

3.0 Setting, Impact Analysis, and Mitigation Measures

As described in Section 1.2, this Draft SEIR is a supplement to the *Water Reclamation Master Plan for Treatment, Storage and Disposal Final Environmental Impact Report* (Master Plan EIR) (ESA, 2001), in which the Project was included as part of the preferred alternative. The Master Plan EIR was reviewed for currency, and it was determined that, for some impacts from the proposed Project, none of the conditions listed in Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines applies and no further evaluation of impacts to these resource areas is required. Impacts to these resource areas will not be evaluated further in this document. This Draft SEIR contains only the information necessary to make the Master Plan EIR adequate for the Project as revised and/or to address changed circumstances. This Draft SEIR does not address other components of the Water Reclamation Master Plan. As a result, this chapter is organized as follows:

- **Section 3.1, Impacts Previously Addressed in Master Plan EIR**, summarizes impacts to resource areas that do not require further evaluation and lists Master Plan EIR mitigation measures that will be implemented for the Project.
- **Section 3.2, Biological Resources**, evaluates impacts to biological resources based on updated field data and the revised Project footprint.
- **Section 3.3, Hydrology and Groundwater**, focuses on evaluating impacts to groundwater associated with changes in the project description from the Master Plan EIR.
- **Section 3.4, Visual Resources**, evaluates anticipated visual changes based on changes in the Project description from the Master Plan EIR.
- **Section 3.5, Geology, Soils and Seismicity**, evaluates geology impacts associated with the revised grading plan and new geotechnical information.
- **Section 3.6, Traffic**, evaluates impacts from new estimates of construction vehicle trips and impacts associated with changes in pipeline construction.
- **Section 3.7, Air Quality**, evaluates air quality impacts based on regulatory changes and scoping comments.
- **Section 3.8, Paleontology**, evaluates potential impacts to paleontological resources based on new soils data.
- **Section 3.9, Noise**, evaluates potential noise impacts associated with the revised Project construction footprint and new pump data.

Each section includes a description of the existing setting and a discussion of the impacts and mitigation measures. References are listed at the end of each section.

3.1 Impacts Previously Addressed in Master Plan EIR

Surface water quality and flooding/drainage, cultural resources, land use and recreation, and hazardous materials impacts that were found to be adequately evaluated in the Master Plan EIR are summarized below, along with any mitigation measures that will be implemented for the Project. The Project remains subject to all mitigation measures identified in the Master EIR that are applicable to the proposed Project except as otherwise provided in this Draft SEIR. Summaries of specific applicable mitigation measures are provided below.

3.1.1 Surface Water Quality and Flooding/Drainage

Surface water quality and flooding/drainage impacts were previously analyzed in Master Plan Draft EIR Sections 4.2 and 4.3, respectively (ESA, 2000).

The Master Plan EIR determined that construction of the Project could result in increased erosion and subsequent discharge of suspended sediments to adjacent surface water or drainages, which could degrade water quality for beneficial uses, reduce storm-flow capacities, and adversely affect associated aquatic and riparian habitats. Additionally, release to surface waters of fuels or other hazardous materials associated with construction activities could degrade water quality. This impact (Master Plan EIR Impact 4.2.1) was found to be less than significant with implementation of the following Mitigation Measures identified in the Master Plan EIR:

- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.2.1a: For all project components disturbing an area of greater than 5 acres, the Town shall require contractors to develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for construction of proposed facilities, as required by the RWQCB. The objectives of the SWPPP are to identify pollutant sources that may affect the quality of storm water discharge, and to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.2.1b: Implement additional BMPs for development of storage ponds.

As discussed in Master Plan EIR Section 4.3, Flooding and Drainage, because storage ponds would be designed with adequate freeboard to allow the storage of precipitation falling directly on the pond, overall flow volumes downstream would likely be reduced as a result of pond construction. The Master Plan EIR found that potential impacts to drainage and flooding conditions from construction of Pond T would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Exposure to the public of a flooding hazard in the event of a dam break was also addressed in the Master Plan EIR (Impact 4.3.3). The design and construction of dams is required to adhere to standards set by the California Department of Water Resources' Department of Safety of Dams (DSOD); adherence to these design and construction standards greatly reduces the probability of dam failure, and therefore adequately protects public safety. During operation, the storage pond would be visually inspected on a regular basis to ensure that the embankments, control structures, access roads, and monitoring instrumentation are maintained. All impediments would be removed from the spillway and other control

structures as soon as they are observed. This impact was found to be less than significant and no mitigation was required.

3.1.2 Archaeological and Historical Resources

As discussed in Section 4.5 of the Master Plan EIR, the potential for cultural resources to occur onsite is low. Results of previous archaeological surveys and an archaeological survey conducted for the Master Plan EIR confirmed the absence of archaeological resources on the Project site, although subsurface artifacts could be encountered during excavation activities. With implementation of Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.5.1c to address cultural resources encountered during construction, it was determined that no significant impacts would occur to archaeological resources.

As noted in Section 4.5 of the Master Plan EIR, there are no historic resources onsite and the Project is not located near any historic sites; historic resources will be not impacted by the Project.

3.1.3 Land Use and Recreation

Sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the Project include two residential ranchettes located adjacent and east of the construction site (see Master Plan EIR Figure A-2, Appendix A). Recreation resources in the vicinity of the site are located along the Russian River. Grading activities and construction of the pond, its pump station and access road facilities would have temporary and less than significant impacts on adjacent land uses, provided that the following Mitigation Measures identified in the Master Plan EIR are implemented:

- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.6.1a: Limit construction activities to the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday. Although after-hours construction work may be required at times for other parts of the Project, construction activities near the two closest residential ranchettes are expected to occur within the standard construction hours. In order to reduce impacts associated with construction disturbance, the Town shall include requirements for development and implementation of a Traffic Control Plan as part of the construction contract specifications.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.6.1b: The Town shall ensure, through preparation of bid documents, that project contractors restore areas disturbed by pipeline installation to the pre-project condition.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.6.1c: The Town shall acquire appropriate encroachment permits from the County for pipeline installation in Eastside Road and Trenton-Healdsburg Road.

The Project would generate short-term noise, air quality and traffic-related impacts. These impacts would be short-term, and would be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of standard construction measures, as defined in Master Plan EIR Sections 3.6, Traffic; 3.7, Air Quality; and 4.9, Noise (ESA, 2000). All impacts identified would be less than significant with mitigation, so conclusions about Land Use and Recreation remain unchanged.

3.1.4 Hazardous Materials

As discussed in Section 4.11 of the Master Plan EIR, the Project could disturb existing unknown contamination along the Eastside Road pipeline alignment (Master Plan EIR Impact 4.11.1), or result in an accidental spill of diesel fuel or other hazardous materials used for equipment or otherwise needed for construction operations (Master Plan EIR Impact 4.11.3). These impacts would be less than significant with implementation of the following Mitigation Measures identified in the Master Plan EIR:

- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.11.1a: Prepare a Project-specific Health and Safety Plan that includes a Project-specific contingency plan for hazardous materials and waste operations, and submit the plan to the agency with jurisdiction before site activities could proceed. The Health and Safety Plan, applicable to all excavation activities, shall establish policies and procedures to protect workers and the public from potential hazards posed by hazardous wastes. The plan shall be prepared according to federal and California OSHA regulations for hazardous waste site Health and Safety Plans.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.11.1b: Adopt and implement a dust abatement program.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.11.1c: The contractor shall monitor for odors and analyze excavated material with a photoionization detector to determine the potential for soil contamination and the need for specialized soil-handling procedures to reduce excavation impacts in areas of suspected contamination.
- Master Plan EIR Mitigation Measure 4.11.3: A Hazardous Materials Management/Spill Prevention Plan shall be developed and given to all contractors working on the Project. At least one copy shall be on-site with the construction manager at all times. The purpose of the plan is to provide on-site construction managers, environmental compliance monitors, and regulatory agencies with a detailed description of hazardous materials management, spill prevention, and spill response/cleanup measures associated with the construction of Project elements.

In addition, the Master Plan EIR determined that new pump stations would require the use of small amounts of hazardous materials, such as hydraulic fluids, solvents, and other standard mechanical maintenance fluids, at proposed pump stations (Master Plan EIR Impact 4.11.4). However, these relatively small quantities would be below reporting requirements for hazardous materials business plans and would not be considered to pose public health and safety hazards through release of emissions or risk of upset. No mitigation would be required.

3.1.5 References

Environmental Science Associates (ESA). 2000. *Water Reclamation Master Plan for Treatment, Storage and Disposal Draft Environmental Impact Report*. Prepared for the Town of Windsor. October.

_____. 2001. *Water Reclamation Master Plan for Treatment, Storage and Disposal Final Environmental Impact Report*. Certified by the Town of Windsor on February 7, 2001 and compiled in May 2001.