation on March 27, 2008, the Cultural Resources Coordinator for the Cahuilla Band of Indians stated that the tribe had concerns regarding Native American cultural resources within the Project's boundary, and that members of the tribe may be interested in a site visit. Subsequent to this conversation, the Cultural Resources Coordinator left his position with the Cahuilla Band and CRM TECH contacted the Chairperson of the Cahuilla Band, who requested to review the inquiry letter for the project. CRM TECH contacted the Chairperson of the Cahuilla Band again in July 2008 concerning the field survey results and a possible site visit. At that time, the Chairperson of the Cahuilla Band replied that he would contact CRM TECH directly if Project's footprint warranted a site visit. As of May 2009, CRM TECH has not heard back any member of the Cahuilla Band. Throughout the course of the Native American consultation, no specific sites of Native American cultural concern were identified within the Project boundary by any of the tribal representatives contacted.

Based on the results of the records searches, Native American consultations, and field surveys, no archaeological resources were identified for those SJV-MDP facilities that were surveyed (see Figure 3.5-1 and Table 3.5-A). However, since portions of the Project footprint were unable to be surveyed due to restricted access and Native American monitoring has been requested, implementation of mitigation measures **MM Cultural 2a through MM Cultural 2c are required to ensure that impacts to archaeological resources are less than significant**.

Threshold: *The project would directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature.*

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology issued a set of standard guidelines intended to assist paleontologists to assess and mitigate any adverse effects/impacts to nonrenewable paleontological resources. The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology defined three potential categories of potential paleontological sensitivity for geologic units that might be impacted by the proposed Project. These categories are high, low, and undetermined.

- High: Geologic units assigned to this category are considered to have a high potential for containing significant nonrenewable vertebrate, invertebrate, or plant fossils because fossils have been recovered nearby from the same geologic formation.
- Low: Geologic units are assigned to this category when few significant nonrenewable vertebrate, invertebrate, or plant fossils have been recovered from the same unit nearby.
- Undetermined: Geologic units are assigned to this category when there is little or no past history available to base a sensitivity assessment on.

The results of the Paleontological Resources Assessment (Appendix D.2) indicate that the surficial soils within the Project's footprint consist of alluvium of Recent (Holocene) age and have a low potential for significant nonrenewable fossil remains. However, these younger alluvial sediments are of variable thickness and are known to rest directly on top of older Pleistocene-age sediments, which have a high potential to yield significant vertebrate fossil remains. Therefore, the proposed Project's potential to impact paleontological resources is determined to be low in the surficial alluvial sediments but high in the subsurface Pleistocene-age soils.

The thickness of the younger sediments may be determined from the geotechnical soil borings, should they be available at the onset of grading or trenching activities. Previous studies in the area reveal that fossils recovered from similar sediments have been deeper than 10 feet, but that some can be found as shallow as three feet deep, especially nearer the base of hills. Since Project-related excavations will be greater than three feet in depth, mitigation measures, **MM Cultural 3 through MM Cultural 6, which relate to excavation and earthmoving activities, are required to ensure reduced potential impacts with respect to paleontological impacts to less than significant**.

3.5.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Although the technical studies completed for the Project determined that it was highly unlikely that the portions of the Project footprint surveyed contain significant cultural resources, apart from the remaining historical segment of the former San Jacinto Valley Railway that will not be impacted by the Project as proposed, the following mitigation measures are required to prevent potential impacts to undiscovered archaeological resources from becoming significant.

MM Cultural 1: A paleontological resources field survey (or surveys) shall be completed prior to the earlier of issuance of a grading permit or construction of any SJV-MDP facility subject to further CEQA analysis. If the results of such survey (or surveys) identify the presence of potentially significant paleontological resources, avoidance or other appropriate measures (such as excavation, analysis, and interpretation of resources) potentially leading to curation in perpetuity in a facility that meets the standards of the State of California Guidelines for the Curation of Archaeological Collections (OHP 1993) and 36 CFR 79, shall be implemented.

MM Cultural 2a: Prior to the earlier of issuance of a grading permit or construction of any SJV-MDP facility subject to further CEQA analysis, the San Jacinto Public Works Department, Hemet Public Works Department, or RCFCWCD shall require the Project applicant to commission an assessment of the potential for archeological and cultural resources to be performed by a qualified archaeologist in conjunction with recognized Native American tribes, including the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians (Soboba), in order to determine the presence and extent of any such resources within the Project area and evaluate the significance of such resources. The assessment shall include a NAHC and CHRIS records search, a Phase I walkover survey, and preparation of an archaeological report containing the results of this assessment. Phase II archaeological evaluations will be completed prior to project approval if recommended in the assessment.

MM Cultural 2b: The San Jacinto Public Works Department, Hemet Public Works Department, or RCFCWCD shall enter into a Treatment and Disposition Agreement (TDA) with Soboba to address treatment and disposition of archaeological and cultural resources and human remains associated with Soboba that may be uncovered or otherwise discovered during construction within the jurisdiction of the San Jacinto Public Works Department, Hemet Public Works Department, or RCFCWCD. The TDA may establish provisions for tribal monitors. Following execution of the TDA by the San Jacinto Public Works Department or Hemet Public Works Department and Soboba, the TDA will be incorporated by reference into individual grading permits for portions of the Project that are within the jurisdiction of San Jacinto Public Works Department or Hemet Public Works Department; TDAs executed between RCFCWCD and Soboba will be incorporated into the construction specifications.

MM Cultural 2c: If the archaeological/cultural resources assessment described in **MM Cultural 2a** demonstrates the potential for archaeological/cultural resources to occur on the Project site, tribal monitors, including those from Soboba, may be allowed to monitor, at such tribe's sole cost and expense, all grading, excavation, and ground-disturbing activities, including further surveys. Following the agreement of the San Jacinto Public Works Department, Hemet Public Works Department, or RCFCWCD, the designated archaeologist, the tribal monitor, and any applicable responsible or trustee agencies, grading, excavation, ground-disturbing activities shall be halted temporarily, and redirected in the event that any archaeological/cultural resources are discovered, in order to evaluate the significance of said archaeological/cultural resources. Any artifacts collected or recovered shall be cleaned, identified, catalogued, analyzed, and prepared for curation at an appropriate repository with permanent retrievable storage to allow for additional research in the future. Site records or site record updates (as appropriate) shall be

prepared and submitted to the Eastern Information Center as a permanent record of the discovery.

MM Cultural 3: Earth-moving activities encountering soils that are identified as Pleistocene-age or older alluvium, by the soils engineer, shall be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor. Continuous monitoring shall be restricted to undisturbed older alluvium, which might be present below the surface. To avoid construction delays, the monitor shall be prepared to quickly salvage fossils, as they are unearthed. The monitor shall remove samples of sediments that are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. The monitor shall have the authority to temporarily halt or divert grading equipment to allow for the removal of abundant or large specimens.

MM Cultural 4: All recovered specimens shall be prepared and stabilized for identification and permanent preservation, including the washing of sediment samples to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.

MM Cultural 5: Identification and curation of recovered specimens into an established accredited museum repository with permanent retrievable paleontological storage shall be required. Mitigation of adverse impacts to significant paleontological resources is not complete until the curation process has been fully completed and documented.

MM Cultural 6: Preparation of a report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of specimens shall be required. The submittal of the report to the Lead Agency and the curation of recovered specimens into an established, accredited museum repository would signify the completion of the mitigation program.

3.5.8 Summary of Environmental Effects after Mitigation Measures Are Implemented

Impacts related to historic and archaeological resources were found to be less than significant within the portions of the Project footprint surveyed (**Table 3.5-A and Figure 3.5-3**). However, if at final design of any SJV-MDP facilities in the vicinity of the railway, the conceptual plans change to include construction of above-ground structures or the removal of existing tracks or other railroad-related structures within the ROW, this would be considered a modification to the Project, for which subsequent CEQA analysis would be required**.** Mitigation measures **MM Cultural 1 and MM Cultural 2a**, require archaeological and paleontological field surveys be performed on any facility footprint not previously surveyed prior to construction to ensure that no impacts to unknown archaeological or paleontological resources result from Project implementation. Since the project area falls within the bounds of the Soboba Band's Tribal Traditional Use Areas, mitigation measure **MM Cultural 2a, 2b, and 2c,** require Native American tribes, including Soboba, to be notified prior to any ground-disturbing work on Project facilities that the field survey required per **MM Cultural 1** identified as having the potential to contain archaeological or cultural resources. In the event that unanticipated buried cultural resources are encountered, Mitigation measure **MM Cultural 2c,** requires construction in the

vicinity of the find to be redirected until a qualified archaeologist determines an appropriate course of action.

No unique geologic feature is known to exist and no fossils have been documented in the Project footprint. However, the Project footprint is underlain by deposits that could potentially have a high sensitivity for paleontological resources. Paleontological specimens taken from rock similar to that of the project area have, in the past, contributed to scientific understanding of the distant past and, therefore, could be considered unique resources. Consequently, ground-disturbing activities resulting from construction of the proposed project could damage or destroy previously undocumented unique fossils, if located within the project footprint. Mitigation measures **MM Cultural 3 through MM Cultural 6,** outline specific measures that will be taken if certain soil types or any artifacts are unearthed during construction activities.

Implementation of these mitigation measures will reduce potentially significant impacts upon historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources to a less than significant level.

3.6 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Potential impacts related to:

- the creation of a significant hazard to the public or environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials;
- the emission or handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school;
- public and private airport-related safety hazards for people residing or working in the project area;
- impairment of the implementation of or physical interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan;
- and the exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires;

were all found to be less than significant in the Initial Study/NOP prepared for the Project (Appendix A) and are not further discussed in this DEIR. The focus of the following analysis is related to the potential impacts associated with:

- the creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment; and
- the creation of a significant hazard to the public or environment resulting from the project being located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites.

In addition to other documents, the following references were used in the preparation of this section of the DEIR:

- Environmental Data Resources, Inc., *EDR DataMap Corridor Study, San Jacinto MDP Update (Inquiry Number 01981156.1r)*, July 18, 2007. (Appendix E)

3.6.1 Setting

Pursuant to Government Code 65962.5, environmental regulatory database lists were reviewed to identify and locate properties with known hazardous substance contamination within the proposed project area. Four state agencies are required to provide lists of facilities, which have contributed, harbor, or are responsible for environmental contamination within their jurisdiction. The four state agencies that are required to provide these lists to the Secretary for Environmental Protection include: the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the State Department for Health Services (DHS), the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). The Secretary for Environmental Protection then takes each of the four respective agency lists and forms one list, referred to as the

Hazardous Waste and Substances List, which is made available to every city and/or county in the state of California.

The DTSC maintains lists of: hazardous waste facilities subject to corrective action, land designated as hazardous waste property, sites on the Abandoned Site Assessment Program, and sites listed pursuant to Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code. DTSC also maintains records of hazardous waste disposals on public land. The DHS maintains lists of all public drinking water wells that contain detectable levels of organic contaminants and wells that are subject to special water analysis. The SWRCB maintains lists of: unauthorized release reports for underground storage tanks, solid waste disposal facilities from which there is a migration of hazardous waste, and all cease-and-desists orders issued after January 1, 1986 concerning hazardous waste discharges. The CIWMB maintains lists of solid waste disposal facilities from which there is a known migration of hazardous waste.

The Hazardous Waste and Substances List has been reviewed to identify hazardous sites that may affect the proposed project. A search of available environmental records was conducted by Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) for documented hazardous material sites, like those referred to in Government Code Section 65962.5. The records search was conducted for the project area, and within one mile of the project boundary. The databases that were searched by EDR are included, with descriptions, in **Table 3.6-A, Databases Searched**.

Table 3.6-A, Databases Searched

Jurisdiction	Database Reference	Brief Database Description and/or Type of Data Stored in Database
Federal	NPL	National Priority List
	Proposed NPL	Proposed National Priority List Sites
	Delisted NPL	National Priority List Deletions
	NPL LIENS	Federal Superfund Liens
	CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (No Further Remedial Action Planned) Archived sites are sites that have been removed and archived from the inventory of CERCLIS sites. Archived status indicates that, to the best of EPA's knowledge, assessment at a site has been completed and that EPA has determined no further steps will be taken to list this site on the National Priorities List (NPL), unless information indicates this decision was not appropriate or other considerations require a recommendation for listing at a later time. This decision does not necessarily mean that there is no hazard associated with a given site; it only means that, based upon available information, the location is not judged to be a potential NPL site.
	CERCLIS-NFRAP	
	CORRACTS	Corrective Action Report
	RCRA TSDF	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information – Treatment Storage and/or Disposal Facility

Jurisdiction	Database Reference	Brief Database Description and/or Type of Data Stored in Database
	RCRA Lg. Quan. Gen.	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act RCRAInfo is EPA's comprehensive information system, providing access to data supporting the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of 1984. RCRAInfo replaces the data recording and reporting abilities of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS). The database includes selective information on sites which generate, transport, store, treat and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Conditionally exempt small quantity generators (CESQGs) generate less than 100 kg of hazardous waste, or less than 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month. Small quantity generators (SQGs) generate between 100 kg and 1,000 kg of hazardous waste per month Large quantity generators generate over 1,000 kilograms (kg) of hazardous waste, or over 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month. Transporters are individuals or entities that move hazardous waste from the generator offsite to a facility that can recycle, treat, store, or dispose of the waste. TSDFs treat, store, or dispose of the waste.
	RCRA Sm. Quan. Gen.	
	FINDS	Facilities Index System Contains both facility information and "pointers" to other sources of information that contain more detail. These include: RCRIS; Permit Compliance System (PCS); Aerometric Information Retrieval System (AIRS); FATES (FIFRA [Federal Insecticide Fungicide Rodenticide Act] and TSCA Enforcement System, FTTS [FIFRA/TSCA Tracking System]; CERCLIS; DOCKET (Enforcement Docket used to manage and track information on civil judicial enforcement cases for all environmental statutes); Federal Underground Injection Control (FURS); Federal Reporting Data System (FRDS); Surface Impoundments (SIA); TSCA Chemicals in Commerce Information System (CICS); PADS; RCRA-J (medical waste transporters/disposers); TRIS; and TSCA. The source of this database is the U.S. EPA/NTIS.
	ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
	HMIRS	Hazardous Materials Information Reporting System
	US ENG CONTROLS	Engineering Controls sites list
	US INST CONTROL	Sites with Institutional Controls
	DOD	Department of Defense sites
	FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
	US BROWNFIELDS	A listing of Brownfield sites
	CONSENT	Superfund (CERCLA) Consent Decrees
	ROD	Records of Decision
	UMTRA	Uranium Mill Tailings Sites
	ODI	Open Dump Inventory
	TRIS	Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System
	TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
	FTTS	FIFRA/ TSCA Tracking System – FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, & Rodenticide Act)/TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act)
	SSTS	Section 7 Tracking Systems
	LIENS 2	CERCLA Lien Information
	RADINFO	Radiation Information Database
	US CDL	Clandestine Drug Labs
	HIST FTTS	FIFRA/TSCA Tracking System Administrative Case Listing

Jurisdiction	Database Reference	Brief Database Description and/or Type of Data Stored in Database
	ICIS	Integrated Compliance Information System
	LUCIS	Land Use Control Information System
	DOT OPS	Incident and Accident Data
	PADS	PCB Activity Database System
	MLTS	Material Licensing Tracking System
	MINES	Mines Master Index File
	RAATS	RCRA Administrative Action tracking System
State and Local	Hist Cal-Sites	Historical Calsites Database
	CA BOND EXP.PLAN	Bond Expenditure Plan
	Toxic Pits	Toxic Pits Cleanup Act Sites
	SWF/LF	Solid Waste Information System
	SLIC	Statewide SLIC Cases – SLIC (Spills, Leaks, Investigations and Clean-ups)
	LIENS	Environmental Liens Listing
	CHMIRS	California Hazardous Material Incident Report System
	DEED	Deed Restriction Listing
	WIP	Well Investigation Program Case Listing
	CDL	Clandestine Drug Labs
	RESPONSE	State Response Sites
	SCH	This category contains proposed and existing school sites that are being evaluated by DTSC for possible hazardous materials contamination. In some cases, these properties may be listed in the CalSites category depending on the level of threat to public health and safety or the environment they pose.
	WDS	Waste Discharge System California Water Resources Control Board.
	WMUDS/SWAT	Waste Management Unit Database System/Surface Water Assessment Team Used for program tracking and inventory of waste management units. The source is the State Water Resources Control Board.
	CORTESE	Government Code Section 65962.5, commonly referred to as the "Cortese List" (named after the Legislator who authored the legislation that enacted it). This database identifies public drinking water wells with detectable levels of contamination, hazardous substance sites selected for remedial action, sites with known toxic material identified through the abandoned site assessment program, sites with USTs having a reportable release and all solid waste disposal facilities from which there is known migration. The source is the California Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Emergency Information.
	SWRCY	Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities A listing of recycling facilities in California.
	LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank The Leaking Underground Storage Tank Incident Reports contain an inventory of reported leaking underground storage tank incidents. The data come from the State Water Resources Control Board Leaking Underground Storage Tank Information System.
	CA FID	Facility Inventory Database Contains active and inactive underground storage tank locations. The source is the State Water Resource Control Board.
	UST	Underground Storage Tank Contains registered USTs. USTs are regulated under Subtitle I of the Resource

Jurisdiction	Database Reference	Brief Database Description and/or Type of Data Stored in Database
		Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The data come from the State Water Resources Control Board's Hazardous Substance Storage Container Database.
	HIST UST	Historical UST Contains a database of historical USTs.
	AST	Aboveground Storage Tank Contains registered ASTs. The data come from the State Water Resources Control Board's Hazardous Substance Storage Container Database.
	SWEEPS	Statewide Environmental Evaluation and Planning System This underground storage tank listing was updated and maintained by a company contacted by the SWRCB in the early 1980's. The listing is no longer updated or maintained. The local agency is the contact for more information on a site on the SWEEPS list.
	NOTIFY 65	Notify 65 records contain facility notifications about any release that could impact drinking water and thereby expose the public to a potential health risk. The data come from the State Water Resources Control Board's Proposition 65 database.
	VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program Contains low threat level properties with either confirmed or unconfirmed releases and the project proponents have request that DTSC oversee investigation and/or cleanup activities and have agreed to provide coverage for DTSC's costs.
	DRYCLEANERS	A list of drycleaner related facilities that have EPA ID numbers. These are facilities with certain SIC codes: power laundries, family and commercial; garment pressing and cleaners' agents; linen supply; coin-operated laundries and cleaning; dry cleaning plants except rugs; carpet and upholstery cleaning; industrial launderers; laundry and garment services.
	HAZNET	The data is extracted from the copies of hazardous waste manifests received each year by the DTSC. The annual volume of manifests is typically 700,000-1,000,000 annually, representing approximately 350,000-500,000 shipments. Data from non-California manifests & continuation sheets are not included at the present time. Data are from the manifests submitted without correction, and therefore many contain some invalid values for data elements such as generator ID, TSD ID, waste category, and disposal method. The source is the Department of Toxic Substance Control.
	EMI	Emissions Inventory Data Toxics and criteria pollutant emissions data collected by the ARB and local air pollution agencies
	ENVIROSTOR	The Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC's) Site Mitigation and Brownfields Reuse Program's (SMBRP's) EnviroStor database identifies sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to investigate further. The database includes the following site types: Federal Superfund sites (National Priorities List (NPL)); State Response, including Military Facilities and State Superfund; Voluntary Cleanup; and School sites. EnviroStor provides similar information to the information that was available in CalSites, and provides additional site information, including, but not limited to, identification of formerly-contaminated properties that have been released for reuse, properties where environmental deed restrictions have been recorded to prevent inappropriate land uses, and risk characterization information that is used to assess potential impacts to public health and the environment at contaminated sites.
Tribal	INDIAN RESERV	Indian Reservations
	INDIAN LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tanks on Indian Land
	INDIAN UST	Underground Storage Tanks on Indian Land

The DTSC also tracks school sites, which appear on some of its lists. Sites identified within one mile of the proposed Project were evaluated for their potential to be encountered and/or unearthed during construction of SJV-MDP facilities. Sixty-four (64) sites were recorded on 21 database lists, but often individual sites are included on multiple lists. Of the 64 recorded sites, 27 are adjacent to proposed Project facilities as shown on **Figure 3.6-1, Project Alignment and EDR Database Search Results** and described in **Table 3.6-B, EDR Database Search Results**. **Table 3.6-B** starts on the page following **Figure 3.6-1**. EDR's full report listing all of the identified sites is included as Appendix E to this DEIR.

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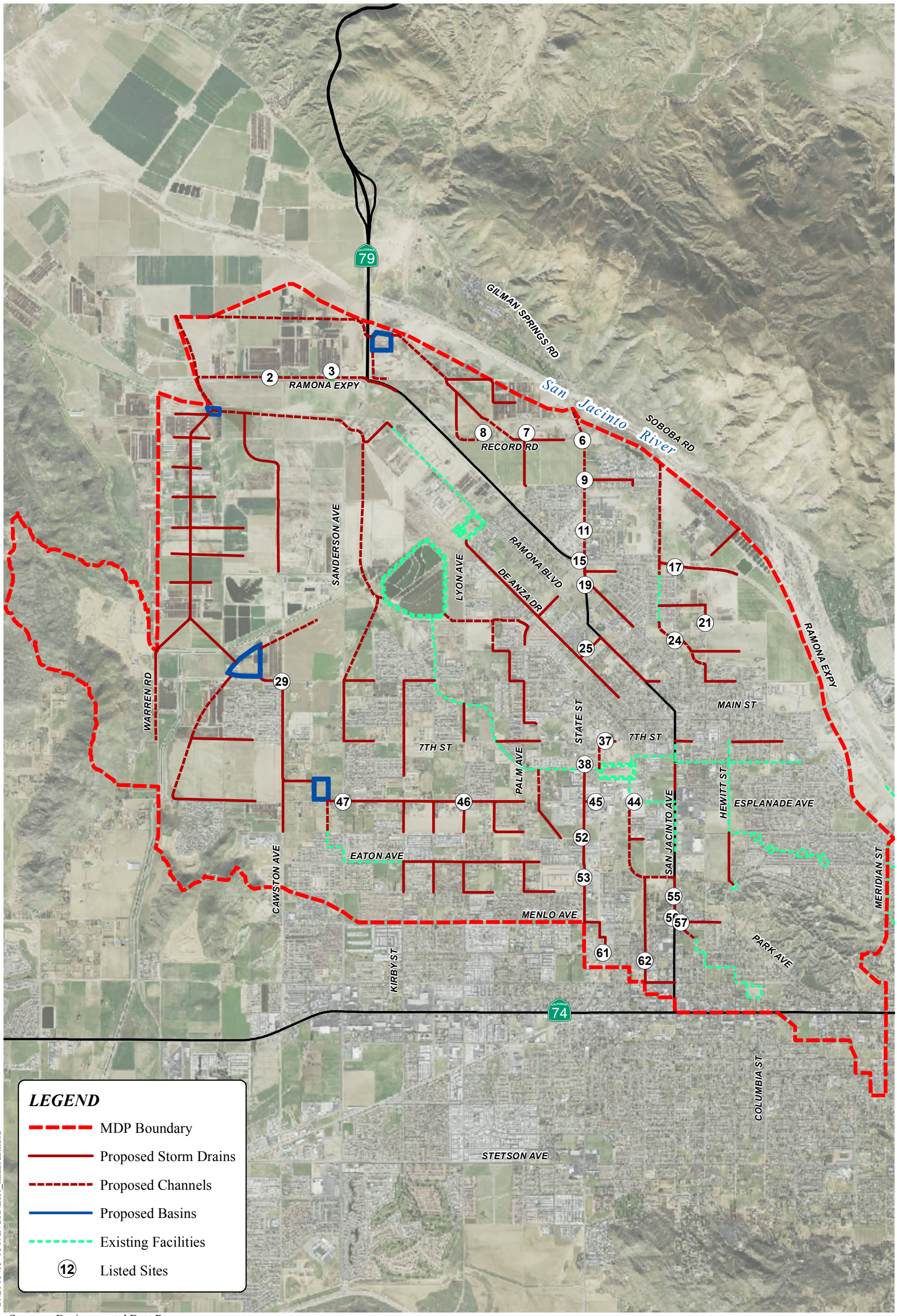

Sources: Environmental Data Resources, July 2007; Digital Globe, April 2008.

Figure 3.6-1
Project Alignment and EDR Database Search Results

Table 3.6-B, EDR Database Search Results

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
2	Ed Vander Woude Dairy	36580 Ramona Expressway San Jacinto, CA 92582	CA WDS	Facility status is active. Primary waste type is nonhazardous storm water runoff; secondary waste type is nonhazardous solid wastes.
3	San Jacinto River Ranch	37300 Ramona Expressway San Jacinto, CA 92383	HIST UST	The site has historical records of three underground storage tanks; no leaks reported.
6	Country Lake Mobil Home Park	21100 State Street San Jacinto, CA 92583	HAZNET	This site has "unspecified aqueous solution" waste that is disposed of through a recycler program.
	Country Lake Mobil Home Park	21100 State Hwy 79 San Jacinto, CA 92583	HAZNET	This site has various types of waste that are disposed of in two ways: "other inorganic solid waste," "liquids with pH $\leq$ 2" and "off-specification, aged, or surplus organics" are disposed of via transfer stations; "other organic solids" are disposed of via landfills.
7	R & J Haringa Dairy	38980 Record Rd San Jacinto, CA 92583	CA WDS	Facility status is active. Primary waste type is nonhazardous storm water runoff; secondary waste type is nonhazardous solid wastes.
8	Harold R. Smith	38670 Record Rd San Jacinto, CA, 92383	HIST UST	This site has historical records of one underground storage tank; no leaks reported.
9	Mt San Jacinto Community College	1499 N. State St San Jacinto, CA 92583	UST	This site was listed because of an existing underground storage tank.
11	San Jacinto New Elementary School No. 3	Community College/State Street San Jacinto, CA 92583	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	This site was listed on the SCH database because it contains a proposed or existing school and is being evaluated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control for possible hazardous materials contamination; and because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further. This site was included on the ENVIROSTOR list because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further; the listing's confirmed description is "no contaminants found" and the status is "no further action."

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
15	Chevron Station No. 200374	720 W. Ramona Expressway San Jacinto, CA. 92582	RCRAInfo, FINDS, HAZNET, UST, CA FID UST, SWEEPS UST	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities. This site was included on the HAZNET list because it has various types of waste that are disposed of in two ways: "aqueous solution with less than 10% total organic residues" and "unspecified oil-containing waste" are disposed of via recyclers; "unspecified organic liquid mixtures" are disposed of via transfer stations. This site was included on the UST list because of an existing underground storage tank. This site was included on the CA FID UST list which contains active and inactive underground storage tank locations. This site was included on the SWEEPS UST underground storage tanks listing; however, that list is no longer updated or maintained.
17	Fastrip Store #12-777	692 San Jacinto Ave San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, CORTEST, LOS ANGELES CO. HMS	This site was included on the LUST database listing because it has experienced a leaking underground storage tank. This site was included on the CORTESE list which identifies public drinking water wells with detectable levels of contamination, hazardous substance sites selected for remedial action, sites with known toxic material identified through the abandoned site assessment program, sites with USTs having a reportable release, and all solid waste disposal facilities from which there is known migration. There was no information available on this site's LOS ANGELES CO. HMS database listing.
	Raymond DeAngelo	748 San Jacinto Ave San Jacinto, CA 92508	HAZNET	This site has waste classified as "oxygenated solvents (acetone, butanol, ethyl acetate, etc.)" that is disposed of through a recycler program.

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
19	GTE California San Jacinto Central Office	699 N. State St San Jacinto, CA 92583	UST	The site was listed because of an existing underground storage tank.
	Verizon California Inc. San Jacinto	699 N. State St San Jacinto, CA 92583	UST	The site was listed because of an existing underground storage tank.
21	Proposed Alessandro Avenue ES	22500 Alessandro Ave Unincorporated Riverside, CA 92583	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	This site was included on the SCH list because it contains a proposed or existing school and is being evaluated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control for possible hazardous materials contamination. The site was included on the ENVIROSTOR list because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further; the listing indicates past uses for the site include "agricultural – livestock, agricultural – orchard, agricultural – row crops" and that the status is "inactive – needs evaluation."
24	Borders Cleaners	298 N. San Jacinto Ave Hemet, CA 92343	HAZNET, CLEANERS	This site has waste classified as "liquids with halogenated organic compounds" that is disposed of through a transfer station. This site was included on the CLEANERS list which is a listing of drycleaner-related facilities that have Environmental Protection Agency ID numbers assigned.
25	GTE San Jacinto C O	699 N. State St San Jacinto, CA 92383	CA FID UST, EMI, SWEEPS UST	This site was included on the CA FID UST list which contains active and inactive underground storage tank locations. This site was included on the EMI list which is data collected by the Air Resources Board and local air pollution agencies regarding toxics and criteria pollutant emissions. This site was included on the SWEEPS UST underground storage tanks listing; however, that list is no longer updated or maintained.

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
29	Proposed Ellen Oacho Elementary School	Cawston/Cottonwood San Jacinto, CA 92582	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	This site was listed on the SCH database because it contains a proposed or existing school and was being evaluated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control for possible hazardous materials contamination; the SCH listing's confirmed description is "no contaminants found" and the status is "no further action." The site was included on the ENVIROSTOR list because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further. The listing indicates past uses for the site include "agricultural – row crops, residential area." The confirmed description is "no contaminants found." The status is "no further action."
	Sunnydale Farm	2733 Cottonwood San Jacinto, CA 92581	CA WDS	Facility status is active. Primary waste type is nonhazardous storm water runoff; secondary waste type is nonhazardous solid wastes.
37	Agri-Empire	630 W Seventh St San Jacinto, CA 92583	RCRAInfo, FINDS, CERC-NFRAP, CERCLIS-NFRAP, SWEEPS UST, ENVIROSTOR	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities. This site was included on the CERC-NFRAP list which is comprised of archived sites that have been removed from the inventory of CERCLIS sites. Inclusion on the CERC-NFRAP list indicates that the Environmental Protection Agency believes an assessment has been completed and no further steps will be taken to include the site on the National Priorities List; however, it should not be interpreted to indicate that there is no hazard associated with the site. This site was included on the SWEEPS UST underground storage tanks listing; however, that list is no longer updated or maintained. The ENVIROSTOR listing's status is "no further action."

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
	Farm Shop	630 W. 7th St San Jacinto, CA 92383	HIST UST	The site has historical records of five underground storage tanks; leak detection status listed as "visual, pressure test."
38	L O Lynch Well Drilling Inc	1015 S. State St San Jacinto, CA 92383	CA FID UST, SWEEPS UST	This site was included on the CA FID UST list which contains active and inactive underground storage tank locations. This site was included on the SWEEPS UST underground storage tanks listing; however, that list is no longer updated or maintained.
44	Hemet News	474 W. Esplanade Ave San Jacinto, CA 92583	RCRAInfo, FINDS, HAZNET	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities. This site was included on the HAZNET list because it produces waste classified as "photochemical/photoprocessing waste" that is disposed of through a transfer station.
45	San Jacinto Recycling Center	658 W. Esplanade Ave San Jacinto, CA 92583	SWRCY	This site was included on the SWRCY database which is a compilation of recycling facilities in California.
46	Nelson Substation	Lyon Ave. & Esplanade Ave. Hemet, CA 92543	RCRAInfo	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found."

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
47	New High School No. 1	Esplanade Avenue/Sanderson Avenue San Jacinto, CA 92582	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	This site was listed on the SCH database because it contains a proposed or existing school and was being evaluated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control for possible hazardous materials contamination; the SCH database lists the site's past use as "agricultural – row crops" and the status is "action required." The site was included on the ENVIROSTOR list because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further. The listing indicates past uses for the site include "agricultural – row crops" and that the status is listed as "action required."
52	Superior Ready Mix	24161 State St San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, CORTESE	This site was included on the LUST database listing because it has experienced a leaking underground storage tank. This site was included on the CORTESE list which identifies public drinking water wells with detectable levels of contamination, hazardous substance sites selected for remedial action, sites with known toxic material identified through the abandoned site assessment program, sites with USTs having a reportable release, and all solid waste disposal facilities from which there is known migration.
53	Superior Ready Mix Concrete LP	1130 N. State Street Hemet, CA 92543	AST	This site has or had a registered aboveground storage tank.

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
55	Evans Tire Inc	2475 S. San Jacinto San Jacinto, CA 92583	RCRAInfo, FINDS, HAZNET	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities. This site was included on the HAZNET list because it produces waste classified as "unspecified aqueous solution" that is disposed of through a recycler program, "aqueous solution with less than 10% total organic residues" that is disposed of through a transfer station, and "aqueous solution with 10% or more total organic residues" disposed of through a recycler program.
	Texaco Midway	2469 S. San Jacinto St San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, UST, SWEEPS UST	This site was included on the LUST database listing because it has experienced a leaking underground storage tank. The site was included on the UST database list because of an existing underground storage tank. This site was included on the SWEEPS UST underground storage tanks listing; however, that list is no longer updated or maintained.
56	Eastern Municipal Water District	24550 San Jacinto Hemet, CA 92545	RCRAInfo, FINDS	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities.

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
	Shell Service Station	25235 San Jacinto Hemet, CA 90058	Notify 65	This site was included on the Notify 65 database listing which contains facility notifications about any release that could impact drinking water and thereby expose the public to a potential health risk.
	San Jacinto Automotive	1403 E. Menlo St Hemet, CA 92544	RCRAInfo, FINDS	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found." This site was included on the FINDS list which supports the RCRA program through the tracking of events and activities.
57	Jard M Auto Enterprises	1403 E. Menlo Ave Hemet, CA 92544	HAZNET	This site was included on the HAZNET list because it generates waste categorized as "waste oil and mixed oil" which are disposed of via transfer stations.
	USA Petroleum Company #70	25235 San Jacinto St Hemet, CA 92343	HIST UST	The site has historical records of three underground storage tanks with no leak detections reported.
	Shell #25235	25235 San Jacinto St Hemet, CA 92543	LUST	This site was included on the LUST database listing because it has experienced a leaking underground storage tank.
	Hemet Is Heaven RV Center	25050 San Jacinto Ave Hemet, CA 92544	RCRAInfo	This site was included on the RCRAInfo list because it generates, transports, stores, treats and/or disposes of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); violation status is "no violations found."

Site No.	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Status of Site
61	So Cal Gas/Hemet MGP	So. Oakland Ave, BY AT / SF Railroad Hemet, CA 92543	VCP, ENVIROSTOR	This site was included on the VCP database listing which is a compilation of low-threat level properties with either confirmed or unconfirmed releases and the project proponents have request that DTSC oversee investigation and/or cleanup activities and have agreed to provide coverage for DTSC's costs. The site was included on the ENVIROSTOR list because it has been identified as a site that has known contamination or maybe has reasons to investigate further; the listing's confirmed description is "polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)" and the status is "active."
62	Jacob Wiens Elementary School	S. Santa Fe Street/E. Campus Way Hemet, CA 92543	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	This site was listed on the SCH database because it contains a proposed or existing school and is being evaluated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control for possible hazardous materials contamination; status is listed as "no further action." The ENVIROSTOR listing's status is "no further action."

3.6.2 Comments Received in Response to the Notice of Preparation

One comment was received from the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control in response to the NOP. This comment is included in Appendix A and summarized below.

DTSC requested:

- The Draft EIR evaluate whether conditions within the project area may pose a threat to human health or the environment and identified databases of regulatory agencies.
- The Draft EIR identify the mechanism to initiate any required investigation or remediation for any contaminated site.
- Any investigations, sampling, and/or remediation be conducted under a Workplan overseen by the appropriate regulatory agency, and the findings of such investigation be summarized in Draft EIR, including all closure, certification, or remediation approval reports.
- Investigations for hazardous chemicals for demolition of buildings, other structures, asphalt or concrete-paved surfaces; soils sampling and appropriate disposal of any

contaminated soils; investigation and remedial actions (if needed) for areas used for agricultural, livestock, or other related activities prior to construction.

- The Draft EIR identify the contact person's title and email address.

This section of the DEIR addresses DTSC's comments by providing a summary of the results of the regulatory database searches conducted for the Project and identifying mitigation measures that require checking databases prior to the construction of any SJV-MDP facility, soil sampling, and stopping work in the event soil and or/groundwater contamination is suspected. The contact person for the DEIR is identified in Section 6.3, Document Preparation Staff, of this document.

3.6.3 Thresholds of Significance

San Jacinto has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. However, San Jacinto's "Environmental Checklist" for the proposed Project (see Appendix A of this document) indicates that impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials may be considered potentially significant if the project would:

- 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; or
- be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

3.6.4 Related Regulations

A number of federal, state and local laws have been enacted to regulate the management of hazardous materials. Implementation of these laws and management of hazardous materials are regulated independently of the CEQA process through programs administered by various agencies at the federal, state and local levels. An overview of the key hazardous materials laws and regulations that could apply to the proposed project is provided below.

3.6.4.1 Federal

Several federal agencies regulate hazardous materials. These include the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Department of Transportation (DOT). Applicable federal regulations are contained primarily in Titles 10, 29, 40, and 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). In particular, Tile 49 of the CFR governs the manufacture of packaging and transport containers, packing and repacking, labeling, and the marking of hazardous material transport. Some of the major federal laws and issue areas include the following statutes:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) – hazardous waste management
- Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Act (HSWA) – hazardous waste management
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) – cleanup of contamination

- Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) – cleanup of contamination
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (SARA Title III) – business inventories and emergency response planning
- Hazardous Substances Act – (Codified at 15 U.S.C. §§1261−1278) requires that certain hazardous household products ("hazardous substances") bear cautionary labeling to alert consumers to the potential hazards that those products present and to inform them of the measures they need to protect themselves from those hazards.

The EPA is the primary federal agency responsible for the implementation and enforcement of hazardous materials regulations. In most cases, enforcement of environmental laws and regulations established at the federal level is delegated to state and local environmental regulatory agencies.

3.6.4.2 State

Primary state agencies with jurisdiction over hazardous chemical materials management are the DTSC and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Other state agencies involved in hazardous materials management are the Department of Industrial Relations (State OSHA implementation), Office of Emergency Services (OES-California Accidental Release Prevention implementation), CDFG, ARB, Caltrans, State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA-Proposition 65 implementation), and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). The enforcement agencies for hazardous materials transportation regulations are the California Highway Patrol and Caltrans. Hazardous materials and waste transporters are responsible for complying with all applicable packaging, labeling, and shipping regulation. SCAQMD Rules and Regulations pertaining to asbestos abatement (including rule 1403), Construction Safety Orders 1529 (pertaining to asbestos) and 1532.1 (pertaining to lead) from Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations.

Hazardous chemical and biohazardous materials management laws in California include the following statutes:

- Hazardous Materials Management Act – requires that businesses handling or storing certain amounts of hazardous materials prepare a Hazardous Materials Business Plan, which includes an inventory of hazardous materials stored on site (above specified quantities), an emergency response plan, and an employee training program.
- Hazardous Waste Control Act – (California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.5, Article 2, Section 25100, et seq.) authorizes the DTSC and local certified unified program agencies to regulate facilities that generate or treat hazardous waste.
- Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 – (Proposition 65) requires the Governor to publish, and update at least annually, a list of chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm, and to inform citizens about exposures to such chemicals.
- Hazardous Waste Management Planning and Facility Siting – also known as the Tanner Act (AB 2948, 1986), requires counties to prepare, for the California State Department of

Toxic Substances Control approval, hazardous waste management plans and prescribes specific public participation activities, which must be carried out during the local land use permit process for siting new or expanding offsite commercial treatment, storage and disposal facilities.

- Hazardous Materials Storage and Emergency Response – (AB 2185) requires the immediate reporting to local fire departments and OES of any release or threatened release of a hazardous material, regardless of the amount handled by the business.
- California Medical Waste Management Act – (California Health and Safety Code Sections 117600 – 118360) establishes procedures for the proper handling, storage, treatment, and transportation of medical waste.
- Land Disposal Restrictions – (California Code of Regulations, Chapter 18, Title 22) set up by Congress in 1984 for the EPA ensures that toxic constituents present in hazardous waste are properly treated before hazardous waste is land disposed.

State regulations and agencies pertaining to hazardous materials management and worker safety are described below:

California Environmental Protection Agency

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) has broad jurisdiction over hazardous materials management in the state. Within Cal/EPA, DTSC has primary regulatory responsibility for hazardous waste management and cleanup. Enforcement of regulations has been delegated to local jurisdictions that enter into agreements with DTSC for the generation, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials under the authority of the Hazardous Waste Control Law.

Along with the DTSC, the RWQCB is responsible for implementing regulations pertaining to management of soil and groundwater investigation and cleanup. RWQCB regulations are contained in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Additional state regulations applicable to hazardous materials are contained in Title 22 of the CCR. Title 26 of the CCR is a compilation of those sections or titles of the CCR that are applicable to hazardous materials.

Investigation and Cleanup of Contaminated Sites

The oversight of hazardous materials release sites often involves several different agencies that may have overlapping authority and jurisdiction. The DTSC and RWQCB are the two primary state agencies responsible for issues pertaining to hazardous materials release sites. Air quality issues related to remediation and construction at contaminated sites are also subject to federal and state laws and regulations that are administered at the local level.

Investigation and remediation activities that would involve potential disturbance or release of hazardous materials must comply with applicable federal, state, and local hazardous materials laws and regulations. DTSC has developed standards for the investigation of sites where hazardous materials contamination has been identified or could exist based on current or past uses. The standards identify approaches to determine if a release of hazardous wastes/substances exists at a site and delineates the general extent of contamination; estimates the potential threat to

public health and/or the environment from the release and provides an indicator of relative risk; determines if an expedited response action is required to reduce an existing or potential threat; completes preliminary project scoping activities to determine data gaps; and identifies possible remedial action strategies to form the basis for development of a site strategy.

3.6.5 Project Design Considerations

No specific design measures are proposed that would avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts associated with hazardous materials sites that may occur in the alignment of the proposed SJV-MDP facilities. The proposed facilities will be designed to avoid significant hazardous waste sites where feasible during the final design phase.

3.6.6 Environmental Impacts Before Mitigation

Threshold: *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; or be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.*

The Project's EDR report was reviewed in order to identify any known or suspected contamination sites or incidents of hazardous waste storage or disposal which might have resulted in soil or groundwater contamination within a one-mile radius of the property. Databases searched by EDR are listed in the setting portion of this DEIR section.

The EDR report listed a total of 64 sites within one-mile of the proposed project alignment; however, because of the quantity of sites listed, only those adjacent to proposed SJV-MDP facilities are included in **Table 3.6-B**. Based on the results of the EDR report, the Project proposes facilities within close vicinity of 27 sites classified as hazardous materials sites under various regulatory statuses.

Sites listed on the HAZNET, FINDS, CLEANERS, Small Quantity Generators (SQGs), Large Quantity Generators (LQGs), UST, HIST UST, RCRA, and/or TRIS databases only pose a potential problem in the event of a spill or leak. Consequently, unless these sites also appear on a list of contaminated sites, there is no evidence of any problems at this time. **Table 3.6-C, Potentially Contaminated Sites** narrows the list in **Table 3.6-B** to only those sites that are listed due to suspected contamination; that is, these sites have at least one listing describing it as potentially contaminated.

Table 3.6-C, Potentially Contaminated Sites

Site #[1]	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Nearby Project Alignment(s)[1]
11	San Jacinto New Elementary School No. 3	Community College/State Street San Jacinto, CA 92583	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	Line H
17	Fastrip Store #12-777	692 San Jacinto Ave San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, CORTESE, LOS ANGELES CO. HMS	Line J-3
	Raymond DeAngelo	748 San Jacinto Ave San Jacinto, CA 92508	HAZNET	Line J-3
21	Proposed Alessandro Avenue ES	22500 Alessandro Ave Unincorporated Riverside, CA 92583	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	Line J-2
29	Proposed Ellen Oacho Elementary School	Cawston/Cottonwood San Jacinto, CA 92582	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	Line D
	Sunnydale Farm	2733 Cottonwood San Jacinto, CA 92581	CA WDS	Line D
37	Agri-Empire	630 W Seventh St San Jacinto, CA 92583	RCRAInfo, FINDS, CERC-NFRAP, CERCLIS-NFRAP, SWEEPS UST, ENVIROSTOR	Line E-1
	Farm Shop	630 W. 7th St San Jacinto, CA 92383	HIST UST	Line E-1
47	New High School No. 1	Esplanade Avenue/Sanderson Avenue San Jacinto, CA 92582	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	N Line A-1
52	Superior Ready Mix	24161 State St San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, CORTESE	Line E-2
55	Evans Tire Inc	2475 S. San Jacinto San Jacinto, CA 92583	RCRAInfo, FINDS, HAZNET	Line B
	Texaco Midway	2469 S. San Jacinto St San Jacinto, CA 92583	LUST, UST, SWEEPS UST	Line B

Site #[1]	Site Use	Address	Federal, State, and Local Databases	Nearby Project Alignment(s)[1]
57	Shell Service Station	25235 San Jacinto Hemet, CA 90058	Notify 65	Line B
	San Jacinto Automotive	1403 E. Menlo St Hemet, CA 92544	RCRAInfo, FINDS	Line B-1
	Jared M Auto Enterprises	1403 E. Menlo Ave Hemet, CA 92544	HAZNET	Line B-1
	USA Petroleum Company #70	25235 San Jacinto St Hemet, CA 92343	HIST UST	Line B
	Shell #25235	25235 San Jacinto St Hemet, CA 92543	LUST	Line B
	Hemet Is Heaven RV Center	25050 San Jacinto Ave Hemet, CA 92544	RCRAInfo	Line B
61	So Cal Gas/Hemet MGP	So. Oakland Ave, BY AT / SF Railroad Hemet, CA 92543	VCP, ENVIROSTOR	Line E-2
62	Jacob Wiens Elementary School	S. Santa Fe Street/E. Campus Way Hemet, CA 92543	SCH, ENVIROSTOR	Line C-4

[1] As shown on Figure 3.6-1

Although no significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials are anticipated from the sites listed in **Table 3.6-C**, or from Project-related construction and operations, common types of unanticipated existing contamination (resulting from prior leaking underground storage tanks, poor chemical handling or accidental/intentional unauthorized chemical releases) could be encountered during the construction of proposed facilities. However, through implementation of mitigation measures **MM Haz 1** through **MM Haz 6**, potential impacts will be reduced to **less than significant levels.**

3.6.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Mitigation Measures were evaluated for their ability to eliminate or reduce the potential significant adverse impacts from hazards to below the level of significance.

MM Haz 1: As part of the final design of each SJV-MDP facility, the design engineer or designee shall check proposed sites for listing on the most recent Hazardous Waste and Substances List provided by the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. If the location of said facility is on the Hazardous

Waste and Substances List, avoidance of that property or properties will be the first consideration; if avoidance is infeasible, **MM Haz 2** shall be implemented.

MM Haz 2: If the selected facility traverses a site listed on the Hazardous Waste and Substances List, and avoidance is not feasible or if there are other indications that a site could be contaminated, a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for such facility will be prepared. If the Phase 1 ESA identifies possible contamination along the facility alignment, then all recommended subsurface investigation measures listed in the Phase I ESA will be implemented. Based on subsurface investigations characterizing subsurface contamination, remediation measures (such as excavation of contaminated soil, bioremediation, or soil-vapor extraction), shall be implemented for the applicable facility or an alternative facility alignment will be chosen.

MM Haz 3: All environmental investigation and/or remediation (such as excavation of contaminated soil, bioremediation, or soil-vapor extraction) shall be conducted under a Workplan approved by jurisdictional regulatory agencies overseeing hazardous waste cleanups until the applicable regulatory standard is met.

MM Haz 4: Prior to any excavation or soil removal on known contaminated sites, or if contaminated soil (i.e., soil with a visible sheen or detectable odor) is encountered, a complete characterization of the soil will be conducted. Appropriate sampling shall be conducted prior to disposal of the excavated soil. If the soil is contaminated, it shall be properly disposed of according to California's Land Disposal restrictions (California Code of Regulations, Chapter 18, Title 22). If site remediation involves the removal of contamination, then contaminated material shall be transported off-site by a licensed handler/hauler to a licensed hazardous waste disposal facility.

MM Haz 5: If soil import is required for construction of a specific facility, proper sampling shall be conducted prior to the use of such imported soil to make sure that the imported soil is free of contamination.

MM Haz 6: If during construction of a specific facility, soil and/or groundwater contamination is suspected, construction in the area of the suspected contamination shall cease and appropriate health and safety measures shall be implemented. The construction contractor shall contact the respective jurisdictional enforcement agency (i.e., San Jacinto, Hemet, Riverside County, RCFCWCD) to obtain the necessary information on appropriate measures and their implementation. The measures recommended by the applicable enforcement agency will be implemented.

3.6.8 Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures Are Implemented

With the adherence to local, state and federal regulations and the mitigation measures listed in Section 3.6.7, potential significant environmental effects related to hazards and hazardous materials will be reduced to **less than significant** levels.

3.7 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Potential impacts related to:

- groundwater supply and recharge;
- alteration of existing drainage pattern that would result in flooding on or off site;
- creation or contribution of runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems;
- substantial degradation of water quality;
- placement of housing within the 100-year flood hazard area;
- flooding as a result of levee or dam failure; and
- inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow

were all found to be less than significant in the Initial Study/NOP prepared for this project (Appendix A) and will not be further discussed in this Draft EIR. The focus of the following discussion, therefore, is limited to the Project's potential to:

- create or contribute Urban Runoff that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including the terms of the Cities' and County's municipal separate stormwater sewer system permit during Project construction;
- provide for the discharge of substantial additional sources of pollutants into Urban Runoff, including pollutants discharged from delivery areas; loading docks; other areas where materials are stored, vehicles or equipment are fueled or maintained, waste is handled, or hazardous materials are handled or delivered; other outdoor work areas; or other sources;
- discharge pollutants in Urban Runoff so that one or more Beneficial Uses of receiving waters are adversely affected;
- discharge stormwater so that significant harm is caused to the biological integrity of waterways or water bodies;
- violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements;
- substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site;
- significantly increase erosion, either on or off site;
- significantly alter the flow velocity or volume of stormwater runoff in a manner that results in environmental harm; and

- place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows.

In addition to other reference documents, the following documents were used as site-specific and/or general information sources during preparation of this section and are available for public review at the locations noted:

- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, *Water Quality Control Plan Santa Ana River Basin*, 1995, updated February 2008. (Available at Regional Water Quality Control Board and at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/index.shtml)
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, *2006 CWA Section 303(D) List of Water Quality Limited Segments*, June 28, 2007. (Available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/303dlists2006/epa/state_usepa_combined.pdf)
- City of San Jacinto, *City of San Jacinto General Plan Environmental Impact Report*, January 2006. (Available at the City of San Jacinto or at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan.html)
- City of San Jacinto, *City of San Jacinto Draft General Plan*, January 2006. (Available at the City of San Jacinto or at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan.html)
- Geosyntec. The Villages of Lakeview Water Quality Technical Report (Final), August 2008. (Available at Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, *Supplement A to the Riverside County Drainage Area Management Plan): New Development Guidelines*, April 1996. (Available at www.floodcontrol.co.riverside.ca.us/districtsite/downloads/NPDES/Supplement_A.pdf, accessed on September 18, 2006.)
- Riverside County, *Riverside County Drainage Area Management Plan, Santa Ana and Santa Margarita Region*, January 24, 2006. (Available at http://www.floodcontrol.co.riverside.ca.us/content/stormwaternpdes.htm)
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, *Riverside County Water Quality Management Plan for Urban* Runoff, October 2006. (Available at http://www.floodcontrol.co.riverside.ca.us/downloads/NPDES/APP-O-RC-WQMP.pdf, accessed on October 8, 2008.)
- Albert A. Webb Associates, *San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan Update for The City Area Volume I of I*, September 2008, Modified April 2009. (Available at the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)
- Albert A. Webb Associates, *San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan Update for the North Area*, July 2007, Revised February 2009. (Available at the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)
- Albert A. Webb Associates, *San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan Update for the*

West Area, Volume I of III, May 2007, Modified October 2008. (Available at the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)

3.7.1 Setting

The following discussion describes the proximity of the Project to nearby water bodies, and provides background information on water quality issues related to surface water in the Project area, in order to thoroughly evaluate the impacts of the proposed Project to local hydrology and water quality.

3.7.1.1 Surface Waters

The Project area is situated in the San Jacinto watershed, which is part of the larger Santa Ana River watershed. The San Jacinto River is the main drainage feature in the San Jacinto watershed, draining an approximately 765-square mile watershed area; from its headwaters in the San Jacinto Mountains it drains in a northwesterly direction, then southwesterly for the second half of its course (see **Figure 3.7-1, Hydrology of the San Jacinto River**). **Figure 3.7-1** shows the boundaries of the SJV-MDP and its proximity to various surface water bodies.

The San Jacinto River is located approximately one-quarter mile north of the northernmost boundary of the SJV-MDP, approximately 4.5 miles north of the southernmost boundary, and generally flows northwest past the Project area (see **Figure 3.7-2, USGS Topography**). Flows in the San Jacinto watershed are dominated by stormwater, urban, and agricultural runoff. Only occasionally do flows from the upper San Jacinto River watershed reach Canyon Lake, and flows reaching Lake Elsinore are even rarer.

Flows in the headwaters of the San Jacinto River are affected by rising groundwater, interflow, and discharge from Lake Hemet. As the San Jacinto River leaves the San Jacinto Valley, it passes through the San Jacinto fault zone. This fault zone is responsible for relatively high subsidence rates within the San Jacinto River Valley, which have resulted in the formation of Mystic Lake, an ephemeral lake that fills with water during late winter and spring when the river is flowing[1]. Downstream of Mystic Lake, the San Jacinto River forms a wide fluvial plain. When formed, the Mystic Lake is relatively shallow with a large surface area, up to 4,000 acres.

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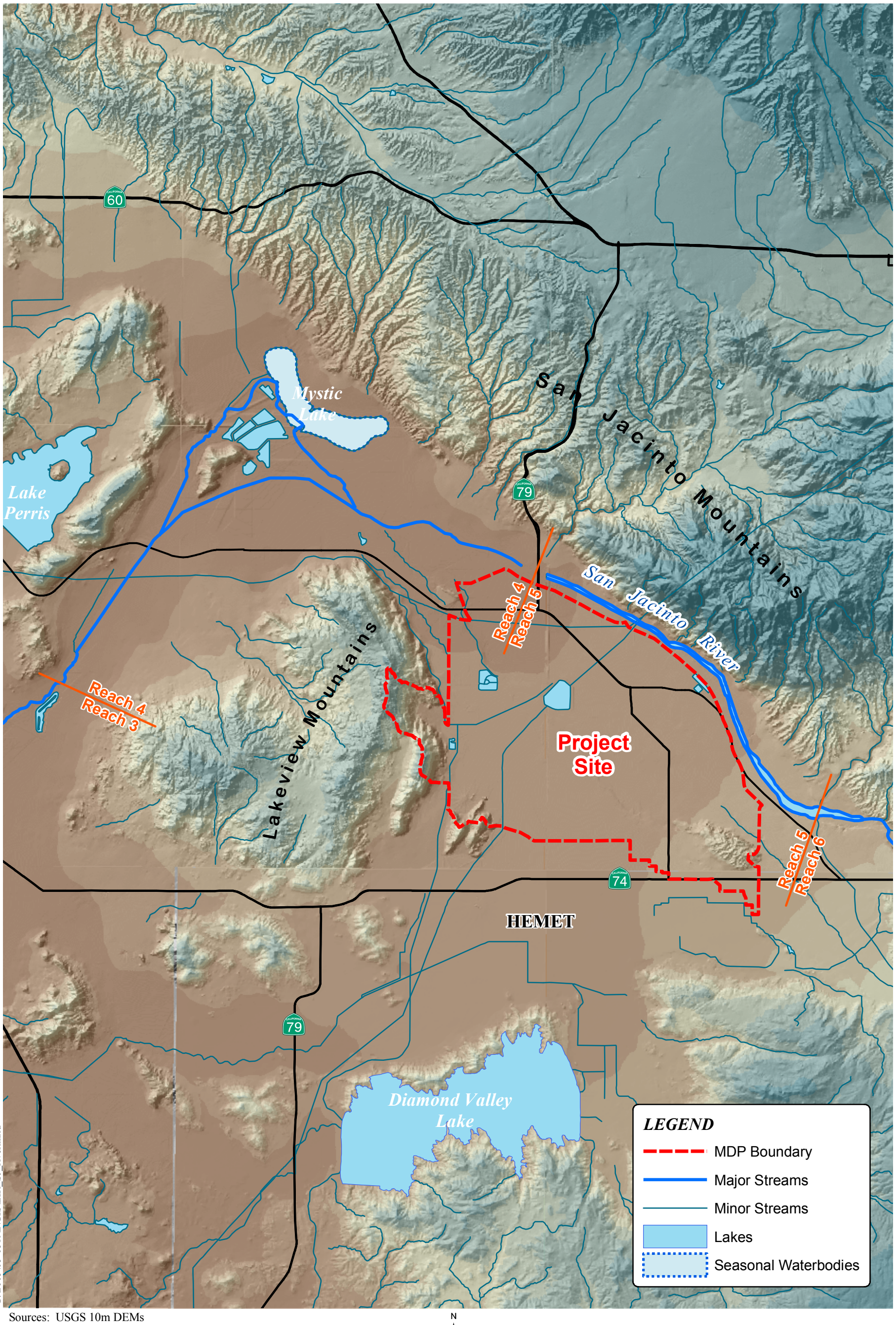
[1] San Jacinto River Watershed Council, *The San Jacinto Watershed Component of the Santa Ana Integrated Watershed Plan, Prop 50, Chapter 8, Planning Grant Application*, May 11, 2005.



G:\2005\05-0519E\GIS\EIR_SJ_river.mxd

Sources: USGS 10m DEMs and 1:24k DLGs.

Figure 3.7-1
Hydrology of the San Jacinto River

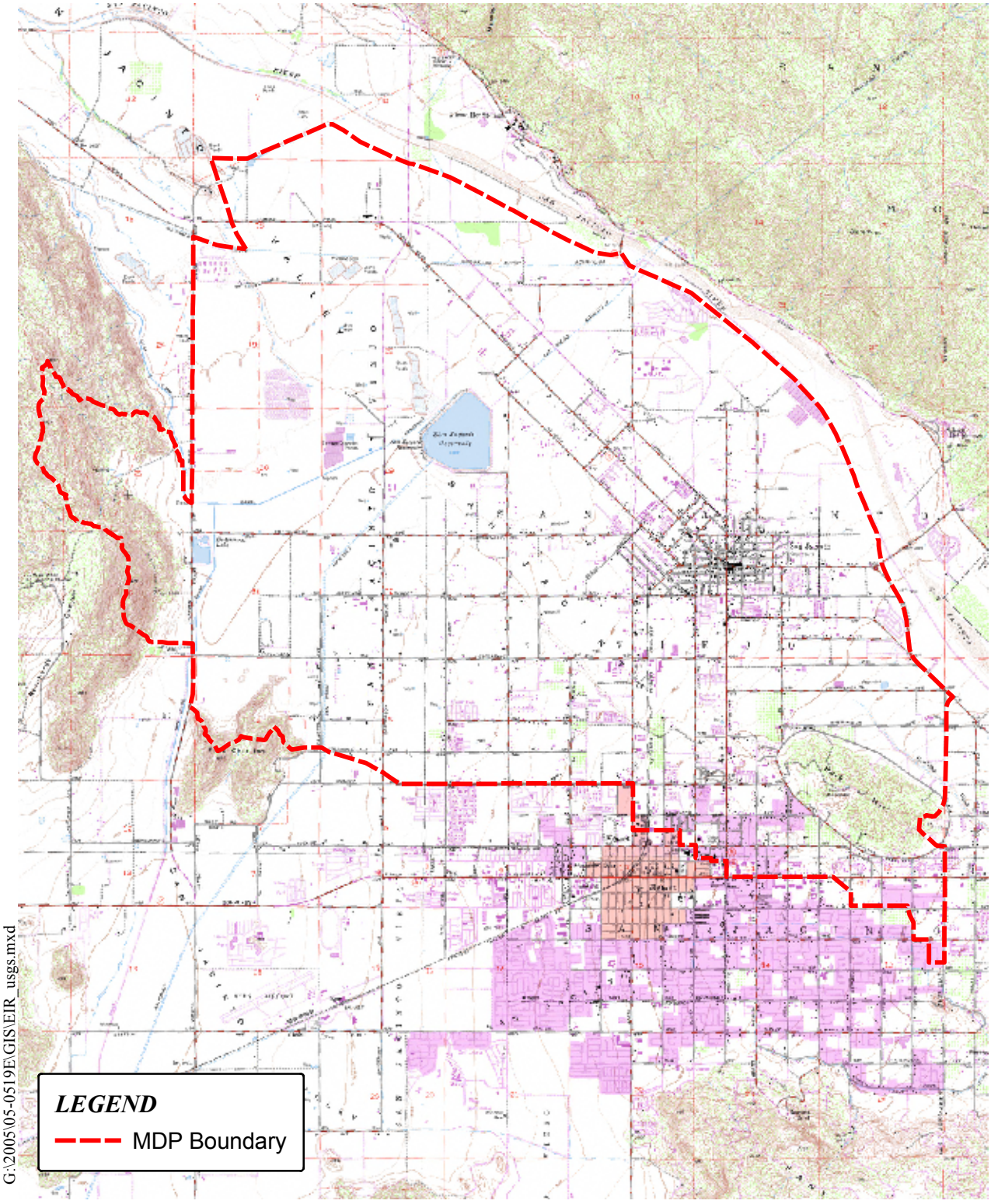


Figure 3.7-2
USGS Topography

3.7.1.2 Water Quality

Water quality in this region is regulated under the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The RWQCB has divided the San Jacinto River into seven reaches for regulatory purposes, refer to **Figure 3.7-1, Hydrology of the San Jacinto River**. The majority of on-site stormwater enters Reaches 4 and 5 of the San Jacinto River and proceeds to Canyon Lake, then Lake Elsinore, and then ultimately the Santa Ana River, which flows to the Pacific Ocean. Except during large storm events, Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore are, for all practical purposes, closed basins that have water quality characteristics reflecting the water quality of the flows entering them. Canyon Lake and/or Lake Elsinore have been identified by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) pursuant to the Clean Water Act section 303(d) as having water quality impairments due to nutrients, pathogens, low dissolved oxygen, sedimentation/siltation, and unknown toxicity.

Surface water quality may be impacted by both point source and non-point source (NPS) discharges of pollutants. Point source discharges are regulated through National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting. Non-point source pollution is now considered to be the leading cause of water quality impairments in the state, as well as the entire nation. Non-point source pollution is not as readily quantifiable as pollution that is derived from point sources, since it occurs through numerous diffuse sources. Rainwater, snowmelt, or irrigation water can pick up and transport pollutants as it moves across land or paved surfaces, and these pollutants may ultimately be discharged into streams, lakes, the ocean, and groundwater. Urban areas and agriculture are both considered to substantially contribute to non-point source pollution in surface waters; pollutants associated with agricultural areas include fertilizers, pesticides, fecal coliform, salts, and sediments. Pollutants associated with urban areas include pathogens, organic compounds, sediment, oil and grease, metals, trash and debris, and nutrients.

3.7.1.3 Status of Surrounding Water Bodies

The RWQCB sets water quality standards for all ground and surface waters within its region. Water quality standards are defined under the Clean Water Act to include the beneficial uses of specific water bodies, the levels of water quality that must be met and maintained to protect those uses (water quality objectives), and the state's anti-degradation policy. Water quality standards for all ground and surface waters overseen by the RWQCB are documented in the Basin Plan (2008). Beneficial uses consist of all the various ways that water can be used for the benefit of people and/or wildlife. Nineteen beneficial uses are recognized within the Santa Ana Region. Seven beneficial uses have been designated for surface water bodies and groundwater in the vicinity of the SJV-MDP as summarized in **Table 3.7-A, Beneficial Uses for Receiving Waters in Proximity to the SJV-MDP**.

Table 3.7-A, Beneficial Uses for Receiving Waters in Proximity to the SJV-MDP

Receiving Waters	303(d) List Impairments	Designated Beneficial Uses
San Jacinto River, Reaches 1 , 3, 4, and 5	None	MUN*, AGR, GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD
Canyon Lake (Reach 2)	Nutrients and Pathogens	MUN^, AGR, GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD
Lake Elsinore	Nutrients, Organic Enrichment/Low Dissolved Oxygen, PCBs, and Unknown Toxicity	MUN^, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD

* Intermittent beneficial use for Reaches 3 and 4

^ Expected from MUN

Definitions of Beneficial Uses	
MUN	Waters used for community, military, municipal or individual water supply systems. Uses may also include drinking water supply.
AGR	Waters are used for farming, horticulture or ranching. Uses may include, but are not limited to, irrigation, stock watering, and support of vegetation for range grazing.
GWR	Groundwater recharge waters, used for natural or artificial recharge of groundwater for purposes that may include future extraction, maintaining water quality, or halting saltwater intrusion in freshwater aquifers.
REC1	Water contact recreation waters, used for recreational activities involving body contact with water where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. Uses may include swimming, wading, water-skiing, skin and scuba diving, surfing, whitewater activities, fishing, and use of natural hot springs.
REC2	Non-contact water recreation waters, used for recreational activities involving proximity to water, but not normally involving body contact with water where ingestion of water would be reasonably possible. These uses may include picnicking, sunbathing, hiking, beachcombing, and camping, boating, sightseeing, and aesthetic enjoyment in conjunction of the above activities.
WARM	Warm freshwater habitat waters support warm water ecosystems that may include preservation and enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish, and wildlife, including invertebrates.
WILD	Wildlife habitat waters support wildlife habitats that may include the preservation and enhancement of vegetation and prey species used by waterfowl and other wildlife.

*California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Plan Santa Ana River Basin, 1995. (Available at RWQCB.)

All listed water quality objectives governing water quality in inland surface waters were evaluated for potential impacts from development of the proposed Project; however, only those numeric and narrative water quality objectives that are most likely to be relevant to the proposed Project are listed in **Table 3.7-B, Numeric Water Quality Objectives** and **Table 5.8-C, Applicable Narrative Water Quality Objectives**, respectively. Water quality standards are attained when designated beneficial uses are achieved and water quality objectives are being met. The regulatory program of the RWQCB is designed to minimize and control pollutant discharges to surface and ground waters within the region, largely through permitting, such that water quality standards are effectively attained.

Whether or not a water body has numeric water quality objectives, narrative objectives apply to all inland surface waters and ground waters within the region under jurisdiction of the RWQCB. Where more than one narrative objective is applicable, the RWQCB requires the most stringent application of the objective. **Table 3-8.C, Applicable Narrative Water Quality Objectives** lists all of the applicable narrative objectives for inland surface waters in proximity to the Project.

San Jacinto River, Reaches 4 and 5, Canyon Lake, and Lake Elsinore, are the receiving water bodies for the project. Reaches 4 and 5 of the San Jacinto River are not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list of impaired water bodies. However, Canyon Lake is listed as impaired for nutrients and pathogens; and Lake Elsinore is listed as impaired for nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and unknown toxicity. Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake are the terminal points for the San Jacinto River watershed. The Project's stormwater ultimately discharges to these water bodies; thus the Project will be required to treat the stormwater that leaves the site for the pollutants listed above.

Table 3.7-B, Numeric Water Quality Objectives

	Water Quality Objectives (mg/L)						
Water Body	**Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)**	**Hardness**	**Sodium (Na)**	**Chlorine (Cl)**	**Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN)**	**Sulfate ($SO_{4)}$**	**Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)**
Reach 1 – Lake Elsinore to Canyon Lake	450	260	50	65	3	60	15
Reach 2 – Canyon Lake	700	325	100	90	8	290	---
Reach 3 – Canyon Lake to Nuevo Rd.	820	400	---	250	6	---	15
Reach 4 – Nuevo Rd. to North-South Mid-Section Line	500	220	75	125	5	65	---
Reach 5 – North-south Mid-Section Line T4S/R1, to confluence w/ Poppet Creek	300	140	30	25	3	40	12

Water Body	Water Quality Objectives (mg/L)						
	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	**Hardness**	**Sodium (Na)**	**Chlorine (Cl)**	**Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN)**	**Sulfate (SO_4)**	**Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)**
Lake Elsinore, HU# 802.31	2000	---	---	---	1.5	---	---

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, *Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Plan Santa Ana River Basin*, 1995 and 2008 update. (Available at RWQCB.)

Table 3.7-C, Applicable Narrative Water Quality Objectives

Bacteria, Coliform
REC-1 Fecal coliform: log mean less than 200 organisms/100 mL based on five or more samples/30 day period, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 400 organisms/100 mL for any 30-day period. REC-2 Fecal coliform: average less than 2000 organisms/100 mL and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 4000 organisms/100 mL for any 30-day period.
Oil and Grease
Waste discharges shall not result in deposition of oil, grease, wax or other materials in concentrations which result in a visible film or in coating objects in the water, or which cause a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
Solids, Suspended and Settleable
Inland surface waters shall not contain suspended or settleable solids in amounts which cause a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses as a result of controllable water quality factors.
All inland surface waters of the region shall be free of changes in turbidity which adversely affect beneficial uses.
Waste discharges shall not contain floating materials, including solids, liquids, foam, or scum, which cause a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
Nitrate
Nitrate-nitrogen concentrations shall not exceed 45 mg/L as (NO3) or 10mg/L (as N) in inland surface waters designated MUN as a result of controllable water quality factors.

The information in this table has been derived from the *Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Plan Santa Ana River Basin*, 2008 update. (Available at RWQCB)

3.7.1.4 Stormwater Drainage

San Jacinto, Hemet, and unincorporated Riverside County has experienced significant urban development in recent years, predominantly single-family subdivisions and a number of the drainage facilities in the San Jacinto and Northwest Hemet MDPs (the Existing MDPs) have already been constructed. There are some drainage facilities from the two existing MDPs that were deemed to have sufficient capacity, and these facilities will become part of the SJV-MDP. There are other facilities that were studied and updated as part of the SJV-MDP. The SJV-MDP proposes four types of facilities: earthen or concrete trapezoidal channels, reinforced concrete box culverts reinforced concrete pipes, and earthen basins.

Existing and planned land uses within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP include agriculture, low density residential, medium density residential, high density residential, mixed use policy area, and rural residential and very low density residential land use designations. **Table 3.7-D, Pollutants of Concern**, identifies the pollutants of concern that are associated with different land use types. Best management practices (BMPs) will be required of future projects within the boundary of the SJV-MDP to comply with state standards to treat the stormwater runoff from each different land-use type and associated pollutants of concern.

Table 3.7-D, Pollutants of Concern

Types of Development	Pathogens[(a)]	Metals	Nutrients	Pesticides	Organic Compounds	Sediment/Turbidity	Trash and Debris	Oxygen Demanding Substances	Oil and Grease
Detached Residential Development	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Attached Residential Development	P		X	X		X	X	$P_{(1)}$	$P_{(2)}$
Commercial/Industrial Development	$P_{(3)}$	P	$P_{(1)}$	$P_{(1)}$	$P_{(5)}$	$P_{(1)}$	X	$P_{(1)}$	X
Automotive Repair Shops		P			$X_{(4,5)}$		X		X
Restaurants	X						X	X	X
Hillside Development	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Parking Lots	$P_{(6)}$	X	$P_{(1)}$	$P_{(1)}$	$X_{(4)}$	$P_{(1)}$	X	$P_{(1)}$	X
Streets, Highways & Freeways	$P_{(6)}$	X	$P_{(1)}$	$P_{(1)}$	$X_{(4)}$	X	X	$P_{(1)}$	X

X = anticipated. P = potential
(a) Pathogens or Bacteria and Viruses
(1) A potential pollutant if landscaping or open area exist on site.
(2) A potential pollutant if the project includes uncovered parking areas.
(3) A potential pollutant if land use involves food or animal waste products.
(4) Including petroleum hydrocarbons.
(5) Including solvents.
(6) Analyses of pavement runoff routinely exhibit bacterial indicators.
**Riverside County Flood Control District, Stormwater Quality Best Management Practice Design Handbook, July 6, 2004.

Pollutants of Concern from existing and planned land use designations within the Project area include: sediment/turbidity; nutrients; organic compounds; trash and debris; oxygen demanding substances; bacteria and viruses; oil and grease; pesticides; and metals. Pollutants of concern associated with future development land use types could potentially reduce the quality of receiving water bodies, which would violate the Clean Water Act; thus, treatment control BMPs, as well as site design and source control BMPs will be used to reduce the pollutant load into receiving water bodies. BMP effectiveness is shown in **Table 3.7-E, Treatment Control BMPs and Effectiveness.**

Table 3.7-E, Treatment Control BMPs and Effectiveness

Pollutant of Concern	Veg. Swale /Veg. Filter Strips(1)	Detention Basins(2)	Infiltration Basins & Trenches/Porous Pavement(3)	Wet Ponds or Wetlands(4)	Sand Filter or Filtration(5)	Water Quality Inlets	Hydrodynamic Separator Systems(6)	Manufactured/ Proprietary Devices(7)
Sediment/Turbidity	H/M	M	H/M	H/M	H/M	L	H/M (L – turbidity)	U
Nutrients	L	M	H/M	H/M	L/M	L	L	U
Organic Compounds	U	U	U	U	H/M	L	L	U
Trash & Debris	L	M	U	U	H/M	M	H/M	U
Oxygen Demanding Substances	L	M	H/M	H/M	H/M	L	L	U
Bacteria & Viruses	U	U	H/M	U	H/M	L	L	U
Oils & Grease	H/M	M	U	U	H/M	M	H/M	U
Pesticides (non-soil bound)	U	U	U	U	U	L	L	U
Metals	H/M	M	H	H	H	L	H	U

Abbreviations:
L: Low removal efficiency H/M: High or medium removal efficiency U: Unknown removal efficiency
Notes:

(1) Includes grass swales, grass strips, wetland vegetation swales, and bioretention.
(2) Includes extended/dry detention basins with grass lining and extended/dry detention basins with impervious lining. Effectiveness based upon minimum 36-48-hour drawdown time.
(3) Includes infiltration basins, infiltration trenches, and porous pavements.
(4) Includes permanent pool wet ponds and constructed wetlands.
(5) Includes sand filters and media filters.
(6) Also known as hydrodynamic devices baffle boxes, swirl concentrators, or cyclone separators.
(7) Includes proprietary stormwater treatment devices as listed in the CASQA Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbooks, other stormwater treatment BMPs, or newly developed/emerging stormwater treatment technologies.

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3.7.1.5 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Facilities

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) owns and operates a number of regional potable water conveyance facilities within the project area including: the Colorado River Aqueduct, Casa Loma Siphons 1 and 2, Casa Loma Canal, San Diego Pipelines 1 and 2, San Diego Canal, Lakeview Pipeline, San Jacinto Pipeline, and the Inland Feeder (see **Figure 3.7-3, MWD Facilities within the Project Boundary)**. These facilities are all large diameter regional facilities, generally located within fee property and conveying water to Metropolitan's treatment plants and member agencies.

3.7.2 Comments Received in Response to the Notice of Preparation

Comments letters were received from California Department of Fish and Game (dated May 11, 2009), Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (dated May13, 2009), California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (dated May 15, 2009), United States Department of Fish and Wildlife (dated June 5, 2009) in response to the NOP. The contents of these letters, which are included in Appendix A, relative to hydrology and water quality, are summarized below.

Summary of Comments Relative to Hydrology and Water Quality Received from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)

CDFG indentified concerns regarding:

- impacts to hydrology and geological resources within the existing drainage facilities;
- release of stormwater runoff and non-point discharges to the San Jacinto River;
- impacts to sensitive species and habitats;
- potential growth inducing impacts; and
- reduction of the 100-year floodplain.

CDFG requested the Draft EIR:

- distinguish between measures to address existing flooding problems and measures to facilitate and enable new development;
- identify mitigation and address cumulative impacts of the MDP facilities instead of relying upon individual projects to provide analysis and mitigation;
- contain specific up-to-date biological information on existing habitat and specials, identify measures to minimize and avoid sensitive resources, and identify mitigation measures to offset the loss of native flora, fauna, and State waters; and
- include an alternatives analysis on environmental resources and in-kind mitigation measures for significant impacts.

CDFG also requested updated biological studies be conducted prior to any environmental or discretionary approvals and identified the information that should be included in any focused biological report or supplemental environmental report.

CDFG also noted opposition to the elimination of water courses and/or their channelization or conversion to subsurface drains and indicated that all wetlands and watercourses must be retained with setbacks to preserve riparian and aquatic values to on-site and off-site wildlife populations.

CDFG recommended the DEIR incorporate all information regarding impacts to lakes, streams, and associated habitat; and the applicant and/or lead agency consult CDFG to discuss potential impacts and avoidance and mitigation measures to avoid subsequent CEQA documentation and facilitate the permitting process in the event a Streambed Alteration Agreement is needed.

Summary of Comments Received from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan)

Metropolitan noted that they own and operate the following large regional facilities within the Project boundaries and requested the presence of these facilities be noted in the drainage plan studies: Colorado River Aqueduct, Casa Loma Siphons 1 and 2, Casa Loma Canal, San Diego Pipelines 1 and 2, San Diego Canal, Lakeview Pipeline, San Jacinto Pipeline, and Inland Feeder.

Metropolitan requested the Draft EIR identify (i) Metropolitan as a public agency from which approval would be required, and any proposed drainage facilities that may impact existing Metropolitan pipelines/facilities and the specific measures to protect these facilities during and post construction.

Metropolitan noted that proximity of the Line E-Y-Z Confluence Basin to the Colorado River Aqueduct Property and indicated this location may not be acceptable. Metropolitan emphasized the need to locate detention basins away from their pipelines to protect water quality and integrity and requested the Draft EIR address this issue. Metropolitan also requested design plans and hydrologic analysis for any detention basin in the vicinity of their facilities.

Summary of Comments Received from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (Regional Board)

The Regional Board requested the Draft EIR incorporate the following comments to best protect water quality standards.

- Address potentially significant impacts to vernal pools and other riparian and wetland segments. The Regional Board stresses avoidance and no net loss of wetlands, avoidance of any impact to water quality standards, and changes to hydrology. Where avoidance is not feasible, impacts to water quality must be minimized and mitigation must replace the full water quality function and value of the standards prior to the impact.
- Clarify which surface channels will be open and earthen.
- Proactively suggest widening a large (or larger) percentage of the channels and basins to rights-of-way to for open and earthen channels, which would accommodate both peak flows, riparian restoration work, or other mitigation support in the Basin Plan's Wildlife Habitat, Warm Freshwater Habitat, and Groundwater Recharge beneficial uses.
- The Draft EIR should provide a comprehensive analysis of design alternatives including those that support a variety of or environmental benefits in addition to the necessary flood control.

The Regional Board notes mitigation is anticipated as part of a Section 404 permit or in waste discharge requirements for those portions of the Project that are not Corps-jurisdictional. The Regional Board further notes that permitting could be streamlined if the Project meets the criteria for permitting under the Riverside County Special Area Management Plan (SAMP).

The Regional Board requested the Project be designed to integrate flood control with riparian corridors, sensitive species habitat, runoff "polishing," groundwater recharge, and recreational opportunities.

The Regional Board noted the Project will provide a drainage plan for the portion of the floodplain that would be removed by the implementation of the San Jacinto River (SJR) Stage 4 Levee Project, and requested that the drainage plan for this floodplain portion include BMPs and (if applicable) identify any inlet to the SJR through the levee embankment.

3.7.3 Thresholds of Significance

San Jacinto has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. However, San Jacinto's "Environmental Checklist" for the subject project (see Appendix A of this Draft EIR) indicates that impacts to hydrology and water quality may be considered potentially significant if the proposed project would:

- during construction create or contribute Urban Runoff that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including the terms of the City's and County's municipal separate stormwater sewer system permit.
- after the project is completed, create or contribute Urban Runoff that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including the terms of the City's and County's municipal separate stormwater sewer system permit.
- provide for the discharge of substantial additional sources of pollutants into Urban Runoff, including pollutants discharged from delivery areas; loading docks; other areas where materials are stored, vehicles or equipment are fueled or maintained, waste is handled, or hazardous materials are handled or delivered; other outdoor work areas; or other sources.
- discharge pollutants in Urban Runoff so that one or more Beneficial Uses of receiving waters are adversely affected. "Beneficial Uses" include all uses of water necessary for the survival or well-being of man, plants and wildlife.
- discharge stormwater so that significant harm is caused to the biological integrity of waterways or water bodies.
- violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.
- substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.
- significantly increase erosion, either on or off site.

- significantly alter the flow velocity or volume of stormwater runoff in a manner that results in environmental harm.
- place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows.

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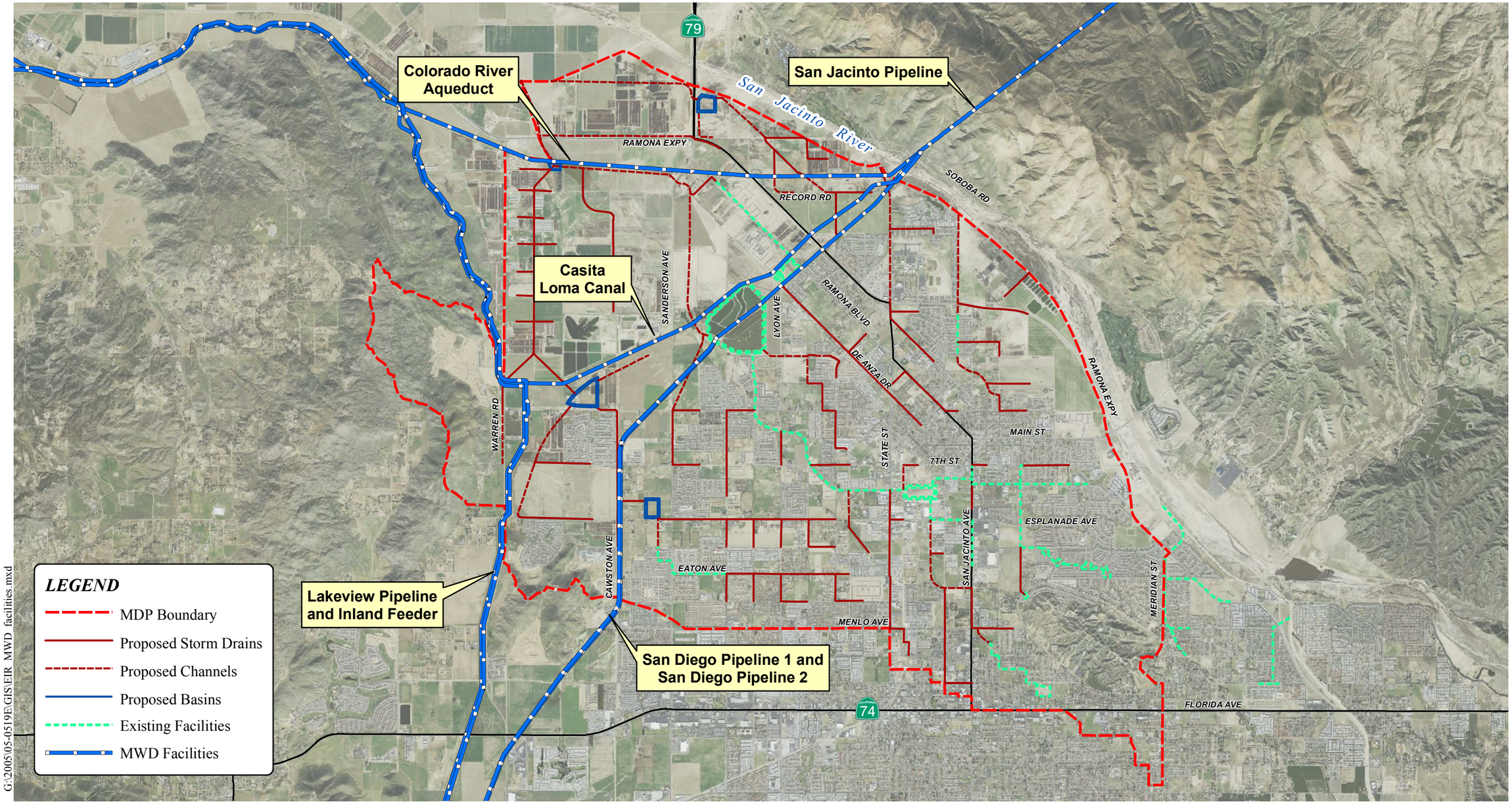


Source: MWD, 2006

Figure 3.7-3
MWD Facilities within the Project Boundary

3.7.4 Related Regulations

3.7.4.1 Federal

Clean Water Act

In 1972, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) was amended to prohibit the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States unless the discharge is in compliance with a NPDES permit. The Clean Water Act (CWA) focused on tracking point sources, primarily from waste water treatment facilities and industrial waste dischargers, and required implementation of control measures to minimize pollutant discharges. The CWA was amended again in 1987, adding Section 402(p), to provide a framework for regulating municipal and industrial stormwater discharges. In November 1990, the U.S. EPA published final regulations that establish application requirements for specific categories of industries, including construction projects that encompass greater than or equal to 5 acres of land. The Phase II Rule became final in December 1999, expanding regulated construction sites to those greater than or equal to 1 acre. The regulations require that stormwater and non-stormwater runoff associated with construction activity, which discharges either directly to surface waters or indirectly through municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), must be regulated by an NPDES permit.

The CWA requires all states to conduct water quality assessments of their water resources to identify water bodies that do not meet water quality standards. The water bodies that do not meet water quality standards are placed on a list of impaired waters pursuant to the requirements of Section 303(d) of the CWA. The proposed Project will discharge to Reach 4 and 5 of the San Jacinto River, which is not listed as an impaired water body on the CWA Section 303(d) list. Downstream receiving water bodies, Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore are listed as an impaired water body on the CWA Section 303(d) list. As mentioned above, Canyon Lake is listed for nutrients and pathogens, and Lake Elsinore is listed for nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, PCBs, and unknown toxicity.

NPDES Permit Program – Phase I

In November 1990, under Phase I of the urban runoff management strategy, the EPA published NPDES permit application requirements for municipal, industrial, and construction stormwater discharges. The application requirements for municipalities were directed at municipalities which own and operate separate storm drain systems serving populations of 100,000 or more, or which contribute significant pollutants to waters of the United States, and required agencies to obtain coverage under municipal stormwater NPDES permits.

Municipalities were required to develop and implement an urban runoff management program to address activities to reduce pollutants in urban runoff and stormwater discharges that were contributing a substantial pollutant load to their systems. Rather than establishing numeric effluent limits, the EPA established narrative effluent limits for urban runoff, including the requirements to implement appropriate BMPs.

The Phase I regulations were also directed at certain facilities that discharged stormwater associated with industrial activity, and construction activities that disturbed five or more acres.

NPDES Permit Program – Phase II

The Phase II Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on December 8, 1999, requires NPDES permits coverage for stormwater discharges from:

- certain regulated small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s); and
- construction activity disturbing between one and five acres of land (i.e., small construction activities).

In addition to expanding the NPDES Program, the Phase II Final Rule included minor revisions for certain industrial facilities. As with Phase I, the Phase II Program requires the development and Implementation of stormwater management plans to reduce pollutant discharges.

3.7.4.2 State

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the SWRCB to adopt, review, and revise policies for all waters of the state (including both surface and groundwater), and directs the RWQCB to develop regional Basin Plans. Section 13170 of the California Water Code also authorizes the SWRCB to adopt water quality control plans on its own initiative. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Region 8) is designed to preserve and enhance the quality of water resources in the Santa Ana Region for the benefit of present and future generations. The purpose of the plan is to designate beneficial uses of the region's surface and groundwaters, designate water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of those uses, and establish an implementation plan to achieve the objectives.

All projects resulting in discharges, whether to land or water, are subject to Section 13263 of the California Water Code and are required to obtain approval of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) from the RWQCB. Land and groundwater related WDRs (i.e., non-NPDES WDRs) regulate discharges of process and wash-down wastewater and privately or publicly treated domestic wastewater. WDRs for discharges to surface waters also serve as NPDES permits.

The SWRCB administers the NPDES permit program regulating stormwater from construction activities for projects greater than one acre in size. In order to obtain coverage under the General Construction Permit (Order No. 99-08-DWQ), a Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID) must be obtained, and an effective site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) developed. The SWPPP must identify potential on-site pollutants, identify and implement an effective combination of erosion control and sediment control measures to reduce or eliminate discharge of pollutants to surface water from stormwater and non-stormwater discharges.

CWA Section 401

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires that any person applying for a federal permit or license which may result in a discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States must obtain a state water quality certification that the activity complies with all applicable water quality standards, limitations, and restrictions. No license or permit may be issued by a federal agency until certification required by Section 401 has been granted. Further, no license or permit may be issued if certification has been denied. CWA Section 404 permits and authorizations are subject to section 401 certification by the RWQCB.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits

In California, the SWRCB and its RWQCB's administer the NPDES permit program. The NPDES permits cover all construction and subsequent drainage improvements that disturb one acre or more, industrial activities, and municipal separate storm drain systems. Construction and industrial activities are typically regulated under statewide general permits that are issued by the SWRCB. The SWRCB also issued a statewide general small MS4 stormwater NPDES permits for public agencies that fall under that Phase II NPDES regulations.

The NPDES permit system was established in the CWA to regulate both point source discharges (a municipal or industrial discharge at a specific location or pipe) and nonpoint source discharges (diffuse runoff of water from adjacent land uses) to surface waters of the United States. For point source discharges, each NPDES permit contains limits on allowable concentrations and mass emission of pollutants contained in the discharge. For nonpoint source discharges, the NPDES program establishes a comprehensive stormwater quality program to manage urban stormwater and minimize pollution of the environment to the maximum extent practicable. The NPDES program consists of characterizing receiving water quality, identifying harmful constituents, targeting potential sources of pollutants, and implementing a comprehensive stormwater management program.

The reduction of pollutants in urban stormwater discharge to the maximum extent practicable through the use of structural and nonstructural BMPs is one of the primary objectives of the water quality regulations for MS4s. Stormwater BMPs to be implemented during construction and grading, as well as post-construction BMPs, will be outlined in the SWPPP prepared for the future development projects approved in the project area. Examples of BMPs include: detention basins for capture and containment of sediments, use of silt fencing, sandbags, or straw bales to control runoff, and identification of emergency procedures in case of hazardous materials spills. The approval of future development projects in the project area will be contingent upon obtaining a construction NPDES permit prior to site disturbance.

Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) are required to address the quality of stormwater or urban runoff that flows from a developed site after construction is completed and the facilities or structures are occupied and/or operational. A Project WQMP describes the BMPs that will be implemented and maintained throughout the life of a project and is used by property owners, facility operators, tenants, facility employees, maintenance contractors, etc., to prevent and minimize water pollution that can be caused by stormwater or urban runoff. The Cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, as well as Riverside County require development projects to prepare and

implement site-specific WQMPs as part of a federal and state regulatory program to reduce and eliminate water pollution caused by runoff flowing from stormwater drainage systems into receiving waters on projects that disturb areas greater than one acre. A site-specific WQMPs will be required as part of future development project applications for discretionary approval. Final site-specific WQMPs must be approved prior to issuance of building and grading permits for future development.

The WQMP has been developed to further address post-construction Urban Runoff from New Development and Significant Redevelopment projects under the jurisdiction of the Permittee and Co-Permittees. Since 1996 the Permittee have addressed the potential post-construction impacts associated with Urban Runoff through Supplement A, New Development Guidelines, to the Santa Ana River Region and Santa Margarita River Region Drainage Area Management Plans (DAMPs) and the Whitewater River Watershed Stormwater Management Plan (SMP). The three NPDES MS4 permits applicable within portions of Riverside County are:

- Order No. R8-2002-0011, NPDES No. CAS 618033 adopted by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board on October 25, 2002 for the Santa Ana River region.
- Order No. 01-077, NPDES No. CAS 617002 adopted by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board on September 5, 2001 for the Whitewater River region.
- Order No. R9-2004-001, NPDES No. CAS 108766 adopted by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board on July 14, 2004 for the Santa Margarita River region.

3.7.4.3 Construction Storm Water Permits

Stormwater runoff from construction activity that results in soil disturbances of at least one acre of total land area (and projects that meet other specific criteria) is governed by the SWRCB under Water Quality Order 99-08-DWQ. These regulations prohibit discharges of polluted stormwater from construction projects that disturb one or more acres of soil unless the discharge is in compliance with the general NPDES permit requirements. The nine individual RWQCBs enforce the General Construction Storm Water Permit for projects within their region.

The RWQCB administers the NPDES permit program regulating stormwater from construction activities for projects greater than one acre in size. The main compliance requirement of the NPDES permits is the development and implementation of a SWPPP. A SWPPP must identify potential on-site pollutants, and identify and implement appropriate stormwater pollution prevention measures to reduce or eliminate discharge of pollutants to surface water from stormwater and non-stormwater discharges.

Stormwater BMPs to be implemented during construction and grading, as well as post-construction BMPs, will be outlined in the SWPPP prepared for each future development project approved within the project area, and will be consistent with Supplement A of the Riverside County Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP), “Selection and Design of Stormwater Quality Controls.” Examples include: detention basins for capture and containment of

sediments, use of silt fencing, sandbags or straw bales to control runoff, and identification of emergency procedures in case of hazardous materials spills. All future development projects in the Project area will be required to obtain a construction NPDES permit prior to site disturbance.

It is the responsibility of the construction site owner or landowner to obtain coverage under this General Permit prior to commencement of construction activities. To obtain coverage, the operator or owner must file [a Notice of Intent] an NOI with a vicinity map and the appropriate fee with the SWRCB. The General Permit outlines the requirements for preparation of a SWPPP.

On September 2, 2009, the California State Water Resources Control Board voted to adopt major revisions to the statewide General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities (Construction General Permit). The new permit will take effect July 1, 2010 and applies to projects that disturb one or more acres, or projects that disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that disturbs more than one acre in total (e.g., large linear utility projects). The revised permit requires that projects implement a SWPPP that contains specific BMPs and establishes numeric effluent limitations to meet water quality and technology-based standards. It also provides greater clarity so that the public can determine whether permittees are in compliance.

3.7.4.4 Regional

Santa Ana River Basin Plan

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana Basin (Basin Plan) sets forth water quality objectives for constituents that could potentially cause an adverse effect or impact on the beneficial uses of water. Specifically, the Basin Plan is designed to accomplish the following:

- Designate beneficial uses for surface and groundwaters;
- Set the narrative and numerical objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect the designated beneficial uses and conform to the state's anti-degradation policy;
- Describe implementation programs to protect the beneficial uses of all waters within the region; and
- Describe surveillance and monitoring activities to evaluate the effectiveness of the Basin Plan.

The Basin Plan incorporates by reference all applicable SWRCB and RWQCB plans and policies.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Metropolitan guidelines for development in the area of facilities, fee properties, and/or easements should be followed for the design of SJV-MDP facilities. Metropolitan requires that three copies of stormdrain plans be submitted for review and written approval, as they pertain to Metropolitan's facilities, and fee properties and/or easements and its pipelines and other facilities must be fully shown and identified as Metropolitan's on all applicable plans. Access along

Metropolitan's rights-of-way must be maintained at all time, and the following guidelines must be adhered to:

- Metropolitan's pipelines and other facilities, e.g., structures, manholes, equipment, survey monuments, within its fee properties and/or easements must be protected from damage by the easement holder on Metropolitan's property or the property owner where Metropolitan has an easement, at no expense to Metropolitan. The exact location, description, and way of protection shall be shown on the related plans for the easement area.
- Metropolitan requires that perimeter fencing of its fee properties and facilities be constructed of universal chain link, 6 feet in height and topped with 3 strands of barbed wire angled upward and outward at a 45 degree angle or an approved equal for a total fence height of 7 feet. Suitable substitute fencing may be considered by Metropolitan.
- Permanent basins shall not be located within Metropolitan's fee properties and/or easements.
- Permanent utility structures within public streets, in which Metropolitan's facilities are constructed under the Metropolitan Water District Act, be placed as far from Metropolitan pipelines as possible, but not closer than 5 feet from the outside the pipeline.
- The installation of utilities over or under Metropolitan's pipelines must be in accordance with the requirements shown on enclosed plans**.** Whenever possible a minimum of one-foot clearance between Metropolitan's pipe and the SJV-MDP facility. Temporary support of Metropolitan's pipe may also be required at under-crossings of its pipe in an open trench. The temporary support plans must be reviewed and approved by Metropolitan.
- Lateral utility crossings of Metropolitan's pipelines must be as perpendicular to its pipeline alignment as practical. Prior to any excavation, the pipeline shall be located manually and any excavation within two feet of the pipeline must be done by hand. This shall be noted on the appropriate drawings.
- Utilities constructed longitudinally within Metropolitan's rights-of-way must be located outside the theoretical trench prism for uncovering its pipeline and must be located parallel to and as close to its rights-of-way lines as practical.
- When piping is jacked, or installed in jacked casing or tunnel under Metropolitan's pipe, there must be at least two feet of vertical clearance between the bottom of Metropolitan's pipe and the top of the jacked pipe, jacked casing or tunnel, Metropolitan also requires that detailed drawings of the shoring for the jacking or tunneling pits be submitted for review and approval. Provisions must be made to grout any voids around the exterior of the jacked pipe, jacked easing, or tunnel. If the piping is installed in a jacked casing or tunnel, the annular space between the piping and the jacked casing or tunnel must be filled with grout.

- Potholing of Metropolitan's pipeline is required if the vertical clearance between a utility and Metropolitan's pipeline is indicated on the plan to be one foot or less. If the indicated clearance is between one and two feet, potholing is suggested.
- Metropolitan pipelines and conduits vary in structural strength; therefore, specific loads over the specific sections of pipe or conduit must be reviewed and approved by Metropolitan.

3.7.4.5 Local

Hemet

Ordinance No. 1531: Section 14-472 of the City's municipal code states:

> *…the purpose of this article is to ensure the future health, safety and general welfare of the citizens by:*
>
> 1. *Reducing pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable;*
> 2. *Regulating illicit connections and discharges to the storm drain system; and*
> 3. *Regulating non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system. The intent of this article is to protect and enhance the water quality of Hemet watercourses, water bodies, ground water, and wetlands in a manner pursuant to and consistent with the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1342).*

City of San Jacinto

San Jacinto's General Plan has two policies relative to the protection of watersheds and wetlands.

Policy 2.7:	*Conserve and protect watershed areas, natural drainage channels and creeks by retaining these resources in their natural condition whenever feasible.*
Policy 2.8:	*Conserve and protect wetlands.*

Riverside County

The Riverside County General Plan Open Space Element has the following policies relative to drainage facilities:

OS Policy 2.2	*Where feasible, decrease stormwater runoff by reducing pavement in development areas, and by design practices, such as permeable parking bays, and porous parking lots with bermed storage areas for rainwater detention.*

OS Policy 4.5	*Retain stormwater at or near the site of generation for percolation into the groundwater to conserve it for future uses and to mitigate adjacent flooding.*
OS Policy 4.10	*Require all proposed projects anywhere in the County to address and mitigate any adverse impacts that it may have on the carrying capacity of local and regional storm drain systems.*

3.7.5 Project Design Considerations

The proposed project site encompasses most of San Jacinto, a portion of Hemet, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County. The proposed Project is the revision and consolidation to the San Jacinto MDP and Northwest Hemet MDP. The purpose of the proposed Project is to better control existing flooding conditions currently experienced in the Project area. SJV-MDP facilities will act as mechanisms to slow and control erosion, siltation, and flooding currently experienced throughout the Project area towards the San Jacinto River channel. The proposed SJV-MDP system is sized to accommodate future runoff from planned land uses within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP as the area develops in accordance with the General Plans of San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County.

Retention basins will control flows from peak runoff. The SJV-MDP facilities will enter the levee at a total of five separate locations: Line J, at approximately 1,200 linear feet (LF) north of the intersection of Western Village Drive and Quandt Ranch Road; Line H, at the State Street and San Jacinto River bridge; Line 1, at approximately 3,700 LF northeast of the intersection of Warren Road and Ramona Expressway; Line Z, at approximately 2,900 LF north of the intersection of Warren Road and Ramona Expressway; and Line K, at approximately 2,200 LF north of the intersection of Bergin Street and Alessandro Avenue. These lines will connect these SJV-MDP facilities to the San Jacinto River Levee via side channels, which will be constructed as part of the San Jacinto River Levee Stage IV Project.

Earthen channels are proposed in undeveloped areas based on consultation with the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Concrete-lined channels are proposed to protect developed areas from scouring. Trash racks on outlet structures will collect trash which would be removed my RCFCWCD staff.

3.7.6 Environmental Impacts Before Mitigation

Threshold: *During project construction, create or contribute Urban Runoff that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including the terms of the City's and County's municipal separate stormwater sewer system permit.*

The proposed MDP facilities are intended to improve stormwater and non-stormwater drainage by promoting groundwater recharge, redirecting stormwater runoff from agricultural lands and other urban developments, and removal of trash and debris from stormwater flows within the project area. All facilities proposed as part of the MDP will be constructed by either, the City of

San Jacinto, City of Hemet, RCFCWCD, or future development projects within San Jacinto and portions of Hemet and unincorporated Riverside County.

San Jacinto and Hemet are co-permitees with Riverside County in the NPDES program, which is designed to reduce pollutant loads in urban runoff. According to the NPDES permit requirements, all new development projects and substantial rehabilitation efforts are required to incorporate BMPs. Implementation of BMPs in accordance with RCFCWCD's NPDES Municipal Stormwater Management Program helps to protect surface water quality in the San Jacinto River watershed.

In order to reduce the discharge of expected pollutants into receiving waters during construction of the proposed SJV-MDP facilities, the Cities or County or future development projects in the Project area would be conditioned to construct portions of the SJV-MDP facilities, and would be required to prepare a SWPPP in accordance with the SWRCB General Permit for Construction Activities. The General Permit requires the development and implementation of a SWPPP to identify an effective combination of erosion control and sediment control BMPs to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants into receiving waters during construction. In addition, BMPs for managing sources of non-stormwater discharges and waste are required to be identified in the SWPPP. Examples of construction BMPs include silt fencing, gravel bag berms, fiber rolls, and street sweeping. Through implementation of the SWPPP for future development projects in the project area, potential impacts to water quality from project construction would be reduced to a **less than significant** level. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *After the project is completed, will it create or contribute urban runoff that would violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including the terms of the City's municipal separate stormwater sewer system permit.*

The proposed SJV-MDP facilities have been designed to improve stormwater and non-stormwater drainage within the project area by promoting groundwater recharge, redirecting stormwater runoff from agricultural lands and other urban developments, and removal of trash and debris from stormwater flows. Studies have shown that conversion from pre-dominantly agricultural to urban land-uses would likely improve or have no effect on water quality with respect to sediments (Geosyntec, 2008). Most facilities proposed as part of the MDP will not be constructed until such time as future development projects within the project area approved. As such, future development projects within the project area would be conditioned by the City of San Jacinto, the City of Hemet, and/or RCFCWCD to construct those MDP facilities that would be affected by that project. Therefore, the project facilities would not be constructed until such time as future development projects are approved.

Conditions of approval for development projects would include the preparation of a site-specific WQMP, which would provide for treatment of stormwater and non-stormwater discharge through site design, source control, and/or treatment control BMPs. BMPs typically used to manage urban runoff include controlling roadway and parking lot contaminants by installing filters with oil and grease absorbents at storm drain inlets, cleaning parking lots on a regular basis, incorporating peak-flow reduction and infiltration features (such as grass swales, infiltration trenches, and grass filter strips) into landscaping, and implementing education

programs. Since future development projects within the project area will be required to comply with the terms of the WQMP, post construction impacts to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements are expected to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Provide for the discharge of substantial additional sources of pollutants into Urban Runoff, including pollutants discharged from delivery areas; loading docks; other areas where materials are stored, vehicles or equipment are fueled or maintained, waste is handled, or hazardous materials are handled or delivered; other outdoor work areas; or other sources.*

The proposed SJV-MDP and SJR-ADP will serve as tools in planning and development of the Project area. The SJV-MDP has been designed to provide regional stormwater drainage within the Project area. The SJR-ADP will provide an appropriate fee mechanism, based on the costs of the facilities in the SJV-MDP.

In order to reduce the discharge of pollutants associated with future development projects within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP, future development project proponents will be required to prepare site-specific SWPPPs in accordance with the SWRCB General Permit for Construction Activities. The General Permit requires the preparation and implementation of a site-specific SWPPP, to identify an effective combination of erosion control and sediment control BMPs to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants into receiving waters. In addition, BMPs for managing sources of non-stormwater discharges and waste are required to be identified in the SWPPP.

Future development projects within the Project area will also be required to prepare a site-specific WQMP that would identify BMPs to ensure that water quality of downstream receiving waters are not degraded following development. As indicated in the WQMP, it is imperative that development projects minimize changes to hydrology to ensure that post-development runoff rates and velocities from a site do not adversely impact downstream erosion, sedimentation or stream habitat. The goals of site design techniques identified in a site-specific WQMP is to reduce the pollutant loads from developed areas, and achieve post development runoff flow rates, volumes, velocities, and duration that prevent significant increase in downstream erosion compared to the pre-development condition, and prevent significant adverse impacts to stream habitat during the 2-year and 10-year, 24-hour rainfall event.

Future development projects approved within the Project area have the potential to provide substantial pollutants to urban runoff within the Project area. However, these development projects will be required to comply with the provisions of the Riverside County SWPPP and WQMP, minimizing the potential for substantial additional pollutants in urban runoff. As such, the project would not directly result in substantial sources of pollutants into urban runoff. Therefore, impacts are anticipated to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Discharge pollutants in Urban Runoff so that one or more Beneficial Uses of receiving waters are adversely affected. "Beneficial Uses" include all uses of water necessary for the survival or well-being of man, plants and wildlife.*

As discussed above, the RWQCB sets water quality standards for all ground and surface waters within its region. Water quality standards are defined under the CWA to include the beneficial uses of specific water bodies, the levels of water quality that must be met and maintained to protect those uses (water quality objectives), and the state's anti-degradation policy. Beneficial uses consist of all the various ways that water can be used for the benefit of people and/or wildlife.

Seven beneficial uses have been designated for surface water bodies in the vicinity of the project site. **Table 3.7-A, Beneficial Uses for Receiving Waters in Proximity to the Project Site**, provides a summary of the impairment and beneficial uses of the relevant receiving waters. Since Canyon Lake is listed as impaired for nutrients and pathogens; and Lake Elsinore is listed as impaired for nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, PCBs, and unknown toxicity, all future development projects approved within the project area will be required to reduce the potential for discharge of pollutants that would further impair downstream receiving waters, including Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore. As such, future development projects would be conditioned to prepare a site-specific SWPPP and WQMP. The selection of BMPs that treat urban runoff for nutrients, pathogens, organic enriched/low dissolved oxygen, PCBs, and unknown toxicity will be required.

The proposed SJV-MDP facilities have the potential to convey pollutants associated with agricultural activities and residential, commercial and industrial developments. However, the facilities shall be constructed either by RCFCWCD or by future development projects within the project area. Implementation of the proposed SJV-MDP would facilitate the approval of future developments within the Project area, which may result in the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff that could adversely affect receiving waters. However, as previously mentioned, future development project will be required to comply with the provisions of the NPDES permit and prepare SWPPPs and WQMPs incorporating appropriate BMPS; therefore, potential impacts to receiving waters would be mitigated at the time future developments are approved. Impacts are anticipated to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Discharge stormwater so that significant harm is caused to the biological integrity of waterways or water bodies.*

Biological integrity is the capability of supporting and maintaining a balanced, integrated, adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity, and functional organization comparable to that of the natural habitat of the region. This term primarily refers to aquatic environments since the vocabulary is derived from the CWA.

Currently within the Project area, stormwater from low flow events ponds within low areas and agricultural and roadside ditches or is conveyed via sheet flows or agricultural and roadside ditches. The general drainage pattern within the Project area is in a northwest direction, towards the San Jacinto River, the natural low point in the valley. Regionally the SJV-MDP facilities follow the existing drainage pattern of the project area.

Sensitive plant species previously identified in the Project area are located within the 100-year floodplain of the San Jacinto River. The proposed Project will not alter the velocity, volume, or

seasonal flow of the San Jacinto River 100-year floodplain. Thereby the proposed Project will not alter the historic floodplain of the river and habitat for these species.

Although development within the SJV-MDP area would result in changes to the existing local hydrology, areas that currently pond or receive sheet flow would continue to do so in the small events at the local level. It would be during the larger storm events that storm water would be collected and conveyed through the MDP facilities. Vertical hydrology (rainfall) is predominantly responsible for the maintenance of vernal pools, and existing plant populations in the area. Any existing vernal pools and associated sensitive species would continue to receive local runoff and rainfall. Therefore, the proposed Project is not expected to have a significant indirect impact on the biological integrity of the San Jacinto River or any other water body.

The SJV-MDP facilities have potential to discharge stormwater flows to downstream receiving water bodies, thus potentially affecting the biological integrity of those water bodies. However, future development projects within the project area will be required to comply with all provisions of the NPDES permit program, including the preparation of a SWPPP and WQMP, thus potential impacts to receiving waters would be mitigated at the time future developments are approved. Therefore, impacts are **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.*

Implementation of the proposed Project will not add significant amounts of impervious surfaces to the project area, as the proposed facilities will be underground stormdrain pipelines, earthen and concrete-lined trapezoidal channels, and earthen basins. The SJV-MDP would establish a comprehensive stormwater drainage system in the Project area, to provide adequate drainage for the Project area to support buildout in accordance with land uses identified in the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans.

The RWQCB has established water quality standards for all surface waters within its region. Water quality standards are defined under the Clean Water Act to include both the beneficial uses of specific water bodies and the levels of water quality that must be met and maintained to protect those uses (water quality objectives). Water quality standards for all surface waters overseen by the RWQCB are documented in the Basin Plan (2008). Beneficial uses consist of all the various ways that water can be used for the benefit of people and/or wildlife. Seven beneficial uses have been designated for surface water bodies in the vicinity of the project site (refer to **Table 3.7-A, Beneficial Uses for Receiving Waters in Proximity to the Project Site**). All listed water quality objectives governing water quality in inland surface waters were evaluated for potential impacts from development of the proposed project; however, only those numeric and narrative water quality objectives that are most likely to be relevant to the proposed project are listed in Table 3.7-A. Water quality standards are attained when designated beneficial uses are achieved and water quality objectives are being met. The regulatory program of the RWQCB is designed to minimize and control discharges to surface and groundwater within the region, largely through permitting, such that water quality standards are effectively attained.

The proposed project will reduce flooding from stormwater and urban runoff currently experienced in the project area. The proposed drainage facilities themselves will not generate or

create a significant increase in runoff or stormwater pollutants. The project detention basins will allow for some sediment transported in stormwater runoff to settle out over time, and will attenuate peak-flow rates from storm events. Activities relating to the construction of MDP facilities will be regulated by the RWQCB under the NPDES permit program at the time future development projects are approved within the project area.

The RWQCB may also regulate portions of the SJV-MDP under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act or Section 401 of the CWA. Stormwater pollution prevention measures will be identified and must be followed to reduce or eliminate discharge of pollutants to surface water from stormwater and non-stormwater discharges from, not only the construction of the SJV-MDP facilities, but the implementation of future approved development projects within the project area, as well.

Specific water quality impacts will be further mitigated at the time of facility construction through the ongoing compliance with existing water quality regulatory programs. The proposed facilities shall be constructed in conformance with the RWQCB, NPDES Permit R8-2002-001. This permit regulates flood control facilities operated by the RCFCWCD, among others, within the Santa Ana River Watershed. The Permit requires the RCFCWCD to conduct public education, monitoring, illicit connection/illegal discharge detection and removal, maintenance activities, and coordination with other MS4 operators to ensure that pollutants discharging from MS4 systems are mitigated to the maximum extent practicable. Facilities constructed under the proposed project would be required to comply with this permit.

In addition, any proposed facilities that impact “waters of the United States” or “waters of the State” will be regulated by the RWQCB under Section 401 of the CWA or the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The project also incorporates unlined reaches of channels and basins, which can serve to attenuate peak-flow rates and allow for infiltration of stormwater. Additional water quality control measures may be implemented at the time of construction in order to comply with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements established by the RWQCB within the watershed.

In light of the above water quality regulatory programs already in place, which the proposed project and future development projects within the project area will have to comply with, impacts to water quality area anticipated to be **less than significant**.

Planned development in the watershed may impact water quality within the Project area. The proposed Project may result in indirect impacts to water quality by removing one obstacle to development, and subsequent population growth, in the Project area. However, as outlined in Section 3.7.1, the proposed facilities are located in areas that are already planned for development by the City of San Jacinto General Plan (January 2006), the City of Hemet General Plan (1992), and the Riverside County General Plan (Adopted October 7, 2003).

Substantial population increase is anticipated in San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County. This increase in population would increase the quantity of urban runoff generated, decrease the quality of treated wastewater, and increase the need for effluent disposal. The effluent, when discharged into a stream, or other surface water body, has the potential to degrade the quality of

the water in the receiving water body. Additionally, stormwater runoff from urban areas contains a variety of organic and inorganic substances that may reduce the quality of water resources.

Through the development review process, San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County comply with various statutory requirements necessary to achieve regional water quality objectives and protect groundwater and surface waters from polluted stormwater runoff. As a Co-Permittee with the Riverside County under the MS4 permit, San Jacinto and Hemet are responsible for eliminating illegal discharges and connections into storm drains that ultimately discharge into surface waters. Additionally, San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County are required to consider water quality impacts during review of development project proposals to ensure that appropriate structural and non-structural BMPs are incorporated into project design, construction, and operation phases to reduce contaminants in stormwater discharges, consistent with requirements of the NPDES permit. Because of existing NPDES permitting requirements potential indirect impacts related to water quality remain **less than significant**.

Several of the SJV-MDP facilities are proposed to be adjacent to, or cross Metropolitan facilities (refer to **Figure 3.7-3, MWD Facilities within the Project Boundary**). Metropolitan has expressed concern for placement of Project facilities in proximity to their facilities because of potential impacts to the water quality within them. In order to avoid potential impacts to water quality within any of Metropolitan's regional water conveyance pipelines, which are located within the project boundary, future development projects within the SJV-MDP project boundary shall be required to comply with all of Metropolitan's *Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, And/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.* As such, any facilities constructed in proximity to Metropolitan's facilities, will be conditioned to submit detailed plans to Metropolitan for their review and approval. Therefore, impacts to water quality within Metropolitan's facilities are anticipated to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.*

The majority of the Project area is relatively flat descending gradually from south to north. The elevation ranges from 1,570 feet above sea level in the Lakeview Mountains on western boundary of the site, to 1,450 feet above sea level along the northwestern boundary at the San Jacinto River (refer to **Figure 3.7-2, USGS Topography**).

Currently within the project area storm water from low flow events ponds within low areas and agricultural and roadside ditches or is conveyed via sheet flows or agricultural and roadside ditches. The general drainage pattern within the project area is in a northwest direction, towards the San Jacinto River, the natural low point in the valley. Regionally the SJV-MDP facilities follow the existing drainage pattern of the project area.

On a local level, construction of SJV-MDP facilities will alter the existing drainage pattern by detaining and channelizing sheet flows in the Project area in SJV-MDP facilities. This change in

the local drainage pattern is an inherent part of the Project; however, the Project is designed to improve drainage, and will not result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.

Implementation of the Project would not result in significant impervious area, as the proposed facilities will be constructed primarily within existing and proposed road right-of-way, and basins are comprised of earthen material for attenuation of peak-flow rates and increased percolation. The proposed trapezoidal channels are planned to be earthen or concrete-lined. The concrete-lined trapezoidal channels will add impervious area to the overall project area. However, implementation of the Project would improve stormwater and non-stormwater drainage within the Project area by channelizing and directing flows in the Project area.

Impervious surfaces, including paved areas such as parking lots, roadways, and building rooftops decrease the area in which stormwater runoff can infiltrate, potentially resulting in decreased absorption and increased runoff. Future development projects in the project area would be conditioned to comply with the provisions of the Riverside County WQMP which includes site design requirements to minimize directly connected impervious areas. This WQMP requirement will reduce the overall impervious areas within the Project area, and thus reduce the overall amount of surface runoff from urban areas.

The proposed SJV-MDP has been designed to accommodate 100-year stormwater flows from the Project area; therefore, after implementation of the SJV-MDP will not result in peak flows exiting the site that would result in flooding on or off site. Impacts are considered to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Significantly increase erosion, either on or off site.*

As previously discussed, impervious surfaces such as paved areas, parking lots, roadways, and building rooftops decrease the area in which stormwater runoff can infiltrate, potentially resulting in decreased absorption and increased runoff. However, the proposed facilities would be constructed and phased to be available at such time as future development projects in the Project area are approved. Future developments would be conditioned to comply with the provisions of the Riverside County SWPPP and WQMP.

The SWPPP includes provisions to identify potential on-site pollutants, identify and implement an effective combination of erosion control and sediment control measures to reduce or eliminate discharge of pollutants to surface water from stormwater and non-stormwater discharges during construction activities. The site-specific WQMP must describes the BMPs that will be implemented and maintained throughout the life of a project, and is used by property owners, facility operators, tenants, facility employees, maintenance contractors, etc., to prevent and minimize water pollution that can be caused by stormwater or urban runoff. BMP selection includes site design measures to minimize directly connected impervious areas, source control measure to minimize urban runoff potential, and/or treatment control measures to minimize urban runoff pollutant loads. Therefore, through compliance with the NPDES permitting program and incorporation of appropriate BMPs, impacts are expected to be **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.

Threshold: *Significantly alter the flow velocity or volume of stormwater runoff in a manner that results in environmental harm.*

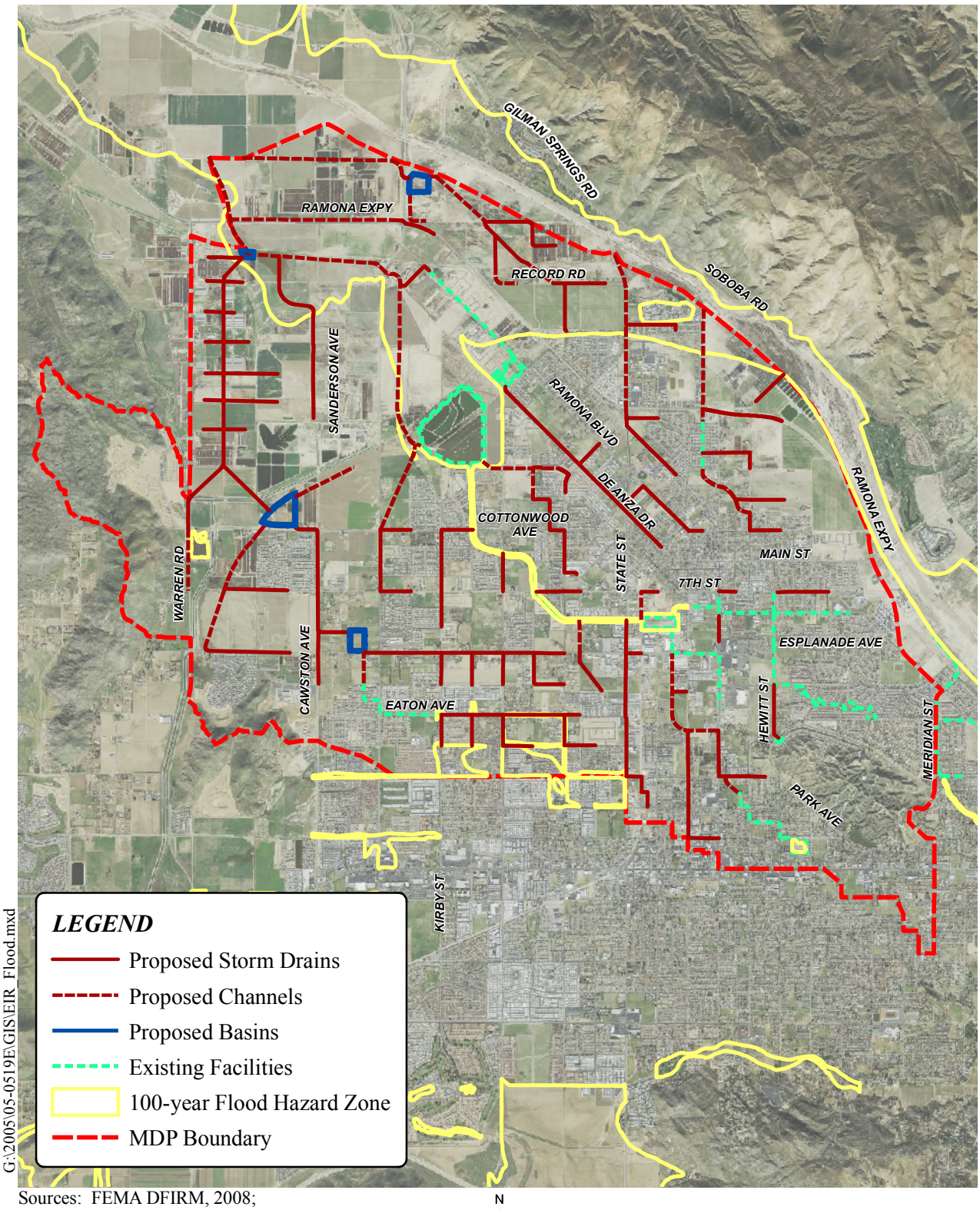
The proposed SJV-MDP facilities have been designed to convey stormwater flows from areas planned for development within San Jacinto, portions of Hemet, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County. Currently the Project area experiences periodic flooding due to the relatively flat topography of the area and the inadequacy of existing stormwater drainage facilities. The proposed facilities have been designed to attenuate peak-flow rates and create a more efficient stormwater drainage system. The potential increase of the flow velocity within the Project area will be attenuated through the Project basins; therefore, impacts from increased flow velocity are **less than significant**.

Many of the SJV-MDP facilities would be constructed by future development projects within the Project area. As such, future development projects would be conditioned to prepare a site-specific WQMP, which includes site design requirements to minimize directly connected impervious surfaces. This requirement to reduce directly connected impervious surfaces will allow for percolation to occur throughout the Project area, as future projects are approved, thus maintaining a more natural runoff rate, once the SJV-MDP is fully constructed. The volume of water within the proposed drainage facilities is not anticipated to increase significantly because future project proponents will be required to comply with the provisions of the Riverside County WQMP, impacts are anticipated to be **less than significant**.

Threshold: *Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows.*

Portions of the proposed SJV-MDP will be constructed within mapped 100-year flood hazard areas (see **Figure 3.7-4, Flood Hazards Zone**). However, placement of these flood control facilities within 100-year flood hazard areas is needed due to the relatively flat topography of the project area, and to contain the 100-year storm flows. The proposed MDP facilities will re-direct sheet flows across the project area into basins, open channels, and underground storm drains and convey these flows towards the San Jacinto River to the north of the project. When completed, the proposed drainage system will provide 100-year protection and eliminate the major flood hazards in the project area.

Additionally, RCFCWCD is in the design stage for the San Jacinto River Levee Stage 4 project, which, once completed, will significantly alter the existing 100-year flood plain along the northern boundary of the project area. Since construction of the proposed MDP facilities in conjunction with the San Jacinto River Levee Stage 4 Project would alleviate flooding potential within the project area, impacts are considered **less than significant**. No mitigation measures are necessary.



Sources: FEMA DFIRM, 2008;
Digital Globe, March 2008.

Figure 3.7-4
Flood Hazard Zones

3.7.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). There is no mitigation to the impacts associated with altering local drainage patterns, as that is the intent of the Project. With respect to other impacts to hydrology and water quality, mitigation measures are not necessary as implementation of the project is dependent on the approval of future development projects within the project area would be required to comply with the provisions of the NPDES permit program by preparing site-specific SWPPPs and WQMPs, which will reduce potential impacts related to stormwater runoff.

3.7.8 Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

Once the proposed Project is approved, future development within San Jacinto, Hemet, and portions of Riverside County within the project area must implement site-specific NPDES requirements. Compliance with NPDES requirements will reduce potential impacts to levels that are less than significant.

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3.8 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Potential impacts related to:

- displacing substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing; and
- displacing substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing,

were all found to be less than significant in the Initial Study/NOP prepared for the Project (Appendix A). The focus of the following discussion is related to the Project's potential to:

- induce substantial population growth in within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP.

In addition to other documents, the following references were used in the preparation of this section of the DEIR:

- City of Hemet, *General Plan*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.) (HGP)
- City of Hemet, *Hemet General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.) (HGP FEIR)
- City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report Findings*, April 2006. (Available at the San Jacinto City Clerk's Office (SJGP FEIR)
- City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR*, January 2006. (Available at City of San Jacinto and at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan-EIR.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.) (SJGP DEIR)
- City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan, Housing Element*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/development/general-plan/Housing%20Element.pdf, accessed on May 4, 2009.) (SJGP Housing)
- County of Riverside, *County of Riverside General Plan, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan*, October 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department and at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/ap2/sjvap.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.) (COR SJVAP)
- County of Riverside, Transportation and Land Management Agency, Planning Division, *Riverside County Integrated Project, General Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report*, 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department and at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/eir/volume1.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.) (COR GP FEIR)

3.8.1 Setting

3.8.1.1 City of San Jacinto

The Housing Element of San Jacinto's General Plan (adopted January 2006) provides an indication of the need for housing in the community in terms of affordability, availability, adequacy and accessibility, provides a strategy to address housing needs and identifies a series of specific housing programs to meet community needs. The Housing Element sets forth goals and policies to address five issue areas:

1) conserving and improving existing affordable housing;
2) providing adequate housing sites;
3) assisting the development of affordable housing;
4) removing governmental constraints; and,
5) promoting equal housing opportunity.

The Housing Plan within the Housing Element identifies needs in four issue areas: housing availability, housing adequacy, housing affordability and special needs households. As part of the Housing Element update, San Jacinto must evaluate the accomplishments made under the adopted Element.

According to San Jacinto's 1993 Housing Element, the San Jacinto had a total regional housing needs assessment of 3,000 units, including 200 very low, 2,000 moderate, and 200 upper income units. These were the preliminary numbers generated by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in 1992. San Jacinto added 2,358 dwelling units to its housing stock between 1989 and 1998. San Jacinto does not keep records by affordability; however, it is believed 21 of these units were deed restricted.

The housing programs that address the Housing Element goals and policies define the specific actions San Jacinto will undertake in order to achieve the goals for the current housing period. Pursuant to State Law, the programs address the five issue areas: 1) Conserve and improve the existing housing stock; 2) Provide adequate sites for the development of new housing; 3) Assist in the provision of affordable housing; 4) Minimize the impact of governmental constraints on housing production; and, 5) Assure equal housing opportunity for all residents.

These five issue areas cover thirteen Housing Programs within San Jacinto:

1. Code Enforcement – Use proactive techniques to improve physical condition of the homes and neighborhoods.
2. Housing Rehabilitation Programs – Target single-family homeowners that need extensive repairs and improve the condition of their homes.

3. Conservation of Existing and Future Affordable Units – Work with property owners, interest groups and the State and federal governments to implement programs on an ongoing basis to conserve affordable housing stock.
4. Section 8 Rental Assistance – Extends rental subsidies to very low-income family and elderly, which spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent.
5. Preservation of Historic Housing – Support applications for National Historic Property Status and fund for preservation of San Jacinto's most sensitive resources. San Jacinto will also develop and implement a program that allows owners of historic properties to obtain a local landmark status, allowing for "mills Act" property tax relief.
6. Senior Homeowner Minor Repair – San Jacinto allocates approximately $10,000 annually to Senior Minor Home Repair program.
7. Land Use Element – San Jacinto will update the Zoning Ordinance and incorporate standards for the newly created Very High Density Residential land use designation.
8. Single-Family Homeowner Assistance Program – Includes a City Mortgage Assistance Program/Second Trust Deed Program to assist income-qualified first-time home buyers with up to a $7,500 loan.
9. Single-Family Infill Housing Program – Promote homeownership and neighborhood improvement.
10. Pursue State and Federal Funding – Pursue available State and Federal funding sources in cooperation with private developers, nonprofit housing corporations, and other interested entities to assist in meeting the needs of lower income households.
11. Zoning Ordinance Update – Comprehensively update the Zoning Ordinance to ensure consistency with the General Plan.
12. Fair Housing Services – Work with the County of Riverside who provides fair housing service to all unincorporated areas of the county and non-entitlement cities.
13. Reasonable Accommodation for Housing for Persons with Disabilities – Required by Federal Fair Housing Act and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act

3.8.1.2 City of Hemet

The Housing Element of Hemet's General Plan (adopted August 1992) is a comprehensive statement of Hemet's housing policies and a specific guide for actions to be taken to implement these policies. It examines Hemet's housing needs as they exist today; projects future housing needs; and sets forth statements of community goals, objectives, and policies concerning those needs. Housing programs are responsive to current and future needs, constructed within the context of available resources and realistic quantification of housing objectives. The Hemet General Plan Housing Element provides analyses on population characteristics, existing housing and household characteristics, local and regional assistance, future housing needs by income group, potential sites for future housing needs, and constraints to development and energy conservation.

Between 1980 and 1990, the population of Hemet increased by 61 percent. On average, 500 new housing units were constructed yearly in the City during the 1980's. Between 1984 and 1988, approximately 4,100 new units were constructed which significantly exceeded Hemet's share of the regional housing needs for the same period, 3,363 units. Of these, 56 percent were for the lower income groups.

The Riverside County Housing Authority and Riverside Community Development Department presently administer housing programs in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of Hemet/San Jacinto Valley. The primary focus of housing efforts have been on housing rehabilitation.

The general goals of the Housing Element are:

1. The attainment of decent housing within a satisfying living environment for households of all socio-economic, age and ethnic groups in Hemet.
2. The provision of a variety of housing opportunities by type, tenure, and cost for households of all sizes throughout the City.
3. The development of a balanced residential environment with access to employment opportunities, community facilities, and adequate services.

In order to attain these goals, Hemet will utilize all relevant housing programs that are presently available without encumbering local public funds or creating any major administrative costs to the City. The City will also utilize existing development standards that generate units through normal market forces as the primary means of satisfying projected local housing need. The attainment of these goals is noted as part of the Housing Program Descriptions.

The policies and programs are organized around five issue areas which are identified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development as important priorities for addressing local housing problems:

1. Programs for helping to assure equitable access to housing
2. Programs for assuring adequate provision of housing
3. Programs for utilizing opportunities to create new housing sites
4. Programs for preserving and rehabilitating exiting housing stock
5. Programs for helping to encourage the maintenance of affordable purchase and rental costs

3.8.1.3 County of Riverside

The Housing Element of the County of Riverside General Plan (Adopted October 7, 2003) identifies and establishes the County's policies with respect to meeting the needs of existing and future residents in the County. According to the General Plan, Riverside County has grown by over 96,000 people or approximately 7 percent between 1994 and 1999. Within Riverside County, the eastern area has grown at a slightly faster pace (11 percent) than the western area (6

percent). Unincorporated areas of the County grew by just 1.1 percent—significantly slower than the County as a whole. About 26 percent of Riverside County's population in 1999 lived in unincorporated areas.

As outlined in the County General Plan, the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process assigned 30,677 units in new construction to unincorporated Riverside County, making about 80 percent of this total allocated to the western portion of the County. The Vacant Land Analysis used in the General Plan demonstrates that the unincorporated County contains over 2.3 million acres of vacant land that allows residential development. It is estimated that approximately 396,000 additional dwelling units could be accommodated at build out under the General Plan residential land use designations.

The Land Use Element of the County of Riverside General Plan functions as a guide to planners, the general public, and decision makers as to the ultimate pattern of development in the unincorporated area of the County. The Land Use Element lays out the general distribution and location of land uses, such as housing, business, industry, open space, agriculture, natural resources, recreation, and public/quasi-public uses. The majority of the project area is located in unincorporated Riverside County and is primarily designated as Community Development (Figure LU-1, "Riverside County General Land Use") under the County General Plan. The General Plan establishes 19 area plans, which when combined, encompass the whole of western Riverside County and significant portions of eastern Riverside County. Each Area Plan contains guidelines for development. The proposed facilities span portions of the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan; designated land uses of this area within the footprint of the proposed project facilities include: mostly low to medium density residential.

Implementation of the City of San Jacinto, City of Hemet and the Riverside County General Plan land use policies, and these proposed developments will increase the need for the drainage facilities and infrastructure contained in the proposed project. Some of the proposed drainage facilities may be constructed as components of the approved development projects described above or with other future development projects.

3.8.2 Comments Received in Response to the Notice of Preparation

No comments were received in response to the NOP relative to population and housing.

3.8.3 Thresholds of Significance

San Jacinto has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. However, San Jacinto's "Environmental Checklist" for the Project (see Appendix A of this document) as well as Hemet's and RCFCWCD's environmental checklists indicates that impacts related to population/housing may be considered potentially significant if the Project would:

- induce substantial population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example through extension of road or other infrastructure).

3.8.4 Related Regulations

There are no specific regulations related to growth inducement applicable to the SJV-MDP. However, the proposed Project is consistent with the land uses identified in the San Jacinto, Hemet, and San Jacinto Valley Area Plan (Riverside County General Plans).

3.8.5 Project Design Considerations

There are no specific Project design measures that would avoid or reduce potential population growth within the SJV-MDP boundaries. The SJV-MDP is designed to provide flood protection to existing development as well as the necessary flood control infrastructure to accommodate drainage as the Project area develops in accordance with the land use policies of San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside.

3.8.6 Environmental Impacts Before Mitigation

Threshold: *Induce substantial population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example through extension of road or other infrastructure.*

The SJV-MDP does not include the construction of new homes or businesses, and therefore will not directly induce substantial population growth in the Project area. The proposed Project may indirectly induce substantial population growth in the SJV-MDP boundaries by providing flood control infrastructure, sized to protect the Project area at full build out per the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans.

The proposed MDP facilities have been designed to convey stormwater flows from areas planned for urban development within San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County. Currently the Project area experiences periodic flooding due to the relatively flat topography of the area and the inadequacy of existing stormwater drainage facilities. The proposed Project includes facilities designed to attenuate peak-flow rates and create a more efficient stormwater drainage system. Though the Project would alter the flow velocity and volume of storm water flows, the proposed SJV-MDP will result in decreased flood potential in the Project area because the facilities have been sized and planned in a comprehensive manner taking into account existing and proposed land uses within the proposed boundaries of the SJV-MDP. The proposed project will reduce flooding from stormwater and urban runoff currently experienced in the project area.

The proposed drainage facilities themselves will not generate or create a significant increase in runoff or storm water pollutants. The project detention basins will allow for some sediment transported in storm water runoff to settle out over time, and will attenuate peak-flow rates from storm events. Activities relating to the construction of MDP facilities will be regulated by the Santa Ana RWQCB under the NPDES Construction and MS4 permitting programs, at the time future development or infrastructure projects are approved within the SJV-MDP area.

As a comprehensive, area-wide master drainage plan, the SJV-MDP is sized and designed to accommodate continued development throughout the San Jacinto Valley. New development will

be accompanied by construction of both on-site storm detention basins and related structures in the near term, and construction of master plan facilities in San Jacinto and Hemet that will accompany longer term improvements to the San Jacinto River channel.

A project could indirectly induce growth by removing barriers to growth, by creating a condition that attracts additional population or new economic activity, or by providing a catalyst for future unrelated growth in an area. While a project may have a potential to induce growth, it does not automatically result in growth. Growth can only happen through capital investment in new economic opportunities by the public or private sectors. The land use policies established by the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County will regulate growth in the Project area. Growth induced by a project is considered a significant impact if it directly or indirectly affects the ability of agencies to provide needed public services, or if can be demonstrated that the potential growth significantly affects the environment in some other way.

The City of San Jacinto General Plan Final EIR (SCH No. 2001111165) addressed potential environmental impacts, including growth inducement, from implementation of policies and land use designations as set forth in the San Jacinto General Plan. As outlined in the Draft EIR, adoption and implementation of the San Jacinto General Plan would indirectly induce substantial population growth through increased residential and non-residential development, resulting in a significant impact. Findings for significant project-specific impacts indicate that

> *The City Council of the City of San Jacinto, based on substantial evidence in the record, hereby finds that changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which substantially lessen, but do not avoid, the potentially significant environmental effect associated with population growth. No mitigation is available to render the effect less than significant. The effect therefore remains significant and unavoidable"* (San Jacinto General Plan Findings). Findings for significant cumulative impacts indicate that "*The city Council of the City of San Jacinto, based on substantial evidence in the record, hereby finds that no mitigation is available to render the effect less than significant. The effect therefore remains significant and unavoidable.*

The City of Hemet General Plan also addressed potential environmental impacts, including growth inducement, from implementation of policies and land use designations as set forth in the San Jacinto General Plan. According to the Hemet General Plan, there are no strategies specifically designed to mitigate the impacts of the buildout population; rather, all of the strategies contained in the General Plan can be regarded as mitigation for the impacts related to population increase, such as additional infrastructure or increased water use, that result from implementation of the proposed land use plan.

Housing impacts related to projected growth in the Hemet area are potentially significant. However, housing conditions and characteristics, such as overcrowding and unsound units, will improve through implementation of the strategies contained in the General Plan. In addition, the condition of the homeless in the study area is likely to improve through implementation of the goals and strategies in the Housing Element. Therefore, the impacts to housing as a result of the project can be mitigated to below a level of significance.

The Riverside County General Plan Final EIR October 2003 (SCH No. 2002051143) and its associated Statement of Overriding Considerations document (October 7, 2003) addressed potential environmental impacts, including growth inducement, from implementation of policies and land use designations set forth in the General Plan. As outlined in the Riverside County General Plan Final EIR, development following the General Plan would result in growth. Based on the definition of growth inducement, a General Plan is inherently growth inducing. The growth permitted by the General Plan leads to various significant unavoidable adverse impacts. The General Plan is a master plan providing the framework by which public officials will be guided on making decisions relative to development within Riverside County. However, it is the implementation of land use policies that will incrementally increase demands for public services, utilities, and infrastructure, and the need for medical, educational, and recreational facilities. Riverside County has the land use authority and has adopted a FEIR, findings and a Statement of Overriding Consideration for such growth.

The proposed project could indirectly induce growth by removing one potential barrier to growth, by providing planned drainage infrastructure. The City of San Jacinto, the City of Hemet, and the County of Riverside General Plans outline the type of development and growth that will be allowed in the area. Thus, potential indirect impacts from development in the project area are not expected to exceed the potential impacts that have already been disclosed in their General Plan EIRs. Yet, because implementation of the proposed Project could **indirectly induce substantial population growth in San Jacinto, Hemet, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County, impacts are considered significant**.

3.8.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Potential mitigation measures are evaluated for their ability to eliminate the potential significant adverse impacts upon population and/or housing or to reduce impacts to below the level of significance. After analysis of the proposed project's impacts on substantial population growth, it was determined that **no feasible mitigation exists to reduce or eliminate growth inducement of the project**

3.8.8 Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures Are Implemented

The proposed Project could indirectly induce substantial population growth in the San Jacinto Valley areas, by removing an obstacle to development. The existing storm drain facilities in the Project area are not sized or intended to provide flood protection for future development. Implementation of the SJV-MDP and construction of MDP facilities would remove an obstacle to future growth and development as planned per the adopted General Plans for San Jacinto, Hemet and Riverside County. The proposed Project was planned and sized to provide drainage facilities and infrastructure consistent with the land use plans in the aforementioned General Plans. The proposed Project's potential indirect impacts would not exceed the impacts that have already been addressed during the adoption of the San Jacinto General Plan EIR (May 2006), the

Hemet General Plan Final EIR (August 1992), or the Riverside County General Plan Final EIR (October 2003). Nonetheless, **there are no mitigation measures that would reduce indirect project impacts to less than significant levels. Adoption of a Statement of Overriding considerations would be required prior to Project approval**.

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4.0 CONSISTENCY WITH REGIONAL PLANS

Section 15125(d) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* requires an EIR to discuss any inconsistencies between the proposed Project and applicable general and regional plans. A discussion of the proposed Project's consistency with the MSHCP is contained in the Section 3.4 (Biological Resources) of this Draft EIR. Section 4.3 (Air Quality) of this Draft EIR discusses consistency with the AQMP.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for a six-county region (Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties) and is charged by the federal government to research and prepare plans for transportation, growth management, hazardous waste management, and air quality. The purpose of this section is to discuss the proposed Project's consistency with policies of SCAG's Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide (RCPG) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). **Table 4.0-A, Consistency with Regional Plans**, presents a discussion of the SJV-MDP's consistency with the policies of the RCPG and RTP applicable to the Project.

Table 4.0-A, Consistency with Regional Plans

Policy	**Project Consistency with Regional Plan Policy**
3.01 The population, housing and jobs forecasts, which are adopted by SCAG's Regional Council and that reflect local plans and policies shall be used by SCAG in all phases of implementation and review.	The proposed SJV-MDP does not directly generate population, housing and/or jobs. However, the SJV-MDP may indirectly influence population growth by implementing needed flood control facilities which would accommodate future growth as planned for in the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, and San Jacinto Valley Area Plan (of the Riverside County General Plan). The proposed Project does not conflict with any adopted General Plan or with SCAG's ability to use population forecasts with implementation of SCAG policies.
3.03 The timing, financing, and location of public facilities, utility systems, and transportation systems shall be used by SCAG to implement the region's growth policies.	SCAG can use this EIR for the proposed Project to assist in implementing the region's growth policies. The proposed SJV-MDP does not conflict with this policy.
3.09 Support local jurisdictions efforts to minimize the cost of infrastructure and public service delivery, and efforts to seek new sources of funding for development and the provision of services.	The proposed Project will be funded by development fees collected through the SJR-ADP or the facilities will be constructed as part of private development projects. The proposed SJV-MDP does not conflict with this policy.

Policy	**Project Consistency with Regional Plan Policy**
3.18 Encourage planned development in locations least likely to cause environmental impact.	The proposed storm water conveyance facilities need to be located in the proposed area. Location of planned development has been established by the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet general Plan, and Riverside County General Plans (San Jacinto Valley Area Plan), and is not related to the proposed Project. The proposed Project does not conflict with this policy.
3.19 SCAG shall support policies and actions that preserve open space areas identified in local, state and federal plans.	The proposed Project does not conflict with any habitat or open space conservation plans such as the MSHCP. The proposed Project incorporates mitigation measures that would reduce impacts to biological resources to less than significant levels. The proposed Project does not conflict with this policy.
3.20 Support the protection of vital resources such as wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, woodlands, production lands, and land containing unique and endangered plants and animals.	San Jacinto, Hemet, and RCFCWCD are all permittees under the MSHCP and will adhere to the requirements set forth therein. The proposed Project will not impact wetlands, groundwater recharge, or other land containing unique and endangered plants and animals. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Project that would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.
3.21 Encourage the implementation of measures aimed at the preservation and protection of recorded and unrecorded cultural resources and archaeological sites.	As discussed in the Cultural Resources Section of this EIR, the proposed Project has incorporated mitigation measures which would reduce impacts that may occur if unknown cultural resources are uncovered during construction activities. There is one historically significant site within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP; however, construction of SJV-MDP facilities as proposed would not impact this resource. The proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.
3.22 Discourage development, or encourage the use of special design requirements, in areas with steep slopes, high fire, flood and seismic hazards.	The proposed Project is not located in an area with steep slopes, high fire hazards, flood hazards, or seismic hazards. A portion of the Project is located in an area which floods during storm events, hence the need for the Project. The Project does not conflict with this policy.
3.23 Encourage mitigation measures that reduce noise in certain locations, measures aimed at preservation of biological and ecological resources, measures that would reduce exposure to seismic hazards, minimize earthquake damage, and to develop emergency response and recovery plans.	The proposed Project is a MDP and corresponding ADP, which would inherently not conflict with this policy.

Policy	**Project Consistency with Regional Plan Policy**
3.27 Support local jurisdictions and other service providers in their efforts to develop sustainable communities and provide, equally to all members of society, accessible and effective services such as: public education, housing, health care, social services, recreational facilities, law enforcement and fire protection.	The proposed Project is a MDP and corresponding ADP, which would inherently not conflict with this policy.
5.07 Determine specific programs and associated actions needed (e.g. indirect source rules, enhanced use of telecommunications, provision of community based shuttle services, provision of demand management based programs, or vehicle-miles-traveled/emission fees) so that options to command and control regulations can be assessed.	The proposed drainage facilities do not generate long-term vehicular traffic. The proposed Project is the SJV-MDP and SJR-ADP, which would inherently not conflict with this policy.
5.11 Through the environmental document review process, ensure that plans at all levels of government (regional, air basin, county, Subregional and local) consider air quality, land use, transportation and economic relationships to ensure consistency and minimize conflicts.	The proposed Project may result in temporary impacts to air quality through construction emissions. However, those emissions are short-term and thus the Project itself will not result in a long-term air quality problem to the air basin. The proposed Project will not conflict with this policy.
11.07 Encourage water reclamation through the region where it is cost-effective, feasible, and appropriate to reduce reliance on imported water and wastewater discharges. Current administrative impediments to increase use of wastewater should be addressed.	The proposed drainage facilities will inherently not generate the need for water or wastewater services. The Project does not conflict with this policy.

Based on the preceding analysis, the proposed SJV-MDP was found consistent with policies of SCAG's RCPG and RTP.

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5.0 MANDATORY CEQA TOPICS

The *State CEQA Guidelines* set forth several general content requirements for EIRs. Those applicable to this Project include cumulative impacts (Section 15130), growth inducing impacts (Section 15126(d)) and unavoidable adverse impacts (Section 15126(b)). The following addresses each of these general requirements.

5.1 CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

5.1.1 Introduction

CEQA requires that an EIR examine the cumulative impacts associated with a project, in addition to project-specific impacts. The discussion of cumulative impacts must reflect the severity of the impacts and the likelihood of their occurrence; however, the discussion need not be as detailed as the discussion of environmental impacts attributable to the project alone (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15130(b)).

As stated in the *State CEQA Guidelines*, an EIR "shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable (Section 15130(a))." "Cumulatively considerable" means that "the incremental effects of an individual 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 as defined in Section 15130" (Section 15065(c)). Section 15355 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* states that "cumulative impacts" occur from "…the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time."

A cumulative impact is not considered significant if the impact can be mitigated to below the level of significance through mitigation, including providing improvements and/or contributing funds through fee-payment programs. The EIR must examine "reasonable options for mitigating or avoiding any significant cumulative effects of a proposed project" (*State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15130(a)(3) and 15130(b)(5)).

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(b)(1) requires that a discussion of cumulative impacts be based on either a list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the agency; or a summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document, or in a prior environmental document which has been adopted or certified, which described or evaluated regional or area-wide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact.

This EIR utilizes the "summary of projections" approach in the cumulative analysis. Section 15130(d) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* states that, "Previously approved land use documents such as general plans, specific plans, and local coastal plans may be used in cumulative impact

analysis. A pertinent discussion of cumulative impacts contained in one or more previously certified EIRs may be incorporated by reference pursuant to the provisions for tiering and program EIRs. No further cumulative impact analysis is required when a project is consistent with a general, specific, master, or comparable programmatic plan where the lead agency determines that the regional or area-wide cumulative impacts of the proposed project have been adequately addressed, as defined in Section 15152(f), in a certified EIR for that plan." Additionally, if a cumulative impact was adequately addressed in a prior EIR for a community plan, zoning action, or general plan, and the project is consistent with that plan or action, then an EIR for such a project should not further analyze that cumulative impact. (Section 15130(e) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*)

5.1.2 Cumulative Analysis Setting

The cumulative impact analysis for the proposed Project is based on information contained in the San Jacinto General Plan, San Jacinto General Plan EIR (SCH No. 2001111165), Hemet General Plan, Hemet General Plan EIR (SCH 90020515), Riverside County General Plan, and Riverside County General Plan Final EIR (SCH No. 2002051143) certified by the respective jurisdictions. These documents are utilized because the geographic area addressed in these documents encompasses the proposed boundaries of the SJV-MDP, and all portions of the surrounding area that could be potentially impacted by the proposed Project's contribution to cumulative impacts. All six of these documents are hereby incorporated by reference and are available for review at the locations cited for these documents in Section 6.0 (References) of this Draft EIR.

5.1.3 Assessment of Cumulative Impacts

5.1.3.1 Aesthetics

There are no State Designated Scenic Highways within the Project area. The closest State Designated Scenic Highway is Highway 243 (Banning/Idyllwild Panoramic Highway), which is located over seven and one-half miles northeast of the Project's northeastern boundary. Therefore, **the SJV-MDP will not impact State Eligible Scenic Highways**. Ramona Expressway, Gilman Springs Road, State Route 79, and Soboba Road, which are located in proximity to the Project area, are designated County Eligible Scenic Highways in the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan (COR SJVAP, Figure 9). Gilman Springs Road, State Route 79, and Soboba Road are not located within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP. Ramona Expressway passes through the Project area. Line 2, portions of Line H, and Line J-3 are proposed to be located adjacent to the Ramona Expressway. Line 2 is proposed as an underground storm drain from Sanderson Avenue to a point approximately 2,000 feet east of the Ramona Expressway/Sanderson Avenue intersection, and as an open channel from the Ramona Expressway/Sanderson Avenue intersection approximately one and one-quarter mile west (**Figure 3.1-2**). Line H is a storm drain that would cross the Ramona Expressway at State Street. Line J-3 is an open channel, which would be located adjacent to the Ramona Expressway from the Ramona Expressway/San Jacinto Avenue intersection approximately 2,750 feet east of said intersection (**Figure 3.1-2**).

The open channel portions of Line 2 and Line J-3 would be visible to passing motorists using Ramona Expressway. However, this view would be brief lasting only a few seconds for each facility for motorists traveling between 50 to 55 miles per hours (mph). The posted speed limit for Ramona Expressway is 55 mph. Due to the limited exposure to these facilities, **impacts to a County Eligible Scenic Highway are considered less than significant**.

Proposed Mitigation Measures

The proposed Project will result in **less significant impacts** with respect to aesthetics, no mitigation measures are proposed.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

The San Jacinto General Plan EIR identified potential cumulative impacts to scenic views resulting from development per the San Jacinto General Plan. New development may increase light and glare, which would have the potential to significantly impact views from outside of San Jacinto. Although sources of light and glare will increase within San Jacinto, any new development will be required to meet the standards contained in the City's Lighting Regulations that are contained within the Zoning Ordinance. Therefore, because the City will mitigate new sources of light, the City will not cumulatively contribute a considerable level of new light and glare (SJGP DEIR, p. 7-2).

The County of Riverside General Plan Final EIR identified potential cumulative impacts to scenic views from development in surrounding areas. Development would result in the intensification of existing urban uses as well as conversion of open space into urban land uses. The intensification of existing urban uses would result in a less than significant impact. Whereas, the conversion of open space to urban uses would result in a significant unavoidable impact. Therefore, development per the County of Riverside General Plan will cumulatively contribute significantly to the loss of visual character if Riverside County.

The Hemet General Plan EIR concluded that ultimate development planned and envisioned will fundamentally change the aesthetic character of the Hemet area from largely open agricultural to more of a typical suburban setting and these impacts cannot be mitigated below a level of significance (HGP EIR, F-5). However, the portions of Hemet which are within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP boundary are already developed with residential and commercial uses.

The geographic scope for cumulative aesthetics analysis is the SJV-MDP boundary and immediately adjacent communities and jurisdictions. Implementation of the proposed Project will provide drainage infrastructure that could support development of portions of San Jacinto, portions of Hemet, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County in accordance with the General Plan for each jurisdictions. Development of the Project area will result in the construction of structures associated with urban development. This future development will change the character of the foreground views from vacant, natural open space and agriculture, to ornamental landscaping and buildings.

Future development will be subject to the approval process for the jurisdiction in which it is located, and will be required to comply with all development guidelines and ordinances regulating building size, type, location, landscaping, and design. Since future development will

be conditioned and designed to be aesthetically pleasing, as required by the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans, **indirect cumulative impacts to aesthetics resulting from the proposed Project are considered less than significant**.

5.1.3.2 Agricultural Resources

Construction and operation of the proposed basin and channels would result in a permanent change to Important Farmland, as they are open facilities and must be maintained in order to retain flood control capacity. Construction of the proposed open channels will be primarily located within or adjacent to road right-of-way (ROW). Construction of open channels, will not significantly impact existing agricultural uses adjacent to the open channel facilities, because limited property within the footprint of the open channel facilities will be converted to a public, i.e., non-agricultural use. Based on the limited direct impacts associated with construction and operation of the linear open channel facilities, **potential impacts to Important Farmland from the construction of these facilities are less than significant.**

The proposed Line D Basin, which is anticipated to encompass approximately 15 acres, is located within an area identified as being Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, construction of this facility will result in the direct conversion of 15 acres of Important Farmland to a non-agricultural use by converting the property to a flood control facility, which is a **potentially significant impact**.

SJV-MDP conceptual alignment and location of open channels Line 1, Line 2, Line 3, Line X, and the Line E-Y-Z Confluence Basin are within property under a Williamson Act contract. With respect to the proposed open channels, construction will be primarily located within or adjacent to road ROW. Construction of open channels within existing road ROW will not conflict with or require the cancellation of a Williamson Act contract due to the limited direct impacts associated with construction and operation of the linear open channel facilities. The conversion of approximately 6.3 acres of Farmland of Local Importance under a Williamson Act Contract to a non-agricultural use will be required in the construction of the Line E-Y-Z confluence basin and will be a **direct impact** to a Williamson Act Contract.

As previously discussed, the proposed Project will provide drainage infrastructure that could support development of the Project area. Development of adjacent areas would result in the direct conversion of farmland (including Important Farmland) to non-agricultural uses. Consequently, the proposed Project has the potential to indirectly convert farmland in the Project area. The portions of the Project area in San Jacinto, Hemet, and part of the unincorporated portions of the Project area are designated for non-agricultural land uses in the adopted San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans; thus the direct conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses would likely occur in the Project area with the build out of the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans.

Because the proposed Project will likely support the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses, **impacts are considered potentially significant**.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The San Jacinto General Plan will allow new development to occur that will convert existing agricultural resources to non-agricultural uses. Mitigation measures described in Section 5.2 of the San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR will reduce impacts to agricultural resources. However, the new development will have significant and unavoidable impacts on agricultural resources. Therefore, development planned and envisioned by the San Jacinto General Plan will contribute to the cumulative loss of agricultural resources in San Jacinto.

Development planned and envisioned in the Riverside County General Plan would result in the conversion of state-designated farmland as well as land currently utilized for agricultural productivity to a variety of non-agricultural uses. The Riverside County General Plan contains policies of which will reduce or minimize the effects of future development on agricultural resources. Because these policies do not set specific requirements that will limit the conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses, and because no feasible or reasonable mitigation was identified to reduce these potential impacts to a less than significant level; impacts to existing farmland and State-designated farmland remain significant and unavoidable and will contribute to a cumulative adverse impact (CORGP FEIR, p. 536).

The City of Hemet General Plan EIR concluded that ultimate development planned and envisioned will impact almost all of the agricultural soils and farming activities in support of suburban uses. Therefore, the ultimate development will have an adverse cumulative regional impact on soil and agricultural resources that cannot be mitigated below a level of significance (HGP EIR, F-2). However, the portions of the Hemet within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP are currently developed with residential and commercial uses. Therefore, the Project will not cumulatively impact agricultural resources in Hemet.

Proposed Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures were found to be feasible. See Section 3.2 of this Draft EIR for further discussion.

Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

Direct impacts to agricultural land in the Project area include the conversion of approximately 15 acres of Important Farmland and 6.3 acres of Farmland of Local Importance associated with the construction of the four basins identified in the SJV-MDP. The proposed Project provides a master plan and funding mechanism for drainage facilities that could support future urbanization as set forth in the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans and could result in the indirect conversion of Farmland. As discussed in Section 3.2.7, absent active property owner cooperation and substantial financial incentives, it is highly unlikely that long term agricultural production is viable and would continue in the Project area, with or without the Project.

Therefore, **there are no feasible mitigation measures that would reduce direct or indirect project impacts to less than significant levels**. Adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations would be required prior to Project approval.

5.1.3.3 Air Quality

Based on the regional significance threshold analysis for the proposed Project, short-term construction emissions will exceed the daily regional thresholds set by SCAQMD for NO_X, PM-10, and PM-2.5 during the construction of various facilities or combinations of facilities, but will not exceed any other regional criteria pollutant thresholds. Short-term construction impacts are **considered significant**. No long-term MDP operational emissions were evaluated because the proposed SJV-MDP will not result in a change from the operation of the existing MDPs for the Project area; therefore, long-term operational impacts are **considered less than significant**.

Based on the LST analysis of the proposed Project, the short-term construction of the Project will not result in any localized air quality impacts to sensitive receptors within the Project area for NO_X or CO; however, emissions of PM-10 and PM-2.5 are above SCAQMD recommended daily thresholds, and short-term construction impacts are **considered significant**. Due to the lack of stationary source emissions; no long-term localized significance threshold analysis is needed, and long-term operational impacts are considered **less than significant**.

The portion of the SCAB in which the Project is located is designated as a non-attainment area for ozone, PM-10, and PM-2.5 under both state and federal standards. In evaluating the cumulative effects of the Project, Section 21100(e) of CEQA states that "previously approved land use documents including, but not limited to, general plans, specific plans, and local coastal plans, may be used in cumulative impact analysis." In addressing cumulative effects for air quality, the AQMP utilizes approved general plans; therefore, it is the most appropriate document to use in evaluating cumulative impacts of the proposed Project. This is because the AQMP evaluated air quality emissions for the entire Basin using a future development scenario based on population projections and set forth a comprehensive program that would lead the region, including the Project area, into compliance with all federal and state air quality standards. As described in the NOP for this Project (Appendix A), the Project will not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of the AQMP. The Project's short-term construction emissions for NO_X, PM-10, and PM-2.5 have been shown to be significant on a regional level. However, since it is only the Project's short-term emissions that are above thresholds for NO_X, PM-10, and PM-2.5, and the impact is temporary (approximately six months in duration), the impact is **not considered to have a cumulatively considerable net increase** on ozone and PM-10, which are non-attainment in the region under both state and federal standards, and is considered **less than significant**.

In regards to GHG emissions, the proposed Project's construction emissions and annual CO_2 operational emissions will not exceed the SCAQMD recommended Tier 3 screening level of significance for commercial or industrial projects. The SCAQMD additional requirements for energy and water usage do not apply to the Project. The CARB has not yet developed a quantitative threshold for commercial projects and the currently recommended performance standards for construction and operation of commercial projects also do not apply to the SJV-MDP. Therefore, the impact is considered **less than significant**.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The cumulative area for air quality impacts is the South Coast Air Basin (Basin). The portion of the Basin within which the Project is located is designated as a non-attainment area for ozone, PM-10 and PM-2.5 under both state and federal standards.

The San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR concluded that construction-related emissions associated with General Plan buildout will exceed SCAQMD thresholds. These construction-related emissions will impact cumulative air quality as well and will be significant and unavoidable (SJGP EIR, p. 7-3). Regional emissions, although significant and unavoidable, are more related to the consistency with SCAG area growth projections than with emissions (SJGP EIR, p. 7-5).

The Riverside County General Plan Final EIR concluded that buildout per the Riverside County General Plan would contribute to the regional air pollutant emissions during construction and at build out. Therefore, the implementation of the Riverside County General Plan will have significant and unavoidable cumulative air quality impacts (CORGP FEIR, p. 536).

The City of Hemet General Plan EIR concluded that ultimate development planned and envisioned will produce additional air pollutants which will contribute to the entire Basin and will result in significant and unavoidable cumulative air quality impacts (HGP EIR, p. F-3).

Proposed Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures addressing temporary construction and maintenance activities have been incorporated into the Project to reduce project-level impacts. Please refer to Section 3.3 of this DEIR.

Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

The Project-specific evaluation presented in the Draft EIR demonstrates that, even with mitigation, projected short-term emissions from construction of Project facilities are above applicable SCAQMD regional thresholds for NO_X, PM-10, and PM-2.5 for various facilities or combinations of SJV-MDP facilities, but will not exceed any other pollutant thresholds. Additionally, short-term emissions from construction of the Casa Loma Basin, Line E, and Line D-4 will exceed SCAQMD's LST for PM-10 and/or PM-2.5.

No long-term MDP operational emissions were evaluated because the proposed MDP will not result in a change from the operation of the existing MDPs for the project area. Additionally, no long-term localized significance thresholds analysis is needed due to the lack of stationary source emissions**.** Since the Project only exceeds standards during construction (a maximum duration of approximately six months, and considered a temporary impact), **the project is considered cumulatively less than significant**.

Regarding global climate change and GHG emissions as discussed above, even in the absence of the project, the impacts associated with global climate change will still exist, however due to the fact that the project's GHG emissions are temporary (only occur during construction; a maximum duration of approximately six months) and are well below the SCAQMD threshold,

the Project's contribution to global climate change is not considered cumulatively considerable.

5.1.3.4 Biological Resources

Several special-status plant species have low to high potential for occurrence along alignments within the Project area (see **Table 3.4-A**). Plant species with a high potential to occur on site include Smooth tarplant and Coulter's goldfields. Locations of smooth tarplant were detected along the alignments including Line V, Line Y and Lat Y-4 through Lat Y-7. Additionally, approximately half of the Project area is located within the Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA) 3 (see **Figure 3.4-4**). However, no narrow endemic plant species were observed within the Project area during the surveys. Project-specific surveys would be required during the appropriate time of the year to determine the presence/absence of all Narrow Endemic Plants and Criteria Area Plants.

The project area contains trees, shrubs, ground cover, and structures that provide suitable habitat for nesting migratory birds, including raptors. The MSHCP does not allow for the take of active nests. If any vegetation or structures are to be removed during the nesting season (February 1 to August 31), facility-specific nesting bird surveys shall be conducted first to determine the presence/absence of active nests. If active nests are identified, appropriate avoidance buffers should be established in the nesting activity has completed, and fledglings have left the nest and are no longer dependent on the parents. Portions of the project area may provide suitable nesting habitat for burrowing owls. Focused surveys for burrowing owl were conducted on July 31, and August 7, 8, 11, 12, 20, 22, and August 26, 2008. No burrowing owls were identified within the facility alignments or basin locations. Though no burrowing owls were detected during the focused surveys, much of the Project area has a moderate to high probability to support owls, whether breeding pairs, resident individuals, or transient individuals. Future habitat assessments and focused surveys (if suitable habitat/burrows are present) shall be required for areas that could not be accessed for the current study. In addition, updated facility-specific focused surveys should be conducted for areas that have been previously surveyed.

San Bernardino kangaroo rat (SBKR) (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) was determined to have a low potential to occur within the Project area. Los Angeles pocket mouse (LAPM) (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*) was also determined to have a low potential to occur within the Project area. However, with implementation of mitigation measure **MM Bio 8,** survey and conservation requirements pursuant to Section 6.3.2 of the MSHCP, potential impacts from the proposed Project are considered less than significant.

Approximately 6.38 acres of riparian habitat were mapped by the biologists within the Project alignments (see **Figure 3.4-B**), and contained native riparian vegetation including willow, mule fat, and Freemont's cottonwood. The riparian areas that were mapped ranged from roadside/agricultural ditches, to ponds and basins, but also included the edge of extensive riparian habitat associated with the San Jacinto River. Some of the mapped areas qualify as MSHCP Riparian Areas, though others would likely be excluded due to their artificial nature. Facility-specific mapping would be required to determine which areas may be subject to MSHCP requirements, and which may not.

The project area contains waters subject to jurisdictions of: (i) the U.S. ACOE pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA); (ii) the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) pursuant to Section 401 of CWA or pursuant to the California Porter-Cologne Act; and/or (iii) CDFG pursuant to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game code. Features with the potential for jurisdiction were mapped (see **Figure 3.4-3**), including agricultural ditches and other roadside ditches, basins, etc. Facility-specific jurisdictional delineations will need to be conducted to determine whether features would be subject to the jurisdictions of the ACOE, RWQCB, and CDFG. With implementation of MM Bio 3, **potential impacts to federally-protected wetlands are reduced to less than significant levels.**

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The geographic scope for cumulative biological impacts is the Western Riverside County MSHCP area. Development per the San Jacinto General Plan will have the potential to impact biological resources, which could diminish the amount of biological resources within the MSHCP region. However, the San Jacinto General Plan is consistent with and will facilitate implementation of the applicable policies and programs identified in the MSHCP. Additionally, the General Plan includes numerous objectives and policies designed to reduce impacts to biological resources over the long term. Therefore, implementation of these programs and policies and mitigation described in the San Jacinto General Plan will manage and reduce impacts to biological resources within San Jacinto to a less than significant level. Thus, buildout per the San Jacinto General Plan will not create significant cumulative impacts to biological resources.

The development planned and envisioned under the Riverside County General Plan would result in the loss of extensive areas of natural habitats and associated biological resources. Implementation of Riverside County General Plan policies and mitigation measures identified in the Riverside County General Plan EIR will reduce the impacts to below a level of significance. Additionally, the MSHCP will provide mitigation for development impacts to threatened and endangered species through the Western Riverside County by way of development fee and property acquisition.

Hemet General Plan EIR concluded that ultimate development planned and envisioned will eliminate native as well as sensitive plants and animals from the Hemet area. Although the Hemet General Plan contains policies to help preserve biological resources, the Hemet General Plan EIR, which was certified prior to approval of the MSHCP, concluded Hemet General Plan these policies cannot mitigate cumulative regional loss of biological habitat below a level of significance (HGP EIR, p. F-3). However, subsequent to the adoption of Hemet General Plan EIR, Hemet became a permittee under the MSHCP and is obligated to comply with its provisions. Since, the MSHCP provides mitigation for development impacts to threatened and endangered species through the Western Riverside County by way of development fee and property acquisition, buildout per the Hemet General Plan will not create significant cumulative impacts to biological resources.

Proposed Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures addressing construction and maintenance will be incorporated into the project to reduce project-level biological impacts. The proposed project must also comply with the adopted Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). To address the potential impacts associated with the cumulative loss of habitat for special status wildlife the proposed project shall comply with all pertinent MSHCP requirements. Please refer to Section 3.4 of this DEIR.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

The Riverside County MSHCP Environmental Impact Report Section 5.1.1, *Cumulative Impact Analysis, Biological Resources*, evaluated the cumulative effects of the proposed MSHCP and alternatives on biological resources. In particular, the analysis focuses on the cumulative effects of the proposed MSHCP with the regional growth forecasts.

Through compliance with the MSHCP, the Project will not result in a cumulative adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any of the Covered Species listed in the Plan as implementation of the MSHCP benefits Covered Species by preserving their habitat in order to address their life cycle needs. Thus, through compliance with the MSHCP and based on the features of the MSHCP itself, impacts to Covered Species are mitigated below a level of significance.

Implementation of the MSHCP will result in cumulatively significant impacts on the Non-Covered Species because the issuance of incidental take permits will remove an impediment to development outside of the MSHCP Conservation Area. Non-Covered Species would receive little or no protection outside the reserves under existing ordinances and regulations. However, within the project area, there are no threatened or endangered species known or likely to be on site, which are not on the 146-species list covered by the MSHCP. Therefore, impacts to Non-Covered species are **cumulatively less than significant**.

The Project will **not cause adverse cumulative effects** related to the reduction of sensitive vegetation communities; as the project is located within the MSHCP Plan Area and the Plan itself is designed to preserve sufficient acreage of the sensitive vegetation communities present in western Riverside County. Similarly, the project will not cause adverse cumulative effects related to interference with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or obstruction of genetic flow for the identified Planning Species. Part of the purpose and goals of the MSHCP is to use regional planning efforts to assemble a reserve that will preserve contiguous blocks of habitat in large enough areas to ensure that the reserve will allow movement of species and flow of genetic information.

The proposed project will **not cause adverse cumulative impacts** by conflicting with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan either within or outside of the Plan area. The MSHCP has been written specifically to complement existing HCPs, such as the Stephens' kangaroo rat long-term HCP. Through compliance with the MSHCP and existing HCPs, local, regional, and state plans, cumulative impacts are considered less than significant.

Cumulative effects associated with the proposed MSHCP take authorization would involve direct loss of habitat and species associated with ground disturbance in take authorized areas as development occurs in accordance with projected growth. Cumulative indirect effects would occur to species and habitats within the MSHCP Conservation Area and would be associated with development of proposed land uses and activities in take authorized areas in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area. Indirect effects primarily result from adverse "edge effects" and may be short-term indirect effects related to construction or long-term indirect effects associated with development or land use practices in proximity to conserved habitat areas. Cumulative indirect impacts resulting from construction activities include dust, noise, and general human presence that may temporarily disrupt species and habitat vitality and construction-related soil erosion and runoff. Edge effects at the boundary between natural lands and human-occupied lands ("urban edge effects") arise due to human-related intrusions such as lighting, noise, invasive species, exotic predators (e.g., dogs and cats), hunting, trapping, off-road activities, dumping, and other forms of recreation and disturbance. Human-induced edge effects are generally unfavorable to native species and are considered cumulative as edge increases throughout the landscape.

Cumulative significant indirect impacts associated with edge effects and increased development outside the conservation areas established by the proposed MSHCP are addressed in the provisions of Section 6.1.4 of the Draft MSHCP. Edge effects will result as development occurs in proximity to habitat; however, the proposed MSHCP contains provisions that will reduce the adverse impacts associated with edge effects. The MSHCP provides take authorization for Covered Species. The MSHCP would not directly cause edge effects, but it would dictate where such effects could occur through the reserve assembly process. Thus, cumulative indirect impacts associated with edge effects are considered **less than significant**.

5.1.3.5 Cultural Resources

One historic resource is within the boundaries of a segment of the former San Jacinto Valley Railway that dates to 1888. According to the conceptual alignments and facilities identified in the SJV-MDP, Project-related activities at this location will be limited to trenching for the installation of an underground storm drain within the railway ROW. If construction within the railway ROW is limited to underground facilities, and does not include the intersection of any facilities with the rail line or associated railway structures, the Project will not result in the destruction or relocation of the railway nor will it alter the basic characteristics of the site. Therefore, the proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of the site, the only historical resource encountered in the portions of the Project footprint studied.

Portions of the project footprint were inaccessible to field survey personnel and could not be surveyed; thus, it is possible that historical resources could be present on the portions of the Project's footprint that could not be surveyed. Therefore, **to reduce potential impacts to historical resources that could be present to less than significant, mitigation measures are implemented.**

Numerous prehistoric—i.e., Native American—archaeological sites have been found in the area consisting of various amounts of habitation debris such as: ceramic shards, chippedstone and

groundstone tools, debitage, midden soils, fire-affected rock, and sometimes human remains. Bedrock milling features and, less frequently, petroglyphs, have been found in the San Jacinto Valley in areas where bedrock outcrops are present. However, no evidence of any prehistoric archaeological cultural resources was found within or adjacent to that portion of the Project footprint that could be surveyed. Additionally, there have been no archaeological resources identified through records searches or Native American consultations. However, since portions of the Project footprint were unable to be surveyed due to restricted access and Native American monitoring has been requested, implementation of **mitigation measures is required to ensure that impacts to archaeological resources are less than significant**.

Surficial soils within the Project's footprint consist of alluvium of Recent (Holocene) age and have a low potential for significant nonrenewable fossil remains. However, these younger alluvial sediments are of variable thickness and are known to rest directly on top of older Pleistocene-age sediments, which have a high potential to yield significant vertebrate fossil remains. Therefore, the proposed Project's potential to impact paleontological resources is determined to be low in the surficial alluvial sediments but high in the subsurface Pleistocene-age soils. **Mitigation measures, which relate to excavation and earthmoving activities, are required to ensure reduce potential impacts with respect to paleontological impacts to less than significant**.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The geographic scope for cumulative impacts to cultural resources includes Riverside County. Historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources in Riverside County could be cumulatively impacted by future development, like that which could occur under the proposed San Jacinto General Plan. However, San Jacinto has implemented local policies and programs as well as mitigation that will reduce these impacts to below a level of significance. Thus, potential cumulative impacts to cultural resources will be reduced to a less than significant level (SJGP EIR, p. 7-6).

Development planned and envisioned in the Riverside County General Plan would contribute to the growth and urbanization of Riverside County resulting in direct and/or indirect loss of cultural and paleontological resources. Therefore, implementation of the Riverside County General Plan will cumulatively contribute significantly to the loss of these sensitive areas and their resources (CORGP FEIR, p. 537).

Hemet contains a variety of historical or pre-historical importance. However, the Hemet General Plan EIR contains mitigation measures that protect the existing and undiscovered cultural resources. Therefore, the cumulative impact to cultural resources associated with the buildout per Hemet's General Plan will be mitigated to less than significant (HGP EIR, p. F-6).

Proposed Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project to reduce potential project-level impacts. Please refer to Section 3.5 of this DEIR. Additional mitigation measures addressing potential cumulative impacts are unnecessary.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

Impacts related to historic and archaeological resources were found to be less than significant within the portions of the Project footprint surveyed (**Table 3.5-A**). Mitigation measure MM Cultural 1 requires documentation of affected segments of the former San Jacinto Railway in the event implementation of the Project results in the construction of above ground facilities within in railway ROW or Project facilities intersect railway ROW. Mitigation measure **MM Cultural 2**, requires archaeological and paleontological field surveys be performed on any facility footprint not previously surveyed prior to construction to ensure that no impacts to unknown archaeological or paleontological resources result from Project implementation. Mitigation measure **MM Cultural 3** requires a qualified archaeologist to determine an appropriate course of action in the event that unanticipated buried cultural resources are encountered.

Since the project area falls within the bounds of the Soboba Band's Tribal Traditional Use Areas, mitigation measure **MM Cultural 4** requires coordination with Native American groups to allow a monitor to be present during all ground-disturbing work in potentially sensitive areas.

No unique geologic feature is known to exist and no fossils have been documented in the Project footprint. However, the Project footprint is underlain by deposits that could potentially have a high sensitivity for paleontological resources. Paleontological specimens taken from rock similar to that of the project area have, in the past, contributed to scientific understanding of the distant past and, therefore, could be considered unique resources. Consequently, ground-disturbing activities resulting from construction of the proposed project could damage or destroy previously undocumented unique fossils, if located within the project footprint. Mitigation measures **MM Cultural 5 through MM Cultural 8** outline specific measures that will be taken if certain soil types or any artifacts are unearthed during construction activities. **Therefore, through implementation of proposed mitigation measures, potential cumulative impacts to cultural resources will be reduced to less than significant**.

5.1.3.6 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Based on the results of the EDR report, the Project proposed facilities are within close vicinity of 27 sites classified as hazardous materials sites under various regulatory statuses. Sites listed on the HAZNET, FINDS, CLEANERS, Small Quantity Generators (SQGs), Large Quantity Generators (LQGs), UST, HIST UST, RCRA, and/or TRIS databases only pose a potential problem in the event of a spill or leak. Consequently, unless these sites also appear on a list of contaminated sites, there is no evidence of any problems at this time.

Although no significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials are anticipated from the sites listed in **Table 3.6-C**, or from Project-related construction and operations, common types of unanticipated existing contamination (resulting from prior leaking underground storage tanks, poor chemical handling or accidental/intentional unauthorized chemical releases) could be encountered during the construction of proposed facilities. **Therefore, through implementation of proposed mitigation measures, potential impacts will be reduced to less than significant levels.**

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The geographic scope for cumulative impacts to hazards and hazardous materials includes Riverside County. As future development occurs within San Jacinto, Hemet, and within Riverside County, the population will rise and the number of people exposed to hazards related to hazardous materials, flooding, and fires will increase. The cumulative impact of regional development on public safety is potentially significant. However, San Jacinto will implement mitigation identified in the San Jacinto General Plan EIR that will reduce these impacts to less than significant. In addition, cumulative hazards impacts will be limited by public safety policies and programs implemented by other Riverside County jurisdictions. These programs establish policies to ensure that planned land uses are compatible with the surrounding natural and urban environment and hazardous conditions are minimized. Enforcement of state, county, and local hazardous material regulations will reduce significant public health hazards to a less than significant level. Thus, development per the San Jacinto General Plan will not create significant cumulative impacts to hazards and hazardous materials (SJGP EIR, p. 7-6).

Development planned and envisioned in accordance with the Riverside County General Plan would cumulatively increase the intensity of development in Riverside County. However, compliance with federal, State, and local regulations concerning the storage and handling of hazardous materials and/or waste would reduce the potential for significant public health and safety impacts from hazardous materials to occur. Therefore, the impact of the planned development under the General Plan in addition to future development in surrounding areas is not expected to affect significantly the number of people exposed to public health and safety risks from exposure to hazardous materials (COR GP FEIR, p. 537).

Development planned and envisioned under the City of Hemet General Plan will introduce new industrial uses and commensurate increase in commercial and residential uses which will generate increased amounts of hazardous materials. However, policies contained in the Hemet and San Jacinto General Plans will effectively mitigate potential cumulative impacts to less than significant (HGP EIR, p. F-5).

Proposed Mitigation Measures

The proposed project was found to have less than significant impacts without the need for mitigation measures. Compliance with the adopted mitigation measures contained in the Riverside County and City of Perris general plans and existing water resource regulations will reduce potential cumulative impacts associated with future offsite development. Additional mitigation measures addressing potential cumulative impacts are unnecessary.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

Risks associated with hazardous materials are generally site-specific and localized, and are thus limited to the project site. As such, the potential for cumulative impacts to occur is limited. Due to the historic agricultural use of the Project property, an environmental regulatory database search was conducted to focus on the presence of above and underground storage tanks, potential for contaminated soil and/or groundwater, and evidence of poor material handling and/or storage which may have resulted in soil and/or groundwater contamination within the project area. Based

on the results of the report, the proposed project footprint exhibits no evidence of recognized environmental conditions related to hazardous materials that would prohibit project implementation or cause environment impacts from project construction or operation. The project was found to have less than significant impacts related to the public or the environment from the accidental release of hazardous materials.

The geographical context for the cumulative impact analysis is SJV-MDP Project boundary. Although each development site has potentially unique hazardous materials considerations, it is expected that future development within the San Jacinto, Hemet, and surrounding unincorporated Riverside County will generally comply with the range of federal, state, and local statutes and regulations applicable to hazardous materials, and will be subject to existing and future programs of enforcement by the appropriate regulatory agencies. For these reasons, cumulative impacts to the public or environment resulting from the accidental release of hazardous materials would be less than significant. Consequently, **the proposed project's impact to the public or environment associated with the release of hazardous materials would be less than cumulatively considerable and thus not significant.**

5.1.3.7 Hydrology and Water Quality

The Project's impacts to hydrology and water quality were found to be less than significant since the SJV-MDP includes features that will reduce potential impacts to water quality. The Project is designed to improve drainage, and the proposed detention basins will reduce velocities, erosion, siltation, and flooding within the Project area.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The geographic scope for cumulative impacts to hydrology and water quality is the San Jacinto River Basin. As development proceeds in the San Jacinto River Basin, the amount of pollutants in runoff will increase, this in turn may impact surface and groundwater quality. The amount of impervious surfaces will increase as development proceeds and erosion and sedimentation impacts on surface water will occur during grading and construction activities (SJGP FEIR, pg. 79). However, San Jacinto will implement mitigation described in its General Plan EIR that requires all new development to implement BMPs in compliance with the Construction Stormwater Permit and/or San Jacinto's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Permit to ensure that impacts to hydrology and water quality are less than significant (SJGP FEIR pg. 80).

Development planned and envisioned in accordance with the Riverside County General Plan will result in an increase impermeable surfaces that will increase the volume and rate of storm runoff. Existing fixed drainage channels in urban areas may be unable to contain the runoff generated by relatively small, but intense rainfall events. Additionally, the increase in stormwater runoff caused by new land uses has the potential to increase pollutants conveyed to the groundwater basins and surface waters in creeks and rivers. Through implementation of Riverside County General Plan Policies, other Riverside County regulations, and NPDES requirements, impacts to hydrology and water quality will be less than significant (COR FEIR, Section 4.9).

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

With the exception of impacts to local drainage, on a cumulative basis, the proposed facilities, along with offsite development authorized by the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, and Riverside County General Plan, could contribute to regional water quality impacts through introduction of urban runoff. However, due to each offsite Project's responsibility to mitigate its individual water quality impact through compliance with NPDES regulations, the potential cumulative effects will be less than significant. Therefore, cumulative impacts to water quality and the existing drainage pattern (on a regional basis) of the area from the proposed Project are less than significant.

The proposed project includes features that will reduce potential impacts to water quality. The proposed detention basins will reduce velocities, erosion, siltation and flooding in the project area. The proposed project was found to have less than significant impacts without the need for mitigation measures. Compliance with the adopted mitigation measures contained in the Riverside County, San Jacinto, and Hemet General Plans and existing water resource regulations will reduce potential cumulative impacts associated with future offsite development. Additional mitigation measures addressing potential cumulative impacts are unnecessary.

Proposed Mitigation Measures

With the exception of impacts to local drainage patterns, which are significant and unavoidable, the proposed Project was found to have less than significant impacts without the need for mitigation measures. Compliance with existing water resource regulations will reduce potential cumulative impacts associated with future offsite development to less than significant; therefore additional mitigation measures addressing potential cumulative impacts are unnecessary.

5.1.3.8 Population and Housing

The SJV-MDP does not include the construction of new homes or businesses, and therefore will not directly induce substantial population growth in the Project area. The proposed project could indirectly induce growth by removing one potential barrier to growth, by providing planned drainage infrastructure. The San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, and Riverside County General Plan outline the type of development and growth that will be allowed in the Project area. Thus potential indirect impacts from development in the Project area are not expected to exceed the potential impacts that have already been disclosed in these General Plan EIRs. Yet, because implementation of the proposed Project could **indirectly induce substantial population growth in San Jacinto, Hemet, and portions of unincorporated Riverside County, impacts are considered significant**.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects from General Plans

The geographic scope for cumulative population and housing is Riverside County. According to SCAG projections, Riverside County is projected to grow by approximately 1.5 million people over the next 25 years. Although the land uses allowed under the San Jacinto General Plan will provide for sufficient land to accommodate a portion of the region's projected population growth through the provision of additional housing and employment opportunities, implementation of the San Jacinto General Plan would allow a large increase in the population that exceeds the

2030 SCAG projections. As a result, the San Jacinto General Plan will result in a significant and unavoidable cumulative impact to population and housing.

Development planned and envisioned in the Riverside County General Plan would result in cumulatively significant population increases. Although the rate of growth within Riverside County will be consistent with the SCAG projections, Development permitted under the Riverside County General Plan will cumulatively contribute significant population increases within the County and region (CORGP FEIR, p. 536).

Development planned and envisioned under the Hemet General Plan is expected to increase population. However, the Hemet General Plan EIR concluded that implementation of the housing and land use measures contained in local General Plans will mitigate these impacts to less than significant. Therefore, no significant cumulative impacts are expected due to changes in population, housing, or household characteristics (HGP EIR, p. F-7).

Proposed Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures were found to be feasible. See the Section 3.8 of this DEIR for further discussion.

Summary of Cumulative Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures are Implemented

The proposed Project could indirectly induce substantial population growth in the San Jacinto Valley areas, by removing an obstacle to development. The existing facilities in this area will not provide 100-year flood protection which would remove an obstacle to growth. The adopted San Jacinto, Hemet and Riverside County General Plans outline the type of development and growth that will be allowed in the Project area. The proposed Project was planned and sized to provide drainage facilities and infrastructure consistent with the General Plan land uses. The proposed Project's potential indirect impacts would not exceed the impacts that have already been addressed during the adoption of the San Jacinto General Plan EIR (May 2006), the Hemet General Plan Final EIR (August 1992), or the Riverside County General Plan Final EIR (October 2003). Nonetheless, **there are no mitigation measures that would reduce indirect project impacts to less than significant levels. Adoption of a statement of overriding considerations would be required prior to project approval**.

5.2 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS AND IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

This topic is intended to address any impacts that cannot be mitigated to below a level of significance (*State CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15126.2). Implementation of the Project will result in significant impacts, which cannot be avoided or eliminated if the Project is implemented have been discussed in detail in Section 3.2 (Agricultural Resources), Section 3.3 (Air Quality), and Section 3.8 (Population and Housing) of the Draft EIR. A summary of the areas in which impacts could not be reduced to a level below significance is briefly presented below.

5.2.1 Agricultural Resources

Impacts to agricultural resources are considered significant if the proposed Project will convert agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses. Because the proposed Project could support and encourage planned development per the Riverside County, San Jacinto, and Hemet General Plans within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP, which as shown in **Table 3.2-B, Important Farmland within the San Jacinto Valley Mater Drainage Plan** and **Figure 3.2-1, Calif. Dept. of Conservation Important Farmland** contains approximately 4,600 acres of "Agricultural Land" as defined in Section 210060.1 of CEQA, implementation of the Project will have significant indirect impacts to agricultural resources. Construction of the Line D Basin, which is anticipated to encompass approximately 15 acres, in addition to the open channels designated as Lines 1, 2, E, G-3, H, J-3, K, W, and X (depending on their location) will result in the direct conversion of Agricultural Land to a non-agricultural use by converting the property to flood control facilities. The Line D Basin is anticipated to encompass approximately 15 acres, and would result in the direct conversion of Important Farmland to a non-agricultural use. Potential direct and indirect impacts associated with the loss of designated farmlands remain unavoidable and are unmitigable.

5.2.2 Air Quality

Impacts to air quality are considered significant if the proposed Project will violate any air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Depending on the facility or combination of facilities constructed at any given time, SCAQMD regional significance thresholds for NO_x, PM-10, and PM-2.5 and SCAQMD LSTs may be for PM-10 and PM-2.5 could be exceeded during construction. Although these are direct, short-term impacts that will cease once construction is complete, they remain unavoidable and are unmitigable.

5.2.3 Population/Housing

Impacts to population and housing are considered significant if the proposed Project will indirectly induce substantial population growth. The SJV-MDP could indirectly induce growth by removing one potential barrier to growth through the provision of flood control infrastructure. The Hemet, San Jacinto, and Riverside County General Plans identify the type of development and growth that will be allowed within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP. The SJV-MDP does not propose any changes to the land uses from what is identified in the aforementioned General Plans; thus, potential indirect impacts from development in the Project area are not expected to exceed the potential impacts that have already been disclosed in the EIRs prepared for the Hemet, San Jacinto, and Riverside County General Plans. However, because implementation of the proposed Project could indirectly induce substantial population growth in the Project area, impacts are considered significant. No mitigation measures were identified as appropriate and impacts are considered significant and unavoidable.

5.2.4 Irreversible Environmental Changes

Section 15126.2(c) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* stipulates that a project must also be evaluated for its irreversible environmental changes which would occur as a result of project implementation. An impact would fall into this category if:

- the proposed project would involve a large commitment of nonrenewable resources;
- the primary and secondary impacts of the proposed project would generally commit future generations to similar uses;
- the proposed project involves uses in which irreversible damage could result from any potential environmental incidents associated with the proposed project; and/or
- the proposed consumption of resources is not justified (e.g., the proposed project results in wasteful use of energy).

Besides the temporary use of non-renewable resources (e.g., fossil fuels) during construction, the proposed Project will not result in the use of non-renewable resources. Once the SJV-MDP facilities are constructed, the land use within the drainage facility footprints would need to remain permanently committed to flood control uses, since adjacent developed areas and infrastructure would depend on the flood control infrastructure for flood protection. Thus, the proposed facilities and the previously described significant impacts to agricultural resources could be considered a significant irreversible change. Likewise, the potential indirect growth inducement impacts, which are discussed in Section 5.3, could be considered an irreversible change to those portions of the Project area that are relatively rural and undeveloped.

5.3 GROWTH INDUCING IMPACTS

According to CEQA Guidelines (Section 15126.2 [d]), a project may foster economic or population growth, or additional housing, either indirectly or directly, in a geographical area if it meets any one of the following criteria below:

- A project would remove obstacles to population growth.
- Increases in the population may tax existing community service facilities, causing significant environmental effects.
- A project would encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment.

A project could indirectly induce growth by removing barriers to growth, by creating a condition that attracts additional population or new economic activity, or by providing a catalyst for future unrelated growth in an area. While a project may have a potential to induce growth, it does not automatically result in growth. Growth can only happen through capital investment in new economic opportunities by the public or private sectors. The land use policies established by Hemet and San Jacinto will regulate growth within those cities' limits while land use policies established by Riverside County will regulate growth within the unincorporated area. Growth

induced by a project is considered a significant impact if it directly or indirectly affects the ability of agencies to provide needed public services, or if can be demonstrated that the potential growth significantly affects the environment in some other way.

Implementation of the SJV-MDP will remove one obstacle to development and subsequent population growth in the Project area. However, the proposed SJV-MDP facilities are located in areas that are either already developed or planned for development in the Hemet, San Jacinto, and Riverside County General Plans. The portion of the Project within unincorporated Riverside County is located within the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan. Land use designations within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP include: Rural Residential; Low Density, Medium Density, High Density, and Very High Density Residential; Downtown and Community Commercial; Industrial, Public Institutional, and Open Space Recreational.

The EIRs prepared for the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans addressed potential environmental impacts, including growth inducement, from implementation of policies and land use designations set forth in each jurisdiction's General Plan. Development as planned for and envisioned by each General Plans will result in growth. The purpose of a General Plan is to identify how and where growth and development may occur within a jurisdiction. Therefore; based on the definition of growth inducement, a General Plan is inherently growth inducing. The growth authorized by the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans leads to significant unavoidable adverse impacts as discussed in the following paragraphs.

As stated in the San Jacinto General Plan EIR (SCH No. 2001111165), the specific intent of the San Jacinto General Plan is to provide for the orderly development and redevelopment, define the limits of development, and serve as a mechanism to accommodate and control future development. The San Jacinto General Plan EIR further states that increased population and employment resulting from new residential and non-residential development has the potential to induce growth in areas outside of San Jacinto (SJGP EIR, pg. 7-9). After implementation of all of mitigation measures identified in the San Jacinto General Plan EIR, impacts with respect to air quality, noise population, and traffic will remain significant and unavoidable (SJGP EIR, pgs. 7-10 and 7-11).

As stated in the Hemet General Plan EIR (SCH 90020515), implementation of the General Plan will result in significant growth; however, the purpose of the Hemet General Plan is to permit growth in ways deemed desirable by Hemet and to mitigate effects of such growth. The Hemet General Plan EIR states that implementation of the Hemet General Plan will induce growth directly through an increase in housing units and indirectly through the provision of better roads and infrastructure, and concludes growth-inducing impacts will be significant but not adverse (HGP EIR, pg. G-1). After implementation of all mitigation measures identified in the Hemet General Plan EIR, impacts with respect to: land resources, water resources, biological resources, air resources, landforms and topography, flood hazards, aesthetic resources, school facilities, solid waste, circulation, and agriculture will remain significant and unavoidable (HGP EIR, pg. B-15).

As stated in the Riverside County General Plan Final EIR (SCH No. 2002051143) development following the General Plan will result in growth. The growth authorized by the Riverside County

General Plan will result in significant unavoidable adverse impacts, such as air quality, biological resources, water resources, and traffic. The General Plan is a land use master plan providing the framework by which public officials will be guided on making decisions relative to development within Riverside County. The implementation of the General Plan's land use policies will incrementally increase demands for the proposed drainage facilities, public services, utilities, and infrastructure, and the need for medical, educational, and recreational facilities (COR GP EIR, Section 5.3.3).

The proposed Project could indirectly induce growth by removing one potential barrier to growth, by providing flood control infrastructure. The San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans outline the type of development and growth that will be allowed in the Project area. Thus, potential indirect impacts from development in the Project area are not expected to exceed the potential impacts that have already been disclosed in the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plan EIRs. However, because implementation of the proposed SJV-MDP could indirectly induce substantial population growth in the Project area, **impacts with respect to growth inducement are considered significant**.

5.4 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Section 15126.6(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* requires that an EIR "…describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of 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." According to this section of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, "…an EIR need not consider every conceivable alternative to a project. Rather it must consider a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that will foster informed decision-making and public participation." Among the factors that may be taken into account when addressing the feasibility of alternatives are site suitability, economic viability, availability of infrastructure, general plan consistency, other plans or regulatory limitations, jurisdictional boundaries, and whether the proponent can reasonably acquire, control, or otherwise have access to an alternative

With respect to the selection of alternatives to be considered in an EIR, Section 15126.6(b) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* states "…the discussion of alternatives shall focus on alternatives to the project or its location which are capable of avoiding or substantially lessening any significant effects of the project, even if these alternatives would impede to some degree the attainment of the project objectives, or would be more costly." That is, each alternative must be capable of avoiding or substantially lessening any significant effects of the proposed Project. The proposed Project was found to have significant environmental impacts related to the loss of designated Farmland (direct and indirect), to air quality on a regional basis from construction (direct and temporary), to local hydrology (indirect), and indirect impacts to population/housing as well as growth inducement. With mitigation, impacts to biological resources and cultural resources remain less than significant. The rationale for selecting the alternatives to be evaluated, and a discussion of the "no project" alternative are also required, per Section 15126.6.

As stated in Section 2 of this Draft EIR, the Project objectives include:

- Provide a single comprehensive MDP that contains a drainage plan for the North and West Areas and the necessary updates and revisions to the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP.
- In conjunction with ultimate street improvements for the area within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP, contain the 100-year flood flows and alleviate the primary sources of flooding within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP.
- Serve as a guide for the location and size of drainage facilities that need to be constructed to protect existing development and future development as the area within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP develops per the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, the Riverside County General Plan, and specifically, the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan.
- Ensure that facility alignments are reserved for future construction of the drainage facilities identified in the SJV-MDP.
- Identify facility alignments that do not traverse the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Identify facilities and facility alignments that require the minimal amount of ROW acquisition in potentially sensitive areas.
- Identify the most economical combination of facilities taking into consideration ROW acquisition, construction, and maintenance costs.
- Identify facilities that will accommodate phased development within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP
- Create a funding mechanism to help finance the costs of construction of the facilities identified in the SJV-MDP.

5.4.1 Alternatives Considered but Rejected by the Lead Agency

Section 15126.6(c) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* specify that an EIR should identify alternatives that were considered by the lead agency, but were rejected during the scoping process and identify the reasons for eliminating the alternatives from further consideration. Section 15126.6(c) further indicates that a lead agency may eliminate an alternative from detailed consideration in an EIR because the alternative(s) fails to meet the basic project objectives, is infeasible, and does not avoid significant environmental impacts.

The SJV-MDP was studied in three subareas: the North Area, West Area, and City Area. The North Area includes the area north of Ramona Expressway and west of State Street. The West Area includes the area south of Ramona Expressway and west of Sanderson Avenue. The remainder of the territory in the SJV-MDP is the City Area. Hydrologic studies were completed for each drainage area and facilities were identified on a drainage area basis. The process used to identify the specific facilities to be included in the SJV-MDP included an evaluation of alternative facilities and alignments, especially in the North Area and West Area of the SJV-MDP where no previous master drainage plan had been prepared. The alternative analysis included identification of facilities, estimates of the amount of ROW needed, and for some alternatives, preparation of relative cost analysis. The results of the alternative analysis were

documented in technical memoranda prepared for San Jacinto and RCFCWCD. Additionally, the alternatives were presented to the San Jacinto Drainage Subcommittee for consideration prior to San Jacinto and RCFCWCD selecting the alternatives ultimately used in the SJV-MDP. The alternatives considered for the West Area and North Area are discussed in the following sections.

5.4.1.1 Alternatives Considered but Rejected for the West Area

As part of the preparation of the SJV-MDP, four conceptual drainage alternatives were developed for the West Area and conceptual level analysis were completed as described below.

West Alternative 1 consists of a combination of RCB culverts and open channels. West Alternative 1 begins as a RCB and travels easterly along Esplanade Avenue. Near the intersection of Esplanade Avenue and Warren Road, the lateral turns northerly and the alignment continues along the east side of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal. At Seventh Street, the facility changes from an RCB to an open channel, and the alignment continues northerly along the east side of the MWD San Diego Canal until it reaches Metropolitan's Casa Loma Canal. After crossing underneath the Casa Loma Canal in a multi cell RCB, the alignment curves westerly until it reaches Warren Road. From there, it traverses northerly along the east side of Warren Road until it reaches a point approximately 2,000 feet south of the intersection of Warren Road and Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct. From this point, the alignment travels easterly approximately 2,000 feet and ties into the Northwest Basin (Webb 2006).

West Alternative 2 consists of a combination of RCP, RCB culverts, and open channels with the addition of a detention basin between Cottonwood Avenue and Metropolitan's Casa Loma Canal. West Alternative 2 begins as a RCB and travels easterly along Esplanade Avenue. Near the intersection of Esplanade Avenue and Warren Road, the alignment northerly and continues along the east side of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal. At Seventh Street, the facility changes from an RCB to an open channel and the alignment continues northerly along the east side of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal until it crosses Cottonwood Avenue and enters into a proposed detention basin. The proposed basin has a preliminary footprint of 20 acres and is 16 feet deep in order to allow the outlet to cross underneath the Casa Loma Canal. The outflow from the basin would be limited to approximately 50 cfs which would significantly reduce the size of downstream facilities (Webb 2006).

West Alternative 2 exits the basin underneath the Casa Loma Canal as an RCP and curves westerly until it reaches Warren Road. From there, the alignment continues northerly in Warren Road increasing in size until it turns into an RCB and continues to travel northerly in Warren Road until it reaches a point approximately 2,000 feet south of the intersection of Warren Road and Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct; at which point, the alignment travels easterly approximately 2,000 feet and ties into the Northwest Basin (Webb 2006).

West Alternative 3 consists of a combination of RCP, RCB culverts, and open channels with the addition of a detention basin between Cottonwood Avenue and the Metropolitan's Casa Loma Canal and a detention basin on the east side of Warren Road approximately 2,000 feet south of the intersection of Warren Road and Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct. Alternative 3

begins as a RCB and travels easterly along Esplanade Avenue. Near the intersection of Esplanade Avenue and Warren Road the alignment turns northerly and continues along the east side of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal. At Seventh Street, the facility changes from an RCB to an open channel, continues northerly along the east side of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal until it reaches the Metropolitan's Casa Loma Canal. After crossing underneath the Casa Loma Canal in a multi cell RCB, the alignment enters into a proposed detention basin that is north of the Casa Loma Canal and east of Warren Road. The proposed basin has a preliminary footprint of 20 acres and will be 18 feet deep. The outflow from the basin would be limited to approximately 50 cfs which would significantly reduce the size of downstream facilities (Webb 2006).

West Alternative 3 exits the basin and travels northerly in Warren Road increasing in size until it turns into an RCB; the alignment then continues to northerly in Warren Road until approximately 2,000 feet south of the intersection of Warren Road and Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct at which point it enters into a second proposed detention basin. This second proposed basin (preliminarily) would have an approximately 30 acre footprint and be approximately 10 feet deep. Peak outflows from the second basin would be reduced to approximately 35 cfs. Flow from this basin would travel northerly in Warren Road, cross under the Colorado River Aqueduct, and enter and tie into Line Z, or travel east and enter the Northwest Basin (Webb 2006).

West Alternative 4 proposes directing Line D flows southerly of EMWD's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) into a large detention basin proposed northerly of Cottonwood Avenue, southerly of Metropolitan's Casa Loma Canal and easterly of Metropolitan's San Diego Canal. The detention basin proposed in this location would be much larger than that proposed in Alternative 2 due to the increased tributary area. Flows from the first detention basin would be greatly reduced (perhaps down to 50 cfs) and would exit the first basin following a similar underground alignment as described in Alternative 2 westerly to Warren Road. The alignment continues northerly in Warren Road until approximately 2,000 feet south of the intersection of Warren Road and Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct where it enters into a second detention basin, which will be very similar to the basin described in Alternative 3 (Webb 2006).

Rationale for Eliminating West Alternatives 1 through 3

The four conceptual alternatives for the West Area described above, were reviewed by San Jacinto and RCFCWCD and West Alternatives 1 through 3 were dismissed from further consideration because West Alternative 4 is the only alternative that meets the Project objective of identifying facility alignments that do not traverse EMWD's WWTP. The alignment for Line D in West Alternatives 1 through 3 traverses EMWD's WWTP. EMWD does not want an open channel dividing their WWTP property; thus acquisition of ROW to construct an open channel in this location could be problematic. Additionally, the physical constraints associated with running an underground conduit through the WWTP would make such an alignment extremely difficult to construct. For these reasons, San Jacinto (as lead agency), RCFCWCD, and EMWD (as the owner of the property in question) preferred West Alternative 4, which conveyed Line D flows around the EWMD WWTP (Webb 2006).

Implementation of West Alternative 1, West Alternative 2, or West Alternative 3, would result in significant construction related impacts to air quality, significant direct and indirect impacts to agricultural resources, and significant indirect impacts to population/housing. With respect to air quality impacts, the thresholds for particulate matter will be exceeded if more than one facility is under construction at any given time. Many, if not most, of the MDP facilities are expected to be constructed as part of private development projects within three different jurisdictions; thus, it is highly unlikely that San Jacinto, Hemet, or Riverside could or would coordinate construction to reduce construction-related impacts to air quality to less than significant.

With respect to agricultural resources, most of the Project area is designated Farmland and construction of the basins discussed in West Alternatives 1 through 3, could result in the direct conversion of Farmland to public facilities. Additionally, since West Alternatives 1 though 3 could support and encourage planned development per the Riverside County, San Jacinto, and Hemet General Plans in an area containing approximately 153 acres of Farmland, implementation of any of these alternatives will have significant and unavoidable indirect impacts to agricultural resources.

With respect to population/housing, West Alternatives 1 through 3 will indirectly induce substantial population growth by removing one potential barrier to growth through the provision of flood control infrastructure; thus impacts in this regard are significant and unavoidable.

Since West Alternatives 1 through 3 do not meet the project objective of avoiding facilities traversing through EMWD's WWTP and would result in significant unavoidable impacts to air quality,3. agricultural resources, and population/housing, these alternatives were eliminated from further study in this Draft EIR.

5.4.1.2 Alternatives Considered but Rejected for the North Area

As part of the preparation of the SJV-MDP, six conceptual drainage alternatives were developed for the North Area and conceptual level analysis were completed as described below (Webb 2007).

North Alternative 1 consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 2 – 3):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch just west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 traverses easterly for approximately 6,900 feet until it reaches Sanderson Avenue. Line 1 will cross underneath Sanderson Avenue as a reinforced box culvert. On the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue, Line 1 connects to a proposed detention basin. Line 1 will require 14.5 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and will require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.

- The North Alternative 1 Basin is bounded by Sanderson Avenue to the west and the future alignment of Record Road to the north. The North Alternative 1 Basin will have an approximate 12.5 acre footprint and have approximately 70 acre-feet of storage.
- Line 3 is a proposed earthen channel that ties into the southwest corner of the Alternative 1 Basin. Line 3 traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 1,300 feet. From there it traverses in an easterly direction for approximately 600 feet. Line 3 will pick up flows east of Sanderson Avenue, west of Line 4A, north of Ramona Expressway, and south of the future alignment of Record Road. In North Alternative 1, Line 3 will require 3.0 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 4 begins in the northeast corner of the North Alternative 1 Basin. It traverses along the future alignment of Record Road in a southeasterly direction for approximately 3,300 feet as an earthen channel. From there it continues along the future alignment of Record Road for approximately 4,200 feet as an underground RCB until it reaches the existing alignment of Record Road. From there it traverses easterly in Record Road for approximately 1,700 feet. In North Alternative 1, Line 4 will require 8.5 acres of right of way to construct.
- Line 4A ties into Line 4 approximately 1,900 feet upstream of where Line 4 outlets into the North Alternative 1 Basin. Line 4A traverses southerly approximately 2,400 feet until it reaches Ramona Expressway. From there Line 4A traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet. At this point Line 4A turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 1, Line 4A will require 5.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 4B ties into Line 4 approximately 3,250 feet upstream of where Line 4 outlets into the Alternative 1 Basin. Line 4 traverses in an easterly direction as an underground pipe for approximately 2,150 feet. From there it traverses in a southerly direction for approximately 800 feet. Since all of Line 4B is underground in North Alternative 1, it will require an easement for construction rather than ROW.

North Alternative 1A consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 4 – 5):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch just west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 traverses easterly for approximately 6,900 feet until it reaches Sanderson Avenue. Line 1 crosses underneath Sanderson Avenue as a reinforced box culvert. On the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue, Line 1 connects to a proposed detention basin. Line 1 will handle flows in the "west area" northerly on the future alignment of Record Road and southerly of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 will also serve as an outlet for the North Alternative 1A Detention Basin. In North Alternative 1A, Line 1 will require 14.5 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and will require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.

- The North Alternative 1A Basin is bounded by Sanderson Avenue to the west and the future alignment of Record Road to the north. The Alternative 1A Basin will have an approximate 12.5 acre footprint and have approximately 70 acre-feet of storage.
- Line 3 is a proposed earthen channel that ties into the southwest corner of the North Alternative 1A Basin. Line 3 traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 1,300 feet. From there it traverses in an easterly direction for approximately 600 feet. In North Alternative 1A, Line 3 will require 3.0 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 4 begins in the northeast corner of the North Alternative 1A Basin and traverses easterly along the southerly side of the Stage IV Levee for approximately 5,000 feet as an earthen channel. From there it continues a reinforced box culvert in a southerly direction for approximately 1,900 feet until it reaches the future alignment of Record Road and then continues easterly along Record Road for approximately 3,000 feet as an underground conduit. In North Alternative 1A, Line 4 will require 12.0 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 4A ties into Line 4 approximately 1,300 feet upstream of the North Alternative 1A Basin and traverses southerly approximately 2,900 feet until it reaches Ramona Expressway. From there Line 4A traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet and then turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 1A, Line 4A will require 6.0 acres of ROW to construct.

North Alternative 2 consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 6 – 7):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch just west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 traverses easterly for approximately 6,200 feet until it reaches the North Alternative 2 Basin. Line 1 will serve as an outlet for the North Alternative 2 Detention Basin and will require 11.7 acres of right-of-way to construct.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and will require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.
- Alternative 2 Basin – The Alternative 2 Basin is bounded by Sanderson Avenue to the east and the Stage IV Levee to the north. The Alternative 2 Basin will have an approximate 13 acre footprint and have approximately 70 acre-feet of storage. The basin will reduce "middle area" flows from approximately 1,200 cfs to 500 cfs.
- Line 3 begins in the northeast corner of the North Alternative 2 Basin and traverses easterly across Sanderson Avenue in a multi-cell RCB culvert. From there it traverses along the future alignment of Record Road in a southeasterly direction for approximately 4,200 feet as an earthen channel and then continues for approximately 4,200 feet as an underground RCB until it reaches the existing alignment of Record Road, from which

point it traverses easterly in Record Road for approximately 1,700 feet. In North Alternative 2, Line 3 will require 10.4 acres of ROW to construct.

- Line 3A is a proposed earthen channel that ties into Line 3 on the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 2,300 feet, then it traverses in an easterly direction for approximately 600 feet. In North Alternative 2, Line 3A will require 4.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 3B ties into Line 3 approximately 2,800 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly approximately 2,400 feet until it reaches Ramona Expressway, then traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet. At this point Line 3B turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 2, Line 3B will require 5.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 3C ties into Line 3 approximately 4,200 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses in an easterly direction as an underground pipe for approximately 2,150 feet, then traverses in a southerly direction for approximately 800 feet. Since all of Line 3C is underground in North Alternative 2, it will require an easement for construction rather than ROW.

North Alternative 2A consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 8 – 9):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 traverses easterly for approximately 6,200 feet until it reaches the North Alternative 2A Basin. In North Alternative 2A, Line 1 will require 11.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.
- The North Alternative 2A Basin is bounded by Sanderson Avenue to the east and the Stage IV Levee to the north and will have an approximate 13 acre footprint and approximately 70 acre-feet of storage.
- Line 3 begins in the northeast corner of the North Alternative 2A Basin and traverses easterly across Sanderson Avenue in a multi-cell RCB culvert. From there it traverses along the southerly side of the Stage IV Levee for approximately 5,900 feet as an earthen channel, then it continues as a reinforced box culvert in a southerly direction for approximately 1,900 feet until it reaches the future alignment of Record Road. From there it continues easterly along Record Road for approximately 3,000 feet as an underground conduit. In North Alternative 2A, Line 3 will require 13.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 3A is a proposed earthen channel that ties into Line 3 on the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue. Line 3A traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 2,300 feet; then it traverses in an easterly direction

for approximately 600 feet. In North Alternative 2A, Line 3A will require 4.7 acres of ROW to construct.

- Line 3B ties into Line 3 approximately 2,500 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly approximately 2,900 until it reaches Ramona Expressway; at which point it traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet. At this point Line 3B turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 2A, Line 3B will require 6.0 acres of ROW to construct.

North Alternative 3 consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 10 – 11):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch just west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee. Line 1 traverses easterly for approximately 6,900 feet until it reaches Sanderson Avenue. Line 1 crosses underneath Sanderson Avenue as an RCB. On the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue, Line 1 traverses along the future alignment of Record Road in a southeasterly direction for approximately 4,200 feet as an earthen channel, then it continues along the future alignment of Record Road for approximately 4,200 feet as an underground RCB until it reaches the existing alignment of Record Road. From there it traverses easterly in Record Road for approximately 1,700 feet. In North Alternative 3, Line 1 will require 34.3 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 1A is a proposed earthen channel that ties into Line 1 on the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 2,300 feet; then it traverses in an easterly direction for approximately 600 feet. In North Alternative 3, Line 1A will require 4.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 1B ties into Line 1 approximately 2,800 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly approximately 2,400 feet until it reaches Ramona Expressway, then it traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet. At this point Line 1B turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 3, Line 1B will require 5.7 acres of right-of-way to construct.
- Line 1C ties into Line 1 approximately 4,200 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses in an easterly direction as an underground pipe for approximately 2,150 feet, then it traverses in a southerly direction for approximately 800 feet. Since all of Line 1C is underground in North Alternative 3, it will require an easement for construction rather than ROW.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and will require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.

North Alternative 4 consists of the following facilities (Webb 2007, pgs. 11 – 12):

- Line 1 is an earthen channel that connects to an existing agricultural drainage ditch just west of the southwesterly edge of the Stage IV Levee and traverses easterly for approximately 6,900 feet until it reaches Sanderson Avenue. Line 1 crosses underneath Sanderson Avenue as a multi-cell reinforced box culvert. On the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue, Line 1 traverses along the future alignment of Record Road in a southeasterly direction for approximately 6,800 feet as an earthen channel until it reaches the MWD Colorado River Aqueduct and traverses easterly along the Colorado River Aqueduct as an underground conduit for approximately 3,800 feet until it reaches State Street, at which point it connects to Line H of the SJMDP. In North Alternative 3, Line 1 will require 65.1 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 1A is a proposed earthen channel that ties into Line 1 on the easterly side of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly from the basin along the east side of Sanderson Avenue for approximately 2,300 feet, then it traverses in an easterly direction for approximately 600 feet. Line 1A will require 4.7 acres of ROW to construct.
- Line 1B ties into Line 1 approximately 2,800 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses southerly approximately 2,400 feet until it reaches Ramona Expressway. From there Line 1B traverses as an underground conduit in a southeasterly direction along Ramona Expressway for approximately 1,800 feet, at which point Line 1B turns and traverses easterly for approximately 1,200 feet. In North Alternative 4, Line 1B will require 5.7 acres of right-of-way to construct.
- Line 1C ties into Line 1 approximately 4,200 feet upstream of Sanderson Avenue and traverses in an easterly direction as an underground pipe for approximately 2,150 feet, then it traverses in a southerly direction for approximately 800 feet. Since all of Line 1C is underground in Alternative 4, it will require an easement for construction rather than right-of-way.
- Line 2 is an earthen channel that connects to "Line Z." Line 2 runs along the northerly side of Ramona Expressway for approximately 6,900 feet and will require 11.2 acres of ROW to construct.

Rationale for Eliminating North Alternatives 1, 2, 2A, 3, and 4

Based on the conceptual level analysis completed for the North Alternatives, from an engineering perspective, North Alternatives 1, 1A, 2, and 2A are preferable to North Alternatives 3 and 4 because the retention basins proposed in North Alternatives 1, lA, 2, and 2A achieve the Project objective of accommodating phased development within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP. North Alternatives 1 and 1A are slightly preferable to Alternatives 2 and 2A in that the crossing of Sanderson Avenue will be easier with facilities included in these alternatives since flows will be reduced upstream of Sanderson Avenue. Alternatives 1A and 2A propose a narrower channel adjacent to Record Road, which is preferable from an engineering standpoint (Webb 2007, pg.17).

North Alternatives 1A and 2A are better than North Alternatives 1 or 2. Economically, there is not a significant difference between the top alternatives. Environmentally they are very similar. From an engineering standpoint, North Alternative 1A and 2A are also very similar. San Jacinto (as lead agency) and RCFCWCD have selected North Alternative 1A to be included in the SJV-MDP since this alternative is the most conducive to phased development (Webb 2007, pg. 14); thus, North Alternatives 1, 2, 2A, 3, and 4 were eliminated from further detailed study.

Implementation of North Alternative 1, North Alternative 2, North Alternative 2A, North Alternative 3, and North Alternative 4, would result in significant construction related impacts to air quality, significant direct and indirect impacts to agricultural resources, and significant indirect impacts to population/housing. With respect to air quality impacts, the thresholds for particulate matter will be exceeded if more than one facility is under construction at any given time. Many, if not most, of the SJV-MDP facilities in the North Area are expected to be constructed as part of private development projects within San Jacinto or Riverside County. It is unlikely that these two jurisdictions could or would coordinate construction to reduce construction-related impacts to air quality to less than significant.

With respect to agricultural resources, most of the North Area is designated Farmland and construction of the facilities to serve the North Area could result in direct impacts to Farmland. Additionally, since North Alternatives 1, 2, 2A, 3, and 4 could support and encourage planned development per the Riverside County and San Jacinto General Plans in an area containing approximately 758 acres of Farmland, implementation of any of these alternatives will have significant and unavoidable indirect impacts to agricultural resources.

With respect to population/housing, North Alternatives 1, 2, 2A, 3, and 4 will indirectly induce substantial population growth by removing one potential barrier to growth through the provision of flood control infrastructure; thus impacts in this regard are significant and unavoidable.

Since North Alternatives 1, 2, 2A, 3, and 4 would result in significant unavoidable impacts to air quality, agricultural resources, and population/housing, these alternatives were eliminated from further study in this Draft EIR.

5.4.2 Description and Evaluation of Alternatives

Pursuant to Section 15126.6(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, each alternative must be capable of avoiding or substantially lessening any significant effects of the proposed Project. The proposed Project was found to have potential significant environmental impacts related to air quality impacts during construction, loss of designated Farmland, population/housing, as well as growth inducement. Construction of multiple Project facilities at the same time will exceed significance thresholds for particulate matter. Construction of certain facilities will convert Farmland to non-farmland uses. Implementation of the SJV-MDP could indirectly induce growth by removing one potential barrier to growth through the provision of flood control infrastructure. Development within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP will result in population growth as well as additional conversion of Farmland to non-farmland uses. The proposed Project's potential growth inducement impacts would not exceed those already contemplated in the EIRs prepared

for the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, and Riverside County General Plan. With mitigation, long-term impacts to air resources and impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, and hazardous materials sites remain less than significant.

The rationale for selecting the alternatives to be evaluated and a discussion of the "no project" alternative are also required, per section 15126.6.

Per *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6 (e)(3), when a project is the revision of an existing land use or ongoing operation, the "no project" alternative will be the continuation of the existing plan, policy or operation into the future. The proposed project consists of revisions to the previously adopted SJMDP (revised 1990) and NW Hemet MDP (1985), development of a master drainage plan for the North Area and West Area, and the construction of these facilities. The "no project" alternative consists of the construction of the drainage facilities as planned in the previously adopted SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP.

This Draft EIR analyzes the proposed Project, the No Project Alternative, and a Revised SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP Alternative as are described and analyzed below.

5.4.2.1 Proposed Project – SJV-MDP

The Proposed project, as described in detail in Section 1.4 is the SJV-MDP, which incorporates the areas within the previously adopted SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP in addition to areas (the North Area and West Area) for which there was no previous MDP. Facilities identified in the SJV-MDP include facilities originally proposed in the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP, facilities revised from those originally identified in the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP, and new facilities.

5.4.2.2 No Project Alternative

The No Project Alternative (see **Figure 5.0-1, No Project Alternative)** includes implementation of the SJMDP (revised 1990) and NW Hemet MDP (1985), as previously adopted. These MDPs are available for review at the RCFCWCD offices. The majority of the open channels proposed in these existing plans consist of both lined and unlined facilities. In general, the lined channels are trapezoidal in shape with concrete paving on the side slopes and bottom. The sides slope upward from the bottom at a rate of one foot vertically for every 1.5 feet horizontally. A few of the proposed lined channels also consist of lined rectangular channel sections. The lined trapezoidal channels in these plans generally range in size from a bottom width of 2 feet to 40 feet and in depth from 3 feet to 10 feet. The proposed unlined channels are also trapezoidal in shape with generally flatter side slopes running 3 feet horizontally for every 1 foot of rise. The channel right-of-way required will accommodate the channel as well as one or two maintenance roads. The proposed underground storm drains consist of reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) ranging in size from 30 inches to 102 inches in diameter. Some sections of the proposed underground storm drains also consist of RCB.

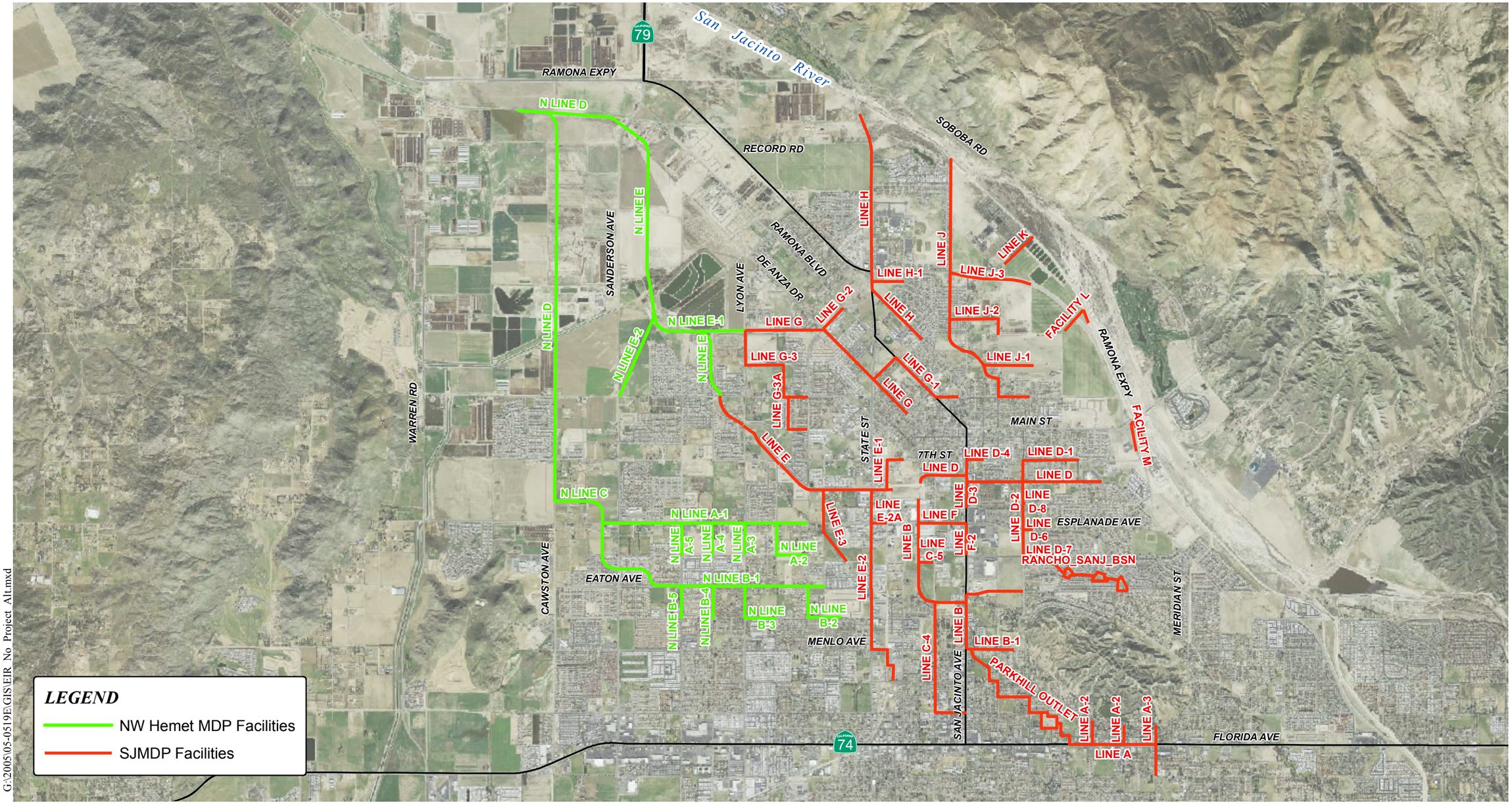


Figure 5.0-1
No Project Alternative

Under the previously adopted SJMDP, Lines C, D-2, and G would not be realigned; Line G-3a and G-3 would not be combined; Line E would continue to outlet into the San Jacinto River. The SJMDP does not include N Line E-2, N Line E-3, and three laterals along Line E (Kirby Lateral, Lyon Avenue Lateral, and 7th Street Lateral). Under the No Project Alternative, N Line E-2, N Line E-3, and three laterals along Line E would not be added to the SJMDP.

Under the previously adopted NW Hemet MDP, N Line D would remain an above ground facility and would never be constructed since development has already occurred along its alignment. N Line D would terminate west of the intersection of Cawston and Cottonwood Avenues at the Casa Loma Basin, and Line D north of Cottonwood Avenue (shown on the SJV-MDP as Line V) would be a concrete lined-channel. Under the No Project Alternative, N Line D would not be revised to be an underground facility, Line D north of Cottonwood Avenue (shown on the SJV-MDP as Line V) would not be revised to be an unlined channel, and the Line D Basin would not be added to the NW Hemet MDP.

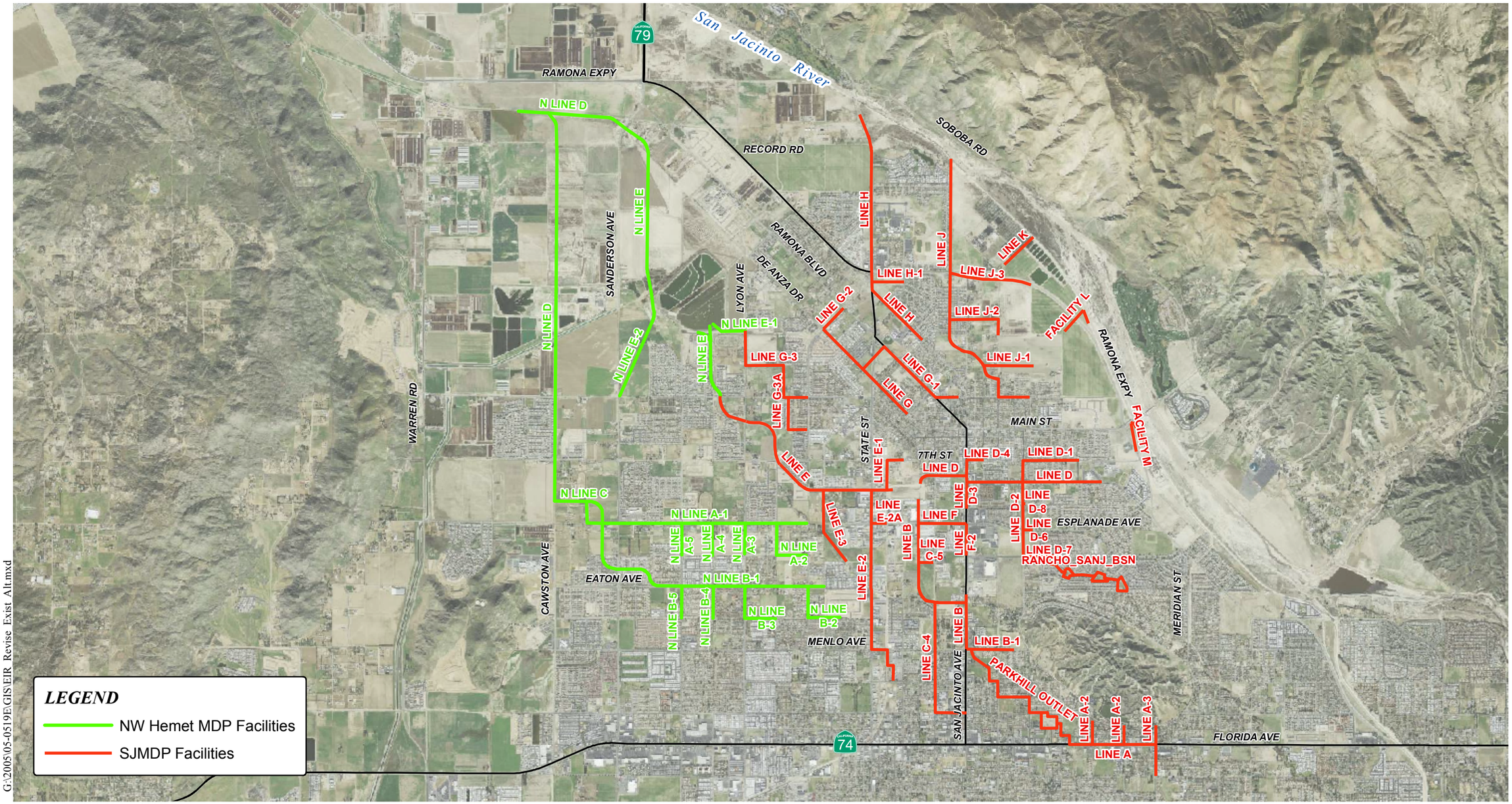
Under the No Project Alternative no master plan for drainage would be prepared for those areas outside of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP and the following facilities would not be constructed: Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; Lateral 4-A; the North Basin; Casa Loma Basin; Line X, Y, Y-1, W, and Z; Laterals D-1, X-1; and Laterals Y-1 to Y-13.

5.4.2.3 Revise Existing MDPs Alternative

The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative (see **Figure 5.0-2, Revise Existing MDPs Alternative**) consists of revising and updating the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. With this alternative, the SJMDP would be revised as follows: moving Line G-1 300 feet downstream, removal of Line G between the San Jacinto Reservoir and De Anza. Line G-3 and Line G-3a would be combined into Line G-3 with a new alignment which replaces 3,100 feet of the original Line G, and the outlet of Line E into the San Jacinto Reservoir. Line G-1 would be realigned, Line C to the east of Hewitt Street would be realigned to extend Line D-2 south to Washington Avenue, N Line E-2A, N Line E-3A, three laterals along Line E (Kirby Lateral, Lyon Avenue Lateral, and 7th Street Lateral) and Milwaukee SD would be added. All other previously adopted alignments would remain unchanged.

The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative would revise the HW Hemet MDP as follows: N Line D would be upsized and become an underground facility. The Line D Basin will become the downstream terminus of N Line C. The portion of the previously adopted NW Hemet MDP Line D, north of Cottonwood (shown in the SJV-MDP as Line V) would be proposed as an unlined open channel. All other previously adopted alignments would remain unchanged

Under the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative, no master plan for drainage would be prepared for those areas outside of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP and the following facilities would not be constructed: Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; Lateral 4-A; the North Basin; Casa Loma Basin; Line X, Y, Y-1, W, and Z; Laterals D-1, X-1; and Laterals Y-1 to Y-13.



G:\2005\05-0519\GIS\EIR Revise Exist Alt.mxd

Imagery: Digital Globe, 2008

N
W E
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0 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet

Figure 5.0-2
Revise Existing MDPs Alternative

5.4.2.4 Evaluation of Alternatives

The matrix approach to comparing the above described alternatives is used for ease of directly comparing the proposed Project's potential significant adverse effects with those of the alternatives, per *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6 (d). **Table 5.0-A, Comparison of Alternatives Matrix**, identifies the areas of potential significant environmental effects per CEQA and ranks each alternative as **better**, the **same** or **worse** than the proposed Project with respect to each issue area.

Table 5.0-A, Comparison of Alternatives Matrix

Environmental Issue	Proposed Project (SJV-MDP)	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Aesthetics	**Less than Significant Impacts:** The Project does not propose facilities within one –quarter mile of State Designated Scenic Highways or State Eligible Scenic Highways. The facilities in the vicinity of a County Eligible Scenic Highway (Ramona Expressway) would be visible for only a few seconds.	**Same as the Project:** The No Project Alternative does not propose facilities within one –quarter mile of State Designated Scenic Highways or State Eligible Scenic Highways. The facilities in the vicinity of a County Eligible Scenic Highway (Ramona Expressway) would be visible for only a few seconds.	**Same as the Project:** The proposed revisions to the Existing MDPs do not include facilities within one –quarter mile of State Designated Scenic Highways or State Eligible Scenic Highways. The facilities in the vicinity of a County Eligible Scenic Highway (Ramona Expressway) would be visible for only a few seconds.
Agricultural Resources	**Significant Unavoidable Impacts:** Direct impacts resulting from the loss of 15 acres of Important Farmland and 6 acres of Locally Important Farmland under a Williamson Act Contract for the construction of basins. Indirect impacts resulting from providing drainage infrastructure that could contribute to the development of land currently zoned for agricultural uses or protected by a Williamson Act contract.	**Better than the Project but still Significant and Unavoidable:** No direct impact as the No Project Alternative does not include basins. Indirect impacts would occur over a smaller area, since the No Project Alternative does not propose drainage infrastructure for areas outside of the SJMDP or NW Hemet MDP.	**Better than the Project but still Significant and Unavoidable:** No direct impacts as the No Project Alternative does not include basins. Indirect impacts would occur over a smaller area, since the No Project Alternative does not propose drainage infrastructure for areas outside of the SJMDP or NW Hemet MDP.

Environmental Issue	Proposed Project (SJV-MDP)	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Air Quality	**Significant Unavoidable Impacts:** Short-term construction impacts contributing to exceeding air quality thresholds for particulate matter will result if more than one Project facility is under construction at any given time. Long-term impacts to air quality are less than significant.	**Same as Project:** Construction of multiple facilities at any given time will likely still occur.	**Same as Project:** Construction of multiple facilities at any given time will likely still occur.
Biological Resources – Candidate, Sensitive, or Special-Status Plant Species	**Less than Significant Impacts with Mitigation:** Special status species have the potential to occur within the boundaries of the Project area.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** The No Project Alternative contains less area with the potential to support special status species.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative contains less area with the potential to support special status species.
Biological Resources – Riparian Habitat	**Less than Significant Impacts with Mitigation:** Riparian habitat is present within the boundaries of the Project Area. Per the MSHCP facility-specific mapping will be required. If riparian areas cannot be avoided, then approval of a DBESP that which includes appropriate mitigation will be required.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** Although less riparian habitat is present within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. The No Project Alternative must comply with the provisions of the MSHCP.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** Although less riparian habitat is present within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative must comply with the provisions of the MSHCP.
Biological Resources – Federally Protected Wetlands	**Less than Significant Impacts with Mitigation:** Potentially jurisdictional areas which will require facility specific jurisdictional delineations are present within the boundaries of the Project Area. Any facilities constructed within jurisdictional areas must comply with the provisions of the MSHCP and secure appropriate regulatory permits.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** Less potentially jurisdictional areas are present within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. Any facilities constructed within jurisdictional areas must comply with the provisions of the MSHCP and secure appropriate regulatory permits.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** Less potentially jurisdictional areas are present within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. Any facilities constructed within jurisdictional areas must comply with the provisions of the MSHCP and secure appropriate regulatory permits.

Environmental Issue	Proposed Project (SJV-MDP)	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Biological Resources – Conflict with the Provisions of an adopted HCP	**Less than Significant Impacts with Mitigation:** The boundaries of the SJV-MDP contain areas that the MSHCP identifies as requiring facility-specific focused plant surveys, and if target species are present, avoidance. If avoidance is not feasible, then approval of a DBESP that which includes appropriate mitigation will be required.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** The No Project Alternative contains less area that the MSHCP identifies as requiring facility-specific focused plant surveys.	**Slightly Better than the Project:** The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative contains less area that the MSHCP identifies as requiring facility-specific focused plant surveys.
Biological Resources – Conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources	**Less than Significant Impacts:** The Project will meet local goals and policies through compliance with the MSHCP.	**Same as the Project:** The No Project Alternative is required to comply with the provisions of the MSHCP.	**Same as the Project:** The Revise Existing MDP Alternative is required to comply with the provisions of the MSHCP.
Cultural Resources	**Less than Significant with Mitigation:** The Project will not impact existing know cultural resources in those areas surveyed. Facility-specific surveys are required for certain facilities and depending upon the results of the surveys coordination with Native American groups may be required.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project. Mitigation measures are the same as for the Project.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project. Mitigation measures are the same as for the Project.
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	**Less than Significant with Mitigation:** As part of the final design of SJV-MDP facilities, the design engineer shall check proposed sites for listing on the most recent Hazardous Waste and Substances List and shall avoid the site or mitigate accordingly. Soil testing/sampling is required prior to disposing of exported soils or using imported soils.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project. Mitigation measures are the same as for the Project.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project. Mitigation measures are the same as for the Project.

Environmental Issue	Proposed Project (SJV-MDP)	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Hydrology and Water Quality – Runoff during construction	**Less than Significant:** SWPPPs, identifying BMPs to control erosion during construction will be required in accordance with the General Construction Permit.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.
Hydrology and Water Quality – Post-Project runoff	**Less than Significant Impact:** Project facilities are designed to convey stormwater runoff from agricultural lands and urban development; will have grates to collect trash and rubbish; and the basins will provide opportunities for groundwater recharge.	**Worse than the Project:** Fewer opportunities for groundwater recharge with fewer basins proposed. Runoff from the Project area outside of the Existing MDPs will sheet flow and agricultural wastes could enter downstream receiving waters.	**Worse than the Project:** Groundwater recharge will occur with the basins proposed; however, runoff from the Project area outside of the Existing MDPs will sheet flow and agricultural wastes could enter downstream receiving waters.
Hydrology and Water Quality - Discharge of Additional Sources of Pollutants; Adversely Affect Beneficial Uses of Receiving Waters; Harm Biological Integrity of Waterways or Water Bodies; Violate Water Quality Standards or Waste Discharge Requirements; Alter Flow Velocity or Volume;	**Less than Significant Impact:** Project facilities are designed to mimic existing drainage conditions; and thus will not result in additional erosion or scour in the San Jacinto River. For those facilities constructed as part of private development projects, WQMPS will be required that incorporate BMPs to reduce pollutant loads and achieve post-development flow rates as close to the pre-development condition as possible.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.
Hydrology and Water Quality – Substantially Alter Existing Drainage Pattern of the Site or Area	**Less than Significant:** The proposed Project will alter local drainage patterns within the boundary of the SJC-MDP by redirecting sheet flows from streets and agricultural ditches to JSV-MDP basins, channels, and storm drains. This change in the local drainage pattern is an inherent part of the Project, the purpose of which is to improve drainage.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.	**Same as the Project:** No change in the significance determination from the proposed Project.

Environmental Issue	Proposed Project (SJV-MDP)	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Hydrology and Water Quality – Place Structures within a 100-year Flood Hazard Area	**Less than Significant:** Portions of the SJV-MDP facilities will be constructed within 100-year flood hazard areas due to the flat topography and to contain the 100-year storm flows.	**Better than the Project:** The Existing MDPs proposed fewer facilities within 100-year flood hazard areas	**Better than the Project:** The Existing MDPs proposed fewer facilities within 100-year flood hazard areas
Population/Housing	**Significant Unavoidable Impacts:** from providing drainage infrastructure that could contribute to the development of land as planned for in the San Jacinto, Hemet, and Riverside County General Plans.	**Better than the Project but still Significant and Unavoidable:** Indirect impacts would occur over a smaller area, since the No Project Alternative does not propose drainage infrastructure for areas outside of the SJMDP or NW Hemet MDP.	**Better than the Project but still Significant and Unavoidable:** Indirect impacts would occur over a smaller area, since the No Project Alternative does not propose drainage infrastructure for areas outside of the SJMDP or NW Hemet MDP.
Meets Project Objectives	**Yes**	**No**	**No**
Environmentally Superior to the Proposed Project?	**N/A**	**Slightly, but still has significant and unavoidable impacts**	**Slightly, but still has significant and unavoidable impacts**

A project alternative must be able to feasibility attain most of the basic objectives of the proposed Project. Table 5.0-B provides an assessment of the ability of the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative.

Table 5.0-B, Evaluation of Project Alternatives and Project Objectives

Project Objectives	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Provide a single comprehensive MDP that contains a drainage plan for the North and West Areas and the necessary updates and revisions to the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP.	The No Project Alternative does not meet the objective of a single comprehensive MDP that identifies updates and revisions to the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. Therefore the No Project Alternative will not meet this basic project objective.	The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative does not meet the objective of a single comprehensive MDP. Revising the Existing MDPs will update and revise drainage facilities only within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP (Figure 2.0-4) leaving much of the North and West Areas (Figure 2.0-5) without a master plan for drainage facilities. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this project objective.

Project Objectives	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
In conjunction with ultimate street improvements for the area within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP, contain the 100-year frequency flood flows and alleviate the primary sources of flooding within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP.	The No Project Alternative will not identify any additional facilities needed in the SJMDP, NW Hemet MDP, or in those portions of the North and West Areas outside of the existing MDPs to contain 100-year frequency flood flows. Therefore, the No Project Alternative will not meet this project objective.	Revising the Existing MDPs will not identify facilities to contain the 100-year frequency flood flows for the entire Project boundary. Facilities will be identified only within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP (Figure 2.0-4) leaving much of the North and West Areas (Figure 2.0-5) without a master plan for drainage facilities. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this project objective.
Serve as a guide for the location and size of drainage facilities that need to be constructed to protect existing development and future development as the area within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP develops per the San Jacinto General Plan, Hemet General Plan, the Riverside County General Plan, and specifically, the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan.	The No Project Alternative will not identify any additional facilities needed in the SJMDP, NW Hemet MDP, or in those portions of the North and West Areas outside of the existing MDPs to protect existing or future development. Therefore, the No Project Alternative will not meet this project objective.	Revising the Existing MDPs will only identify facilities within the boundaries of the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP (Figure 2.0-4) leaving much of the North and West Areas (Figure 2.0-5) without a master plan for drainage facilities. In the absence of a master plan, drainage facilities to serve the areas outside of the Existing MDPs will be planned on an ad hoc and piece meal basis by San Jacinto, Hemet, Riverside County, and RCFCWCD as part of the approval process for private development projects. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this project objective.
Ensure that facility alignments are reserved for future construction of the drainage facilities identified in the SJV-MDP.	The No Project Alternative will only reserve facility alignments for facilities currently identified in the SJMPD and Hw Hemet MDP. The No Project Alternative will not identify or reserve facility alignments for any new or upsized facilities needed in the Existing MDPs or much of the North and West Areas. Therefore, the No Project Alternative will not meet this objective.	Revising the Existing MDPs will only reserve facility alignments for future construction of drainage facilities identified in the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP (Figure 2.0-4). No alignments will be identified, for much of the North and West Areas (Figure 2.0-5) since drainage facilities will be planned on an ad hoc and piece meal basis by San Jacinto, Hemet, Riverside County, and RCFCWCD as part of the approval process for private development projects. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this project objective.

Project Objectives	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Identify facility alignments that do not traverse the EMWD Waste Water Treatment Plant.	The Existing MDPs do not include facilities that traverse the EMWD Waste Water Treatment Plan; therefore the No Project Alternative meets this project objective.	The NW Hemet MDPs could be revised to identify alignments that do not traverse the EMWD wastewater plant. Therefore the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative can meet this project objective.
Identify facilities and facility alignments that require the minimal amount of ROW acquisition in potentially sensitive areas.	The No Project Alternative will not identify any new facilities. Additionally, although the drainage facilities for those portions of the North and West Areas outside of the boundaries of the Existing MDPs will be planned on a piece meal basis, the facilities could be sized and located to minimize the amount of ROW required in potentially sensitive areas. Therefore, the No Project Alternative can meet this project objective.	The Existing MDPs could be revised to identify facilities and facility alignments that minimize the amount of necessary ROW in potentially sensitive areas. Additionally, although the drainage facilities for those portions of the North and West Areas outside of the boundaries of the Existing MDPs will be planned on a piece meal basis, the facilities could be sized and located to minimize the amount of ROW required in potentially sensitive areas. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative can meet this project objective.
Identify the most economical combination of facilities taking into consideration ROW acquisition, construction, and maintenance costs.	The No Project Alternative does not include any revisions to the Existing MDPs. Additionally, this alternative does not provide for a master plan of drainage facilities for much of the North and West Areas and drainage facilities on these areas will be planned by various public and private parties on a piece meal basis as development takes place. This piece meal approach provides few, if any, opportunities for identification of the most economical combination of facilities. Therefore, the No Alternative will not meet this project objective.	The Existing MDPs could be revised at the same time such that the most economical combination of facilities is included in the SJMDP and NW Hemet MDP. Since this alternative does not provide for a master plan of drainage facilities for much of the North and West Areas, drainage facilities on these areas will be planned by various public and private parties on a piece meal basis as development takes place in those areas, which provides few, if any, opportunities for identification of the most economical combination of facilities. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will only partially meet this project objective.

Project Objectives	No Project Alternative (Existing Adopted ADPs/MDP)	Revise Existing MDPs Alternative
Identify facilities that will accommodate phased development within the boundaries of the SJV-MDP.	The No Project Alternative, which does not revise the Existing MDPs or identify facilities in the North and West Areas will not meet this objective.	The Existing MDPs could be revised such that the facilities identified therein will accommodate phased development; however, no alignments will be identified for much of the North and West Areas (Figure 2.0-5) since drainage facilities will be planned on a piece meal basis by San Jacinto, Hemet, Riverside County, and RCFCWCD as part of the approval process for private development projects. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this project objective.
Create a funding mechanism to help finance the costs of construction of the facilities identified in the SJV-MDP.	The No Project Alternative will not update the current ADP fees in effect or create a funding mechanism for the North and West Areas. Therefore, the No Project Alternative will not meet this objective.	The Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not update the current ADP fees in effect or create a funding mechanism for the North and West Areas. Therefore, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative will not meet this objective.

5.4.2.5 Environmentally Superior Alternative

Section 15126.6(e)(2) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* requires the identification of the environmentally superior alternative. Of the alternatives evaluated above, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative is recognized as the environmentally superior alternative compared to the proposed Project for all issue areas excluding hydrology. This is because proposed Project would provide some groundwater recharge through the basins and channelize sheet flows across agricultural lands in areas that are not currently within an existing MDP; thus minimizing the amount of agricultural waste that could enter the San Jacinto River, that would not be addressed under the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative. However, for the reasons presented in Table 5.0-B, the Revise Existing MDPs Alternative does not achieve the project objectives.

6.0 REFERENCES

6.1 SOURCES USED IN PREPARATION OF THE DEIR

The following sources were referenced as general information sources during the preparation of this document. They are available for public review at the locations identified at the end of each listing. Addresses for the public agency offices are provided in Section 6.1.1 below.

3.1 Aesthetics	
Abbreviation	***Source***
COR GP FEIR	County of Riverside, Transportation and Land Management Agency, Planning Division, *Riverside County Integrated Project, General Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report*, 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department and at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/eir/volume1.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
COR SJVAP	County of Riverside, *County of Riverside General Plan, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan*, October 2003. (Available at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/ap2/sjvap.html, accessed on May 5, 2009.)
HGP	City of Hemet, *General Plan*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
HGP FEIR	City of Hemet, *Hemet General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
SJ GP	City of San Jacinto, *City of San Jacinto General Plan*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan.html, accessed on May 5, 2009.)
SJGP DEIR	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan-EIR.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
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SJGP FEIR SOC	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto Final Environmental Impact Report Findings – Statement of Overriding Considerations*, April 2006.

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HGP	City of Hemet, *General Plan,* August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
HGP FEIR	City of Hemet, *Hemet General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report,* August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
HMC Chapter 58	City of Hemet, *Hemet Municipal Code, Chapter 58 Planning and Development, Article VII, Hemet Right-to-Farm Ordinance*, adopted May 14, 1996. (Available at the City of Hemet Office of the City Clerk and at http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=12521&sid=5, accessed on May 12, 2009.)
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SJGP FEIR	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto Final Environmental Impact Report Findings,* April 2006. (Available at the San Jacinto City Clerk's Office.)
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Abbreviation	***Source***
AQIA	Albert A. Webb Associates, *Air Quality Impact Analysis*, 2009. (Appendix B)
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association, *CEQA and Climate Change*, January 2008. (Available at www.capcoa.org, accessed on October 13, 2008.)
CARB 2005	California Air Resources Board, *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective*, April 2005. (Available at www.arb.ca.gov/ch/landuse.htm, accessed on October 13, 2008.)
	California Air Resources Board, *AB 32 Fact Sheet and Timeline-California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006*, September 25, 2006. (Available at www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm#factsheets , accessed, accessed on October 13, 2008.)
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AGO	California Attorney General's Office, *Climate Change, the California Environmental Quality Act, and General Plan Updates: Straightforward Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions*, Revised September 1, 2009. (Available at http://ag.ca.gov/globalwarming/pdf/CEQA_GP_FAQs.pdf, accessed on September 23, 2009.)
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EIA	Energy Information Administration, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2006*, U.S. Department of Energy, November 2007. (Available at ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/pub/oiaf/1605/cdrom/pdf/ggrpt/057306.pdf, accessed on August 15, 2008.)
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Abbreviation	***Source***
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SJ VAP	County of Riverside, *County of Riverside General Plan, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan*, October 2003. (Available at http://www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/genplan/content/ap2/sjvap.html)
SCAQMD 2008a	South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Draft AQMD Staff CEQA Greenhouse Gas Significance Threshold*, October 22, 2008. (Available at http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/GHG/GHG.html)
SCAQMD 2008b	South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Draft Guidance Document – Interim CEQA Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Significance Threshold*, October, 2008. (Available at www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/hdbk.html)
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SCAQMD 2005	South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning*, May 6, 2005. (Available at www.aqmd.gov/prdas/aqguide/doc/aq_guidance.pdf)
SCAQMD 1993	South Coast Air Quality Management District, *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*, 1993.
EPA 2005	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Six Common Air Pollutants.* (Available at www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/6poll.html)
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	County of Riverside, *Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan*, Adopted June 17, 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department or available at http://www.rcip.org/conservation.htm, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
COR SJVAP	County of Riverside, *County of Riverside General Plan, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan*, October 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department, at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/ap2/sjvap.html, accessed May 4, 2009.)
SJGP DEIR	City of San Jacinto Planning Department, *San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan-EIR.html. accessed on May 4, 2009.)
SJ GP	City of San Jacinto Planning Department, *City of San Jacinto General Plan*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan-EIR.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
HGP	City of Hemet, *City of Hemet General Plan*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)

3.5 Cultural Resources	
Abbreviation	***Source***
CRM-A	CRM TECH, *Historical/Archeological Resources Survey Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 8, 2008. (Appendix D.1)
CRM-B	CRM TECH, *Paleontological Resources Assessment Report, San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan*, October 13, 2008. (Appendix D.2)
NPS	U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Registrar of Historic Places Website, Frequently Asked Questions.* (Available at http://www.nps.gov/nr/faq.htm, accessed on May 14, 2009.)

3.5 Cultural Resources	
Abbreviation	***Source***
SJGP FEIR	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto Final Environmental Impact Report Findings*, April 2006. (Available at the San Jacinto City Clerk's Office.)

3.6 Hazards and Hazardous Materials	
Abbreviation	***Source***
	Environmental Data Resources, Inc., *EDR DataMap Corridor Study, San Jacinto MDP Update (Inquiry Number 01981156.1r)*, July 18, 2007. (Appendix E)

3.7 Hydrology and Water Quality	
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	Albert A. Webb Associates, *San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan Update for the North Area*, July 2007, Revised February 2009. (Available at the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)
	Albert A. Webb Associates, *San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan Update for the West Area, Volume I of III*, May 2007, Modified October 2008. (Available at the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.)

3.8 Population and Housing	
Abbreviation	***Source***
HGP	City of Hemet, *General Plan*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
HGP FEIR	City of Hemet, *Hemet General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report*, August 25, 1992. (Available at the City of Hemet Planning Department.)
SJGP FEIR	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report Findings*, April 2006. (Available at the San Jacinto City Clerk's Office.)
SJGP DEIR	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan Draft EIR*, January 2006. (Available at City of San Jacinto and at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/general-plan-EIR.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
SJGP Housing	City of San Jacinto, *San Jacinto General Plan, Housing Element*, January 2006. (Available at http://www.ci.san-jacinto.ca.us/city-govt/development/general-plan/Housing%20Element.pdf, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
COR SJVAP	County of Riverside, *County of Riverside General Plan, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan*, October 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department and at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/ap2/sjvap.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)
COR FEIR	County of Riverside, Transportation and Land Management Agency, Planning Division, *Riverside County Integrated Project, General Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report*, 2003. (Available at the County of Riverside Planning Department and at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/eir/volume1.html, accessed on May 4, 2009.)

6.1.1 Reference Locations

Location	Address
City of Hemet Planning Department	Hemet City Hall 445 E. Florida Ave Hemet, CA 92543 (951)765-2300
City of San Jacinto City Clerk's Office and Planning Department	San Jacinto City Hall 595 S. San Jacinto Ave. San Jacinto, CA 92583
County of Riverside Planning Department	County Administrative Center 4080 Lemon Street Riverside, CA 92501
Regional Water Quality Control Board	3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, CA 92501-3339
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	1995 Market Street Riverside, CA 92501

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PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS

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Albert A. Webb Associates..... Scott Hildebrandt, P.E., Vice President
Joseph Caldwell, P.E., Senior Engineer

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7.0 ACRONYMS

Acronyms, units of measurement and chemical symbols used throughout the Draft EIR are identified in this section.

7.1 ACRONYMS

AAAQS	Ambient air quality standards
AB	Assembly Bill
ACOE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ADP	Area Drainage Plan
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAL/EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAPSSA	Critical Area Plant Species Survey Area
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIWMB	California Integrated Waste Management Board
CRHR	California Register of Historic Resources
CY	Cubic yards
CWA	Clean Water Act
DBESP	Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation
DHS	Department of Health Services
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substance Control
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DOT	Department of Transportation

7.1 ACRONYMS

EDR	Environmental Data Resources, Inc.
EIA	Energy Information Administration
EIC	Eastern Information Center
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMWD	Eastern Municipal Water District
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
GHG	Greenhouse gas
HAER	Historic American Engineering Record
HAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
HANS	Property Owner Initiated Habitat Acquisition and Negotiation Strategy
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
ISOR	Initial Statement of Reasons
JPR	Joint Project Review
LAPM	Los Angeles pocket mouse
LST	Localized significance thresholds
LQG	Large Quantity Generators
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MDP	Master Drainage Plan
$MMTCO_2e$ e	Million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
mph	Miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSHCP	Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCCP	Natural Communities Conservation Plan
NEPSSA	Narrow Endemic Plants Species Survey Area
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OAL	Office of Administrative Law
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
ODCsc	Ozone depleting compounds

7.1 ACRONYMS

OES	Office of Emergency Services
OHWM	Ordinary high water mark
OPR	Governor's Office of Planning and Research
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PRC	Public Resources Code
RCB	Reinforced concrete box
RCIP	Riverside County Integrated Plan
RCFCWCD	Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
RCP	Reinforced concrete pipe
RCPG	Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide
RST	Regional significance threshold
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
ROW	Right-of-way or rights-of-way
RPWs	Relatively Permanent Waters
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	Senate Bill
SBKR	San Bernardino kangaroo rat
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCH	State Clearinghouse
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SJV-MDP	San Jacinto Valley Master Drainage Plan
SKR	Stephen's kangaroo rat
SQG	Small Quantity Generators
SRA	Source receptor area
SR-74	State Route 74
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

7.1 ACRONYMS

TNWs	Traditionally Navigable Waters
UST	Underground storage tank
VMT	Vehicle miles traveled
WPCP	Water Pollution Control Plan
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WWTP	Waste water treatment plant

7.2 UNITS OF MEASUREMENT AND CHEMICAL SYMBOLS

>	Greater than
$\mu g/m^3$	Micrograms per cubic meter
CFC	Chloroflourocarbons
CH_4	Methane
CO	Carbon monoxide
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
CY	Cubic yards
HC	Hydrocarbons
HCFC	Hyrdro-chloroflourocarbons
HFC	Hydroflourocarbons
LST	Localized Significance Threshold
Mt	Metric tonne
NF_3	Nitrogen triflouride
NH_4N0_3	Ammonium nitrate
NO	Nitric oxide
NO_2	Nitrogen dioxide
NO_X	Oxides of nitrogen
N_2O	Nitrous oxide
O_3	Ozone
Pb	Lead

7.2 UNITS OF MEASUREMENT AND CHEMICAL SYMBOLS

PFC	Perflourocarbons
PM-10	Particulate matter 2.5 to 10 microns in diameter
PM-2.5$_5$	Particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in diameter
ppm	Parts per million
ROG	Reactive organic gases
SF_6	Sulfur hexaflouride
SO_2	Sulfur dioxide
SO_X	Oxides of sulfur
SRA	Source Receptor Area
TCA	1,1,1-trichloroethane or methyl chloroform
VOC	Volatile organic compounds