

**Final
INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

RIM ROCK RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT

LAGUNA BEACH, CA

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



September 2022

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACM	Asbestos containing material
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
bgs	Below ground surface
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CH ₄	Methane
City	City of Laguna Beach
CMP	Congestion Management Program
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	Carbon monoxide
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CO ₂ e	Carbon dioxide equivalent
County	County of Orange
dBA	A unit of measurement of sound level corrected to the A-weighted scale.
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
gpm	Gallons per minute
HFCs	Hydrofluorocarbons
Hp	Horsepower
IS/MND	Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration
LBP	Lead based paint
LCP	Lead containing paint
LBCWD	Laguna Beach County Water District
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MG	Million gallons
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
NO	Nitrous oxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
O ₃	Ozone
OCTA	Orange County Transportation Authority
OPR	Governors Office of Planning and Research
Pb	Lead

PFCs	Perfluorocarbons
PM10	Particulate matter of 10 microns in diameter or smaller
PM2.5	Particulate matter of 2.5 microns in diameter or smaller.
PRV	Pressure reducing valve
PRC	Public Resources Code
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCIC	South Central Coast Information Center
SF6	Sulfur hexafluoride
SO2	Sulfur dioxide
SoCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SR-133	State Route 133
SWPPP	Storm water Pollution Prevention Plan
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds

1.0 Introduction

The Laguna Beach County Water District (District) distributed the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Rim Rock Reservoir and Pump Station Project for public review on July 5, 2022 with the public review period ending on August 5, 2022. During this time, the District did not receive any formal comments on the draft Initial Study.

The Final IS/MND has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.), and in accordance with the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA (14 CCR 15000 et seq.). Under CEQA requirements, the District will adopt this Final MND if, based on the whole record, including the IS and comments received, it determines that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15074(b)).

1.1 Lead Agency Proposed Changes

This final version of the IS/MND includes changes that were made to the Draft IS/MND based on Lead Agency revisions made to clarify information presented in the Draft IS/MND or to correct minor text errors. These changes are minor, technical changes and do not raise important new issues related to significant effects on the environment. The Final IS/MND has been completely reprinted from the Draft IS/MND and changes made since public review are signified as a replacement, addition, or revision to existing text. Revisions to existing text are signified by strikeout (i.e., ~~strikeout~~) where text is removed, and by underlined text (i.e., underline) where text is added for clarification. The following edits or changes were made:

- Section IV Biological Resources. Page 29, first paragraph:

Implementation of ~~Mitigation Measure IV.1, BIO-1 Mitigation Measure IV.2 and Mitigation Measure IV.3~~ Mitigation Measures BIO-1, Mitigation Measure BIO-2, and Mititgation Measrues BIO-3 would reduce impacts on special status birds to less than significant.

- Section VII Geology and Soils. Page 38, fifth paragraph:

Excavation of significant vertebrate fossils would be reduced to less than significant with the implementation of ~~Mitigation Measure VII-4~~ Mitigation Measure GEO-1 which requires monitoring during initial excavation.

2.0 Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan

CEQA requires the Lead Agency to adopt a program for reporting on or monitoring of measures which have been identified as conditions for approval or which would reduce the significance of project impacts (CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(d)). This IS/MND includes a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan (MMRP) that summarizes the feasible mitigation

measures in the IS/MND and to document their implementation. **Table 2-1** below, identifies the measures, timing, and responsibility for implementation.

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
Biological Resources				
Impact BIO-1: Substantial adverse direct or indirect effect 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	Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Non-nesting Season Vegetation Removal Vegetation removal would occur outside of the typical nesting season for birds and raptors within the Project vicinity generally February 1 and September 1. To the extent feasible, vegetation removal shall be conducted between September 1 and January 31. Prior to vegetation removal, Mitigation Measure IV.1 would be implemented	Remove vegetation outside of the nesting season to avoid impacts on nesting birds and raptors	Laguna Beach County Water District	During pre-construction, construction, and restoration
	Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Preconstruction Nesting Bird Surveys and Nest Buffers Prior to construction within the nesting season for the species with potential to occur within the propose Project vicinity (February 1 to September 1), a qualified avian biologist with experience conducting bird breeding surveys shall conduct preconstruction surveys for nesting birds. Preconstruction	Conduct preconstruction surveys prior to the start of construction or vegetation removal	Laguna Beach County Water District	During pre-construction, construction, and restoration

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
	surveys will be conducted no more than 7 days prior to the start of construction. If active nests are observed, an appropriate buffer would be established between the nest and construction activities. The buffer shall be a minimum of 300 feet for passerine species and 500 feet for raptors. The buffer will remain in place until the nest is no longer active. No construction shall occur within the buffer areas. Buffer reductions may be appropriate depending on the species and upon the recommendation of the qualified avian biologist			
	<p>Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Biological Monitoring</p> <p>If buffers are established around active nests as described in Mitigation Measure IV.2, weekly monitoring of buffers and nests would occur. A qualified avian biologist will monitor the nest for evidence of distress or potential nest abandonment due to Project construction. The biologist will monitor for evidence of distress or whether a potential nest reduction could occur. Weekly</p>	If nests are identified and buffers established, monitor nest activities	Conduct preconstruction surveys prior to the start of construction or vegetation removal	Conduct preconstruction surveys prior to the start of construction or vegetation removal

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
	monitoring reports will be submitted and maintained by LBCWD.			
Cultural Resources				
Impact CUL-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource	<p>Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Evaluate California Register Historical Resources (CRHR). Evaluation of the existing Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities for CRHR-eligibility shall be completed. Should evaluation find one or both facilities CRHR-eligible it will be necessary to mitigate impacts according to Pub. Res. Code § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR Section 4850 et seq. This will be in compliance with CEQA § 15064.5 and accomplished by completion of an Historic American Engineering Record according to guidelines published by the National Park Service.</p> <p>Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction. Contractor personnel would be trained on the</p>	<p>Evaluate existing Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities for CRHR-eligibility.</p> <p>Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction.</p>	Laguna Beach County Water District	Prior to construction/Prior to demolition

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
	procedures for identifying historical resources and protocols for unintended discoveries and relevant elements of Health and Safety Section 7050.5(b) and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 during construction.			
Impact CR-2: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature	Mitigation Measure CUL-3: Monitoring. Substantial excavations in the proposed project area will be monitored to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered. Sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Significant fossils recovered during mitigation will be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations (McLeod 2016).	Monitor excavations within the propose project area.	Laguna Beach County Water District	During construction, and restoration
Noise				
Impact NOI -1: Expose people to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or	Mitigation Measure NOI-1: Equipment Noise Control. Equipment and trucks used for project construction shall employ the best available noise control techniques to the extent feasible. Jackhammers and other	Verify utilization of noise control techniques on construction equipment and trucks.	Laguna Beach County Water District	During construction and restoration

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies	<p>equipment would be equipped with mufflers. Trucks and equipment would minimize the potential for backing and generating backing warning sounds to the extent feasible. Muffling equipment and reducing the potential for backing warnings would reduce temporary noise impacts on sensitive receptors to less than significant.</p> <p>Mitigation Measure NOI-2: Location of Stationary Noise Sources: Stationary noise sources shall be located as far from adjacent noise sensitive receptors as reasonably possible and shall be enclosed if feasible. Generators, mixers, and other stationary equipment would be located as far from sensitive receptors to the extent feasible. Locating stationary equipment as far away from sensitive receptors would reduce temporary construction noise to below 65 dBA for most equipment and impacts would be less than significant.</p> <p>Mitigation Measure NOI-3: Noise Monitoring. During construction, periodic noise monitoring shall occur to monitor the</p>	<p>Verify implementation of measures.</p> <p>Verify noise levels.</p>		

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
	efficacy of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 and Mitigation Measures NOI-2 and to make adjustments, as needed, to reduce noise impacts on nearby residents.			
Geology and Soils				
Impact GEO-1 Potential for unintended discovery of fossils, or other paleontological artifacts during excavation	Mitigation Measure GEO-1 Monitoring during excavation: Substantial excavations in the proposed Project area will be monitored to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered. Sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed Project area. Significant fossils recovered during mitigation will be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations (McLeod 2016). A qualified archeologist/paleontologist will be present during excavation. If fossils are unearthed during	Qualified archeologist/paleontologist shall be present during excavation	Laguna Beach County Water District	During construction

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
	excavation, work within the area will cease until appropriate evaluation by a qualified archeologist or paleontologist can be made.			
Tribal Cultural Resources				
Impact TRI-1 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), or resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to	Mitigation Measure CUL-.2: Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction. Contractor personnel would be trained on the procedures for identifying historical resources and protocols for unintended discoveries and relevant elements of Health and Safety Section 7050.5(b) and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 during construction.	Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction.	Laguna Beach County Water District	During pre-construction

Table 2-1 Mitigation Monitoring Plan				
Impact	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring Requirements	Responsibility	Timing
<p>criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.</p>				

Environmental Checklist

1. **Project Title:** Rim Rock Reservoir & Pump Station Project

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** Laguna Beach County Water District
306 Third Street
Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0987

3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Bobby Young
(949) 494-1041

4. **Project Location:** 33°32'39.7"N 117°45'48.0"W for the Rim Rock Reservoir location, and 33°32'36.4"N 117°45'55.7"W for the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Laguna Beach County Water District
306 Third Street
Laguna Beach, CA 92652

6. **General Plan Designation(s):** Village Low Density (VLD)
Residential/Hillside Protection (RHP)

7. **Zoning Designation(s):** Residential Hillside Protection (RHP)
Residential Low Density (R1)

8. **Description of Project:** See Section Below

9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting.** See Section Below

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The proposed Project could potentially affect the environmental factor(s) checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental factor.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology, Soils and Seismicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gases | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Traffic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

Project Description and Background

Laguna Beach County Water District (LBCWD) provides drinking water to approximately 18,730 people via 130 miles of water pipeline, 14 pump stations, and 21 active reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 33.5 million gallons within an 8.5 square mile area of southern Orange County, including portions of the City of Laguna Beach, Crystal Cove State Park, and the unincorporated community of Emerald Bay. LBCWD is a member agency of the Municipal Water District of Orange County and purchases approximately 3,740 acre-feet of water annually. LBCWD is committed to providing its customers and communities with water reliability, water quality, sound financial and resource management, customer service and environmental stewardship.

The proposed Project is located within the City of Laguna Beach, in southern Orange County, California (Figure 1). LBCWD proposes to construct a new 0.8 million gallon reservoir and pump station where the existing Rim Rock Reservoir is currently located. In 2018 LBCWD performed an evaluation of the condition of the existing 600,000 gallon steel tank Rim Rock Reservoir and the existing facilities at the nearby Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and pump station location, and determined that the facilities are nearing the end of their useful life and replacement is necessary. The existing reservoirs, pump station, and appurtenances will be demolished and removed and the new 0.8 million gallon reservoir and pump station would be constructed at the existing Rim Rock Reservoir location.

Within the City of Laguna Beach, there is varied terrain and therefore the service area for LBCWD is dividing into several pressure zones. The pressure zones are an operational aspect of the district and allow the appropriate pressure to be delivered to the residences within each pressure zone. The proposed Project is located such that water supplies the 600 Zone, and can be pumped to the 800 Zone.

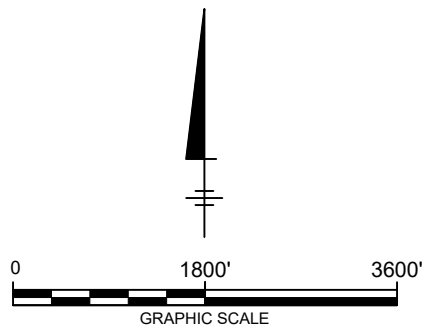
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AERIAL SOURCE: Google Earth Pro™ 2017, 33.544456,-117.763603



CALIFORNIA



LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT RIM ROCK RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT INITIAL STUDY	
PROJECT LOCATION	
 ARCADIS <i>Design & Consultancy for natural and built assets</i>	FIGURE 1

Existing Facilities

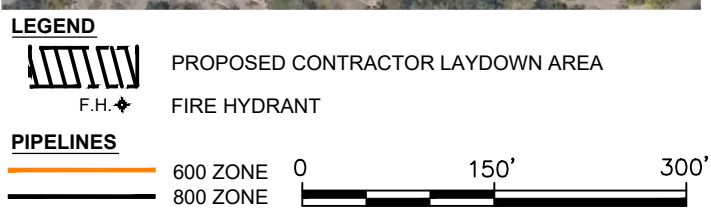
The existing facilities and locations are shown in Figure 2. A detailed description of the Rim Rock Reservoir and Temple Hills 600 Reservoir is provided below.

Rim Rock Reservoir: Rim Rock Reservoir is a covered circular steel tank built in 1961. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 0.6 million gallons (MG). The floor elevation is 597.2 feet with a high water level of 617 feet. There is a 12-inch common inlet/outlet cast iron pipe (CIP) that serves the reservoir and connects to a 16-inch asbestos concrete pipe (ACP) that connects to the surrounding 600 Zone. The reservoir also has a 10-inch concrete overflow pipe that outlets to a storm drain.

Temple Hills 600 Reservoir: Temple Hills 600 Reservoir is a partially-buried, closed, circular concrete reservoir built in 1939 with a wooden roof and has a storage capacity of 0.25 MG. The floor elevation is 599.5 feet with a high water level of 617 feet. Temple Hills 600 Reservoir serves the 600 Zone in the southern part of LBCWD's service area and is connected to the 800 Zone by the Temple Hills 600 pump station. It is connected to the 600 Zone to the north by an 8-inch PVC pipe and to the south with a 16-inch ACP line. The Temple Hills 600 pump station features one duty and one standby pump each rated at 520 gallons per minute (gpm) at 220 feet of head. The pump station was originally built in 1939 and upgraded in 2001. Both of the existing pumps at the Temple Hills 600 pump station are 50 horsepower (Hp). From the pump station a 10-inch ACP pipe supplies the 800 Zone. Temple Hills 600 Reservoir site also features a retaining wall built into the south and western sides of the site.

Demolition and Construction: The proposed Project demolition activities would include demolition of both the existing Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and pump station, and the Rim Rock Reservoir along with some distribution piping. Demolition would include removal of concrete, asphalt, piping, vegetation, and the existing reservoir structures and pump stations. Work would include jackhammering, excavation, and vegetation removal using large equipment. The reservoirs would be disassembled and off-hauled from the site. Concrete, asphalt, excess soil from excavation, and other demolition debris will also be off-hauled from the site and deposited at an appropriate landfill facility.

Demolition and removal of the existing Rim Rock Reservoir would occur first. At the Rim Rock Reservoir location, once the structures have been demolished and removal of all valves, piping, and appurtenances are complete, the site would be graded and prepared for the new reservoir. Fencing, the stormwater piping, stormwater v-ditch, and the access road would remain. Approximately 800 cubic yards of material, total from both locations, would be off-hauled from the proposed Project sites. Water would be supplied by nearby fire hydrants and would be available to reduce dust during demolition and construction. Because the pump station at the Temple Hills Reservoir would be removed, a new pump station would be constructed at the Rim Rock Reservoir location. At the Rim Rock Reservoir location, once the structures have been demolished, the site would be graded and prepared for the installation of the new reservoir and pump station. The subsurface piping would be installed using traditional cut-and-cover techniques (trenching). Trenches would be excavated to a depth up to approximately 5-feet and would include shoring to provide trench wall stability. Excavators would be used to construct trenches and excess soil



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INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT FACILITIES

would be placed in trucks and off-hauled from the site. It is estimated that approximately 300 feet of piping would be installed per day on average, with sand placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe. This would include installation of approximately 1,000 feet of 16 inches PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, 400 feet of 8-inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, and 1,000 feet of 12-inch ductile iron pipe in the 800 Zone.

Construction of the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir would begin once work at the Rim Rock Reservoir location has been completed. At the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location, once the structures are demolished and cleared of all existing structures, the site would be regraded and hydroseeded to prevent erosion. Fencing, the stormwater piping, stormwater v-ditch, and the access road would remain. Approximately 800 cubic yards of material would be off-hauled from both Project locations. Water from nearby fire hydrants would be available to reduce dust during demolition and construction. Existing fences onsite would be used for security during construction.

Construction access to the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location would be via Temple Hills Road. Access to the Rim Rock Reservoir location would be via Rim Rock Canyon Road. Existing access roads at the reservoir locations would be used for onsite access. No new access roads would be constructed.

The new Rim Rock Reservoir would be a steel tank with approximately a 75-foot diameter foundation. The new reservoir would be approximately centered on the location of the existing reservoir.

Because the pump station at the Temple Hills Reservoir would be removed, a new pump station would be constructed at the Rim Rock Reservoir site. There will be two pumps onsite and they will operate at a maximum of 75 Hp each and will be used intermittently. The pump station building would be located on the southern portion of the site adjacent to the existing access road. The pump station building would include split-face concrete masonry unit walls. A wooden roof would be installed on the pump station building. Scaffolding would be constructed during building construction and small cranes would be used for construction. The new pumps would be powered by electric motors, with power supplied by an existing Southern California Edison connection, and will have provisions for a portable standby emergency generator. This emergency generator will only be used in the event of a power failure. The new pumps will provide a flow of approximately 600 gpm.

The subsurface piping would be installed using traditional cut-and-cover techniques (trenching). Trenches would be excavated to a depth up to approximately 5 feet and would include shoring, if necessary, to provide trench wall stability. Excavators would be used to construct trenches and excess soil, if any, would be placed in trucks and off-hauled from the site. It is estimated that approximately 300 feet of piping would be installed per day on average, with sand placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe. This would equate to the installation of approximately 1,000 feet of 16 inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, 400 feet of 8-inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, and 1,000 feet of 12- inch ductile iron pipe in the 800 Zone. The trench would be backfilled and compacted to the required specifications.

Concrete foundations for the new reservoir and pump station building would be constructed. Concrete trucks would deliver concrete to the site. No mixing of concrete would occur onsite.

After the construction of the new reservoir and pump station, the site would be graded and compacted to final elevations. Asphalt paving would be installed in a 13-foot-wide ring around the new reservoir, and the existing public and private roads would be repaired where applicable. At the Rim Rock Reservoir site, the existing stormwater drainage system would remain during and after construction. The existing fence and gate would be maintained during construction and after construction to provide security. The site would be secured with a manual lock. Native landscaping would be installed on the south side of the site and around the reservoir if disturbed during construction. Native landscaping would also be restored in the portion of the parcel used for construction staging. The new pump station and reservoir would be constructed to blend into the existing vegetation to the extent feasible. Colors would be muted as shown on Figures 3 through 5.

Construction of the proposed Project is expected to occur over 18 months beginning in the first quarter 2023. Demolition of the Rim Rock Reservoir would occur first. A temporary half acre storage and laydown area would be established on a vacant parcel to the south of the proposed Project site. The temporary storage and laydown area would be graded and vegetation removed. Upon completion of construction, the site would be hydroseeded and restored to pre-project conditions. A construction trailer and contractor parking would also be situated on this parcel. Existing access roads will be maintained and used during construction. The existing fence at the Rim Rock Reservoir site would be maintained to provide safety during construction. Permanent manual lighting would be installed on site. Work hours would be between 7:30 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. No night work or weekend work would occur. Deliveries and off-hauling would occur between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm to avoid school traffic and peak commute hours.

Operation of Rim Rock Reservoir: Upon completion of construction, the Rim Rock Reservoir and Pump Station would be expected to operate throughout the year to serve the local 600 and 800 Zones for LBCWD. The Reservoir would provide system storage capacity to meet diurnal, fire flow, and emergency water demand. The Rim Rock Reservoir would provide storage for the 600 Zone, and would pump to the 800 Zone when conditions require to fill 800 Zone reservoirs. Pumps would operate intermittently throughout the day depending on water use. Typically the pumps would turn on and off on a daily basis, sometimes more than once per day. Currently the existing Rim Rock Reservoir receives this water. LBCWD operations personnel would visit the site each day to visually inspect site conditions and local facility operation. Operation of the reservoir and pump station would be remotely controlled by LBCWD.



LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT RIM ROCK RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY

SOUTHWESTERN VIEW OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED RIM ROCK RESERVOIR LOCATION



LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT RIM ROCK
RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY

**NORTHEASTERN VIEW OF
EXISTING AND PROPOSED RIM ROCK
RESERVOIR LOCATION**



**PROPOSED
RIM ROCK
RESERVOIR**

**PROPOSED
PUMP STATION**

← **PROPOSED CONTRACTOR LAYDOWN AREA
APPROXIMATELY 35 FEET SOUTH OF FENCE**

LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT RIM ROCK
RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY

**WESTERN VIEW OF
EXISTING AND PROPOSED RIM ROCK
RESERVOIR LOCATION**

Environmental Checklist

I. Aesthetics

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
1. AESTHETICS—Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (Public views are those that are experienced from publically accessible vantage point). If the Project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project is located within a residential neighborhood adjacent to open space. The Temple Hills 600 Reservoir is located along Temple Hills Road between two residences. The Rim Rock Reservoir is located adjacent open space at the top of a ridge. Public views of the proposed Project Temple Hills Reservoir site are limited and mainly from surrounding residences and open space areas. Public views of the Rim Rock Reservoir site are from the surrounding residences and from residences on Morningside Drive located to the east of the proposed Project site. The residences to the east of the proposed Project site have public views of the proposed Project site in their viewshed. Figures 3 through 5 provide views of the proposed Project during and after construction.

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The existing scenic vista includes the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and the Rim Rock Reservoir. Construction of the new Rim Rock Reservoir and pump station would result in a temporary reduction in quality of the scenic vista during construction but would not result in a substantial adverse effect. Equipment and the construction site would be visible from nearby residences and residences on Morningside Drive which would temporarily reduce the quality of the scenic vista. The new pump station would be located at the southern end of the proposed Project site and would be designed to blend into the surrounding environment. Upon completion of construction, the view of the new Rim Rock Reservoir would be similar to the existing view as shown in Figures 3 through 5. Therefore, the proposed Project would not substantially adversely affect the scenic vista and impacts on the scenic vista would be less than significant.

- b) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would not require the removal of trees or be situated on rock outcroppings. There are no historic buildings within the proposed Project area and the existing reservoirs are not considered historic. There are no designated scenic highways within the vicinity of the proposed Project area. Because the proposed Project would not damage scenic resources and is not located within a designated scenic highway, there would be no impact.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed Project would temporarily reduce the existing visual character of the surrounding area. During demolition and construction, equipment and debris would be viewed from adjacent residences and residences to the east. Nearby residences to the east would be able to see equipment, workers, and trucks during demolition and construction. However, this view would be temporary and once construction is completed, the view of the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir site would improve with the removal of the existing reservoir and pump station, and restoration of the site. The views would be similar to the existing view of the Rim Rock Reservoir as shown in Figures 3 through 5. Because the degradation of the viewshed would be temporary during construction, impacts would be less than significant.

- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction would include the use of equipment that may produce temporary glare during construction. Construction would occur between the hours of 7:30 am and 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. During the fall months when days are shorter, some night work would occur (between sunset and 6:00 pm) and temporary lighting would be necessary to provide a safe work site. Lighting would be downward facing and light would not extend beyond the proposed Project site. Because any glare that would be produced during construction would be considered temporary and minimal lighting would be used during construction, impacts related to increased light and glare during construction would be considered less than significant.

The new Rim Rock Reservoir would be designed similarly to the existing pump station and would not result in new sources of glare. The new pump station building would be constructed from split faced concrete blocks and a composite roof which would not result in new sources of glare. Design of the new reservoir and pump station would be muted colors and would blend in with the surrounding environment to the extent feasible. Facility lighting would be downward facing and would be manually controlled.

II. Agricultural Resources

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
2. AGRICULTURE 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 Dept. 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:				
a) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project is located within a residential neighborhood characterized by single-family homes adjacent to open space. The proposed Project is located on a parcel that is zoned and has a land use designation of Residential/Hillside Protection, and is surrounded by parcels that are zoned Residential/Hillside Protection and Residential-1 and that have residential land use designations.

The following definitions are used in this section:

Prime Farmland: is the farmland that has the best combination of physical and chemical features that are able to provide long-term agricultural production. This land has soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply to produce sustained high yields.

Farmland of Statewide Importance: is land that is similar to Prime Farmland but may have greater slopes or lower moisture supply.

Unique Farmland: is land that contains lesser quality soils used for sustained agricultural production. This land is usually irrigated but may include non-irrigated land.

Forest Land: "Forest land" is land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits.

Timber Land: "Timberland" means land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the board as experimental forest land, which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees. Commercial species shall be determined by the board on a district basis after consultation with the district committees and others.

Timberland Production Zone: "Timberland production zone" or "TPZ" means an area which has been zoned pursuant to California Government Code Section 51112 or 51113 and is devoted to and used for growing and harvesting timber, or for growing and harvesting timber and compatible uses.

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** There is no designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the proposed Project site. The proposed Project sites are not currently in agricultural production.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed Project site is not zoned or designated for agriculture, and is not under a Williamson Act contract.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed Project area is not zoned for or located in a forested area or areas with timber or timber production (TPZ) and will therefore not conflict with or cause rezoning of forest land or timberland.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed Project area is not located within forested lands and therefore the proposed Project would not result in the conversion of forested lands to non-forest use.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Project is located in a residential neighborhood adjacent to open space. Construction of the new Rim Rock Reservoir would occur where the existing reservoir is currently located and no land conversion would occur. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in any changes in the existing environment that would result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use.

III. Air Quality

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
3. AIR QUALITY				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainable under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Pursuant to the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAA), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. The NAAQS are classified as primary and secondary standards. Primary standards prescribe the maximum permissible concentration in the ambient air and are required to protect public health. Secondary standards specify levels of air quality required to protect public welfare, including materials, soils, vegetation, and wildlife, from any known or anticipated adverse effects. NAAQS are established for six pollutants (known as criteria pollutants): ozone (O₃), particle pollution (i.e., respirable particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter [PM₁₀] and respirable particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter [PM_{2.5}]), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and lead (Pb). The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has also established its own air quality standards in the State of California, known as the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS). The CAAQS are generally more stringent than the NAAQS and include air quality standards for all the criteria pollutants listed under NAAQS plus sulfates (SO₄), hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), vinyl chloride, and visibility-reducing particulate matter.

The USEPA classifies the air quality within an Air Quality Control Region with regard to its attainment of federal primary and secondary NAAQS. According to USEPA guidelines, an area with air quality better than the NAAQS for a specific pollutant is designated as being in attainment for that pollutant. Any area not meeting the NAAQS is classified as a nonattainment area. Where there is a lack of data for the USEPA to make a determination regarding attainment or nonattainment, the area is designated as unclassified and is treated as an attainment area until proven otherwise. Similarly, the CARB makes State area designations for the State criteria pollutants.

The proposed Project is located within the South Coast Air Basin, which is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Pollutant concentrations within the South Coast Air Basin are assessed relative to both the federal and state ambient air quality standards. The South Coast Air Basin exceeds federal standards for O₃, PM_{2.5} and Pb (only in the Los Angeles portion of the basin) and state standards for O₃, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. To pursue improvement of air quality in the South Coast Air Basin, SCAQMD has prepared an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which is updated every three years. The 2016 AQMP is SCAQMD's most recent plan update and provides pollution control strategies aimed at reducing criteria pollutant concentration and achieving attainment status as well as reducing greenhouse gases emissions and toxic risk.

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed Project is within the SCAQMD, which has adopted the 2016 AQMP to demonstrate achievement of air quality standards pursuant to federal law. The proposed Project would consist of constructing and operating a reservoir and pumping facility. Project air emissions would result in the short-term from construction activities and in the long-term from operation of the Project. Construction emissions would result from the use of equipment such as excavators and forklifts and would be considered temporary and would cease at the completion of the construction. To reduce the potential air emissions during construction, equipment would be maintained in good repair.

The proposed Project operation would not increase employee levels at the facility. It is anticipated that daily site visits would occur to ensure proper facility operation. These additional vehicle trips would be negligible and would not result in a substantial increase in regional air pollutants from employee vehicles. Because the proposed Project would not lead to substantial long-term operational emissions, it would not conflict with the 2016 AQMD. Therefore, the proposed Project would be consistent with and have no impact on the implementation of the AQMP.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project would include demolition and construction activities that would result in short-term air quality impacts from combustion emissions and fugitive dust emissions. There would be long-term emissions associated with Project-related vehicle trips. However, vehicle trips are anticipated to be limited to one trip daily and would not represent a significant impact to air quality. Therefore, the quantitative emission evaluation will focus on the construction activities that would result in short-term air quality impacts.

The SCAQMD has established regional air quality significance thresholds for projects in its jurisdiction. In addition, the SCAQMD recommends a localized impact assessment on the air quality at nearby sensitive receptors. Localized Significance Thresholds (LSTs) are based on the ambient concentrations of the pollutant within the proposed Project Source Receptor Area (SRA) and the distance to the nearest sensitive receptor. For this Project, the appropriate SRA for the LST is the Central Orange County Coastal area (Area 20). Sensitive receptors include residences, schools, hospitals, and similar uses that are

sensitive to adverse air quality. The nearest sensitive receptors are residences adjacent to the proposed Project. The SCAQMD construction air quality significance thresholds are provided in Table III-1.

Table III-1: SCAQMD Construction Air Quality Significance Thresholds

Pollutant	Regional (lb/day)	Localized (lb/day)
NO _x	100	175
VOC	75	NT
PM ₁₀	150	7
PM _{2.5}	55	6
SO _x	150	NT
CO	550	985
Lead	3	NT
Odor	Project creates an odor nuisance pursuant to SCAQMD Rule 402	

Note: lb/day = pounds per day
NT = No threshold

Regional, construction-related emissions were modeled using CalEEMod, Version 2020.4.0 computer program (Appendix A). CalEEMod is a land use emissions computer model designed to provide a uniform platform to quantify potential criteria pollutant and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with both construction and operations from a variety of land use projects. Input parameters were based on default model settings and Project-specific information where available. The modeled maximum regional daily construction emissions are summarized in Table III-2.

Table III-2: Estimated Regional Construction Emissions (lb/day)

Project Phase	CO	VOCs	NO _x	SO _x	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Construction	30.5	4.07	31.7	0.106	3.48	2.14
Significance Threshold	550	75	100	150	150	55
Significant?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Note: lb/day = pounds per day

Based upon the quantified estimates provided in Table III-2, no exceedance of any of the criteria pollutants are anticipated and therefore Project construction would not result in significant short-term air quality impacts. To further minimize construction-related emissions, all construction vehicles and equipment would be required to be equipped with State-mandated emission control devices pursuant to State emission regulations and standard construction practices. Short-term construction impacts would be further reduced with the implementation of required actions to prevent, reduce or mitigate excessive

fugitive dust emissions as outlined within SCAQMD Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust). This includes requiring regular watering and other dust-preventive measures during clearing, grading, earth-moving, or excavation operations. The Project is not anticipated to violate state or federal air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation in the Basin during construction, and therefore impacts would be less than significant.

Localized emissions were calculated using spreadsheets developed by the SCAQMD (Appendix A). These spreadsheets are based on air dispersion modeling performed by the SCAQMD for a range of construction sites to correlate pollutant emission rates with project size to screen out projects that are unlikely to generate emissions that would result in a locally significant concentration. The modeled maximum localized daily construction emissions are summarized in Table III-3.

Table III-3: Estimated Localized Construction Emissions (lb/day)

Project Phase	CO	NOx	PM₁₀	PM_{2.5}
Construction	30.7	14.2	4.4	2.3
Significance Threshold	985	175	7	6
Significant?	No	No	No	No

Table III-3 shows that the emissions of these pollutants on the peak day of construction would not result in concentrations of pollutants at nearby residences or other sensitive receptors that are at or above the SCAQMD thresholds of significance, and therefore impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed Project would not conflict with the AQMP and would not result in emissions exceeding SCAQMD significance thresholds. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant, and impacts would be less than significant.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Typical sensitive receptors include inhabitants of long-term healthcare facilities, rehabilitation centers, convalescent centers, retirement homes, residences, schools, playgrounds, childcare centers, and athletic facilities. The area surrounding the proposed Project is residential. Substantial amounts of dust are not expected from construction activities as fugitive dust emissions would be controlled by implementing required actions to prevent, reduce or mitigate excessive fugitive dust emissions as outlined within SCAQMD Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust). This includes requiring regular watering and other dust-preventive measures during clearing, grading, earth-moving, or excavation operations. Use of diesel powered equipment has the potential to emit toxic air contaminants (TACs) such as diesel particulate matter (DPM); however, given the limited exposure to emissions, the impacts would not have the potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

d) Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project construction would not generate any permanent source of new odors or subject sensitive receptors to new significant permanent odors. During construction, odors will be generated by construction equipment; these odors will be present only temporarily during construction. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts under this criterion.

IV. Biological Resources

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES— Would the project:				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project is located within a residential neighborhood adjacent to open space. Vegetation within the open space areas is dominated by oak woodland, chaparral scrub, and non-native grassland. There is no vegetation within the immediate work areas because of the existing facilities. Vegetation adjacent to the work areas has the potential to provide habitat for common species such as blacktailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus californicus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), coyote (*Canis latrans*) as well as various birds and raptors.

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Laguna Beach 7.5-

minute quadrangle was queried for a list of state and federal special status species with potential to occur within the proposed Project area. The CNDDDB query returned nine species with potential to occur within the vicinity of proposed Project, none have the potential to occur within the work area because of past disturbance at the reservoir sites and lack of supporting habitat within the Project area (CNDDDB 2022). Several bird species with protections under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act have the potential to occur in habitats adjacent to the proposed Project sites coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) and coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis*) as well as non-special status birds and raptors. The proposed Project would not remove trees but some shrubs and other vegetation may be removed to allow for access for equipment. If vegetation were to be removed during the nesting period for birds and raptors, nests could be abandoned resulting in significant impacts. Vegetation would be removed outside the nesting season to the extent feasible. Implementation of ~~Mitigation Measure IV.1, BIO-1 Mitigation Measure IV.2 and Mitigation Measure IV.3~~ Mitigation Measures BIO-1, Mitigation Measure BIO-2, and Mitigation Measures BIO-3 would reduce impacts on special status birds to less than significant.

- b) **No Impact.** Because of ongoing disturbance at both sites, there is little native habitat within the immediate work areas at both the Temple Hills 600 and Rim Rock reservoirs. The majority of habitat adjacent to the proposed Project site consists of chaparral scrub and non-native annual grassland which is not considered sensitive. The proposed Project area does not contain any riparian habitat or sensitive habitats identified by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CNDDDB 2022).
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed Project area does not contain any wetlands, or waters of the U.S. The proposed Project would have no impact on wetlands as defined by Clean Water Act Section 404.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project occurs within a rural residential neighborhood adjacent to open space. The open space areas to the east of the proposed Project site provides wildlife corridors for deer, coyote, and other small mammals. There are no known native wildlife nursery sites within the vicinity of the proposed Project area. Common wildlife species such as blacktailed deer, raccoon, opossum, striped skunk, and coyote occupy open space habitats in the vicinity of the proposed Project area and during construction, movement of these species would be temporarily inhibited by Project construction as species would avoid human contact and activity. However, the common species expected to occur within the Project area are those that are generally adapted to rural residential neighborhoods and would not be affected by increased noise and human presence. Therefore, impacts related to wildlife movement corridors would be less than significant.
- e) **No Impact.** The Project does not involve the removal of native trees but may require the removal of shrubs during construction to provide access for equipment. The proposed Project is located within a Residential Hillside Protection Area which requires specific design criteria be followed under Laguna Beach Municipal Code Chapter 25.15.006.

However, the LBCWD is exempt from compliance and therefore there would be no impact on local policies and ordinances.

- f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project is located within the County of Orange Central and Coastal Subregion Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. Because the proposed Project is replacing outdated facilities and not increasing the footprint of the existing facilities, and would not result in additional vegetation disturbance covered by these plans, the proposed Project is in compliance with these plans and impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures Required:

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Non-nesting Season Vegetation Removal

Vegetation removal would occur outside of the typical nesting season for birds and raptors within the Project vicinity generally February 1 and September 1. To the extent feasible, vegetation removal shall be conducted between September 1 and January 31. Prior to vegetation removal, Mitigation Measure IV.1 would be implemented.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Preconstruction Nesting Bird Surveys and Nest Buffers

Prior to construction within the nesting season for the species with potential to occur within the proposed Project vicinity (February 1 to September 1), a qualified avian biologist with experience conducting bird breeding surveys shall conduct preconstruction surveys for nesting birds. Preconstruction surveys will be conducted no more than 7 days prior to the start of construction. If active nests are observed, an appropriate buffer would be established between the nest and construction activities. The buffer shall be a minimum of 300 feet for passerine species and 500 feet for raptors. The buffer will remain in place until the nest is no longer active. No construction shall occur within the buffer areas. Buffer reductions may be appropriate depending on the species and upon the recommendation of the qualified avian biologist.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Biological Monitoring

If buffers are established around active nests as described in Mitigation Measure IV.2, weekly monitoring of buffers and nests would occur. A qualified avian biologist will monitor the nest for evidence of distress or potential nest abandonment due to Project construction. The biologist will monitor for evidence of distress or whether a potential nest reduction could occur. Weekly monitoring reports will be submitted and maintained by LBCWD.

V. Cultural Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES—				
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project site is situated in a suburban residential neighborhood along an east-west trending ridgeline within the foothills of Laguna Beach, California, approximately one mile from the Pacific Ocean. A database search for the Laguna Beach U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle was received from the South Central Coast Information Center and did not identify any previously recorded sites on the proposed Project site. In March 2017 Registered Professional Archeologist Brian Glenn completed an on-site pedestrian survey of the undeveloped portion of the proposed Project area. This consists of a roughly 230-foot by 420-foot steep sided open field with a southern aspect. Inspection of the undeveloped portion of the Project did not reveal data regarding potential historical/archaeological/built environment resources at the proposed Project site.

The Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities were constructed in 1961 and 1939, respectively. Review of historical maps illustrate the facilities as being in place by 1965 and 1948, respectively. As such, it will be necessary to evaluate both for the California Register Historical Resources (CRHR).

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** The Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities represent historical resources identified as a result of records search (Galaz 2017) and survey (Glenn 2017; Pavell 2022) of the area of potential direct impacts. No other historical resources were identified. Should evaluation find one or both facilities CRHR-eligible it will be necessary to mitigate impacts. This will be accomplished by completion of an Historic American Engineering Record according to guidelines published by the National Park Service. In addition, implementation of a Project Specific Environmental Tailboard (PSET) would provide sensitivity training to workers and establish procedures for identifying historical resources and ensuring those resources are protected until such time as they are evaluated.

With the implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and CUL-2, impacts related to unknown historical resources would be less than significant.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** No archaeological resources have been identified as a result of records search and survey of the undeveloped portion of the proposed Project area. Analysis of survey data has determined that no known or suspected CRHR-eligible archaeological resources are present.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CUL-2 would provide sensitivity training to workers and establish procedures for identifying archaeological resources and ensuring those resources are protected until they are evaluated in the event archeological resources are discovered during construction. Because data and site survey have not identified potential for archeological resources, impacts would be less than significant.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** Records search and survey investigations provided no evidence of human remains and none are expected to be present, but there is some potential for ground disturbing activities to disturb currently unknown human remains. Implementation of the Mitigation Measure V-2 (including relevant elements of Health and Safety Section 7050.5(b) and PRC Section 5097.98) would provide sensitivity training to workers and establish procedures for suspending work and notifying the assigned LBCWD staff and construction supervisors should human remains be detected would reduce potential adverse impacts on human remains to a level of Less than Significant.

Mitigation Measures Required

Mitigation Measure CUL-1: CRHR-eligibility evaluation

Evaluation of the existing Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities for CRHR-eligibility shall be completed prior to demolition. Should evaluation find one or both facilities CRHR-eligible it will be necessary to mitigate impacts according to Pub. Res. Code § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR Section 4850 et seq. This will be in compliance with CEQA § 15064.5 and accomplished by completion of an Historic American Engineering Record according to guidelines published by the National Park Service.

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Project Specific Environmental Tailboard (PSET)

Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction. Contractor personnel would be trained on the procedures for identifying historical resources and protocols for unintended discoveries and relevant elements of Health and Safety Section 7050.5(b) and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 during construction.

VI. Energy

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
6. Energy— Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Energy to the City of Laguna Beach is produced from traditional sources and delivered to the City through established transmission and distribution networks owned and operated by Southern California Edison. The City adopted the Laguna Beach City Climate Protection Action Plan (CPAP) in 2007 to provide a blueprint for reducing emissions across the City.

New buildings constructed in California must comply with the standards contained in Title 20, Public Utilities and Energy, and Title 24, Building Standards Code, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). These efficiency standards apply to new construction of both residential and nonresidential buildings, and both 20 CCR and 24 CCR regulate energy consumed for heating, cooling, ventilation, water heating, and lighting.

Discussion

a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project construction will occur for approximately 18 months and will consume energy through the operation of heavy off-road equipment, trucks, and worker vehicle traffic. Electricity will be used to power tools, lighting, and electric machinery. If machinery is not in use, it would be shut down to avoid wasteful use. Use of electricity during construction would only be in the amount necessary to complete construction and electricity use during construction would not result in significant impacts to the environment.

Operation of the new pump station would include the use of electricity for pumps and lighting of the facilities. The new facilities will not use natural gas. Pump station would consume electricity using pumps at a maximum of 75 Hp. The pumps would operate intermittently throughout the day based on water use; the new pumps would only be used when needed and maximum Hp would only be used when necessary to maintain operations. Because the pumps would be new, they would be more efficient than the existing pumps and would provide energy efficiency. In the unlikely event of all equipment was operating simultaneously, it is estimated that a maximum of 185 kilo volt amperes would be required which would not exceed supply capacity.

Design of the new pump station would be to current Title 24 requirements .The pump station and all facility appurtences, including lighting would include energy efficient fixtures and connections. By meeting the Title 24 requirements, operation of the new pump station would be consistent with the CPAP and impacts would be less than significant.

VII. Geology and Soils

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS—				
Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
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?: (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on 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, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting:

The geology underlying the proposed project site is comprised of pre-Quaternary bedrock, specifically tertiary sedimentary rocks (Miocene marine sandstone). The soils underlying the proposed Project sites are identified as Balcom clay loam (USDA 2022). Landslides have been inventoried in the area and on the proposed Project site. The proposed Project is located within the Newport-Inglewood-Rose Canyon Fault Zone and several fault lines are located within one kilometer of the proposed Project site, with the nearest terminating approximately 300 feet from the proposed Project site. No fault lines are located directly under the proposed Project site. The predominant earthquake would be an M6.9 at a distance of approximately 7 kilometers (California Geological Survey 1997).

Discussion

- a,i) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project site is not located on an identified fault; assuming surface rupture would occur immediately above a fault the potential for surface fault rupture at the proposed Project site is low. The new reservoir and pump station would be designed and constructed in accordance with the seismic requirements of the California Building Code (Title 24). Given the design of the Project structures, and because the proposed Project site is not located above an identified fault, impacts to Project infrastructure in the event of a rupture of an earthquake fault would be less than significant.

In the event of a fault rupture and failure of the reservoir, released water would flow downhill into an existing natural drainage and into storm drain infrastructure on the site. One residence is located approximately 40 feet downslope of the reservoir at a distance of approximately 150 feet along the bank of the natural drainage; the residence is located outside the 25-foot drainage course buffer as mapped by the City of Laguna Beach. This residence, and residents if occupied, could be subject to damage or loss in the unlikely event of catastrophic reservoir failure. However, due to the topography of the immediate area, the location of the residence outside the drainage course buffer, and the very low probability of catastrophic reservoir failure, this impact is less than significant.

- a,ii) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project area is subject to seismic ground shaking in the event of an earthquake. The level of intensity of this shaking would be determined by the magnitude and location of an earthquake; the predominant earthquake would be expected to be a magnitude 6.9 at a distance of approximately 7 kilometers (California Geological Survey 1997). The new reservoir and pump station would be designed and constructed in accordance with the seismic requirements of the California Building Code (Title 24). Because the proposed Project is not located on an identified fault, and because it will be designed in accordance with the California Building Code (Title 24), the severity of ground shaking would not be expected to result in significant structural damage, and thus impacts to Project infrastructure in the event of strong seismic ground shaking would be less than significant.

In the event of strong seismic ground shaking and failure of the reservoir, released water would flow downhill into an existing natural drainage and into storm drain infrastructure on the site. One residence is located approximately 40 feet downslope of the reservoir at a distance of approximately 150 feet along the bank of the natural drainage; the residence is located outside the 25-foot drainage course buffer as mapped by the City of Laguna Beach. This residence, and residents if occupied, could be subject to damage or loss in the unlikely event of catastrophic reservoir failure. However, due to the topography of the immediate area, the location of the residence outside the drainage course buffer, and the very low probability of catastrophic reservoir failure, this impact is less than significant.

- a,iii) **No Impact.** The proposed Project is not located in an area known for liquefaction, subsidence, or lateral spreading. Further, the City of Laguna Beach has not identified the proposed Project site as a Seismic Hazard Liquefaction Area. Balcom series soils are characterized as well-drained, and thus not subject to collapse (USDA 2001). Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death from seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction.
- a,iv) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project is located in an area designated as a Seismic Hazard Landslide Area (City of Laguna Beach 2021), and in an area known for landslides according to the California Department of Conservation (1998). Structures will be designed and constructed in accordance with the seismic requirements of the California Building Code (Title 24), and thus impacts to the proposed Project from a landslide would not expose the structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss. Construction of the proposed Project would proceed in a manner designed to not trigger a landslide, and thus impacts would be considered less than significant.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project construction would include grading and earthmoving activities that could expose site soils to erosive forces of heavy winds, rainfall, or runoff. Earthwork will include the demolition of existing structures, the removal of existing concrete, asphalt, and vegetation, excavation of existing soils, and construction of the new reservoir and pump station.

Given that the construction site would be greater than one acre in size, LBCWD would be required to obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Runoff Associated with Construction Activity (General Construction Permit) (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ). The proposed Project's discharge of stormwater is also covered under the NPDES program that requires the City of Laguna Beach, as a listed co-permittee, to adhere to and implement Orange County MS4 permit requirements issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB) (Order No. 2013-0001, as amended by Order No. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100). As such, the proposed Project would conform to requirements within the City of Laguna Beach Municipal Code including but not limited to topics such as water quality control, BMPs, design standards that include BMPs as defined in the city's jurisdictional urban runoff management plan (JURMP), grading, erosion and sediment control maintenance requirement, construction Project erosion and sediment control maintenance, and other permits. Implementation of BMPs identified in the SWPPP (including revegetation of disturbed areas) and adherence to MS4 permit requirements and Municipal Code requirements will result in less than significant soil erosion-related impacts.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project is not located in an area known for liquefaction, subsidence, or lateral spreading. Balcom series soils are characterized by the USDA's Official Soil Series Descriptions and Series Classification as well-drained, and thus not subject to collapse. Areas at risk of lateral spreading, subsidence, and collapse are generally considered to be coincident with potential liquefaction areas; the Safety

Element of the City's General Plan notes that liquefaction potential in Laguna Beach is based primarily upon the association of alluvial areas with shallow or potentially shallow groundwater depths (less than 20+ feet) (City of Laguna Beach 2021). The proposed Project site is not located in an alluvial area. Further, the City of Laguna Beach has not identified the proposed Project site as a Seismic Hazard Liquefaction Area. (City of Laguna Beach GIS 2022)

The proposed Project is located in an area designated as a Seismic Hazard Landslide Area (City of Laguna Beach 2021). Construction of the proposed Project would include excavation and grading to approximately 5 feet below ground surface but would not be so extensive to create unstable conditions on-site or off-site. Soils at the proposed Project site are considered stable. Therefore, impacts on geologic or soil instability would be less than significant.

- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Expansive soils are generally clayey soils that swell when wetted and shrink when dried. Expansive soils located beneath structures can result in cracks in foundations, walls, and ceilings. Soils within the proposed Project area are Balcom clay loam (USDA 2016). The Balcom series consists of moderately deep, well drained soils that formed in material that weathered from soft, calcareous shale and sandstone; Balcom clay loams have a moderate shrink-swell potential. The storage tank and appurtenances will be designed and constructed to account for the site-specific conditions as detailed in the geotechnical report, and therefore the risk to life or property would be less than significant.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would not include the installation of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.
- f) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** A paleontological records search was conducted by Dr. Samuel McLeod, Director of Vertebrate Paleontology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Dr. McLeod conducted a thorough search of the museum's paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed LBCWD - Rim Rock Reservoir & Pump Station Project Area and surrounding region. No fossil resources have been previously identified within the Project area. However, fossil localities have been identified nearby in the same sedimentary deposits. The proposed Project area consists of the marine middle Miocene Topanga Formation. Dr. McLeod concludes that excavations in the Topanga Formation in situ exposures within the proposed Project area may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils. Excavation of significant vertebrate fossils would be reduced to less than significant with the implementation of ~~Mitigation Measure VII-4~~ Mitigation Measure GEO-1 which requires monitoring during initial excavation.

Mitigation Measures Required:

Mitigation Measure GEO -1: Monitoring During Excavation

Substantial excavations in the proposed Project area will be monitored to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered. Sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed Project area. Significant fossils recovered during mitigation will be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations (McLeod 2016). A qualified archeologist/paleontologist will be present during excavation. If fossils are unearthed during excavation, work within the area will cease until appropriate evaluation by a qualified archeologist or paleontologist can be made.

VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
8. Greenhouse Gases—Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are compounds in the Earth’s atmosphere which play a critical role in determining temperature near the Earth’s surface. Regulated GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). GHGs are commonly quantified in the equivalent mass of CO₂, denoted CO₂e, which takes into account the global warming potential (GWP) of each individual GHG compound. Based on the 2009 GHG inventory data, prepared by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), California emitted 453 million metric tons (MMT) CO₂e including emissions resulting from imported electrical power in 2009 and 405 MMT CO₂e excluding emissions related to imported electrical power.

According to CARB, the potential impacts in California due to global climate change may include loss in snow pack; sea level rise; more extreme heat days per year; more high ozone days; more large forest fires; more drought years; increased erosion of California’s coastlines; sea water intrusion into the Sacramento and San Joaquin Deltas and associated levee systems; and increased pest infestation.

In September 2006, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, also known as Assembly Bill (AB) 32, was signed into law. AB 32 requires that the State reduce its GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. CARB established the 1990 target at 427 MMT CO₂e. Under AB 32, CARB has primary responsibility for promulgating regulations, programs, and enforcement mechanisms to achieve the GHG reduction target.

Discussion

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Sources of GHG emissions from construction and operational activities include construction equipment, vehicles, as well as electricity and water use. The SCAQMD convened a “Greenhouse Gas CEQA Significance Threshold

Working Group” to consider a variety of benchmarks and potential significance thresholds to evaluate GHG impacts. On December 5, 2008, the SCAQMD adopted an interim CEQA GHG Significance Threshold for projects where SCAQMD is the lead agency (SCAQMD 2008). This GHG interim threshold is set at 10,000 metric tons of CO₂e per year (MT/yr). Projects with incremental increases below this threshold are determined to not be significant. The Project GHG emissions were calculated using CalEEMod Version 2020.4.0. CalEEMod is a land use emissions computer model used to quantify potential criteria pollutant and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with both construction and operations from a variety of land use projects.

Table VII-2-1 summarizes the GHG analysis which shows that the proposed Project may result in the generation of 8.8 amortized MT/yr of CO₂e emissions during construction and 12.6 MT/yr of CO₂e emissions during operations. The detailed calculations of Project GHG emissions can be found in Appendix A.

Table VII-1: Estimated GHG Emissions (CO₂e MT/yr)

Activity	GHG Emissions
Construction ¹	8.8
Operation	12.6
Total Project Emissions	21.4
Significance Threshold	10,000
Significant?	No

Note:GHGs for short-term construction activities are amortized over 30 years

As shown in Table VII-1, the SCAQMD’s GHG significance threshold for industrial sources will not be exceeded during the Project’s construction or operations phases. Therefore, less than significant impacts under this criterion would result from the Project.

- b) **No Impact.** The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requires facilities generating more than 25,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year to report GHG emissions. In addition, the USEPA has set thresholds for GHG emissions that define when permits under the New Source Review Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Title V Operating Permit programs are required for new and existing industrial facilities.

AB 32 requires the reduction of statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The required reductions equate to approximately 30 percent reductions from expected 2020 “business as usual” GHG emissions. The reductions will be accomplished through an enforceable statewide cap, which is detailed in CARB’s Climate Change Scoping Plan. The Scoping Plan was first approved in 2008 and must be updated every five years. The first update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan was approved on May 22, 2014. In 2016, the Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 32, which requires a 2030 GHG emissions reduction

target of 40 percent below 1990 levels. CARB has prepared a proposed second update to the Scoping Plan to reflect the 2030 target.

The proposed Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases a discussed above. Replacement of antiquated pumps and equipment with modern, efficient pumps and equipment will result in reduced GHG emissions, and therefore the proposed Project would have no impact under this criterion.

IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS				
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** In the short term, construction and demolition activities would require the use of certain materials such as fuels, oils, solvents, and glues that in large quantities could pose a potential hazard to the public or environment if improperly used or inadvertently released. Inadvertent release or foreseeable upset of large quantities of these materials into the environment could adversely impact soil, surface waters, or groundwater quality. However, the on-site storage, or disposal of large quantities of potentially hazardous materials are not required for a construction Project of the proposed size and type. The contractor shall be required to follow manufacturer's recommendations on transportation of, use, storage, and disposal of chemical products used in construction.

- c) **No Impact.** There are no schools within ¼ miles of the proposed Project area. The closest school is Laguna Beach High School located at 625 Park Ave, approximately 2 miles to the west of the proposed Project area. Because there are no schools located within ¼ mile of the proposed Project, there would be no impact related to the emission of hazards, hazardous emissions, handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous emissions.

- d) **No Impact.** The proposed Project is located in a residential neighborhood where hazardous materials sites would be unlikely. Regulatory databases, provided by numerous federal, state, and local agencies, included the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Geotracker database for leaking underground storage tanks (LUST), and the State of California's Cortese list maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The Cortese list is a compilation of information from various sources listing potential and confirmed hazardous waste and hazardous substances sites in California. Review of the regulatory databases did not identify any potential hazardous materials site within vicinity of the proposed Project site. The proposed Project site is not listed on the Cortese list and there are no listed sites within 5 miles of the proposed Project (SWRCB, 2022).

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Project is not located within two miles of an airport or airstrip. The nearest airport or airstrip is John Wayne Airport located at 18601 Airport Way in Santa Ana, approximately 17 miles north of the proposed Project location.

- f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project is located on Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive in a rural residential neighborhood with narrow single lane roads leading to and from the proposed Project site. The City of Laguna Beach Safety Element identifies Rim Rock Canyon Road as being too narrow and topographic location to be considered a designated evacuation route. However, both Temple Hills Drive and Rim Rock Canyon Road would be used by local residents as an evacuation route in the event of an evacuation order. During construction, additional vehicles, including large equipment and hauling trucks would be using these roads increasing the overall traffic. However, the additional vehicles on these roads would be temporary and would not obstruct or interfere with any established emergency response access and evacuation routes or interfere with established emergency response plan during construction and operation.

- g) **Less than Significant Impact.** The risk of wildfire exists within the proposed Project area and within the vicinity owing to the climate and vegetation communities in southern California and southern Orange County. According to the City's Safety Element, the entire city is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (City of Laguna Beach 2021). Construction of the proposed Project would use machinery and fuels that could increase the likelihood of fire if used improperly. All vegetation within the immediate work area would be removed and all fuels used onsite would be used and stored to manufacturers recommendations reducing the risk of these fuels unintentionally starting a fire. A site safety plan would be developed that would outline protocols that would be followed in the event of an unintended fire is started during construction. Because vegetation would be limited and fuels would be safely used and stored on site, and a site safety plan would be

developed, the risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires would be less than significant.

X. Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY—				
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin. there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Impede or redirect flood flows??	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The Temple Hills 600 and Rim Rock reservoirs are both located at the top of a ridge and no surface waters are located within the proposed project area. There is an unnamed drainage located to the east of the Rim Rock Reservoir site (National Wetlands Inventory, 2022).

Before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at this location after demolition of the tank and pump station. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock Reservoir location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at this location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall proposed Project.

The Rim Rock Reservoir location is a hillside location accessible from Rim Rock Canyon Road, a private paved road. The entire site is enclosed with a chain link fence with a gate for vehicle access. Natural grading of the Rim Rock Reservoir location was modified in approximately 1960 when the existing reservoir was constructed. From 1960 onward a steep grade of approximately

83-percent was added behind the Rim Rock reservoir with a 74-percent slope in front of and downslope of the reservoir. The existing Rim Rock Reservoir sits on natural contours. The existing Temple Hills 600 Reservoir site is a hillside location with neighbors to the south, east, and west. The site is accessible from Temple Hills Road.

During December 2016, two borings were taken at the Rim Rock reservoir site. One boring location was on the southeast side of the reservoir facing Rim Rock Canyon Rd. while the other was behind the reservoir on the northwest side. The boring depth on the southeast side was 41 feet and 28 feet for northwest location. Groundwater was not encountered at either location.

Existing storm water drainage system piping, culverts, v-ditch, and unnamed intermittent drainage ditches would be maintained as is for the proposed Project. Grading would take place primarily upslope of the Rim Rock Reservoir location. Areas that would potentially be impacted by soil disturbance, outside of the Rim Rock Reservoir and pump station footprint, will be restored with natural landscaping.

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project demolition activities would include demolition of both the existing Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and pump station, and the Rim Rock Reservoir. Demolition would include removal of concrete, asphalt, piping, vegetation, and the existing reservoir structures. Work would include jackhammering, excavation, and vegetation removal using large equipment. The reservoirs and pump station would be disassembled and off-hauled from the site. Concrete, asphalt, excess soil from excavation, and other demolition debris will also be off-hauled from the site and deposited at an appropriate landfill facility.

Demolition and removal of the existing Rim Rock Reservoir would occur first. At the Rim Rock Reservoir location, once the structures have been demolished and removal of all valves, piping, and appurtenances are complete, the site would be graded and prepared for the new reservoir. Fencing, the stormwater piping, stormwater v-ditch, and the access road would remain. Approximately 800 cubic yards of material would be off-hauled from the Project site. Water trucks would be available to reduce dust during demolition and construction.

Because the pump station at the Temple Hills Reservoir would be removed, a new pump station would be constructed at the Rim Rock Reservoir location. The subsurface piping, associated with Rim Rock Reservoir usage, would be installed using traditional cut-and-cover techniques (trenching). Trenches would be excavated to a depth up to approximately 5 feet and would include shoring if necessary to provide trench wall stability. Excavators would be used to construct trenches and excess soil, if any, would be placed in trucks and off-hauled from the site. It is estimated that approximately 300 feet of piping would be installed per day on average, with sand material placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe. This would equate to the installation of approximately 1,000 feet of 16

inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, 400 feet of 8 inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, and 1,000 feet of 12 inch ductile iron pipe in the 800 Zone.

After work at the Rim Rock Reservoir location is complete, the Temple Hills Reservoir would be demolished and cleared of all existing structures. Once the structures are demolished, the Temple Hills Reservoir location would be regraded and hydroseeded to avoid erosion. Existing fences onsite would be used for security.

Given that the construction site would be greater than one acre in size, LBCWD would be required to apply to the Regional Water Quality Control Board for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit addressing Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Storm Water Runoff Associated with Construction Activity (General Construction Permit) (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ), which includes requirements related to water quality standards. The permit application involves submitting a Notice of Intent form prior to construction, developing and implementing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction, and submitting a Notice of Termination form at the end of all construction activities.

The proposed Project's discharge of stormwater is also covered under the NPDES program that requires the City of Laguna Beach, as a listed co-permittee, to adhere to and implement the San Diego Region Orange County MS4 permit (Order No. 2013-0001, as amended by Order No. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100) requirements, including requirements associated with water quality standards, issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB). This permit also includes waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and is otherwise known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Discharges from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) Draining the Watersheds within the San Diego Region . As such, the Project would also conform to requirements within the City of Laguna Beach Municipal Code including but not limited to topics such as water quality control, BMPs, design standards that include BMPs as defined in the city's jurisdictional urban runoff management plan (JURMP), grading, erosion and sediment control maintenance requirement, construction Project erosion and sediment control maintenance, and other permits.

The objectives of the SWPPP are to identify pollutant sources (such as sediment and chemicals used during construction) that may affect the quality of stormwater discharge and to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges. BMPs are individual or combined measures that can be implemented in a practical and effective manner on the Project site which, when applied, prevent or minimize the potential release of contaminants into surface waters and groundwater. Soil erosion could cause excess sediment loads in waterways and could affect the water quality within surrounding watershed. The SWPPP would also incorporate control measures to reduce stormwater pollution resulting from the fill material stockpiling.

Construction would also involve use of fuel and other chemicals that, if not managed properly, could get washed off into the stormwater. This could be a potentially significant impact. Implementation of prescriptions in the SWPPP such as spill prevention and control measures that would apply to the use and handling of fuels and other chemicals and serve to reduce or eliminate the occurrence of spills or washing off of chemicals into the waters. Compliance with the specific local and SDRWQCB requirements and implementation of BMPs would ensure that the impact would be less than significant.

All construction shall conform to the requirements of the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) *Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbooks* for Construction Activities and New Development and Redevelopment. The Project would also adhere to Orange County Stormwater Standards, Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, conditions in the grading permit, and other generally accepted engineering practices for erosion control.

Before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall Project. Because the proposed Project would reduce the impervious surface of the site compared with existing conditions, Project design is not required to incorporate post-construction BMPs to treat stormwater.

Because compliance measures with the aforementioned regulations, permits and associated requirements, which address water quality standards and waste discharge requirements, would be implemented during construction and operation of the proposed Project, impacts related to violation of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements would be considered less than significant.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project construction would include excavation that is not expected to reach groundwater levels that would necessitate dewatering activities. During December 2016, two borings were taken at the Rim Rock reservoir site. One boring location was on the southeast side of the reservoir facing Rim Rock Canyon Rd. while the other was behind the reservoir on the northwest side. The boring depth on the southeast side was 41 feet and 28 feet for northwest location. Groundwater was not encountered at either location. Trenching of the site is expected to reach up to 5 feet below ground surface, and would not reduce overall infiltration into the groundwater table. Groundwater would not be used for dust control or otherwise on the Project during construction and would not be used during operations. Since groundwater would not be used during construction or operation, there would be no extraction or depletion of groundwater supplies would occur as a result of the proposed Project.

The proposed Project occurs at two locations; the Rim Rock Reservoir location and the Temple Hills Reservoir location. Before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious surface area at the Temple Hills location and 0 square feet of

impervious surface area at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious surface area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious surface area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface area for the overall Project resulting in an increase in vegetated conditions, which would increase the potential for percolation to groundwater. Therefore, the impervious surface area associated with the Project would not result in the depletion of groundwater supplies due to a lack of percolation to groundwater.

Because of the surrounding open space areas adjacent to the site, the existing groundwater levels as they compare to the maximum excavation depth, the overall reduction in impervious area, and because population would not increase as a result of the Project, the construction of the proposed Project would not reduce infiltration of surface water to the groundwater table and would not result in an increase in groundwater pumping. Therefore, there would be a less than significant impact to groundwater supplies or interference with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level.

- ci) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project could alter the existing drainage pattern of the site during excavation and grading, and by reducing impervious area at the Rim Rock Reservoir location, as compared to pre-construction conditions. There are no surface waters located within the proposed Project area and therefore the proposed Project would not alter the course of a stream or river.

Under the current conditions, the Rim Rock Reservoir location has an existing drainage system pipe that collects runoff and runs southerly via gravity flow into an existing drainage ditch, and the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location has storm runoff that currently flows southerly into a vegetated area. The existing piped and unpiped drainage systems for both the Rim Rock Reservoir and the Temple Hills Reservoir areas, would not be altered.

As discussed previously, before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills 600 location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall Project.

Separately, there is an existing v-ditch, positioned at grade, around the Rim Rock Reservoir that would be removed and replaced, with no additional length or width.

At the proposed Rim Rock Reservoir location, the subsurface piping, associated with Rim Rock Reservoir usage, would be installed using traditional cut-and-cover techniques (trenching). Trenches would be excavated to a depth up to approximately 5 feet and may include shoring to provide trench wall stability. Excavators would be used to construct trenches and excess soil, if any, would be placed in trucks and off-hauled from the site. It is estimated that approximately 300 feet of piping would be installed per 4 day with sand

placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe. In the event that the proposed project cannot use the existing 16-inch Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP), this would equate to the installation of approximately 1,000 feet of 16-inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, 400 feet of 8 inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, and 1,000 feet of 12 inch ductile iron pipe in the 800 Zone.

Under the proposed Project, the Rim Rock location would have a negligible increased flow of storm water that would be added to the pipe, which is sized to be able to accommodate the added flow, that would continue to runoff in a southerly direction into the same existing drainage ditch. The proposed Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location would result in a lower runoff volume because of the decreased imperviousness and this reduced flow would also flow southerly into a vegetated area. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact on the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

- cii) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Project is broken up into two locations including the Rim Rock Reservoir location and the Temple Hills Reservoir location. The proposed Rim Rock location would include removal and replacement activities with an added pump station, which would slightly increase the impervious surface. Before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall Project. The nearest named river, creek, or stream is Aliso Creek, which is located approximately 2.5 miles from the proposed Project area (USGS HUC 0807031, 2017).

Drainage Pattern considerations:

Under the current conditions, the Rim Rock Reservoir location has an existing drainage system pipe that collects runoff and runs southerly via gravity flow into an existing unnamed intermittent drainage ditch, and the Temple Hills location has storm runoff that currently flows southerly off site. The existing piped and unpiped drainage systems for both the Rim Rock Reservoir and the Temple Hills Reservoir areas, would not be altered.

As discussed previously, before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall Project. Therefore, the overall proposed Project would decrease the area of impervious surface compared with current conditions resulting in an increase in vegetated conditions.

Separately, there is an existing v-ditch, positioned at grade, around the Rim Rock Reservoir that would be removed and replaced, with no additional length or width.

At the proposed Rim Rock location, the subsurface piping associated with Rim Rock Reservoir usage, would be installed using traditional cut-and-cover techniques (trenching). Trenches would be excavated to a depth up to approximately 5 feet and would include shoring to provide trench wall stability. Excavators would be used to construct trenches and excess soil would be placed in trucks and off-hauled from the site. It is estimated that approximately 300 feet of piping would be installed per day on average, with sand placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe. In the unlikely event that the proposed project cannot use the existing 16 inches Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP), this would equate to the installation of approximately 1,000 feet of 16 inches PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, 400 feet of 8-inch PVC or ductile iron pipe in the 600 Zone, and 1,000 feet of 12-inch ductile iron pipe in the 800 Zone.

The proposed Temple Hills location would include a complete removal of impervious surface resulting in 0 percent impervious cover and 100 percent restoration back to vegetated conditions.

The demolition, excavation and construction activities onsite would not occur within or near a stream. Compliance with SDWQCB requirements would be complied with, and appropriate BMPs would be utilized to prevent runoff from the Rim Rock and Temple Hills location. Upon proposed Project completion, the overall Project would result in a decrease in impervious area and accordingly, a decrease in post-construction run-off.

Therefore the drainage pattern of the site would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river and this criteria would have a less than significant impact.

Surface Runoff considerations:

Under the proposed Project, the Rim Rock location would have a negligible increased flow of storm water that would be added to the pipe, which is sized to be able to accommodate the added flow, that would continue to runoff in a southerly direction into the same existing unnamed, intermittent drainage ditch. The proposed Rim Rock location would include removal and replacement activities with an added pump station, which would slightly increase the impervious surface.

The proposed Temple Hills location would include a complete removal of impervious surface resulting in 0 percent impervious cover and 100 percent restoration back to vegetated conditions. Therefore the proposed Temple Hills location would result in a lower runoff volume due to decreased imperviousness and this reduced flow would also flow south.

While the Rim Rock Reservoir location would result in a small increase in runoff due to the slight increase in impervious surface at that location, the overall proposed Project would

have a decrease in impervious surface compared with current conditions. By decreasing the overall proposed Project impervious area, the overall Project would have a reduction in the amount of surface runoff.

Therefore the proposed Project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site, and this criteria would have a less than significant impact.

- ciii) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project consists of the Rim Rock Reservoir location and the Temple Hills Reservoir location. This work would consist of demolition and construction at the Rim Rock Reservoir location and demolition and revegetation at the Temple Hills Reservoir location. Since grading and earth moving activities are a part of demolition and construction activities, there is the possibility that during a rain storm, storm water runoff carrying sediment could be carried off of the site into existing storm drainage systems. However, the proposed Project would implement SDRWQCB and permit requirements along with appropriate run-off control BMPs, to ensure that run-off does not exit the Project during these activities.

Given that the construction site would be greater than one acre in size, LBCWD would be required to apply to the Regional Water Quality Control Board for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for addressing Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Storm Water Runoff Associated with Construction Activity (General Construction Permit) (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ), which includes requirements related to water quality standards. The permit application involves submitting a Notice of Intent form prior to construction, developing and implementing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction, and submitting a Notice of Termination form at the end of all construction activities.

The proposed Project's discharge of stormwater is also covered under the NPDES program that requires the City of Laguna Beach, as a listed co-permittee, to adhere to and implement the San Diego Region Orange County MS4 permit (order No. 2013-0001, as amended by Order No. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100) requirements, including requirements associated with water quality standards, issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB). This permit also includes waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and is otherwise known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Discharges from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) Draining the Watersheds within the San Diego Region . As such, the Project will also conform to requirements within the City of Laguna Beach Municipal Code including but not limited to topics such as water quality control, BMPs, design standards that include BMPs as defined in the city's jurisdictional urban runoff management plan (JURMP), grading, erosion and sediment control maintenance requirement, construction Project erosion and sediment control maintenance, and other permits.

The objectives of the SWPPP are to identify pollutant sources (such as sediment and chemicals used during construction) that may affect the quality of stormwater discharge and to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges and to prevent run-off from exiting the construction site. BMPs are individual or combined measures that can be implemented in a practical and effective manner on the Project site which, when applied, prevent or minimize the potential release of contaminants into surface waters and groundwater. Soil erosion could cause excess sediment loads in waterways and could affect the water quality within surrounding watershed. The SWPPP would also incorporate control measures to reduce stormwater pollution resulting from the fill material stockpiling.

Construction would also involve use of fuel and other chemicals that, if not managed properly, could get washed off into the stormwater. This could be a potentially significant impact. Implementation of prescriptions in the SWPPP such as spill prevention and control measures that would apply to the use and handling of fuels and other chemicals and serve to reduce or eliminate the occurrence of spills or washing off of chemicals into the waters. Compliance with the specific local and SDRWQCB requirements and implementation of BMPs would ensure that the impact would be less than significant.

All construction shall conform to the requirements of the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbooks for Construction Activities and New Development and Redevelopment. The Project would also adhere to Orange County Stormwater Standards, Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, conditions in the grading permit, and other generally accepted engineering practices for erosion control. During demolition and construction there will be a less than significant impact in regards to the contribution of polluted or unpolluted runoff to the existing stormwater drainage systems.

As discussed previously, before construction there would be approximately 6,203 square feet of impervious area at the Temple Hills location and 0 square feet of impervious surface at the Temple Hills location after construction. Before construction there would be approximately 13,165 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location and approximately 15,813 square feet of impervious area at the Rim Rock location after construction. The result is a net decrease in impervious surface for the overall Project.

Once demolition and construction is complete, under the proposed Project, the Rim Rock location would have a negligible increased flow of storm water that would be added to the pipe, which is sized to be able to accommodate the added flow, that would continue to runoff in a southerly direction into the same existing unnamed, intermittent drainage ditch. The proposed Rim Rock location would include removal and replacement activities with an added pump station, which would slightly increase the impervious surface area.

The proposed Temple Hills location would include a complete removal of impervious surface resulting in 0 percent impervious cover and 100 percent restoration back to vegetated conditions. Therefore the proposed Temple Hills location would result in a lower

runoff volume due to decreased imperviousness and this reduced flow would also flow south.

While the Rim Rock Reservoir location will result in a small increase in runoff due to the slight increase in impervious surface at that location, the overall proposed Project would have a decrease the area of impervious surface compared with current conditions. By decreasing the overall proposed Project impervious area, the overall project would have a reduction in the amount of surface runoff. Therefore the proposed Project would not 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, and this criteria would have a less than significant impact.

- d) **No Impact.** The Project site is not located in a 100-year flood zone; and the proposed Project does not involve placement of structures within the 100-year flood zone and would not impede or redirect floodflows within the 100-year flood zone. The proposed Project does not involve construction of housing or placement of housing within the 100-year flood zone. Therefore there would be no impact resulting from impeding or redirecting floodflows, and there would be no impact related to placing housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map.

The proposed Project site is located at an approximate elevation of 600 NGVD 29 and not located within an inundation zone for a levee or dam and would therefore not expose people or structures to flooding as a result of failure of a levee or dam. The Project site is not located in a 100-year flood zone, and there will be no structures or homes placed within a 100-year flood zone. Therefore, there would be no impact related to exposing 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.

The proposed Project is not located within the tsunami zone according to the County of Orange Tsunami Inundation Maps (California Emergency Management Agency, 2009). If a tsunami were to occur along the City of Laguna Beach coast, the location of the proposed Project is 1.9 miles from the nearest boundary of the tsunami inundation zone, such that the wave would dissipate before reaching the site, and there would be no impact from tsunami at the proposed Project site.

Seiches occur in a closed body of water such as a large lake or reservoir. The size of the proposed Rim Rock Reservoir is such that a seiche would not occur and would have no impact. Because the Project is located on top of a hill, impacts related to mudflow would also have no impact.

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would be in compliance with LBCWD Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (LBCWD 2021). No other water quality control or sustainable groundwater plans apply to the proposed Project area.

XI. Land Use and Planning

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
11. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING—				
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting:

The proposed Project is located in a rural residential neighborhood in Laguna Beach. The Temple Hills 600 Reservoir is located off Temple Hills Drive. The Rim Rock Reservoir is located off Rim Rock Canyon Road. The proposed Project is location within General Plan designated Village Low Density (VLD) and zoned Residential/Hillside Protection (RHP), Residential Hillside Protection (RHP), Residential Low Density (R1).

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed Project involves the demolition of the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and demolition of the existing Rim Rock Reservoir and construction of a new reservoir at the same location as the existing Rim Rock Reservoir. Construction and operation of the proposed Project would occur on lands owned by the LBCWD which would not reduce or restrict access to the surrounding neighborhood or adjacent open space areas. The proposed Project would not divide an established community.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project is located within an area designated as Village Low-Density (VLD) and Residential Hillside Protection (RHP).The proposed Project is located within the Coastal Zone and implementation of the Project will be in compliance with the City of Laguna Beach Local Coastal Plan.

The Project site is located within the County of Orange Central and Coastal Subregion Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. Because the proposed Project is replacing outdated facilities and not increasing the footprint of the existing facilities, and would not result in additional vegetation disturbance covered by these plans, the proposed Project is in compliance with these plans and impacts would be less than significant.

XII. Mineral Resources

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
12. MINERAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project area is in a residential neighborhood in the City of Laguna Beach located 1.4 miles inland, and there are no active mines in the proposed Project area that extract mineral commodities. The California Department of Conservation is primarily interested in preservation of access to significant resources. Lands within the proposed Project area are designated Mineral Resource Zone 1 (MRZ-1), which identifies the proposed Project as falling within an area where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence (California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Report 143, Plate 4.1).

Discussion

a,b) **No Impact.** The proposed Project area does not contain known mineral resources of value, and is not an oil or gas-producing resource areas per the California Division of Mines and Geology (Special Report 143, Plate 4.1) and according to the Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology (Report 94-15). Additionally, the City of Laguna Beach General Plan does not identify any mineral resources at or near the Project site that would be considered locally-important (City of Laguna Beach General Plan 2012). A search on the California Department of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) Well Finder (DOGGR 2017) did not identify geothermal resources on the Project site. There would be no impacts on a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or and residents of the state; and there would be no loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Therefore, there would be no impact to mineral resources.

XIII. Noise

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
13. NOISE—Would the project:				
a) Generation of substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of an airstrip or an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

General Noise Information

Sound is a physical disturbance in a medium, such as air, that is capable of being detected by the human ear. Sound waves in air are caused by variations in pressure above and below the static value of atmospheric pressure. Sound is measured in units of decibels (dB) on a logarithmic scale. The “pitch” (high or low) of the sound is a description of frequency, which is measured in Hertz (Hz). Most common environmental sounds are a composite of frequencies. A normal human ear can usually detect sounds within frequencies from 20 to 20,000 Hz. However, humans are most sensitive to frequencies in the range of 500 to 4,000 Hz.

Certain frequencies are given more “weight” during assessment because human hearing is not equally sensitive to all frequencies of sound. The A-weighted decibel (dBA) scale corresponds to the sensitivity range for human hearing. Noise levels capable of being heard by humans are measured in dBA. A noise level change of 3 dBA or less is barely perceptible to average human hearing. However, a 5 dBA change in noise level is clearly noticeable. A 10 dBA change is perceived as a doubling or halving of noise loudness, while a 20 dBA change is considered a “dramatic change” in loudness. Table XIII-1 provides typical instantaneous noise levels of common activities in dBA.

**Table XIII-1
Typical Noise Levels**

Common Outdoor Activities	Noise Level (dBA)	Common Indoor Activities
	110	Rock Concert
Jet Fly-over at 1,000 feet	100	
Gas Lawn Mower at 3 feet	90	
Diesel Truck at 50 feet, at 50 miles per hour (mph)	80	Food Blender or Garbage Disposal at 3 feet
Noisy Urban Area, Daytime Gas Lawn Mower at 100 feet	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 10 feet
Commercial Area Heavy Traffic at 300 feet	60	Normal Speech at 3 feet
Quiet Urban Daytime	50	Large Business Office, Dishwasher in Next Room
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	Theater, Large Conference Room (Background)
Quiet Suburban Nighttime	30	Library
Quiet Rural Nighttime	20	Bedroom at Night
	10	Broadcast/Recording Studio (background level)
Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing	0	Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing

Source: California Department of Transportation 1998

Sound from a source spreads out as it travels away from the source, and the sound pressure level diminishes with distance. Individual sound sources are considered “point sources” when the distance from the source is large compared to the size of the source (e.g., transformer banks, construction equipment, and turbines). Sound from a point source radiates hemispherically, which yields a 6 dB sound level reduction for each doubling of the distance from the source. If the sound source is long in one dimension, the source is considered a “line source,” (i.e., roadways and railroads). Sound from a line source radiates cylindrically, which typically yields a 3 dB sound level reduction for each doubling of the distance from the source.

In addition to distance attenuation, the air absorbs a certain amount of sound energy, and atmospheric effects (wind, temperature, and precipitation), terrain, and vegetation also influence the sound propagation and attenuation over large distances from the source.

An individual's sound exposure is a value based on a measurement of the noise that the individual experiences over a specified time interval. A sound level is a measurement of noise that occurs during a specified period of time. However, noise impact evaluations under CEQA are based on the Project-related increases to the existing community noise levels. A continuous source of noise is rare for long periods of time and is typically not a characteristic of community noise. Rather, community noise refers to outdoor noise in the vicinity of a community.

A community noise environment varies continuously over time with respect to the contributing sources. Within a community, ambient noise levels gradually change throughout a typical day, and the changes can often be correlated to the increase and decrease of transportation noise or to the daytime/nighttime operation of stationary mechanical equipment. The variation in community noise throughout a day is also due to the addition of short-duration single-event noise sources, such as aircraft, sirens, and various natural sources.

The metrics for evaluating the community noise environment are based on measurements of the noise levels over a period of time. These metrics are used in order to characterize and evaluate the cumulative noise impacts. The most common metrics for evaluating community noise are as follows:

L_{eq} : The equivalent sound level, or the time-integrated continuous sound level, that represents the same sound energy as the varying sound levels, logarithmically averaged over a specified monitoring period.

L_{max} : The instantaneous greatest noise level measured on a sound level meter during a designated time interval.

L_{min} : The instantaneous lowest noise level measured on a sound level meter during a designated time interval.

CNEL: The Community Noise Equivalent Level that represents a 24-hour A-weighted sound level average conducted from midnight to midnight, where sound levels during the evening hours of 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. have an added 5 dB weighting, and nighttime hours of 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. have an added 10 dB weighting.

These noise levels are typically evaluated at sensitive receptor locations to determine compliance with noise standards. Examples of sensitive receptors include residential land uses, schools, hospitals, and parks.

In addition to sound, construction activities also have the potential to create ground vibrations, depending on the kind of equipment and operations involved, and the distances between the construction activities and the nearest sensitive receptors. The effects of groundborne vibrations generated from construction activities are typically imperceptible to most people located outside

the immediate proximity of the construction activities. However, high-magnitude vibrations can result in damage to nearby structures within the immediate vicinity of the source.

Existing Ambient Noise Level

The proposed Project would be located within a rural residential neighborhood northeast of downtown Laguna Beach. The proposed Project is located adjacent to a single family residential community. Ambient noise would generally be from minor roadway noise, aircraft flying overhead, lawnmowers, leaf blowers and general neighborhood noise.

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation:** The proposed Project demolition and construction activities would require a variety of equipment including heavy machinery including jackhammers, dump trucks, saws, and various hand-held equipment. Typical maximum noise levels for construction equipment at 50 feet from the source are shown in Table XIII-2, below.

Table XIII-2

Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Equipment	Noise Level (dBA) at 50 feet
Backhoe	80
Concrete mixer	85
Pump truck	82
Crane, Mobile	85
Dozer	85
Excavator	85
Generator	82
Grader	85
Man lift	85
Loader	80
Paver	85
Roller	85
Scraper	85
Trucks	80-84

Source: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) 2009

The noise prediction calculations of the construction equipment assume that the construction activities would operate for 10 hours per day. The proposed Project's construction operations would occur between the daytime hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. per City of Laguna Beach Ordinance 7.25.080. The noise model calculations show that the noise generated by the Project's construction activities would exceed the City of Laguna Beach's construction noise threshold of 65 dBA for residential areas (City of Laguna Beach Ordinance 7.25.040). Therefore, these noise impacts are considered to be significant.

There are two residences that are located within 60 feet and one residence located within 100 feet of the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir. Demolition activities at this site would increase the ambient noise above the City's noise threshold of 65 dBA. At the Rim Rock Reservoir, all residences are at least 100 feet from the active work area. However, one residence is within 50 feet of the contractor laydown area. Construction and demolition at the Rim Rock Reservoir may increase the ambient noise above the City's noise threshold. Mitigation Measures NOI-1 through NOI-3 should be implemented to reduce the noise impacts to below the City's noise threshold limit of 65 dBA and impact to less than significant.

b) **Less than Significant Impact.**

Construction Impacts: The construction of the proposed Project would include the use of heavy equipment that would generate ground-borne vibrations. Possible sources of vibration may include pile driving, jackhammers, excavators, dump trucks, backhoes, and other grading and earth moving equipment.

According to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines, a vibration level of 65 VdB is the threshold of perceptibility for humans. For a significant impact to occur, vibration levels must exceed 80 VdB during infrequent events (FTA 1995). The vibration calculations are based on the FTA published vibration levels provided in Table XIII-3.

Table XIII-3

Vibration Source Levels for Typical Construction Equipment

Equipment	Vibration Level (VdB) at 25 feet
Large bulldozer	87
Caisson drilling	87
Loaded trucks	86
Jackhammer	79
Small bulldozer	58

Source: FTA 2011

The construction activities associated with the proposed Project may occur as close as 50 feet from structures at the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and within 200 feet at the Rim Rock Reservoir. Because of the distance from the work areas, it is anticipated that vibration

levels at all identified sensitive receptors would be below the maximum of 80 VdB. Therefore, these impacts are considered less than significant.

The Project's proposed operational equipment is not anticipated to generate perceptible vibrations. The emergency generator and pumps could generate vibrations, but these vibration levels would be attenuated to below the threshold of perceptions at the Project's boundary lines. Therefore, these impacts are considered less than significant.

- c) **No Impact.** The Project is not located within an airport land use plan, nor is it within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, construction of the proposed Project would not expose workers to excessive noise levels attributable to a public airport or public use airport, and there would be no impact.

There are no private airstrips located within the vicinity of the Project. Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose workers to excessive noise levels attributable to a private airstrip, and there would be no impact.

Mitigation Measures Required:

Mitigation Measure NOI-1 Equipment Noise Control:

Equipment and trucks used for Project construction shall employ the best available noise control techniques to the extent feasible. Jackhammers and other equipment would be equipped with mufflers. Trucks and equipment would minimize the potential for backing and generating backing warning sounds to the extent feasible. Muffling equipment and reducing the potential for backing warnings would reduce temporary noise impacts on sensitive receptors to less than significant.

Mitigation Measures NOI-2 Location of Stationary Noise Sources: Stationary noise sources shall be located as far from adjacent noise sensitive receptors as reasonably possible and shall be enclosed if feasible. Generators, mixers, and other stationary equipment would be located as far from sensitive receptors to the extent feasible. Locating stationary equipment as far away from sensitive receptors would reduce temporary construction noise to below 65 dBA for most equipment and impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures NOI-3 Noise Monitoring: During construction, periodic noise monitoring shall occur to monitor the efficacy of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 and Mitigation Measures NOI-2 and to make adjustments, as needed, to reduce noise impacts on nearby residents.

XIV. Population and Housing

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
14. POPULATION AND HOUSING—				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project site is located 1.9 miles inland, from the City of Laguna Beach, which is located in Orange County. According to the 2000 census, the population in the City of Laguna Beach was 23,727 (US Census Bureau 2017). In the 2010 census, the population in the City of Laguna Beach was 22,723 (US Census Bureau 2017). This represents a 4.2 percent reduction in population over a 10-year period. The City of Laguna Beach population estimate in 2015 is 23,365 (US Census Bureau 2017). The population growth rate was, and still is, much lower than the State's average growth rate of 5.4 percent from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016 (US Census Bureau 2017).

Discussion

a,b) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would replace two aging water storage facilities that are nearing the end of their useful life with new water storage and delivery facilities but would not increase the amount of water stored or distributed. Because the proposed Project would only replace existing facilities, it would not directly or indirectly induce any population growth.

The workforce necessary to construct the new facilities would be drawn from the local and regional area and workers would commute to the Project site on a daily basis. Because of the small size and short duration of the proposed Project, no construction workers would be required to move to the area as a result of the proposed Project. No new personnel would be hired to operate the new facilities. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the proposed Project would result in any population growth in the area requiring the construction of housing.

No residences are located on the parcel on which the proposed Project would be constructed. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in the displacement of any existing housing units or people.

XV. Public Services

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
15. PUBLIC SERVICES— Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 following public services:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project area is in a residential neighborhood in the City of Laguna Beach. Fire protection is provided by Laguna Beach Fire Department stations No. 1 through No. 4. In addition, the Orange County Fire Authority Station No. 11 is located at 259 Emerald Bay in Laguna Beach. The Orange County Fire Authority Station No. 11 is located approximately 3.8 miles from the proposed Project site.

The closest fire station is Laguna Beach Fire Department Station No. 3, located approximately 1 miles from the proposed Project site located at 2900 Alta Laguna Blvd. Station No. 2 is approximately 1.9 miles from the proposed Project and is staffed with a Captain, Engineer, and Firefighter and is the largest fire station in the City. In addition, Station No. 2 has a large classroom where personnel from the Fire Department meet for training purposes. A two-person ambulance crew also responds out of this station.

Police protection is provided by the Laguna Beach Police Department. The police department is located at 505 Forest Avenue, approximately 2.2 miles from the proposed Project site.

Anneliese's Schools, Inc., Laguna Beach High School and Thurston Middle School are located within three miles of the proposed Project site. Anneliese's Schools, Inc. is a private elementary school located approximately 2.6 miles from the proposed Project site; Laguna Beach High School is a public high school located approximately 2.4 miles from the proposed Project site; and Thurston Middle School is a public middle school located approximately 1.4 miles from the proposed Project site.

Parks within the vicinity of the proposed Project area include Bluebird Park, Brown's Park, Main Beach Park, and Alta Laguna Park. These parks are owned by the City of Laguna Beach.

Discussion

- a.i) **Less Than Significant.** The proposed Project would replace existing facilities that are nearing the end of their useful lives with new facilities. During construction, an unforeseen accident could occur requiring police to be called to the Project site. However, the anticipated response would be temporary and would be handled within existing police staff and would not require additional police staff or construction of new facilities.
- a.ii) **Less than Significant.** The proposed Project would replace existing facilities that are nearing the end of their useful lives with new facilities. During construction, an unforeseen accident could occur requiring fire staff to be called to the Project site. However, the anticipated response would be temporary and would be handled within existing fire staff and would not require additional fire staff or construction of new facilities
- a.iii) **No Impact.** The proposed Project does not include the construction of new housing, and construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in any increase in population.

The proposed Project would replace two aging water storage facilities that are nearing the end of their useful life with new water storage and delivery facilities but would not increase the amount of water stored or distributed. Because the proposed Project would only replace existing facilities, it would not directly or indirectly induce any population growth.

The workforce necessary to construct the new facilities would be drawn from the local and regional area and workers would commute to the Project site on a daily basis. Because of the small size and short duration of the proposed Project, no construction workers would be required move to the area as a result of the proposed Project. No new personnel would be hired to operate the new facilities. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the proposed Project would result in any population growth in the area that would impact schools.

Therefore, the proposed Project would not create a demand for new schools and would not result in any adverse impacts to local schools.

- a.iv) **No Impact.** The proposed Project does not include the construction of new housing, and construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in any increase in population.

The proposed Project would replace two aging water storage facilities that are nearing the end of their useful life with new water storage and delivery facilities but would not increase the amount of water stored or distributed. Because the proposed Project would only replace existing facilities, it would not directly or indirectly induce any population growth.

The workforce necessary to construct the new facilities would be drawn from the local and regional area and workers would commute to the Project site on a daily basis. Because of the small size and short duration of the proposed Project, no construction workers would

be required move to the area because of the proposed Project. No new personnel would be hired to operate the new facilities. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the proposed Project would result in any population growth in the area that would impact parks.

Therefore, the proposed Project would not require provision of new or physically altered parks, or create a need for new or physically altered parks, and thus there would be no impact under this criterion.

- a.v) **No Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not require any additional services from County staff. LBCWD would maintain the property and therefore the proposed Project would have no impacts on additional local public facilities.

XVI. Recreation

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
16. RECREATION—Would the project:				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The City of Laguna Beach operates a number of parks and recreational facilities. Of these, Bluebird Park, Brown's Park, Main Beach Park, and Alta Laguna Park are located in the vicinity of the proposed Project. In addition there is a local trail that begins at the end of Rim Rock Canyon Road, heading easterly, that is in the vicinity of the proposed Project.

Bluebird Park is located on Cress Street, and includes sports courts, a children's play area, picnic tables and a summer concert series. Brown's Park is located at 551 S Coast Highway, located 1.7 miles from the proposed Project location, and is a small park known for meditative purposes and its scenic vistas. Main Beach Park, located 2.0 miles from the proposed Project location, is a beachfront park with a boardwalk, volleyball and basketball courts, a playground, and a tide-pool area. Alta Laguna Park is located 1.1 miles from the proposed Project location at 3299 Alta Laguna Blvd; it has an ocean view plus amenities such as tennis courts, a baseball field and play equipment.

Discussion

a,b) **No Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in an increase in the local population, and thus would not result in increased use of local parks and recreational facilities.

The proposed Project would replace two aging water storage facilities that are nearing the end of their useful life with new water storage and delivery facilities but would not increase the amount of water stored or distributed. Because the proposed Project would only replace existing facilities, it would not directly or indirectly induce any population growth.

The workforce necessary to construct the new facilities would be drawn from the local and regional area and workers would commute to the Project site on a daily basis. Because of the small size and short duration of the proposed Project, no construction workers would be required move to the area as a result of the proposed Project. No new personnel would be hired to operate the new facilities. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the

proposed Project would result in any population growth in the area resulting in increased use of local parks and recreational facilities.

As mentioned in the setting, there is a local trail that begins at the end of Rim Rock Canyon Road heading easterly that is in the vicinity of the proposed Project. The proposed contractor staging area is adjacent (to the south) to the trailhead. The contractor would properly fence off the laydown yard, and would be directed to be cautious of pedestrian traffic using the trail.

The proposed Project does not involve construction of recreation facilities or require the expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, there would be no impact on recreational resources.

XVII. Transportation and Traffic

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
17. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC—				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance policy addressing the circulatory system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15065.3 subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The Transportation, Circulation, and Growth Management Element of the City of Laguna Beach General Plan identifies six road types within the City: Local Streets, Collector (Restricted), Collector, Hillside Collector, Primary Arterial, and Major Arterial.

Local Streets provide access to individual homesites, tracts, and neighborhoods. Collectors provide access for predominately localized traffic between arterial highways and local streets and neighborhoods; Collectors (Restricted) have many of the same characteristics as Collectors, but the capacity of the roadway may be constrained due to width, alignment, and grade. Primary and Major Arterials serve as the primary regional access ways to the City. (City of Laguna Beach 1999)

Roads adjacent to the proposed project area are designated Local Streets; these are accessed from Primary Arterials by Collectors and Collectors (Restricted). The proposed Project area is currently, and will be during construction and operation of the proposed Project, accessed via Rim Rock Canyon Road (a Local Street), Temple Hills Drive (a Collector and Collector [Restricted] roadway), Thalia Street (a Primary Arterial), and then Glenneyre Street, Laguna Canyon Road, and South Coast Highway (US-1) (Primary Arterials).

Discussion

- a,b) **Less than Significant Impact:** During construction, a short-term and intermittent increase in vehicle traffic would occur on Local Streets, Collectors, and Primary Arterials. Contractor vehicles and equipment, including haul trucks, would access the site on a daily basis Monday through Friday; heavy loads and material deliveries will be timed to occur during non-peak hours (i.e., between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) to avoid school drop-off and pick-up times and the morning and evening commuting periods. Other construction traffic (i.e., crew vehicles moving to the Project site) occurring on weekdays between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m., or between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., would coincide with peak-hour traffic and could impact

traffic flow on Local Streets and Collectors leading to the Project area. Approximately 10 round trip vehicle trips to the proposed Project site would occur daily during the construction period of 18 months, with fewer, non-daily movements of heavy equipment and large loads.

The increase in traffic volumes on Rim Rock Canyon Road (a Local Street), Temple Hills Drive (a Collector and Collector [Restricted] roadway), Thalia Street (a Primary Arterial), and Glenneyre Street and South Coast Highway (US-1) (Primary Arterials) would not be substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. The increase would occur temporarily and intermittently during construction and would not substantially interfere with the City's circulatory system.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b) identifies the appropriate criteria for evaluating transportation impacts associated with a Project. This section indicates that land use projects that increase vehicle miles traveled (VMT) exceeding applicable thresholds may result in significant impacts but that Projects that decrease VMT compared to existing conditions should be presumed to have less than a significant impact. Operation of the proposed project would not result in an increase of VMT. No additional workers would be required to travel to the proposed project site and VMT for operation would be the same as under existing conditions.

According to the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA (OPR 2018), land use projects that generate fewer than 100 average daily trips can be assumed to result in less than significant impacts on transportation and VMT. Therefore, because the proposed Project would result in fewer than 100 average daily trips during construction and operation, the proposed Project would not conflict with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b) and there would be no impacts.

Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in any change to alternative transportation or conflict with any plans or policies which support alternative transportation, including the Transportation, Circulation, and Growth Management Element of the City of Laguna Beach General Plan and the Orange County CMP.

- c) **No Impact.** The proposed Project does not include alterations to local streets and does not represent an incompatible use of local streets. Any damage to local streets caused by construction of the proposed Project would be repaired. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in an increase in hazards or changes in design features to local streets that would result in hazards or incompatible uses.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in inadequate emergency access to the surrounding neighborhood or the construction locations. Traffic control personnel would be deployed along Temple Hills Drive and Rim Rock Canyon Road as necessary to ensure the safe and efficient ingress and egress of construction vehicles and to ensure that local roads are not blocked and thus that emergency access is maintained. One lane of Temple Hills Drive, and a portion of

Rim Rock Canyon Road, will be temporarily closed to facilitate pipeline construction under these streets. The closures would be short-term, lasting only for the duration of the pipeline construction work. A traffic control plan, including the use of traffic control personnel to control construction and public traffic movement through the closure areas, will be prepared and implemented to ensure the continuance of emergency access during the short-term lane closures. Off-street parking will be provided for construction vehicles, and thus the parking of construction vehicles would not be an impediment to emergency access. The movement of construction vehicles along roadways designated as Local Streets, Collectors and Collectors (Restricted), and Primary Arterials could result in a negligible slowing of emergency vehicles due to the size and limited maneuverability of these construction vehicles. In total, impacts would be less than significant.

XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
18. Tribal Cultural Resources—				
Would the project:				
a) Would the project 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, 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), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The proposed Project site is situated in a suburban residential neighborhood along an east-west trending ridgeline within the foothills of Laguna Beach, California, approximately one mile from the Pacific Ocean. A database search for the Laguna Beach U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle was received from the South Central Coast Information Center conducted in 2017 and 2022 and did not identify any previously recorded sites on the proposed Project site. On January 18, 2017, Registered Professional Archeologist Brian Glenn completed an on-site pedestrian survey of the undeveloped portion of the proposed Project area. This consists of a roughly 230-foot by 420-foot steep sided open field with a southern aspect. Inspection of the undeveloped portion of the Project did not reveal data regarding potential historical/archaeological/built environment resources at the proposed Project site.

The Rim Rock Canyon Road and Temple Hills Drive facilities were constructed in 1961 and 1939, respectfully. Review of historical maps illustrate the facilities as being in place by 1965 and 1948, respectively. As such, it will be necessary to evaluate both for the California Register Historical Resources (CRHR).

Discussion:

ai-ii) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** A Sacred Lands File (SLF) search was conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on April 28, 2022. The NAHC letter stated, “A search of the SFL was completed for the USGS quadrangle information provided with positive results.” LBCWD conducted AB 52 outreach regarding Tribal Cultural Resources via registered mail on April 27, 2022 to the three Native American groups that requested consultation. One response was received. Appendix A provides details on the consultation. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure CUL-2** would provide sensitivity training to workers and establish procedures for identifying Tribal Cultural Resources and ensuring those resources are protected until they are evaluated in the event tribal cultural resources are discovered during construction. Mitigation Measures CUL-2 also includes procedures in the event of unintended discovery of artifacts and human remains during construction. In the event of an unintended discovery, work would cease until the discovery is evaluated, by a qualified archeologist or tribal representative or by the Orange County Coroner. **Mitigation Measure GEO-1** would provide for archeological monitoring during excavation to identify potential cultural or paleontological resources. Mitigation Measures CUL-2 and GEO-1 provide for work to cease in the event of a potential discovery of an artifact, fossil or human remains and for the unintended discoveries to be evaluated by a qualified archeologist, paleontologist, or tribal representative. In addition, pursuant to Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, in the event of the discovery of human remains, all work will be halted and the county coroner will be immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, guidelines of the Native American Heritage Commission will be adhered to in the treatment and disposition of the remains.

Mitigation Measures Required:

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Project Specific Environmental Tailboard (PSET)

Provide sensitivity training to contractor personnel prior to the start of construction. Contractor personnel would be trained on the procedures for identifying historical resources and protocols for unintended discoveries and relevant elements of Health and Safety Section 7050.5(b) and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 during construction.

Mitigation Measure GEO -1: Monitoring During Excavation

Substantial excavations in the proposed Project area will be monitored to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered. Sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed Project area. Significant fossils recovered during mitigation will be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations (McLeod 2016). A qualified archeologist/paleontologist will be present during excavation. If fossil are unearthed during excavation, work within the area will cease until appropriate evaluation by a qualified archeologist or paleontologist can be made.

XIX. Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the construction of new or expanded water or wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a,b) **No Impact.** The proposed Project entails demolition of existing facilities, and construction and operation of a new 0.8 million gallon reservoir and pump station. No wastewater facilities, including toilets, would be constructed because there is no existing sewer connection and none would be constructed. The proposed Project would not produce wastewater or require the expansion of wastewater facilities.

During construction, portable restrooms would be onsite but would be off hauled by the contractor for treatment and disposal. Short term increase in wastewater generation would not increase the volume of wastewater in the system, nor would it result in a decrease in quality of flows into the Southern Orange County's Coastal Wastewater Treatment Plant. Therefore, the proposed Project would be in compliance with wastewater treatment requirements issued by the RWQCB, the agency that issues permits for discharge from the plant.

The proposed Project entails demolition of two existing reservoirs and construction of one new reservoir and pump station. The new Rim Rock Reservoir would provide the combined water storage currently provided by the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir and existing Rim Rock Reservoir and there would be no increase in capacity. The proposed Project would not require new water supplies, water resources, or entitlements and there would be no impact related to sufficient water supplies.

The proposed Project would not require additional water supply or increase wastewater generation; therefore, no new water or wastewater treatment facilities are required to support the proposed Project. Water required for dust control measures would be provided via fire hydrants near the construction sites.

- c) **No Impact.** The proposed Project entails demolition of two existing reservoirs and construction of one new reservoir and pump station. The new Rim Rock Reservoir would not generate wastewater during construction or operation. Therefore, there would be no impact related to adequate capacity of wastewater treatment.

- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** During construction, the proposed Project would result in materials being deposited at the local landfill, most likely one of the Olinda Landfill in Brea or the Prima Deshecha Landfill in San Juan Capistrano. Demolition and site preparation includes removal of concrete, painted surfaces, universal waste, asphalt, and reservoir structures. It was found that some universal waste will need to be disposed of from the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017) as a part of the demolition work and includes incandescent light bulbs, fluorescent light bulbs, oil, and lubricants. No universal wastes were observed at the Rim Rock Reservoir location. These universal wastes will be properly containerized, labeled, and disposed of properly in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. Based on the laboratory analytical results, asbestos was not detected in the sampled building materials, but one surface was not reachable, in order to conduct sampling, and is assumed to have asbestos containing material (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017). Materials assumed to contain asbestos, would be properly removed prior to performing demolition activities (NESHAP, 40 CFR 61. Subpart M). Lead based paint and lead containing paint were identified at the Rim Rock and Temple Hills 600 sites (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017). Anyone who would disturb any lead-containing surfaces would be notified of the information presented in the survey and would be required to comply with the OSHA Lead in Construction Standard (CFR, Title 29, 1926.62) and Cal/OSHA Construction Safety Orders (CCR, Title 8, Section 1532.1). All asbestos containing materials, lead based paint, and lead containing paint materials will be properly contained and disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. Solid waste materials would be waste profiled, accordingly sent to an appropriate disposal facility. Site preparation includes grubbing and grading and trench installation of subsurface piping, which would require excavation and off-hauling of excess soil. Approximately 800 cubic yards of materials are expected to be removed from the site including vegetation and soil, and concrete. It is anticipated that much of this material removed from the proposed Project site can be recycled or repurposed and would therefore not significantly reduce capacity of local

landfills. Vegetation and soil may be used at local landfills as daily cover and would therefore not result in decrease in capacity at the local landfill. Because the amount of material is expected to be negligible, will be waste profiled in order to determine an appropriate waste facility, and much of the material is anticipated to be recycled or used for alternative daily cover, materials deposited at local landfills would not significantly reduce the capacity of such landfills and impact related to local landfill capacity is considered less than significant.

Construction of the proposed Project is anticipated to produce minimal solid waste that would require removal and deposition in a local landfill permitted to accept such waste. It was found that some universal waste will need to be disposed of from the Temple Hills 600 Reservoir location (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017) as a part of the demolition work and includes incandescent light bulbs, fluorescent light bulbs, oil, and lubricants. No universal wastes were observed at the Rim Rock Reservoir location. These universal wastes will be properly containerized, labeled, and disposed of properly in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. Based on the laboratory analytical results, asbestos was not detected in the sampled building materials, but one surface was not reachable, in order to conduct sampling, and is assumed to have asbestos containing material (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017). Materials assumed to contain asbestos, would be properly removed prior to performing demolition activities (NESHAP, 40 CFR 61. Subpart M). Lead based paint and lead containing paint were identified at the Rim Rock and Temple Hills 600 sites (Hazardous Buildings Materials Survey, 2017). Anyone who would disturb any lead-containing surfaces would be notified of the information presented in the survey and would be required to comply with the OSHA Lead in Construction Standard (CFR, Title 29, 1926.62) and Cal/OSHA Construction Safety Orders (CCR, Title 8, Section 1532.1). All asbestos containing materials, lead based paint, and lead containing paint materials will be properly contained and disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. All solid waste materials would be waste profiled, accordingly sent to an appropriate disposal facility, and would therefore be in compliance with local, state, and federal solid waste regulations and impacts would be less than significant.

XX. Wildfire

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
20. Wildfire— Would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including down slope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The City of Laguna Beach is located within an area susceptible to wildland fires with expansive areas of chaparral, woodland, grassland, and scrub vegetation communities as well as steep slopes, and climatic conditions. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFIRE) has identified areas of extreme wildfire risk throughout the state, and designated them as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). Laguna Beach has 87 percent of the land area within the VHFHSZ. While much of it is open space, approximately 65 percent of the City's buildable property is within the VHFHSZ. The City has developed a Wildfire Safety/Vegetation Management Program with a focus on year round vegetation management to reduce the potential spread of wildfires. Laguna Beach Fire Station No. 3 is located less than 1 mile from the Project site.

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** As described in Section XVI, the Project would not result in an impediment to emergency response. Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in inadequate emergency access to the surrounding neighborhood or the construction locations. Traffic control personnel would be deployed along Temple Hills Drive and Rim Rock Canyon Road as necessary to ensure the safe and efficient ingress and egress of construction vehicles and to ensure that local roads are not blocked and thus that emergency access is maintained. One lane of Temple Hills Drive, and a portion of Rim Rock Canyon Road, will be temporarily closed to facilitate pipeline construction under these streets. The closures would be short-term, lasting only for the duration of the pipeline construction work. A traffic control plan, including the use of traffic control personnel to control construction and public traffic movement through the closure areas, will be prepared and implemented to ensure the continuance of emergency access during the

short-term lane closures. Off-street parking will be provided for construction vehicles, and thus the parking of construction vehicles would not be an impediment to emergency access. The movement of construction vehicles along roadways designated as Local Streets, Collectors and Collectors (Restricted), and Primary Arterials could result in a negligible slowing of emergency vehicles due to the size and limited maneuverability of these construction vehicles. In total, impacts would be less than significant.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Project is located off Temple Hills Drive within a site that has been developed. The site is located on a relatively flat slope with Rim Rock Ridge located to the south. The City's Vegetation Management Program requires year round strategies including development of defensible space, fuel reduction, and fuel break up program to protect interior canyon areas. Measures such as vegetaion removal by hand crews and grazing reduce the fuel loads within these areas to reduce the potential for wildfire spread. The proposed Project area would be subjected to the City's Vegetation Management Program which would reduce the potential for wildfire risks within the Project vicinity. There are no other factors such as prevailing winds that would exacerbate wildfire risk. Because the Project site would be subjected to vegetation management before, during, and after construction, impacts related to wildfire risk would be less than significant.

- c-d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed structures will be built in compliance with the California Building Code in affect at the time of construction. Per local requirements, the building will meet all fire safety requirements. The Project will install new infrastructure, including utilities and power lines that would connect to currently serviceable utilities and would not increase fire risk. No structures are located down slope of the proposed Project and would not be at risk for down slope instability in the event of a wildfire.

XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE—				
Would the project:				
a) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have impacts that would be 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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation.** The proposed Project would not degrade the quality of the environment or substantially reduce the habitat for fish or wildlife species, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. The proposed Project would have a less than significant effect on the environment as described in Section IV. Biological Resources with the incorporation of mitigation measures. The proposed Project would not eliminate examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory and impacts on historical resources would be less than significant as described in Section V. Cultural Resources.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts. No significant impacts would result from the proposed Project and therefore, no cumulatively considerable impacts related to other projects would result. Please refer to the individual resource sections for impact discussions.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project would not result in substantial environmental effects on human beings directly or indirectly. All impacts resulting from the proposed Project would be less than significant. Please refer to the individual resource sections for impact discussions.

On the basis of this initial study:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- 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 revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. 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.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, no further environmental documentation is required.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

For

XXII. Compliance with Federal Regulations (CEQA Plus)

The LBCWD is seeking funding for the proposed Project under the SWRCB State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program which is partially funded through the federal government. Therefore, funds distributed through the SRF are subject to federal laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The SWRCB will use this CEQA document as well as the additional resource analysis below to satisfy the requirements under NEPA. This section addresses the Project's compliance with federal laws to satisfy the CEQA-Plus requirements of the SWRCB.

Federal Clean Air Act

Established under the Clean Air Act (section 176(c)(4)), the General Conformity rule plays an important role in helping states improve air quality in those areas that do not meet the NAAQS. Under the General Conformity rule, federal agencies must work with state and local governments in a nonattainment or maintenance area to ensure that federal actions conform to the air quality plans established in the applicable state or tribal implementation plan. The overall purpose of the General Conformity rule is to ensure that:

- federal activities do not cause or contribute to new violations of NAAQS;
- actions do not worsen existing violations of the NAAQS; and
- attainment of the NAAQS is not delayed.

Predicted annual construction-generated emissions for the Proposed Project are summarized in Table III-3. Construction-generated emissions are short term and of temporary duration, but would be considered a significant air quality impact if the volume of pollutants generated exceeds the Conformity Determination thresholds.

As shown in Table III-3, Projected emissions resulting from the Project fall below the EPA Conformity Determination thresholds of 100 tons per year for all pollutants. As described in Section III Air Quality, the Project would not generate emissions during operations.

Coastal Barriers Resource Act

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982 designated various undeveloped coastal barriers for inclusion in the Coastal Barrier Resources System (System). The Project is not within the System, as it is in the State of California and the System encompasses areas within the Gulf Coast, Atlantic Ocean, and the Great Lakes but not the Pacific Coast. Therefore, the Coastal Barriers Resources Act does not apply to the Project.

Coastal Zone Management Act

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) was passed by Congress to encourage coastal states to develop and implement a Coastal Zone Management Plan, or Program (CZMP). In 1978, the federal government certified the California Coastal Management Plan, the enforceable policies of which are found in Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act of 1976, as amended. The proposed Project is located within the Coastal Zone. Implementation of the proposed Project will be in compliance with the Laguna Beach Local Coastal Program and therefore consistent with the CZMA.

Endangered Species Act

The federal ESA (16 USC 1531 et seq.) and subsequent amendments establish legal requirements for the protection of federally listed species and their habitat. Under the federal ESA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or NMFS may designate critical habitat for listed species. Section 7 of the federal ESA requires federal agencies to consult with USFWS or NMFS to ensure that their actions are not likely to jeopardize listed threatened or endangered species, or cause destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. As described in Section IV, no federally listed species are known to occur within the proposed Project area and the proposed Project is not within designated critical habitat.

Environmental Justice

In 1994 President Clinton issued the Executive Order (EO), Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, to focus federal attention on environmental and human health conditions in minority and low-income communities. EO 12898 promotes nondiscrimination in federal programs that substantially affect human health and the environment, and it provides information access and public participation relating to these matters. This order requires federal agencies (and state agencies receiving federal funds) to identify and address any disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and/or low-income populations. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) oversees federal compliance with EO 12898. According to the CEQ environmental justice guidelines, minority populations should be identified if:

- A minority population percentage either exceeds 50 percent of the population of the affected area, or
- If the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis (e.g., a governing body's jurisdiction, neighborhood census tract, or other similar unit)

Figure XXII-1 2020 Minority Population and Regional Distribution

Jurisdiction	Minority Population Percentage	Percentage of Individuals below poverty line
California	40.5	11.8
Orange County	39.2	9
Laguna Beach	10.8	6.3

Source: 2020 United States Census Bureau

As shown in Table XXII-2 Orange County has approximately the same distribution of minorities as California. Laguna Beach has a low minority population and a low low-income population compared to both Orange County and California. The proposed Project could have temporary impacts related to construction, but the overall benefit of the proposed Project would be beneficial to all residents, regardless of income level. Additionally, the proposed Project is located between single-family homes and overall impacts resulting from the proposed Project would not impact a disproportionate number of minority or low-income populations.

Farmland Protection Act

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) is intended to minimize the contribution of federal programs to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. Under the FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. As discussed in Section II Agriculture and Forestry Resources, there is no prime farmland, unique farmland or lands of local or statewide importance within the vicinity of the proposed Project. Because no farmland occurs in the Project area, the FPPA does not apply to the proposed Project.

Floodplain Management Act

Executive Order (EO) 13690, “The Federal Flood Risk Management Standard” (January 30, 2015) revises EO 11988, “Floodplain Management” (May 24, 1977), and directs federal agencies to take the appropriate actions to reduce risk to federal investments, specifically to “update their flood-risk reduction standards.” The goal of this directive is to improve the resilience of communities and federal assets against the impacts of flooding and recognizes the risks and losses due to climate change and other threats. The FEMA’s Flood Insurance Rate Maps are used to determine if properties are located within Special Flood Hazard Areas. As explained in Section X, Hydrology and Water Quality, the Project is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area (FEMA 2008) and would not impede or redirect flood water flows. Therefore, no impacts related to flood hazards or flood water flows would occur.

National Historic Preservation Act

The NHPA of 1966, as amended sets forth the responsibilities that federal agencies must meet in regard to cultural resources, especially in regard to Section 106 as set forth in the regulations (36 CFR Part 800). Federal agencies must conduct the necessary studies and consultations to identify cultural resources that may be affected by an undertaking, evaluate cultural resources that may be affected to determine if they are eligible for the NRHP (that is, whether identified resources constitute historic properties), and assess whether such historic properties would be adversely affected. Historic properties are resources listed on or eligible for listing on the NRHP (36 CFR 800.16[1]). A property may be listed in the NRHP if it meets criteria provided in the NRHP regulations (36 CFR 60.4). Typically, such properties must also be 50 years or older (36 CFR 60.4[d]). Section 106 defines an adverse effect as an effect that alters, directly or indirectly, the qualities that make a resource eligible for listing in the NRHP (36 CFR 800.5[a][1]). Consideration must be given to the property’s location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, to the extent that these qualities contribute to the integrity and significance of the resource. Adverse effects may be direct and reasonably foreseeable or may be more remote in time or distance (36 CFR 8010.5[a][1]).

As discussed in Section V (Cultural Resources), cultural resources within the APE were analyzed based on the provisions for the treatment of cultural resources contained within Section 106 of the NHPA. A record search was conducted in order to determine the potential for the Project to adversely affect cultural resources eligible for listing on the NRHP. The results of the record searches (Glenn 2017; Pavell 2022) and Resources Assessment (Glenn 2017) did not reveal potential resources eligible for listing on the NRHP. Therefore, no designated historic properties, buildings or other resources would be adversely affected by the proposed Project.

Magnuson-Stevenson Fishery Conservation Act

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) (Public Law 104-267) passed in 1976 and was amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-297) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act in 2007. The MSA, as amended, governs marine fisheries management in U.S. federal waters out to 200 nautical miles from shore and encourages “long-term biological and economic sustainability of our nation's marine fisheries.” The goals of the MSA are to prevent overfishing, to rebuild overfished stocks, to increase long-term economic and social benefits, and to ensure a safe and sustainable supply of seafood. The Project is over one mile inland from the Pacific Ocean and would not affect any fisheries or EFH. The MSA does not apply to the Project.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The MBTA of 1918 (16 USC 703-711) prohibits take of any migratory bird, including eggs or active nests, except as permitted by regulation (e.g., licensed hunting of waterfowl or upland game species). Under the MBTA, “migratory bird” is broadly defined as “any species or family of birds that live, reproduce or migrate within or across international borders at some point during their annual life cycle” and thus applies to most native bird species. As described in Section IV (Biological Resources), birds protected under the MBTA could nest within trees and shrubs adjacent to the site. As such, mitigation measure requires that ground-disturbing and vegetation-disturbing work be completed during the non-nesting season to avoid impacts on nesting birds. If this is determined to be infeasible, mitigation measures described in this section require a preconstruction survey by a qualified biologist in all areas to be disturbed by Project construction no more than 7 days in advance of activities. Active bird nests identified during the survey effort shall be avoided until such time that the qualified biologist has determined that the nest(s) is vacant. Depending on the location of the active nest(s) the qualified biologist may establish a no-work buffer around the active nest. Implementation of Mitigation Measures IV-1, IV-2, and IV-3 would ensure the Project does not violate the MBTA.

Protection of Wetlands

The purpose of EO 11990 (May 24, 1977) is to “minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.” To meet these objectives, EO 11990 requires federal agencies, in planning their actions, to consider alternatives to wetland sites and limit potential damage if an activity affecting a wetland cannot be avoided. As described in Section IV Biological Resources, the proposed Project is not located within the vicinity of wetlands. As such, the Project will not significantly impact protected wetlands.

Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (SDWA) was established to protect the quality of drinking water in the U.S. This law focuses on all waters actually or potentially designed for drinking use, whether from above ground or underground sources. The SDWA authorizes EPA to establish minimum standards to protect tap water and requires all owners or operators of public water systems to comply with these primary (health-related) standards. Under the SDWA, EPA also establishes minimum standards for state programs to protect underground sources of drinking water from endangerment by underground injection of fluids. The proposed Project does not include excavation or use of fluids in the vicinity of drinking water supplies.

Wild and Scenic River Act

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 USC Section 1271 et seq.) establishes a National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS) for the protection of rivers with important scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, and other values. Rivers are classified as wild, scenic, or recreational. There are no wild and scenic rivers within the vicinity of the proposed Project. The nearest designated wild and scenic river is Bautista Creek located in the San Bernardino National Forest approximately 80 miles east of the Project site (NWSRS 2022).

XXIII. Alternatives

While CEQA does not require an alternatives analyses for IS/MNDs, the SRF Program requires an environmental alternative analysis for projects that have a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration. However, because the Project is requesting federal funding, the environmental document must comply with NEPA requirements. NEPA requires an alternatives analysis be performed for a Project. The alternatives analysis consists of the following components: an overview of CEQA requirements for alternatives analysis, descriptions of the alternatives evaluated, a comparison between the anticipated environmental effects of the alternatives and those of the Proposed Project, and identification of an environmentally superior alternative.

CEQA Alternatives Requirements

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126 requires that a reasonable range of alternatives to a proposed Project that can attain most of the basic Project objectives but has the potential to reduce or eliminate significant adverse impacts of the proposed Project and may be feasibly accomplished in a successful manner, considering the economic, environmental, social, and technological factors involved. An alternatives analysis must evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a), (d) and (e)). If certain alternatives are found to be infeasible, the analysis must explain the reasons and facts supporting that conclusion. Section 15126.6(d) also requires that, if an alternative would cause one or more significant effects in addition to those caused by a proposed Project, the significant effects of the alternative shall be discussed, but in less detail than the significant effects of the Project as proposed. One of the alternatives analyzed must be the “No Project” alternative (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e)). The analysis must also identify alternatives that were considered by the lead agency but were rejected as infeasible during the scoping process and should briefly explain the reasons underlying the lead agency’s determination (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(c)). CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e)(2) requires that the alternatives analysis identify the environmentally superior alternative. If that alternative is the No Project Alternative, the analysis shall also identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives. The environmentally superior alternative is discussed below.

Development of Project Alternatives

This section describes the assessment of reasonable alternatives. The primary objective is identifying potential alternatives and choosing which alternatives to analyze to ensure that the selection and discussion of alternatives fosters informed decision-making and informed public participation. This is accomplished by providing approach that avoids assessing an unmanageable number of alternatives or analyzing alternatives that differ too little or to provide no additional meaningful insights about environmental impacts.

The alternatives addressed in this IS/MND were selected in consideration of one or more of the following factors:

- The extent to which the alternative would avoid or reduce impacts of the project and would meet the basic objectives of the project.
- The feasibility of the alternative, taking into account site suitability and surrounding existing land uses, and consistency with applicable public plans, policies, and regulations.
- The appropriateness of the alternative in contributing to a reasonable range of alternatives

necessary to permit a reasoned choice.

Project Objectives

As noted above, the IS/MND includes a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project that would feasibly attain the basic Project objectives while avoiding or reducing one or more of the Project's impacts (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a)). In identifying the range of alternatives for analysis in this IS/MND, the Project objectives are identified below:

1. Improve reliability for water storage within Zone 600 and for water pumping within Zone 800
2. Update storage and pump facilities by replacing facilities that have reached end of useful life
3. Streamline pressure zone operations and provide continued water supply reliability within the Zones 600 and 800
4. Obtain funding for the Project through the SRF

Alternatives Description and Analysis

For the purposes of the alternatives analysis, because the Project includes replacing aging facilities within Zones 600 and 800, no off-site alternatives were analyzed because they would not meet Project objectives of supporting reliability and increased storage within these Zones. The alternatives analysis included are the No Project Alternative and the Preferred Project.

- **No Project Alternative:**

Under CEQA Guidelines 15126.6(e) (1) a No Project Alternative must be analyzed. The following analyzes the environmental impacts under the No Project Alternative. Under this Alternative, no construction would occur and no new pump station or new water tank would be constructed. No new piping or other appurtenances would be installed. The existing facilities would continue to degrade and could result in failure of the facilities.

The No Project Alternative would reduce impacts on Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Traffic because no construction would occur. However, the No Project Alternative would not meet the objectives of the Project because it would not improve reliability of water storage or upgrade deteriorating facilities. Table XXIII-1 summarizes the potential impacts of the No Project Alternative compared with the proposed Project. The No Project Alternative would have the least impacts on the physical environment compared with the proposed Project making the No Project Alternative the Environmentally Superior Project. However, CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e)(2) requires that when the No Project Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative, another project alternative must be identified as the environmentally superior alternative. The No Project Alternative does not meet any of the objectives of the proposed Project. The impacts associated with the proposed Project would be temporary during construction and would not result in significant impacts on the environment. The proposed Project meets the stated objectives of the Project and would therefore be the environmentally superior alternative.

Table XXIII-1 Alternatives Impacts Comparison

Resource Area	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative
Aesthetics	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Air Quality	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Agricultural and Forestry Resources	No Impact	No Impact
Biological Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	No Impact
Cultural Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	No Impact
Geology and Soils	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Greenhouse Gases	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Hazards and Hazardous Resources	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Hydrology and Water Quality	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Land Use	No Impact	No Impact

Mineral Resources	No Impact	No Impact
Noise	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Population and House	No Impact	No Impact
Public Services	No Impact	No Impact
Recreation	No Impact	No Impact
Transportation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Tribal Cultural Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	No Impact
Utilities	No Impact	No Impact
Wildfire	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact

A. Report Preparers

ARCADIS U.S., Inc.

Lee Miles, AICP, Principal Environmental Planner

Conrad Mulligan, Principal Environmental Planner

Bryan Chen, Senior Environmental Engineer

Rosemarie Pavell, RPA, Archeologist

Jeffrey Loving, Senior CADD Specialist

Robin Simon, Technical Editor

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APPENDIX A

**RIM ROCK RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT, LAGUNA BEACH, CA
CULTURAL RESOURCES APPENDIX**

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY LETTER REPORT

Talitha Crain
Arcadis U.S., Inc.
320 Commerce Suite 200
Irvine CA 92602

ARCADIS U.S., Inc.
100 Smith Ranch Road
Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903
415-491-4530
www.arcadis.com

Subject:

Cultural Resources Assessment Letter Report of the Proposed Rim Rock Canyon Project Area, City of Laguna Beach, California

Dear Ms. Crain:

Arcadis Cultural Resources Lead, Brian Glenn, conducted a cultural resources pedestrian survey of the undeveloped portions of the Rim Rock Canyon Project Area on January 18, 2017 (Figure 1). The Rim Rock Canyon and Temple Hills facilities are fully developed and were not subjected to survey. Build dates in excess of 50 years will require an evaluation of the structures for California Register of Historical Resources-eligibility (CRHR).

Survey was informed by a cultural resources records search of the Project Area and surrounding area. No previously identified resources were identified within the proposed Project Area as a result of the records search.

Survey included the section of Temple Hills Drive that connects the two facilities and an open lot on the north side of Rim Rock Canyon Road. Private properties were not subjected to survey. Survey of the Temple Hills Drive segment consisted of a single transect with inspection of street-front landscaped areas. Survey of the Rim Rock Canyon Road portion consisted of parallel transects spaced not greater than 15 meters apart. Neither areas produced prehistoric or historic-era cultural resources. Recent historic debris were noted.

No further cultural resources investigations, aside from the CRHR-evaluation, are recommended.

ENVIRONMENT

Date:
March 13, 2017

Contact:
Brian Glenn

Phone:
714.345.9883

Email:
Brian.Glenn@arcadis.com

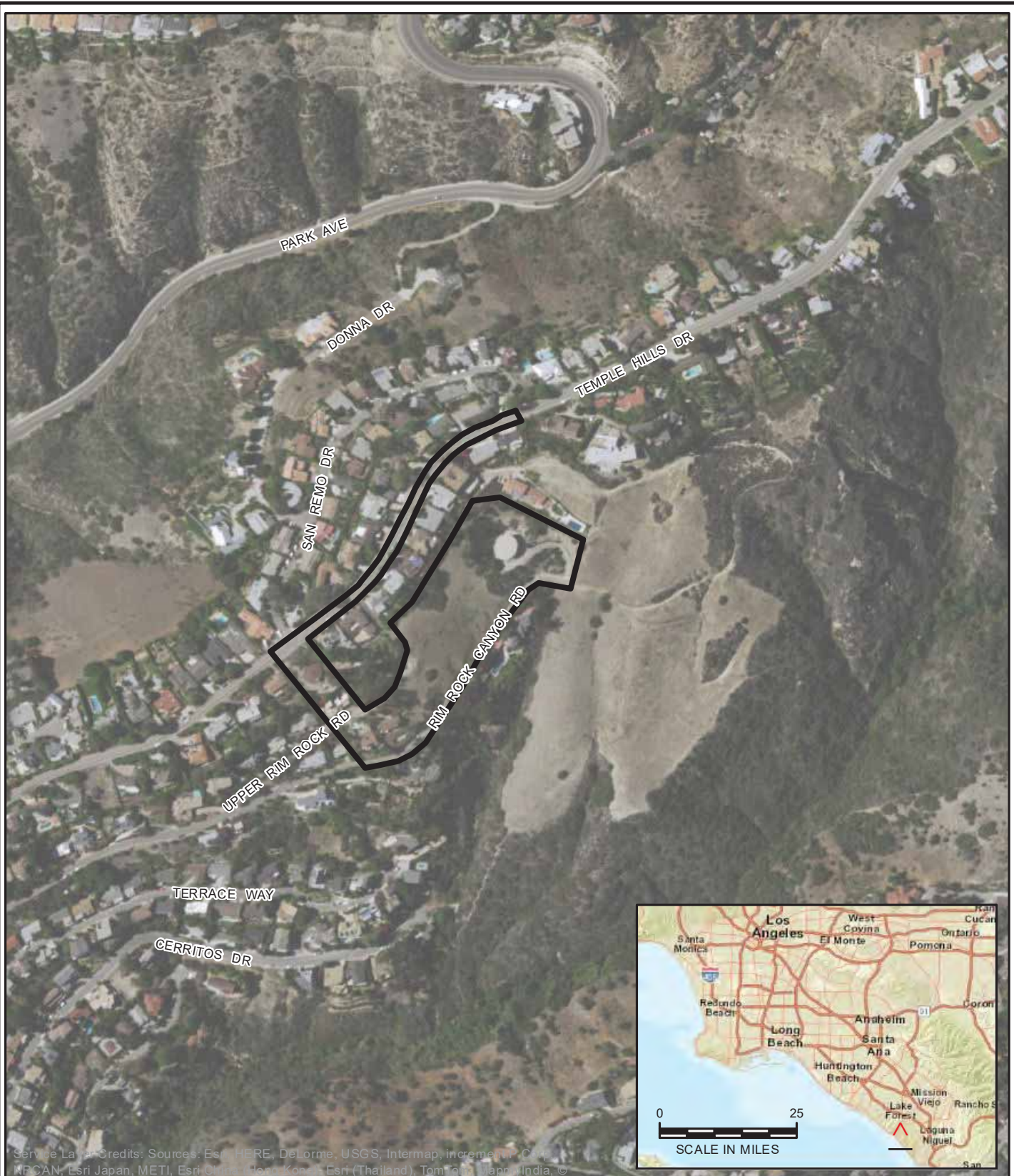
Talitha Crain
March 13, 2017

Sincerely,
Arcadis U.S., Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Glenn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "G".

Brian Glenn
Arcadis Cultural Resources Lead

CITY: (KNOXVILLE) DIV/GROUP: (ENV/GIS) LD: (BALTIMO) PIC: (J.THAYER) PM: () TM: (B.GLENN)
 PROJECT: 05953004.0000.00200 PATH: G:\GIS\RIMROCKRESERVOIRICA_LEGUNA\BACHMAP\DOCS\2017\F1LBRR_AB52_SITE_MAP.MXD SAVED: 1/27/2017 BY: BALTIMO



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Mainland), Swisstopo, Esri (Thailand), TomTom, Swire, India, ©

PROJECTION: NAD 1983 StatePlane California VI FIPS 0406 Feet
 SOURCE: ESRI Online Imagery (NAIP, May 2014).

LEGEND

 Project Boundary



RIM ROCK RESERVOIR
 LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA
 AB52 LETTER

Site Map



FIGURE
 1

RIM ROCK RESERVOIR & PUMP STATION PROJECT, LAGUNA BEACH, CA
TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES APPENDIX

South Central Coastal Information Center

California State University, Fullerton
Department of Anthropology MH-426
800 North State College Boulevard
Fullerton, CA 92834-6846
657.278.5395 / FAX 657.278.5542

sccic@fullerton.edu

California Historical Resources Information System
Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties

4/6/2022

Records Search File No.: 23599.9668

Rosemarie Pavel
Arcadis-US
101 Creekside Ridge Ct
Roseville CA 95678

Re: Records Search Results for the Rim Rock Reservoir & Pump Station Project

The South Central Coastal Information Center received your records search request for the project area referenced above, located on the Laguna Beach, CA USGS 7.5' quadrangle. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, we have temporarily implemented new records search protocols. With the exception of some reports that have not yet been scanned, we are operationally digital for Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura Counties. See attached document for your reference on what data is available in this format. The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and a ¼-mile radius:

As indicated on the data request form, the locations of resources and reports are provided in the following format: custom GIS maps shape files hand drawn maps

Resources within project area: 0	None
Resources within 1/4-mile radius: 2	SEE ATTACHED LIST
Reports within project area: 1	OR-04179
Reports within ¼-mile radius: 2	SEE ATTACHED LIST

- Resource Database Printout (list):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Database Printout (details):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Digital Database (spreadsheet):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (list):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (details):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Digital Database (spreadsheet):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Record Copies:** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Copies:** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- OHP Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) 2019:** available online; please go to https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30338
- Archaeo Determinations of Eligibility 2012:** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Historical Maps:** enclosed not requested nothing listed

Ethnographic Information: not available at SCCIC
Historical Literature: not available at SCCIC
GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps: not available at SCCIC
Caltrans Bridge Survey: not available at SCCIC; please go to
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/structur/strmaint/historic.htm>
Shipwreck Inventory: not available at SCCIC; please go to
http://shipwrecks.slc.ca.gov/ShipwrecksDatabase/Shipwrecks_Database.asp
Soil Survey Maps: (see below) not available at SCCIC; please go to
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

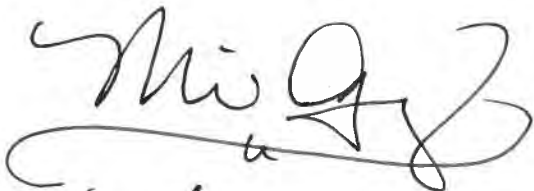
Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you do not include resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at the phone number listed above.

The provision of CHRIS Data via this records search response does not in any way constitute public disclosure of records otherwise exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act or any other law, including, but not limited to, records related to archeological site information maintained by or on behalf of, or in the possession of, the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, or the State Historical Resources Commission.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the record search number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Thank you for using the [California Historical Resources Information System](#),



Michelle Galaz Cornforth
Assistant Coordinator

Digitally signed by Michelle
Galaz Cornforth
Date: 2022.04.06 15:17:00 -07'00'

Enclosures:

(X) Emergency Protocols for LA, Orange, and Ventura County BULK Processing Standards – 2 pages

(X) GIS Shapefiles – 5 shapes

(X) Report Digital Database (spreadsheet) – 3 lines

(X) Resource Record Copies – (all) – 3 pages

(X) Report Copies – (within project area) – 16 pages

(X) Historical Maps – 8 pages

(X) Invoice # 23599.9668

Emergency Protocols for LA, Orange, and Ventura County BULK or SINGLE PROJECT Records Searches IF YOU HAVE A GIS PERSON ON STAFF ONLY!!

These instructions are for qualified consultants with a valid Access and Use Agreement.

WE ARE ONLY PROVIDING DATA THAT IS ALREADY DIGITAL AT THIS TIME. SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY IS NOT DIGITAL AND THESE INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY.

Some of you have a fully digital operation and have GIS staff on board who can process a fully digital deliverable from the Information Center. If you can accept shape file data and do not require a custom map made for you by the SCCIC, and you are willing to sort the data we provide to you then these instructions are for you. Read further to be sure. You may have only one project at this time or some of you have a lot of different search locations that can be processed all at once. This may save you a lot of time getting results back and if we process your jobs in bulk, and you may enjoy significant cost savings as well. If you need individual invoice or summaries for each search location, then bulk processing is not for you and you need to submit a data request form for each search location.

Bulk processing will work for you if you have a GIS person on staff who can sort bulk data for you and make you any necessary project maps. This type of job can have as many job locations as you want but the point is that we will do them in bulk – at the same time - not one at a time. We send all the bulk data back to you and you sort it. This will work if you need searches in LA, Orange, or Ventura AND if they all have the same search radius and if all the other search criteria is the same– no exceptions. This will not work for San Bernardino County because we are not fully digital for San Bernardino County. You must submit all your shape files for each location at the same time and this will count as one search. If you have some that need a different radius, or different search criteria, then you should submit that job separately with its own set of instructions.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BULK PROCESSING:

Please send in your requests via email using the data request form along with the associated shape files and pdf maps of the project area(s) at 1-24k scale. PDFs must be able to be printed out on 8.5X 11 paper. We check your shape file data against the pdf maps. This is where we find discrepancies between your shape files and your maps. This is required.

Please use this data request form and make sure you fill it out properly.

<http://web.sonoma.edu/nwic/docs/CHRISDataRequestForm.pdf>

DELIVERABLES:

1. A copy of the Built Environment Resources Directory or BERD for Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, or San Bernardino County can now be found at the OHP Website for you to do your own research. This replaces the old Historic Properties Directory or HPD. We will not be searching this for you at this time but you can search it while you are waiting for our results to save time.

You will only get shapefiles back, which means that you will have to make your own maps for each project location. WARNING! If you don't request the shape files, you won't be able to tell which reports are in the project area or the search radius. Please note that you are charged for

each map feature even if you opt out of receiving shape files. You cannot get secondary products such as bibliographies or pdfs of records in the project area or search radius if you don't pay for the primary products (shape files) as this is the scaffolding upon which the secondary products are derived. If you do not understand the digital fee structure, ask before we process your request and send you data. You can find the digital fee structure on the OHP website under the CHRIS tab. In order to keep costs down, you must be willing to make adjustments to the search radius or what you are expecting to receive as part of the search. Remember that some areas are loaded with data and others are sparse – our fees will reflect that.

2. You will get a bulk processed bibliographies for resources and reports as selected; you will not get individual bibliographies for each project location.
3. You will get pdfs of resources and reports if you request them, provided that they are in digital formats. We will not be scanning records or reports at this time.
4. You will get one invoice for the bulk data processing. We can't bill this as individual jobs on separate invoices for you. If there are multiple project names, we are willing to reference all the job names on the invoice if needed. If there a lot of job id's we may ask you to send them in an email so that we can copy and paste it into the invoice details. If you need to bill your clients for the data, you can refer to our fee schedule on the OHP website under the CHRIS tab and apply the fees accordingly.
5. We will be billing you at the staff rate of \$150 per hour and you will be charged for all resources and report locations according to the CHRIS Fee Structure. (\$12 per GIS shape file; 0.15 per pdf page, or 0.25 per excel line; quad fees will apply if your research includes more than 2 quads). Discounts offered early on in our Covid-19 response will no longer be offered on any records searched submitted after October 5th, 2020.
6. Your packet will be sent to you electronically via Dropbox. We use 7-zip to password protect the files so you will need both on your computers. We email you the password. If you can't use Dropbox for some reason, then you will need to provide us with your Fed ex account number and we will ship you a disc with the results. As a last resort, we will ship on a disc via the USPS. You may be billed for our shipping and handling costs.

I may not have been able to cover every possible contingency in this set of instructions and will update it if necessary. You can email me with questions at sccic@fullerton.edu

Thank you,

Stacy St. James
South Central Coastal Information Center

Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, and San Bernardino Counties

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 28, 2022

Rosemarie Pavel
Arcadis U.S., Inc.Via Email to: rosemarie.pavel@arcadis.com

Re: Rim Rock Pump Station Project, Orange County

Dear Ms. Pavel:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation - Belardes on the attached list for information. Please note that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. A SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites, such as the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) archaeological Information Center for the presence of recorded archaeological sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. Please contact all of those listed; if they cannot supply information, they may recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Cody.Campagne@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


Cody Campagne
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
ChumashPARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
KarukSECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
MiwokCOMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
ApacheCOMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-CostanoanCOMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
NomlakiCOMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
LuiseñoCOMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
KumeyaayEXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C.
Hitchcock
Miwok/NisenanNAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Orange County
4/28/2022**

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation

Andrew Salas, Chairperson
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA, 91723
Phone: (626) 926 - 4131
admin@gabrielenoindians.org

Gabrieleno

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians

Sonia Johnston, Chairperson
P.O. Box 25628
Santa Ana, CA, 92799
sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net

Juaneno

Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians

Anthony Morales, Chairperson
P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, CA, 91778
Phone: (626) 483 - 3564
Fax: (626) 286-1262
GTTRibalcouncil@aol.com

Gabrieleno

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation - Belardes

Joyce Perry, Tribal Manager
4955 Paseo Segovia
Irvine, CA, 92603
Phone: (949) 293 - 8522
kaamalam@gmail.com

Juaneno

Gabrielino /Tongva Nation

Sandonne Goad, Chairperson
106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St.,
#231
Los Angeles, CA, 90012
Phone: (951) 807 - 0479
sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com

Gabrielino

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation - Belardes

Matias Belardes, Chairperson
32161 Avenida Los Amigos
San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675
Phone: (949) 293 - 8522
kaamalam@gmail.com

Juaneno

Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council

Christina Conley, Tribal
Consultant and Administrator
P.O. Box 941078
Simi Valley, CA, 93094
Phone: (626) 407 - 8761
christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu

Gabrielino

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation 84A

Heidi Lucero, Chairperson
31411-A La Matanza Street
San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675
Phone: (562) 879 - 2884
hllucero105@gmail.com

Juaneno

Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council

Robert Dorame, Chairperson
P.O. Box 490
Bellflower, CA, 90707
Phone: (562) 761 - 6417
Fax: (562) 761-6417
gtongva@gmail.com

Gabrielino

La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians

Norma Contreras, Chairperson
22000 Highway 76
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061
Phone: (760) 742 - 3771

Luiseno

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe

Charles Alvarez,
23454 Vanowen Street
West Hills, CA, 91307
Phone: (310) 403 - 6048
roadkingcharles@aol.com

Gabrielino

Pala Band of Mission Indians

Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic
Preservation Officer
PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula
Rd.
Pala, CA, 92059
Phone: (760) 891 - 3515
Fax: (760) 742-3189
sgaughen@palatribe.com

Cupeno
Luiseno

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Rim Rock Pump Station Project, Orange County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Orange County
4/28/2022**

Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians

Temet Aguilar, Chairperson
P.O. Box 369 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061
Phone: (760) 742 - 1289
Fax: (760) 742-3422
bennaecalac@aol.com

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians

Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair
P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700
Fax: (951) 659-2228
lsaul@santarosa-nsn.gov

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural
Resource Department
P.O. BOX 487 Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno
Phone: (951) 663 - 5279
Fax: (951) 654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson
P. O. Box 487 Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno
Phone: (951) 654 - 5544
Fax: (951) 654-4198
ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Rim Rock Pump Station Project, Orange County.

AB 52 OUTREACH LOG

