County of San Mateo

Planning and Building Department

INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION CHECKLIST

(To Be Completed by Planning Department)

1. **Project Title:**
   Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

2. **County File Number:**
   PLN 2022-00125

3. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**
   San Mateo County
   455 County Center, 4th Floor
   Redwood City, CA 94063

4. **Contact Person and Phone Number:**
   Sam Herzberg, Senior Park Planner; (650) 363-1823, sherzberg@smcgov.org

5. **Project Location:**
   Quarry County Park property east of State Route 1 adjacent to the unincorporated community of El Granada.

6. **Assessor's Parcel Number and Size of Parcel:**
   047330010 (35.07 acres)
   047340010 (4.98 acres)
   047340020 (9.34 acres)
   047340040 (34.54 acres)
   047340290 (439.01 acres)

7. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**
   San Mateo County
   455 County Center, 4th Floor
   Redwood City, CA 94063

8. **Name of Person Undertaking the Project or Receiving the Project Approval (if different from Project Sponsor):**

9. **General Plan Designation:**
   047330010 – Public Recreation
   047340010, 047340020, 047340040 – Open Space
   047340290 – Agriculture

10. **Zoning:**
    047330010 – Resource Management-Coastal Zone/Design Review/Coastal Development District (RM-CZ/DR/CD)
    047340010, 047340020, 047340040 – Resource Management-Coastal Zone /Coastal Development District (RM-CZ/CD)
    047340290 – Planned Agricultural/Coastal Development District (PAD/CD)

11. Description of the Project:

The Quarry County Park comprises several parcels that were consolidated under County ownership and management between 2010 and 2014, including Mirada Surf East and West, Wicklow Property, and the Quarry (Figure 1, Regional Location). The park provides roughly 577 acres of open space ranging from forested ridge tops to shoreline bluffs (Figure 2, Project Vicinity). Portions of the park have been improved with trails, playgrounds, picnic sites, parking, and restrooms. Most of the park remains undeveloped beyond a formal and informal trail system (Figure 3, Quarry County Park Map).

Land surrounding Quarry County Park is designated as Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), an area where houses meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland vegetation. The Quarry County Park Master Plan (2022) and the Wildfire Fuel Management Program (2021) recommends specific park improvements including fuel reduction to reduce wildfire risk and the addition of visitor serving facilities. While the Master Plan is still subject to final review and approval, San Mateo County proposes immediate implementation of three recommended actions: 1) wildfire fuel reduction, 2) South Ridge Fire Road construction, and 3) vault toilet installation

A. Wildfire Fuel Reduction

The San Mateo County Parks Department (SMCPD) currently conducts limited fuel reduction and other routine maintenance activities within County Parks properties through implementation of the County's Routine Maintenance Program (RMP) Manual (2020) and the 5-year Wildfire Fuel Management Program 2021-2026 Projects (2021). The Wildfire Fuel Management Program is a document outlining planned projects for implementation over a 5-year timeframe, while the RMP is a manual with an associated EIR and other programmatic permits that provide regulatory approvals to implement certain routine maintenance activities. At this time, not all projects within the Wildfire Fuel Management Program have gone through appropriate CEQA review. However, typical fuel management activities covered by the RMP EIR include selective tree thinning and selective removal of undergrowth and secondary tree growth, and removal of non-native invasive high fire risk vegetation and the restoration of native plant species. Through the RMP, the County maintains a 100-foot-wide buffer zone for fuels reduction around fire roads, park trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, and along County Park boundaries by establishing or maintaining fuel breaks and removing ladder fuels. Removal methods may involve use of mowing, herbicides, physical removal using work crews, or grazing. Where dead, decaying, or fallen trees present a fire hazard to trails and park facilities, removal occurs within a 200-foot-wide buffer around facilities and structures.

Per the recommendations and actions for managing wildfire threat in Quarry County Park through the Quarry County Park Master Plan (2022) and the Department's Wildfire Fuel Management Program (2021), SMCPD proposes expanding the scope of fuel reduction into the areas beyond currently managed service road, trail, and park boundary corridors to other areas outside of these defined buffer distances set in the County's RMP. There are two defined treatment areas currently included in the Wildfire Fuel Management Program that would be planned for implementation as a result of this project (Figure 4, Projects #8 and #16 in the Wildfire Fuel Management Program), however SMCPD proposes to expand the scope of fuel reduction throughout the park to facilitate implementation of additional treatments in the future, along with updates to the Wildfire Fuel Management Program. See Figure 5, Fuel Reduction Areas, for all areas considered for potential fuel reduction treatments. As shown in Figure 4, fuel removal along the park boundaries close to residential neighborhoods are considered areas with high treatment

effectiveness. Treatment effectiveness is defined as the overall reduction of wildfire risk resulting from vegetation management practices and is determined through analysis and modelling completed as part of the San Mateo Resource Conservation District's El Granada Wildfire Resiliency Scoping Project (2022). An estimated 269 acres of parkland east of State Route 1 could be potentially subject to the proposed fuel reduction treatment that is not currently being treated under the County's RMP. Over time, SMCPD anticipates this project would treat or retreat up to 80 acres annually to contribute toward the achievement of fuel reduction throughout Quarry Park. Post treatment maintenance is anticipated to occur over a minimum of 3-5 years and can be longer to control regrowth of invasive species. A summary of treatment acreages by treatment effectiveness is presented in Table 1. The total treatable acres may vary after field reconnaissance of treatment areas to assess access, steepness, habitat features, riparian vegetation, and other site constraints that could modify project implementation plans.

Table 1. Wildfire Fuel Reduction Project Area

Treatment Effectiveness	Size	Description
Highest	103 acres	Located along the western and southern park boundaries adjacent to residential development
High	17 acres	Located adjacent to highest treatment effectiveness areas, and comprised primarily of eucalyptus forest
Moderate	115 acres	Located along the northern and easter park boundaries adjacent to undeveloped open space lands
Lower	34 acres	Located in the central portion of the park where multiple trails with 100-foot-wide buffer zones exist.
Total Area	**269 acres**	

The proposed treatment activities are methods defined by the County's RMP Manual and presently used at Quarry County Park within the 100-foot buffer zone. These methods include mechanical treatment, manual treatment, large tree overstory removal, large tree ladder fuel removal, re-arrangement through mastication or mowing, and herbicides.

Vegetation Treatment Types

Proposed vegetation treatment activities would be designed to reduce hazardous vegetative fuels, improve protection from wildfires that are not primarily driven by high winds through strategically located fuel breaks and shaded fuel breaks. In addition, forest health improvement actions would be designed to approximate natural habitat conditions, processes, and values to those occurring prior to the period of fire suppression. Photos of example vegetation treatment for shaded fuel breaks and hazard tree removal occurring in Quarry Park that would be expanded to the project areas are shown in Figure 6, Photos 1 through 6. Photos 7 and 8 show proposed fuel reduction areas along the western park boundary near the homes along El Granada Boulevard.

Fuel breaks are a fundamental tool in allowing firefighters access to control wildfires and are useful in slowing non-wind driven fires before they grow beyond initial attack capabilities. Fuel breaks are primarily used to allow responders to reach the leading edges of a fire and increase protection of isolated communities. Maintained fuel breaks create zones of vegetation removal, often in a linear layout, that support fire suppression by providing responders with a staging area or access to a remote landscape for fire control actions. In non-wind driven fires, fuel breaks can also help to stop or reduce the

lateral spread of fires, though that is not the primary goal of constructing fuel breaks. While fuel breaks assist active suppression efforts, they are not designed to passively prevent or control wildfires, including when extreme wind and weather conditions drive a wildfire's spread.

Non-Shaded Fuel Breaks

Non-shaded fuel breaks are typically created where there is a natural change in vegetation type, such as from forest or shrubland to grassland; all vegetation is removed from the fuel break during initial implementation and is allowed to naturally regenerate. However, the long-term goal is to maintain no over-story tree canopy in these non-shaded fuel break areas and periodically reduce understory or ground cover vegetation density. SMCPD proposes creating a 200-foot-wide non-shaded fuel break at the southern park boundary adjoining residential neighborhoods involving the removal of all overstory vegetation, primarily eucalyptus (Figure 4, Project #8 in the Wildfire Fuel Management Program). Non-shaded fuel breaks could also be implemented throughout the park as needed or appropriate (Figure 5). Heavy equipment would be used to create these types of fuel breaks, except on slopes steeper than 40 percent or 30 percent in areas susceptible to erosion, where manual treatments would be employed.

The proposed implementation of non-shaded fuel breaks through this project does not contemplate full removal of all eucalyptus trees within Quarry County Park, nor replacement of trees with other tree species. Non-shaded fuel breaks would be limited in size and scale, and strategically located in specific locations to accomplish the associated wildfire risk reduction benefits.

Shaded Fuel Breaks

Shaded fuel breaks are used in forest settings. Typically, the tree canopy is thinned to reduce the potential for a crown fire to move through the canopy; however, larger trees would remain. The shade of the retained canopy also helps reduce the potential for rapid re-growth of shrubs and sprouting hardwoods and can reduce erosion. This form of fuel reduction generally consists of strategic removal of vegetation to prevent or slow the spread of non-wind driven wildfire between structures and wildlands, and vice versa.

Shaded fuel breaks and other fuel reduction efforts may also be implemented in non-forested vegetation communities, such as coastal scrub or chapparal. While the treatment approach differs from a typical shaded fuel break, where the upper canopy of a forest is retained, fuel management treatments for shrub communities typically follow a similar principal, where horizontal and vertical density of fuels is reduced, a mosaic or heterogeneous pattern of vegetation is established, and the goal of modifying fire behavior may be achieved.

SMCPD proposes establishing a shaded fuel break along the western property boundary where residential development occurs along El Granada Boulevard (Figure 4, Project #16 in the Wildfire Fuel Management Program). Shaded fuel break projects may also occur throughout the park as needed or appropriate outside of the 100-foot buffer currently implemented by County Parks through the RMP. Vegetation would be selectively thinned, and ladder fuels would be removed. Shaded-fuel breaks could also be established in strategic areas throughout the park where flammable vegetation can be modified to reduce fire spread to structures and/or natural resources, while providing a safer location for firefighters to fight fires.

Hazard Tree Removal

Hazard (dead, decaying, fallen) tree removal presently occurs within 200 feet of park facilities under the County RPM, which is sufficient to address hazard trees that risk falling and obstructing access or causing a public safety concern along park roads and trails. Per the County RMP, fallen trees have the potential to pose a safety hazard to structures within an area of three times the height of a tree as branches or tree parts can get thrown upon impact. Some trees at Quarry Park (e.g., eucalyptus, pines) may exceed 100 feet in height. In the event of a fire, trees at risk of falling can pose obstructions or hazards to access for fire protection crews. Dead, decaying, or fallen trees may also pose a fuels risk, as they may be drier and more flammable than surrounding live, healthy trees.

SMCPD proposes addressing hazard tree removal beyond the current 200 feet perimeter of park facilities, roads, trails, or boundaries as needed in order to increase the safety of access and reduce fire risk posed by dead or decaying trees. Hazard tree removal would occur within the identified fuel reduction areas (Figure 5).

Forest Health Improvement

For the purposes of this analysis, forest health improvement is defined as the process of re-establishing the vegetative composition, structure, pattern, integrity, and ecological processes necessary to facilitate terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem sustainability, resilience, and health currently and in the future. SMCPD may implement vegetation treatments that seek to return the landscape closer to historic native conditions where natural fire processes can be reestablished and habitat quality is improved, including habitat remediation where non-native, invasive plants have spread, and excess fire fuel buildup has occurred. This treatment would involve the removal of non-native invasive species through mechanical and manual methods and herbicide application. Treatment approaches for forest health improvement efforts may overlap with shaded fuel break areas.

Typically, the approach for promoting native vegetation establishment will focus on allowing natural recruitment of native species that are present and existing within the park, either by regeneration from roots, or from seed. A larger proportion of effort for native species restoration will focus on removal and control of non-native invasive species that can outcompete native species. On a site-by-site basis, however, and as conditions and monitoring efforts dictate, active revegetation with native species may be deemed appropriate.

Temporary Access for Vegetation Treatments

For any of the above vegetation treatments, temporary access roads would be established to move equipment into the treatment areas. Vegetation would be removed to the minimum amount necessary to provide access. Roads would be rough graded by a dozer to 12-foot width. Temporary access roads created to allow equipment to reach the treatment area would not exceed 12-feet wide and would typically extend up to 400-feet long (4800 square feet). Use of old (legacy) roads from historic quarry and logging operations on the property would be used as much as possible in the development of these access roads. Potential temporary access road locations are shown as trails on Figure 4 and Figure 5. Road design and construction would occur in accordance with County standards and Best Management Practices (BMPs) for safety and erosion control

as identified in the RMP Manual (see Appendix A). Roads would be decommissioned and restored upon completion of vegetation treatment activity.

Treatment Methods

Fuel reduction activities would be performed by SMCPD field staff and contractors using treatment methods described in Table 2. Work would be conducted by hand crews using equipment such as chainsaws or other manual or mechanical tools and equipment for spot-application of herbicide to control the regrowth of invasive species including eucalyptus, jubata grass, cape ivy, and other invasive species. Heavy equipment would be utilized when practicable and may include equipment as necessary to perform the methods outlined in Table 2. Erosion control measures would be put in place to avoid sedimentation of nearby waterways. Activities in small treatment areas can be completed in 1 to 3 weeks. Activities in larger treatment areas may occur over a 6- to 12-week period. The treatment methods utilized would also dictate project duration – large tree removal would be more labor intensive and occur at a slower pace than spot herbicide application to invasive species populations.

Downed trees and other woody vegetation would be masticated or chipped to the maximum extent feasible and chipped or masticated material would be left in place as a mulch to protect the soil from compaction and soil erosion. Materials would be dispersed to a maximum depth of one foot in order to inhibit regrowth of non-native species. Storage of chipping piles would be limited in height to five feet to avoid potential for pile combustion. If chipping or mastication of large trees and spreading material on site is not feasible, other methods of removal such as burning, as described below, may be used.

Consistent with the RMP, removed vegetation may be accumulated into piles and disposed of through burning. The mass of each burn pile would be limited to an area of 4'x4'x6', have a mass of 750 pounds per pile of woody debris and would be limited to 200 burn piles per acre and 25 acres per year for fuel break maintenance. Pile burning would occur only in open areas of the quarry floor under the management of CalFire or other local fire agency. County Parks may consider use of CalFire's cage style air curtain burners staged in the corporation yard to assist with woody debris management when larger diameter logs from tree removals need to be processed to avoid creating a deep (more than a foot deep) chip layer, which would hinder revegetation and pose concerns for internal combustion or when access by a large enough chipper may not be possible.

Table 2. Vegetation Treatment Activities and Methods

Treatment Activity Definitions	Description / Method of Application
Mechanical Treatment	Description: Use of motorized equipment to cut, uproot, crush/compact, or chop existing vegetation. Method: Mastication, chipping, brush raking, tilling, mowing, roller chopping, chaining, skidding and removal, piling; often combined with pile burning or air curtain burning.

Manual Treatment or Hand Thinning	Description: Use of hand tools and hand-operated power tools to cut, clear, or prune herbaceous or woody species. Where appropriate or necessary, hand tools may be used for planting or revegetation efforts. Treatment is generally consistently and equally applied across an area and is focused on significantly reducing the effects of high intensity fire. Treatment is typically focused on trees less than 12 inches diameter at breast height (dbh). Dominant woody vegetation is generally unaffected. Co-dominant woody vegetation is affected by as much as 25 percent; however, overall canopy cover remains intact. As much as 90 percent of subdominant woody vegetation is cut and removed. Treatment will include chipping or piling of cut material. Follow-up burning of piled material may be required. Method: Hand pull and grub, thin, prune, hand pile, lop and scatter; often combined with pile burning or air curtain burning.
Large tree removal – overstory removal/ create openings	Description: Use of motorized equipment to remove vegetation. Treatment is generally variable and is applied to mimic vegetation structure patterns that would exist in the area's intact disturbance regime and includes large opening creation of 1 to 4 acres, with no more than 25 percent of the stand in large openings. Treatment is typically focused on trees greater than 10 inches dbh. Dominant woody vegetation is affected by as much as 35 percent over the treatment area but can be affected as much as 100 percent in specific areas. Co-dominant woody vegetation is affected by as much as 50 percent; however, effects are also variably distributed. Overall canopy cover may be reduced by as much as 40 percent. This type of treatment could include, but is not limited to, fuel breaks. Method: Felling, chipping, roller chopping, skidding and removal, bucking, pruning, air curtain burning.
Large tree removal – ladder fuel removal	Description: Use of motorized equipment to remove vegetation. Treatment is generally consistently and equally applied across an area and is focused on significantly reducing the effects of high intensity fire. Treatment is typically focused on trees greater than 10 inches dbh. Dominant woody vegetation is generally unaffected. Co-dominant woody vegetation is affected by as much as 25 percent; however, overall canopy cover remains intact. Dominant woody vegetation is generally unaffected, while as much as 90 percent of subdominant woody vegetation is cut and removed. This type of treatment could include, but is not limited to, shaded fuel breaks, as overall canopy cover remains intact. Method: Mastication, felling, chipping, brush raking, tilling, mowing, roller chopping, chaining, skidding and removal, piling; often combined with pile burning or air curtain burning.
Rearrangement –mastication or mowing	Description: Use of motorized equipment to rearrange vegetation. Rearrangement is the alteration of understory vegetation via use of mechanical equipment such as mowing or chipping of smaller vegetation or reconfiguration of accumulated large woody debris to help create a more fire-safe condition. Treatment is typically focused on trees less than 12 inches dbh and shrubs or other vegetation in the understory. Treatment is generally applied consistently and equally across an area and is focused on significantly reducing fine fuels and ladder fuels and on reducing canopy bulk density, which treatments decrease a fire's rate of spread, the potential for crown

	initiation, and the ability for sustained crown fire. Dominant woody vegetation is generally unaffected. As much as 90 percent of subdominant woody vegetation is affected through rearrangement. Rearranged material is left on site. Method: Achieved primarily by wheeled or tracked masticators or mowers, chipping, brush raking, skidding and removal, piling.
Herbicides	Description: Chemical application designed to inhibit growth of target plant species. Treatment is focused on non-native invasive species. Method: Ground-level application only, such as paint-on stems within 5 minutes after cutting, backpack hand-applicator, hypo-hatchet tree injection, or hand placement of pellets. No aerial spray (e.g., aircraft or spray rig) is allowed.
Revegetation and Erosion Control	Description: If natural recruitment of native vegetation is not observed, reseeding or planting may be used to promote vegetation establishment and soil stability. This is focused on areas of bare soil and open canopy, and where natural revegetation is inhibited. Method: seeding, mulching, hand planting
Temporary Access	Description: Grading and grubbing of temporary access roads to establish crew and equipment access into treatment areas. To the extent feasible, legacy logging or quarry roads within the park will be used for access. Access roads would on be in use for the duration of treatment activities and would be de-commissioned after use. Method: grading, bulldozing, skidding, grubbing, erosion control

B. South Ridge Fire Road Construction

The South Ridge Fire Road is proposed to complete a loop through Quarry County Park to provide first responders access to the park in case of a wildfire. The fire road would be constructed from Coronado Avenue at the southeast corner of the park and connect to the existing South Ridge Trail (Figure 7, South Ridge Fire Road and Grading Plan and Figure 8, Biotic Habitats and Project Impact Areas) per the recommendations of CalFire as part of the development of the Quarry County Park Master Plan. A gate would be installed at the fire road entrance at Coronado Road to control vehicle access.

The fire road would be designed to conform to Caltrans specifications. Site elevations for the road alignment range from approximately 140 feet to 425 feet above sea level. The fire road extension would be approximately 2,225 linear feet in length, 12 feet wide, and include four 20-foot-wide turnouts, a 96-foot-wide cul-de-sac for a fire vehicle turnaround roughly at mid-slope, and a 30-foot-wide turnout at the tie-in to South Ridge Trail. The total disturbance area would be 101,200 square feet (2.3 acres). A view of the proposed fire road alignment is shown in Figure 6, Photo 9.

The proposed grading volume is 3,255 cubic yards of which 2,980 cubic yards would be placed on site as fill for road construction and the remaining 275 cubic yards would be exported for off-site disposal at a closest landfill (e.g., Ox Mountain). Stripped topsoil would be stockpiled on site for use in fill areas. Construction stockpiling and equipment staging would be located on site at the Coronado Avenue tie-in. The road would be engineered with a compacted subgrade including geogrid reinforcement layers on fill slopes. The road driving surface would be rocked to a 6-inch depth with 1.5-inch minus

rock. Rolling dips would be installed in the roadbed as needed to drain the road surface. Soil protection measures including erosion control blankets (geotextiles and mats) on fill slopes, silt fencing, seed and straw mulch cover on bare soil would be installed. The new fire access road would be a maintained as a shaded fuel break. Road construction is expected to occur over a 45-day period.

C. Vault Toilet

SMCPD proposes installation of a single vault toilet adjacent to the new pump track recently constructed in the corporation yard (Figure 6, Photo 10a). Similar to the existing toilet adjacent to the parking lot (Figure 6, Photo 10b), the vault toilet would not utilize water and would be housed in a permanent structure. Waste would be held in an underground tank until a service truck pumps it out for transport to a water treatment facility. A 300-gallon industrial grade reusable liquid storage container (intermediate bulk container; IBC) for pumped effluent would be installed behind the building, and a paved path and apron would provide American Disability Act (ADA) compliant access to the building and provide a service area for the vault to be emptied.

12. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The project site is a County Park and former quarry set in the coastal hillside immediately adjacent to the unincorporated communities of El Granada and Miramar. The City of Half Moon Bay lies approximately three miles to the south. Surrounding land uses to the north and east are undeveloped open space. Surrounding land uses to the west and south comprise residential and commercial development of El Granada and additional county parkland.

13. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

California Coastal Commission

14. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?: *(NOTE: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process (see Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.2.). Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code Section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code Section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality).*

As of the date of this report, no California Native American tribe has requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 in general or for this project specifically. While the County is only obligated to engage in consultation when a California Native American tribe has requested such consultation, and none have done so, it is the County's policy to nonetheless initiate outreach when undeveloped and/or vacant land is proposed for development.

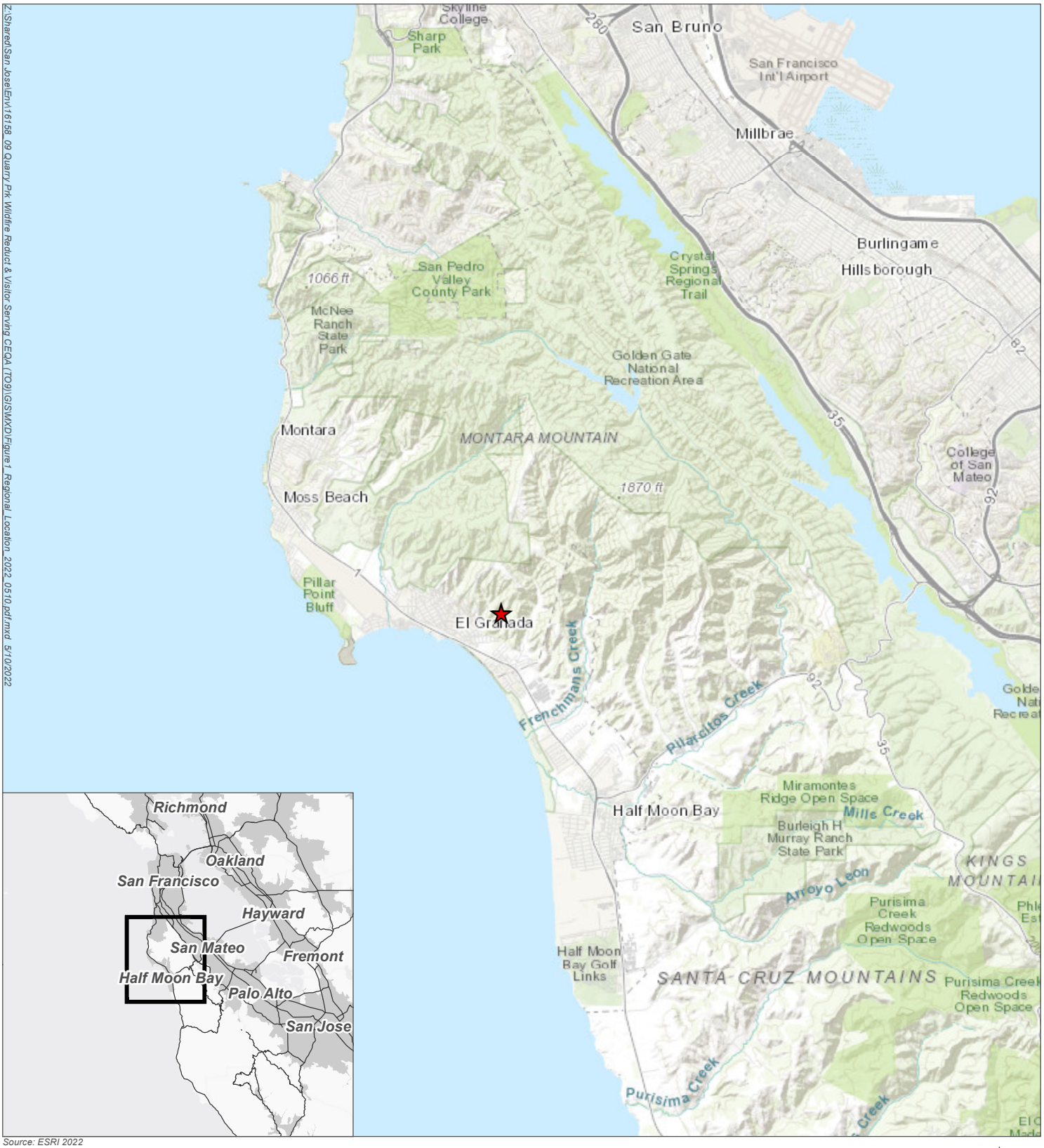

Figure 1 Regional Location

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

Source: ESRI 2022

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Quarry County Park

Figure 2 Project Location

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

MIG

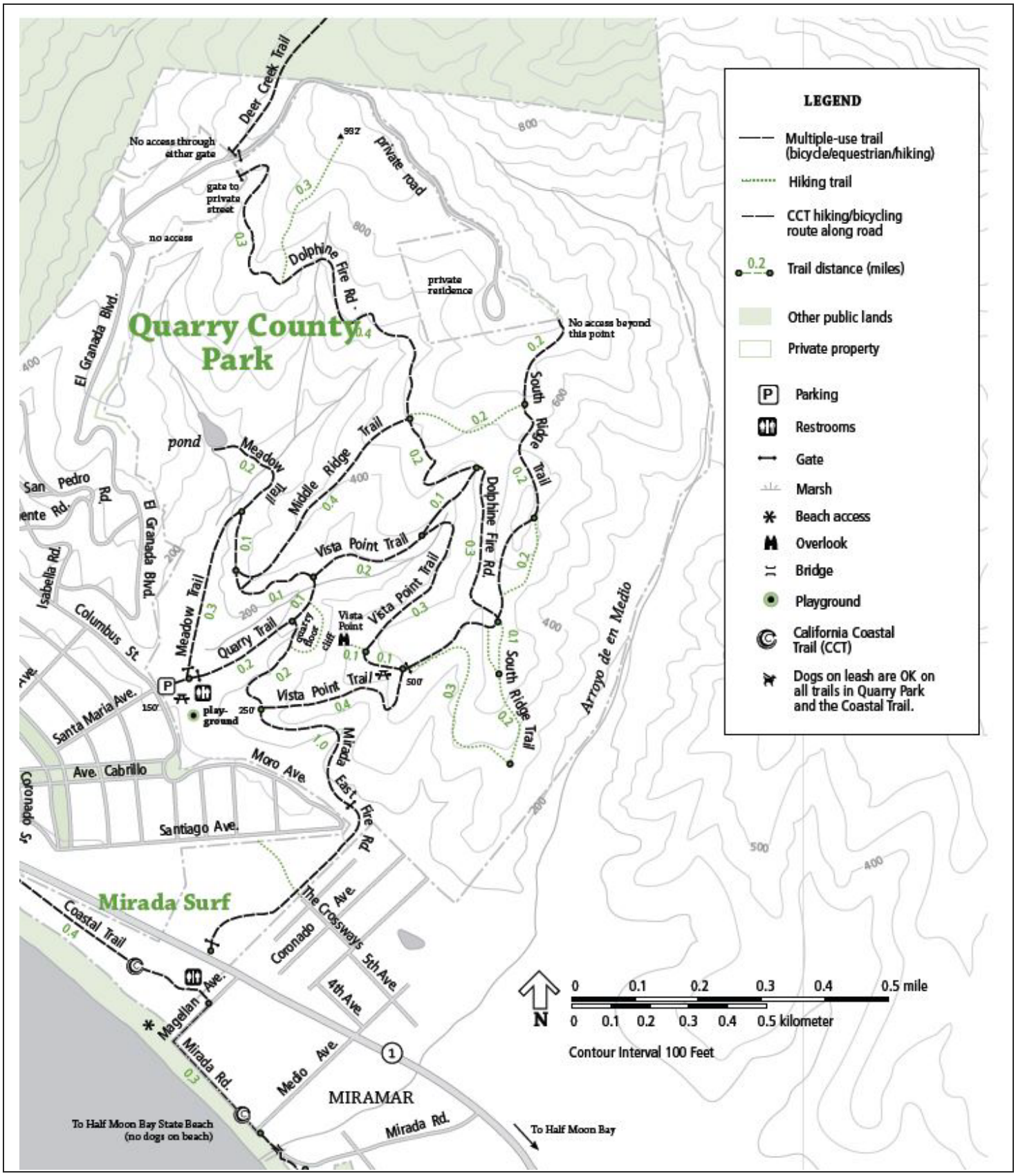

Figure 3 Quarry County Park Map

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

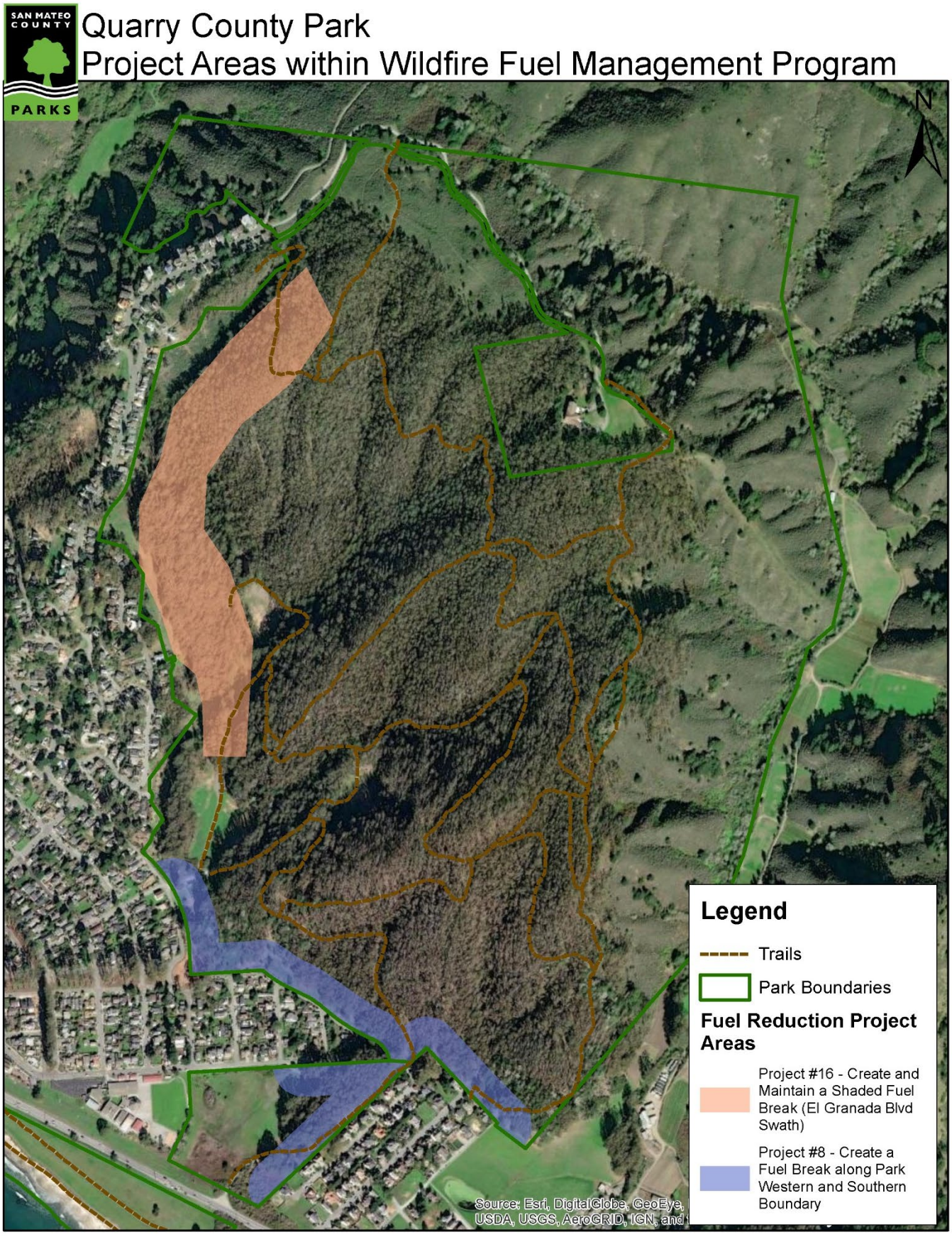

Figure 4 Projects #8 and #16 in the Wildfire Fuel Reduction Program

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

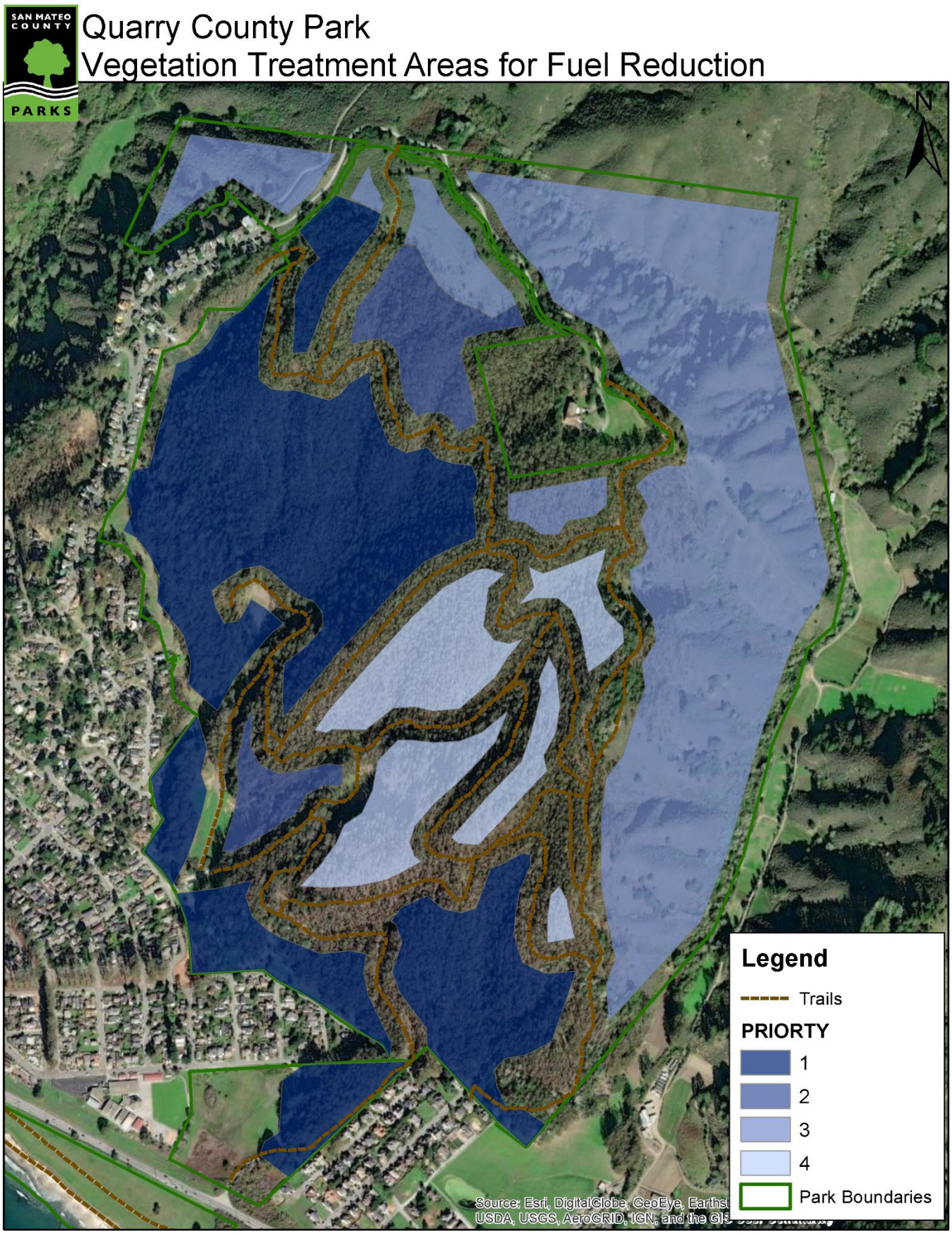

Figure 4 Fuel Reduction Areas

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Projects

MIG

Photo 1. Example of park vegetation requiring fuel reduction to reduce wildfire hazard prior to treatment. Large diameter hazard trees are tagged with orange paint for removal.

Photo 2. Example of a shaded fuel break with thinned trees and understory brush removed.

Photo 3. Example of fuel break area prior to treatment.

Photo 4. Fuel break area after treatment with thinned trees and understory brush removed.

Photo 5. Example of a hazard tree prior to removal.

Photo 6. Example of area after with hazard tree after removal.

Photo 7. View of fuel reduction area along western park boundary looking north.

Photo 8. View of fuel reduction area along western park boundary looking northwest toward homes along El Granada Boulevard.

Figure 5 Site Photos

Photo 9. View of proposed South Ridge Fire Road alignment looking southwest toward Coronado Road.

Photo 10a. Location of proposed vault toilet adjacent to (left of) the pump track area.

Photo 10b. Single-vault toilet near park entrance. Example of structure to be installed near pump track

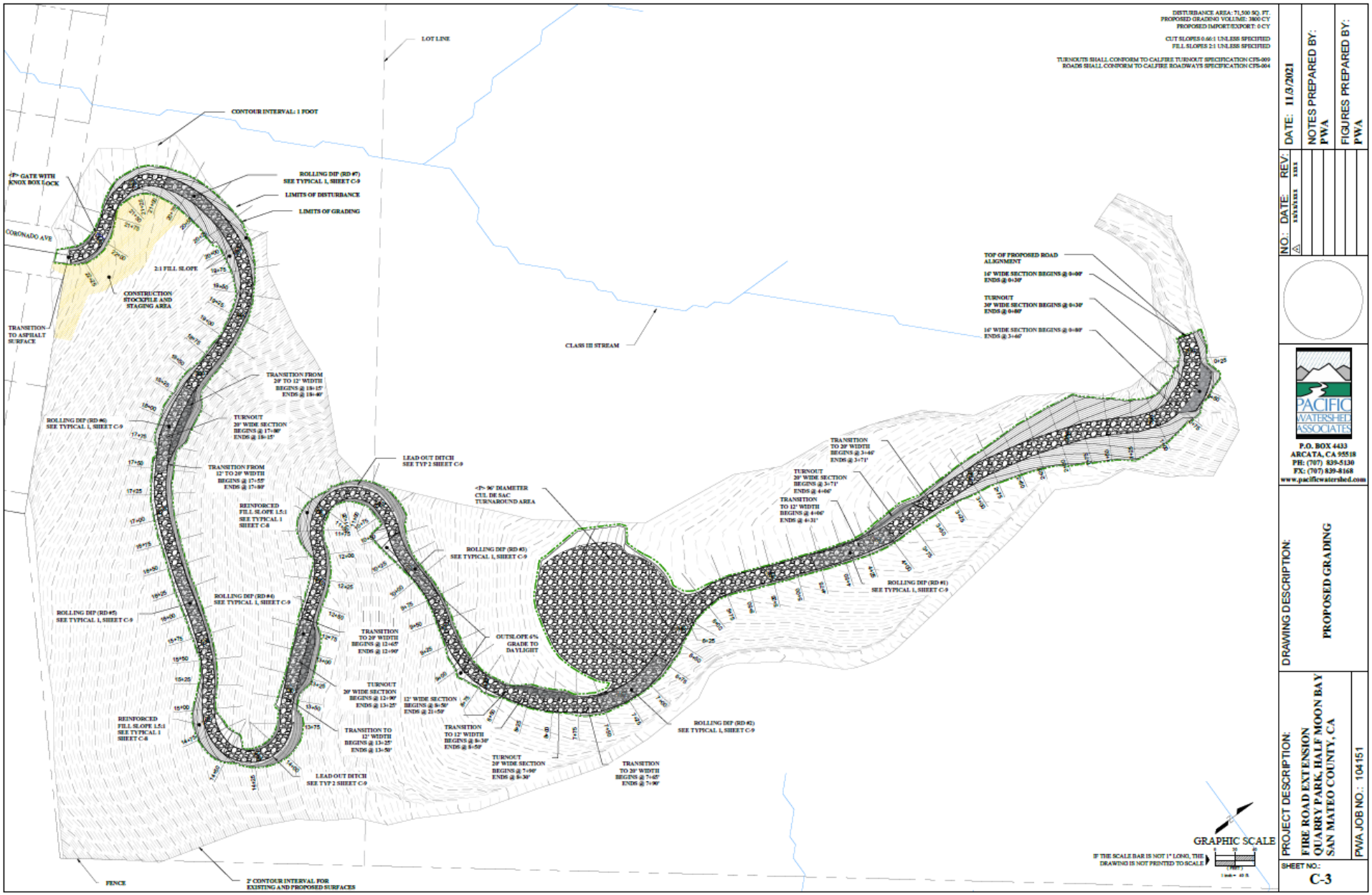

Figure 6 South Ridge Trail Fire Road Grading Plan

Quarry County Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Serving Project

MIG

Source: Google Earth 9/27/2021; WRA 2022

Sensitive Communities

- Ephemeral Stream (10,172 linear ft, .11 acres)
- Intermittent Stream (10,144 linear ft, .38 acres)
- Perennial Stream (264 linear ft, .03 acres)
- Central Coast Arroyo Willow Riparian Scrub (23.3 acres)
- Perennial Pond (1.35 acres)
- Seasonal Pond (.044 acres)
- Seasonal Wetland (3.97 acres)

- StudyArea
- ESHA Buffers
- Park Trails/Access Roads

Non-Sensitive Communities

- Developed/ Disturbed (19.3 acres)
- Eucalyptus Woodland (307 acres)
- Monterey Pine Stand (3.32 acres)
- Non-native Annual Grassland (36.8 acres)
- Northern Coastal Scrub (126 acres)

Project Impacts

Fuel Reduction Areas Effeciveness

- Highest
- High
- Moderate
- Lower
- Vault Toilet
- South Ridge Fire Road
- Foot Trails/Quarry Legacy Roads (Future Temporary Access Road)

Figure 7 Biotic Habitats and Project Impact Areas

Quarry Park Wildfire Reduction & Visitor Serving CEQA

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

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

	Aesthetics		Energy		Public Services
	Agricultural and Forest Resources	**X**	Hazards and Hazardous Materials		Recreation
	Air Quality	**X**	Hydrology/Water Quality	**X**	Transportation
X	Biological Resources		Land Use/Planning		Tribal Cultural Resources
	Climate Change		Mineral Resources		Utilities/Service Systems
	Cultural Resources		Noise		Wildfire
	Geology/Soils		Population/Housing		Mandatory Findings of Significance

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in 5. below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration (Section 15063[c][3][D]). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7. Supporting Information Sources. Sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

1. AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
1.a.	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, views from existing residential areas, public lands, water bodies, or roads?			X	

Discussion: Quarry County Park is situated on a coastal hillside largely visible from State Route (SR) 1, though views of specific areas of the park are obscured in some locations by existing residential development. Proposed wildfire fuel reduction activities could be visible to park users and, in certain locations along the boundary of Quarry County Park, adjoining residential neighborhoods in El Granada. Construction of the South Ridge Fire Road could be visible to motorists and pedestrians traveling on Coronado Avenue and to park users. Construction of the vault toilet could be visible to park users.

Scenic Vistas

Quarry County Park is located on a hillside with 5 to 50 percent slopes. Within the project site, the terrain generally slopes downward from the prominent ridgeline in the eastern portion of the site to the west toward the neighborhoods in El Granada. The terrain also slopes west to east from the ridgeline to adjacent parcels to the north and east. Quarry County Park is developed with a trail system that runs along the ridgeline (Figure 3). Park users can experience views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding open space areas to the north and east from these ridgeline trails. As such, views from the ridgeline trails can be considered scenic vistas.

Project wildfire fuel reduction activities could potentially be visible to park users recreating along the ridgeline. The project would expand the existing fuel reduction footprint from the 100-foot-wide buffer around fire roads, park trails, picnic areas, and along County Park boundaries to more locations throughout the park including locations along the ridgeline, as shown in Figure 5, Fuel Reduction Areas. Views of fuel reduction activities would not have an adverse effect on scenic vistas, as these

activities would largely take place at elevations below the ridgeline and views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding open space areas would remain. Project construction of the vault toilet and South Ridge Fire Road would not impact these scenic vistas. The vault toilet would likely not be visible from the ridgeline due to intervening topography and vegetation. South Ridge Fire Road would also not likely be visible from the ridgeline due to intervening vegetation, though, in the event that parks users have views of the South Ridge Fire Road from the ridgeline, the fire road would not intrude on scenic vistas due to the site's topography and the fact that the road would be at ground surface level.

Existing Residential Areas

As shown in Figure 6, Photo 1 through Photo 8, fuel reduction activities alter the appearance of the treated areas, mainly through the removal of understory and ladder fuels. To create a shaded fuel break, the overstory canopy is thinned, but trees usually remain. To create a non-shaded fuel break, trees are also removed. As described in the Project Description, the project includes creating a non-shaded fuel break at the southern park boundary adjoining residential neighborhoods involving the removal of eucalyptus. The County also proposes establishing a shaded fuel break adjacent to the western property boundary where residential development occurs along El Granada Boulevard. Vegetation would be selectively thinned, and ladder fuels would be removed up to 100 feet from the park boundary. Shaded fuel break and non-shaded fuel breaks may also be implemented in other areas of the park, as described in the project description.

The most intensive alteration of existing vegetation would occur in the areas the County proposes to create non-shaded fuel breaks. In these areas, all vegetation would be removed, resulting in a notable difference in appearance compared to existing conditions. Occupants of the residences along the border of the park may notice the change in scenic quality of an area when a non-shaded fuel break is created; however, views of the eucalyptus grove and other types of vegetation beyond the fuel break would remain visible to adjacent residences, thereby maintaining the aesthetic value of park resources. The scenic quality of areas in which shaded fuel breaks are created would also be impacted, but changes to vegetation in a shaded fuel break would likely be less apparent to nearby residences as trees would be thinned but tree canopy would still remain. Vegetation removal needed to create temporary equipment access roads to the fuel reduction treatment areas may also be visible. The vegetation removal along these corridors would be limited to rough grading along a 10-foot width, and the access roads would be decommissioned and restored to allow re-establishment of vegetative cover after completion of vegetation treatment activity. RMP BMPs listed below restrict vegetation removal to the minimum amount necessary to provide access and limit disturbance to the smallest footprint necessary. The tree canopy would not be substantially altered by the access roads and therefore the visual impact of access roads would be minimal. Spot treatment and removal of invasive species or built-up fuels would have the lowest level of impact on scenic resources. This level of vegetation management would likely not be noticed by occupants of adjacent residences.

The proposed vault toilet would likely not be visible to occupants of adjacent residences due to intervening vegetation. The vault toilet would not affect views of the park from the residences. The South Ridge Fire Road would be located at ground surface level, and most of the road alignment would not be visible from adjacent residences due to intervening vegetation. In the event the road is visible from adjacent residences, views would not be impacted because the scenic quality of the surrounding eucalyptus grove and other vegetation onsite would be maintained.

- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance

Public Lands

Wildfire fuel reduction, South Ridge Fire Road construction, and vault toilet construction activities would be visible to park users. As noted previously, views to and within the park are largely obscured by vegetation and, in some locations, topography. As a result, views of fuel reduction and construction activities would generally be limited to visitors in the immediate vicinity of the work. Fuel treatment

activities in small treatment areas would be completed in 1 to 3 weeks, while activities in larger treatment areas would occur over a 6- to 12-week period over the course of 3-5 years. As such, impacts on views from fuel reduction activities at a given location would be limited to several weeks or several months at a time. The construction activities for the South Ridge Fire Road would occur over a 45-day period and vault toilet would be installed within one month. Impacts on views from these construction activities would also be limited in scope roughly to the footprint of the South Ridge Fire Road and vault toilet and any construction staging areas and would not affect the views provided by the rest of the park, which would remain accessible to park users during project construction activities.

Upon completion of construction of South Ridge Fire Road, disturbed areas beyond the roadway footprint would be returned to their approximate pre-construction conditions, with the addition of new soil protection measures, including erosion control blankets (geotextiles and mats) on fill slopes, silt fencing, seed and straw mulch cover on bare soil. While South Ridge Fire Road would constitute a noticeable alteration in the area, the road would be at ground surface level and would therefore not intrude upon views of the surrounding eucalyptus grove from trails and the road alignment itself. Construction of South Ridge Fire Road would remove a number of existing eucalyptus trees that provide aesthetic value to park users; however, following completion of construction, surrounding eucalyptus trees and other vegetation would still remain visible to park users (see Figure 6, Photo 9). Further, park users would expect to encounter a fire road in this setting, as fire roads are present in Quarry County Park and are common in large park and open space areas.

The addition of the new vault toilet would be noticeable to park users. However, the aesthetic effect would not be substantial because of its location adjacent to an existing recreational feature (i.e., the pump track), the expectation of park users to encounter rudimentary restroom facilities in parks and recreational areas, and the small mass of the vault toilet structure (Figure 6, Photo 10), relative to the dominant scenic landscape feature of the park – the eucalyptus grove.

Roads and Water Bodies

Due to intervening vegetation and topography, construction of the vault toilet and most of the South Ridge Fire Road alignment would not be visible to motorists. However, during South Ridge Fire Road construction, the public could encounter views of construction equipment, materials, stockpiles, and workers at the terminus of Coronado Avenue at Quarry County Park. These activities would not have a substantial adverse effect on roadside views of scenic landscape features; views of the work would be fleeting and indirect, as motorists would be in motion and focused on the road. Moreover, the work areas and construction materials would be subordinate in scale and extent to the defining characteristic of the scenic landscape – the eucalyptus grove. Similarly, fuel reduction activities within the park would be minimally visible from roadways in the vicinity due to intervening vegetation, topography, and residential buildings. In the event San Mateo County Parks Department field staff and contractors conducting fuel reduction activities are visible to motorists, the views would be fleeting and indirect, as motorists would be in motion and focused on the road.

The project site contains intermittent streams and a small reservoir within the Quarry Park parcels and a wetland at the Mirada Surf East parcel. The Pacific Ocean, located approximately one-quarter mile southwest of the closest project work area. There are no scenic views of the Quarry Park streams or reservoirs from within the park or from public views outside of the park. Due to physical distance and intervening buildings, project activities at the project site would not be visible from public views along the Pacific Ocean coastline. In addition, the main aesthetic resource visible from the coastline is the Pacific Ocean itself, and the project would not affect views of the Pacific Ocean.

For the reasons explained above, the project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, scenic resources, or the visual character of the park or its surroundings as viewed from existing residential areas, public lands, water bodies, or roads. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

Site Visit

San Mateo County. 1986. General Plan. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/general-plan

San Mateo County. 2022. Zoning Regulations. https://www.smcgov.org/media/101461/download?inline=

1.b.	Substantially damage or destroy scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X

Discussion: The nearest state scenic highway is SR 1, which is eligible for designation under the State Scenic Highway System (Caltrans 2022). SR 1 is located approximately 360 feet, or 0.07 miles, from the closest project activity proposed at Quarry Park.

Though the project activity areas are not within the boundaries of a state scenic highway or SR1, the project site is located within the viewshed (i.e., the geographical area that is visible from a location) of SR 1. The viewshed impacts along SR 1 is discussed in section 1.e below under impacts to a county scenic corridor.

Source:

Project Plans

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2022. California Sate Scenic Highway System Map. https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa

1.c.	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings, such as significant change in topography or ground surface relief features, and/or development on a ridgeline? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X	

Discussion: See discussion in section 1.a. Quarry County Park is generally characterized by a eucalyptus grove with a dense canopy and somewhat open understory. The park is developed with hiking and multi-use trails, a pump track, a playground, picnic tables, a restroom, and a parking lot. The pump track, playground restroom, and parking lot are concentrated in the southwest portion of the park near the park entrance at Santa Maria Avenue.

Proposed fuel reduction activities would modify existing vegetation to varying degrees dependent upon the vegetation treatments applied. The least intensive proposed fuel reduction activity is the removal of non-native, invasive, high fire risk vegetation in specific areas. Selective tree thinning and selective removal of undergrowth and secondary tree growth (see Figure 6, Photo 5 and Photo 6) would involve more vegetation removal than non-native, invasive species removal. The creation of shaded fuel breaks (see Figure 6, Photo 1 through Photo 4) and non-shaded fuel breaks (see Figure 6, Photo 7 and Photo 8) are the most intensive proposed fuel management activities. The County already

conducts these types of fuel reduction activities. As described in the Project Description, the County maintains a 100-foot-wide fuel reduction buffer around fire roads, park trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, and along County Park boundaries by establishing or maintaining fuel breaks and removing ladder fuels. The project would expand the footprint of these fuel reduction activities.

Vegetation management activities would change the vegetation cover onsite to varying degrees; however, vegetation management activities would not alter the landform and, as such, would not result in changes in topography. South Ridge Fire Road would alter onsite topography through grading necessary for road construction. However, the road length is short (2,225 feet) and the entire footprint of the affected area would be small (2.3 acres) relative to the size of Quarry County Park (577 acres). The proposed fire road location is designed to connect to an existing park trail along a ridgeline and would provide a strategic location for fire access. The road is situated to respect the topography of the land to minimize grading. The location of the new road at the southwest corner of the park is not visually prominent and would occur at lower elevations (i.e., less than 425 mean sea level) that would not detract from the dominant hillside and upper ridgeline views (Figure 7).

The project would not dramatically alter the site's topography, nor would it introduce development on a ridgeline. The project would have a less than significant impact on the existing visual character and quality of public views of the site and its surroundings.

Source:

Project Plans

Site Visit

San Mateo County. 1986. General Plan. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/general-plan

San Mateo County. 2022. Zoning Regulations. https://www.smcgov.org/media/101461/download?inline=

1.d.	Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

Discussion: The project proposal includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet at Quarry County Park. The project would not include nighttime construction, and there would be no lighting required during the construction phase. In addition, the proposed project would not require the installation of nighttime lighting. The proposed vault toilet would not use reflective materials and, therefore, would not be a source of glare. There would be no impact.

Source: Project Plans

1.e.	Be adjacent to a designated Scenic Highway or within a State or County Scenic Corridor?			X	

Discussion: As discussed in section 1.b, the project site is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a State Scenic Highway. Quarry Park is partially located within a County Scenic Corridor that extends along and adjacent to SR 1 roughly from Point San Pedro to the north to the San Mateo County/Santa Cruz County border to the south (San Mateo County 1986). Pursuant to Section 6325.1 of the County Zoning Regulations, public views within and from County Scenic Corridors shall be protected and enhanced, and development shall not be allowed to significantly obscure, detract from, or negatively affect the quality of these views (San Mateo County 2022). Vegetation management activities, including the creation of fuel breaks, would occur on the parcel with APN 047330010, which is adjacent

to SR 1. The project would alter the vegetation coverage of the parcel through creation of fuel breaks and vegetation thinning. While the project would alter the vegetation coverage on the parcel adjacent to SR 1, this change in vegetation coverage would not significantly alter the SR 1 viewshed. Views of the eucalyptus grove deeper in Quarry County Park, which serve as the predominant scenic feature of the viewshed looking east of SR 1, would be maintained along the portion of SR 1 alignment that runs parallel to El Granada where such views are currently provided. In addition, following removal of eucalyptus trees on the parcel adjacent to SR 1, the eucalyptus grove deeper in Quarry County Park would be visible from SR 1. Motorists traveling along SR 1 would not likely notice the change in the viewshed considering vehicles would be traveling at relatively high speeds and motorists would be concentrating on the road. Lastly, vegetation management activities that would take place deeper in Quarry County Park would not likely be visible from SR 1 due to physical distance and intervening buildings located between SR 1 and Quarry County Park.

Therefore, the project would not substantially affect the scenic quality of the County Scenic Corridor or the SR 1 viewshed. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2022. California State Scenic Highway System Map https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa

San Mateo County. 1986. General Plan – Scenic Corridors. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/san-mateo-county-scenic-corridors

1.f.	If within a Design Review District, conflict with applicable General Plan or Zoning Ordinance provisions?			X	

Discussion: According to the San Mateo County Zoning Regulations, project parcels APN 047340020, APN 047340040, APN 047340290, and APN 047340010 are not located in a Design Review District. Parcel APN 047330010 is located within a Design Review District; however, project activities proposed within this parcel (i.e., wildfire fuel reduction activities) are not subject to design review standards as they do not involve the construction of a building or structure. As such, the project would not conflict with applicable General Plan or Zoning Ordinance provisions for the applicable Design Review District. This impact is less than significant.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2022. Planning and Building Map Viewer. https://gis.smcgov.org/Html5Viewer/Index.html?configBase=https://gis.smcgov.org/Geocortex/Essentials/REST/sites/publicplanning_sql/viewers/HTML52110/virtualdirectory/Resources/Config/Default

San Mateo County. 2022. Design Review Districts. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/design-review-districts

1.g.	Visually intrude into an area having natural scenic qualities?			X	

Discussion: See discussion in sections 1.a. and 1.c. Project construction introduce vehicles and equipment that would visually intrude into the project site; however, because project construction activities would be short-term and temporary, this visual intrusion constitutes a less-than-significant impact. Project operation would have a less-than-significant impact on the natural scenic qualities of the project site. The vault toilet would be located in an already disturbed area adjacent to an existing recreational facility (i.e., the pump track). South Ridge Fire Road would be visually typical of fire roads found in large parks and opens space areas. The fire road would alter the appearance of a relatively

small portion (2.3 acres) of the 577-acre project site, and would be at ground surface level, meaning the roadway would not visually intrude into the surrounding eucalyptus grove, which serves as the main scenic resource onsite.

Wildfire fuel reduction activities would cover an extensive area within the project site; however, the areas that would be fully devoid of overstory vegetation (i.e., non-shaded fuel breaks) would be limited in scope to discrete and strategic locations within the park, most likely associated with locations along the boundary of the park and the aesthetic value of the eucalyptus grove visible to park uses and nearby residences beyond any new fuel breaks would be maintained. New shaded fuel breaks, selective treatment of invasive spaces, and selective removal of built-up fuels would alter the appearance of existing vegetation but not to the extent that there would be a substantial visual impact. Therefore, the visual intrusion upon the park's scenic qualities would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

2. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES

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

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
2.a.	For lands outside the Coastal Zone, convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X

Discussion: There is no agricultural farmland within the project site. One of the park parcels has a general plan land use designation of agriculture (APN 047340290); however, the land is a former quarry, is largely covered by eucalyptus trees, and is presently used for public recreation. The California Department of Conservation's (DOC) Important Farmland Maps indicate that the project site is designated as Other Land (DOC 2022). The project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Important to non-agricultural use. There would be no impact.

Source:

Project Plans

Site Visit

California Department of Conservation. 2022. Important Farmland Finder. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/

San Mateo County. 2022. San Mateo County GIS. https://data-smcmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/

2.b.	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, an existing Open Space Easement, or a Williamson Act contract?				X

Discussion: One parcel of the Quarry County Park property (APN 047340290) is zoned Planned Agriculture. Project activities would not affect the agriculture zone designation or agricultural uses (see section 2.a. above). The project site does not include lands covered under an Open Space Easement or Williamson Act contract. There would be no impact.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2022. San Mateo County GIS. https://data-smcmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/

2.c.	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?				X

Discussion: No land within the project site is in in agricultural use. The project site does not contain farmland or forestland. The primary vegetation present at Quarry County Park is planted non-native eucalyptus trees, which is not considered forestland or valued as a commercial resource. Project activities would result in the thinning or removal of trees within the park for the purpose of wildfire fuel reduction. The activities would not result in the conversion of agriculture or forestland to a non-agricultural or non-forest use. There would be no impact.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2022. San Mateo County GIS. https://data-smcmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/

2.d.	For lands within the Coastal Zone, convert or divide lands identified as Class I or Class II Agriculture Soils and Class III Soils rated good or very good for artichokes or Brussels sprouts?				X

Discussion: The project site is located in the Coastal Zone east of the unincorporated community of El Granada on coastal hillslopes. The site is a former quarry location and planted with dense eucalyptus groves. According to the San Mateo County Prime Soils Map, the project site does not contain prime soils or lands identified as Class I or Class II Agricultural Soils or Class III soils rated good or very good for artichokes or Brussels sprouts (San Mateo County 2009). As a result, the project would not convert or divide such lands. There would be no impact.

Source:

Site Visit

San Mateo County. 2009. Prime Soils Map. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/san-mateo-county-prime-soils

2.e.	Result in damage to soil capability or loss of agricultural land?				X

Discussion: San Mateo County maps prime soils throughout the county. There are no prime soils located within the project area (San Mateo County 2009). Moreover, the project site does not contain land designated for agricultural purposes. For these reasons and those identified in section 2.a and 2.c above, the project would have a no impact related to damage to soil capability or loss of agricultural lands.

Source:

Site Visit

San Mateo County. 2009. Prime Soils Map. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/san-mateo-county-prime-soils

2.f.	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forestland (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))? *Note to reader: This question seeks to address the economic impact of converting forestland to a non-timber harvesting use.*				X

Discussion: The project would involve wildfire risk reduction activities fully within the boundaries of Quarry County Park. The project would not change the types of land uses at the site or otherwise conflict with the project site's zoning classification. Therefore, the project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for timberland production. There would be no impact. Also see section 2.c. above.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2022. San Mateo County GIS. https://data-smcmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/

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

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
3.a.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X

Discussion: The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the agency primarily responsible for maintaining air quality and regulating emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB). The BAAQMD carries out this responsibility by preparing, adopting, and implementing plans, regulations, and rules that are designed to achieve attainment of state and national air quality standards.

The BAAQMD's 2017 Clean Air Plan is a multi-pollutant plan focused on protecting public health and the climate. Specifically, the primary goals of the 2017 Clean Air Plan are to:

- Attain all state and national quality standards;
- Eliminate disparities among Bay Area communities in cancer health risk from toxic air contaminants; and
- Reduce Bay Area greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

The Clean Air Plan includes 85 distinct control measures to help the region reduce air pollutants and has a long-term strategic vision which forecasts what a clean air Bay Area will look like in the year 2050. The control measures aggressively target the largest sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, ozone pollutants, and particulate matter emissions (transportation).

The proposed project consists of fuel reduction treatments to reduce wildfire risk in Quarry County Park, the construction of temporary access roads and a fire road, and the installation of a single vault toilet. These activities would involve temporary emissions generated by construction equipment and vegetation burn piles. The activities would not induce urban growth or have the potential to substantially affect housing, employment, and population projections within the region, which are the basis of the Clean Air Plan emission projections. The control measures in the Clean Air Plan do not directly apply to the proposed project and, therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Clean Air Plan.

Source:

Project Plans

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). 2017. Bay Area 2017 Clean Air Plan.

3.b.	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standard?			X	

Discussion: Federal, state, and local governments control air quality through the implementation of laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards. The federal and state governments have established ambient air quality standards for "criteria" pollutants considered harmful to the environment and public health. San Mateo County is located within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB), which also contains Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, San Francisco, Marin, and Napa County, as well as the southern portions of Solano and Sonoma counties. The SFBAAB is characterized by a Mediterranean climate with warm, dry summers and cool, damp winters. The SFBAAB is currently in non-attainment for national and state ozone, state PM_{10}, and national and state $PM_{2.5}$ air quality standards (BAAQMD 2017a). Locally, San Mateo County rarely exceeds health standards for ozone and PM2.5 (BAAQMD 2019a). Along the coast, conditions such as cool marine air lowers the air pollution potential (BAAQMD 2017b).

The project consists of activities proposed to reduce wildfire risk. These activities would have the potential to generate short-term construction emissions, including from equipment and vehicle trips required for vegetation treatments and road construction, from grading required for road construction, and from pile burns required for vegetation treatments; however, as described below, the project would not generate emissions that would be significant due to the type of activities proposed and the best management practices (BMPs) that would be implemented.

Construction Equipment Emissions

Project activities have the potential to generate emissions from worker trips, the use of tools and equipment for vegetation treatments and road construction, vendor trips for vegetation treatment materials, hauling trips for soil removal (approximately less than 50 total one-way trips assuming trucks with 12 cubic yards of hauling capacity), and for servicing the proposed vault toilet. Gasoline and diesel fuel combustion in the construction equipment necessary to complete a project, as well as in motor vehicles travelling to and from the park project site would generate emissions of ROG, NO_X, CO, exhaust PM, and other pollutants. Most fuel reduction work would use hand tools, including hand-operated power tools that may generate emissions. Heavy equipment may be used when practicable, including to create non-shaded fuel breaks in cases where manual or prescribed burning treatments are not applied. See Table 2 for more information on vegetation treatment activities.

Emissions from equipment used in fuel reduction work would be reduced by statewide regulations, such as the In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation and CARB's Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCM) for Diesel Particulate Matter from Portable Engines Rates at 50 Horsepower and Greater, which reduce DPM and other emissions from portable diesel-fueled engines having a rated brake horsepower of 50 and greater by requiring compliance with emissions standards that align with U.S. EPA Tier 1 through 4 standards. In, addition, the In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation reduces DPM and NOx emissions from off-road diesel vehicles over 25 horsepower used in California and most two-engine vehicles. The Off-Road regulation:

- Imposes limits on idling, requires a written idling policy, and requires a disclosure when selling vehicles;
- Requires all off-road diesel vehicles over 25-horsepower be reported to CARB (using the Diesel Off-Road Online Report System DOORs) and labeled;
- Restricts the adding of older vehicles into fleets; and,
- Requires fleets to reduce their emissions by retiring, replacing, or repowering older engines, or installing Verified Diesel Emission Control Strategies, VDECS (i.e., exhaust retrofits).

As a result of these regulatory emission controls, the vehicle emissions from project equipment operations would have a less-than-significant impact on criteria pollutant emissions and would not result in a cumulatively considerable increase of pollutants in non-attainment with state or federal air quality standards.

Fugitive Dust Emissions

The construction of the fire road and other grading, chipping, and maintenance activities would also generate fugitive dust emissions. The County would be required to comply with BAAQMD Regulation 6, Rule 1, which limits visible particulate matter emissions and Regulation 6 Rule 6 which limits the quantity of particulate matter through control of trackout of solid materials on paved public roads from construction sites that are greater than one acre in size (BAAQMD 2022). Debris from removed vegetation would be chipped and remain on site. The 3,255 cubic yards of cut and fill from the construction of the fire road would be mostly balanced on site with 275 cubic yards hauled off site. The County's Routine Maintenance Program (RMP), adopted in July 2020, contains best management practices (BMPs) that would help reduce fugitive dust emissions and potential erosion. Treatments and road construction would follow the County BMPs listed below and presented in Appendix A, which would minimize dust. The BMPs include:

- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-19 Dust Management ControlsGEN-22: Site Stabilization
- BMP EC-6 Hand Seeding

- BMP EC-7 Hydroseeding
- BMP EC-8 Mulching
- BMP EC-10 Erosion Control Blankets & Mats

Implementation of these BMPs would control potential fugitive dust emissions from vegetation treatment and construction activities and as a result, project activities would not substantially contribute to non-attainment levels of PM_{10} or $PM_{2.5}$. The impact would be less than significant.

Burn Pile and Air Burner Emissions

PM and other pollutants would be generated from the burning of forest waste, either in burn piles or in air curtain burners/incinerators. In accordance with the County's RMP Manual, the mass of each burn pile would be limited to 750 pounds/pile of woody debris and would be limited to a maximum of 33 burn piles/acre and 20 acres/year for fuel break maintenance. The project would follow County BMP BIO-23: Burn Pile Measures (Appendix A), which requires the County to coordinate burn pile activities with Cal Fire and restricts burning activities to occur only on days with low fire risk. The project would also be subject to BAAQMD's regulations on burning activities (BAAQMD 2019b).

Specific BAAQMD regulatory actions pertaining to burn controls depend on the size of the burn. All project pile burns regardless of the size of the burn would be considered Forest Management Fires, which the BAAQMD defines as fires set for the purpose of removing forest debris and for forest management. Forest Management Fires would follow BAAQMD's Regulation 5-111: Special Conditions for Allowable Fire, which states that unless waived by the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) or public fire official:

- No burning shall take place before 10:00 a.m. local time on any day.
- No additional materials or fuel shall be ignited, nor shall any material or fuels be added to any fire after two hours before sunset on any day.
- No material or fuel shall be ignited, nor shall any material or fuel be added to any fire when the wind velocity is less than five (5) miles per hour except for crossfiring, or when the wind direction at the site shall be such that the direction of smoke drift is toward a populated area in order to minimize local nuisances caused by smoke and particulate fallouts.
- Prior to ignition, all piled material shall have dried for a minimum of 60 days and be managed to ensure that burning the material does not produce smoke after sunset on any day.
- All material to be burned shall be reasonably free of dirt or soil.
- Piled material shall be limited to a base area not to exceed 25 square yards and the height shall be at least 2/3 of the average width of the pile.
- Ignition material shall be limited to those listed by the State Director of Forestry, as follows: orchard torches; drip torches; pressurized diesel torches; propane or LPG torches; commercial petroleum gel materials, pressurized or solid (napalm or blivets); commercial safety fuses; commercial type ignition grenades (e.g., Fenner, etc.); fuses; commercial fuse lighters and matches. All fires shall be ignited so as to burn as rapidly as possible within conditions of safety and minimum pollution.
- Ignition shall be initiated at or near the top of the piled material. No additional material, except ignition material, shall be added to the fire.
- Tonnage, volume or acreage of material burned on any given day and/or at any specified site is subject to limitations set by the APCO but may not exceed any limits set by the ARB.

In addition, if pile burning burns vegetation removed from over 10 acres of land, the project would submit a smoke management plan (BAAQMD 2019b). As required by Regulation 5, Subsection 408.1, a smoke management plan that provides the following information must be submitted to the BAAQMD at least 30 days before a burn:

a. location and specific objectives of each proposed burn;
b. acreage, tonnage, type, and arrangement of vegetation to be burned;
c. directions and distances to nearby sensitive receptor areas;
d. fuel condition, combustion and meteorological prescription elements for the project;
e. projected burn schedule and expected duration of project ignition, combustion, and burn down (hours or days);
f. specifications for monitoring and of verifying critical parameters including meteorological conditions and smoke behavior before and during the burn;
g. specifications for disseminating project information to public;
h. contingency actions that will be taken during the burn to reduce exposure if smoke intrusions impact any sensitive receptor area;
i. certification by a qualified professional resource ecologist, biologist, or forester that the proposed burning is necessary to achieve the specific management objective(s) of the plan;
j. a copy of the environmental impact analysis prepared for the plan that includes an evaluation of alternatives to burning, if such an analysis was required by state or federal law or statute;
k. project fuel loading estimate (tons vegetation/acre) by vegetation type(s) and a description of the calculation method; and
l. particulate matter emissions estimate including referenced emission factor(s) and a description of the calculation method used.

The smoke management plan must be approved by the BAAQMD before a prescribed burn. In addition, the BAAQMD must issue an acreage/pile burning allocation before a prescribed burn may occur (BAAQMD 2019b). By following the BAAQMD guidelines and procedures for burning, the project would create a less-than-significant impact from particulate matter resulting from burning activities.

County Parks may utilize cage-style air curtain burners (fire boxes) to manage large volumes of removed vegetation. According to CalFire, air curtain burners are usually used where debris cannot be left on site and where pile burning is not an option. Air curtain burners use a high-efficiency diesel-powered blower to push high velocity air over a burn chamber, creating a "curtain" of air that rising smoke cannot penetrate. Consequently, the unburned particulates re-enter the burn chamber and are combusted until they are light enough to pass through air curtain (CalFire 2021). The curtain essentially traps and reburns smoke particles, reducing their particle size. This results in a clean burn with opacities under 10% per EPA Method 9 Testing as compared to open burns that typically operate with 80-100% opacity (Air Burners 2002). The use of air curtain burners would lessen smoke and particulate emissions as compared to burn piles.

For the reasons outlined above, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria pollutants.

Source:

Air Burners. 2022. Air Burner Technology. Website accessed September 19, 2022. https://airburners.com/technology/principle/

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). 2017a. Air Quality Standards and Attainment Status. BAAQMD. January 5, 2017. Web. Accessed May 12, 2022. <http://www.baaqmd.gov/research-and-data/air-quality-standards-and-attainment-status>

_____2017b. California Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines. San Francisco, CA. June 2010, updated May 2017.

_____2019a. San Mateo County. February 14, 2019. https://www.baaqmd.gov/about-the-air-district/in-your-community/san-mateo-county

_____2019b. Regulation 5: Open Burning 2019 Amendment. Adopted November 20, 2019. https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/dotgov/files/rules/regulation-5/documents/20191120_r0500_final-pdf.pdf?la=en

_____2022. "Current Rules." 2022. Web. Accessed July 12, 2022. https://www.baaqmd.gov/rules-and-compliance/current-rules

CalFire 2021. Fuels Reduction Guide. Web. Accessed September 21, 2022. https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/4jqerfjh/fuels-reduction-guide-final-2021-interactive.pdf

3.c.	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, as defined by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District?			X	

Discussion: Some people are more affected by air pollution than others. The BAAQMD defines sensitive receptors as "facilities or land uses that include members of the population that are particularly sensitive to the effects of air pollutants, such as children, the elderly and people with illnesses" (BAAQMD 2017b). In general, children, senior citizens, and individuals with pre-existing health issues (e.g., asthmatics) are considered sensitive receptors. Both CARB and the BAAQMD consider schools, schoolyards, parks and playgrounds, daycare facilities, nursing homes, hospitals, and residential areas as sensitive air quality land uses and receptors. The air quality sensitive receptors in proximity (i.e., within 1,000 feet) of the project site include residential buildings surrounding and directly bordering the park to the west and south, El Granada Elementary School and Half Moon State Beach to the south, and visitors to Quarry Park that would be on the project site.

Most of the fire prevention treatments that would occur within in the 577-acre park would not occur adjacent to sensitive receptors (Figure 5). Fuel reduction activities along the western and southern park boundary would in some cases take place within approximately 50 feet of residential receptors. New fuel reduction activities that would occur along the border of the park closest to sensitive receptors would involve creating and maintaining shaded fuel breaks, which would involve some heavy equipment use to create temporary access roads on legacy roads (Figure 8) and remove or thin vegetation. Likely equipment use includes bulldozers, excavators, chippers, a wheel tractor, skid steer, masticator, and winch (Table 2). The project would also include the South Ridge Fire Road, which would begin its construction at Coronado Avenue within approximately 50 feet of the nearest residential receptors. These sensitive receptors could be exposed to fugitive dust from grading, diesel particulate matter from equipment exhaust. The fire road construction is a small-scale project (2,225 linear feet; 2.3 acres footprint) and would have limited construction emissions. Finally, potential burning activities (both pile and air curtain burners) would generate toxic particles from the combustion of debris; however, burning would not occur near residential receptors and all burns would follow the BAAQMD's requirements for wind velocity and wind direction, which would reduce the effects of smoke on receptors (see the discussion on Regulation 5-111 in section 3b above for more detail).

In addition, the project would follow regulations and best practices, as described above in 3b, that control fugitive dust and exhaust and that set requirements for forest management fires.

Furthermore, project activities near sensitive receptors would be temporary, with activities in small treatment areas expected to be completed in approximately 1 to 3 weeks and activities in large treatment areas expected to be completed in approximately 6 to 12 weeks. Finally, vegetation within the park where the project activities would occur could screen and potentially settle pollutants. Therefore, project construction would not result in substantial pollutant concentrations at sensitive receptors. The impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). 2017b. California Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines. San Francisco, CA. June 2010, updated May 2017

3.d.	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

Discussion: The project would generate odors associated with construction activities, such as smoke from pile burns and air curtain burners as well as fuel and oil odors. The odors generated would be intermittent, localized in nature, and likely to disperse quickly. Meteorological conditions, such as moderate coastal winds, create lower air pollution potential along the Pacific Ocean in the SFAAB (BAAQMD 2017b). These coastal winds would help disperse odors. In addition, construction activities are regulated, as described in section 3b), and would be temporary, with activities in small treatment areas expected to be completed in approximately 1 to 3 weeks, and activities in large treatment areas expected to be completed in approximately 6 to 12 weeks. The vault toilet would be installed over 500 feet from the nearest residences. The project would not result in other emissions, including odors, that would adversely affect a substantial number of people. The impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). 2017b. California Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines. San Francisco, CA. June 2010, updated May 2017.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
4.a.	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service?		X		

Discussion: Background information regarding sensitive biological resources was obtained from a biological resources assessment prepared by WRA (2018), among other reference listed under sources below. Unless included in this chapter, scientific names of species discussed are included in the WRA report.

The Project site supports 12 biotic habitats including five non-sensitive biotic habitats: eucalyptus grove, developed areas, Monterey pine stands, non-native annual grassland, and northern coastal scrub; and seven environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHAs; see section 4.b. below): ephemeral, intermittent, perennial streams; central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub; perennial pond, seasonal pond; and potential seasonal wetlands. Existing biotic habitats and their acreages on

the project parcels are shown in Table 3 and Figure 8. Existing biotic habitat acreages and potential impacts to those habitats are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Biotic Habitats and Potential Impacts

Biotic Habitats/ Landcover	Study Area Existing Acreage* (ac)/Linear Feet (ft)	Fuel Reduction Areas Impact Acreage (ac)	Vault Toilet Impact Acreage (ac)	Temporary Access Road Impact Acreage (ac)	South Ridge Fire Road
Ephemeral Stream	0.11 ac/10,172 ft	na	na	na	na
Intermittent Stream	0.38 ac/10,144 ft	na	na	na	na
Perennial Stream	0.03 ac/264 ft	na	na	na	na
Central Coast Arroyo Willow Riparian Scrub	23.3 ac	na	na	na	na
Perennial Pond	1.35 ac	na	na	na	na
Seasonal Pond	0.04 ac	na	na	na	na
Seasonal Wetland	3.97 ac	na	na	na	na
Developed	19.3 ac	3.95	na	6.20	0.12
Eucalyptus Woodland	307 ac	159	na	4.90	1.65
Monterey Pine Stand	3.32 ac	1.77	na	0.06	0.36
Non-Native Annual Grassland	36.8 ac	12.70	0.01	0.39	0
Northern Coastal Scrub	126 ac	91.4	na	0.30	0
Total Acreages	522	269	0.01	12	2

*Study Area excludes Mirada Surf West parcels. Impact acreages are approximate.

Special-Status Plants

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), California Native Plant Society (CNPS), and other relevant databases found that seven special-status plant species have a high or moderate potential to occur on the Project Site including the Hickman's cinquefoil (*Potentilla hickmanii,* state and federally-endangered, and Rank 1B.1), Marin checker lily (*Fritillaria lanceolata* var. *tristulis,* Rank 1B.1), bent-flowered fiddleneck (*Amsinckia lunaris* Rank 1B.2), western leatherwood (*Dirca occidentalis* Rank 1B.2), perennial goldfields (*Lasthenia californica* ssp. *Macrantha,* Rank 1B.2), Oregon polemonium (*Polemonium carneum,* Rank 2B.2), and San Mateo tree lupine (*Lupinus arboreus* var. *eximius,* Rank 3.2). Suitable habitat for these species occurs in the northern coastal scrub habitat and the central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub habitat on the site.

Suitable habitat (northern coastal scrub and central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub), which could support the seven potentially-occurring special-status plant species if present within areas that would be disturbed by fuel management activities in Highest and High treatment effectiveness areas, and portions of the proposed temporary access roads (Figure 8). Because the Moderate and Lower treatment effectiveness areas do not overlap with suitable habitat that could support potentially-occurring species-status plants (i.e., northern coastal scrub habitat and the central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub), no avoidance and minimization measures are warranted in those areas. Because the proposed fuel management activities are similar in nature to fuel management activities

that are covered in the RMP, potential impacts on special-status plant species from project activities are expected to be similar in nature. For example, construction of shaded fuel breaks would use mechanical and manual methods; lay out chipped materials, perform pile burning and use herbicides similar to those methods used in RMP-covered areas. Although non-shaded fuel breaks would remove most vegetation and temporary access roads would removal all vegetation, the potential impacts would be similar to impacts of RMP-covered activities. If special-status species are present in the Highest and High treatment effectiveness areas, and where temporary access roads are proposed, activities associated with constructing shaded fuel breaks, non-shaded fuel breaks, associated debris management, and construction of temporary access roads could result in direct and indirect impacts on special-status plants. Impacts on special-status plants that could result from fuel management activities include:

- physical or mechanical removal or destruction of plants;
- destruction of plants through off target herbicide application;
- temporary loss of suitable habitat resulting from construction of temporary access roads;
- introduction of plant pathogens such as *Phytoptera*;
- reduced survivability (e.g., altered plant growth and reproduction) due to habitat modifications including changes in sun/shade microhabitats;
- soil compaction caused by movement of heavy equipment or soil disturbance;
- changes in soil moisture from decreased shading;
- inhibition of seed germination resulting from dispersed chipped materials up to 1 foot in depth;
- introduction of non-native species (e.g., seeds introduced to the activity area from contaminated equipment or clothing), which can threaten native plant species through competition for resources and the physical or chemical alteration of the habitat;
- exposure to toxic chemicals from minor fuel and oil spills that may occur during refueling of equipment;
- destruction of plants from uncontained fires resulting from pile burning; and
- temporary dust deposition on the leaves of plants, which may affect photosynthesis and gas exchange.

Due to the limited range of seven potentially-occurring special-status species and the moderate to high potential for these species to occur in areas where work would occur, there is potential for the proposed Project activities to adversely impact these species. The County's RMP, adopted in July 2020, contains best management practices (BMPs), listed below and presented in Appendix A, that would reduce potential direct, indirect, temporary, and permanent impacts on special-status plant species. The County would implement these BMPs to reduce these potential impacts on special-status plants:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-16 Avoid Special-Status Plant Species
- BMP BIO-17 Sudden Oak Death Controls
- BMP BIO-18 Invasive Plant Species Control
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Pile Measures
- BMP BIO-24 Pathogen Control
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter

- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance & Fueling
- BMP GEN-19 Dust Management Controls

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs, potential impacts on special-status plants would be less than significant.

California Strawberry and Monterey Pine

The California strawberry is present in the northern coastal scrub, seasonal wetland, and Eucalyptus habitats on the site, and has the potential to occur on sandy soils on coastal bluffs, cliffs, and roadcuts. Fuel management activities in all of the treatment areas would occur in each of the habitat types where this species has been found on site, or elsewhere where suitable edaphic conditions exist on the site. Thus, there is potential for fuel management activities, including construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road to impact this species. The California strawberry is not a Federal, State, or CNPS-ranked special-status plant species. However, this species is protected by Policy 7.49 of the County LCP, which requires that any development within 0.5 mile of the coast mitigate against the destruction of this species by trampling of other destructive activities, or by relocating individuals to a suitable site. The development of the vault toilet would occur adjacent to the new pump track recently constructed in the corporation yard. This area is mapped as non-native annual grassland. Although current habitat conditions in the proposed vault toilet location are disturbed (Figure 6, Photo 10a) and it is unlikely that the California strawberry would occur in this location, the potential for this species to be impacted by this activity cannot be entirely ruled out. If the California strawberry is present, construction of the vault toilet could potentially result in the direct removal and destruction of this species. Similarly, fuel management activities could impact strawberry plants through trampling or inhibiting growth of individuals from dispersed chipped material or other vegetative debris. However, with the implementation of **Mitigation Measure BLGY-1**, this impact would be less than significant.

> **Mitigation Measure BLGY-1. California Strawberry Pre-Construction Survey.** Within one year of project activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for California Strawberry during the appropriate blooming period (February to March) to determine if this species is present within and adjacent to the vault toilet construction , South Ridge Fire Road, and fuel management work areas. If this species is absent, no further surveys or measures are required. If this species is present, comply with Policy 7.49 of the Sant Mateo County Local Coastal Program (LCP), which would include the following measures:
>
> - If the California strawberry is present in proposed work areas, a qualified professional doing work in strawberry breeding shall determine the value of the plant patch. If the breeder determines that the patch has significant value, project activities shall be designed to avoid direct impacts on the strawberry. Under the direction of the qualified biologist, occupied areas shall be marked with high visibility physical barriers such as orange construction fencing to delineate Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) where the strawberries are present. For activities involving the use of mechanical equipment, the fencing will be installed around plant occurrences including a 50-foot disturbance-free buffer. For activities involving the use of hand tools, high-visibility flagging may be installed in place of construction fencing, around plant occurrences including a 10-foot disturbance free buffer. In all cases, ESAs shall include signage that states that the area shall be avoided.

- If project activities cannot avoid areas high value strawberry patches and would result in the destruction of plants, a Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (MMP) shall be developed to ensure that impacts are appropriately mitigated. At a minimum, the MMP shall:
    - Describe proposed impacts to the species.
    - Proposed mitigation including some combination of transplantation or reestablishment of impacted populations and/or preservation and management of existing populations.
    - Identify success criteria, including achieving the establishment of a new viable occurrences of the strawberry or re-establishment of the strawberry, equal or greater in extent and numbers to the affected occurrence.
    - Provide a detailed implementation plan, including relocation methods as well as a schedule for completing and monitoring the relocation.
    - Set goals and performance criteria for transplants or plantings, including (a) survivorship, (b) density, (c) percent cover, and (d) control of invasive weeds with a California Invasive Plant Council Inventory (Cal-IPC) rating of moderate or high.
    - Specify a minimum monitoring period of 3 years, with annual reports.
    - Identify contingency and adaptive management measures if the relocation or reestablishment plantings are not meeting success criteria.
- Update the HMMP on an as-needed basis. Because some projects would be initiated over the course of several years, additional pre-activity surveys may detect new California strawberry patches. In that case, if direct impacts on this species cannot be avoided during successive fuel treatment projects, the County will amend the MMP with applicable information on new impacts and mitigation as outlined above.

A stand of Monterey pine is present in the southern portion of the site. A portion of this stand is located within the Highest fuel reduction treatment effectiveness area and the proposed South Ridge Fire Road. However, this species is only protected under the County LCP by the San Mateo-Santa Cruz County line. Therefore, potential removal of Monterey Pine in this portion of the site would not be considered a significant impact.

Special-Status Animals

A search of the CNDDB and other relevant databases found that three special-status wildlife species are present on the Project Site and eight have a moderate or high potential to occur on the Project Site. Special-status wildlife species that are present are the burrowing owl (California species of special concern [CSSC]) and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (Neotoma fuscipes annectens, CSSC), Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin,* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] Bird of Conservation Concern [BCC]). Special-status wildlife that have a moderate to high potential to occur on the site include the San Francisco garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*, state and federally-endangered, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW] fully protected), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*, federally threatened and CSSC), monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1, federal candidate for listing under the FESA), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*, CDFW fully protected), olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*, CSSC and BCC); saltmarsh common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas sinuosa*, CSSC and BCC), crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*, Candidate for listing as Endangered under the CESA), and the obscure bumble bee (*Bombus caliginosus*, an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Vulnerable

species) also have a moderate potential to occur on the site. A discussion of the Proposed Project's potential impacts on special-status animals is discussed below.

California Red-Legged Frog and San Francisco Garter Snake

The California red-legged frog is associated with perennial to intermittent ponds, stream pools, and wetlands. This species prefers shorelines with extensive vegetation and is documented to disperse through upland habitats after rains. The San Francisco garter snake occurs in the vicinity of freshwater marshes, ponds and slow-moving streams. They prefer dense cover and water depths of at least one foot, and upland areas near water. They use rodent burrows to aestivate and take cover. The presence of adjacent upland areas with abundant small mammal burrows is also important as hibernation sites for snakes during the winter. The California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake are both likely to inhabit upper Arroyo de en Medio on the Project site. The California red-legged frog may also inhabit ponds and streams throughout the rest of the Project site, but San Francisco garter snake is unlikely in areas outside of Arroyo de en Medio because of the absence of preferred habitat components.

Although fuel reduction areas are shown to overlap with aquatic habitats where the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake has the potential to occur, these areas would be avoided because they are ESHAs, (see section 4.b. below). Additionally, while potential impacts on the California red-legged frog associated with fuel management activities have the greatest potential of occurring near aquatic features, even activities in upland areas have potential to impact California red-legged frogs, as this species could occur in virtually any of the surrounding upland areas if suitable upland aestivation habitat (e.g., root wads, debris piles, burrows) in present. As a result, if these species are present during work activities or work activities occur in suitable habitat, the Project could impact both of these species. Potential impacts on the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake that could occur as a result of fuel reduction activities include injury or mortality of individuals that could be crushed by equipment, construction vehicles, worker pedestrian traffic; injured or killed by mechanical equipment, hand tools, or power tools; exposure toxic chemicals or solvents; spread of animal pathogens (e.g., chytrid fungus), exposure to predators or desiccation (California red-legged frog) if project activities cause individuals to flee from protected habitat, disruption of daily or seasonal movements due to construction noise and vibration; and greater exposure to predators that would be attracted to trash and food debris left at work areas. Construction of the South Ridge Road and temporary access roads could also result in the same impacts on the California red-legged frog. While the potential for similar impacts to result from construction of the vault toilet, are low due to the disturbed nature of the proposed toilet location, such impacts cannot be entirely ruled out due to the proximity of the intermittent stream and central coast riparian scrub habitat in proximity to this work area. Additionally, if the California red-legged frog or San Francisco garter snake individuals are attracted to debris piles of removed vegetation that are not immediately removed from the site or burned, they could perish when the piles are masticated, burned, or removed from the site. In the absence of avoidance and minimization measures, such impacts would be significant.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake from potential impacts of fuel management activities within the 100-foot-wide buffer are provided in the RMP. While the proposed fuel management activities exceed what is covered in the RMP, through the addition of unshaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, and vault toilet, most of the BMPS in the RMP would protect the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake from proposed Project activities. Project activities would follow the County BMPs listed below and presented in Appendix A to avoid and minimize impacts on these species.

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-3 California Red-legged Frog Protection Measures

- BMP BIO-5 San Francisco Garter Snake Protection Measures
- BMP BIO-24 Pathogen Control
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention Plan
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance & Fueling

With implementation of the above BMPS, potential impacts on the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake would be less than significant.

San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrat

The San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (DFWR) occupies a variety of habitats including forest, woodland, riparian areas, and chaparral. While the species does not typically inhabit eucalyptus groves, thick sections of willow scrub and riparian corridors are generally preferred habitats for the species. Nests constructed by this species were observed in these habitats on the Project site. Because nests constructed by this species were observed in multiple locations throughout the Project site, and suitable habitats are present in various locations, this species is considered present throughout the Project site. Because this species could be found nearly anywhere on the site, there is potential for this species to be impacted during fuel reduction activities and construction of the temporary access roads and South Ridge Fire Road. Due to the absence of canopy and understory cover in the vault toilet area, construction of this project feature is not expected to result in any impacts on the woodrat.

Potential impacts on this species include direct injury or mortality of dozens to hundreds of individuals and nests by crushing individuals or their nests with heavy equipment or manual tools; injuring or killing individuals if they are present in debris piles when they are masticated, burned, or removed from the site; and modification of habitat through that would result from mechanically thinning, or removing the tree canopy, and through manual herbicide application. Although this species is abundant on the site and in the region, the loss of dozens to hundreds of woodrats and their nests would be a significant impact. BMPs to protect the San Francisco DFWR from potential impacts of fuel management activities within the 100-foot-wide buffer and 200-foot-wide hazardous tree removal buffer are provided in the RMP. The application of RMP BMPs to proposed project activities would protect the DFWR from potential impact The County would implement the RMP BMPs listed below and presented in Appendix A to avoid and minimize impacts on the DFWR.

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-8. Minimize Impacts on Dusky-footed Woodrat Nests.

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs, potential impacts on the DFWR would be less than significant.

Monarch Butterfly

Monarch butterflies breed in the San Mateo County in small numbers. However, from mid-October to until late February or March, monarch butterflies overwinter on the coast and congregate in thousands or millions on a tree or group of trees. Western monarchs prefer overwintering habitat comprised of a relatively dense grove of trees with some understory, located near water and nectar sources and protected from the wind by topographic landforms or trees. Winter roost sites are often on south, southwest, or west facing slopes which may provide more favorable temperature regimes and wind protection. The Project site is primarily comprised of groves of Eucalyptus, which is known to be used by the species for winter roosting. Additionally, the aspects typically favored are south and southwest facing slopes, which comprise the majority of the Study Area. Lastly, the area supports a variety of wild and landscaped (urban) plants to provide nectar, as well as ponds wetlands

and seeps suitable for watering. Due to these factors, the species has a moderate potential to use the Study Area as winter roosting habitat.

If wintering monarch butterflies are present, fuel management activities could impact this species. Potential impacts that could occur include alteration, degradation, or loss of winter roost habitat resulting from tree trimming or removal, or uncontrolled fire resulting from debris pile burning; and abandonment of roost sites due to increased dust, or noise created by work crews and equipment. Due to the rarity of this species and the potential for fuel reduction activities to alter, reduce, or remove winter roost habitat, such impacts would be significant. Although monarch butterflies only breed in small numbers in the region, fuel management activities may remove native milkweed, which are the larval host plant for the species. Uncontrolled fire could also destroy larval food plants. However, the removal of milkweed is not expected to significantly impact the population because the Project site and region are not an important breeding area for the species.

BMPs to protect the monarch butterfly and their habitat from potential impacts of fuel management activities within the 100-foot-wide buffer and 200-foot-wide hazardous tree removal buffer are provided in the County's RMP. While the Project activities exceed what is covered in the RMP, through the addition of unshaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, BMPS in the RMP would protect monarch butterfly wintering habitat from potential impacts of these activities. The BMPs that the County would follow to protect monarch butterfly wintering habitat include the following:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-12 Measures to Protect Special-Status Butterflies
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN 19 Dust Management Controls
- BMP GEN-23 Fire Prevention

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs, potential impacts on the monarch butterfly will be less than significant.

Burrowing Owl

The burrowing owl occurs in open grassland and occasionally in agricultural habitats with abundant burrows. Burrowing owls are not expected to breed on the site, as most of the site supports dense shrub and forest habitat but may overwinter in the grassland portions of the site and has been detected on the site. While this species is not expected to breed on the site, fuel reduction in the Highest and Moderate treatment effectiveness areas would occur in grassland habitat where burrowing owls could potentially occur. Potential impacts that could occur include injury or mortality of wintering owls if they are roosting within burrows during fuel reduction activities. Such impacts could occur is heavy equipment enters the area and collapses potentially occupied burrows. This impact would be significant. Additionally, there is potential for the activities to affect burrowing owl habitat. Debris pile burning could potentially result in uncontained spread of fire that could result in the loss of this species' habitat. Because this impact would be temporary, and the actual amount of potential wintering habitat that is present is small, such an impact would be less than significant. Even so, several of the County RMP BMPs that would be implemented to reduce potential habitat impacts are listed below and presented in Appendix A:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Pile Measures
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access

- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance & Fueling
- BMP GEN-21 Domestic Animals

In addition to implementing the RMP BMPs, **Mitigation Measures BLGY-2a and 2b**, would also be implemented.

Mitigation Measure BLGY-2a. Burrowing Owl Pre-activity Survey and Avoidance. Pre-activity surveys for burrowing owls will be conducted prior to the initiation of all project activities within suitable habitat (e.g., grassland, rocky outcrop, and scrub habitats) in the Highest and Moderate fuel reduction treatment effectiveness areas. Although burrowing owls are not expected to breed on the site, surveys shall be conducted year-round to detect potential dispersing juveniles, non-breeding adults, wintering, and migrating individuals. If burrowing owls are observed during the surveys, then Mitigation Measure BLGY-2b will be implemented.

- Pre-construction surveys will be completed in conformance with the CDFW's 2012 guidelines (CDFG 2012), or any more current protocols if any become available, which include the following:
- At least 14 days prior to the onset of vegetation mowing/removal or ground disturbing activities, an initial habitat assessment will be conducted in suitable habitat (e.g., grassland, rocky outcrop, and scrub habitats) by a qualified biologist to determine if suitable burrowing owl habitat is present. A qualified biologist is an individual who has a degree in biological sciences or related resource management with a minimum of two seasonal years post-degree experience conducting surveys for burrowing owl. During or following academic training, the qualified biologist will have achieved a high level of professional experience and knowledge in biological sciences and special-status species identification, ecology, and habitat requirements.
- During the habitat assessment, the biologist will survey the entire activity area for burrows that could be used by burrowing owls, including burrows of the California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), or coyote (*Canis latrans*) for nesting and roosting, and signs of use (e.g., feathers, pellets, whitewash).
- The survey shall also include all areas within 250 feet of the site, as access allows.
- If no suitable burrowing owl habitat is present, no additional surveys will be required.
- If suitable burrows and signs of activity are found, an additional survey shall be conducted within the 24-hour period prior to the initiation of project activities in any given area.

Mitigation Measure BLGY-2b: Implement Buffer Zones for Burrowing Owls. If burrowing owls are determined to be present, a 150-foot buffer zone will be maintained around the occupied burrow(s). If maintaining such a buffer is not feasible, then the buffer must be great enough to avoid injury or mortality of individual owls, as determined by the qualified biologist. No ground-disturbing activities will occur in the buffer until it is determined that the owl has vacated the area. If avoidance of occupied habitat cannot be avoided, the owl(s) will be passively relocated by the qualified biologist using one-way doors, which should be installed in all burrows within the impact area and left in-place for at least two nights. These one-way doors will then be removed and the burrows back-filled immediately prior to vegetation

mowing/removal or grading. If relocation occurs during the breeding season (February 1 – August 31) owls will not be relocated unless the biologist can determine that the owls are not actively breeding.

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs and Mitigation Measures BLGY-2a and 2b, potential impacts on the burrowing owls would be less than significant.

Other Special-Status Birds

Special-status bird species with potential to nest within the Study Area include the white-tailed kite, olive-sided flycatcher, and Allen's hummingbird. Tall trees throughout the Project site may provide suitable structures to support nesting by the species white-tailed kites. Large blue gum trees throughout the site may provide suitable nesting habitat for the olive-sided flycatcher. Potential nesting habitat for the San Francisco common yellowthroat is only present in two small sections of willow thickets in the seasonal wetland habitat along Highway 1 at the southeastern edge of the Project site. Suitable nesting habitat for the Allen's hummingbird is present in the blue gum woodland, central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub, and northern coastal scrub habitat on the site. Because suitable nesting habitat for these special-status species is present in nearly all habitats present on the site, all Project activities could potentially impact nests of these protected species. Vegetation removal associated with fuel reduction, construction of roads, and construction of the vault toilet, could directly destroy active nests or kill young. Noise and vibrations associated with Project activities could also cause the abandonment of active nests. Similarly, uncontrolled fire that could result from debris pile burning could also destroy actives nests, eggs, and young. Debris pile burning could also result in uncontained spread of fire that could result in the loss of this species' habitat. Additionally, fuel reduction activities could reduce the quality of nesting habitat for the white-tailed kite, olive-sided flycatcher, and Allen's hummingbird that would result from vegetation thinning and removal, which would be a long-term impact. However, the seasonal wetland on the southern portion of the site, where the common yellowthroat would be expected to nest, is not expected to be impacted by the Project because it is an ESHA (see section 4.b. below). Therefore, impacts on potential common yellowthroat nesting habitat would be avoided. Impacts on active nests would be a significant impact. Reduced habitat quality or loss of habitat for the white-tailed kite, olive-sided flycatcher, and Allen's hummingbird would affect these species, but due to the large presence of suitable habitat that is available elsewhere in the region, these potential impacts would be less than significant.

Although white-tailed kite, olive-sided flycatcher, and Allen's hummingbird adults would not be expected to be directly injured or killed by Project activities, they could be disturbed by activities and increased human presence to the point that they may flee work areas and surroundings areas exposing them to greater competition and predation pressures. Additionally, native and non-native predators may also be attracted to work areas and surrounding areas if food trash is not contained by work crews. Because these effects would be temporary, only occurring during work activities, they are considered to be less than significant.

While the Project activities would exceed what is covered in the RMP, through the addition of unshaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, several BMPS in the RMP would protect the special-status and non-special-status nesting birds from proposed Project activities. The BMPs that the County would follow to protect special-status birds include the following:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-9 Measures to Protect Nesting Migratory Birds
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Piles
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance

- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance & Fueling

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs, potential impacts on special-status birds would be less than significant.

Special Status Bumble Bees

In 2019, the California Fish and Game Commission designated four bumble bee species, including two potentially-occurring species (western bumble bee and crotch bumble bee) as candidates for listing and began the state listing process to list these species as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act. This candidacy was challenged, and a trial court ruled that the bees may not be receive protection under the Endangered Species Act. In May 2022 the state supreme court reversed this ruling, and reinstated their candidacy on September 30, 2022 (Xerces Society 2022a). The project site is within the historic range of the western bumble bee (USFWS Sensitive), and the current range of the crotch bumble bee. The western bumble bee was historically common in the region but has not been detected since the 1970s and is likely extirpated from the Project region. Thus, this species is not expected to occur on the site. The crotch bumble bee is a generalist forager and occurs in grassland and scrub habitats containing small mammal burrows. The crotch bumble bee was detected in Santa Clara County in 2019 and 2021 (The Xerces Society et al. 2022). Although this species has not been detected in San Mateo County, suitable habitat is present in the grassland and northern coastal scrub portions of the Project site. Additionally, the Project site is within the range of the obscure bumble bee, an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Vulnerable species. This species also occurs in grassland habitat and has been detected as recent as 2021 in San Francisco and Palo Alto and 2022 in coastal San Mateo County (The Xerces Society et al. 2022).

Fuel reduction activities in small portions of High and Highest treatment effectiveness areas, and larger portions of the Moderate treatment effectiveness area would occur in grassland and scrub habitat, which provides suitable nesting and foraging habitat for the crotch and obscure bumble bee. If these species nest or forage in this portion of the Project site, the Project could impact these species. Potential impacts that could occur include injury or mortality of bumble bee colonies of up to several hundred individuals, if heavy equipment or enters the area and collapses burrows supporting ground nests, uncontained fire resulting from debris pile burning; modification and temporary loss of nesting habitat that could result from soil compaction and destruction of mammal burrows, which can support nests; and temporary loss of foraging habitat resulting from vegetation removal, and trampling by equipment and vehicle access. Additionally, herbicide application could cause mortality of individuals if they forage on treated resources (Xerces Society 2017) . Destruction of nesting colonies would be significant due to the rarity of this species. However, due to the large extent of available grassland and northern coastal scrub habitat that is present in the region, temporary loss of this habitat, which supports nesting and foraging habitat, would not be significant.

Several of the County's RMP BMPs, described previously, that would be implemented would reduce potential habitat impacts on the crotch bumble bee including:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Pile Measures
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter

- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance & Fueling

Additionally, the Project would implement BMP GEN-27 (Vegetation and Tree Removal). This BMP requires that disturbance or removal of vegetation shall not exceed the minimum necessary to complete maintenance activities. In addition to implementing these RMP BMPs, **Mitigation Measures BLGY-3 and BLGY-4**, would also be implemented.

Mitigation Measure BLGY-3. Reconnaissance and Focused Surveys. Within one year of initiation of the Project, a qualified biologist shall conduct a reconnaissance survey of all proposed treatment areas in potentially suitable habitat (grassland and scrub habitats) to assess the suitability of the habitat for the crotch bumble bee and obscure bumble bee, including potential foraging, nesting, and overwintering habitat that may support these species. If suitable habitat is present, focused surveys shall be conducted within the year that each treatment project is scheduled to occur. Reconnaissance and focused surveys should be conducted during the flight season (March - September), timed to occur when detection probability is highest, including surveys in early spring (early April) and early summer (early July). Focused surveys should be conducted during two to four evenly spaced sampling periods during the flight season. Surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist with knowledge in the life history and ecology of special-status bumble bees and has a minimum of two field seasons of experience conducting focused surveys for these species.

If focused surveys do not identify occupied or suitable habitat, no additional surveys and mitigation are warranted. If treatment project sites are occupied by special-status bumble bees or suitable habitat, Mitigation Measure BLGY-4 shall be implemented.

Mitigation Measure BLGY-4. Bumble Bee Avoidance Measures

If focused surveys identify occupied or suitable habitat within the project footprint, the following avoidance measures shall be implemented.

a) **Avoid Treatment Activities During Active Bumble Bee Season.** To the extent feasible, conduct all treatment activities during the time of year when bees are not active (October – February) of any given year. If avoidance of the active bumble bee season is not feasible, implement b) below.

b) **Avoid Injury and Mortality to Bumble Bee Colonies.** If treatment activities cannot avoid the active bumble bee season, the biologist should establish no-work buffers around active nest colonies identified during surveys. The size and configuration of the no-work buffer would be based on the best professional judgment of the biologist. At a minimum, the buffer should provide at least 20 feet of clearance around nest entrances for manual treatment activities with motorized and non-motorized hand tools, and 40 feet of clearance for treatment activities with heavy equipment, but may be adjusted as determined by the qualified biologist using the most current and commonly accepted science and published guidance. Construction activities should not occur within the no-work zone buffers until the colony is no longer active (i.e., no bees are seen flying in or out of the nest for three consecutive days), as determined by the qualified biologist.

c) **Maintain Habitat Function for Special-Status Bumble Bees.** To the extent feasible, treatment activities will be designed to maintain habitat function including maintaining some amount of foraging (i.e., floral resources) and nesting habitat for special-status bumble bees during implementation of all treatment activities in occupied or suitable habitat in two ways. First, habitat function should be maintained by dividing suitable habitat into a smaller number of treatment units so that the entire treatment area is treated across two or more years. This method will maintain suitable habitat for special-status bumble bees during treatment activities and temporary retention of floral

resources in the treatment area. Second, maintenance of habitat function shall also be achieved by conducting treatment activities in a patchy pattern such that entire habitat patches (e.g., entire northern coastal scrub habitat on the southern portion of the site) are not treated/removed and untreated portions of occupied or suitable habitat are retained.

d) **Avoidance of Impacts on Bumble Bees from Herbicide Application.** If suitable foraging, nesting, or wintering habitat is present in a proposed work area that supports occupied or suitable habitat for special-status bumble bees, no herbicides will be applied to plants that are in bloom, including any native and non-native plants. Prohibit the use of the herbicide paraquat dichloride at any time, regardless of blooming, in suitable foraging, nesting, or potential wintering habitat of special-status bees.

With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs and Mitigation Measures BLGY-3 and BLGY-4, potential impacts on the crotch bumble bee will be less than significant.

Source:

County of San Mateo. 2013. Local Coastal Program Policies. June 2013.

Google Inc. 2022. Google Earth (Version 7.3.4.8642) [Software]. Available from earth.google.com.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Draft Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. February 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Final Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Manual. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

The Xerces Society. 2017. Unpacking the standards: A closer look at pesticide buffers. Available from https://beebettercertified.org/unpacking-standards-closer-look-pesticide-buffers/. Accessed: August 2022.

The Xerces Society. 2022. California Court Paves the Way for Protection of Imperiled Bumble Bees and Other Insects. Available from https://xerces.org/press/california-court-paves-way-for-protection-of-imperiled-bumble-bees. Accessed: August 2022.

The Xerces Society, Wildlife Preservation Canada, York University, University of Ottawa, The Montreal Insectarium, The London Natural History Museum, BeeSpotter. 2022. Data accessed from Bumble Bee Watch, a collaborative website to track and conserve North America's bumble bees. Available from http://www.bumblebeewatch.org/app/#/bees/lists. Accessed: August 2022.

4.b.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service?			X	

Discussion: The Project site supports six ESHAs within the Project site (Figure 8). The California Coastal Commission (CCC) Guidelines contain definitions for specific types of ESHAs, including: wetlands, estuaries, streams and rivers, lakes, open coastal waters and coastal waters, riparian habitats, other resource areas, and special-status species and their habitats. The 2013 County LCP

identifies sensitive habitats to include: riparian corridors, wetlands, marine habitats, sand dunes, sea cliffs, and habitats supporting rare, endangered, and unique species.

The Project site contains six natural communities that would meet the definition of an ESHA and that are considered sensitive by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), CDFW, CCC, and County LCP. These ESHAs including Central coast arroyo willow riparian scrub (23.3 acres), ephemeral stream (0.11 acre), intermittent stream (0.38 acre), and perennial streams (0.03 acre), perennial ponds (1.35 acres), seasonal ponds (.044 acres), and potential seasonal wetlands (3.97 acres), which are subject to the jurisdiction of the San Mateo County Local Coastal Program (Table 3, Figure 8).

The Project would avoid impacts within these sensitive habitats. However, because Project activities would occur in proximity to some of these sensitive habitats, there is some potential that Project activities could indirectly impact these features. Removal of vegetation and soil disturbance created by heavy equipment in proximity to these features could de-stabilize soils causing erosion and transport of fine sediment to these ESHAs. Additionally, unintentional release of petrochemicals, hydraulic fluids, and solvents that are spilled or during project activities could negatively impact riparian habitats, and contribute to significant water quality impacts, which could adversely affect wildlife species associated with these habitats. Although the Project activities would exceed what is covered in the County's RMP, through the addition of shaded or non-shaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, the Project would implement several RMP BMPS to reduce soil erosion and toxic spills that could occur during these activities. The BMPs that the County would follow to address soil erosion and toxic spills include the following:

- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-19 Equipment Maintenance and Fueling
- BMP GEN-27 Vegetation and Tree Removal.

With implementation of these BMPs, potential impacts on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities would be less than significant.

Source:

County of San Mateo. 2013. Local Coastal Program Policies. June 2013.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Draft Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. February 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Final Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Manual. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

4.c.	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X

Discussion: Potential seasonal wetlands, which are present on the Project site, are subject to the jurisdiction of the USACE, RWQCB, and the CCC. Direct impacts to potential seasonal wetlands would require a USACE Section 404 Permit, a RWQCB Section 401 Water Quality Certification under the Clean Water Act and a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) through the CCC and San Mateo County through the County LCP. Further, work within buffers of potential seasonal wetlands may also require a CDP through the CCC and County.

The Project site contains non-wetland waters including ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial streams and perennial ponds (Figure 7) that are potentially subject to regulation by the USACE, RWQCB, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and CCC. Temporary and permanent impacts to federal-protected waters (below the ordinary high-water mark [OHWM] of the stream or pond) in the project area would require a Corps Section 404 Permit, and a RWQCB Section 401 Water Quality Certification. Any work below top of bank (TOB) of a stream would require a Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFW and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the RWQCB. Additionally, work within established ESHA buffers of streams may require a CDP through the CCC and County.

Proposed project activities would not directly impact seasonal wetlands or non-wetland waters. See section 4.b. above for potential indirect impacts to Waters of the US/state and avoidance and minimization measures.

Source:

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

4.d.	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		X		

Discussion:

Wildlife Movement and Native Resident Migratory Wildlife Corridors

Because most of the site is undeveloped, the majority of vegetation communities on the site function as terrestrial movement corridors for wildlife. Fuel reduction activities and associated Project components would be located in areas used by terrestrial wildlife as movement corridors. Noise and disturbance associated with the Project could cause wildlife species that commonly use terrestrial habitats within the Project work sites to temporarily avoid moving through these areas. Additionally, fencing for prescribed herbivory could temporarily impede moving wildlife. Such impacts would be temporary and due to large extent of open space lands on the site and surrounding the site, wildlife would still be able to freely move across the site. Therefore, these impacts would be less than significant.

Streams on the site also function as movement corridors for aquatic wildlife when water is present. However, because the Project would avoid ESHAs, no impacts to nursery sites associated with any aquatic features on the site would be impacted by the project.

After Project activities are completed, the temporary access road and South Ridge Road would not create a barrier to movement as most wildlife would likely be able to continue to move across the roads. Although the vault toilet is a permanent structure, the final footprint of this structure is small in comparison to the amount of open space present on the Project site. Thus, this structure would not impede movement of wildlife. However, some portions of exiting vegetation communities would be more open, which could leave some areas with an unsuitable amount of cover and restrict some wildlife species from moving between those areas. However, treated areas would generally retain some patches of the pre-treatment vegetation that would still provide cover/protection and foraging habitat during movements. If after Project implementation few habitat patches remained on the site, this could be potentially significant loss of habitat for resident wildlife. While the Project activities would exceed what is covered in the RMP, through the addition of unshaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, several BMPS in the RMP would ensure that vegetation removal would not exceed what is necessary to achieve fuel reduction. The BMPs that the County would follow to minimize vegetation removal are listed below and presented in Appendix A. With implementation of these BMPs, potential impacts on wildlife movement and migratory corridors would be less than significant.

- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-27 Vegetation and Tree Removal

Native Wildlife Nursery Sites

Project activities could modify, degrade, or remove important habitat features of a nursery site. Woodland, shrubland, grassland, and aquatic features on the site provide nesting habitat for wildlife including native birds, which are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and California Fish and Game Code; and roosting bats, which are protected by California Fish and Game Code. However, as noted above, the Project would not impact any ESHAs; therefore; no impacts to nursery sites associated with any aquatic features on the site would occur. Impacts on nesting birds and roosting bats are described below.

Non-Special-Status Birds

In addition, the project site provides suitable habitat for a variety of common native bird species, which are also protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) during the nesting season. Impacts on non-special-status birds would be similar to those potential impacts on special-status birds including potential destruction of nests and injury or mortality of young. Such impacts could occur within and adjacent to proposed work areas. Potential impacts would result from vegetation removal and uncontained fire from debris pile burning. In addition, implementation of maintenance activities (e.g., vegetation management) would result in a small, temporary loss of nesting and foraging habitat for common native birds. Injury or mortality of active nests, eggs, and young would be significant. However, temporary loss of nesting and foraging habitat would be less than significant due to the presence of other available habitat for common birds in the region.

While the Project activities would exceed what is covered in the RMP, through the addition of unshaded fuel breaks, construction of temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road, several BMPS in the RMP that would protect special-status birds from potential project impacts would also protect non-special-status birds from potential impacts. The BMPs that the County would follow to protect special-status birds include are listed below and presented in Appendix A. With implementation of the County's RMP BMPs, potential impacts on non-special-status birds would be less than significant.

- BMP BIO-9 Measures to Protect Nesting Migratory Birds
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Pile Measures
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance and Fueling

Non-Special-Status Bats

Although, no suitable cavity-roosting habitat was observed on the site during reconnaissance surveys, there is some potential for non-special-status bats to day roost in the debris that form on mature eucalyptus trees. Additionally, trees in other portions of the site may contain suitable cavities to support roosting bats. Bats and other non-game mammals are protected by California Fish and Game Code Section 4150, which states that all non-game mammals or parts thereof may not be taken or possessed except as provided otherwise in the code or in accordance with regulations adopted by the commission. Activities resulting in mortality of non-game mammals (e.g., destruction of an occupied nonbreeding bat roost, resulting in the death of bats), or disturbance that causes the loss of a maternity colony of bats (resulting in the death of young), may be considered "take" by the CDFW. Potential impacts that could occur as a result of the project include injury or mortality of individual red bats, and maternity colonies (adults and young) of non-special-status bats during tree pruning and removal, abandonment of active maternity colonies leading to pup mortality; and modification or loss of roost habitat. Additionally, if tree removal and thinning, or pruning occur during the hibernation/deep torpor season (generally November 1 – March 1) when bats are largely inactive, such activities could also result in bat injury or mortality. Uncontrolled fire that could result from debris pile burns could also cause injury or mortality to roosting bats, or cause bats to flee from the area during the day, which could expose bats to predation by diurnal predators. Likewise, noise from equipment and work crews could also cause bats to flee and be predated. Impacts that would cause injury or mortality on non-reproductive bats or bat maternity colonies would be a significant impact. Because only a small number of red bats is expected to be day-roosting on the site at any one time, impacts on individual bats is not considered to be significant.

Due to the extent of native tree-roosting habitat in the region, modification or loss of roosting habitat that may result from the project would be less than significant.

Several of the County's RMP BMPs, described previously, that would be implemented would reduce potential habitat impacts to roosting bats including:

- BMP BIO-1 Environmental Awareness Training
- BMP BIO-23 Burn Pile Measures
- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP-GEN-23 Fire Prevention

In addition to implementing the RMP BMPs, **Mitigation Measure BLGY-5**, would also be implemented.

Mitigation Measure BLGY-5. Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance. To minimize impacts on maternity colonies during the maternity season (March 15 – August 31) or non-reproductive bats during winter torpor season (November 1 – March 1) the following measures will be implemented:

- In the year of project activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a bat habitat assessment and map with a GIS device and mark all trees in the work area that support potentially high quality roost trees.
- If work is planned to occur during the maternity season, no more than 30 days prior to project activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-activity survey for roosting bats of all suitable roost trees that were identified during the habitat assessment. The biologist will conduct a survey to look for evidence of bat use within suitable habitat. If evidence of use is observed, or if high-quality roost sites are present in areas where evidence of bat use might not be detectable, an evening emergence survey and/or a nocturnal acoustic survey may be necessary to determine if a bat colony is present and to identify the specific location of the bat colony.
- If no active maternity colony or non-breeding bat roost is located, project work can continue as planned.
- If an active maternity colony or non-breeding roost is located, the project work will be modified to avoid disturbance of the roosts, to the extent feasible.
- If an active maternity colony is located and Project work cannot be modified to avoid removal or disturbance of the occupied tree, disturbance will be scheduled to take place outside the maternity roost season (April 15–August 31), and a disturbance-free buffer zone (determined by a qualified bat biologist) will be implemented during the maternity roost season.
- If an active non-breeding bat roost is located and project work cannot be modified to avoid removal of the occupied tree, the tree will be removed using methods using a two-day phased method as follows:
    - Day 1, under supervision of a qualified biologist, tree limbs or tree top (tree topping) not containing suitable bat roosting habitat will be removed using chainsaws only; then
    - Day 2, the rest of the tree can be removed.
- Because bats are rarely detected during the deep torpor period, no surveys are recommended during this time. Instead, if high quality roost trees are proposed to be removed during the deep torpor season, the County will avoid the removal only of the suitable roost trees to the extent feasible to avoid mortality to hibernating bats.
- The County will also follow any applicable measures in CDFW Streambed Alternation Agreement permits.

With the implementation of Mitigation Measure BLGY-5, potential impacts on roosting bats will be less than significant.

Source:

Google Inc. 2022. Google Earth (Version 7.3.4.8642) [Software]. Available from earth.google.com.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Draft Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. February 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Final Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Manual. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

4.e.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance (including the County Heritage and Significant Tree Ordinances)?				X

Discussion:

Conflict with the Local Tree Ordinance

The Project would occur in a San Mateo County park where the County would not be required to comply with local ordinances. Therefore, impacts related to conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting trees would be less than significant.

Conflict with Local Coastal Program

All development planned in the Coastal Zone requires either issuance of a Coastal Development Permit or a Coastal Development Permit Exemption. The County would comply with the LCP by obtaining a permit or exemption for all Program activities that are planned within the Coastal Zone and complying with all applicable permit conditions. Therefore, impacts related to conflict with the LCP would be less than significant.

Source:

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Draft Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. February 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Final Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

4.f.	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X

Discussion: No NCCPs or HCPs are applicable to the project. Therefore, the project would not conflict with any HCPs.

Source:

Google Inc. 2022. Google Earth (Version 7.3.4.8642) [Software]. Available from earth.google.com.

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

4.g.	Be located inside or within 200 feet of a marine or wildlife reserve?				X

Discussion: The proposed Project is not located inside of or within 200 feet of a marine or wildlife reserve. The Fitzgerald Marin Reserve is the closet marine wildlife reserve, located in Moss Beach

along the coast, approximately three miles northwest of the project site. Due to the distance between the marine wildlife reserve and the Project site, no impact would occur to a marine or wildlife reserve.

Source:

Project Plans

Google Inc. 2022. Google Earth (Version 7.3.4.8642) [Software]. Available from earth.google.com

4.h.	Result in loss of oak woodlands or other non-timber woodlands?			X	

Discussion: There are no oak woodlands on the project site; however small numbers of coast live oak trees are present in the Monterey pine stand in the southern portion of the site, and in small numbers elsewhere on the site. Although Project activities may affect some individual oak trees, the Project would not remove oak woodland or convert oak woodland to some other type of habitat. Project activities could impact existing oaks through the spread of Phytophthora, which is responsible for Sudden Oak Death. However, implementation of BMP BIO-24 would minimize the potential impacts from plant pathogens. Therefore, impacts resulting in loss of oak woodlands or other non-timber trees would be less than significant.

The project site supports other non-timber woodlands including a eucalyptus woodland (310 acres) and Monterey pine stand (3.35 acres; Table 3, Figure 8). The eucalyptus woodland is a non-native vegetation community and is the result of plantings from a failed logging operation. While a majority of the existing eucalyptus forest is not native, it provides habitat for a variety of wildlife. As described previously, eucalyptus woodland supports habitat for overwintering populations of monarch butterflies, and breeding habitat for birds and to a lesser extent for bats. However, the overall importance of introduced eucalyptus woodlands as habitat for native wildlife is mixed, as studies have reported a mix of higher and lower species diversity (arthropods, small mammals, birds, and amphibians), with some taxa having higher diversity in eucalyptus woodlands compared to native woodlands and some taxa having lower diversity. The Project site itself is known to support numerous species of birds; supports the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat; and the Allen's hummingbird, both California Species of Special Concern; and likely supports other native fauna. However, because eucalyptus woodlands have deep litter depth and dense canopies, they tend to have low abundance of native plant species.

In contrast, the site supports a comparatively small amount of Monterey Pine woodland. The Monterey pine is native to California but only three native stands occur in California including Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo Counties. It is an ornamental on the Project site and elsewhere where it occurs. Even though the existing Monterey pine stand is not naturally occurring, it provides food and nesting opportunities for a variety of wildlife, including small mammals and birds, and bats.

Of the existing non-timber woodlands that are present on the site, the project would conduct fuel reduction activities that would impact up to 158 acres of eucalyptus woodland and up to 1.6 acres of Monterey pine woodland (Table 3). Another 6.5 acres of eucalyptus woodland and 0.4 acres of Monterey pine woodland would be permanently removed for construction of the South Ridge Fire Road and temporary access roads[1]. Non-timber species that may be removed within these woodlands include Douglas fir, red elderberry, red alder, and arroyo willow, among others. Due to their dominance on the site, eucalyptus would be the primary non-timber species that would be impacted. Given the small amount of Monterey pine that is present on the site and that the entire pine stand would not be removed, this would not be a significant impact. Likewise, the Project would not involve whole removal of eucalyptus woodland. However, portions or patches of these woodlands

[1] Temporary access roads would be constructed on existing legacy roads currently occupied by narrow footpaths within eucalyptus woodland. For the sake of this analysis, a 10-foot-wide path along those paths was assumed, even though a portion of impact area is already developed.

would be removed, specifically for non-shaded fuel breaks. When considered together, these activities could alter these non-timber woodlands in such a way that it would alter the functions and values of the habitat for wildlife. In the absence of mitigation and BMPs, these activities may be potentially significant.

The BMPs that the County would follow to address impacts associated with removal of non-timber woodlands are listed below and presented in Appendix A include:

- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-27 Vegetation and Tree Removal

In addition to compliance with the County's RMP BMPs, the County would implement **Mitigation Measure BLGY-6**.

> **Mitigation Measure BLGY-6. Fuel Management Plan.** The County shall prepare a management plan to ensure that sensitive resources are not impacted by fuel reduction activities. The plan shall be prepared by a wildland resources expert in coordination with a biologist/ecologist knowledgeable about the habitats. The plan shall include the following:
>
> - Describe the purpose of the management plan and focus on protection of biological resources while reducing fuels and providing buffer zones.
> - Identify the different vegetation treatments associated with fuel reduction areas or zones, if applicable.
> - Describe the sensitive resources and how they will be protected. In particular, the plan shall include protection measures for special-status wildlife that occur or are known to occur in non-timber woodland and other habitats that would be impacted by the Project site including the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, California red-legged frog, San Francisco garter snake, burrowing owl, crotch bumble bee, monarch butterfly, special-status birds, common nesting birds and roosting bats; and special-status plants including Hickman's cinquefoil, Marin checker lily, bent-flowered fiddleneck, western leatherwood, perennial goldfields, Oregon polemonium, and San Mateo tree lupine.
> - Provide BMPs for fuel management, which may include the following:
>   - seasonal restrictions on removal of vegetation
>   - restrictions on removal of native vegetation
>   - pre-activity surveys for sensitive species (e.g., special-status plants and wildlife)
>   - protection measures for sensitive species and habitats (e.g., fencing)
>   - worker environmental awareness training
>   - vegetation disposal guidelines
>   - describe protection measures for sensitive resources such as temporary fencing and worker training
>   - map sensitive resources (e.g., dusky-footed woodrat nests, rare plants [if found]) with GPS or other method that allows them to be searched for in subsequent years
>   - biological monitoring requirements
>   - guidelines for herbicide treatments and herbicides that should be avoided
>   - avoidance of removal of native species to the extent practicable
>   - description of sensitive habitats to avoid

With the implementation of the County's RMP BMPs and Mitigation Measure BLGY-6, potential impacts on non-timber woodlands will be less than significant.

Source:

CNPS. 2022. A Manual of California Vegetation, Online Edition. http://www.cnps.org/cnps/vegetation/; searched on [August, 2022]. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, CA.

Fork, S. A. Woolfolk, A. Akhavan, E. Van Dyke, S. Murphy, B. Candiloro. 2016. Biodiversity effects and rates of spread of nonnative eucalypt woodlands in central California. Ecological Applications, 25(8), 2015, pp. 2306-2319.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Draft Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. February 2022.

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC. 2020. County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Final Environmental Impact Report. Prepared for the County of San Mateo. July 2022.

San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Quarry County Park Master Plan (https://www.smcgov.org/parks/news/quarry-park-master-plan-final-draft-posted)

Sawyer, J.O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. Evans. 2009. A Manual of California Vegetation 2nd edition. California Native Plant Society. Sacramento, CA.

Wolf, K. M, and J.M. DiTomaso. 2016. Management of blue gum eucalyptus in California requires region-specific consideration. *California Agriculture*, 70(1). http://dx.doi.org/10.3733/ca.v070n01p39 Retrieved from https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9db933pg

WRA. 2018. Biological Resources Assessment San Mateo County Quarry Park Master Plan Project, El Granada, San Mateo County, California.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
5.a.	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?				X

Discussion: A records search within the California Historical Resources Information System conducted by the staff at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) at Sonoma State University returned files for one recorded historical resource that intersects with the proposed project area. The resource is known as the El Granada Historic District, and it was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1981 on behalf of the County of San Mateo Planning Department.

In 1905, a master plan for the town of El Granada was designed by American architect Daniel Burnham. He laid out the town in a series of concentric semi-circle streets overlooking Half Moon Bay, punctuated by avenues radiating out from a focal point (conceived as a casino) on the coast highway (State Route 1). The beaux-arts style plan was commissioned by the Ocean Shore Railroad Company, who was developing a 38-mile-long passenger line between San Francisco and Santa Cruz and sought to create a resort town along the route similar to Carmel-By-The-Sea. Due to a financial downfall following the 1906 earthquake and fire in San Francisco the resort aspect of the town never

materialized, but the site plan was largely built out and remains evident in the circulation patterns of El Granada today. The Historic Resource Inventory Form from 1981 indicates that the town is significant for its beaux-arts planning and design, and for its association with Burnham, who is best known for planning the World's Columbian Exhibition in Chicago in 1892-93.

The eligible historic district intersects Quarry County Park at two locations: at the park's western edge, where Santa Maria Avenue, one of the radial avenues associated with Burnham's design, terminates at the park's parking lot; and in the park's southern parcels (Mirada Surf) divided by State Route 1 adjacent to the site where the Granada Station (the railroad station operated by the Ocean Shore Railroad Company, non-extant) was located during the early years of the town's development. The proposed project vegetation management activities and facility improvements would not affect any extant contributing features of the resource and would therefore have no impact on the district's ability to convey its historic significance. Furthermore, several cultural resource studies have been conducted within the project area and no other historical resources have been identified. As such, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of any historical resources pursuant to Section 15064.5.

Source:

David Chavez & Associates for Daniel R. Osborne, Architecture and Landscape Architecture. 1998. *Cultural Resources Investigations or the Mirada Surf Development Project, San Mateo County, California.* May 1998.

Urban/Rural Conservation for San Mateo County Planning. 1981. State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resources Inventory form. *El Granada*. May 1981

5.b.	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Section 15064.5?			X	

Discussion: A significant impact would occur if the project could cause a substantial adverse change to an archaeological resource through physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource. Results of the NWIC records search on June 30, 2022 (File No. 21-1944) identified one previously recorded cultural resource that intersects the project area. As discussed in section 5.a., the cultural resource that intersects the project area, P-41-000550, is the El Granada Historic District, which was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. The project would not affect any extant contributing features of the El Granada Historic District and would therefore have no impact on the district's ability to convey its historic significance.

Additionally, the NWIC has record of 12 previous cultural resources reports that overlap the project area. These cultural resources reports are listed below. None of these reports indicate the presence of a previously recorded cultural resource within the proposed project area of disturbance.

Report S-003082 (1970): An Archaeological and Historical Reconnaissance of a Portion of the San Mateo County Coastside

Report S-003112 (1979): San Mateo Mid-Coastside Project No. C-06-1022-110, Intertie Pipeline, Archaeological Site SMA-149 (letter report); San Mateo County, Archaeological Site 149 located on the east side of Highway 1 in the Miramar area of Half Moon Bay (letter report); San Mateo County Project, C-06-1022-010, Intertie Pipeline, Auger Boring Log, Vicinity of the Easternmost Extent of Archaeological Site SMa-149

Report S-006381 (1984): Archaeological Survey Report, Applications 26995-26997, J.L. and Ferol Johnson, San Mateo County

Report S-020736 (1998): Cultural Resource Investigations for the Mirada Surf Development Project, San Mateo County, California

Report S-026108 (2002): An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Hayes/Bienenstock Parcel (APN 048-025-110, -120, & -140) on Coronado Avenue in the Community of Miramar, San Mateo County, California

Report S-027954 (2004): An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Licato Parcel (APN 048-024-290) at 491 Coronado Avenue in the Community of Miramar, San Mateo County, California

Report S-030039 (2005): An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Two Gehrels Parcels (APNS 048-021-320 & -330) on Magellan Avenue in the Community of Miramar, San Mateo County, California.

Report S-033514 (2006): A Phase I Archaeological Assessment of the Stebbins Residential Property, Granada Sanitary District, APN 048-021-230

Report S-034097 (2007): Archaeological Survey Report for the Phase 3 El Granada Transmission Pipeline Replacement Project, San Mateo County, California; Archaeological Monitoring Plan for the Phase 3 El Granada Transmission Pipeline Replacement Project, San Mateo County, California

Report S-034152 (2007): Archaeological Survey Report for "Wicklow Western Slope Fuels Management Action Plan" Project on POST Property in El Granada, San Mateo County, California

Report S-046068 (2007 and 2008): Historic Property Survey Report, Mirada Surf Coastal Trail, San Mateo County, California; Archaeological Survey Report for the CalTrans Local Assistance Project Mirada Surf Coastal Trail near El Granada County of San Mateo, California 04-SMA-0-CR, CML-5835 (044); A Cultural Resources Evaluation for the Coastal Trail Project near the Mirada Surf Development in El Granada, San Mateo County, California [FHWA070512A]; Section 106 Approval for FY 06/07 RTP (FHWA) Non-Motorized Project RT-41-005, Mirada Surf Coastal Trail, County of San Mateo, Parks and Recreation

Report S-050923 (2017): Historic Property Survey Report, for the Proposed Mid-Coast Multi-Modal Trail Project in an Unincorporated Area in San Mateo County, California, 4-SMA-1, PM 31.18-32.03, EA 4K040, E-FIS 0417000246; Archaeological Survey Report, Mid-Coast Multi-Modal Trail, San Mateo County, California; Environmentally Sensitive Area Action Plan, Mid-Coast Multi-Modal Trail, San Mateo County, California

The Quarry County Park area contains areas mapped as Moderate to High sensitivity for buried resource potential based on landform age and soil age data and overall was given an archaeological sensitivity score of 3, which is Moderate (Horizon 2019). No archaeological resources are known to occur within the area of the Quarry County Park boundaries proposed for project activity (Figure 5) based on the CHRIS record search results (NWIC 2022). Further, tribal outreach efforts did not identify areas of known sensitivity for potential resources on the project site (see section 18.a). There is the potential that archaeological resources could be encountered during project-related ground-disturbing activities. If any such resources were encountered and found to qualify as an historical resource or unique archaeological resource for CEQA purposes, project-related impacts to the resources could be significant.

The San Mateo County RMP Manual (San Mateo County 2020) identifies best management practices (BMPs) to avoid and minimize potential environmental impacts during maintenance activities. The County would implement the relevant BMPs as identified below as part of the project design to protect cultural resources. Prior to ground-disturbing activities, the County would retain a qualified cultural resources specialist to conduct a field inventory to assess the potential presence of cultural resources. Monitoring would be conducted during project activity in areas determined to be sensitive. Workers would receive education training prior to project activities. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of an archaeological resource, the County would require work to halt and provide appropriate documentation and treatment, as warranted. With implementation of these BMPs, the potential impact upon archaeological resources would be less than significant.

- BMP CUL-2 Field Inventory for Highly or Moderately Sensitive Areas (Sensitivity Ratings 3-5), and Areas of Unknown Sensitivity
- BMP CUL-4 Construction Monitoring
- BMP CUL-5 Conduct Pre-Maintenance Educational Training
- BMP CUL-6 Address Discovery of Cultural Remains or Historic or Paleontological Artifacts Appropriately

Source:

County of San Mateo. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. July 2020 (https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=)

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC (Horizon). 2019. Cultural Resource Assessment Report, County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program. April 2019.

Northwest Information Center (NWIC). 2022. File No.: 21-1944. Held on file with MIG.

5.c.	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X	

Discussion: A significant impact would occur if the project would disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. There is no indication that the project area has been used for burial purposes in the recent or distant past. While it is unlikely that human remains would be encountered in the project area, damage to human remains, if encountered, would be a potentially significant impact. The County would implement BMPs CUL-2, CUL-4, CUL-5, and CUL-6 from the San Mateo County RMP Manual (see section 5.b above) to ensure that if human remains are encountered and they are determined to be Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission would be contacted, and the remains would be treated appropriately. With implementation of these measures, the impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC (Horizon). 2019. Cultural Resource Assessment Report, County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program. April 2019.

Northwestern Information Center (NWIC). 2022. File No.: 21-1944 (2022). Held on file with MIG.

6. ENERGY. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
6.a.	Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X	

Discussion: Construction activities associated with the proposed project would require the use of heavy-duty, off-road equipment and construction-related vehicle trips that would combust fuel, primarily diesel and gasoline. Heavy-duty construction equipment would be required to comply with

CARB's airborne toxic control measures, which restrict heavy-duty diesel vehicle idling to five minutes. Heavy-duty construction equipment would be required to create shaded fuel breaks and to construct a fire road. Both fuel breaks and fire roads provide firefighters access to the site and allow for the control of potential wildfires; therefore, project energy consumption would not be unnecessary. In addition, the project would comply with the County RMP, as listed below, which limits idling time to a maximum of 5 minutes. The project, therefore, would not be wasteful or inefficient in its energy consumption. The impact would be less than significant.

- BMP GEN-19 Dust Control Measures

Source: Project Plans

6.b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.				X

Discussion: The proposed project involves fuel reduction measures and the construction of temporary roads, a fire road, and a vault toilet, and would not increase energy consumption over the long term. It would not conflict with nor obstruct a state or local plan adopted for the purposes of increasing the amount of renewable energy or energy efficiency.

Source: Project Plans

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:

Consistent with the California Supreme Court decision in California Building Industry Association v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (62 Cal. 4th 369; 2015), the impact discussion presented below focuses on the project's effect on geology and soils rather than the effect of geologic hazards and site conditions upon the proposed project. The project is evaluated to determine whether it would create or exacerbate soil or geologic conditions identified in each of the above significance threshold criteria.

	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
7.a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving the following, or create a situation that results in:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? *Note: Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42 and the County Geotechnical Hazards Synthesis Map.*			X	

Discussion: The greater San Francisco Bay Area is an area of high seismic activity due to its tectonic setting. Surface rupture can occur when the ground surface is displaced due to fault movement at the earth's surface during seismic events. Such hazards are generally assumed to occur in the vicinity of an active fault trace as they represent an existing plane of weakness. Active faults in the region include the San Andreas and the Seal Cove-San Gregorio faults.

The State of California, through the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (Alquist-Priolo Act) prohibits the development of structures for human occupancy across active fault traces without an adequate geotechnical study to demonstrate the hazard is not present. Under the Alquist-Priolo Act, the California Geological Survey (CGS) establishes zones on either side of an active fault that delineates areas considered most susceptible to surface fault rupture. These zones are referred to as fault rupture hazard zones and are shown on official maps published by the CGS.

The closest active fault to the project area mapped under the Alquist-Priolo Act is Seal Cove Fault, which is oriented northwest-southeast and located approximately 1.4 miles southwest of the project site. The project site is located well outside of the fault rupture hazard zone for Seal Cove Fault (CGS 2022). In addition, the project site is located approximately 4.4 miles southwest of the San Andreas Fault and well outside of the respective fault rupture hazard zone. Although fault rupture is not necessarily bound by the limits of the hazard zone, it is considered unlikely to occur in areas outside of the mapped fault rupture hazard zone. Therefore, based on the project location and the nature of the project, the potential for damage to property or injury/loss of life to people as a result of fault rupture is considered less than significant.

Source:

California Geological Survey (CGS). 2022. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	

Discussion: Seismic activity in the region is dominated by the San Andreas Fault system, which includes the San Andreas, Hayward, and Calaveras faults. According to the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities (WGCEP), there is a 72 percent likelihood that an earthquake of magnitude 6.7 or higher will occur in the Bay Area between 2014 and 2037 (USGS WGCEP 2015).

The Metropolitan Transportation Commissions and Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC/ABAG) developed earthquake shaking hazard mapping, which predicts the potential for ground shaking during major earthquakes on the active faults in the Bay Area (MTC/ABAG 2022). The project site is located in an area with severe and violent earthquake shaking potential. The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet. The project does not include the construction of any habitable spaces. Therefore, the proposed project would not increase the exposure of Quarry County Park visitors or associated structures to increased risk of loss, injury, or death at the project site due to seismic ground shaking. Impacts would be less than significant.

Source:

Metropolitan Transportation Commissions and Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC/ABAG). 2022. https://mtc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4a6f3f1259df42eab29b35dfcd086fc8

United States Geological Survey (USGS) Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities (WGCEP). 2015. Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast Version 3. http://wgcep.org/

iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction and differential settling?				X

Discussion: Seismic shaking can trigger secondary ground-failures caused by liquefaction. Liquefaction is a process where loose wet soils temporarily lose bearing strength during a seismic event and behave like a liquid. Liquefaction can result in ground settlement or lateral spreading. CGS's Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation (EQ ZAPP) show that small portions of the project site are located in a Liquefaction Hazard Zone (CGS 2022).

The geotechnical investigation prepared for the South Ridge Fire Road found that, due to the presence of freely draining soils, shallow depth to consolidated soils, and relative deep depth to groundwater at the project site, the project site has low susceptibility to liquefaction during a seismic event (Pacific Watershed Associates 2022). The project geotechnical investigation concluded that, because the proposed project does not entail the design or construction of a structure for human occupancy, consideration of design elements to mitigate the effects of liquefaction on an engineered structure is not required (Pacific Watershed Associates 2022). As a result, there would be no impact.

Source:

California Geological Survey (CGS). 2022. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/

Pacific Watershed Associates. 2022. Basis of Design and Focused Engineering Geologic Investigation for Quarry Park Fire Road Extension Design and Construction at Quarry Park. March 24, 2022.

iv. Landslides?			X	

Discussion: Landslides generally consist of any type of ground movement that occurs primarily due to gravity acting on an over-steepened slope and can occur due to excessive precipitation, man-made activities, or induced by seismic activity. Areas that are more prone to landslides include old landslides, the bases or tops of steep or filled slopes, and drainage hollows. CGS's Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation (EQ ZAPP) show that portions of the project site are located in a Landslide Hazard Zone (CGS 2022).

Earthquake-induced landslide hazard susceptibility in the Montara Mountain 7½-minute quadrangle was evaluated by CGS in 2019 and resulted in the delineation of Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation (EZRI) for earthquake-induced landslide risk (Pacific Watershed Associates 2022). Portions of the EZRI for earthquake-induced landslide risk fall within the project area. According to the geotechnical investigation prepared for the South Ridge Fire Road, design cut slope heights should be minimized to the extent feasible and limited to 10 feet in height to minimize increases in landslide risk associated with road construction grading. Excavation of cut slopes within the EZRI for earthquake-induced landslide risk should be minimized and avoided if possible. With implementation of the recommendations contained within the project geotechnical investigation, this impact would be less than significant.

Source:

California Geological Survey (CGS). 2022. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/

Pacific Watershed Associates. 2022. Basis of Design and Focused Engineering Geologic Investigation for Quarry Park Fire Road Extension Design and Construction at Quarry Park. March 24, 2022.

v.	Coastal cliff/bluff instability or erosion? *Note to reader: This question is looking at instability under current conditions. Future, potential instability is looked at in Section 7 (Climate Change).*				X

Discussion: The project areas within Quarry County Park are located adjacent to El Granada to the northeast. A portion of the Quarry County Park is located south of State Route 1 along the Pacific Ocean coastline at Mirada Surf (Figure 3); however, proposed project activities would not occur south of State Route 1 (Figure 5). There would be no impact related to coastal cliff/bluff instability or erosion.

Source: Project Plans

7.b.	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?		X		

Discussion: As discussed in section 10.a, there is potential for project fuel reduction activities to increase soil compaction and erosion through substantial vegetation removal. However, the removed vegetation material would be chipped and spread as mulch over treated areas to minimize soil erosion and compaction. The mulch application would reduce the potential for substantial soil erosion.

Construction of the South Ridge Fire Road would require land-disturbing activities such as grading, earthmoving, backfilling, and compaction that could expose soils to the effects of wind and stormwater runoff and could result in erosion or loss of topsoil and result in a potentially significant impact. Temporary access roads needed to access fuel reduction areas with heavy equipment (e.g., chippers, masticators, etc.) would be constructed along existing legacy roads (Figure 8) to minimize ground disturbance. As described in more detail in section 10.a under Hydrology and Water Quality, temporary access roads and the South Ridge Fire Road would be designed based on County standards, and BMPs specified in the County's RMP Manual (identified in section 10.a) would be implemented to minimize the potential for erosion. Applicable BMPs include GEN-22, EC-6 through EC-14, and SC-1 through SC-8 as presented in Appendix A. Topsoil from construction of South Ridge Fire Road would be stockpiled on site for later use as fill. In addition, the project would be required to implement Mitigation Measure HYD-1, which requires development of a project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which would further reduce potential erosion impacts related to project construction activities. Implementation of the erosion control BMPs and Mitigation Measure HYD-1 would reduce construction impacts related to potential soil erosion of the loss of topsoil to a less-than-significant level.

There would be no net change in drainage patterns of the existing park as the South Ridge Fire Road has been designed to follow as much as possible the existing contours of the project area it would affect. Construction of the vault toilet and ongoing fuel reduction activities would have no impact on drainage patterns.

Implementation of San Mateo County RMP erosion control BMPs and Mitigation Measure HYD-1 would effectively prevent or minimize the potential for siltation and erosion into surface waters during fuel reduction activities including temporary access roads and fire road construction. As a result, the potential for erosion impacts or loss of topsoil during project activities would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual.
https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

7.c.	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, severe erosion, liquefaction or collapse?			X	

Discussion: See discussion in section 7.a. The proposed project would not increase the exposure of Quarry County Park users or associated structures to increased risk of loss, injury, or death at the project site due to fault rupture, seismic ground shaking, or lateral spreading because the project is not located in an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone and does not propose habitable structures.

Portions of the project site are subject to landslide hazards. Implementation of vegetation treatments for wildfire fuel reduction would have minimal ground disturbance effect and would not increase the potential for landslides or exacerbate landslide hazard. The South Ridge Fire Road geotechnical investigation contains design recommendations addressing landslide hazard. With implementation of these recommendations, impacts related to landslides would be less than significant. The project geological investigation also concluded the project site has low susceptibility to liquefaction and therefore design elements to mitigate the effects of liquefaction on an engineered structure is not required (Pacific Watershed Associates 2022). The project would have no impact related to liquefaction.

See section 7.b for detailed discussion of the project's potential impacts related to soil erosion. With the implementation of erosion control BMPs included in the County of San Mateo RMP Manual (EC-6 through EC-14), the project would have a less-than-significant impact related to soil erosion and would not cause severe erosion.

In summary, due to the geologic characteristics of the project site, the design of South Ridge Fire Road, and erosion control BMPs incorporated into the project, the project would not cause a geologic unit or soil to become unstable and result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, severe erosion, liquefaction, or collapse. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

California Geological Survey (CGS). 2022. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/

Metropolitan Transportation Commissions and Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC/ABAG). 2022. https://mtc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4a6f3f1259df42eab29b35dfcd086fc8

Pacific Watershed Associates. 2022. Basis of Design and Focused Engineering Geologic Investigation for Quarry Park Fire Road Extension Design and Construction at Quarry Park. March 24, 2022.

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

United States Geological Survey (USGS) Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities (WGCEP). 2015. Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast Version 3. http://wgcep.org/

7.d.	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of Uniform Building Code, creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?				X

Discussion: The project geotechnical investigation describes the project site's subsurface soils as a relatively thin (2 – 3 ft thick) unit of sandy silt (ML) overlying deeply weathered granitic colluvium produced from the granitic rocks of Montara Mountain. The project geotechnical investigation concluded that, due to the non-plastic soils encountered during site investigation and the results of Atterberg Limits tests, expansive soil conditions are not believed to be present at the site and, as such, expansive soils would not impact the project. Additionally, based on analyses of site soils, no soils were encountered meeting the criteria for expansive soils identified in Section 1803.5.3 of the 2019 California Building Code (CBC). No impact would occur.

Source:

Pacific Watershed Associates. 2022. Basis of Design and Focused Engineering Geologic Investigation for Quarry Park Fire Road Extension Design and Construction at Quarry Park. March 24, 2022.

7.e.	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X

Discussion: The proposed vault toilet would utilize an underground wastewater holding tank that would be regularly pumped and transported for disposal at a wastewater treatment plant. As such, the project would not include the use of a septic system. No impact would occur.

Source: Project Plans

7.f.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X	

Discussion: The project involves vegetation management and facility improvements at Quarry County Park including construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet. Implementation of the project would require ground-disturbing activities, including extensive cuts and fill for the construction of the South Ridge Fire Road.

As discussed in section 5.b, there is potential that paleontological resources could be encountered during project-related ground-disturbing activities. If any such resources were encountered and found to qualify as an archaeological or paleontological resource, project-related impacts to the resources could be significant. Implementation of BMPs CUL-2, CUL-4, CUL-5, and CUL-6 would reduce the potential for such impacts to less than significant by requiring field inventory, construction monitoring, worker education and training, and work stoppage in the event of an unanticipated discovery of an archaeological or paleontological resource to provide appropriate documentation and treatment, as warranted.

Source: Project Plans

8. **CLIMATE CHANGE**. Would the project:				
	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
8.a. Generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (including methane), either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	

Discussion: Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and affect regulation of the Earth's temperature are known as greenhouse gases (GHGs). The six most common GHGs are:

- Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
- Methane (CH_4)
- Nitrous oxide (N_2O)
- Sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (FHCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)

GHGs that contribute the climate change are a different type of pollutant than criteria or hazardous air pollutants, as previously discussed in section 3, Air Quality, because climate change is global in scale, both in terms of causes and effects. Some GHGs are emitted to the atmosphere naturally by biological and geological processes such as evaporation (water vapor), aerobic respiration (carbon dioxide), and off-gassing from low oxygen environments such as swamps or exposed permafrost (methane); however, GHG emissions from human activities such as fuel combustion (e.g., carbon dioxide) and refrigerants use (e.g., hydrofluorocarbons) significantly contribute to overall GHG concentrations in the atmosphere, which affects climate regulation and results a changing climate globally. Examples of the effects of global climate change include rising temperatures, increased severe weather events such as drought and flooding.

GHGs can remain in the atmosphere long after they are emitted. The potential for a GHG to absorb and trap heat in the atmosphere is considered its global warming potential (GWP). The reference gas for measuring GWP is CO_2, which has a GWP of one. By comparison, CH_4 has a GWP of 25, which means that one molecule of CH_4 has 25 times the effect on global warming as one molecule of CO_2. Multiplying the estimated emissions for non-CO_2 GHGs by their GWP determines their carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e), which enables a project's combined global warming potential to be expressed in terms of mass CO_2 emissions[2]. Most often, GHG emissions associated with projects are referred to in terms of metric tons of CO_2e, or $MTCO_2e$.

The proposed project consists of wildfire fuel reduction and short-term construction activities. Wildfire fuel reduction activities would include mechanical treatment, manual treatment, large tree overstory removal, large tree ladder fuel removal, re-arrangement through mastication or mowing, and herbicides. These fuel reduction activities are described in the County's RMP Manual and are currently used at Quarry Park. The project does not introduce new fuel reduction methods. Rather, it expands existing fuel reduction activities into new areas. In total, the project would expand the County's existing fuel reduction area to include approximately 269 additional acres of parkland. Activities in small treatment areas are expected to be completed in approximately 1 to 3 weeks, and activities in large treatment areas are expected to be completed in approximately 6 to 12 weeks. Other short-term construction activities include the construction of several 10-foot-wide temporary

[2] This calculation method is used for CARB's Mandatory GHG Reporting program (MRR) and is consistent with 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines. The current MRR inventory uses 100-year global warming potential (GWP) values from the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report.

access roads, the construction of a 2,225-foot long, 12-foot-wide fire road, and the installation of a vault toilet with a paved path for building access.

The proposed project would generate GHGs from worker and vendor trips to and from the project and from the combustion of gasoline and diesel fuel from the use of equipment described in section 3b. Vegetation removal could also release CO_2 that was stored in that vegetation. The GHG emissions generated by the project would be minor for several reasons.

First, the project is small in scale and subject to regulations that would reduce emissions, such as the In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation described in section 3b. Second, as described below in section 8b, the project would be consistent with the San Mateo County's Government Operations Climate Action Plan (GOCAP). Third, the County's fuel reduction activities are in response to the Quarry Park Master Plan recommendations for managing wildfire threats and would potentially prevent a greater amount of emissions from a large wildfire event. Finally, it is noted the BAAQMD does not maintain thresholds of significance for assessing the significance of construction emissions, noting in the Justification Report that GHG emissions from construction are a small portion of a project's lifetime GHGs (BAAQMD 2022 pg. 10). For the reasons outlined above, the impact of GHG emissions generated by this project would be less than significant.

Source:

Bay Area Air Quality Management District. 2022. Justification Report: CEQA Thresholds for Evaluating the Significance of Climate Impacts from Land Use Projects and Plans. April 2022. https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/files/planning-and-research/ceqa/ceqa-thresholds-2022/justification-report-pdf.pdf?la=en

California Air Resources Board (CARB). 2017. Climate Change Scoping Plan. November 2017. https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scoping_plan_2017.pdf

_____2022. Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update. May 10, 2022. https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/2022-draft-sp.pdf

8.b.	Conflict with an applicable plan (including a local climate action plan), policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				X

Discussion: The State of California has numerous regulations and executive directives aimed at reducing GHG emissions. In 2006, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) was signed into law. AB 32 codifies certain statewide GHG emission reduction targets and required CARB to prepare a Scoping Plan that outlines the main State strategies for reducing GHGs. SB-32 and AB-197 were authorized in 2016. SB-32 required the reduction of GHG emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. AB-197 gives the Legislature additional authority over CARB to ensure the most successful strategies for lowering emissions are implemented, and requires CARB to, "protect the state's most impacted and disadvantaged communities …[and] consider the social costs of the emissions of greenhouse gases." In September 2018, Governor Brown issued EO B-15-18, which directs the State to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible and no later than 2045 and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter.

In December 2017, CARB adopted the second update to the Scoping Plan, the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* (CARB 2017). The primary objective of the *2017 Scoping Plan Update* is to identify the measures needed to achieve the mid-term GHG reduction target for 2030 (i.e., reduce emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030), as established under Executive Order B-30-15 and SB 32. The *2017 Scoping Plan Update* identifies an increasing need for coordination among state, regional, and local governments to achieve the GHG emissions reductions that can be gained from local land use planning and decisions. It notes emission reduction targets set by more

than one hundred local jurisdictions in the state could result in emissions reductions of up to 45 million $MTCO_2e$ and 83 million $MTCO_2e$ by 2020 and 2050, respectively. To achieve these goals, the *2017 Scoping Plan Update* includes a recommended plan-level efficiency threshold of six metric tons or less per capita by 2030 and no more than two metric tons by 2050. A Draft 2022 Scoping Plan was released in May 2022. The plan presents a scenario for California to meet the State goal of reducing GHG emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. The Draft 2022 Scoping Plan is expected to be finalized in the fall of 2022.

San Mateo County has relevant plans for addressing GHG emissions. In 2020, the County released the Government Operations Climate Action Plan (GOCAP). The GOCAP includes County actions in energy and water, transportation, solid waste, and carbon sequestration in order to achieve carbon neutrality from County operations by 2035.

The proposed project is a unique county project involving activities that do not have the potential to interfere with state plans adopted for reducing GHG emissions (e.g., CARB's 2017 Scoping Plan). The project also would not conflict with or interfere implementation of the County's GOCAP). The GOCAP aims to reduce GHGs and achieve carbon neutrality from County operations by 2035. The plan contains goals related to energy and water consumption, transportation, and solid waste that do not apply to the project. It also contains the carbon sequestration goal to offset 14% of carbon emissions by 2035.

The proposed project would not involve the construction or operation of buildings, which are the focus of the County's energy goals. The project would not contribute to urban growth or introduce new long-term sources of air pollutants or GHG emissions. The project activities are temporary, small in scale, and would not generate large amount of GHGs. During the fire road construction, cut and fill volumes would be balanced and debris from the project would mainly be chipped and remain on site. By preventing wildfires, which would release currently sequestered carbon from existing vegetation, the project is also consistent with carbon sequestration goals. The carbon sequestration focus area consists of two actions: to analyze carbon sequestration strategies for County parks and land and to replace synthetic fertilizer with compost. The project does not conflict with either action as it does not prevent the implementation of any existing carbon sequestration plan and does not include the application of synthetic fertilizers. Furthermore, the project seeks to reduce the risk of wildfires, which would emit GHGs, making the project consistent with GOCAP's carbon neutrality goal. For these reasons, the project would not conflict with the County's climate action plan.

Source:

County of San Mateo. 2020. 2020 Government Operations Climate Action Plan: Pathway to Carbon Neutrality https://www.smcsustainability.org/wp-content/uploads/Attachment-A-Government-Operations-Climate-Action-Plan-Pathway-to-Carbon-Neutrality.pdf

8.c.	Result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use, such that it would release significant amounts of GHG emissions, or significantly reduce GHG sequestering?			X	

Discussion: The proposed project would reduce wildfire fuels by thinning or removing vegetation on 269 acres within Quarry County Park. Vegetation would also be removed for construction of South Ridge Fire Road. The predominant vegetation community impacted by these activities is eucalyptus groves (see section 4.a under Biological Resources). As discussed in section 8.b. above, proposed vegetation removal could release CO_2 that was stored in that vegetation. However, the County's fuel reduction activities are proposed in response to the Quarry Park Master Plan recommendations for managing wildfire threats and would potentially prevent a greater amount of emissions from a large wildfire event. Further, while the project would remove vegetation, a substantial portion of the project site would remain vegetated and would continue to retain the potential to sequester GHGs. As such,

the project would not significantly affect Quarry County Park's sequestration potential. Therefore, this impact is considered less than significant. **Source:** Project Plans San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Quarry County Park Master Plan. https://www.smcgov.org/parks/news/quarry-park-master-plan-final-draft-posted					
8.d.	Expose new or existing structures and/or infrastructure (e.g., leach fields) to accelerated coastal cliff/bluff erosion due to rising sea levels?				X
Discussion: See discussion under section 7.a.v. The project site, Quarry County Park, is located adjacent to El Granada to the northeast. A portion of the Quarry County Park is located south of Highway 1 along the Pacific Ocean coastline; however, project work would not occur along the coastline. As such, the project would not place new structures along coastal cliffs/bluffs. There would be no impact related to coastal cliff/bluff instability or erosion due to rising sea levels. **Source:** Project Plans					
8.e.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving sea level rise?				X
Discussion: The affected parcels of Quarry County Park are located east of Highway 1 outside of areas subject to sea level rise. The project would not place structures in an area subject to sea level rise. The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving sea level rise. There would be no impact. **Source:** Project Plans					
8.f.	Place structures within an anticipated 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
Discussion: According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the project site is located in Zone X, an area of minimal flood hazard (FIRM 06081C0140E, effective 10/16/2012). As such, the project site is not located in a 100-year flood hazard area; the proposed new vault toilet and new fire access road would not be located in a flood hazard area. There would be no impact. **Source:** Project Plans Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2012. FEMA Flood Map Center. FIRM 06081C0140E. https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home					
8.g.	Place within an anticipated 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?				X

Discussion: See section 8.f above.

Source:

Project Plans

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2012. FEMA Flood Map Center. FIRM 06081C0140E. https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:					
		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
9.a.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials (e.g., pesticides, herbicides, other toxic substances, or radioactive material)?			X	

Discussion: The project proposal includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet. Following construction of South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet, no routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials would be required in relation to these project components. Periodic, routine fuel reduction and treatment activities would involve the use of motorized equipment, which would require the use of fuels and oils, and spot-application of herbicide to control the regrowth of invasive species including eucalyptus, jubata grass, cape ivy, and other invasive species. Due to the nature of the project, these hazardous materials would be used on an ongoing basis for several weeks to months at a time, depending upon the length of a specific fuel reduction and treatment period. The San Mateo County RMP Manual includes best management practices (BMPs) to avoid and minimize potential environmental impacts during maintenance activities (San Mateo County 2020). The BMPs included within the RMP Manual apply to vegetation management activities that occur in County parks. The project would implement the following BMP from the RMP Manual related to operational storage and disposal of hazardous materials.

- BMP GEN-6 Hazardous Materials Storage/Disposal:

With implementation of BMP GEN-6, the project's routine use, storage, and disposal of fuels and oils and herbicides related to fuel reduction and treatment would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. (https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

9.b.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X	

Discussion: Project construction would require the storage and use of certain hazardous materials, such as fuels and oils, routinely used during construction activities. Inadvertent release of these materials into the environment could adversely impact soil, surface waters, or groundwater quality and potentially result in a significant hazard. The San Mateo County RMP impacts during maintenance activities (San Mateo County 2020). The BMPs included within the RMP Manual apply to construction activities that occur in County parks. The project would implement the following BMPs from the RMP Manual related to storage and disposal of hazardous materials during construction activities.

- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-8 Waste Management
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking
- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance and Fueling
- BMP GEN-12 Concrete, Grout, and Mortar Application
- BMP GEN-14 Concrete Washout Facilities
- BMP GEN-16 Timing of Work

In addition to the RMP BMPs listed above implementation of **Mitigation Measure HAZ-1** identifies additional management practices for safe handling of hazardous materials.

> **Mitigation Measure HAZ-1: Use of Best Management Practices.** The County shall require the construction contractor use the following best management practices (BMPs) to minimize potential release of hazardous materials used during construction activities:
>
> - Follow manufacturer's directions on use, storage and disposal of chemical products used in construction;
> - Avoid overtopping construction equipment fuel gas tanks;
> - Provide secondary containment for any hazardous materials temporarily stored on site;
> - During routine maintenance of construction equipment, properly contain and remove grease and oils;
> - Perform regular inspections of construction equipment and materials storage areas for leaks and maintain records documenting compliance with the storage, handling and disposal of hazardous materials; and
> - Properly dispose of discarded containers of fuels and other chemicals.

With implementation of BMPs GEN-7 through GEN-10 and GEN-16 and Mitigation Measure HAZ-1, the project would not 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. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

9.c.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	

Discussion: El Granada Elementary School, located at 400 Santiago Avenue, is within one-quarter mile of the project site. The project's proposed fuel reduction areas are located approximately 700 feet from El Granada Elementary School at the closest point. During project construction, common hazardous materials such as solvents and petroleum products (such as lubricants, degreasers, and fuel) would be used; these materials are not considered extremely hazardous. Construction activities could result in the inadvertent release of small quantities of these materials. Due to the types and quantities of hazardous materials that would be utilized (e.g., fuels, oils, and solvents), combined with the distance between the project site and nearest school, a spill or release at the construction site is not likely to result in emissions with the potential to expose individuals at the school. Project operation would not involve substantive emissions of hazardous materials.

The potential impact of hazardous material release at the worksite is addressed in section 9.b above.

Source: Project Plans

9.d.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X

Discussion: The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) maintains a list of hazardous materials sites, also known as Cortese List sites, pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The project site is not located on any list of sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (CalEPA 2022). The nearest hazardous materials site (T0608100677) is a former leaking underground storage tank (LUST) site located at a private residence in El Granada (State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) 2020). The former LUST site is located within approximately 200 feet of the nearest (western) boundary of Quarry County Park. The case has a status of "Completed – Case Closed" as of 1994. The proposed project would not cause a significant hazard to the public or the environment related to a known release of hazardous materials associated with a Cortese List hazardous materials site. No impact would occur.

Source:

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA). Cortese List Data Resources. 2022. https://calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/corteselist/, accessed 8/16/2022.

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). 2022. GeoTracker. https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/search?CMD=search&case_number=&business_name=&main_street_name=&city=&zip=&county=&SITE_TYPE=LUFT&oilfield=&STATUS=&BRANCH=&MASTER_BASE=&Search=Search, accessed 8/16/2022.

9.e.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				X

Discussion: The project site is not located in an area covered under an airport land use plan. However, the project site is located approximately 1.35 miles east of Half Moon Bay Airport, a public airport. The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, the construction of a fire road, and the construction of a vault toilet all within Quarry County Park. The project does not propose the

construction of habitable structures. The project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people working in the project area as a result of being located within two miles of the Half Moon Bay Airport. There would be no impact.

Source:

Project Plans

County of San Mateo Public Works. 2022. Half Moon Bay Airport. https://www.smcgov.org/publicworks/half-moon-bay-airport

9.f.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?		X		

Discussion: The County of San Mateo Emergency Operations Plan establishes policies and procedures and assigns responsibilities to ensure the effective management of emergency operations within the San Mateo County Operational Area (SMOA) (San Mateo County 2015). It provides information on the county emergency management structure of how and when the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff is activated.

The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet fully within Quarry County Park. Project construction activities and ongoing fuel activities would take place fully within the boundaries of Quarry County Park. Construction vehicle access to and from the project site would take place along Santa Maria Avenue and Coronado Avenue.

In the event of an emergency, vehicles would have access to the work sites along these ingress/egress access points and continued access to the rest of the park via existing park fire roads and the legacy roads, which would be temporarily in use during project construction. Project construction activities would not fully block Coronado Avenue, as construction of South Ridge Fire Road would begin at the terminus of Coronado Avenue and Quarry County Park. However, lane closure could inadvertently result in delays of emergency vehicles. As discussed in section 2.17a, the San Mateo County RMP Manual requires the County to implement best management practices (BMPs) to avoid and minimize the environmental impacts of routine and maintenance-related County work (San Mateo County 2020). The RMP Manual includes BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18 to control traffic, ensure public safety, and maintain traffic flow. Implementation of BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18 would reduce potential for the project to interfere with emergency service providers and emergency service vehicle access to and surrounding the project site. The project would not impair implementation of an emergency response or emergency evacuation plan, including the County of San Mateo Emergency Operations Plan. This impact would be less than significant.

As discussed under 2.17c, Mitigation Measure TRA-1 would require the preparation and implementation of a project-specific traffic control plan, including provisions for coordinating construction with emergency service providers and ensuring emergency service vehicle access during all times. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TRA-1 would further reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level.

Source:

San Mateo County, San Mateo County Emergency Operations Plan (2015) (https://hsd.smcsheriff.com/sites/default/files/downloadables/1%20-%20Emergency%20Operations%20Plan.pdf);

9.g.	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			X	
Discussion: See discussion under section 2.20, Wildfire. The project would have a less than significant impact related to significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. **Source:** *See section 2.20, Wildfire*					
9.h.	Place housing within an existing 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
Discussion: The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet within Quarry County Park. The project proposal does not include housing. Further, see section 9.i. The project site is not located in a 100-year flood hazard area. No impact would occur. **Source:** Project Plans; FEMA (2012) (https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)					
9.i.	Place within an existing 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
Discussion: The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet within Quarry County Park. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the project site is located in Zone X, an area of minimal flood hazard (FIRM 06081C0140E, effective 10/16/2012). As such, the project site is not located in a 100-year flood hazard area and would not locate structures in a flood hazard area. No impact would occur. **Source:** Project Plans; FEMA (2012) (https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)					
9.j.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
Discussion: The project site, Quarry County Park, is not located within the vicinity of levees or dams. The park property does contain a small reservoir, which would not be affected by the proposed project. Further, the project does not propose habitable structures. Therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk or loss, injury, or death involving flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. There would be no impact. **Source:** Project Plans					
9.k.	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?			X	
Discussion: Tsunami are traveling ocean waves of extremely long wavelength, usually caused by displacement of the ocean floor and typically generated by seismic or volcanic activity or by underwater landslides. According to the California Department of Conservation, the portion of the project site just north of and south of State Route 1 to the Pacific Ocean is located in a tsunami hazard area (DOC					

2022). The majority of the project site is not located in a tsunami hazard area. The project would conduct wildfire fuel reduction activities (i.e., eucalyptus tree removal) in the portion of the project site that could potentially be inundated by a tsunami. No structures would be located in the tsunami hazard area onsite. The project would not increase the risk of inundation by tsunami. There would be no impact.

Seiches form in enclosed bodies of water, such as lakes or reservoirs when exposed to significant ground shaking. There are no water bodies on San Mateo County's General Plan list of water bodies with potential to pose a significant hazard due to seiche (County of San Mateo 1986). While there is a small reservoir located within Quarry Park, due to its small scale, there would be no project impacts related to seiche.

Quarry County Park in general contains sloping terrain. The project would conduct wildfire fuel reduction activities on terrain of varying slopes; however, these activities would not involve the placement of permanent structures or hardscape that could be impacted by mudflow. The proposed vault toilet would be constructed on relatively flat land. The proposed South Ridge Fire Road would be engineered and constructed on sloping terrain, which could be adversely impacted by mudflow. However, with the implementation of the design recommendations included within the project geotechnical investigation, risks of landslides affecting South Ridge Road would be minimized and, by extension, potential impacts related to mudflow would be less than significant.

Source:

California Department of Conservation (DOC). 2022. San Mateo County Tsunami Hazard Areas. https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps

San Mater County. 1986. General Plan. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/general-plan

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impacts	*Significant Unless Mitigated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
10.a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality (consider water quality parameters such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and other typical stormwater pollutants (e.g., heavy metals, pathogens, petroleum derivatives, synthetic organics, sediment, nutrients, oxygen-demanding substances, and trash))?		X		

Discussion:

Construction Impacts

As noted in the Project Description, construction of South Ridge Fire Road would disturb approximately 101,200 square feet, or 2.3 acres. Construction of the vault toilet would disturb approximately 100 square feet in addition to the area disturbed by any construction staging areas. Construction activities within areas of disturbance would increase potential for indirect water quality impacts through

uncontrolled runoff of stormwater that has come into contact with fuels, oils, greases and sediments within the active construction area resulting in a significant impact.

Fire road construction would require land disturbing activities such as grading, earthmoving, and compaction. Additional grading or soil disturbance may be required to create temporary roads for equipment access to fuel treatment areas. Construction and ground disturbance activities associated with the road construction would occur near sensitive habitats and water quality impacts could be significant in the immediate vicinity of construction activities, as well as downhill. Exposed soil from stockpiles and graded areas could be transported by wind or stormwater and, if not properly managed, could increase the sediment load (turbidity) in stormwater runoff in downstream waterways. In addition, construction activities would require use of hazardous materials such as fuels and oils, which, if not managed appropriately, could become mobilized by runoff and contribute to non-point source pollution and degradation of water quality. All soil and/or rock stockpiles would be protected against wind, rainfall, and runoff at all times. At no time will any stockpiled materials be allowed to erode into any watercourse or onto any roadway or other tributary surface

The project site is located in the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). San Mateo County is a permittee under the San Francisco Bay Region Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit (Order No. R2-2015-0049; NPDES Permit No. CAS612008). Because the proposed fire road or temporary access roads would disturb greater than one acre of land (i.e., approximately 2.3 acres of ground disturbance for the fire road), it would be subject to the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ), which requires preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP would include erosion and sediment control and good housekeeping BMPs that would further ensure that the proposed project would not result in significant impacts on water quality with respect to sedimentation and turbidity. **Mitigation Measure HYD-1** requires the preparation of a SWPPP. The potential significance of construction activities to increase potential for indirect water quality impacts through uncontrolled runoff of stormwater that has come into contact with fuels, oils, greases and sediments within the active construction areas would be reduced further through the implementation of **Mitigation Measure HYD-1.**

> **Mitigation Measure HYD-1: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.** The County shall, by contract specifications, ensure contractors prepare and implement a SWPPP for each phase of the proposed project to be implemented involving grading or earthwork activity. Erosion control measures shall be in place prior to the start of each phase's respective construction activities and remain in place throughout the construction duration. The plan must provide a BMP monitoring and maintenance schedule and identify parties responsible for monitoring and maintenance of construction-phase BMPs. Erosion and water quality control measures identified in the plan must comply with the Construction Site Control requirements (C.6) of the San Francisco Bay Region Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit (Order No. R2-2015-004922), and the County's standard Water Pollution Control Plan specifications. At a minimum, the SWPPP shall include, but not be limited to, the following measures (County of San Mateo, 2017):
>
> - Temporary erosion control measures (such as silt fences, staked straw bales, and temporary revegetation) shall be employed for disturbed areas. No disturbed surfaces will be left without erosion control measures in place.
> - Sediment shall be retained on-site by a system of sediment basins, traps, or other appropriate measures.
> - A spill prevention and countermeasure plan shall be developed that will identify proper storage, collection, and disposal measures for potential pollutants (such as fuel, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.) used on-site. The plan will also require the proper storage, handling, use, and disposal of petroleum products.

- Construction activities shall be scheduled to minimize land disturbance during peak runoff periods and to the immediate area required for construction.
- Existing vegetation will be retained where possible. To the extent feasible, grading activities shall be limited to the immediate area required for construction.
- Surface waters, including ponded waters, must be diverted away from areas undergoing grading, construction, excavation, vegetation removal, and/or any other activity which may result in a discharge to the receiving water. Diversion activities must not result in the degradation of beneficial uses or exceedance of water quality objectives of the receiving waters. Any temporary dam or other artificial obstruction constructed must only be built from materials such as clean gravel which will cause little or no siltation. Normal flows must be restored to the affected stream immediately upon completion of work at that location.
- Sediment shall be contained when conditions are too extreme for treatment by surface protection. Temporary sediment traps, filter fabric fences, inlet protectors, vegetative filters and buffers, or settling basins shall be used to detain runoff water long enough for sediment particles to settle out. Store, cover, and isolate construction materials, including topsoil and chemicals, to prevent runoff losses and contamination of groundwater.
- Topsoil removed during construction shall be carefully stored and treated as an important resource. Berms shall be placed around topsoil stockpiles to prevent runoff during storm events. All removed topsoil shall be reused during construction to the extent feasible. Unused topsoil, if any, shall be broadly redistributed to the surrounding ruderal/developed areas in such a manner that topography and vegetation cover would not be adversely impacted.
- Establish fuel and vehicle maintenance areas away from all drainage courses and design these areas to control runoff.
- Disturbed areas will be re-vegetated after completion of construction activities.
- All necessary permits and approvals shall be obtained.
- Provide sanitary facilities for construction workers.

In addition, the San Mateo County RMP Manual contains best management practices (BMPs) the County employs during maintenance activities during construction activities to avoid or minimize impacts to water quality and sensitive habitats. The NPDES permit requires permittees including the County to implement appropriate BMPs at road repair and/or maintenance sites to minimize debris and waste materials from entering surface waterways during road installation, repaving, or routine repair and maintenance activities of streets and roads. The RMP Manual serves as a basis for the County to comply with resource agency permitting requirements (San Mateo County 2020, p. 1-1). As such, compliance with the RMP Manual BMPs listed below would fulfill the San Mateo County Parks Department's permit requirements for the proposed project.

- BMP GEN-1 Staging and Access
- BMP GEN-2 Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance
- BMP GEN-3 Construction Entrances and Perimeter
- BMP GEN-5 Non-Hazardous Materials
- BMP GEN-6 Hazardous Materials Storage/Disposal
- BMP GEN-7 Spill Prevention and Control
- BMP GEN-8 Waste Management
- BMP GEN-9 Vehicle Maintenance and Parking

- BMP GEN-10 Equipment Maintenance and Fueling
- BMP GEN-11 Paving and Asphalt Work
- BMP GEN-12 Concrete, Grout, and Mortar Application
- BMP GEN-13 Exclude Concrete from Channel
- BMP GEN-14 Concrete Washout Facilities
- BMP GEN-16 Timing of Work
- BMP GEN-22 Site Stabilization
- BMP EC-1 Brush Layering
- BMP EC-2 Brush Packing
- BMP EC-3 Live Staking
- BMP EC-4 Live Pole Drain
- BMP EC-5 Wattles/Fascines
- BMP EC-6 Hand Seeding
- BMP EC-7 Hydroseeding
- BMP EC-8 Mulching
- BMP EC-9 Vegetative Buffer
- BMP EC-10 Erosion Control Blankets & Mats
- BMP EC-11 Surface Roughening
- BPM EC-12 Rolling Dip
- BMP EC-13 Slope or Bank Stabilization
- BMP SC-1 Gravel Bags
- BMP SC-2 Silt Fence
- BMP SC-3 Straw Log, Straw Roll, Coir Log
- BMP SC-6 Diversion Berm
- BMP SC-7 Silt Curtain

Implementation of Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the San Mato County RMP general impact avoidance and minimization measures, erosion control measures, and sediment/water quality control measures listed above would lessen potentially significant project construction impacts on water quality to less than significant.

Operation of the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements because, as discussed previously, project compliance with the applicable RMP Manual BMPs listed above would serve as the County's fulfillment of NPDES permit requirements.

For the reasons given above, the project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. This impact is less than significant with mitigation.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

10.b.	Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?			X	

Discussion: The proposed project includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet. The southern portion of the project site is located in the Half Moon Bay Terrace groundwater basin (California Department of Water Resources [DWR] 2022). The project would not use water supplies. The project would introduce new impervious rocked surface area to the project site through the construction of the South Ridge Fire Road and new impervious surface from the vault toilet. The project would convert a very small portion of the project site from pervious to impervious surface area. The remainder of the project site would continue to allow for groundwater recharge. As such, the project would not impede sustainable management of the Half Moon Bay Terrace groundwater basin. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

California Department of Water Resources (DWR). 2022. Basin Prioritization. (https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/final/)

10.c.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner that would:				
	i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			X	

Discussion: The project site, Quarry County Park, generally drains from northeast to southwest toward El Granada. The proposed project would not result in the alteration of the course of a stream or river, as the project's area of effect does not include waterways. The project would not substantively alter the existing drainage patterns of Quarry County Park.

As described in section 10.a, soil disturbing activities, such as grading, earthmoving, backfilling, and compaction related to South Ridge Fire Road, in upland areas could cause dislodging of soil and erosion. Stormwater runoff could mobilize these sediments, causing them to flow into the storm drain systems along the western boundary of El Granada. This could adversely and substantially affect water quality through sedimentation and increased turbidity, which would constitute a significant impact. However, with implementation of the San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs listed in section 10.a, the potential for erosion and discharge of sediment from the construction areas would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

As discussed in section 10.b, South Ridge Fire Road would introduce new impervious surface areas into the project area and modify the existing contours of the area of the park in which it would be located. However, the extent of these changes would be minimal, and the post-project drainage scheme would be similar to that under existing conditions. For these reasons, the project's impacts on site drainage would not be expected to change such that a substantial adverse effect related to

erosion or loss of topsoil would result. Accordingly, the impact of project operations would be less than significant.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;			X	

Discussion: The project would not cause a substantial change in runoff flow rates. As discussed in section 10.b, the project would introduce new impervious rocked road surface area onsite within the 2.3-acre construction disturbance footprint of the South Ridge Fire Road. The new impervious surface area would be minimal compared to the extensive amount of pervious area that would remain unaffected by the project throughout the 577-acre project site. Rolling dips would be installed in the South Ridge Fire Road roadbed as needed to drain the road surface. Soil protection measures including erosion control blankets (geotextiles and mats) on fill slopes, silt fencing, seed and straw mulch cover on bare soil would also be installed.

The project's proposed fuel reduction activities have the potential to destabilize slopes and soils due to substantial vegetation removal, which could potentially increase the rate and/or amount of surface runoff onsite. The project proposes methods to prevent soil erosion and destabilization following fuel reduction activities, including chipping removed vegetation leaving it in place as a mulch to protect the soil from compaction and soil erosion, thereby reducing the potential for denuded slopes to erode or become unstable and increase runoff rates. Additionally, tree roots and roots of other understory vegetation would not be removed during fuel reduction activities, which would prevent soil destabilization as well.

For these reasons, there would be no substantial increase in the rate or volume of surface runoff that could result in on- or off-site flooding. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

Source: Project Plans

iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or			X	

Discussion: See section 10.a and 10.c.ii, above. The park is largely undeveloped, though it does contain a trail system and recreational and visitor-serving facilities. There are no existing stormwater drainage systems on the project site. Construction activities associated with the project have the potential to result in polluted runoff, a potentially significant impact. As described in response to question 10.a, BMPs would be implemented to prevent discharge of polluted runoff from the construction sites. This impact would be less than significant.

As discussed in section 10.c.ii, the South Ridge Fire Road would introduce new impervious surface area onsite; however, the roadway has been designed with rolling dips to drain the road surface and minimize potential increases in stormwater runoff amounts or rates. The project's proposed fuel reduction activities would remove vegetation, which could potentially result in increased erosion and stormwater runoff; however, the project proposes to prevent soil erosion and compaction in areas from which vegetation has been removed using mulch. As such, the project would not be expected to

substantially alter the volume or flow rate of stormwater runoff such that existing drainage mechanisms would be overwhelmed. Project operation would, therefore, have a less-than-significant impact regarding site drainage capacity.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?				X

Discussion: See discussion under section 9.i. The project site is not located in a flood hazard area. There would be no impacts related to flood flows.

Source:

Project Plans

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2012. FEMA Flood Map Center. FIRM 06081C0140E. https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home

10.d.	In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?			X	

Discussion: See discussion under sections 9.i and 9.k. The project site is not located in a flood hazard area. There would be no impacts related to flood flows.

A portion of the project site is located in a tsunami hazard area; however, the project would not locate structures, which could potentially become inundated under tsunami conditions, in the tsunami hazard area onsite. Tsunami-related impacts would be less than significant.

There are no bodies of water in San Mateo County that could pose a significant hazard onsite due to potential for seiche. There would be no impacts related to seiche.

Source:

Project Plans

California Department of Conservation (DOC). 2022. San Mateo County Tsunami Hazard Areas. https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps)

County of San Mateo. 1986. General Plan. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/general-plan

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2012. FEMA Flood Map Center. FIRM 06081C0140E. https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home

10.e.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?		X		

Discussion: The proposed project includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet. See discussion under section 10.a, above. With implementation of BMPs from the San Mateo County RMP Manual, the project's potential significant impacts related to water quality would be less than significant.

The project would not use water and, therefore, would not conflict with a sustainability groundwater management plan.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual.
https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

10.f.	Significantly degrade surface or ground-water quality?		X		

Discussion: The proposed project includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet. See discussion under section 10.a, above. With implementation of BMPs from the San Mateo County RMP Manual, the project's potential significant impacts related to water quality would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual.
https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

10.g.	Result in increased impervious surfaces and associated increased runoff?			X	

Discussion: As discussed in sections 10.c.ii and 10.c.iii, the proposed project would introduce new impervious rocked road surface onsite; however, amount of impervious area introduced (i.e., less than 2.3 acres) would be relatively minimal in comparison to the overall size of the project site. South Ridge Fire Road would be constructed with rolling dips to properly drain the roadbed and minimize increased runoff, and vegetation removed during fuel reduction activities would be spread as mulch on treated areas to minimize soil erosion and compaction and reduce the potential for increased runoff. As such, there would be no substantial change above the current baseline in runoff flow rates. The impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

11. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
11.a.	Physically divide an established community?				X

Discussion: The project proposal includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet in an existing park county park. The project does not involve any activities that would physically divide an established community. No impact would occur.

Source: Project Plans

11.b.	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X	

Discussion: The project site is located in Quarry County Park on parcels designated for public recreation, open space, and agricultural land uses by the County General Plan. The project would make no changes to the land use of the park and would not conflict with applicable park use regulations.

Quarry County Park Master Plan

The Quarry County Park Master Plan (Master Plan) provides a vision for the future of the park, and guidance for its protection, public use, and maintenance (San Mateo County Parks Department 2022). The Master Plan provides a guiding vision for stewardship which:

- Restores the park to a more native and sustainable condition
- Can be incrementally implemented over time and as financial resources become available
- Expands and improves recreational opportunities while minimizing environmental damage and restoring native habitat
- Is consistent with other County plans, policies, and practices.

The project would cause a significant environmental impact if it conflicted with the Master Plan's goals and recommendations. The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet.

Regarding wildfire fuel treatment and reduction, the Master Plan includes the following recommendations (San Mateo County Parks Department 2022, p. 83):

- Continue planning, permitting, and implementation efforts for wildfire risk reduction projects and activities in Quarry County Park, including the creation and maintenance of shaded fuel breaks and fuel breaks, and improvement of forest health and habitat.
- Utilize a variety of vegetation treatment approaches to implement wildfire risk reduction and fuel management projects, including mechanical and manual methods, grazing, and targeted herbicide application. Treatments may include the use of heavy equipment, masticators, hand tools, and domestic livestock.
- For shaded fuel breaks, prioritize understory vegetation thinning, small diameter tree removal, ladder fuel removal, and selective large tree removals to reduce canopy density, while maintaining overall canopy cover.
- For fuel breaks, prioritize strategic placement and sizing, create canopy openings, conduct larger tree removals and overstory canopy removal, and retain tree roots and establish a chip/mulch layer to reduce erosion and suppress weed regrowth.
- Retain and preserve existing native vegetation within fuel reduction project areas and promote natural regeneration and recruitment of native vegetation. Where necessary and as observed through monitoring efforts over time, consider native seeding or native planting where natural recruitment and expansion of native species is not successful.
- Continue to coordinate with CAL FIRE, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District, and other partners to implement effective wildfire fuel management projects.
- Continue to improve fire road access, including connecting the South Ridge Trail to Coronado Avenue. The approximate location is illustrated on Master Plan Figure 4-9 (below).

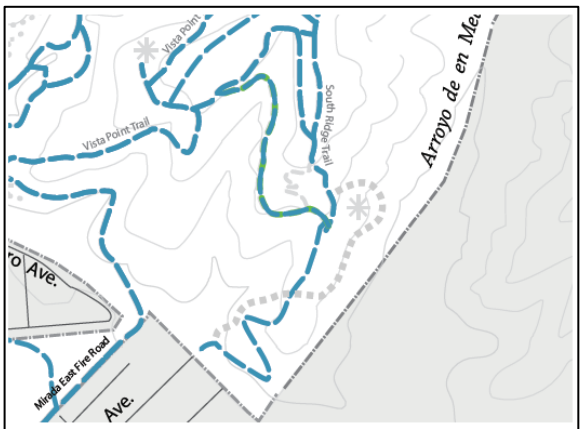

Figure 4-9: Approximate Alignment of Connection from South Ridge Trail to Coronado Avenue

- Prioritize ingress/egress along fire roads and trails for shaded fuel breaks, as they provide emergency access for first responders conducting wildfire containment and suppression efforts.
- The largest healthy, stable, and attractive trees should be retained, and routine inspections of tree health and vigor should be conducted. Trees that are dead or dying, or that are considered hazard trees should be prioritized for removal.
- Trees should be chipped on site to the extent possible to create a thick layer of mulch to inhibit regrowth of undesirable non-native species.
- Protect and maintain high quality habitat, such as northern coastal scrub and coastal prairie. These areas are less prone to fire and are more likely to host sensitive species.
- Utilize non-potable water from the existing dam and reservoir for fire protection and suppression purposes.
- Consider the wildland urban interface and the private dwellings located near parks while planning for fuel reduction efforts and improvements to forest health.

The project implements the recommendations of the Master Plan by expanding fuel reduction activities and improving fire road access by proposing the South Ridge Fire Road to connect the South Ridge Trail to Coronado Avenue. The project would conduct fuel treatment and reduction activities in a manner that is consistent with the Master Plan recommendations listed above. The project would also install a single stall pit (vault) restroom adjacent to the new pump track as recommended by the Master Plan to meet anticipated increased demand (San Mateo County Parks Department 2022, p. 74). For these reasons, the proposed project would be consistent with the Quarry County Park Master Plan.

Local Coastal Program

Quarry County Park is located in the County's designated Coastal Zone. All development in the Coastal Zone requires either a Coastal Development Permit or an exemption from Coastal Development Permit requirements. For a permit to be issued, the development must comply with the policies of the Local Coastal Program (LCP) and those ordinances adopted to implement the LCP. The LCP includes but is not limited to policies intended to protect and enhance the natural environment in the Coastal Zone. The proposed project's consistency with applicable LCP policies is demonstrated below in Table 4.

Table 4. Project Consistency with Applicable Local Coastal Program (LCP) Policies	
Applicable LCP Policies	**Project Consistency**
Locating and Planning New Development	
Policy 1.1 Coastal Development Permits: After certification of the Local Coastal Program (LCP), require a Coastal Development Permit for all development in the Coastal Zone subject to certain exemptions.	The proposed project requires a Coastal Development Permit. This Initial Study would serve as the consistency document to support the issuance of a Coastal Development Permit for the project. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 1.2 Definition of Development: As stated in Section 30106 of the Coastal Act, define development to mean: On land, in or under water, the placement or erection of any solid material or structure; discharge or disposal of any dredged material or any gaseous, liquid, solid, or thermal waste; grading, removing, dredging, mining, or extraction of any materials; change in the density or intensity of use of land, including, but not limited to, subdivision pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act (commencing with Section 66410 of the Government Code), and any other division of land, including lot splits, except where the land division is brought about in connection with the purchase of such land by a public agency for public recreational use; change in the intensity of use of water, or of access thereto; construction, reconstruction, demolition, or alteration of the size of any structure, including any facility of any private, public, or municipal utility; and the removal or harvesting of major vegetation other than for agricultural purposes, kelp harvesting, and timber operations which are in accordance with a timber harvesting plan submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 (commencing with Section 4511). As used in this section, "structure" includes, but is not limited to, any buildings, road, pipe, flume, conduit, siphon, aqueduct, telephone line, and electrical power transmission and distribution line.	The project proposes components, including a fire access road and vault toilet, and associated construction activities that qualify as "development" per Policy 1.2. The project would apply for a Coastal Development Permit. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 1.7 Designation of Rural Areas: Designate as rural those lands shown outside the urban/rural boundary on the LCP Land Use Plan Map, in effect on March 25, 1986, that were designated Agriculture, General Open Space, Timber Preserve, or Public Recreation on that date.	The project would take place fully within Quarry County Park, which is designated as "Open Space with Park Overlay" on the LCP Land Use Plan Map. The project does not propose changing this site designation nor would it change the existing public recreation land use of the project site. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 1.8 Land Uses and Development Densities in Rural Areas: a. Allow new development (as defined in Section 30106 of the California Coastal Act of 1976) in rural areas only if it is demonstrated that it will not: (1) have significant adverse impacts, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources and (2) diminish the ability to keep all prime agricultural land and other land suitable for	The proposed project would take place fully within Quarry County Park and does not propose activities along the Pacific Coast Shoreline. The project would not have significant adverse impacts, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources. The project site does not contain agricultural land or other land suitable for agriculture. The project would not affect agricultural land or other land suitable for agriculture (see Section 2, Agriculture and Forestry

agriculture (as defined in the Agriculture Component) in agricultural production. b. Permit in rural areas land uses designated on the LCP Land Use Plan Map, and conditional uses up to the densities specified in Tables 1.2 and 1.3.	Resources). The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 1.25 Protection of Archaeological/Paleontological Resources: Based on County Archaeology/Paleontology Sensitivity Maps, determine whether or not sites proposed for new development are located within areas containing potential archaeological/paleontological resources. Prior to approval of development proposed in sensitive areas, require that a mitigation plan, adequate to protect the resource and prepared by a qualified archaeologist/ paleontologist be submitted for review and approval and implemented as part of the project.	See Section 5, Cultural Resources. The proposed project includes ground-disturbing activities that have the potential to adversely impact archaeological and paleontological resources. However, the project would implement cultural resources BMPs from the San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual, which would reduce potential adverse impacts to less than significant. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 1.35 All New Land Use Development and Activities Shall Protect Coastal Water Quality Among Other Ways By: a. Implementing appropriate site design and source control best management practices (BMPs). Site design BMPs are land use or site planning practices that aim to prevent runoff pollution by reducing the potential soil erosion or contact of runoff with pollutants. Source control BMPs are structural or non-structural practices that minimize the contact between pollutants and runoff. b. Implementing treatment BMPs along with site design and source control BMPs when the combination of site design and source control BMPs is not sufficient to protect water quality as required by the LCP, or when required by the Regional Board per municipal permit provisions. Treatment BMPs are practices designed to remove pollutants and/or solids from polluted stormwater runoff. Projects that drain directly to a sensitive habitat shall implement post-construction structural treatment BMPs. c. Where treatment BMPs are required, the BMPs (or suites of BMPs) shall be designed and implemented to remove pollutants from the amount of stormwater runoff produced by all storms up to and including the 85th percentile, 24-hour storm event for volume-based BMPs and/or the 85th percentile, 1-hour storm event (with an appropriate safety factor, i.e., 2 or greater) for flow-based BMPs or the flow of runoff from a rain event equal to at least 0.2 inches per hour intensity to the maximum extent feasible. d. Using multi-benefit, natural feature, stormwater treatment systems, such as landscape-based bioretention systems, bioswales and green roofs, where feasible, in place of single purpose treatment BMPs. e. Minimizing the introduction of pollutants into coastal waters (including the ocean, estuaries, wetlands, rivers, streams, and lakes).	See Section 12, Hydrology and Water Quality. The project's proposed construction activities have the potential to adversely impact onsite and downhill/downstream water quality. However, the project would implement water quality BMPs from the San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual, which would reduce potential adverse impacts to less than significant. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.

f. Minimizing the amount of impervious surfaces and directly connected impervious surfaces in areas of new development and redevelopment and, where feasible, maximizing on-site infiltration of runoff. g. Preserving and, where possible, creating or restoring areas that provide important water quality benefits, such as riparian corridors, wetlands, and buffer zones. h. Limiting disturbances of natural water bodies and natural drainage systems caused by development including roads, highways, and bridges. i. Avoiding development of areas that are particularly susceptible to erosion and sediment loss, where feasible and, where not feasible, incorporate appropriate BMPs to minimize erosion and sediment loss. j. In projects where the combined amounts of impervious surface created and replaced total one acre or more (or smaller areas where required by the Regional Board), implementing hydromodification requirements as further detailed in Appendix 1.A. Developments that are exempt from this requirement are stipulated in NPDES Permit No. CAS612008, Order No. R2-2009-0074, issued October 14, 2009, except for single-family residences that drain directly to sensitive habitats. k. Implementing the minimum stormwater pollution prevention requirements contained in Appendix 1.A.	
Policy 1.36 Half Moon Bay Airport Influence Area Requirements: Within the Half Moon Bay Airport Influence Area, as shown on Map 1.5, the following shall apply: a. New development and land uses must comply with all relevant Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards and criteria regarding (1) safety, (2) flashing lights, (3) reflective material, (4) land uses which may attract large concentrations of birds, (5) HVAC exhaust fans, and (6) land uses which may generate electrical or electronic interference with aircraft communications and/or instrumentation. b. All transfers of real property must comply with the real estate disclosure requirements specified in Chapter 496, California Statutes of 2002.	Quarry County Park is mostly located outside the Half Moon Bay Airport Influence Area; however, a small portion of the park along its western boundary with abutting El Granada neighborhoods is located within the Half Moon Bay Airport Influence Area. The proposed project would not conflict with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards regarding safety, flashing lights, reflective materials, land uses which may attract large concentration of birds, HVAC exhaust fans, and land uses which may generate electrical or electronic interference with aircraft communications and/or instrumentation because the project does not propose such uses or activities. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Public Works	
Policy 2.1 Development Review of Public Works: After certification of the LCP, require a Coastal Development Permit from any public utility, government agency or special district wishing to undertake any development in the Coastal Zone, with the exceptions of State Universities and colleges and development on public trust lands or tidelands as described in Section 30519(b) of the California Coastal Act.	The proposed project would be undertaken by the San Mateo County Parks Department. The San Mateo County Parks Department would apply for and secure a Coastal Development Permit for the project prior to project implementation. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.

Policy 2.4 Ordinance Conformity: As a condition of permit approval, special districts, public utilities and other government agencies shall conform to the County's zoning ordinance and the policies of the Local Coastal Program.	The proposed project would conform with the County's zoning ordinance and the policies of the Local Coastal Program as demonstrated in this section (Land Use and Planning) and this consistency table. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Housing	
The project does not propose new housing, nor would it impact existing housing. Housing policies are not applicable.	
Energy	
The LCP's Energy policies do not apply to the proposed project.	
Agriculture	
The project does not involve agricultural activities, nor would it affect agricultural lands. Agriculture policies are not applicable.	
Aquaculture	
The project does not involve aquaculture activities, nor would it affect areas used for aquaculture. Aquaculture policies are not applicable.	
Sensitive Habitats	
Policy 7.3: Protection of Sensitive Habitats: a. Prohibit any land use or development which would have significant adverse impact on sensitive habitat areas. b. Development in areas adjacent to sensitive habitats shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts that could significantly degrade the sensitive habitats. All uses shall be compatible with the maintenance of biologic productivity of the habitats.	See Section 4, Biological Resources. The project proposes construction activities that would occur near sensitive habitats and could have a potentially significant on sensitive habitats. The project would implement biological resources BMPs from the San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual and Mitigation Measures BLGY-1 through BLGY-6, which would ensure potentially significant biological resources impacts are less than significant. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 7.35 Preservation of Critical Habitats: Require preservation of all habitats of rare and endangered species using criteria including, but not limited to, Section 6325.2 (Primary Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area Criteria) and Section 6325.7 (Primary Natural Vegetative Areas Criteria) of the Resource Management Zoning District.	See Section 4, Biological Resources. The project site does not contain critical habitats for rare and endangered species, though several endangered species, including the and San Francisco garter snake and the California red-legged frog, have the potential to occur on the project site. The project would implement San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual BMPs to reduce impacts to these endangered species. In addition, the project site contains six natural communities that would meet the definition of an ESHA and that are considered sensitive by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Coastal Commission, and County LCP. The project would avoid impacts within these sensitive habitats. However, because project activities would occur in proximity to some of these sensitive habitats, there is some potential that project activities could indirectly impact these features. The project would implement BMPs from the Routine Maintenance Program Manual to reduce impacts. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.

Policy 7.42 Development Standards: Prevent any development on or within 50 feet of any rare plant population. When no feasible alternative exists, permit development if: (1) the site or a significant portion thereof is returned to a natural state to allow for the reestablishment of the plant, or (2) a new site is made available for the plant to inhabit.	See Section 4, Biological Resources. Seven special-status plant species have a high or moderate potential to occur on the project site. The project would implement Routine Maintenance Program Manual BMPs that would reduce potential direct, indirect, temporary, and permanent impacts on special-status plant species. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 7.46 Preservation of Habitats: Require preservation of critical habitats using criteria including, but not limited to, Section 6325.2 (Primary Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area Criteria) and Section 6325.7 (Primary Natural Vegetative Areas Criteria) of the Resource Management Zoning District.	See Section 4, Biological Resources. The project site does not contain critical habitats for rare and endangered species, though several endangered species, including the and San Francisco garter snake and the California red-legged frog, have the potential to occur on the project site. The project would implement San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual BMPs to reduce impacts to these endangered species. In addition, the project site contains six natural communities that would meet the definition of an ESHA and that are considered sensitive by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Coastal Commission, and County LCP. The project would avoid impacts within these sensitive habitats. However, because project activities would occur in proximity to some of these sensitive habitats, there is some potential that project activities could indirectly impact these features. The project would implement BMPs from the Routine Maintenance Program Manual to reduce impacts. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 7.52 Public Agency Requirements: Require public agencies, to the point feasible, to remove the undesirable pampas grass and French, Scotch, and other invasive brooms from their lands.	The proposed project includes the removal of non-native, invasive, hazardous vegetation. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Visual Resources	
Policy 8.5 Location of Development: On rural lands and urban parcels larger than 20,000 sq. ft.: a. Require that new development be located on a portion of a parcel where the development: (1) is least visible from State and County Scenic Roads; (2) is least likely to significantly impact views from public viewpoints; and (3) is consistent with all other LCP requirements, best preserves the visual and open space qualities of the parcel overall. Where conflicts in complying with this requirement occur, resolve them in a manner which, on balance, most protects significant coastal resources on the parcel, consistent with Coastal Act Section 30007.5. Public viewpoints include, but are not limited to, coastal roads, roadside rests and vista points,	The proposed project would take place on a site larger than 20,000 square feet. See Section 1, Aesthetics. The proposed vault toilet and South Ridge Fire Road would not be visible from State and County Scenic Roads. The proposed vault toilet, the South Ridge Fire Road, and wildfire fuel reduction activities would not have a significant impact on views from public viewpoints. The project would be consistent with all other LCP requirements. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.

recreation areas, trails, coastal accessways, and beaches. This provision does not apply to enlargement of existing structures, provided that the size of the structure after enlargement does not exceed 150% of the pre-existing floor area, or 2,000 sq. ft., whichever is greater. This provision does not apply to agricultural development to the extent that application of the provision would impair any agricultural use or operation on the parcel. In such cases, agricultural development shall use appropriate building materials, colors, landscaping and screening to eliminate or minimize the visual impact of the development. b) Require, including by clustering if necessary, that new parcels have building sites that are not visible from State and County Scenic Roads and will not significantly impact views from other public viewpoints. If the entire property being subdivided is visible from State and County Scenic Roads or other public viewpoints, then require that new parcels have building sites that minimize visibility from those roads and other public viewpoints.	
Policy 8.6 Streams, Wetlands, and Estuaries: a. Set back development from the edge of streams and other natural waterways a sufficient distance to preserve the visual character of the waterway. b. Prohibit structural development which will adversely affect the visual quality of perennial streams and associated riparian habitat, except for those permitted by Sensitive Habitats Component Policies. c. Retain the open natural visual appearance of estuaries and their surrounding beaches. d. Retain wetlands intact except for public accessways designed to respect the visual and ecological fragility of the area and adjacent land, in accordance with the Sensitive Habitats Component policies.	See Section 4, Biological Resources. The proposed project would not site development along onsite streams in a way that would affect the visual character of the waterway. The proposed project would not site structures near perennial streams and, as such, the project would not adversely affect the visual quality of perennial streams and associated riparian habitat. The proposed project would not affect the visual appearance of estuaries and beaches because no such resources occur on the project site. The proposed project would conduct wildfire fuel reduction activities near a potential seasonal wetland, but the project would not affect the integrity of the nearby wetland. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.9 Trees: a. Locate and design new development to minimize tree removal. b. Employ the regulations of the Significant Tree Ordinance to protect significant trees (38 inches or more in circumference) which are located in urban areas zoned Design Review (DR). c. Employ the regulations of the Heritage Tree Ordinance to protect unique trees which meet specific size and locational requirements. d. Protect trees specifically selected for their visual prominence and their important scenic or scientific qualities. e. Prohibit the removal of trees in scenic corridors except by selective harvesting which protects the existing visual resource from harmful impacts or by other cutting methods necessary for development	The proposed project includes vegetation management activities to reduce wildfire risk. Project fuel reduction activities would primarily remove eucalyptus trees, in addition to understory vegetation within the onsite eucalyptus grove. The eucalyptus trees in Quarry County Park present a significant wildfire hazard. The project's proposed removal of eucalyptus trees would fall under policy item g. The project is consistent with this policy.

approved in compliance with LCP policies and for opening up the display of important views from public places, i.e., vista points, roadways, trails, etc. f. Prohibit the removal of living trees in the Coastal Zone with a trunk circumference of more than 55 inches measured 4 1/2 feet above the average surface of the ground, except as may be permitted for development under the regulations of the LCP, or permitted under the Timber Harvesting Ordinance, or for reason of danger to life or property. g. Allow the removal of trees which are a threat to public health, safety, and welfare.	
Policy 8.15 Coastal Views: Prevent development (including buildings, structures, fences, unnatural obstructions, signs, and landscaping) from substantially blocking views to or along the shoreline from coastal roads, roadside rests and vista points, recreation areas, trails, coastal accessways, and beaches.	See Section 1, Aesthetics. The proposed project would not locate structures or other forms of development in a way that would substantially block views to or along the shoreline from coastal roads, roadside rests, and vista points, recreation areas, trails, coastal accessways, and beaches. The proposed project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.17 Alteration of Landforms; Roads and Grading: a. Require that development be located and designed to conform with, rather than change, landforms. Minimize the alteration of landforms as a consequence of grading, cutting, excavating, filling or other development. b. To the degree possible, ensure restoration of pre-existing topographic contours after any alteration by development, except to the extent necessary to comply with the requirements of Policy 8.18. c. Control development to avoid the need to construct access roads visible from State and County Scenic Roads. Existing private roads shall be shared wherever possible. New access roads may be permitted only where it is demonstrated that use of existing roads is physically or legally impossible or unsafe. New roads shall be (1) located and designed to minimize visibility from State and County Scenic Roads and (2) built to fit the natural topography and to minimize alteration of existing landforms and natural characteristics. This provision does not apply to agricultural development to the extent that application of the provision would impair any agricultural use or operation, or convert agricultural soils. In such cases, build new access roads to minimize alteration of existing landforms and natural characteristics.	The proposed project includes construction of a new fire access road to connect Coronado Avenue and South Ridge Trail. See Section 7, Geology and Soils. South Ridge Fire Road has been designed to minimize alteration of the topography of the area of the project site it would affect. Construction of South Ridge Fire Road would not change any landforms. Following construction of South Ride Fire Road, the project would utilize erosion control blankets (geotextiles and mats) on fill slopes, and silt fencing, seed and straw mulch cover on bare soil would be installed. South Ridge Fire Road would not be visible from a State or County Scenic Road. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.18 Development Design: a. Require that development (1) blend with and be subordinate to the environment and the character of the area where located, and (2) be as unobtrusive as possible and not detract from the natural, open space or visual qualities of the area including, but not limited to, siting, design, layout, size, height, shape, materials, colors, access and landscaping. The colors of exterior	The project proposes construct of a single vault toilet adjacent to a pump track. The vault toilet would be located in a previously disturbed area in a portion of Quarry County Park that is already developed with a pump track. The vault toilet would be designed to match the colors, materials, and form of the existing restroom near the picnic area at the park entrance. The project does not propose exterior lighting. The

materials shall harmonize with the predominant earth and vegetative colors of the site. Materials and colors shall absorb light and minimize reflection. Exterior lighting shall be limited to the minimum necessary for safety. All lighting, exterior and interior, must be placed, designed and shielded so as to confine direct rays to the parcel where the lighting is located. Except for the requirement to minimize reflection, agricultural development shall be exempt from this provision. Greenhouse development shall be designed to minimize visual obtrusiveness and avoid detracting from the natural characteristics of the site. b. Require screening to minimize the visibility of development from scenic roads and other public viewpoints. Screening shall be by vegetation or other materials which are native to the area or blend with the natural environment and character of the site. c. Require that all non-agricultural development minimize noise, light, dust, odors and other interference with persons and property off the development site.	vault toilet would not be visible from scenic roads due to intervening vegetation and buildings in residential neighborhoods and would not impact other public viewpoints due to its size, its mass relative to the surrounding eucalyptus grove, and the expectation of park users to encounter rudimentary facilities in parks. See Section 3, Air Quality and Section 13, Noise. The project would minimize the effects of project construction related to noise, light, dust, and odors on persons and property off site. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.19 Colors and Materials: Employ colors and materials in new development which blend, rather than contrast, with the surrounding physical conditions of the site.	The proposed vault toilet would be constructed using earth-toned colors and materials that match the existing restroom onsite and that blend with the surrounding physical conditions, including the eucalyptus grove. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.20 Scale: Relate structures in size and scale to adjacent buildings and landforms.	The proposed vault toilet would be approximately 100 square feet in size, typical of restroom facilities in parks. The vault toilet's size and scale would relate to the adjacent pump track and site topography. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.26 Structural Features: Employ the regulations of the Historical and Cultural Preservation Ordinance to protect any structure or site listed as an Official County or State Historic Landmark or is listed in the National Register of Historic Sites.	See Section 5, Cultural Resources. The project would not adversely impact the El Granada Historic District that the project area intersects. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.27 Natural Features: Prohibit the destruction or significant alteration of special natural features through implementation of Landform Policies and Vegetative Form Policies of the LCP.	The project would not destroy or significantly alter special natural features. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 8.31 Regulation of Scenic Corridors in Rural Areas: a. Apply the policies of the Scenic Road Element of the County General Plan. b. Apply Section 6325.1 (Primary Scenic Resources Areas Criteria) of the Resource Management (RM) Zoning District as specific regulations protecting scenic corridors in the Coastal Zone. c. Apply the Rural Design Policies of the LCP. d. Apply the Policies for Landforms and Vegetative Forms of the LCP. e. Require a minimum setback of 100 feet from the right-of-way line, and greater where possible; however,	The project site is located in a County Scenic Corridor. See Section 1, Aesthetics. The project would not conflict with any regulations or policies that pertain to County Scenic Corridors. The project is consistent with this policy.

permit a 50-foot setback when sufficient screening is provided to shield the structure from public view. f. Continue applying special regulations for the Skyline Boulevard and Cabrillo Highway State Scenic Corridors. g. Enforce specific regulations of the Timber Harvest Ordinance which prohibits the removal of more than 50% of timber volume in scenic corridors.	
Hazards	
Policy 9.3 Regulation of Geologic Hazard Areas: Apply the following regulations of the Resource Management (RM) Zoning Ordinance to designated geologic hazard areas: a. Section 6324.6 - Hazards to Public Safety Criteria. b. Section 6326.2 - Tsunami Inundation Area Criteria. c. Section 6326.3 - Seismic Fault/Fracture Area Criteria. Require geologic reports prepared by a certified engineering geologist consistent with "Guidelines for Geologic/Seismic Reports" (CDMG Notes #37) for all proposed development. d. Section 6326.4 - Slope Instability Area Criteria.	See Section 7, Geology and Soils. The project would not have significant impacts related to geologic hazards due to the nature of the proposed project (i.e., does not include habitable structures), the location of the project outside a designated fault zone, and the design considerations that would minimize the impact of the South Ridge Fire Road related to geologic hazards. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 9.10 Geological Investigation of Building Sites: Require the County Geologist or an independent consulting certified engineering geologist to review all building and grading permits in designated hazardous areas for evaluation of potential geotechnical problems and to review and approve all required investigations for adequacy. As appropriate and where not already specifically required, require site specific geotechnical investigations to determine mitigation measures for the remedy of such hazards as may exist for structures of human occupancy and/or employment other than those considered accessory to agriculture as defined in Policy 5.6. "Hazards areas" and "hazards" are defined as those geotechnical hazards shown on the current Geotechnical Hazards Synthesis Maps of the General Plan and the LCP Hazards Maps. A copy of the report of all geologic investigations required by the California Division of Mines and Geology shall be forwarded to that agency.	See Section 7, Geology and Soils. A geotechnical investigation for the South Ridge Fire Road was prepared for the project. The geotechnical investigation includes recommendations to minimize the impacts of the construction and operation of South Ridge Fire Road related to geologic hazards. The project would implement the recommendations included within the project geotechnical investigation. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 9.18 Regulation of Development of 30% or Steeper Slopes: a. Prohibit development on slopes of 30% or more, unless (1) no alternative exists or (2) the only practicable alternative site is on a skyline or ridgeline. Parcels shall not be created where the only building site, in whole or in part, including roads and driveways, is on a slope of 30% or more. An engineering geologic report shall be required for any development on a slope of 30% or more. Development less than 10 feet in height that does not constitute a building, road or driveway, or require	The project proposes the construct the vault toilet in a flat previously disturbed area in the southwestern portion of the project site. The vault toilet would not be located on slopes of 30% or more. The development of South Ridge Fire Road is not subject to this policy because it is a road, which by nature is less than 10 feet in height. The project is consistent with this policy.

grading shall be exempt from the application of this provision. b. Employ the siting and grading criteria of the Design Review Zoning Ordinance and the Community Design Manual for Development on Slopes 30% or Greater.	
Shoreline Access	
Project activities would not take place along the shoreline. Therefore, the project would not affect shoreline access and shoreline access policies are not applicable.	
Recreation/Visitor Serving Facilities	
Policy 11.4 Recreation and Visitor-Serving Facilities Permitted in the Coastal Zone: Permit the following facilities in the Coastal Zone: (1) necessary visitor-serving facilities as defined in Policy 11.1, and (2) commercial recreation and public recreation facilities which (a) are designed to enhance public opportunities for coastal recreation, (b) do not substantially alter the natural environment, and (c) do not subvert the unique small town, rural character of the individual communities on the Coastside.	The project proposes a vault toilet to meet the increase in demand generated from visitor use of the new pump track at Quarry County Park. The Quarry County Park Master Plan identifies construction of the vault toilet as a plan recommendation. The vault toilet is an accessory structure to a public recreation facility. The vault toilet would support public recreational opportunities, would not substantially alter the natural environment due to its size and scale, and would not subvert the character of the community of El Granada. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 11.12 Sensitive Habitats: a. Permit recreation and visitor-serving facilities to locate on lands adjacent to sensitive habitats only when (1) there is adequate distance or separation by barriers such as fences, (2) the habitat is not threatened, and (3) there would not be substantial impacts on habitat, topography, and water resources. b. Permit recreation or visitor-serving facilities to locate adjacent to sensitive habitats only when development standards and management practices are adequate to protect the resources, consistent with Policy 11.18 and the Sensitive Habitats Component. c. Discourage the expansion of public recreation into locations within or adjacent to sensitive habitats until the level of improvement and management of existing public recreation areas within or adjacent to sensitive habitats are consistent with the Sensitive Habitats Component.	The proposed vault toilet would not be located in or near sensitive habitats. The vault toilet would be located in a previously disturbed area of the park clustered near existing recreational and visitor-serving features. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 11.14 Public Recreation Facilities: a. Use the locational and development standards included throughout this component, the Agriculture Component and the applicable standards and planning and management guidelines of the County's Parks and Recreation Element (contained in Appendix 11.A) as the development and management standards for public recreation facilities, including trails. LCP policies must predominate if there are conflicts. Seek any modifications in the classification of State Park Units which will conform their purposes and uses more closely to the policies of the LCP. b. Use development standards of this component, the County's Parks and Recreation Element standards and the criteria for trail development management	The proposed project includes vegetation management activities to reduce wildfire risk, construction of the South Ridge Fire Road to improve fire access, and installation of a new vault toilet to serve existing recreational use adjacent to the pump track. The project does not include new recreational facilities beyond the vault toilet and would not introduce new recreational uses or change the intensity of existing recreational use of the park. The project is consistent with this policy.

contained in Appendix 11.A when constructing trails. When the route of a bike path in the County's Bikeways Plan corresponds to the route of a trail included in the LCP trail program, construct the trail to accommodate both bicycle and pedestrian use, wherever possible. c. Permit the following recreation facilities on lands designated low-intensity public recreation: trails, interpretive facilities, family picnicking, parking not exceeding one auto space per 100 linear feet of beach or 50 acres of upland recreation, primitive camping, and one contact station per park unit. d. Permit the following recreational facilities on lands designated medium-intensity public recreation: all low-intensity facilities, plus permanent restrooms, other forms of camping, group picnicking and parking not exceeding one auto space per 25 linear feet of beach or 10 acres of upland recreation. e. Permit the following recreational facilities on lands designated high-intensity public recreation: all low- and medium-intensity facilities, plus permanent concessions, lodging in enclosed buildings, and additional parking to accommodate permitted uses. f. Permit the following additional recreational facilities on lands designated community park: meeting rooms, sports facilities.	
Policy 11.18 Sensitive Habitats: a. Conduct studies by a qualified person agreed by the County and the applicant during the planning and design phases of facilities located within or near sensitive habitats and archaeological/paleontological resources to determine the least disruptive locations for improvements and the methods of construction. These studies should consider the appropriate intensity of use, improvements and management to protect the resources and reduce or mitigate impacts. b. Provide improvements and management adequate to protect sensitive habitats. These may include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) informative displays, brochures, and signs to minimize public intrusion and impact, (2) organized tours of sensitive areas, (3) landscaped buffers or fences, and (4) staff to maintain improvements and manage the use of sensitive habitats. c. Provide setbacks from bluff edges adequate to protect the public, based on local geology and erosion rates and consistent with the Hazards Component.	See Section 4, Biological Resources and Section 5, Cultural Resources. The project would implement BMPs and mitigation measures to reduce any potentially significant biological and cultural resources impacts to a less than significant level of impact. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 11.20 Utilities: a. Require that sites for permitted recreation or visitor-serving facilities have or develop access to a public road in conformance with the policies of the Sensitive Habitats, Scenic Resources, and Hazards Components.	The proposed project includes construction of a vault toilet that would supplement an existing recreational facility, the pump track. The project site is accessible Santa Maria Avenue, a public roadway. The proposed vault toilet would include an underground tank that would be serviced by a third party rather than connection to a sewer system. Quarry County

b. Encourage sites for recreation or visitor-serving facilities to develop public restrooms, drinking water and telephones. c. Require recreation and visitor-serving facilities to connect to public or community water and sewer systems wherever those exist.	Park is not served by a sewer system. The project is consistent with this policy.
Policy 11.23 Low Cost Facilities: a. Provide low cost or no cost visitor-serving and public recreation facilities in public facilities. b. Encourage low cost facilities in privately developed visitor-serving facilities, particularly hotels and motels.	The proposed vault toilet would be made available for use by park visitors at no cost. The project is consistent with this policy.
Commercial Fishing/Recreational Boating	
The project does not involve commercial fishing/recreation boating activities nor would it take place in a location where these activities occur. Commercial fishing/recreation boating policies are not applicable.	

As shown in Table 4, the proposed project is consistent with the policies of the Local Coastal Program.

The proposed project's impact with respect to land use plans and policies adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect would be less than significant.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2013. Local Coastal Program Policies. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/local-coastal-program

San Mateo County. 2022. Planning and Building Map Viewer. https://gis.smcgov.org/apps/publicviewer/

San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Quarry County Park Master Plan. https://www.smcgov.org/parks/news/quarry-park-master-plan-final-draft-posted

11.c.	Serve to encourage off-site development of presently undeveloped areas or increase development intensity of already developed areas (examples include the introduction of new or expanded public utilities, new industry, commercial facilities or recreation activities)?			X	

Discussion: The project proposal includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire access road, and construction of a vault toilet at Quarry County Park. The proposed construction of the vault toilet to support a future pump track would not directly increase development intensity at Quarry County Park but, rather, would support increased recreation activity that would result from a separate project. South Ridge Fire Road would serve primarily as a fire access road but would provide an additional recreational facility for multi-modal park users going up and down the road. Considering Quarry County Park is already developed with numerous trails, the addition of a fire road that can also provide recreational opportunities would not constitute a substantial increase in development intensity compared to existing conditions. Therefore, the project would result in an increase in the development intensity at Quarry County Park; however, this increase would be minimal, and impacts would be less than significant.

Source: Project Plans

12. **MINERAL RESOURCES**. Would the project:				
	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
12.a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or the residents of the State?				X

Discussion: Historically, a 50-acre portion of the property was quarried to supply rock for Highway 1 and the Half Moon Bay airport runway (Gates and Associates 2022). There are no mines, mineral plants, oil, gas, or geothermal wells located at the project site (USGS 2003; DOC 2022). The California Department of Conservation (DOC) designates the project site under mineral resource zone classification MRZ-3, or areas containing mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data (DOC 1996). The project site does not have an MRZ-2 classification, which would indicate an area has significant mineral deposits, or where it is judged that there is a high likelihood an area has significant mineral deposits. Therefore, while the project site was for a number of years used as a quarry, the project site is not identified by the Department of Conservation as an area that would be of value to the region or residents of that state in terms of mineral resource availability. Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region. No impact would occur.

Source:

California Department of Conservation. 1996. Generalized Mineral Land Classification Map of the South San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region.

California Department of Conservation. 2022. Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources Online Mapping System. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/doggr/wellfinder/#openModal/-122.45382/37.50678/14

Gates and Associates 2022. Quarry County Park Master Plan. https://www.smcgov.org/media/133301/download?inline=

United States Geological Survey (USGS). 2013. Active Mines and Mineral Plants in the U.S. mrdata.usgs.gov/mineral-resources/active-mines.html

12.b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Discussion: Locally important mineral resources are not delineated in any local land use plans for the project area, including the San Mateo County General Plan. Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site. No impact would occur.

Source:

San Mateo County. 1986. General Plan. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/san-mateo-county-prime-soils

13.	**NOISE**. Would the project result in:				
		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
13.a.	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	

Discussion: As described in detail below, the proposed project would not generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project site that are in excess of standards established in the County's General Plan, Noise Ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. This impact would be less than significant.

Construction Noise

Project construction would require the use of heavy-duty construction equipment that could temporarily increase noise levels at adjacent property lines near work areas. The type of equipment used would include but is not limited to: a bulldozer, excavator, wheel tractor, skid steer, and chipper. The proposed air curtain burners would also require an efficient diesel-powered blower that pushes high velocity air across the top of the burn chamber.

Typical equipment that would be used would generate Lmax and Leq noise levels of up to 85 dbA and 81 dBA respectively at 50 feet (Caltrans 2013 and FHWA 2017). Both the vegetation treatment and the road construction may occur within 50 feet of residential receptors. At an active construction site, it is not uncommon for two or more pieces of construction equipment to operate at the same time and in close proximity. At a distance of 50 feet, the concurrent operation of a bulldozer and excavator, which would be required for the construction of the fire road, would produce an estimated noise level of approximately 84 dBA. These estimates assume no shielding or other noise control measures are in place at or near the work areas. Other project activities would likely involve less operation of heavy-duty off-road equipment; therefore, produce lower noise levels. The use of the air curtain burner would occur at the park's corporate yard, at least 300 feet from the property line of any residential receptor.

While the project would expose these residential receptors to noise from construction, the exposure would be short in duration. The proposed fire road would extend away from the nearest residences, so residential receptors would not be exposed to the worst-case 50-foot noise levels for most of the fire road construction. Noise from equipment used in fuel treatments would also be temporary. Activities in small treatment areas would be completed in approximately 1 to 3 weeks, and activities in large treatment areas would be completed in approximately 6 to 12 weeks. In addition, construction noise would be intermittent, occurring only when equipment is in operation. Furthermore, equipment noise would be limited to daytime hours which would avoid the more noise-sensitive nighttime hours. The project would follow BMP GEN-17 from the County's RMP Manual, which states that heavy equipment and haul traffic shall be prohibited in residential areas to the greatest extent feasible, and that when no other route to and from the site is available, heavy equipment and haul traffic through residential areas shall be restricted to the hours of 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The project would not result in temporary increases in noise levels above any applicable standards.

Long-term Operational Noise

The project does not involve operational noises or changes in land use. There would not be long-term operational noise impacts associated with the project. The impact would be less than significant.

Source:

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2013. *Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual*. Prepared by the California Department of Transportation: Division of Environmental Analysis Environmental Engineering – Hazardous Waste, Air, Noise, Paleontology Office. Report No. CT-HWANP-RT-13-069.25.3. Sacramento, CA. September 2013.

County of San Mateo. 2013. General Plan Policies. https://www.smcgov.org/media/73491/download?inline=

_____. 2022. Ordinance Code. https://library.municode.com/ca/san_mateo_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT4SAHE_CH4.88NOCO

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). 2017. "Construction Noise Handbook, Chapter 9 Construction Equipment Noise Levels and Ranges." Available at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/construction_noise/handbook/handbook09.cfm (accessed August 1, 2019).

13.b.	Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?			X	

Discussion: The proposed project would not generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. This impact would be less than significant.

Vibration is the movement of particles within a medium or object such as the ground or a building. Vibration may be caused by natural phenomena (e.g., earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, sea waves, landslides) or humans (e.g., explosions, machinery, traffic, trains, construction equipment).

Common sources of vibration within communities include construction activities and railroads. Groundborne vibration generated by construction projects is usually highest during pile driving, rock blasting, soil compacting, jack hammering, and demolition-related activities. Next to pile driving, grading activity has the greatest potential for vibration impacts if large bulldozers, large trucks, or other heavy equipment are used.

Some equipment used for vegetation treatment and fire road construction could occur in close proximity to receptors. Equipment used in fire road construction would operate within 50 feet of residential buildings along Coronado Avenue. However, this equipment would not generate excessive vibration because it would occur during the daytime, be intermittent, and would not be of sufficient magnitude to damage buildings.

Source: Project Plans

13.c.	For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, exposure to people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Discussion: Quarry Park is located approximately 2 miles southeast of the Half Moon Bay Airport. The project site is outside of the Airport Influence Area (Zone 7; Coffman Associates 2014). Project activities would not expose people to excessive noise levels associated with airport operations. There is no impact.

Source:

Project Plans

Coffman Associates, Inc., 2014. Final Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for the Environs of Half Moon Bay Airport. Prepared for City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County. September 2014. https://ccag.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/HAF-ALUCP-Final.pdf

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	*Significant Unless Mitigated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
14.a.	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X

Discussion: The proposed project does not involve the construction of new homes or businesses or extend new roads or other infrastructure into undeveloped areas. The project would construct the South Ridge Fire Road within the park to provide for fire access and serve as a fuel break; the fire road would not serve any population growth. Therefore, the proposed project would have no direct or indirect impact related to growth inducement.

Source: Project Plans

14.b.	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Discussion: The project involves vegetation management and facility improvements in Quarry County Park. The project would not displace people nor housing. No replacement housing would need to be constructed due to displacement of existing housing. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Source: Project Plans

15. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

	Potentially Significant Impacts	*Significant Unless Mitigated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
15.a. Fire protection?				X

Discussion: The County contracts with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for fire protection and general rescue services in the unincorporated areas of the County not served by other fire districts or departments. The San Mateo Division is a "Combination Type" Division having both paid and volunteer personnel. The nearest fire station is Fire Station 41, the Coastside Fire Station, which is located approximately 0.4 miles southwest of Quarry County Park (San Mateo County Fire Department 2022).

The purpose of the project is to conduct wildfire risk reduction activities, including vegetation management throughout the park and the construction of the South Ridge Fire Road, that would improve fire protection access and decrease the potential for damage to life and property from a wildfire at Quarry County Park. In the long-term, the project would be expected to reduce the risk of wildfire to a beneficial effect, alleviating demand on fire and emergency response providers that serve Quarry County Park and the surrounding area. Because South Ridge Fire Road construction activities would be temporary and short-term, project construction would not increase demand for fire protection services. Similarly, the project would not change long-term use of the project area such that increased risk of fire would result. As such, the project would not be expected to affect the San Mateo County Fire Department's ability to maintain service ratios, response times, other performance objectives, such that new or physically altered facilities would be required. For these reasons, the project would have no adverse impact with respect to the provision of fire services.

Source:

San Mateo County Fire Department. 2022. Fire Stations. https://www.cfsfire.org/about/fire-stations/

15.b. Police protection?				X

Discussion: The project site is served by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. The nearest San Mateo County Sheriff's offices are the Half Moon Bay Substation located approximately 2.6 miles to the south at 537 Kelly Avenue and the Moss Beach Substation located approximately 2.9 miles to the northwest at 500 California Avenue (San Mateo County Sheriff's Office 2022).

The proposed project involves vegetation management and facility improvements at Quarry County Park. The project does not involve uses (i.e., new residential or commercial development) that would potentially increase demand for police protection services. The project would not be expected to substantially affect the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office's ability to maintain service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives such that new or physically altered facilities would be required. The project would have no impact with respect to the provision of police protection facilities.

Source:

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. 2022. Coastside Patrol Bureau. https://www.smcsheriff.com/patrol-services/coastside-patrol-bureau

15.c. Schools?				X
Discussion: The project involves vegetation management and facility improvements at Quarry County Park The project would not create new housing or jobs that would generate population growth and create new demand for schools or the need to modify existing schools. Therefore, the project would have no impact on the adequate provision of school resources or facilities. **Source:** Project Plans				
15.d. Parks?				X
Discussion: Other than the project site (Quarry County Park), the nearest regional parks or recreational areas to the project site include Rancho Corral de Tierra, Pillar Point Bluff, Cowell Ranch, and San Pedro Valley Park, among others. The project would not generate population growth; therefore, the project would not result in increased population such that there would be additional demand for parks facilities during or after construction. Quarry County Park would remain open during the South Ridge Fire Road and vault toilet construction and during vegetation management activities. Some trails could be temporarily closed resulting in park users to be diverted to other trails with Quarry County Park. Park amenities near the main entrance (e.g., ball field and pump track) would remain open to the public during project activities. Given the short-term, temporary nature of project construction activities, the availability of most areas of the park during project activities, and the number of other parks in the project vicinity, any displacement is unlikely to result in substantial impacts on the receiving parks such that there would be need for increased or expanded parks facilities. Therefore, the project would have no impact related to the need for new or physically altered parks and recreational facilities. **Source:** Project Plans San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Parks. https://www.smcgov.org/parks/list				
15.e. Other public facilities or utilities (e.g., hospitals, or electrical/natural gas supply systems)?				X
Discussion: The proposed project would not increase the local population or create new jobs. Construction workers for the construction of South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet would be employed on a short-term, temporary basis and wildfire fuel reduction activities would be carried out either by existing County Park maintenance crews or by independent contractors. Therefore, the project is not expected to increase the use of other public facilities such as libraries or hospitals. The proposed project activities do not require utility connections or create demand for utility service systems. Therefore, the project would have no impact on other public facilities or utilities. **Source:** Project Plans				

16. RECREATION. Would the project:				
	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
16.a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
Discussion: The proposed project involves vegetation management activities and facility improvements at Quarry County Park. These activities would not increase park visitation or create new demand on park facilities. Quarry County Park would remain open during the project activities; however, use of some park areas and trails would be temporarily restricted during South Ridge Fire Road construction and periodic wildfire risk reduction activities. Active work areas at any given time would be limited to small portions of the park relative to total park area. Construction activities and vegetation management may compel some would-be users to visit other nearby recreation areas in the vicinity, such as Rancho Corral de Tierra, Pillar Point Bluff, Cowell Ranch, or San Pedro Valley Park, among others (County of San Mateo Parks Department 2022). However, considering the abundance of trails within Quarry County Park and other parks in the region, any displacement of recreational users would be negligible and would not result in increased use of receiving parks such that they would experience substantial physical deterioration. Therefore, the project would have no impact on neighborhood or regional parks and recreational facilities. **Source:** Project Plans San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Parks. https://www.smcgov.org/parks/list				
16.b. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?			X	
Discussion: The proposed project involves vegetation management activities and facility improvements at Quarry County Park. The new single-vault toilet would be installed in a previously disturbed area in the park corporation yard next to the new pump track. The vault toilet would serve existing park visitors and would not create new demand on park facilities. Wildfire fuel removal activities involves vegetation management and would not create new or expanded recreational facilities. The proposed South Ridge Fire Road would create new park infrastructure for fire access. The road would be used as a multi-use trail but would not create new recreational use to the park or generate new demand for additional or expanded recreational facilities. There would be no impact. **Source:** Project Plans				

17. **TRANSPORTATION**. Would the project:				
	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
17.a. Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and parking?			X	

Discussion: Applicable policy related to the establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system includes the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) Congestion Management Plan (CMP), the San Mateo County General Plan – Transportation Policies (San Mateo County 1986), and the San Mateo County Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan.

Congestion Management Program

The City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) serves as the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for San Mateo County. C/CAG's most recent Congestion Management Program (CMP), referred to as the CMP 2021, establishes the designated CMP Roadway network, which includes I-280, U.S. 101, the Bayfront Expressway (SR 84), El Camino Real (SR 82), and Willow Road (SR 114), and the LOS standard for each roadway in the network (C/CAG 2021).

The project would generate temporary, short-term construction traffic during the construction periods for South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet. The project would also generate a small number of trips on a regular but not continuous basis during project operation for fuel reduction activities prior to the typical fire season in California. No arterial roadway that would provide access to the project site is included in the CMP Roadway system. Additionally, project-generated construction trips would be small in number and, therefore, would not likely substantially affect traffic on designated CMP roadways that serve as regional corridors. The project would not conflict with C/CAG's Congestion Management Program.

San Mateo County General Plan Transportation Policies

The San Mateo County General Plan contains Transportation policies that would apply to the proposed project. The project would have a significant transportation-related impact if it conflicted with applicable General Plan Transportation policies. The Transportation policies applicable to the proposed project are listed below:

12.21 Local Circulation Policies

In unincorporated communities, plan for providing:

a. Maximum freedom of movement for all transportation users and adequate access to various land uses;

c. Minimal through traffic in residential areas;

d. Routes for truck traffic which avoid residential areas and are structurally designed to accommodate trucks;

e. Access for emergency vehicles; and

f. Safe and efficient bicycle and pedestrian travel.

Regional access to the project site is from State Route (SR) 1 (also known as Cabrillo Highway), a 2-lane undivided highway. Local access to the project site from SR 1 is provided by local streets, including Santa Maria Avenue and Coronado Avenue, which would provide direct access to Quarry County Park. Within Quarry County Park, temporary access roads, including old (legacy) roads, would be established to move equipment into the vegetation treatment areas.

Truck trips associated with the project would include the transport/delivery of construction materials and equipment to each project work site and the transport of spoils and debris due to excavation-related activities. Heavy vehicles such as trucks are larger, heavier, slower, and less maneuverable than household (personal) automobiles, and typically have more noticeable effects on traffic flow. Truck traffic associated with the project would travel through residential areas on local streets, which would constitute a potentially significant impact in light of 12.21 Local Circulation Policies items c., d., and e., as project truck traffic could slow or obstruct vehicular, cyclist, and pedestrian travel on the affected local streets, namely Santa Maria Avenue and Coronado Avenue. The San Mateo County RPM Manual requires the County to implement BMPs to avoid and minimize the environmental impacts of routine and maintenance-related County work (San Mateo County 2020). The RMP Manual includes traffic control and flow BMPs that apply to the project, listed below and presented in Appendix A.

- BMP GEN-17 – Maintain Traffic Flow
- BMP GEN-18 – Traffic Control and Public Safety

With implementation of RMP manual BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18, the project would not conflict with applicable General Plan Transportation Policies. This impact is less than significant.

San Mateo County Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan

The San Mateo County Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan, also known as Connect the Coastside, was prepared to address the mobility needs of Midcoast residents and visitors, to protect coastal resources and public access, and to improve the livability for Midcoast residents (San Mateo County 2021). This Plan serves as a roadmap for future actions; future implementation may lead to amendments to various County regulations. The development of Connect the Coastside originated from Local Coastal Program Policy 2.53 Transportation Management Plan, which called for the County to: “Develop a comprehensive transportation management plan to address the cumulative traffic impacts of residential development, including single-family, two-family, multi-family, and second dwelling units, on roads and highways in the entire Midcoast, including the City of Half Moon Bay.”

The project proposes routine wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet. The project would generate vehicle tripes during construction of South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet. Construction period vehicle trips would be short-term and temporary. During project operation, San Mateo County Parks Department staff and contractors would generate vehicle trips traveling to and from the project site for fuel reduction activities. Fuel reduction activities would occur repeatedly, but not continuously, over time and particularly leading up to the California fire season; a specific fuel reduction project would last 1 to 3 weeks for small projects or 6 to 12 weeks for larger projects. Outside of fuel reduction activities, contractors would not make trips to and from the project site. The project would have a potentially significant impact if it would interfere with or obstruct any of the Connect the Coastside’s recommended infrastructure and service improvement projects. Connect the Coastside includes in its list of recommended infrastructure and service improvement projects Project Pe7 - El Granada Safe Routes to School, which calls for “various improvements to make it easier to walk and bike to El Granada Elementary School and the Wilkinson School, including sidewalks, Class III Bike Routes, traffic calming, and improved crossings” (San Mateo County 2021, p. 104). As discussed previously, project construction would require trucks and construction equipment to travel on local streets between SR 1 and the Quarry County Park access points. Heavy vehicles such as trucks are larger, heavier, slower, and less maneuverable than household (personal) automobiles, and typically have more noticeable effects on traffic flow.

Project construction traffic could, therefore, temporarily affect the ability of cyclists to travel to and from elementary schools in El Granada. However, the project would implement San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18, which would require traffic control and public safety measures that would ensure the safe travel of cyclists to and from schools in El Granada. The project would not conflict with Connect the Coastside's recommended infrastructure and service improvement projects.

For the reasons outlined above, the project would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities.

Source:

City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG). 2021. Congestion Management Plan. https://ccag.ca.gov/programs/transportation-programs/congestion-management/

San Mateo County. 1986. General Plan – Transportation Policies. November 1986. https://www.smcgov.org/media/73551/download?inline=

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

San Mateo County. 2021. Connect the Coastside San Mateo County Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan. https://www.smcgov.org/planning/connect-coastside

17.b.	Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Subdivision (b) *Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts*? *Note to reader: Section 15064.3 refers to land use and transportation projects, qualitative analysis, and methodology.*			X	

Discussion: Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) associated with land use projects is the metric for assessing transportation impacts under CEQA. VMT is the total miles of travel by personal motorized vehicles that a project is expected to generate in a day. VMT is the product of the number trips a project is expected to generate and the average length of those trips. VMT is an indicator of total GHG production, tailpipe emissions, and can serve as a metric of regional congestion.

The County of San Mateo is in the process of developing new thresholds of significance to identify transportation-related impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as required by Senate Bill (SB) 743 for the unincorporated areas within the County of San Mateo. In lieu of final VMT thresholds still under development, staff is using the State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) December 2018 Technical Advisory, as modified by the County. For analysis of transportation-related impacts under CEQA, if a project generates VMT above the defined threshold, it is deemed to have a significant impact.

The project would generate trips during the construction period for the construction of South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet; however, construction period traffic is exempt from VMT analysis. The project would be expected to generate a minimal number of trips during project operation for worker trips during fuel reduction activities.

The project site is located in the community of El Granada, which the County categorizes as an Urban/Suburban Area for the purpose of VMT analysis. As described under 17.a., the project would generate vehicle trips during the construction periods for the vault toilet and South Ridge Fire Road and on a regular, but not continuous, basis during project operation as part of ongoing fuel reduction activities. The number of projects the project would generate or attract has not been estimated; however, it is anticipated that the project would generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per day due to the

relatively small scale of project construction work (i.e., construction of a vault toilet and fire road compared to a residential development) and the nature of project operations, which would involve vehicle travel only from County field staff and contractor work crew(s). The project qualifies as a "Small Project" in that it would not generate or attract more than 110 trips per day, would be consistent with the General Plan (as demonstrated above), and there is no substantial evidence indicating a potentially significant level of VMT would result from the project. OPR analogized these small projects to those categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to the additions to existing facilities exemption, which typically do not have a significant impact. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant VMT impact.

Source:

San Mateo County Department of Public Works. 2020. Change to Vehicle Miles Traveled as Metric to Determine Transportation Impacts under CEQA Analysis. https://www.smcgov.org/media/46081/download?inline=

17.c.	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?		X		

Discussion: Project-generated traffic (including worker vehicles and large trucks) would interact with other vehicles as well as bicyclists on the roads used to access the project work sites, which could create traffic safety hazards. During the construction period, trucks delivering materials and equipment would travel to and from the project site via SR 1 and along local streets in El Granada, including Santa Maria Avenue and Coronado Avenue. The presence of slow-moving, large construction vehicles could obstruct passenger vehicle drivers' field of vision and make turns or passing more hazardous for all roadway users. The creation of potential traffic safety hazards as a result of project construction would be a significant impact. However, as discussed in 17.a, the San Mateo County RMP Manual requires the County to implement BMPs to avoid and minimize the environmental impacts of routine and maintenance-related County work. Implementation of BMPs GEN-17 Maintain Traffic Flow and GEN-18 Traffic Control and Public Safety (see Appendix A) would reduce project construction impacts. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure TRA-1** is further identified to reduce project construction impacts to a less-than-significant level through preparation and implementation of a project-specific traffic control plan during the construction of South Ridge Fire Road.

> **Mitigation Measure TRA-1: Traffic Control Plan.** The County shall require the construction contractor(s) to prepare and implement a traffic control plan to reduce traffic impacts on the roadways at and near the work sites, as well as to reduce potential traffic safety hazards and ensure adequate access for emergency responders and construction vehicles, as appropriate. To the extent applicable, the traffic control plan shall conform to the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control) (Caltrans 2014). The traffic control plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements:
>
> - Circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts on local road circulation during road and lane closures. Flaggers and/or signage shall be used to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone.
> - Identifying truck routes designated by the County. Haul routes that minimize truck traffic on local roadways shall be utilized to the extent possible.
> - Sufficient staging areas for trucks accessing construction zones to minimize disruption of access to adjacent public right-of-ways.
> - Controlling and monitoring construction vehicle movement through the enforcement of standard construction specifications by on-site inspectors
> - Scheduling truck trips outside the peak morning and evening commute hours to the extent possible.

- Limiting the duration of road and lane closures to the extent possible.
- Implementing roadside safety protocols. Advance “Road Work Ahead” warning and speed control signs (including those informing drivers of State legislated double fines for speed infractions in a construction zone) shall be posted to reduce speeds and provide safe traffic flow through the work zone.
- Coordinating construction administrators of emergency service providers (including all fire protection agencies), and recreational facility managers. Operators shall be notified at least one month in advance of the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of detours and lane closures, where applicable. All roads shall remain passable to emergency service vehicles at all times.
- Repairing and restoring affected roadway rights-of-way to their original condition after construction is completed.

Source:

Project Plans

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2014. CA MUTCD, Revision 6. https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd/camutcd-files

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

17.d.	Result in inadequate emergency access?		X		

Discussion: The project includes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet to support a future pump track. Wildfire fuel reduction activity and the vault toilet would have no impact on emergency access to the park. Construction of South Ridge Fire Road would improve emergency access to the park resulting in beneficial impact.

Project construction, including the location of construction staging areas for the construction of South Ridge Fire Road and the vault toilet, would take place fully within Quarry County Park. Construction vehicle access to and from the project site would take place along SR 1 on a regional scale, and on local streets, including Santa Maria Avenue and Coronado Avenue, on a local scale.

In the event of an emergency, vehicles would have access to the work sites along these ingress/egress access points and continued access to the rest of the park via temporary access roads, including the legacy roads, which would be temporarily in use during project construction. Project construction activities would not fully block Coronado Avenue, as construction of South Ridge Fire Road would begin at the terminus of Coronado Avenue and Quarry County Park and take place fully within Quarry County Park. However, project construction traffic could slow local traffic and a lane closure could inadvertently result in delays of emergency vehicles, which would be a significant impact. As noted in section 17.c., project implementation of San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18 would ensure adequate emergency access to and from the project site and in the surrounding neighborhoods. Mitigation Measure TRA-1, which is further identified to reduce project construction impacts to a less-than-significant level through preparation and implementation of a project-specific traffic control plan during the construction of South Ridge Fire Road, includes provisions for coordinating construction with emergency service providers and ensuring emergency service vehicle access during all times. This impact would be less than significant with mitigation.

Source:

Project Plans

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2014. CA MUTCD, Revision 6. https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd/camutcd-files

18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
	Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
18.a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place or cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)			X	

Discussion: A significant impact would occur if the project could cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource through physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource.

A records search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for Quarry County Park on June 28, 2022 with positive results (NAHC 2022). The NAHC directed contacting the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista and the Ohlone Indian Tribe, along with other tribal representatives that may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area.

The following tribal representatives were contacted by email on July 21, 2022 based on a current NAHC tribal contact list.

- Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista, Irene Zwierlein, Chairperson
- Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe, Tony Cerda, Chairperson
- Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan, Kanyon Sayers-Roods, MLD
- Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area, Arellano, Vice Chairwoman
- Ohlone Indian Tribe, Andrew Galvan
- Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band, Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson

In addition, the following tribal representative was contacted by email on July 22, 2022 based on tribes known to San Mateo County who have requested project information:

- Association of Ramaytush Ohlone, Jonathan Cordero, Ph.D, Founder and Executive Director

The emails to tribal representatives requested pertinent information regarding cultural resources in the project vicinity and included a description of the project with maps showing the project location, project vicinity, and project boundary.

The County received responses as shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5. Tribal Outreach Responses

Contact	Response Date	Tribal Response
Kanyon Sayers-Roods, MLD Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan	Email response received on 8/4/22	Ms. Sayers-Roods Kanyon Sayers-Roods indicated the project's area of effect overlaps or is near the management boundary of a potentially eligible cultural site. Kanyon Sayers-Roods recommended that a Native American monitor and an archaeologist be present on-site during all ground-disturbing activities and that the County conduct cultural sensitivity training for those involved in the project at the beginning of the project.
Andrew Galvan, The Ohlone Indian Tribe	Spoke via phone on 8/19/22	Mr. Galvan requested the inclusion of an unanticipated discovery clause or mitigation in the environmental document that states if stumps are removed as part of tree thinning, or any other ground disturbance is undertaken, potential pre-contact cultural materials work will stop immediately, and an archaeologist will be called to assess next steps. Human remains associated with his ancestors have been uncovered in this region.
Jonathan Cordero, Ph.D. Founder and Executive Director The Association of Ramaytush Ohlone	Email response received on 8/20/22	Mr. Cordero shared similar concerns as other respondents and requested on-site monitoring during the project.

The NWIC has on file 12 previous cultural resources reports that overlap the project area; however, none of these reports indicate the presence of a previously recorded cultural resource within the project area (see discussion under section 5.b).

There is potential for tribal cultural resources to be encountered during project-related ground-disturbing activities. If any such resources were encountered and found to qualify as a tribal cultural resource for CEQA purposes, project-related impacts to the resources could be significant. As discussed under section 5.b, implementation of San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs would reduce the potential for such impacts to less than significant by requiring field survey, construction monitoring, pre-activity worker training, and appropriate documentation and treatment of tribal cultural resources in the event of an unanticipated discovery as listed below.

- BMP CUL-2 Field Inventory for Highly or Moderately Sensitive Areas (Sensitivity Ratings 3-5), and Areas of Unknown Sensitivity
- BMP CUL-4 Construction Monitoring
- BMP CUL-5 Conduct Pre-Maintenance Educational Training
- BMP CUL-6 Address Discovery of Cultural Remains or Historic or Paleontological Artifacts Appropriately

Source:

Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). 2022. SLF Search Results, Quarry Park Wildfire Reduction and Visitor Services Project. June 28, 2022.

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. (In applying the criteria set forth in Subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.)			X	

Discussion: See discussion under section 18.a.i. Project ground-disturbing activities have the potential to encounter tribal cultural resources. Implementation of San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs CUL-2, CUL-4, CUL-5, and CUL-6 would reduce potentially significant project impacts to less than significant.

Source:

San Mateo County. 2022. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impacts	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
19.a.	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X

Discussion: The project involves vegetation management activities and facility improvements at Quarry County Park. The project would not result in the construction of new or expanded water supply, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electrical power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. The proposed vault toilet would not be served by plumbed water or sanitary sewer infrastructure. South Ridge Fire Road would have a rock surface that would introduce a small amount of new impervious surface. The road would be designed with rolling dip road drainage structures to effectively drain and direct the increased storm runoff to adjacent vegetated areas, thereby precluding the need for new stormwater drainage facilities to control runoff. Therefore, there would be no impact.

Source: Project Plans

19.b.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				X

Discussion: The project activities involving vegetation management activities do not require water consumption. Fire road construction activity may involve the temporary application of water spray truck for dust suppression. The proposed vault toilet would not utilize water and would not be connected to a water utility. The project would have no impact related to water supplies because the project does not propose activities that require long-term water use.

Source: Project Plans

19.c.	Result in a determination by the waste-water treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X

Discussion: The project activities involving vegetation management and construction of a fire access road do not generate wastewater and do not require wastewater treatment service. The proposed vault toilet would not be served by a plumbed sanitary sewer system. Waste would be held in an underground tank until a service truck pumps it out for transport to a water treatment facility on a monthly basis. A 300-gallon industrial grade reusable liquid storage container (intermediate bulk container; IBC) for pumped effluent would be installed behind the vault toilet building. This level of wastewater generated by the single-vault toilet is considered minor and would not result in a significant increase in the demand for wastewater treatment service. The impact is less than significant.

Source: Project Plans

19.d.	Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				X

Discussion: The proposed vegetation management and facility improvement projects at Quarry County Park would not generate solid waste for landfill disposal. Wildfire fuel reduction activities proposed under the project would produce vegetative debris which would be disposed of onsite through such methods as mastication, chipping, brush raking, tilling, mowing, roller chopping, piling, and pile burning. Masticated and chipped trees would be left in place as a mulch to protect the soil from compaction and soil erosion. Vegetative waste produced during project wildfire fuel reduction activities would not be hauled offsite and, therefore, would not affect the capacity of local infrastructure.

Construction of South Ridge Fire Road would involve clearing vegetation, removing topsoil, and earthwork. Vegetation would be disposed of onsite as described above for fuel reduction activities. Stripped topsoil would be stockpiled on site for use as fill. Earthwork cut and fill volumes would require off-haul of 275 cubic yards for disposal at the closest landfill (e.g., Ox Mountain)..

The vault toilet would generate wastewater as discussed in section 19c. The vault toilet would not generate solid waste for landfill disposal.

As a result, the proposed project would not impact solid waste infrastructure capacity. There would be no impact.

Source: Project Plans

19.e.	Comply with Federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X	

Discussion: See discussion under section 19.d.

Source: Project Plans

20.	**WILDFIRE**. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	***Potentially Significant Impacts***	***Significant Unless Mitigated***	***Less Than Significant Impact***	***No Impact***
20.a.	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?		X		

Discussion: According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the project site is located predominantly in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), though a portion of the project site is located in a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (HFHSZ). The project site is also located in a State Responsibility Area (SRA).

See discussion in section 17.d. Project implementation of San Mateo County RMP Manual BMPs GEN-17 and GEN-18 and Mitigation Measure TRA-1 would ensure adequate emergency access to and from the project site and in the surrounding neighborhoods. The project would not substantially impair an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, including the San Mateo County Emergency Operations Plan. The proposed fire road would improve emergency response abilities and safer access for fire suppression.

Source:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). 2020. Fire Hazard Severity Viewer. https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

20.b.	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X

Discussion: The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet in Quarry County Park. The project site is located on a gently to moderately sloping (5 to 50 percent slopes) hillside. As discussed in the Project Description, the predominant vegetation community onsite is eucalyptus grove. Eucalyptus is a highly flammable species. The presence of the eucalyptus grove combined with moderately sleep onsite slopes, weather patterns, and the park's proximity to neighborhoods creates a significant fire hazard. The purpose of the project is to improve fire risk management by implementing the Quarry County Park Master Plan's recommendations for wildfire risk reduction, which include a variety of vegetation treatment methods (i.e., non-shaded fuel breaks, shaded fuel breaks, and selective removal of hazardous vegetation, such

as trees that are dead or dying) and improving fire road access by connecting the South Ridge Trail to Coronado Avenue (San Mateo County Parks Department 2022, p. 83).

Vegetation treatments for the purpose of fuel reduction are focused on reducing the likelihood of a ground fire increasing in intensity and helping suppression forces more easily contain a fire. This is accomplished by modifying fire behavior through strategic removal or modification of vegetation. Certain wind and weather conditions lead to ultrahigh-intensity, fast-moving, wind-driven wildfires. Although the most individually destructive, these extreme fires represent a small number of the total fires that occur each year in California. While vegetation treatments may not be able to slow or halt such extreme fires, the proposed vegetation treatments can help slow and suppress fires that are less extreme. Vegetation treatments can also play a valuable role in containing the more extreme fires, when weather conditions shift, wind subsides, and fire intensity decreases. By implementing the proposed treatment types, this work would strategically modify portions of the landscape to reduce losses from and improve resiliency to wildfire.

The South Ridge Fire Road is recommended by CAL FIRE to create a complete fire access loop connection onsite, thereby improving and expanding access to the park for fire protection providers. South Ridge Fire Road would provide better access to areas needing vegetation treatment and would improve internal park access and circulation for fire fighting vehicles in the event of a wildfire. South Ridge Fire Road would also be maintained as a shaded fuel break, providing an additional benefit in terms of wildfire risk reduction.

Because project would improve wildfire risk management in Quarry County Park in accordance with the Quarry County Park Master Plan, the project would have a beneficial, rather than adverse, effect related to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. There would be no impact.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Quarry County Park Master Plan. https://www.smcgov.org/media/133301/download?inline=

20.c.	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?		X		

Discussion: The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet in Quarry County Park. The project proposal includes the installation of infrastructure, including South Ridge Fire Road and non-shaded and shaded fuel breaks. Construction of South Ridge Fire Road and fuel breaks would involve the use of heavy construction equipment with internal combustion engines that, if not equipped with spark arrestors, could emit flammable debris and ignite a wildfire. The San Mateo County RMP Manual includes BMPs to avoid or minimize the environmental impacts of routine County maintenance and construction work. One of the RMP BMPs is GEN-23 – Fire Prevention which requires equipment with internal combustion engines to be equipped with spark arrestors and increased fire risk awareness and prevention during high fire danger periods. Project implementation of BMP GEN-23 would ensure project construction of associated infrastructure would not exacerbate fire risk.

- BMP GEN-23 Fire Prevention

The installation of South Ridge Fire Road and fuel breaks could result in potentially significant impacts to biological, cultural, and water quality impacts. During fuel reduction activities, temporary access roads would be established to move equipment into the treatment areas. The establishment of these temporary access roads would require vegetation removal; however, vegetation would be removed to the minimum amount necessary to provide access. Use of old (legacy) roads from historic quarry and logging operations on the property would be used as much as possible in the development of these access roads, which would lessen impacts by reducing the number of new temporary roads, and associated vegetation removal, required. Road design and construction would occur in accordance with County standards and Best Management Practices (BMPs) for safety and erosion control as identified in the RMP Manual (see Appendix A). Further, the temporary access roads would be decommissioned and restored upon completion of vegetation treatment activity.

Construction of South Ridge Fire Road would involve grading activities that could potentially temporarily impact downstream or downslope water quality if adequate erosion control measures are not taken to control the escape of fuels, oils, solvents, and sediments from the work area. As discussed in section 9.a., the project would implement erosion control and sediment/water quality control BMPs from the San Mateo County Routine Maintenance Program Manual. Implementation of these BMPs would reduce potentially significant environmental impacts from South Ridge Fire Road construction to a less-than-significant level.

Project installation of South Ridge Fire Road and fuel breaks could also have potentially significant biological resources impacts. See Section 4, Biological Resources. The project would implement BMPs from the San Mateo County RMP Manual that would avoid or reduce potential indirect project impacts on special-status plants, special-status animals, and sensitive habitats. The project would also implement Mitigation Measures BLGY-1 through BLGY-6, which would further reduce potentially significant impacts to special-status plant species, special-status wildlife, and sensitive habitats to less than significant.

Therefore, project installation of infrastructure, including South Ridge Fire Road and fuel breaks, would not exacerbate fire risk and would not result in significant impacts to the environment with the implementation of BMPs and Mitigation Measures BLGY-1 through BLGY-6. This impact would be less than significant with mitigation.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual.
https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

20.d.	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?			X	

Discussion: The project proposes wildfire fuel reduction activities, construction of a fire road, and construction of a vault toilet. The project site is located on a gently to moderately sloping (5 to 50 percent slopes) hillside. See discussion in section 20.b. Overall, the project would provide a beneficial, rather than adverse, effect related to wildfire risk in Quarry County Park because the project includes components specifically intended to improve wildfire risk management in the park.

However, the introduction of impervious, rocked surface area associated with South Ridge Fire Road could potentially increase the amount and rate of onsite runoff, and vegetation removal could increase the potential for post-fire slope instability and increase runoff rates. See discussion in section 10.a. South Ridge Fire Road has been designed with strategically sited rolling dips to allow for proper

drainage of the roadbed, which would minimize the potential for increased runoff from the road's impervious surface area to result in significant downstream or downslope impacts. The project proposes to chip vegetation removed by fuel reduction activities and spread the chipped material as mulch over the affected soils. Doing so would minimize the potential for soil compaction or erosion. In addition, the project would implement erosion control BMPs as required by the San Mateo County RMP Manual. Implementation of the BMPs included in section 10.a. would further reduce the risk that project activities would increase runoff and post-fire slope instability to the extent that downslope flooding or landslides would occur. Therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, include downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. This impact would be less than significant.

Source:

Project Plans

San Mateo County. 2020. Routine Maintenance Program Manual. https://www.smcgov.org/media/65021/download?inline=

21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

		Potentially Significant Impacts	*Significant Unless Mitigated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
21.a.	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		

Discussion: Potentially significant impacts identified for biological resources (special-status plant species, special-status animals, and sensitive habitats) can be reduced to less than significant through implementation of a combination of BMPs from the San Mateo County RMP Manual and Mitigation Measures BLGY-1 through BLGY-6 and are not expected to degrade environmental quality, or substantially reduce the habitat or affect populations of any wildlife, fish, or plant species. Construction of the proposed project would not have any impact on any examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. San Mateo County RMP BMPs CUL-2, CUL-4, CUL-5and CUL-6 would be implemented to ensure that any impacts resulting from the incidental discovery of archaeological, tribal cultural, or paleontological resources during construction would be less than significant.

Source: Initial Study Checklist analysis

21.b.	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)			X	

Discussion: As defined by the CEQA Guidelines, cumulative impacts reflect" 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" CEQA Guidelines, Section 15355[b]).

Consideration of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the project area and vicinity indicate that the proposed project would have a less than significant impact. The San Mateo County Parks Department conducts wildfire fuel reduction projects throughout the parks and open space areas it owns and maintains. The San Mateo County Parks Department's Forest Health & Community Safety Initiative identifies 32 fuel reduction (mostly fuel break construction) projects to be undertaken throughout the County from 2021 through 2026 (San Mateo County Parks Department 2022). The closest projects included in the Initiative would involve fuel break construction at San Pedro Valley Park, which is located approximately 3.5 miles north of Quarry County Park.

In addition to fuel reduction projects undertaken by the County, private landowners and other agencies may be conducting fuel reduction projects in the project vicinity. The National Park Service (NPS), for example, conducts ongoing wildfire risk reduction activities in Rancho Corral de Tierra, located immediately north and northeast of Quarry County Park, and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, located approximately 1.7 miles to the northeast (NPS 2021). Considering the significant fire behavior that has occurred recently throughout the State and that is projected to continue into the future, ongoing and new wildfire risk reduction, including fuels management, projects in the project site vicinity are anticipated in the foreseeable future.

The project would not impact agriculture or forestry resources, mineral resources or population and housing. The project would have less than significant impacts related to aesthetics, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, land use and planning, recreation, public services, or utilities and service systems that would not be expected to combine with other projects. The proposed project could have potentially significant impacts with respect to air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, and transportation and traffic. However, such impacts would be localized to the project construction sites and work areas, and, where necessary, reduced in through implementation of BMPs and/or mitigated such that they would not substantially combine with other off-site impacts.

For the reasons presented previously, the proposed project would not be expected to result in adverse impacts to human beings, either directly or indirectly. Impacts identified in this document would be less than significant or reduced to less-than-significant levels with implementation of mitigation measures, and the project's incremental contribution to potential cumulative impacts would not be cumulatively considerable. Therefore, the project's impact would be considered less than significant.

Source:

Initial Study Checklist analysis

San Mateo County Parks Department. 2022. Forest Health & Community Safety Initiative. https://www.smcgov.org/parks/forest-health-community-safety-initiative

National Park Service (NPS). 2021. Fire Management. https://www.nps.gov/goga/learn/management/firemanagement.htm				
21.c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		
Discussion: See section 21.b., above. **Source:** IS Checklist analysis				

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES. Check what agency has permit authority or other approval for the project.

AGENCY	YES	NO	TYPE OF APPROVAL
Bay Area Air Quality Management District		X	
Caltrans		X	
City		X	
California Coastal Commission		X	Coastal Development Permit only upon appeal.
County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC)		X	
Other: _____		X	
National Marine Fisheries Service		X	
Regional Water Quality Control Board	X		NPDES Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for fire road construction.
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)		X	
AGENCY	**YES**	**NO**	**TYPE OF APPROVAL**
Sewer/Water District:		X	
State Department of Fish and Wildlife		X	
State Department of Public Health		X	
State Water Resources Control Board		X	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CE)		X	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)		X	
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		X	

MITIGATION MEASURES		
	Yes	No
Mitigation measures have been proposed in project application.	X	
Other mitigation measures are needed.	X	
The following measures are included in the project plans or proposals pursuant to Section 15070(b)(1) of the State CEQA Guidelines:		

DETERMINATION (to be completed by the Lead Agency).

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

_____ I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared by the Planning Department.

_____ X I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because of the mitigation measures in the discussion have been included as part of the proposed project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

_____ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Sam Herzberg

(Signature)

November 3, 2022 — Date

Senior Park Planner — (Title)

_ND - Initial Study Checklist (07-17-19).dotx

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Routine Maintenance Program Best Management Practices

Attachment A

Routine Maintenance Program Best Management Practices

Table 9-1. Maintenance Program Best Management Practices

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
General Avoidance and Minimization Measures		
GEN-1	Staging and Access	▪ Staging, access, and parking areas will be located outside of sensitive habitats to the extent feasible. ▪ Staging areas will be located 30 feet from the top of bank (or as far as feasibly possible) or on the outboard side of levees. ▪ Vegetation removal shall be limited to the minimum amount necessary to provide access.
GEN-2	Minimize Area of Disturbance and Site Maintenance	▪ Areas of disturbance will be limited to the smallest footprint necessary and a single access pathway, where feasible. For maintenance activities near waterways or other sensitive habitat, the designated work area shall be clearly identified in the field using highly visible material, and work will not be conducted outside this area. ▪ Keep excavated soil and materials on the site where they will not collect into the street or get transported to storm drains or nearby water bodies by rainfall or runoff in order to avoid deleterious effects to fish, wildlife, and beneficial uses. ▪ Transfer excavated materials to dump trucks on the site, not in the street.
GEN-3	Construction Entrances and Perimeter	▪ Establish and maintain effective perimeter controls and stabilize all construction entrances and exits to sufficiently control erosion and sediment discharges from site and tracking off site. ▪ Sweep or vacuum any street tracking immediately and secure sediment source to prevent further tracking. Never hose down streets to clean up tracking. ▪ When in-channel work is required, where available use existing ingress or egress points or perform work from the top of the stream banks.
GEN-4	Salvage/Reuse of Plant and Woody Material	▪ Large wood or weed-free topsoil displaced by project activities may be stockpiled for use during site restoration. Native vegetation displaced by project activities will be stockpiled if it would be useful during site restoration. ▪ Stockpiled material shall not be placed over riparian or wetland vegetation. Stockpiled material shall not be placed in areas where it could enter the stream, riparian or wetland areas. ▪ To the extent feasible, all other woody material that is not re-usable should be disposed at a composting facility.
GEN-5	Non-Hazardous Materials	▪ Berm and cover stockpiles of sand, dirt or other construction material with tarps when rain is forecast or if not actively being used within 14 days.
GEN-6	Hazardous Materials Storage/ Disposal	▪ Label all hazardous materials and hazardous wastes (such as pesticides, paints, thinners, solvents, fuel, oil, and antifreeze) in accordance with city, county, state, and federal regulations. ▪ Store hazardous materials and wastes in watertight containers, store in appropriate secondary containment, and cover them at the end of every workday or during wet weather or when rain is forecast. ▪ Follow manufacturer's application instructions for hazardous materials and be careful not to use more than necessary. Do not apply chemicals outdoors when rain is forecast within 24 hours. ▪ Arrange for appropriate disposal of all hazardous wastes.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
GEN-7	Spill Prevention and Control	• Keep spill cleanup materials (rags, absorbents, etc.) available at the construction site at all times. • Inspect vehicles and equipment frequently for and repair leaks promptly. On-site monitor should insect beneath all vehicles that have been parked more than 15 minutes before they leave the work area. Use drip pans to catch leaks until repairs are made. • Clean up spills or leaks immediately and dispose of cleanup materials properly. • Do not hose down surfaces where fluids have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods (absorbent materials, cat litter, and/or rags). • Sweep up spilled dry materials immediately. Do not try to wash them away with water or bury them. If water must be used, the Contractor shall collect the water and spilled fluids and dispose of it as hazardous waste. • Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil. • Small spills (less than 18 inches in diameter) including small quantities of oil, gasoline, paint or other materials should be controlled by the first responder (maintenance staff) and do not necessarily require an emergency response team. Medium spills (greater than 18 inches but less than 6 feet in diameter) are typically controlled by the first responder (maintenance staff) but police or fire department HAZMAT teams may be called based on conditions. Report significant spills (larger than 6 feet in diameter and any "running" spill) immediately. You are required by law to report all significant releases of hazardous materials, including oil. To report a spill, contact the San Mateo County Environmental Health Services Division, or other emergency office (e.g., local fire or police department) as warranted, immediately and document the spill using the spill documentation form . Alternatively, 1) dial 911, the local emergency response number, 2) the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802; or 2) call the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center, (800) 852-7550 (24 hours). As appropriate, contact other agencies including California Occupational Safety and Health Administration or the Regional Water Quality Control Board. All chemical spills shall be reported as soon as possible to the emergency site contact.
GEN-8	Waste Management	Cover waste disposal containers securely at the end of every workday and during wet weather. ▪ Check waste disposal containers frequently for leaks and to make sure they are not overfilled. Never hose down a dumpster on the construction site. ▪ Ensure that portable toilets have a secondary containment plan (e.g., a containment pan). ▪ Clean or replace portable toilets and inspect them frequently for leaks and spills. ▪ Dispose of all wastes and debris properly. Recycle materials and wastes that can be recycled (such as asphalt, concrete, aggregate base materials, wood, gyp board, pipe, etc.) ▪ Dispose of liquid residues from paints, thinners, solvents, glues, and cleaning fluids as hazardous waste.
GEN-9	Vehicle Maintenance and Parking	▪ Designate an area, fitted with appropriate BMPs, for vehicle and equipment parking and storage. ▪ Perform major maintenance, repair jobs, and vehicle and equipment washing off site. ▪ Conduct vehicle and equipment cleaning at County corporation yards and ensure that rinse water does not run into gutters, streets, storm drains, or surface waters.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ If refueling or vehicle maintenance must be done on-site, work in a bermed area (e.g., sandbags, gravel bags, compost socks, or other barrier material) at least 150 feet away from creek channels, away from storm drains and over a drip pan big enough to collect fluids. ▪ Refuel vehicles at least 150 feet away from the active stream channel. ▪ Keep an ample supply of spill clean-up materials near fueling, vehicle maintenance and hazardous materials/hazardous waste storage areas. Inventory clean-up materials monthly and restock as needed. ▪ Post proper fueling and spill clean-up instructions at fueling areas. Never leave the area while equipment is being filled. ▪ Recycle or dispose of fluids as hazardous waste. ▪ Do not clean vehicle or equipment on-site using soaps, solvents, degreasers, steam cleaning equipment, etc. ▪ Perform vehicle and mobile equipment steam cleaning, pressure washing or degreasing only over a containment designed to collect any generated wash water. Collect wash water and discharge to sewer via an oil water separator. Do not pour wash water down storm drains or sewers connected to septic systems.
GEN -10	Equipment Maintenance & Fueling	▪ A separate area should be designated for equipment maintenance and fueling, away from any slopes, watercourses, or drainage facilities. ▪ Equipment should not be stored in areas that will potentially drain to watercourses or drainage facilities. If equipment must be stored in areas with the potential to generate runoff, drip pans, berms, gravel bags, or absorbent booms should be employed to contain any leaks or spills. ▪ Equipment should be inspected daily for leaks or damage and promptly repaired. ▪ Fueling and maintenance of vehicles should take place at least 65 feet away from waterways. ▪ In the event of a spill, follow procedures outlined in BMP GEN-7.
GEN-11	Paving and Asphalt Work	▪ Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather or when rain is in the forecast, to prevent materials that have not cured from contacting stormwater runoff. ▪ Cover storm drain inlets and manholes when applying seal coat, tack coat, slurry seal or fog seal; and when saw cutting asphalt or concrete. ▪ Collect and recycle or appropriate dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand. Do not sweep this material into gutters. ▪ Do not use water to wash down fresh asphalt concrete pavement. ▪ Use filter fabric, catch basin inlet filters, or gravel bags to keep slurry out of the storm drain system. ▪ Shovel, absorb or vacuum saw-cut slurry and dispose of all waste as soon as work is complete in one location or at the end of the workday. ▪ If sawcut slurry enters a catch basin, clean it up immediately.
GEN-12	Concrete, Grout and Mortar Application	▪ Store concrete, grout, and mortar away from storm drains or waterways, and on pallets under cover to protect them from rain, runoff and wind. ▪ Wash out concrete equipment/trucks offsite or in a designated washout area, where the water will flow into a temporary waste pit, and in a manner that will prevent leaching into the underlying soil or onto surrounding areas. Let concrete harden and dispose of as garbage.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ When washing exposed aggregate, prevent wash water from entering storm drains. Block any inlets and vacuum gutters, hose wash water onto dirt areas, or drain onto a bermed surface to be pumped and disposed of properly.
GEN-13	Exclude Concrete from Channel	▪ For maintenance activities that involve concrete pouring, the County shall ensure that poured concrete be excluded from the wetted channel for a period of 30 days after it is poured. During that time, the poured concrete shall be kept moist, and runoff from the concrete shall not be allowed to enter a stream. Containment structures should be installed to control the placement of wet concrete and to prevent it from entering the channel outside of those structures. ▪ Commercial sealants may be applied to the poured concrete surface where difficulty in excluding water flow for a long period may occur. If sealant is used, water shall be excluded from the site until the sealant is dry. ▪ No dry concrete shall be placed on the banks or in a location where it could be carried into the channel by wind or runoff.
GEN-14	Concrete Washout Facilities	▪ Concrete washout facilities should be established for maintenance activities that require on-site preparation and use of Portland cement concrete, asphalt concrete or cement mortar, establish concrete washout facilities. These facilities capture wash water, concrete and aggregate flushed from concrete mixers, chutes, etc. Concrete washouts may be contained settling basins dug into the ground, raised and contained structures, trailers, etc. They are also applicable for projects that require equipment washouts. ▪ An appropriate area for the washout must be identified at least 50 feet away from watercourses and storm drains in case of accidental breaching. The storage capacity of the basin must be sized correctly for the job. <u>Construction Guidelines:</u> ▪ The location of the concrete washout should be clearly labeled and all employees should be educated about proper concrete disposal. ▪ Avoid mixing excess amounts of fresh concrete or cement mortar on-site. ▪ Wash out concrete mixers only in designated washout areas where the water will flow into temporary sealed basins or onto stockpiles of aggregate base or sand. Use as little water as possible to reduce hardening and evaporation time of waste products. ▪ Construct a basin large enough to contain all liquid and waste concrete materials generated during washout procedures. A minimum basin size is 9 feet x 9 feet and 2 feet deep. Plastic liner materials shall be a minimum of 60-mil polyethylene sheeting free of holes and defects. ▪ Recycle washout by pumping back into mixers for reuse when possible. <u>BMP Maintenance:</u> ▪ The concrete washout should be checked frequently to ensure proper use and effectiveness. ▪ At 75 percent capacity, the washout must be cleaned or new facilities must be constructed and ready for use. <u>BMP Removal:</u> ▪ The hardened concrete and materials related to the washout must be broken up, removed, and disposed of in accordance to local regulations. ▪ Area disturbed by the concrete washout must be repaired.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
GEN-15	Painting and Paint Removal	▪ Never clean brushes or rise paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, or stream. ▪ For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, and rinse into a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer. Never pour paint down a storm drain. ▪ For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids as hazardous waste. ▪ Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting may be swept up or collected in plastic drop cloths and disposed of as trash. ▪ Chemical paint stripping residue and chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury, or tributyltin must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Lead based paint removal requires a state-certified contractor.
GEN-16	Timing of Work	▪ In general, routine maintenance and construction activities that take place in sensitive habitat and/or in channels below ordinary high water will be conducted during the dry season (June 15 through October 15). Maintenance activities that are in upland areas and that would not affect streams may occur during low rainfall years at times when there is no predicted rainfall (chance of precipitation is less than 30 percent chance of rain). Activities that are subject to permit requirements will be conducted during the period authorized by the permits.
GEN-17	Maintain Traffic Flow	▪ To the extent feasible, work shall be staged and conducted in a manner that maintains two-way traffic flow on roadways in the vicinity of the work site. ▪ Heavy equipment and haul traffic shall be prohibited in residential areas to the greatest extent feasible. When no other route to and from the site is available, heavy equipment and haul traffic through residential areas shall be restricted to the hours of 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. ▪ If heavy equipment or hauling is required beyond the hours above, the County or their contractor would provide notice to adjacent property owners 48 hours in advance of such activities.
GEN-18	Traffic Control and Public Safety	▪ In the event that work activities require the temporary closure of any traffic lanes, the County shall implement measures to guide traffic (such as signage and flaggers), safeguard construction workers, provide safe passage of vehicles, and minimize traffic impacts through the duration of work activities. The County also shall notify local emergency service providers regarding any planned lane closures. ▪ For any other work within or near the roadway that could pose a hazard to the public, the County shall install/implement appropriate measures, such as fences, barriers, flagging, guards, and/or signs, to give adequate warning and provide protection from the potentially dangerous condition. ▪ For work activities along or near roadways with sidewalks and bike lanes, the County shall implement measures to ensure the safe passage of pedestrians and bicyclists around the work site. ▪ Where work is proposed at a recreational park or trail, warning signs will be posted several feet beyond the limits of work. Signs will also be posted if trails will be temporarily closed. ▪ Public transit access and routes will be maintained in the vicinity of the work site. If public transit will be affected by temporary road closures and require detours, affected transit authorities will be consulted and kept informed of project activities.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
GEN-19	Dust Management Controls	The County will implement the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Basic Dust Control Measures. Current measures stipulated by the BAAQMD Guidelines include the following: 1. All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day. 2. All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered. 3. All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited. 4. All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph. 5. All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used. 6. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points. 7. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified visible emissions evaluator.
GEN-20	Firearms	No firearms (except for federal, State, or local law enforcement officers and security personnel) will be permitted at the project site to avoid harassment, killing or injuring of wildlife.
GEN-21	Domestic Animals	No animals (e.g., dogs or cats) can be brought to the project site to avoid harassment, killing or injuring of wildlife.
GEN-22	Site Stabilization	Earthwork will be completed as quickly as possible, and where practical, site restoration will occur immediately following maintenance. If site restoration involves planting, such activities may commence in late fall or early winter during the onset of rainy season. Bare soil surfaces resulting from maintenance and/or construction activities shall be covered with suitable erosion controls (seed or plant vegetation, fabrics, hydroseeding, mulch, etc.): ▪ Within 12 hours of any break in work unless project activities will resume within 7 days. ▪ No later than 3 days following the disturbance during the rainy season (approximately October through April). ▪ No later than 7 days following the disturbance during the dry season (approximately May through September).Every effort shall be made to immediately cover bare soil surfaces resulting from maintenance and/or construction activities prior to storms. Revegetation activities will include only local plant materials native to the San Francisco Peninsula region.
GEN-23	Fire Prevention	1. All earthmoving and portable equipment with internal combustion engines will be equipped with spark arrestors. 2. During the high fire danger period (April 1–December 1), work crews will: ▪ Have appropriate fire suppression equipment available at the work site. ▪ Keep flammable materials, including flammable vegetation slash, at least 10 feet away from any equipment that could produce a spark, fire, or flame.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ Not use portable tools powered by gasoline-fueled internal combustion engines within 25 feet of any flammable materials unless a round-point shovel or fire extinguisher is within immediate reach of the work crew (no more 25 feet away from the work area).
GEN-24	Investigation of Utility Line Locations	An evaluation of the locations of utility lines that could be affected by maintenance activities will be conducted annually as part of the preparation of the Annual Notification. Utilities will be avoided as much as possible. For maintenance areas with the potential for effects on utility services, the following measures will be implemented: 1. Utility excavation or encroachment permits will be required from the appropriate agencies. These permits include measures to minimize utility disruption. The County and its contractors will comply with permit conditions. Such conditions will be included in construction contract specifications. 2. Utility locations will be verified through a field survey (potholing) and use of the Underground Service Alert services. 3. Detailed specifications will be prepared as part of the design plans to include procedures for the excavation, support, and/or fill of areas around utility cables and pipelines. All affected utility services will be notified of the County's maintenance plans and schedule. Arrangements will be made with these entities regarding protection, relocation, or temporary disconnection of services. 4. Residents and businesses in the project area will be notified of planned utility service disruption 2 to 4 days in advance, in conformance with state standards. 5. Disconnected cables and lines will be reconnected promptly.
GEN-25	Retention of Tree Stumps / Rootwads	▪ Objects embedded/anchored in the bank, such as tree stumps, shall not be removed if removal could result in release of sediment into the channel. Stumps and rootwads that potentially serve as basking sites or that encourage pool formation should be left in place whenever possible. Protruding objects that could capture additional debris and result in obstruction of the channel (e.g. the branches and trunk of a downed tree) may be trimmed. If an embedded object must be removed to prevent a debris jam, turbidity control practices shall be used, and the bank shall be reseeded, re-vegetated and/or mulched following removal.
GEN-26	Decontamination of Project Equipment and Vehicles	▪ Equipment, boots and waders used for in-water maintenance activities will be decontaminated prior to entering and exiting the maintenance site and/or between each use in different water bodies to avoid the introduction and transfer of organisms between water bodies. Methods to be employed may include: drying, using a hot water soak, or freezing, as appropriate to the type of gear or equipment. The County shall begin the decontamination process by thoroughly scrubbing equipment, paying close attention to small crevices such as boot laces, seams, net corners, etc., with a stiff-bristled brush to remove all organisms. To decontaminate by drying, the County shall allow equipment to dry thoroughly (i.e., until there is a complete absence of water), preferably in the sun, for a minimum of 48 hours. To decontaminate using a hot water soak, the County shall immerse equipment in 140°F or hotter water and soak for a minimum of 5 minutes. To decontaminate by freezing, the County shall place equipment in a freezer 32°F or colder for a minimum of 8 hours. Repeat decontamination is required only if the equipment/clothing is removed from the site, used within a different waterbody, and returned to the project site.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ Vehicles, watercraft, and other maintenance equipment used for in-water maintenance activities that are too large to immerse in a hot water bath shall be decontaminated by pressure washing with hot water (minimum of 140°F at the point of contact or 155°F at the nozzle or by using other effective techniques). Watercraft engines and all areas that could contain standing water (e.g., live wells, bilges, etc.) shall be flushed for a minimum of 10 minutes. Following the hot water wash, vehicles, watercraft and equipment shall be dried as thoroughly as possible. ▪ A bleach solution shall be used to decontaminate vehicles, watercraft and other maintenance gear and equipment at a designated location where runoff can be contained and not allowed to enter streams or other sensitive habitat areas.
GEN-27	Vegetation and Tree Removal	▪ The disturbance or removal of vegetation shall not exceed the minimum necessary to complete maintenance activities. The use of bulldozers, backhoes, or other heavy equipment to remove vegetation along stream banks shall be avoided wherever feasible. ▪ The County may remove up to two non-hazardous trees greater than 12 inches in diameter per year from natural channels below ordinary high water if the trees are restricting the capacity of the channel, causing erosion or flooding, or limiting access to perform maintenance work. Trees will be cut at ground level and the root mass left in place to maintain bank stability. No non-hazardous trees greater than 36 inches in diameter will be removed under this program. This measure does not apply to trees considered a hazard as defined by the International Society of Arboriculture, which may include dead or dying trees, dead parts of live trees, or unstable live trees (due to structural defects or other factors) that are within striking distance of people or property (a target) that have the potential to cause death, injury, or substantial property damage. ▪ Removed vegetation shall be placed directly into a disposal vehicle and removed from the site, and shall not be permitted to remain onsite overnight. However, if removed vegetation will be used onsite for erosion control or slash and will not be moved or disturbed, it may be stockpiled onsite for longer than an overnight. Stockpiled vegetation shall not be piled on the ground unless it is later transferred, piece by piece, under the direct supervision of the biological monitor or qualified biologist.
GEN-28	Herbicide Application	▪ Herbicide application shall only be conducted when the climate is dry and when wind speeds do not exceed 7 miles per hour. Herbicides shall not be used in or adjacent to any fish-bearing stream, lake, pond or other water bodies supporting suitable habitat for California red-legged frog or other listed species.
Erosion Control Measures		
EC-1	Brush Layering	Brush layering is a technique used to stabilize shallow slope failures or rebuild fill slopes with live brush cuttings (usually willows or other types of branches) with soil backfill or soil lifts. Live brush layers act as horizontal drains and improve slope stability by providing tensile strength and natural revegetation. Brush layering may include the use of synthetic geogrids or fabric soil wraps, large vegetated boulder revetments, or other structural toe support. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-2	Brush Packing	Brush packing is a biotechnical gully and slump repair technique. Brush packing utilizes alternating layers of live branch cuttings (from rootable plant species) and soil to repair large rills, gullies, and slumps. The brush packing technique is more

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		appropriate for the repair of gullies on slopes, and it can be implemented with hand labor. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-3	Live Staking	Live staking involves the insertion of live, vegetative cuttings into the ground in a manner that allows the cutting (stake) to take root and grow. This BMP is used to reduce the potential for soil to become water borne, to reduce water velocity and erosive forces, and to aid in habitat protection. Poles used in willow walls and through rip rap may be a structural application. Sprigs may be used in individual planting spots along a streambank. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-4	Live Pole Drain	Live pole drains are a biotechnical technique intended to drain excess moisture away from an unstable site. Plants (typically willows) are used to construct bundles which will sprout and grow, with the moisture continuing to drain from the lower end. The bundles are placed in shallow trenches in a manner that they intersect and collect excessive slope moisture. See Appendix A for additional description about this BMP.
EC-5	Wattles/ Fascines	Wattles and fascines are live branch cuttings, usually willows, bound together into long, tubular bundles used to stabilize slopes and stream banks. Both wattles and live fascines are true biotechnical practices. The live branches and live stakes provide the biological element while the stems, rope ties and wedge-shaped wooden stakes all combine to provide the structural elements. Fascines differ from wattles in that the branch cuttings all point in the same direction in fascines, where they may point in either direction in wattles. Wattles are typically aligned on contour, where fascines are angled slightly upslope and thus tend to produce more vigorous growth. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-6	Hand Seeding	Hand seeding is broadcasting grass seed on disturbed or bare soil areas by hand or a hand seeding device. This BMP is used to reduce the potential for soil to become water or air borne, reduce erosion after vegetation establishment, provide for vegetative buffers and aid in habitat protection. Seeding with appropriate seed mixes also helps discourage colonization by non-native and invasive plant species. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-7	Hydroseeding	Hydroseeding is broadcasting grass seed, tackifier, wood fiber mulch and water on disturbed areas using a hydroseeding machine. This BMP is used to reduce the potential for soil becoming water or air borne, to reduce erosion after vegetation is established, provide vegetative buffers and to aid in habitat protection. Seeding with appropriate seed mixes will also help discourage colonization by non-native and invasive plant species. Hydroseeding may be used after soil disturbance is completed at construction/maintenance sites and/or on bare slopes. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-8	Mulching	Mulching is the application of rice or sterile straw, wood chips, leaf litter, redwood duff, or other suitable materials on the soil surface applied manually or by machine. This BMP is used to reduce the potential for soil becoming water or air borne, and to encourage vegetation establishment. This BMP is used to protect the soil surface and to protect newly seeded areas. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-9	Vegetative Buffer	A vegetative buffer is a strip of vegetation adjacent to sensitive areas, ditches, pavement and water bodies. This BMP prevents soil from becoming water borne and may help restore shallow slope failures by trapping soil and debris. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-10	Erosion Control Blankets & Mats	Erosion control blankets and mats are installed to protect the prepared soil surface of a steep slope. This BMP may be used at maintenance sites to provide stabilization/protection on steep slopes or stream banks. Erosion control blankets and mats

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		are available in a variety of materials including jute, excelsior, blanket material, straw, wood fiber blanket, coconut fiber blanket, coconut fiber mesh, and straw coconut fiber blanket. Material selection should be based on the size of area, slope, surface conditions, revegetation plans, and channel velocity. Coir fabric/netting is a geo-textile product made from coconut fibers loosely woven into a fabric usually packaged in roll form. This fabric can be used to provide a reduction in water velocity/erosive forces and/or habitat protection and topsoil stabilization. Erosion control blankets and mats may be used in combination with seeding and/or vegetation. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-11	Surface Roughening	Surface roughening is a technique for roughening a bare soil surface with furrows running across the slope, stair stepping, or tracking with construction equipment. Surface roughening is intended to aid the establishment of vegetative cover from seed, to reduce runoff velocity and increase infiltration, and to reduce erosion and provide for sediment trapping. This BMP is typically applied on slopes steeper than 3:1. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-12	Rolling Dip	Rolling dips are ridges or ridge-and-channels constructed diagonally across a sloping road or utility right-of-way that is subject to erosion to limit the accumulation of erosive volumes of water on roads by diverting surface runoff at designated intervals. Rolling dips are appropriate to use on low and moderate grades and on both high or low traffic roads. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
EC-13	Slope or Bank Stabilization	Where biotechnical methods are unsuitable for stabilizing streambanks due to site specific conditions such as steep slopes or limited right-of-way width, hardened engineered solutions such as rock slope protection, solider pile walls, retaining walls, or slope soil nailing may be utilized along a failed portion of slope to provide a buttress against additional failure. To the extent feasible, this BMP should be combined with biotechnical solutions through installation of vegetated rock slope protection. Refer to Appendix A for a more detailed description of this BMP.
EC-14	Energy Dissipator	An energy dissipator is a structure designed to control erosion at the outlet of a channel or conduit by reducing the velocity of flow and dissipating the energy. This BMP is recommended at the outlet of any new or replacement drainage culvert, which are points of high erosion potential. Energy dissipators are effective in absorbing the impact of flow and reducing the velocity to non-erosive levels. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
Sediment/Water Quality Control Measures		
SC-1	Gravel Bags	Gravel bags can be used to keep water away from work areas and unstable slopes or for constructing cofferdams and clean water bypasses. This BMP is also typically used at construction or maintenance sites to protect storm drain outlets, gutters, ditches, and drainage courses. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
SC-2	Silt Fence	A silt fence is a temporary sediment barrier consisting of fabric stretched across and attached to supporting posts and entrenched into soil. This BMP is generally used for perimeter protection (around construction/maintenance sites, stockpile areas). It may also be installed perpendicular to the flow direction to slow or stop water and to allow perimeter filtration, settling of soil particles, and to reduce water velocity. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
SC-3	Straw Log, Straw Roll, Coir Log	Straw rolls/logs or coir logs may be used for temporary soil stockpile protection; protection of storm drains, gutters, and drainage courses; temporary check dams; bank or slope stabilization; and streambank toe protection. Alternatives to straw rolls/logs and coir logs include compostable filter socks/berms comprised of natural fibers and other bio-based materials. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
SC-4	Inlet Protection	Storm drain inlets can be protected through installation of temporary barriers such as silt fences, gravel bags, and other proprietary barriers like geotextile inserts, biofilter bags, or compost socks. These barriers are intended to prevent and reduce the sediment discharged into storm drains by ponding runoff and allowing sediment to settle out. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
SC-5	Stormwater Separation Systems	Stormwater separation systems are engineered devices installed in storm drain facilities to remove solids, grease and other pollutants. These may be installed where deep structures allow for their placement and maintenance, or where sufficient quantities of pollutant materials require regular removal in order for the storm drains to operate correctly. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
SC-6	Diversion Berm	A diversion berm is a temporary ridge of compacted soil or aggregate base material, or contiguous bag berm constructed at the top or base of a disturbed slope. It may also consist of asphalt concrete or "cutback" at the top of a disturbed slope. This BMP is intended to direct stormwater runoff away from an unstable slope. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A.
SC-7	Silt Curtain	The County shall install silt curtains or other appropriate silt filtering devices around excavation sites to prevent heavily silted water from impacting areas around the work site. The silt curtain or silt filtering device shall be maintained throughout all phases of excavation.
SC-8	Turbidity Monitoring	During in-water maintenance activities, the County will monitor turbidity levels up and downstream of the maintenance work area prior to conducting maintenance. The County will maintain a log of turbidity data and ensure that activities do not result in increases in turbidity of the stream of more than 20 percent of upstream sampling locations, as measured visually or by nephelometric turbidity units (NTU). Work will be halted if turbidity/siltation levels exceed 20 percent of upstream sampling levels and CDFW will be contacted for further guidance to ensure activities do not harm aquatic life.
Dewatering Measure		
DW-1	Channel Dewatering	• When in-water construction is unavoidable, streamflow shall be diverted around work areas by either installing cofferdams and/or clean water bypass systems. A cofferdam is a temporary structure built into a waterway to enclose a construction area and reduce sediment pollution from construction work in or adjacent to water. A clean water bypass is typically used for short-term diversion of small amounts of water over short distances to enable dewatering of a maintenance site. Depending on site conditions, these systems may be either gravity driven or require use of a pump to divert water around a construction area. For a more detailed description of this BMP, refer to Appendix A. • No dewatering will be conducted at sites with recent document occurrences of coho salmon within the past 5 years.
Sediment Testing and Disposal Measure		
ST-1	Testing and Disposal of Sediment	Depending on the location of the sediment removal site and upstream and adjacent land uses, the County will test the sediment prior to removal to determine suitability for disposal or reuse based on its chemical qualities. The test results and proposed disposal or reuse locations will be submitted to the RWQCB for review and approval. Samples will be analyzed according to the Beneficial Reuse of Dredged Materials: Sediment Screening and Testing Guidelines (RWQCB 2000), as appropriate for the proposed disposal or reuse site. The results will be compared against federal and state environmental screening levels (ESLs) for protection of human health, groundwater quality, and terrestrial receptors. If hazardous levels of

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		contaminants (as defined by federal and state regulations) are present, the material will be taken to a permitted hazardous waste facility.

Sources: San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program, 2014; County of San Mateo, 2004 and 2013.

Table 9-2. Cultural Resources Best Management Practices

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
CUL-1	Review Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map Data and County Baseline Maps to Determine if the Work Area Has Been Subject to a Previous Cultural Resource Study	During the early phases of Annual Work Plan development, the County will review the Cultural Sensitivity Map Data and County Baseline Maps (Appendix I) for all locations where ground-disturbing activities are proposed where excavation would be required beyond the facility's as-built design or otherwise reach previously undisturbed soils beyond existing engineered depths or extent. If the foregoing conditions are not applicable to the maintenance activity being performed, only BMPs CUL-4 and CUL-5 will be required. Based on the location of projects, and whether or not excavation or ground disturbance will occur beyond existing engineered depths or extent, BMPs CUL-2 through CUL-4 shall be implemented as follows: ▪ High Sensitivity: BMPs CUL-2, CUL-3, and CUL-4 ▪ Moderate Sensitivity: BMP CUL-2 and CUL-3 ▪ Low Sensitivity: BMPs CUL-2 through CUL-4 not required ▪ Unknown Sensitivity: BMP CUL-2 and CUL-3 ▪ BMPs CUL-5 and CUL-6 are applicable to all ground-disturbing activities in natural channels or native soils, regardless of the sensitivity level of the work area.
CUL-2	Record Search and Field Inventory for Highly or Moderately Sensitive Areas (Sensitivity Ratings 3-5), and Areas of Unknown Sensitivity	▪ The County will retain a qualified cultural resources specialist to conduct a review and evaluation of locations that involve soil disturbance/excavation in natural channels or native soils identified as Highly to Moderately Sensitive to determine the potential for these activities to affect significant cultural resources. ▪ The initial evaluation will be based on a review of archival information provided by the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System in regard to the project area based on a 0.25-mile search radius. This initial archival review will be completed by the professional archaeologist who will be able to view confidential site location data and literature to arrive at a preliminary sensitivity determination. ▪ It is recommended that the County conduct a review of the Sacred Lands Inventory of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and due diligence outreach with individuals identified by the NAHC and/or local historical societies or groups. This outreach would involve sending a letter with a request for pertinent information about cultural resources within the project area and to identify any concerns. This outreach is in addition to notification under PRC 21080.3.1 (i.e., CUL-3), and may be appropriate for projects that would not otherwise require Assembly Bill 52 notification. Such outreach is also encouraged under Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800.4(a)(3) for identification of historic properties. ▪ The qualified archaeologist will conduct field inventory of the project area to determine the presence/absence of surface cultural materials. The results, along with any mitigation and/or management recommendations, will be presented to the County in an appropriate report format that includes any necessary maps, figures, and correspondence with interested parties. The report will also include a summary of the records search and archival research data, and pertinent geoarchaeological overviews and studies, and regional research designs, as appropriate. ▪ A summary table indicating appropriate management actions (e.g., monitoring during construction, presence/absence testing for subsurface resources, and data recovery) will be developed for each project work area reviewed.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ The maintenance activities will be implemented to avoid significant impacts to cultural resources, if possible. **EXCEPTIONS**: After the NWIC record search and NAHC sacred lands search have been conducted, the qualified archaeologist may determine that a field review is not necessary under the following circumstances: ▪ Locales that have previously been subject to cultural resource studies where no previously identified cultural resources or historical resources were documented. ▪ Locales that have previously been subject to cultural resources studies, but identified cultural resources have been determined by a qualified archaeologist/resource specialist as not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). ▪ A short report would be required to document the decision not to conduct a field study.
CUL-3	Consult with Native American Tribes	▪ The County, as the lead CEQA agency, has notified Native American tribes about the Maintenance Program according to PRC 21080.3.1 (also referred to as Assembly Bill 52); *only Native American tribes that have previously requested notification from the County pursuant to PRC 21080.3.1(b) require notification*. For tribes that request consultation under PRC 21080.3.1(b)(2), the County will consult with those tribes pursuant to PRC 21080.3.2 for projects in areas of high, moderate, and unknown sensitivity.
CUL-4	Construction Monitoring	▪ The County will retain a qualified archaeologist to be present on-site during ground-disturbing activities within areas identified as highly sensitive for cultural areas, unless the qualified archaeologist determines otherwise after the field inventory conducted under CUL-2. Similarly, after conducting the field study under CUL-2, the qualified archaeologist may determine that areas originally identified as moderately sensitive for cultural resources warrant monitoring during construction. The reasons for conducting monitoring in areas initially considered of moderate sensitivity would be discussed in the inventory report. ▪ The qualified archaeologist will have the authority to stop work if cultural resources are discovered. ▪ If any cultural resources are discovered during construction monitoring, BMP CUL-6 would be implemented as appropriate.
CUL-5	Conduct Pre-Maintenance Educational Training	At the beginning of each maintenance season, and in concert with implementing BMP BIO-1, as well as before conducting activities subject to BMP CUL-2 through CUL-4, all maintenance personnel will participate in an educational training session conducted by a qualified cultural resources specialist. This training will include instruction on how to identify historic and prehistoric resources that may be encountered, and will describe the appropriate protocol to be followed if resources are discovered during maintenance work.
CUL-6	Address Discovery of Cultural Remains or Historic or Paleontological Artifacts Appropriately	Unanticipated discoveries of cultural and paleontological resources may occur during maintenance construction activities. Examples of cultural remains are obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or significant areas of tool-making debris; culturally darkened soil (“midden”) containing heat-affected rocks, artifacts, or shellfish remains; stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones, or milling slabs); and battered stone tools, such as hammerstones and pitted stones. Historic-period artifacts may include stone, concrete, or adobe footings and walls; filled wells or privies; and deposits of metal, glass, and/or ceramic refuse. Paleontological artifacts are fossilized remains of plants and animals. Work will be restricted or stopped in areas where remains or artifacts are found until proper protocols are met.

		Protocol for treatment of prehistoric or historic cultural resources: 1. Work at the location of the find will halt immediately within 50 feet of the find. A "no work" zone will be established utilizing appropriate flagging to delineate the boundary of this zone, which will measure at least 50 feet in all directions from the find. 2. The County will retain the services of a consulting archaeologist, who will visit the discovery site as soon as practicable and perform minor hand excavation to describe the archaeological or paleontological resources present and assess the amount of disturbance. 3. The consulting archaeologist will provide to the County and USACE, at a minimum, written and digital-photographic documentation of all observed materials, utilizing the CRHR and NRHP guidelines for evaluating archaeological resources. Based on the assessment, the County and USACE will identify the CEQA and Section 106 cultural resources compliance procedures to be implemented. 4. If the consulting archaeologist determines that the find appears not to meet the CRHR or NRHP criteria of significance, and a USACE archaeologist concurs with the consulting archaeologist's conclusions, construction may continue while monitored by the consulting archaeologist. The authorized maintenance work will resume at the discovery site only after the County has retained a consulting archaeologist to monitor and the Maintenance Manager has received notification from USACE allowing work to continue. 5. If the find appears significant, avoidance of additional impacts is the preferred alternative. The consulting archaeologist will determine if adverse impacts to the resources can be avoided. 6. Where avoidance is not practical (e.g., maintenance activities cannot be deferred or must be completed to satisfy the Maintenance Program objective), the County will develop an action plan (also known as a data recovery plan) and submit it to USACE within 48 hours of determining that maintenance activities cannot be deferred. The action plan will be submitted by email to the appropriate archeological/cultural resources contact at the USACE. The action plan is equivalent to a data recovery plan. It will be prepared in accordance with the current professional standards and state guidelines for reporting the results of the work, and will describe the services of a Native American consultant and a proposal for curation of cultural materials recovered from a non-grave context. 7. The recovery effort will be documented in a report prepared by the consulting archaeologist in accordance with current archaeological standards. Any non-grave artifacts will be placed with an appropriate repository. 8. In the event of discovery of human remains (or if a find consists of bones suspected to be human), the field crew supervisor will take immediate steps to secure and protect such remains from vandalism during periods when work crews are absent.) 9. The maintenance crew supervisor will immediately notify the San Mateo County Coroner and provide any information that identifies the remains as Native American. If the remains are determined to be those of a prehistoric Native American or a Native American from the ethnographic period, the Coroner will contact NAHC within 24 hours of being notified about the remains. NAHC will designate and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD) within 24 hours. The MLD will have 24 hours to consult and provide recommendations for the treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the human remains and grave goods. 10. Preservation in situ is the preferred option for human remains. Human remains will be preserved in situ if continuation of the maintenance work, as determined by the consulting archaeologist and MLD, will not cause further damage to the remains. The remains and artifacts will be documented, the find location carefully backfilled (with protective geo-fabric if desirable), and the information recorded in County Maintenance Program files.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		11. If human remains or cultural items are exposed during maintenance that cannot be protected from further damage, they will be exhumed by the consulting archaeologist at the discretion of the MLD and reburied, with the concurrence of the MLD, in a place mutually agreed upon by all parties. <u>Protocol for treatment of paleontological resources:</u> 1. Work at the location of the find will halt immediately within 50 feet of the find. A "no work" zone will be established utilizing appropriate flagging to delineate the boundary of this zone, which will measure at least 50 feet in all directions from the find. 2. The County shall retain the services of a consulting paleontologist. The consulting paleontologist will meet the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology's criteria for a qualified professional paleontologist (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology 2010). 3. The consulting paleontologist shall visit the discovery site as soon as practicable and perform minor hand-excavation to describe the paleontological resources present and assess the amount of disturbance. The consulting paleontologist will follow the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology's guidelines (2010) for treatment of the artifact. Treatment may include preparation and recovery of fossil materials for an appropriate museum or university collection, and may include preparation of a report describing the finds. The County will be responsible for ensuring that the consulting paleontologist's recommendations for treatment are implemented.

Table 9-3. Biological Resources Best Management Practices

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
BIO-1	Environmental Awareness Training	Prior to commencing maintenance activities in a given year, all participating maintenance personnel will attend a worker environmental awareness training program. The training will include a brief review of special-status species, sensitive habitats, and other sensitive resources that may exist in the project area, including field identification, habitat requirements, and the legal status and protection of each relevant species, as well as locations of sensitive biological resources. The training will include materials concerning the following topics: sensitive resources, resource avoidance, permit conditions, and possible consequences for violations of State or Federal environmental laws. The training will cover the maintenance activity's conservation measures, environmental permits, and regulatory compliance requirements, as well as the roles and authority of the monitors and biologist(s). It will include printed material and an oral training session by a qualified biologist.
BIO-2	Minimize Injury or Mortality of Fish and Amphibian Species during Dewatering	Prior to dewatering a construction site, all reasonable efforts shall be made to capture and relocate native fish and amphibian species if necessary to avoid direct mortality and minimize take. Streams that support a sensitive species (e.g., steelhead, California red-legged frog) will require a relocation effort led by a qualified biologist (see also BMPs BIO- 3 through BIO-5). The following measures are consistent with those defined as *reasonable and prudent* by NMFS for projects concerning several central California Evolutionarily Significant Units for coho salmon and steelhead trout. ▪ Fish relocation activities will be performed only by qualified fisheries biologists that have experience with fish capture and handling. ▪ Perform relocation activities during morning periods when air temperatures are coolest. ▪ Periodically measure air and water temperatures. Cease activities when water temperatures exceed temperatures allowed by CDFW and NMFS. ▪ Capture methods may include fish landing nets, dip nets, buckets and by hand. ▪ Exclude fish from re-entering work area by blocking the stream channel above and below the work area with fine-meshed net or screens. Mesh will be no greater than 1/8 inch (3.1mm). The bottom edge of net or screen will be completely secured to the channel bed to prevent fish from re-entering work area. Exclusion screening will be placed in areas of low water velocity to minimize impingement of fish. Screens will be checked periodically and cleaned of debris to permit free flow of water. ▪ Prior to capturing fish, the qualified biologist will determine the most appropriate release location(s). Captured aquatic life shall be released immediately in the closest suitable body of water adjacent to the work site, taking into consideration the following when selecting release site(s): A. Similar water temperature as capture location B. Ample habitat for captured fish C. Low likelihood of fish re-entering work site or becoming impinged on exclusion net or screen. D. Avoid areas with large concentrations of potential predators in immediate vicinity. ▪ Minimize handling of salmonids. However, when handling is necessary, always wet hands or nets prior to touching fish.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ Temporarily hold fish in cool, shaded, aerated water in a container with a lid or in a live–car (i.e., a net enclosure that can be placed in a pond to temporarily hold the fish). ▪ If fish are held in a container, provide aeration with a battery-powered external bubbler. Protect fish from jostling and noise and do not remove fish from this container until time of release. ▪ Place a thermometer in holding containers and, if necessary, periodically conduct partial water changes to maintain a stable water temperature. If water temperature reaches or exceeds those allowed by CDFW and NMFS, fish should be released and rescue operations ceased. ▪ Avoid overcrowding in containers. Have at least two containers and segregate young-of-year fish from larger age-classes to avoid predation. Place larger amphibians, such as Pacific giant salamanders, in container with larger fish. ▪ If fish are abundant, periodically cease capture, and release fish at predetermined locations. ▪ Visually identify species and estimate year-classes of fish at time of release. ▪ Count and record the number of fish captured. Avoid anesthetizing or measuring fish. ▪ Submit reports of fish relocation activities to CDFW and NMFS in a timely fashion. ▪ If feasible, plan on performing initial fish relocation efforts several days prior to the start of construction. This provides the fisheries biologist an opportunity to return to the work area and perform additional passes immediately prior to construction. In many instances, additional fish will be captured that eluded the previous day's efforts. The biological monitor or qualified biologist shall check daily for stranded aquatic life as the water level in the dewatering area drops. ▪ If mortality during relocation exceeds the amount authorized by the applicable permits or, if no amount is specified, 5 percent, stop efforts and immediately contact the appropriate agencies (CDFW and NMFS).
BIO-3	California Red-legged Frog Protection Measures	If suitable habitat for California red-legged frog is determined to exist in or around the work area where maintenance activities are planned to occur, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ No more than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of initial ground disturbance or mowing, a pre-activity survey for the California red-legged frog will be conducted by a qualified biologist at the work site. The survey will consist of walking the work area limits to ascertain the possible presence of the species. The qualified biologist will investigate all potential areas that could be used by the California red-legged frog for feeding, breeding, sheltering, movement, and other essential behaviors. This includes an adequate examination of mammal burrows, such as those of California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*) or gophers (*Thomomys bottae*). If any adults, subadults, juveniles, tadpoles, or eggs are found, the qualified biologist will contact the USFWS to determine if moving any of the individuals is appropriate. If the USFWS approves moving animals, the biologist and USFWS will identify a suitable relocation site, and the County will ensure the qualified biologist is given sufficient time to move the animals from the work site before ground disturbance is initiated. Only qualified biologists will capture, handle, and monitor the California red-legged frog. ▪ To minimize harassment, injury, death, and harm to individual California red-legged frogs, one of the following two measures will be implemented. 1. An approved, qualified biologist(s) will be on-site during all activities that may result in take of the California red-legged frog, as determined by the biologist taking into account all information gathered during the desktop audit of the site as well as the preconstruction survey. Qualified biologists must be approved by the USFWS.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		or 2. Prior to pre-activity surveys, personnel will enclose the work area with an exclusion fence with a minimum height above grade of 42 inches. The bottom of the fence will either be buried a minimum of six inches below ground or otherwise secured in a manner approved by the USFWS and will remain in place during all maintenance activities in order to prevent California red-legged frogs from entering the work area. Escape ramps, funnels, or other features that allow animals to exit the work area, but which will prohibit the entry of such animals, will be provided in the exclusion fencing. A qualified biologist will conduct a pre-activity survey of the fence installation area immediately prior to (i.e., the day of) the commencement of installation and will be on-hand to monitor fence installation. The exclusion fencing will be inspected daily by maintenance personnel and maintained for the duration of maintenance implementation. ▪ The qualified biologist(s) will be given the authority to freely communicate verbally, by telephone, electronic mail, or in writing at any time with maintenance personnel, any other person(s) at the work area, otherwise associated with the maintenance work, the USFWS, the CDFW, or their designated agents. The qualified biologist will have oversight over implementation of all the conservation measures in this programmatic biological opinion, and will have the authority and responsibility to stop work activities if they determine any of the associated requirements are not being fulfilled. If the qualified biologist(s) exercises this authority, the USFWS will be notified by telephone and electronic mail within twenty-four (24) hours. The USFWS contact is the Coast Bay Foothills Division Chief of the Endangered Species Program at the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office at telephone (916) 414-6600. ▪ The County will minimize adverse impacts to the California red-legged frog by limiting, to the maximum extent possible, the number of access routes, ground disturbance area, equipment staging, storage, parking, and stockpile areas. Prior to initiating maintenance work that involve ground-disturbing activities, equipment staging areas, site access routes, sediment removal and transportation equipment and personnel parking areas, debris storage areas, and any other areas that may be disturbed will be identified, surveyed by the qualified biologist, and clearly identified with fencing. The fencing will be inspected by the qualified biologist and maintained daily until the last day that equipment is at the site. ▪ To the extent practicable, ground-disturbing activities will be avoided from October through April because that is the time period when California red-legged frogs are most likely to be moving through upland areas. When ground-disturbing activities must take place between November 1 and March 31, the County will ensure that daily monitoring by the qualified biologist is completed for the California red-legged frog. ▪ If egg masses are present and work cannot be postponed until after hatching, a buffer of vegetation at least 10 feet in diameter shall be left around any egg masses found. Staff will keep a record of any sites where egg masses are found and will conduct vegetation removal at these sites between June 15 and October 15. Staff shall avoid entering the channel to avoid dislodging egg masses. Activities shall be performed from the banks. ▪ To minimize harassment, injury, death, and harm in the form of temporary habitat disturbances, all maintenance-related vehicle traffic will be restricted to established roads, sediment removal and access areas, equipment staging, storage, parking, and stockpile areas. These areas will be included in pre-activity surveys and, to the maximum extent possible, established in locations disturbed by previous activities to prevent further adverse impacts. Maintenance-

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		related vehicles will observe a 20-mile per hour speed limit within work areas, except on County roads, and State and Federal highways. Off-road traffic outside of designated and fenced work areas will be prohibited. ▪ When a California red-legged frog is encountered in the work area, all activities which have the potential to result in the harassment, injury, or death of the individual will be immediately halted. The qualified biologist will then assess the situation in order to select a course of action that will avoid or minimize adverse impacts to the animal. To the maximum extent possible, contact with the frog will be avoided and the individual will be allowed to move out of the potentially hazardous situation to a secure location on its own volition. This procedure applies to situations where a California red-legged frog is encountered while it is moving to another location. It does not apply to animals that are uncovered or otherwise exposed or in areas where there is not sufficient adjacent habitat to support the species should the individual move away from the hazardous location. ▪ California red-legged frogs that are in danger will be relocated and released by the qualified biologist outside the work area within the same riparian area or watershed. If relocation of the individual outside the work area is not feasible (i.e., there are too many individuals observed per day), the biologist will relocate the animals to a USFWS preapproved location. Prior to the initial ground disturbance, the County will obtain approval of the relocation protocol from the USFWS in the event that a California red-legged frog is encountered and needs to be moved away from the work site. Under no circumstances will a California red-legged frog be released on a site unless the written permission of the landowner has been obtained by the County. The qualified biologist will limit the duration of the handling and captivity of the California red-legged frog to the minimum amount of time necessary to complete the task. If the animal must be held in captivity, it will be kept in a cool, dark, moist, aerated environment, such as a clean and disinfected bucket or plastic container with a damp sponge. ▪ The County will immediately notify the USFWS once the California red-legged frog and the site is secure. The USFWS contact for this situation is the Coast Bay Foothills Division Chief of the Endangered Species Program by email and at telephone (916) 414-6600. ▪ A litter control program will be instituted at each activity site. All workers will ensure their food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash are deposited in covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers will be removed from the site at the end of each working day. ▪ The County will comply with all herbicide application requirements mandated by the USEPA and stipulated injunctions pertaining to California red-legged frog. For example, herbicides will be limited for controlling state-designated invasive species and noxious weeds, will not be used within 15 feet of aquatic breeding critical habitat or non-breeding aquatic critical habitat areas or within 15 feet of aquatic features within non-critical habitat sections subject to the 2006 Court-ordered injunction; precipitation is not occurring or forecast to occur within 24 hours; herbicide is limited to localized spot treatment using hand-held devices; and herbicide will be applied by a certified applicator or person working under the direct supervision of a certified applicator. ▪ For on-site storage of pipes, conduits and other materials that could provide shelter for California red-legged frogs, materials will be securely capped prior to storage or an open-top trailer will be used to elevate the materials above ground. This is intended to reduce the potential for animals to climb into the conduits and other materials. ▪ To the maximum extent practicable, no maintenance activities will occur during rain events or within 24-hours following a rain event. Prior to maintenance activities resuming, a qualified biologist will inspect the work area and all

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		equipment/materials for the presence of California red-legged frogs. The animals will be allowed to move away from the work site of their own volition or moved by the qualified biologist. ▪ To the maximum extent practicable, night-time construction activities will be minimized or avoided by the County. Because dusk and dawn are often the times when the California red-legged frog most actively moving and foraging, to the maximum extent practicable, earthmoving and other project activities will cease no less than 30 minutes before sunset and will not begin again prior to 30 minutes after sunrise. Except when necessary for driver or pedestrian safety, to the maximum extent practicable, artificial lighting at a work site will be prohibited during the hours of darkness. ▪ Plastic monofilament netting (erosion control matting), loosely woven netting, or similar material in any form will not be used at the project site because California red-legged frogs can become entangled and trapped in them. Any such material found on site will be immediately removed by the qualified biologist, maintenance personnel, or County contractors. Materials utilizing fixed weaves (strands cannot move), polypropylene, polymer or other synthetic materials will not be used. ▪ Trenches or pits one (1) foot or deeper that are going to be left unfilled for more than forty-eight (48) hours will be securely covered with boards or other material to prevent the California red-legged frog from falling into them. If this is not possible, the County will ensure wooden ramps or other structures of suitable surface that provide adequate footing for the California red-legged frog are placed in the trench or pit to allow for their unaided escape. Auger holes or fence post holes that are greater than 0.10 inch in diameter will be immediately filled or securely covered so they do not become pitfall traps for the California red-legged frog. The qualified biologist will inspect the trenches, pits, or holes prior to their being filled to ensure there are no California red-legged frogs in them. The trench, pit, or hole also will be examined by the qualified biologist each workday morning at least one hour prior to initiation of work and in the late afternoon no more than one hour after work has ceased to ascertain whether any individuals have become trapped. If the escape ramps fail to allow the animal to escape, the qualified biologist will remove and transport it to a safe location, or contact the USFWS for guidance.
BIO-4	California Tiger Salamander Protection Measures	In the limited area in which the California tiger salamander might occur (i.e., in the vicinity of Alpine Trail), the measures described for California red-legged frog above will be implemented for California tiger salamander as well. In addition, the CDFW will be included in any agency coordination, as well as the USFWS, for issues involving the salamander.
BIO-5	San Francisco Garter Snake Protection Measures	In areas within one mile of a documented occurrence of the San Francisco garter snake, onsite habitat shall be evaluated by a qualified biologist or biological monitor for the potential to support this species. If suitable habitat for San Francisco garter snake is determined to exist in or around the work area where ground disturbing activities or mowing are planned to occur, the following measures will be followed: ▪ To the extent feasible, maintenance activities should be conducted from April through October during the dry season when these semi-aquatic species are less likely to be found in a work area. ▪ Prior to implementation of maintenance work, the County will submit to the USFWS and CDFW for its review and approval the qualifications of proposed wildlife biologist(s) who will perform pre-activity surveys and on-site monitoring. ▪ To avoid harassment, injury, death, and harm to individual San Francisco garter snakes, immediately prior to (i.e., the day of) the initiation of maintenance activities that have potential for take of the San Francisco garter snake, a USFWS

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		and CDFW-approved biologist will conduct daytime surveys throughout the project site. The approved biologist will be present during initial ground-disturbing activities (i.e., clearing and grubbing) within 250 ft of the work area to monitor for individual garter snakes. The biologist will also be present during any other maintenance activities that could potentially result in take, as determined by the biologist taking into account all information gathered during the desktop audit of the site as well as the preconstruction survey. If a San Francisco garter snake is observed within the maintenance work area, either during the pre-activity survey or at any time, activities that could potentially harm the individual will cease and the USFWS and CDFW will be contacted immediately. Work will not re-commence without written approval from CDFW. The on-site biologist will be the contact for any employee or contractor who might inadvertently kill or injure a garter snake or anyone who finds a dead, injured, or entrapped San Francisco garter snake. The on-site biologist shall possess a working cellular telephone whose number shall be provided to the USFWS and CDFW. ▪ For vegetation removal on berms or other sites with suitable San Francisco garter snake habitat, vegetation shall be cut down to 3 inches by hand tools (weedwhacker, etc.). Once the ground is visible, a visual survey for San Francisco garter snakes shall be conducted. If no sensitive species are found in the area, removal of vegetation may continue by mowing or mechanized equipment very slowly with a biological monitor walking in front of the equipment to observe. ▪ Maintenance-related vehicles will observe a 20 mile per hour speed limit while in the work area. ▪ San Francisco garter snakes may be attracted to structures that provide cavities such as pipes; therefore, all pipes, culverts, or similar structures that are stored at the site for one or more overnight periods will be either securely capped prior to storage or thoroughly inspected by the on-site biologist and/or the maintenance foreman/manager before the pipe is buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved. If a San Francisco garter snake is discovered inside a pipe, the biologist (or a member of the maintenance crew, if the biologist is not on-site) will watch the individual until it has moved out of the maintenance work area. ▪ A litter control program will be instituted at each activity site. All workers will ensure their food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash are deposited in covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers will be removed from the site at the end of each working day.
BIO-6	Measures to Protect the Foothill Yellow-legged Frog, California Giant Salamander, Santa Cruz Black Salamander, and Western Pond Turtle	In areas within one mile of documented foothill yellow-legged frog, California giant salamander, Santa Cruz black salamander, or western pond turtle occurrences, or where suitable habitat for one or more of these species is determined to exist in or around the work area where ground disturbing activities or mowing are planned to occur, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ The qualified biologist will conduct a special-status species survey on each morning of and within 48 hours prior to the scheduled work commencing. 1. If no foothill yellow-legged frog, California giant Salamander, Santa Cruz black salamander, or western pond turtle is found, the work may proceed. 2. If eggs or larvae of the foothill yellow-legged frog, California giant salamander, Santa Cruz black salamander, are found, the qualified biologist will establish a buffer around the location of the eggs/larvae and work may proceed outside of the buffer zone. No work will occur within the buffer zone. Work within the buffer zone will be rescheduled until the time that eggs have hatched and/or larvae have metamorphosed, or the Permittee shall contact CDFW to develop site appropriate avoidance and minimization measures.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		3. If an active western pond turtle nest is detected within the activity area, a 10-foot buffer zone around the nest will be established and maintained during the breeding and nesting season (April 1 – August 31). The buffer zone will remain in place until the young have left the nest, as determined by a qualified biologist. 4. If adult or non-larval juvenile foothill yellow-legged frogs, California giant salamanders, Santa Cruz black salamanders, or western pond turtles are found, one of the following two procedures will be implemented: a. If, in the opinion of the qualified biologist, capture and removal of the individual to a safe place outside of the work area is less likely to result in adverse effects than leaving the individual in place and rescheduling the work (e.g., if the species could potentially hide and be missed during a follow-up survey), the individual will be captured and relocated by a qualified biologist to suitable habitat at least 100 meters away and work may proceed. b. If, in the opinion of the qualified biologist, the individual is likely to leave the work area on its own, and work can be feasibly rescheduled, a buffer will be established around the location of the individual(s) and work may proceed outside of the buffer zone. No work will occur within the buffer zone until the turtle has left the work area. Work within the buffer zone will be rescheduled if necessary.
BIO-7	Check for Wildlife in Pipes/Construction Materials	For maintenance activities that involve pipes or culverts, the County will visually check all sections of pipe for the presence of wildlife sheltering within them prior to moving any pipe or culvert sections that have been stored on the site overnight, or the pipes will have the ends capped while stored on site so as to prevent wildlife from entering. After attachment of the pipe/culvert sections to one another, the exposed end(s) of the pipe/culvert will be capped at the end of each day during construction to prevent wildlife from entering and being trapped within the pipeline/culvert.
BIO-8	Minimize Impacts on Dusky-footed Woodrat Nests	If suitable habitat for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat is determined to exist in the work area, the following measure will be followed: ▪ No more than two weeks prior to the beginning of ground disturbance or other routine maintenance activities that could disturb woodrat nests, a qualified biologist will survey the work areas scheduled for maintenance. If any dusky-footed woodrat nests are found, the nests shall be flagged and construction fencing or flagging that will not impede the movement of the SFDW shall be placed around the nest to create a 10-foot buffer (where feasible). If the nest is located adjacent to a road or trail, the nest shall be clearly flagged so equipment/truck drivers accessing sites can see the nest. If a dusky-footed woodrat nest is identified in a work area, the following measure will be implemented by the County. ▪ The County will avoid physical disturbance of the nest if feasible. Ideally, a minimum 10-foot buffer should be maintained between maintenance construction activities and each nest to avoid disturbance. In some situations, a smaller buffer may be allowed if in the opinion of a qualified biologist removing the nest would be a greater impact than that anticipated as a result of maintenance activities. ▪ If a dusky-footed woodrat nest cannot be avoided and the nest is located in urban or bayside areas where woodrat populations are small and isolated from larger populations, the County will consult with CDFW regarding the appropriate measures to minimize impacts.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		▪ If a dusky-footed woodrat nest cannot be avoided and the nest is located in more rural or natural areas and/or where woodrat populations are large and have connectivity to large populations, one of the following two relocation measures will be implemented by the County: 1. If the woodrat nest site and the proposed relocation area are connected by suitable dispersal habitat for the woodrat, as determined by a qualified biologist, the following relocation methodology will be used: Prior to the beginning of construction activities, a qualified biologist will disturb the woodrat nest to the degree that all woodrats leave the nest and seek refuge outside of the maintenance activity area. Relocations efforts will avoid the nesting season (February - July) to the maximum extent feasible. Disturbance of the woodrat nest will be initiated no earlier than one hour before dusk to minimize the exposure of woodrats to diurnal predators. Subsequently, the biologist will dismantle and relocate the nest material by hand. All material from dismantled nests will be placed in a pile, preferably against a log or tree trunk, in suitable habitat located at least 20 feet from, but otherwise as close as possible to, the original nest locations, to provide material for woodrats to construct new nests. During the deconstruction process, the biologist will attempt to assess if there are juveniles in the nest. If immobile juveniles are observed, the deconstruction process will be discontinued until a time when the biologist believes the juveniles will be fully mobile. A 10-foot wide no-disturbance buffer will be established around the nest until the juveniles are mobile. The nest may be dismantled once the biologist has determined that adverse impacts on the juveniles would not occur. All disturbances to woodrat nests will be documented in a construction monitoring report and submitted to CDFW. 2. If a qualified biologist determines that the woodrat relocation area is separated from the nest site by major impediments, or a complete barrier, to woodrat movement, trapping for woodrats will be conducted prior to relocation of nest material. Prior to the start of nest relocation activities, artificial pine box shelters will be placed at each of the sites selected for relocation of nest materials. The dimensions of the artificial shelters will be approximately 8” long x 8” wide x 6” high. Each shelter will include two interior chambers connected by an opening. At the relocation sites, the artificial pine box shelters will provide basement structures for the relocated woodrat nest materials, allowing woodrats to enter, use, and modify the relocated nests. A qualified biologist will set two traps around each of the woodrat nests to be relocated. Traps will be set within one hour prior to sunset, and baited with a mixture of peanut butter, oats, and apples. Traps will also be equipped with cotton bedding and covered with cardboard. The traps will be checked the following morning, within one-and-a-half hours of sunrise. If a woodrat is captured it will be placed in a quiet area while its nest material is relocated; the animal will then be released at the relocated nest. If no woodrats are captured after the first night, the biologist will set the traps for one additional evening to increase the probability of capturing the animal and ensuring a safe relocation. If no woodrats are captured at a given house after two nights, it will be assumed that the house is not currently occupied. 3. Trapping will only be conducted outside the breeding season, which for woodrats is from February through the end of July. If a litter of young is found or suspected while dismantling a nest for relocation, the nest material will be replaced, any trapped woodrats will be returned to the nest, and the nest will be left alone for 2 to 3 weeks,

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		after which time the nest would be rechecked to verify that the young are capable of independent survival, as determined by the lead woodrat biologist, before proceeding with nest dismantling.
BIO-9	Measures to Protect Nesting Migratory Birds	▪ To the extent possible, conduct vegetation removal activities prior to nesting bird season (February 1 through August 31). ▪ For maintenance activities or tree removal that are scheduled to occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will survey the work area and a minimum of 300 feet surrounding the work area for raptor nests and 100 feet for nests of non-raptors. This survey will occur no more than three days prior to starting work. If a lapse in maintenance-related work of 7 days or longer occurs, another focused survey will be conducted before maintenance work can be reinitiated. ▪ If nesting birds are found, a no-work buffer will be established around the nest and maintained until the young have fledged. A qualified biologist will identify an appropriate buffer based on a site specific-evaluation. Typical appropriate buffers are 300 feet for raptors, herons, and egrets (though larger for bald and golden eagles, as discussed in BIO-14); 100 feet for non-raptors nesting on trees, shrubs and structures, and 25 feet for ground-nesting non-raptors. ▪ The boundary of each buffer zone will be marked with fencing, flagging, or other easily identifiable marking if work will occur immediately outside the buffer zone. ▪ Install physical barriers to nesting where appropriate (e.g., install netting over entryways to cavities, bridge ledges, culverts) and check regularly for any trapped birds. Work will not commence within the buffer until fledglings are fully mobile and no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. ▪ No trees or shrubs shall be disturbed that contain active bird nests until all eggs have hatched, and young have fully fledged (are no longer being fed by the adults and have completely left the nest site). To avoid potential impacts to tree or shrub-nesting birds, any project-specific trimming or pruning of trees or shrubs shall be conducted during the time period of September 1 to February 14 unless a preconstruction nesting bird survey has been conducted by a qualified biologist. No habitat removal or modification shall occur within the Ecologically Sensitive Area fenced nest zone even if the nest continues to be active beyond the typical nesting season for the species, until the young have fully fledged and will no longer be adversely affected by the project. ▪ Within areas subject to CDFW regulation under Section 1600 of the Fish and Game Code, nesting bird protection measures required as conditions of the Streambed Alteration Agreement will be implemented.
BIO-10	Measures to Protect Nesting Marbled Murrelet	▪ During marbled murrelet breeding/nesting season (March 24 to September 15), if suitable marbled murrelet nesting trees are present within 300 feet of the project area or if a marbled murrelet nest is detected, Permittee shall consult with CDFW before proceeding. If habitat trees are present within ¼- mile of the project site but are greater than 300 feet from the work area, Permittee may proceed with the following conditions: ○ Work within the ¼-mile buffer shall be confined to the period of September 15 to October 15. ○ If activities cannot be performed during this window and would thus occur during the marbled murrelet breeding season (March 25 to September 15), seasonal disturbance minimization buffers as listed the USFWS document, *Estimation of the Effects of Auditory and Visual Disturbance to Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets in Northwestern California* (2006) shall be followed. Permittee shall measure ambient noise and estimate construction activity noise to calculate seasonal buffer widths using that reference.

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		○ Alternatively, if protocol-level surveys are conducted and do not indicate that the habitat is occupied by marbled murrelet, seasonal and distance work restrictions may be lifted with written approval from CDFW. Protocol level survey procedures and information can be found at: http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/publications/PSG_TechPub2_MAMU_ISP.pdf
BIO-11	Non-native Aquatic Plant Removal	Any aquatic non-native plants found while performing maintenance activities will be disposed of properly and will not be placed back into the tributaries where work is being conducted or any other drainages, creeks, or streams.
BIO-12	Measures to Protect Special-Status Butterflies	If suitable habitat for Bay checkerspot, Mission blue, San Bruno elfin, or Callippe silverspot butterflies is determined to exist in or around the work area where ground disturbing activities are planned to occur, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ Areas supporting larval host plants for the Bay checkerspot, Mission blue, San Bruno elfin, or Callippe silverspot will be identified by a qualified biologist and protected from disturbance by establishing buffer zones around individual plants or populations. The size of the buffer will be determined by a qualified botanist; the actual distance will depend on the plant species potentially affected and the type of disturbance. If impacts on larval host plants of federally listed butterflies are unavoidable and are within occupied or potentially occupied habitats, then the County will stop work in the vicinity of the host plant(s) and consult with the USFWS. ▪ No herbicide will be applied to the buffer area, and to the extent feasible, maintenance personnel and equipment will not operate within such areas. If, based on a review of current CNDDB records or the latest information available from the Xerces Society (https://xerces.org/state-of-the-monarch-butterfly-overwintering-sites-in-california/) historically or currently occupied overwintering habitat for the monarch butterfly is determined to exist in or adjacent to the work area where ground disturbing activities are planned to occur, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ Areas supporting overwintering habitat for the monarch butterfly will be identified by a qualified biologist and maintenance activities during fall and winter months when monarch butterflies are present will be avoided to the extent practicable. ▪ Historically or currently occupied trees/groves will be protected from disturbance by the establishment of a 100-foot buffer zone around the tree/grove. The buffer will be measured from the outside edge of the dripline of the monarch grove. If maintenance activities within 100 feet of a historically or currently occupied tree/grove are unavoidable, the County will prepare and implement an impact minimization plan in consultation with the USFWS. ▪ No herbicides or pesticides will be applied to the buffer area, and to the extent feasible, maintenance personnel and equipment will not operate within such areas.
BIO-13	Measures to Protect the California Ridgway's Rail	If suitable breeding habitat for California Ridgway's rails is determined to exist in or around the work area where maintenance activities are planned to occur, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ If work will occur during the Ridgway's rail breeding season (February 1 through August 31), the County will conduct

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		pre-activity surveys for the Ridgway's rail in the late winter and early spring of the year maintenance activities are scheduled to occur. Surveys will be conducted per the current USFWS protocol. ▪ If the surveys confirm there are no breeding rails within 700 feet of the project area, or the area where heavy equipment, ground disturbance, or vegetation removal would occur, work activities may proceed during the breeding season. ▪ If surveys identify the presence of breeding rails, no maintenance activities will occur within 700 feet of occupied nesting habitat during the breeding season (February 1 to August 31). For work occurring within 300 feet of potential nonbreeding habitat for California Ridgway's rails which provides habitat that occasional nonbreeding California Ridgway's rails may use for foraging or cover, or other identified suitable California Ridgway's rail habitat locations, the County will implement applicable protection measures as follows: ▪ Prior to the initiation of work each day, if suitable habitat occurs within the immediate work area, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey of all suitable habitat that may be directly or indirectly impacted by the day's activities (work area, access routes, staging areas). Specific habitat areas are vegetated areas of cordgrass (*Spartina* spp.), marsh gumplant (*Grindelia* spp.), pickleweed (*Salicornia pacifica*), alkali heath, (*Frankenia* sp.), and other high marsh vegetation, brackish marsh reaches of creek with heavy accumulations of bulrush thatch (old stands), and high water refugia habitat that may include annual grasses, and shrubs immediately adjacent to channels. ▪ If during the initial daily survey or during work activities a Ridgway's rail is observed within or immediately adjacent to the work area (50 feet), initiation of work will be delayed until the Ridgway's rail leaves the work area. ▪ Mowing using heavy equipment (e.g., tractors, boom mowers, or rider mowers) will not be conducted in habitat areas or within 50 feet of habitat areas. If mowing with hand equipment is necessary within 50 feet of habitat areas, an on-site monitor will observe the area in front of the mower from a safe vantage point while it is in operation. If Ridgway's rails are detected within the area to be mown, the mowing will stop until the individual(s) have left the work area. ▪ If visual observation cannot confirm the Ridgway's rail(s) left the work area, then it is assumed that the individual(s) remains in the work area and the work will not resume until the area has been thoroughly surveyed (and absence confirmed) or the USFWS has been contacted for guidance.
BIO-14	Measures to Protect Bat Colonies	▪ If high-quality habitat for roosting bats (i.e., large trees with cavities of sufficient size to support roosting bats, or buildings providing suitable roost sites, as determined by a qualified bat biologist) is present within 100 feet of a maintenance site, a qualified bat biologist will conduct a survey to look for evidence of bat use within two weeks prior to the onset of work activities. If evidence of bat occupancy is observed, or if high-quality roost sites are present in areas where evidence of bat use might not be detectable (such as a tree cavity), an evening survey and/or nocturnal acoustic survey may be necessary to determine if a bat colony is present and to identify the specific location of the bat colony. ▪ If no active maternity colony or non-breeding bat roost is located, project work can continue as planned. ▪ If an active maternity colony or non-breeding bat roost is located, the project work will be redesigned to avoid disturbance of the roosts, if feasible.

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		▪ If an active maternity colony is located, and the project cannot be redesigned to avoid removal or disturbance of the occupied tree or structure, disturbance will not take place during the maternity season (March 15 – July 31), and a disturbance-free buffer zone (determined by a qualified bat biologist) will be observed during this period. ▪ If an active non-breeding bat roost is located, and the project cannot be redesigned to avoid removal or disturbance of the occupied tree or structure, the individuals will be safely evicted between August 1 and October 15 or between February 15 and March 15 (as determined by a Memorandum of Understanding with CDFW). Bats may be evicted through exclusion after notifying CDFW. Trees with roosts that need to be removed will first be disturbed at dusk, just prior to removal that same evening, to allow bats to escape during the darker hours.
BIO-15	Nesting Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Avoidance	In areas within 0.5 mile of known bald or golden eagle nesting areas, the following measures will be implemented: ▪ To the extent feasible, conduct vegetation removal activities prior to the nesting season (January 15 through August 1). ▪ For maintenance activities or tree removal that are scheduled to occur between January 15 and August 1, a qualified biologist will survey the work area and a minimum 0.5 mile surrounding the work area for eagle nests. This survey will occur no more than seven days prior to starting work. ▪ No maintenance activities will occur within a 0.5-mile viewshed buffer zone (areas that can be seen by an eagle on the nest), around any active eagle nest during the breeding season, unless a qualified biologist determines late in the season that nesting activity has been completed for the year. No breeding-season maintenance activities will occur within 0.25 mile of the nest site a, regardless of whether or not those activities can be seen from the nest, while nesting activity is occurring.
BIO-16	Avoid Special-Status Plant Species	For projects located in areas where special-status plants have been identified as potentially occurring (see Table 4-1), a qualified biologist will assess habitat suitability for the potential occurrence of special-status plant species within the work area. If determined to be warranted, a qualified botanist will conduct appropriately timed surveys for the focal plant species in accordance with CDFW's special-status plant survey methodology. If a special-status species is observed in or near the project site, the County will follow the measures below as well as any additional measures that might be contained in the forthcoming Biological Opinion issued by the USFWS for the Maintenance Program. ▪ If discovered, the population size and occupied area of special-status plant populations identified during the field survey, and with potential to be impacted, will be estimated. A "population" will be defined as the group of individuals of a species present within a 0.10-mile radius. In addition, the population will be photographed and flagged to maximize avoidance, as well as to estimate the percentage of the population affected. If feasible, the project shall be redesigned or modified to avoid direct and indirect impacts on special-status plant species. ▪ Special-status plants to be avoided will be protected from disturbance by installing environmentally sensitive area fencing (orange construction barrier fencing or a suitable alternative). Protective fencing will be installed under the direction of a qualified biologist as necessary to protect the plant and its habitat; where feasible, the environmentally sensitive area fencing will be installed at least 50 ft from the edge of the population. The location of the fencing will be shown on the maintenance design drawings and marked in the field with stakes and/or flagging. The design specifications will contain clear language that prohibits maintenance-relate activities, vehicle operation, material and equipment storage, and other surface disturbing activities within the fenced environmentally sensitive area. For non-ground disturbing vegetation management activities conducted using only hand-held equipment, the non-disturbance

BMP Number	BMP Title	BMP Description
		buffer may be reduced to a minimum of 3 feet and flagging of the population may be used in place of environmentally sensitive fencing. ▪ Vegetation management activities in sensitive plant areas will be conducted under the guidance of a qualified botanist. These activities will be timed following the blooming periods of potentially occurring listed species. ▪ If any impacts to individual state-listed plants are unavoidable, or if more than 5 percent of a population of a federally listed plant species or species with California Rare Plant Ranks of 1 or 2 would be impacted, then the County will stop work in the vicinity of the plant(s) and consult with the appropriate regulatory agencies. ▪ If impacts to state or federally listed plants are unavoidable and less than 5 percent of a population would be impacted, prior to any ground-disturbing activities the County will preserve the seedbank within the impact area by removing and retaining the topsoil prior to the implementation of maintenance activities. Following completion of the maintenance activity, the County will monitor the impact area for two years. Any non-native invasive plant species occurring within this area during the monitoring period will be removed under the supervision of a qualified biologist. ▪ If appropriately timed focused botanical surveys cannot be conducted prior to maintenance activities in areas identified by a qualified biologist as potentially supporting listed plants, then the County will assume presence of the plant species in question.
BIO-17	Sudden Oak Death Controls	▪ Before entering maintenance sites located in areas infested with *Phytophthora*, field workers will receive training that includes information on *Phytophthora* pathogens and how to prevent the spread of these and other soil-borne organisms by following approved phytosanitary procedures. ▪ The exterior and interior of all vehicles, construction equipment, and tools should be clean and free of debris, soil and mud (including mud on tires, treads, wheel wells and undercarriage) prior to arrival at a new job site, especially during the wet season. ▪ Work shoes should be kept clean by inspecting shoe soles and removing mud, debris and soil off treads before moving to a new job site. ▪ Do not collect or transport host plants from an infested or quarantined area. ▪ Vehicles should stay on established roads whenever possible. ▪ To minimize the potential for spreading potentially contaminated soil and time required for decontamination, if possible, avoid vehicle traffic and field work when soils are wet enough to stick readily to shoes, tools, equipment and tires. ▪ Delivered nursery plants that will be held before planting will be transferred to cleaned and sanitized raised benches and maintained in accordance with the "Guidelines to Minimize *Phytophthora* Pathogens for holding (non-production) nurseries at restoration sites, Section 3." ▪ A portion of purchased nursery plants will be tested for *Phytophthora* using the pear-baiting methodology in which pear baits are placed in soil samples, water samples and root samples of nursery purchased plants. Incubation temperatures with diurnal fluctuations from 21 degrees Celsius to 27 degrees Celsius are generally suitable for detecting *Phytophthora* species using pear baits. If dark lesions appear on pears, the sample likely has *Phytophthora* inoculum. For additional information for the pear-baiting methodology, see: phytosphere.com/BMPsnursery/test3_2bait.htm

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		▪ Nursery plants will be transported on or in vehicles or equipment that have been cleaned before loading the stock. ▪ Nursery stock will not be placed on the soil or other potentially contaminated surfaces until they are placed at their specific planting sites. ▪ Minimize unnecessary movement of soil and plant material within a planting area, especially from higher to lower risk areas. ▪ On-site or off-site collection of plant materials, including seed and cuttings for direct planting, will be conducted in a phytosanitary manner. ▪ Only uncontaminated water or water that has been effectively treated to remove or kill *Phytophthora* should be used for rinsing or irrigating plant material.
BIO-18	Invasive Plant Control	▪ In order to minimize the spread of invasive plants, all equipment (including personal gear) will be cleaned of soil, seeds, and plant material prior to arriving on the project site to prevent introduction of undesirable plant species. ▪ Prior to implementation of Program activities at a given site, the proposed staging area, as well as any areas to be graded, will be surveyed for the presence of invasive weed species. Invasive weed species occurring within locations of construction clearing and grubbing shall be flagged for removal by the biological monitor or qualified biologist. Any invasive weeds with a Cal-IPC rating of "moderate" or "high" found within the survey area will be removed and disposed of in a sanitary landfill, incinerated off-site, or disposed in a high-temperature composting facility that can compost using methods known to kill weed seeds, taking care to prevent any seed dispersal during the process by bagging material or covering trucks transporting such material from the site. ▪ Suitable onsite disposal areas should be identified to prevent the spread of weed seeds. Invasive plant material should be rendered nonviable (partially decomposed, very slimy or brittle) when being treated onsite. Maintenance staff shall desiccate or decompose invasive plant material until it is nonviable. Depending on the type of plant, disposed plant material can be left out in the open as long as roots are not in contact with moist soil, or can be covered with a tarp to prevent material from blowing or washing away. Permittee shall monitor all sites where invasive plant material is disposed onsite and treat any newly emerged invasive plants. Invasive plant material removed during work activities shall be bagged and appropriately incinerated or disposed of in a landfill or permitted composting facility. ▪ No invasive plants shall be planted at maintenance work areas. Prohibited exotic plant species include those identified in the California Invasive Plant Council's Inventory Database, which is accessible at: https://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/.
BIO-19	Restore Channel Features	▪ Following completion of bank stabilization activities, any temporary modifications to the low-flow channels will be reversed so that the channel is contoured to facilitate fish passage at least as well following the activity as it did prior to the stabilization activity.
BIO-20	Avoidance of Mammal Pupping Sites	▪ Work within 250 feet of an active harbor seal or sea lion haul out will be conducted outside of the pupping season (i.e., June – February).
BIO-21	General Wildlife Protection Measures	▪ If any wildlife is encountered during project activities, said wildlife shall be allowed to leave the area unharmed and on their own volition, except in cases where relocation by a qualified biologist is permitted by conditions below.

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BIO-22	Measures to Protect Nesting Western Snowy Plover	▪ To the extent feasible, maintenance activities within 600 feet of suitable snowy plover breeding habitat will occur outside the plover breeding season of March 1 through September 14. ▪ If maintenance activities are scheduled to occur within 600 feet of suitable snowy plover breeding habitat during the nesting season (March 1 through September 14), a pre-activity survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist within 7 days prior to the start of the activity to determine whether active nests are present. ▪ If an active snowy plover nest is detected within 600 feet of maintenance areas, the qualified biologist, in coordination with USFWS personnel, will determine an appropriate buffer that should remain free from new activities (i.e., those that were not ongoing when the nest was established). The buffer will be determined taking into account visual barriers (such as dunes) between the activities and the nest and the level and proximity of human activity around the nest when it was established. The buffer will remain in place until the nest is no longer active. ▪ If broods of unfledged snowy plover young are present, no maintenance activities will occur within 300 feet (or as otherwise determined by a qualified biologist in coordination with the USFWS) of a brood.
BIO-23	Burn Pile Measures	▪ The County would coordinate burn pile activities with CAL FIRE. ▪ Burning will only occur on days when danger of wildfire is low (e.g., it will not occur on windy days or in very hot, dry conditions). ▪ No burn piles will be located within 200 feet of known occurrences of special-status plants, suitable habitat for special-status butterflies and their hostplants, or high-quality aquatic or wetland habitat for the California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, or San Francisco garter snake. ▪ Prior to the initiation of burning, the burn pile will be physically disturbed (e.g., with a stick or shovel) to encourage any animals taking refuge within the pile to move out of the pile.
BIO-24	Pathogen Control	▪ In order to minimize the spread of plant and animal pathogens, all equipment (including personal gear such as boots) will be cleaned of soil, seeds, and plant material prior to arriving on a maintenance site. All organic matter will be removed from nets, traps, boots, vehicle tires and all other surfaces that have come into contact with water or potentially contaminated sediments. ▪ Equipment, including maintenance equipment and field gear used to capture and relocate special-status species such as frogs, will be disinfected after exiting one aquatic habitat and before entering the next aquatic habitat, unless the waters are hydrologically connected to one another. Cleaning equipment in the immediate vicinity of aquatic habitats will be avoided (e.g., clean in an area at least 100 feet from aquatic features). ▪ Boots, nets, gloves, and any other equipment used to handle amphibians or aquatic organisms will be scrubbed with a bleach solution (0.5 to 1.0 cup per 1.0 gallon of water), Quat-128™ (1:60), or a 3 to 6 percent sodium hypochlorite solution and thoroughly rinsed clean with water between maintenance sites. Care will be taken so that all traces of the disinfectant are removed before entering the next aquatic habitat. ▪ When working at sites with known or suspected disease problems, disposable gloves will be worn and changed between handling each animal. Gloves will be wetted with water from the site or distilled water prior to handling any

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		amphibians. Gloves will be removed by turning inside out with hands cleaned using a hand cleaner and water rinse to minimize cross-contamination.
BIO-25	Eelgrass Surveys at Coyote Point Marina	In the event that the County plans to conduct in-water maintenance activities to the north of the jetty forming the northern boundary of Coyote Point Marina (identified as "potential eel grass patch #1 in Appendix J), the County will retain a biologist to conduct an eelgrass survey in this area. Survey results would be provided to CDFW and other appropriate permitting agencies prior to commencing maintenance work in this area.