

CHAPTER 4.0 – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ADDRESSED

An Initial Study was prepared for the Project in December 2020. Based on the findings of the Initial Study, it has been determined that a Draft EIR is required for the Project. The County used the Initial Study as well as agency and public input received during the public comment period (December 11, 2020, to January 14, 2021), to determine the final scope for this Draft EIR. Environmental issue areas are listed by the level of significance of their impacts in Table 4.0-1: Environmental Issue Areas below, as determined by the analysis provided in the Initial Study.

Table 4.0-1: Environmental Issue Areas

No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact
Agriculture and Forest Resources	Aesthetics	Air Quality
Land Use and Planning	Population and Housing	Biological Resources
Mineral Resources	Public Services	Cultural Resources
Recreation	Wildfire	Energy
		Geology and Soils
		Greenhouse Gas Emissions
		Hazards and Hazardous Materials
		Hydrology and Water Quality
		Noise
		Transportation
		Tribal Cultural Resources
		Utilities and Service Systems

The purpose of this section of the Draft EIR is to further analyze those impacts previously determined to be potentially significant in order to inform decision-makers and the public of the type and magnitude of the changes to the existing environment that would result from the Project. The following sections provide detailed discussion of the environmental setting for each topic addressed in this Draft EIR, the analysis of the potential impacts of the Project, potential cumulative impacts, and measures to mitigate potential significant impacts to the fullest extent feasible.

Impacts found to be less than significant in the Initial Study are further discussed in Section 6.1: Effects Not Found to be Significant of this Draft EIR.

TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS ANALYSIS

For each CEQA checklist question listed in the Draft EIR, a determination of the level of significance of the impact is provided (CEQA Guidelines Appendix G). Impacts are determined in the following categories:

- **No Impact.** A designation of *no impact* is given when no adverse changes in the environment are expected.
- **Less Than Significant.** A *less than significant impact* would cause no substantial adverse change in the environment.

- **Less Than Significant with Mitigation.** A *potentially significant (but mitigable) impact* would have a substantial adverse impact on the environment but could be reduced to a less-than-significant level with incorporation of mitigation measure(s).
- **Potentially Significant.** A *significant and unavoidable impact* would cause a substantial adverse effect on the environment and no feasible mitigation measures would be available to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Please see Chapter 9.0: Acronyms and Abbreviations for a glossary of terms, definitions, and acronyms used in this Draft EIR.