



4.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, 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?		✓		
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)?		✓		
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		✓		

- a) ***Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, 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?***

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated. As shown within Section 4.4, Biological Resources, construction of the proposed MUST facilities would occur within an urbanized and fully developed area. The project site would be located on vacant disturbed land or within existing public right-of-way/easements. The project would not result in direct impacts to any sensitive species or wildlife habitat and impacts to sensitive biological resources would be less than significant. Since the proposed project may result in the removal of disturbed habitat and ornamental vegetation in various locations of the project site, the proposed project could result in potential impacts to nesting birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Mitigation Measure BIO-1 has been included in order to minimize potential impacts to nesting birds in the event any mature trees are affected during the avian nesting season.

In addition, as described within Section 4.5, Cultural Resources, and Section 4.17, Tribal Cultural Resources, the project site has been completely disturbed and has been subject to ground disturbance in the past. As such, any historical and archaeological resources which may have existed in the project area have likely been disturbed. However, Mitigation Measures CUL-1 would be required in the event unexpected resources are uncovered during the grading and excavation process. The project site is however paleontologically sensitive for all excavations more than five feet in depth and planned excavations range from 15 to 30 feet below the current surface. As such, Mitigation Measure CUL-2 would require a Paleontological Resources Management Plan providing paleontological resources awareness training, framework for evaluating fossils recovered for significance under CEQA, and curation agreement with an accredited museum. With implementation of recommended mitigation, the project is not anticipated to eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Thus, impacts in this regard would be less than significant.



- 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)?***

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed project would include construction of the treatment and conveyance facilities. The project would not result in substantial population growth within the area, either directly or indirectly. Although the project may incrementally affect other resources that were determined to be less than significant, the project’s contribution to these effects is not considered “cumulatively considerable,” in consideration of the relatively nominal impacts of the project and mitigation measures provided.

- c) ***Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?***

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated. Previous sections of this Initial Study reviewed the proposed project’s potential impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, geology and soils, greenhouse gases, hydrology/water quality, noise, hazards and hazardous materials, traffic, and other issues. As concluded in these previous discussions, the proposed project would result in less than significant environmental impacts with implementation of the recommended mitigation measures. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in environmental impacts that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings.