City of Fontana

SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT
INITIAL STUDY AND
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

June 2020

Prepared by:

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE IS/MND

This section of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) describes the intended uses of the IS/MND, documents incorporated by reference, and the process and procedures governing the preparation of the environmental document. Included in this section is a discussion of issues determined to be less than significant. This section also identifies topic areas of discussion and analysis in the IS/MND and provides an outline of the document format.

1.1 Format and Content of the IS/MND

The following components comprise the IS/MND in its entirety:

Section 1.0 Introduction and Purpose provides a discussion of the document's purpose, format and content, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, the planning context under which the document was prepared, the Initial Study findings, a summary of the public review and processing of the document, and a listing of the technical reports used to prepare the document.

Section 2.0 Project Description provides a detailed description of the proposed Project, and the discretionary actions required to implement the Project.

Section 3.0 Initial Study/Environmental Checklist provides the completed Initial Study and its associated analyses and mitigation measures which document the reasons to support the findings and conclusions of the Initial Study.

Section 4.0 References lists all plans, policies, regulatory requirements, and other documentation that are incorporated by reference in this document pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15150.

Section 5.0 Preparers lists all the persons who were involved in the preparation of the IS/MND.

1.2 Purpose of the IS/MND

This document is an IS/MND prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including all criteria, standards, and procedures of CEQA (California Public Resource Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15000 et seq.).

This IS/MND is an informational document intended for use by the City of Fontana, City Council, Planning Commission, and Responsible agencies, and members of the general public in evaluating the physical environmental effects of the proposed Project. This IS/MND was compiled by the City of Fontana with the assistance of Michael Baker International (Baker). The City of Fontana is serving as the Lead Agency for the proposed Project pursuant to CEQA §21067 and CEQA Guidelines Article 4 and §15367. "Lead Agency" refers to the public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a Project.

1.2.1 CEQA Objectives

CEQA (Public Resources Code §21000, et seq.) requires that before a public agency makes a decision to approve a Project that could have one or more adverse effects on the physical environment, the agency must inform itself about the Project's potential environmental impacts, give the public an opportunity to comment on the environmental issues, and take feasible measures to avoid or reduce potential harm to the physical environment.

The principal objectives of CEQA are to: 1) inform governmental decision makers and the public about the potential, significant environmental effects of proposed activities; 2) identify the ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced; 3) prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in Projects through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures when the governmental agency finds the changes to be feasible; and 4) disclose to the public the reasons why a governmental agency approved the Project in the manner the agency chose if significant environmental effects are involved.

1.2.2 CEQA Requirements for MNDs

A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is a written statement by the Lead Agency briefly describing the reasons a proposed Project, which is not exempt from the requirements of CEQA, will not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore, does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (CEQA Guidelines § 15371).

The CEQA Guidelines require the preparation of an MND if the Initial Study prepared for a Project identifies potentially significant effects, but: 1) revisions in the Project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by the Project proponent before a proposed MND and Initial Study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur; and 2) there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency, that the Project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment. If the potentially significant effects associated with a Project cannot be mitigated to a level below significance, then an EIR must be prepared (CEQA Guidelines § 15070[b]).

1.2.3 CEQA Requirements for Environmental Setting and Baseline Conditions

CEQA Guidelines §15125 establishes requirements for defining the environmental setting to which the environmental effects of a proposed Project must be compared. The environmental setting is defined as "…the physical environmental conditions in the vicinity of the Project, as they exist at the time the Notice of Preparation (NOP) is published, or if no NOP is published, at the time the environmental analysis is commenced…" (CEQA Guidelines §15125[a]).

In the case of the proposed Project, the Initial Study determined that an MND is the appropriate form of CEQA compliance document, which does not require a Notice of Preparation (NOP). Thus, the environmental setting for the proposed Project is the approximate date that the Project's environmental analysis commenced. Accordingly, the environmental setting for the proposed Project is defined as the physical environmental conditions on the proposed Project site and in the vicinity of the proposed Project as they existed in 2016 when the planning process for this Project began. While the Project timeline has taken longer than originally planned, given the Project setting of an existing flood control maintenance road, conditions at the site are unlikely to have materially changed in the interim).

1.3 Planning Context

1.3.1 Governing Body

The cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga are incorporated communities in southwestern San Bernardino County, California. Although a portion of the Project alignment falls within Rancho Cucamonga's city limits, the City of Fontana is the Project Applicant of funding through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), administered by the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation. As such, the approval of the proposed Project falls with the jurisdiction of the City of Fontana.

Development activities that occur in the City are addressed by the City of Fontana General Plan Update 2015-2035 and the City of Fontana Municipal Code.

1.3.2 General Plan

As described above, the prevailing planning document for the proposed Project site is the City of Fontana General Plan Update 2015-2035, which went into effect on November 13, 2018.

The General Plan serves as the major tool for directing growth within the City and presents a comprehensive plan to accommodate the City's growth. Vision statements within the Plan serve as a guide for the plan and its implementation. Based on the vision, proposals and initiatives can be analyzed to determine if they are in accordance with the long-range future potential of the City, and thus, beneficial to the community.

There are eight elements of the General Plan that are mandated by the State: Land Use; Circulation; Housing; Open Space; Conservation; Safety; Noise; and Environmental Justice. In addition, the City has adopted the following optional elements: Community and Neighborhoods; Health and Wellness; Economy, Education and Workforce Development; Public and Community Services; Infrastructure and Green Systems; Sustainability and Resilience; and Conservation, Open Space, Parks and Trails.

1.3.3 General Plan Land Use Designations

The General Plan land use designation for the 0.30-mile portion of the Project within Fontana's city limits is Regional Mixed Use (RMU). The General Plan land use designation for the 0.95-mile portion of the Project within Rancho Cucamonga's city limits is Flood Control/Utility Corridor.

The Regional Mixed Use (RMU) land use designation allows for a range of uses (commercial, light industrial, and residential) that have a Floor to Area Ratio (FAR) of 0.1 to 1.0 for non-residential and 12-24 dwelling units per acre for residential. These may include employee-intensive uses, including research and development facilities, general commercial uses, corporate business parks, service business offices, light manufacturing, warehouse retail, entertainment centers, hotels and convention centers, professional business offices, day care centers, and public open space. Multi-family residential units are also permitted within the RMU designation.

A summary of existing General Plan Land Use and Zoning designations for the Project site and surrounding areas is provided in Table 1.3-1, Existing General Plan and Zoning Designations.

1.3.4 Zoning

Of the total 1.25-mile Project alignment length, approximately 0.30 miles fall within Fontana's city limits and approximately 0.95 miles fall within Rancho Cucamonga's city limits. As such, the zoning designations for both Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga were reviewed. The zoning designation for the 0.30-mile portion of the Project within Fontana's city limits is Specific Plan; specifically, the Project falls within the Westgate Specific Plan boundaries. The zoning designation for the 0.95-mile portion of the Project within Rancho Cucamonga's city's limits is Specific Plan (SP-E); specifically, the Project falls within the Etiwanda Specific Plan boundaries. The proposed Project would comply with both of the existing zoning designations.

The area within the Westgate Specific Plan contains a mix of commercial, residential, school and open space land uses; however, due to this area's proximity to the I-15 Freeway, this area was designed to become a major commercial regional center within the Inland Empire and to contribute to the City's economic and employment base.

The area within the Etiwanda Specific Plan can be described as a rural community, characterized by large land parcels, eucalyptus tree rows, remnants of citrus groves and vineyards, stone curbs, and other elements that convey its unique and historic sense of place. The main purpose of the Etiwanda Specific Plan is to sustain the continued rural character of this portion of the City.

Table 1.3-1: Existing General Plan and Zoning Designations

Location	City of Fontana General Plan Designation	City of Fontana Zoning Designation	City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Designation	City of Rancho Cucamonga Zoning Designation
Project Site (1.25-mile trail alignment)	Regional Mixed Use (RMU)	Specific Plan (Westgate Specific Plan)	Flood Control/Utility Corridor	Specific Plan (Etiwanda Specific Plan)
North	City of Rancho Cucamonga city limits; I-15 Freeway	City of Rancho Cucamonga city limits; I-15 Freeway	Low Density Residential; Flood Control/Utility Corridor	Specific Plan (Etiwanda Specific Plan)
South	Residential Planned Community (R-PC)	Specific Plan (Westgate Specific Plan)	City of Fontana city limits; I-15 Freeway	City of Fontana city limits; I-15 Freeway
East	Regional Mixed Use (RMU)	Specific Plan (Westgate Specific Plan)	Flood Control/Utility Corridor	Specific Plan (Etiwanda Specific Plan)
West	Regional Mixed Use (RMU)	Specific Plan (Westgate Specific Plan)	Very Low and Low Density Residential; Flood Control/Utility Corridor	Specific Plan (Etiwanda Specific Plan)

1.3.5 San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan

The *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan* was prepared by the City in December 2015 in order to establish a continuous north/south alignment and determine a set of design standards for the San Sevaine Trail and its various spur trails within the existing constraints of the San Sevaine Channel, power line easement, and various channel, road, freeway, and railroad crossings. The proposed Project is subject to the goals, objectives, and policies contained within the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan.*

1.4 Initial Study Findings

Section 2.0 of this document contains the Environmental Checklist/Initial Study that was prepared for the proposed Project pursuant to CEQA requirements. The Environmental Checklist/Initial Study determined that implementation of the proposed Project would result in no impacts or less than significant environmental effects under the issue areas of Aesthetics, Agriculture, Air Quality, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfires.

The Environmental Checklist/Initial Study determined that the proposed Project would result in less significant effects with mitigation incorporated to the following issue areas: Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Tribal Cultural Resources.

The Environmental Checklist/Initial Study determined that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the Lead Agency (City of Fontana), that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment.

1.5 Public Review and Processing of the IS/MND

The City of Fontana directed and supervised the preparation of this IS/MND. Although prepared with the assistance of the consulting firm, Michael Baker International (Baker), the content contained within and conclusions drawn by this IS/MND is the responsibility of the City of Fontana.

This IS/MND and a Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt the IS/MND shall be distributed to the following entities for a 30-day public review period:

1) organizations and individuals who have previously requested such notice in writing to the City of Fontana;
2) responsible and trustee agencies (public agencies that have a level of discretionary approval over some component of the proposed Project);
3) the San Bernardino County Clerk; and
4) the State Clearinghouse.

The NOI also will be noticed to the general public in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed Project in accordance with Section 15072 of the CEQA Guidelines. The NOI identifies the location(s) where the IS/MND and technical reports are available for public review. During the 30-day public review period, comments on the adequacy of the IS/MND document may be submitted to the City of Fontana.

Following the 30-day public review period, the City of Fontana will review any comment letters received and determine whether any substantive comments were provided that may warrant revisions to the IS/MND document. If substantial revisions are not necessary (as defined by CEQA Guidelines §15073.5(b), then the IS/MND will be finalized and forwarded to the City of Fontana for review as part of their deliberations concerning the proposed Project.

The City of Fontana has exclusive authority to approve, conditionally approve, or deny the Project. Public comments will be heard and considered at the hearings. At the conclusion of the public hearing process, the City Council will take action to approve, conditionally approve, or deny the proposed Project. If approved, the City will adopt findings relative to the Project's environmental effects as disclosed in the IS and a Notice of Determination (NOD) will be filed with the San Bernardino County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Summary

The proposed Project consists of the expansion of Segment 2 of the existing Class I San Sevaine Trail, by adding a new 1.25-mile trail segment within the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. The Project would involve converting an existing maintenance road, which currently runs parallel to the Etiwanda flood control channel, into a section of trail, and filling the gaps in the new linear path. The new trail segment would provide a direct connection to the existing 21-mile Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail at the Project's southern terminus, approximately 0.25 miles south of Victoria Street. The Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, in turn, provides connectivity to the 30-mile Santa Ana River Trail. This regional trail connection is a key component of the proposed Project, as it is anticipated to enhance non-motorized access in the area and encourage increased trail use for both recreation and transportation purposes.

As described in the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan* prepared by the City in December 2015, the San Sevaine Trail is the only north-south Class I bike path in the Inland Empire. The San Sevaine Trail is a fragmented, incomplete trail system, and there is currently only one complete trail segment (1.4 miles). The trail in its entirety is planned to be 11 miles long at buildout, extending from Wilson Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga and Duncan Canyon Road in Fontana, south to the power line easement at Country Village Golf Course in Jurupa Valley. The San Sevaine Creek channel right-of-way, owned by the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, is a defining feature of the area. This channel corridor maintenance road will provide the primary spine for the San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Network through San Bernardino County, and the trail network will be comprised of three separate segments: North, Central, and South segments. The proposed Project is part of the North segment.

2.2 Project Location

The proposed Project is located within the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga in southwestern San Bernardino County. The Project limits are from the Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail in the City of Fontana to Banyan Street in the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Of the total 1.25-mile Project alignment length, approximately 0.30 miles are within Fontana's city limits and approximately 0.95 miles are within Rancho Cucamonga's city limits. Refer to Exhibits 2-1, *Regional Vicinity* and 2-2, *Project Site*.

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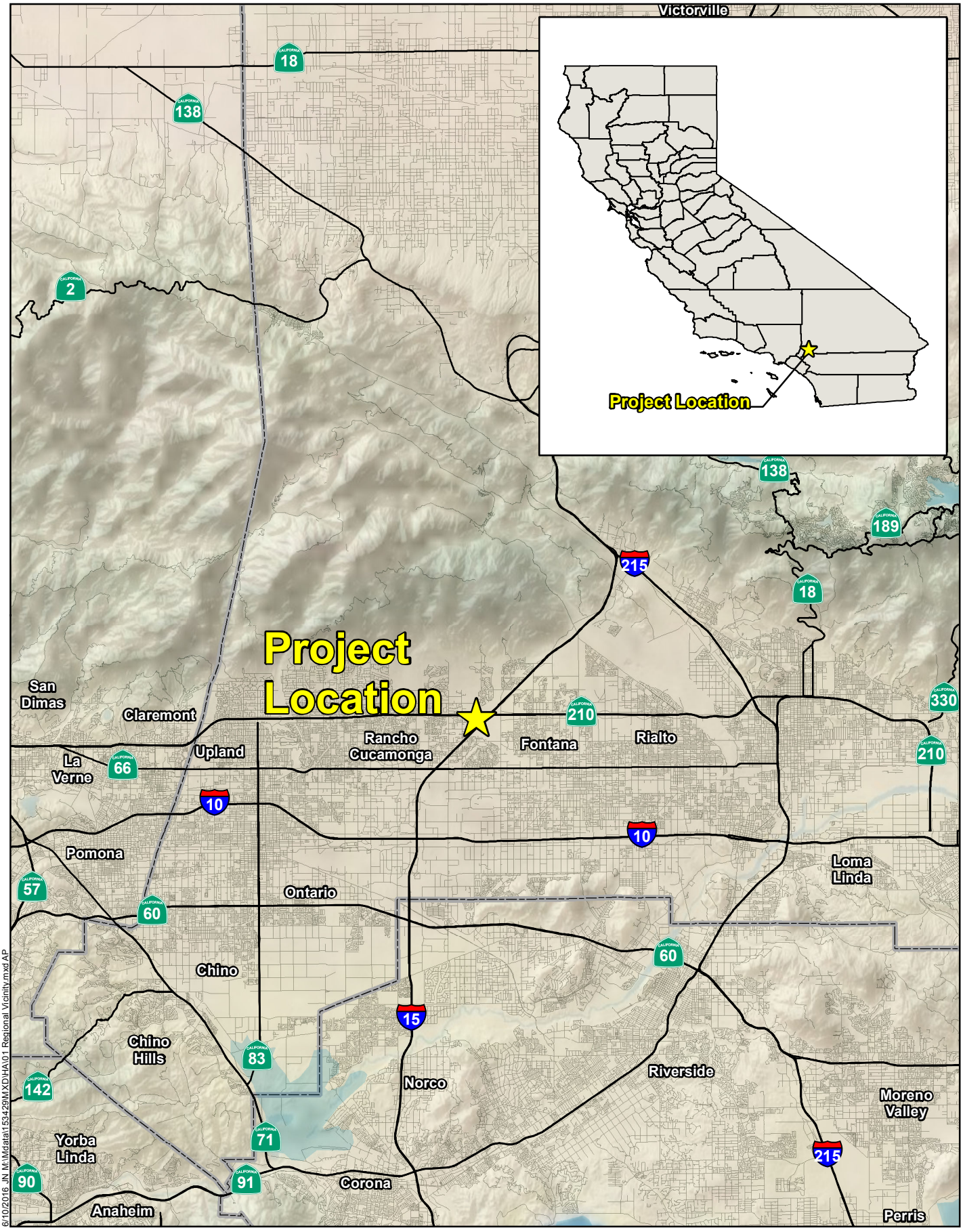

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SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Source: ESRI Relief Map, National Highway Planning Network

Regional Vicinity

Exhibit 2-1

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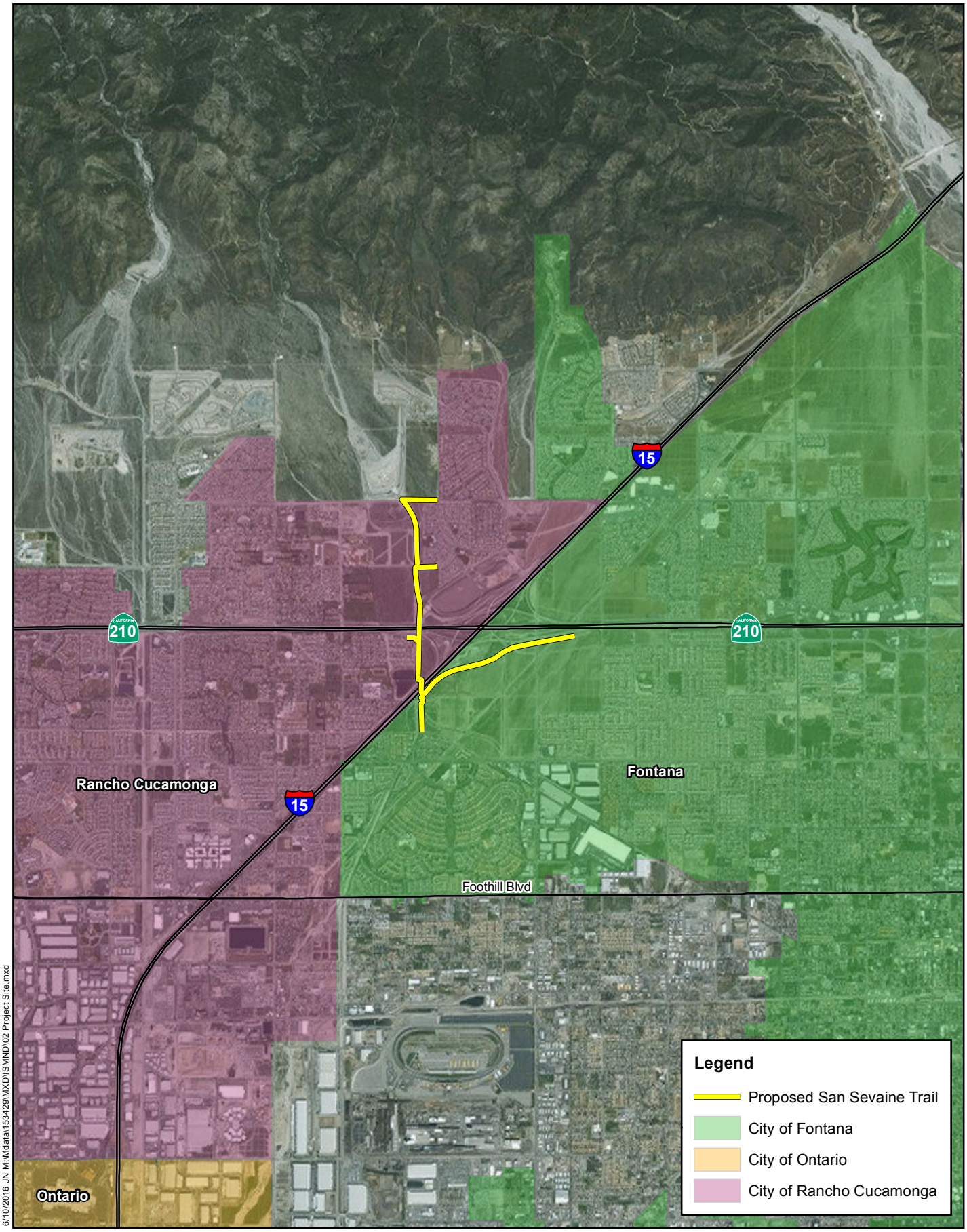

6/10/2016 JN M:\Mdata\153429\MXD\ISMND\02 Project Site.mxd

SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Site

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Source: San Bernardino County, RRM Design Group, ESRI World Imagery

Exhibit 2-2

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2.3 Existing Site Conditions

The Project site is located within a disturbed dirt and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the Etiwanda flood control channel. The areas immediately surrounding the maintenance road consist largely of undeveloped native habitat areas, the Etiwanda flood control channel, two urbanized residential areas, and two freeways: State Route 210 (SR-210) and Interstate 15 (I-15). The flood control channel consists of an approximately 25-foot-wide concrete box channel. The channel is fenced from surrounding areas and incorporates several undercrossings where it intersects with city streets and the freeways.

The Project site is adjacent to dense residential neighborhoods, as well as several community facilities including the Etiwanda Creek Community and Dog Park located 0.5 miles west of the Project's northerly limits; a skating rink located 0.65 miles southwest of the Project's southerly limits; and four public high schools containing a combined student population of approximately 5,900 students within a 2-mile radius of the Project site. In addition, the Victoria Street Park and Ride is located immediately east of the southerly portion of the Project site, from which approximately 1,000 residents connect to the Metrolink station daily.

The Project site is located within an area designated by the City of Fontana General Plan to have the potential to house sensitive species including raptors and shrikes, and there is also mapped critical habitat for San Bernardino kangaroo rat (SBKR) along a portion of the trail alignment, between SR-210 and Banyan Street.

2.4 Proposed Improvements

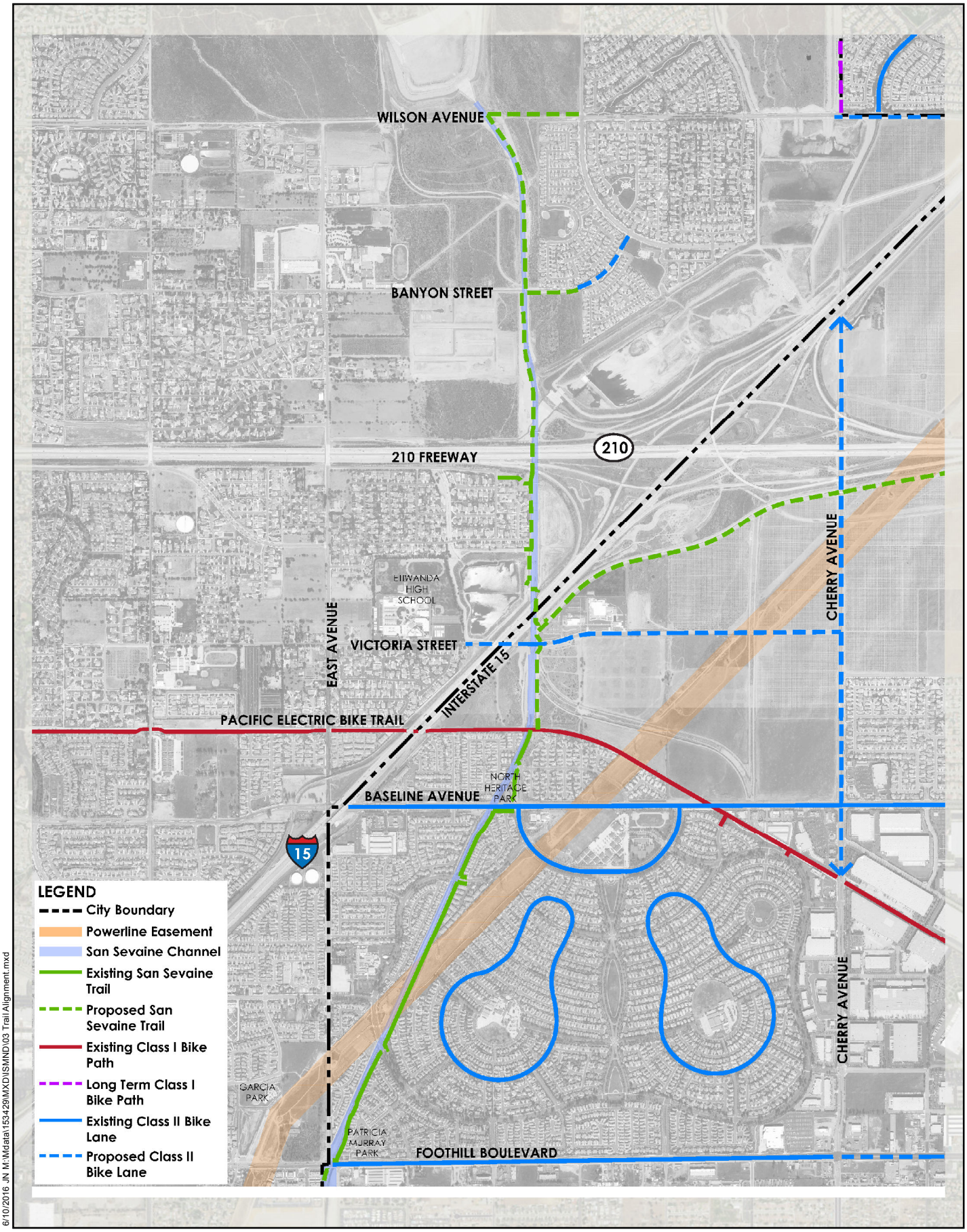
Implementation of the proposed Project would involve the construction of a 1.25-mile-long new asphalt trail for use by bicyclists and pedestrians within the Etiwanda flood control channel right-of-way. The trail alignment would run parallel to the existing flood control channel, as it would utilize the existing flood control maintenance road that currently runs parallel to the flood control channel. The new segment of the San Sevaine Trail is planned to generally be a continuous 12-foot-wide asphalt path, narrowing to 8- to 10-foot-wide in some places, with 2-foot shoulders, and would include four granite block benches, LED lighting, directional and interpretive trail signage, a chain link fence, potable water connection, and striping and pavement legend to alert users of the bike lane. Refer to Exhibit 2-3, *Trail Alignment.*

The proposed trail would be completely separate from major roadways and would be classified as a Class I bicycle and pedestrian path, and the entire length of the trail alignment would traverse the west side of the Etiwanda flood control channel. However, the trail alignment would cross two freeway underpass structures (SR-210 and I-15) and one major roadway (Victoria Street), as described below.

SR-210 and I-15: The existing flat surface on the west side of the Etiwanda Channel would be paved to cross under the I-15 along the abutment wall. In addition, under bridge clearances on both the south and northbound I-15 undercrossing, and the SR-210 undercrossing, along the channel would require excavation and construction of retaining walls. This work would be coordinated with Caltrans District 8, including the procurement of encroachment permits.

Victoria Street: A signalized mid-block crossing would be installed in order to connect south across Victoria Street to the west bank of the Etiwanda Channel.

Construction would potentially begin in the summer of 2020, would continue for approximately nine months, and would include site preparation, asphalt paving, landscaping, and installation of lighted bollards, signage, benches, and fences. Construction would involve the use of various types of construction equipment including tractors/loaders/backhoes, forklifts, welders, a paver, rollers, and small-scale equipment such as air compressors, trenchers, mixers, and saws. Equipment would be stored onsite when not in use in designated staging areas along the trail alignment. Operation of the Project would commence in 2021.



6/10/2016 JN M:\Mdata\153429\MXD\ISMND\03 Trail Alignment.mxd

SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

Source: RRM Design Group

Trail Alignment

Exhibit 2-3

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3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1. Project Title and File Number:
San Sevaine Trail Project, Segment 2
2. Lead Agency Name and Address:
City of Fontana, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335
3. Project Location:
Etiwanda Flood Control Channel in the Cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga, CA
4. Lead Agency Contact Person(s) and Phone Numbers:
Kimberly Young (909) 350-7632
5. 5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:
City of Fontana, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335
6. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) – Local Assistance

3.0.1 Evaluation Format

This IS/MND has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The Project is evaluated based on its potential effect on twenty (20) environmental factors categorized as follows, as well as Mandatory Findings of Significance:

1. Aesthetics
2. Agricultural & Forestry Resources
3. Air Quality
4. Biological Resources
5. Cultural Resources
6. Energy
7. Geology & Soils
8. Greenhouse Gas Emissions
9. Hazards & Hazardous Materials
10. Hydrology & Water Quality
11. Land Use & Planning
12. Mineral Resources
13. Noise
14. Population & Housing
15. Public Services
16. Recreation
17. Transportation & Traffic
18. Tribal Cultural Resources
19. Utilities & Service Systems
20. Wildfires
21. Mandatory Findings of Significance

Each factor is analyzed by responding to a series of questions pertaining to the impact of the Project on the particular factor in the form of a checklist. This Initial Study "checklist" provides a manner to analyze the impacts of the Project on each factor in order to determine the severity of the impact and determine if mitigation measures can be implemented to reduce the impact to less than significant without having to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The effects of the Project are then placed in the following four categories, which are each followed by a summary to substantiate why the Project does not impact the particular factor with or without mitigation. If "Potentially Significant Impacts" that cannot be mitigated are determined, then the Project does not qualify for a Mitigated Negative Declaration and an EIR must be prepared. This process is explained further in Table 3.0-1, *Levels of Significance.*

Table 3.0-1: Levels of Significance

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Potentially significant impact(s) have been identified or anticipated that cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance. An EIR must therefore be prepared.	Potentially significant impact(s) have been identified or anticipated, but mitigation is possible to reduce impact(s) to a less than significant category. Mitigation measures must then be identified.	No "significant" impact(s) identified or anticipated. Therefore, no mitigation is necessary.	No impact(s) identified or anticipated. Therefore, no mitigation is necessary.

3.0.2 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this Project.

	Aesthetics		Land Use and Planning
	Agriculture and Forest Resources		Mineral Resources
	Air Quality		Noise
X	Biological Resources		Population and Housing
	Energy		Public Services
X	Cultural Resources		Recreation
	Geology and Soils		Transportation/Traffic
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	**X**	Tribal Cultural Resources
	Hazards and Hazardous Materials		Utilities and Service Systems
	Hydrology and Water Quality		Wildfires
		X	Mandatory Findings of Significance

3.0.3 Environmental Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed use COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be recommended for adoption.

I find that although the proposal 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 Applicant. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be recommended for adoption.

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

I find that the proposal MAY have a significant effect(s) 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, if the effect is a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated." 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 effect (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, pursuant to all applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures are are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Signature

City of Fontana

Agency

ORLANDO HERNANDEZ

Printed Name/Title

6/23/20

Date

3.1 AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, *would the Project:* a) Have a substantial affect a scenic vista?			X	
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State Scenic Highway?				X
c) 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 publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X	

3.1 (a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan)

The City of Fontana General Plan notes that the City is surrounded by a significant amount of visible open space, most significantly the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains to the north and northeast. The Jurupa Mountains are also visible to the south of the Project area.

There are two residential developments adjacent to the proposed Project area. However, the Project area occurs within existing San Bernardino County Flood Control District right-of-way and is surrounded predominately by flood control land uses and existing transportation facilities, including the underpasses of I-15 and SR-210, and Victoria Street. The trail's alignment would utilize an existing flood control maintenance road. Right-of-way acquisition would be required to obtain an easement from private property located in between I-15 and SR-210. All other improvements would occur within

areas already disturbed for flood control and transportation uses. In addition, no tall or high-profile structures would be constructed as part of the Project; therefore, views of scenic vistas from the Project site would not be obstructed or adversely affected. Because direct impacts on scenic vistas are not anticipated, impacts to scenic vistas as a result of the proposed Project would be less than significant.

Construction of the Project is expected to begin in the summer of 2020 and be completed in approximately six months. Construction would involve the use of various types of construction equipment including tractors/loaders/backhoes, forklifts, welders, a paver, rollers, and small-scale equipment such as air compressors, trenchers, mixers, and saws. Equipment would be stored onsite when not in use in designated staging areas along the trail alignment. However, this equipment would only be onsite during construction and all construction related impacts would be temporary. Therefore, impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant.

3.1 (b) *Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: California Department of Transportation)

According to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), there is only one Officially Designated State Scenic Highway in San Bernardino County: State Route 38 from South Fork Campground to State Lane. This highway is more than 30 miles from the Project site and well outside of the City Limits of Fontana. Therefore, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings along state scenic highways would not be affected by the implementation of the proposed Project. Therefore, no impact would occur.

3.1 (c) *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 publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Google Earth, City of Fontana General Plan, City of Fontana Municipal Code, Project application)

Refer to Response 3.1(a), above.

Construction of the proposed trail and associated benches, signage, and lighting would result in minor alteration of the visual character of the site, since the trail would be implemented on an existing flood control maintenance road and no new roadways or structures would be constructed. There are two residential developments adjacent to the trail alignment. However, the majority of the trail alignment occurs within areas designated for flood control land uses and existing transportation facilities, including the underpasses of I-15 and SR-210, and Victoria Street. Right-of-way acquisition would be required to obtain an easement from private property located in between I-15 and SR-210. All other improvements would be constructed within existing San Bernardino County Flood Control District right-of-way. Furthermore, the Project would not conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality as no tall or high-profile structures that could potentially obstruct scenic views would be constructed as part of the Project. Therefore, the proposed Project would not degrade

the existing visual character or quality of the site or its surroundings, and impacts would be less than significant.

3.1 (d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana Municipal Code)

Impacts as a result of lighting can occur either through interior lighting emanating from windows as well as from exterior sources. Unwanted light may also spillover into adjacent areas, causing adverse effect on occupants and landowners. Glare occurs when luminance within the visual field is created that is greater than the levels to which one's eyes are adjusted. This can result in annoyance, discomfort, or a temporary loss in vision.

The proposed Project consists of the construction of a recreational trail on an existing maintenance road within existing flood control right-of-way. Due to the minimal nature of construction necessary for Project implementation, a substantial amount of new lighting is not a component of the Project. The new lighting that would be introduced would be low-current LED (light-emitting diode) lights that would be installed at various points along the trail alignment, which would be fully shielded lamps providing symmetrical light distribution with no glare. Therefore, the Project would have a *less than significant impact* on light and glare as it would be in compliance with Fontana Municipal Code Policy 15-310, which states that all lights and illumination shall be arranged so that light and glare are reflected away from adjacent residential properties.

3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. *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?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
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?				X

3.2 (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?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: California Resources Agency, Google Earth)

According to the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program maps, there is no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on or adjacent to the Project site. No impacts would occur.

3.2 (b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: California Department of Conservation)

There is no land on or adjacent to the Project site that is zoned for agricultural uses, nor is there a Williamson Act contract that would apply. No impacts would occur.

3.2 (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))?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: California Public Resources Code, Google Earth)

There is no forest land, timberland, or Timberland Production areas within the City of Fontana, including the Project site. No impacts would occur.

3.2 (d) *Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: City of Fontana General Plan, Google Earth)

There is no forest land in the City of Fontana, including the Project site. No impacts would occur.

3.2 (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?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: California Resources Agency, City of Fontana General Plan)

While agricultural uses were prominent in the City's past, agricultural practices have declined and are no longer a significant element of the local economy. Remaining, undeveloped land considered suitable for farming purposes is planned for a variety of urbanized uses, according to the City of Fontana General Plan. There is no farmland in the vicinity of the Project and the Project site is not considered farmland. No impacts would occur.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
3.	**AIR QUALITY.** *Would the Project:*				
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X	
b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X	
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
d)	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

3.3(a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Management Plan or Congestion Management Plan? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The proposed Project is located within the South Coast Air Basin (Basin), which is governed by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD is one of 35 air quality management districts and is responsible for preparing and implementing an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The 2012 AQMP (adopted in February 2013) is the most recent AQMP and it is intended to bring the Basin into attainment with federal health-based standards for fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) by 2014 and implements the adopted 8-hour ozone (O_3) control plan.

According to the *CEQA Air Quality* Handbook, in order to determine consistency with the SCAQMD AQMP, two main criteria must be addressed.

Criterion 1:

With respect to the first criterion, SCAQMD methodologies require that an air quality analysis for a Project include forecasts of Project emissions in relation to contributing to air quality violations and delay of attainment.

a) Would the Project result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations?

Since the consistency criteria identified under the first criterion pertain to pollutant concentrations, rather than to total regional emissions, an analysis of a Project's pollutant emissions relative to localized pollutant concentrations is used as the basis for evaluating Project consistency. As discussed in Response 3.3(d), below, localized concentrations of carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NO_X), and fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) would be less than significant during Project operations. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations. Because reactive organic gases (ROGs) are not a criteria pollutant, there is no ambient standard or localized threshold for ROGs. Due to the role ROG plays in O_3 formation, it is classified as a precursor pollutant and only a regional emissions threshold has been established.

b) Would the Project cause or contribute to new air quality violations?

As discussed in Response 3.3(b), the proposed Project would result in emissions that would be below the SCAQMD thresholds. Therefore, the proposed Project would not have the potential to cause or affect a violation of the ambient air quality standards.

c) Would the Project delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emissions reductions specified in the AQMP?

The proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts with regard to localized concentrations during Project operations. As such, the proposed Project would not delay the timely attainment of air quality standards or AQMP emissions reductions.

Criterion 2:

With respect to the second criterion for determining consistency with SCAQMD and Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) air quality policies, it is important to recognize that air quality planning within the Basin focuses on attainment of ambient air quality standards at the earliest feasible date. Projections for achieving air quality goals are based on assumptions regarding population, housing, and growth trends. Thus, the SCAQMD's second criterion for determining Project consistency focuses on whether or not the proposed Project exceeds the assumptions utilized in preparing the forecasts presented in the 2012 AQMP. Determining whether or not a Project exceeds the assumptions reflected in the 2012 AQMP involves the evaluation of the three criteria outlined below. The following discussion provides an analysis of each of these criteria.

a) Would the Project be consistent with the population, housing, and employment growth Projections utilized in the preparation of the AQMP?

A Project is consistent with the 2012 AQMP in part if it is consistent with the population, housing, and employment assumptions that were used in the development of the 2012 AQMP. In the case of the 2012 AQMP, four sources of data form the basis for the projections of air pollutant emissions: the *City of Fontana General Plan* (Fontana General Plan), the *City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan* (Rancho Cucamonga General Plan), SCAG's *Growth Management*

Chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP), and SCAG's *2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy* (RTP/SCS). The RTP/SCS also provides socioeconomic forecast projections of regional population growth. The Project involves the expansion of an existing trail within the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga by converting an existing maintenance road into a paved trail. The trail expansion would link to the Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, which in turn would provide enhanced connectivity to the Santa Ana River trail for increased non-motorized access and travel in the area while encouraging both recreation and transportation uses, consistent with the Fontana General Plan Circulation Element and the Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Community Mobility Element. Therefore, the proposed Project would be considered consistent with the current city's General Plan land use designations. Furthermore, the Project does not involve any uses that would increase population beyond what is considered in the Fontana General Plan and Rancho Cucamonga General Plan and, therefore, would not affect City-wide plans for population growth at the Project site. Thus, the proposed Project is consistent with the types, intensity, and patterns of land use envisioned for the site vicinity in the RCP. The population, housing, and employment forecasts, which are adopted by SCAG's Regional Council, are based on the local plans and policies applicable to both cities; these are used by SCAG in all phases of implementation and review. Additionally, as the SCAQMD has incorporated these same projections into the 2012 AQMP, it can be concluded that the proposed Project would be consistent with the projections.

b) *Would the Project implement all feasible air quality mitigation measures?*

The proposed Project would result in less than significant air quality impacts. Compliance with emission reduction measures identified by the SCAQMD would be required as identified in Response 3.3(b). As such, the proposed Project meets this 2012 AQMP consistency criterion.

c) *Would the Project be consistent with the land use planning strategies set forth in the AQMP?*

The proposed Project would serve to implement various City of Fontana, City of Rancho Cucamonga, and SCAG policies. The proposed Project is located within a developed portion of the City and would provide a trail expansion of the existing Class I San Sevaine Trail by converting an existing maintenance road, which currently runs parallel to the Etiwanda flood control channel, into a paved trail. The new trail segment would provide a direct connection to the Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail and would therefore provide connectivity to the Santa Ana River Trail. The Project runs from the Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail in the City of Fontana to Banyan Street in the City of Rancho Cucamonga in the vicinity of open space, residential, and flood control uses.

In conclusion, the determination of 2012 AQMP consistency is primarily concerned with the long-term influence of a Project on air quality in the Basin. The proposed Project would not result in a long-term impact on the region's ability to meet State and Federal air quality standards. Also, the proposed Project would be consistent with the goals and policies of the AQMP for control of fugitive dust. As discussed above, the proposed Project would also be consistent with SCAQMD and SCAG's goals and policies and is considered consistent with the 2012 AQMP. A less than significant impact would occur.

3.3(b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Cumulative Construction Emissions

With respect to the proposed Project's construction-related air quality emissions and cumulative Basin-wide conditions, the SCAQMD has developed strategies to reduce criteria pollutant emissions outlined in the 2012 AQMP pursuant to Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) mandates. As such, the proposed Project would comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 requirements. Rule 403 requires that fugitive dust be controlled with the best available control measures in order to reduce dust so that it does not remain visible in the atmosphere beyond the property line of the proposed Project. In addition, the proposed Project would comply with adopted 2012 AQMP emissions control measures. Based on SCAQMD rules and mandates, as well as the CEQA requirement that significant impacts be mitigated to the extent feasible, these same requirements (i.e., Rule 403 compliance, the implementation of all feasible mitigation measures, and compliance with adopted 2012 AQMP emissions control measures) would also be imposed on construction projects throughout the Basin, which would include related projects.

Compliance with SCAQMD rules and regulations would minimize the Project's construction-related emissions and reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Thus, it can be reasonably inferred that the Project-related construction emissions, in combination with those from other projects in the area, would not substantially deteriorate the local air quality. Thus, impacts would be less than significant.

Cumulative Long-Term Emissions

As discussed previously, the proposed Project would not result in long-term air quality impacts, as emissions would not exceed the SCAQMD adopted operational thresholds. Additionally, adherence to SCAQMD rules and regulations would alleviate potential impacts related to cumulative conditions on a Project-by-Project basis. Emission reduction technology, strategies, and plans are constantly being developed. As a result, the proposed Project would not contribute a cumulatively considerable net increase of any nonattainment criteria pollutant. Therefore, cumulative operational impacts associated with implementation of the proposed Project would be less than significant.

3.3(c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Sensitive receptors are defined as facilities or land uses that include members of the population that are particularly sensitive to the effects of air pollutants, such as children, the elderly, and people with illnesses. Examples of these sensitive receptors are residences, schools, hospitals, and daycare centers. CARB has identified the following groups of individuals as the most likely to be affected by air pollution: the elderly over 65, children under 14, athletes, and persons with cardiovascular and chronic respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema, and bronchitis.

Sensitive receptors near the Project site include surrounding single-family residences to the west and east of the Project site. In order to identify impacts to sensitive receptors, the SCAQMD recommends addressing localized significance thresholds (LSTs) for construction and operations impacts (area sources only). The CO hotspot analysis following the LST analysis addresses localized mobile source impacts.

Localized Significance Thresholds

LSTs were developed in response to SCAQMD Governing Boards' Environmental Justice Enhancement Initiative (I-4). The SCAQMD provided the *Final Localized Significance Threshold Methodology* (dated June 2003 [revised 2008]) for guidance. The LST methodology assists lead agencies in analyzing localized air quality impacts associated with project-specific level proposed projects. The SCAQMD provides the LST screening lookup tables for one, two, and five acre projects emitting CO, NO_X, $PM_{2.5}$, or PM_{10}. The LST methodology and associated mass rates are not designed to evaluate localized impacts from mobile sources traveling over the roadways. The SCAQMD recommends that any Project over five acres should perform air quality dispersion modeling to assess impacts to nearby sensitive receptors. The Project is located within Sensitive Receptor Area (SRA) 32, *Northwest San Bernardino Valley*.

Construction

The SCAQMD guidance on applying CalEEMod to LSTs specifies the amount of acres a particular piece of equipment would likely disturb per day. The Project would disturb at most 4.6 acres of land per day. Therefore, the LST thresholds for two acres were conservatively utilized for the construction LST analysis. The closest sensitive receptors to the Project site are residential uses located approximately 80 feet west of the northern segment of the trail and residential uses approximately 30 feet west of the central segment of the trail. These sensitive land uses may be potentially affected by air pollutant emissions generated during on-site construction activities. LST thresholds are provided for distances to sensitive receptors of 25, 50, 100, 200, and 500 meters. As the nearest sensitive uses are approximately 30 feet west of the Project site, the LST value for 25 meters was conservatively utilized.

Table 3.3-2, *Localized Significance of Construction Emissions*, shows the localized unmitigated and mitigated construction-related emissions for NO_X, CO, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ compared to the LSTs for SRA 32, *Northwest San Bernardino Valley*. It is noted that the localized emissions presented in Table 3.3-2 are less than those in Table 3.3-1 because localized emissions include only onsite emissions (i.e., from construction equipment and fugitive dust), and do not include offsite emissions (i.e., from hauling activities). As shown in Table 3.3-2, mitigated onsite emissions would not exceed the LSTs thresholds. Therefore, localized significance impacts from construction would be less than significant with compliance with SCAQMD rules and regulations.

Table 3.3-2: Localized Significance of Construction Emissions

Source	Pollutant (pounds/day)			
	NO_X	CO	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Construction				
Total Unmitigated Onsite Emissions[1]	28.49	25.17	7.73	4.47
Total Mitigated Onsite Emissions[1]	28.49	25.17	4.14	2.56
Localized Significance Threshold[3]	170	1,232	6	5
Thresholds Exceeded?	***No***	***No***	***No***	***No***

Notes:

1. For construction Year 1, the construction phase emissions are presented as the worst case scenario.
2. For construction Year 2, the trail installation phase emissions are presented as the worst case scenario.
3. The Localized Significance Threshold was determined using Appendix C of the SCAQMD *Final Localized Significant Threshold Methodology* guidance document for pollutants NO_X, CO, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. The Localized Significance Threshold was based on the anticipated daily acreage disturbance for construction (at most 4.6 acre; therefore the 2-acre threshold was conservatively used), the distance to sensitive receptors, and the source receptor area (SRA 32).

Refer to Appendix A, *Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Data*, for detailed model input/output data.

Carbon Monoxide Hotspots

CO emissions are a function of vehicle idling time, meteorological conditions, and traffic flow. Under certain extreme meteorological conditions, CO concentrations near a congested roadway or intersection may reach unhealthful levels (i.e., adversely affecting residents, school children, hospital patients, the elderly, etc.). The SCAQMD requires a quantified assessment of CO hotspots when a Project increases the volume-to-capacity ratio (also called the intersection capacity utilization) by 0.02 (two percent) for any intersection with an existing level of service LOS D or worse. Because traffic congestion is highest at intersections where vehicles queue and are subject to reduced speeds, these hot spots are typically produced at intersections.

As noted previously, the Project involves the construction of a trail expansion by converting an existing maintenance road into a paved trail and operational vehicle trips would be nominal (occasional maintenance trips). As traffic generation associated with the maintenance trips would be nominal, it would not be of sufficient volume to increase the ICU of nearby intersections to warrant a CO hotspot analysis.

3.3(d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

According to the SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook, land uses associated with odor complaints typically include agricultural uses, wastewater treatment plants, food processing plants, chemical plants, composting, refineries, landfills, dairies, and fiberglass molding. The proposed Project does not include any uses identified by the SCAQMD as being associated with odors.

Construction activities associated with the Project may generate detectable odors from heavy-duty equipment exhaust. Construction-related odors would be short-term in nature and cease upon

Project completion. Any impacts to existing adjacent land uses would be short-term and would be less than significant.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
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?			X	
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?				X

3.4(a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? ***Determination: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.***

(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

A Habitat Assessment of the Project site was conducted by Baker in June 2016 and updated species lists were obtained from both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in October 2018 (Appendix B). Refer to Exhibit 2-4, *Biological Study Area.* Plant communities were identified on aerial photographs and visually inspected along the boundary of the Project site to document their extent. The plant communities were evaluated for their potential to provide suitable habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species as well as corridors and linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area. Special attention was given to any undeveloped, natural areas, which have a higher potential to support special-status plant and wildlife species.

All plant and wildlife species observed, as well as dominant plant species within each plant community, were recorded. Plant species observed during the field survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field. Unusual and less familiar plant species were photographed during the survey and identified in the laboratory using taxonomical guides. Wildlife detections were made through observation of scat, trails, tracks, burrows, nests, and/or visual and aural observation. In addition, site characteristics such as soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site plant communities, and presence of potential jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were noted.

Vegetation

Exhibit 2-5, *Vegetation Map*, shows the vegetation identified within the Project site. Five (5) plant communities were observed within the boundaries of the survey area during the habitat assessment: buckwheat scrub, Riversidian sage scrub, mature Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub (RAFSS), disturbed mature RAFSS, and intermediate RAFSS. In addition, the Project site contains land cover types that

would be classified as disturbed, developed, an un-vegetated basin bottom, and landscaped. These communities are described in further detail below.

Buckwheat Scrub

The buckwheat scrub plant community can be found within the northern, central and southern portions of the survey area lining the maintenance roads. These areas have previously been disturbed and have revegetated with a monoculture of California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*). Other low-growing plant species including California croton (*Croton californicus*), deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*), and common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) also occur in low density.

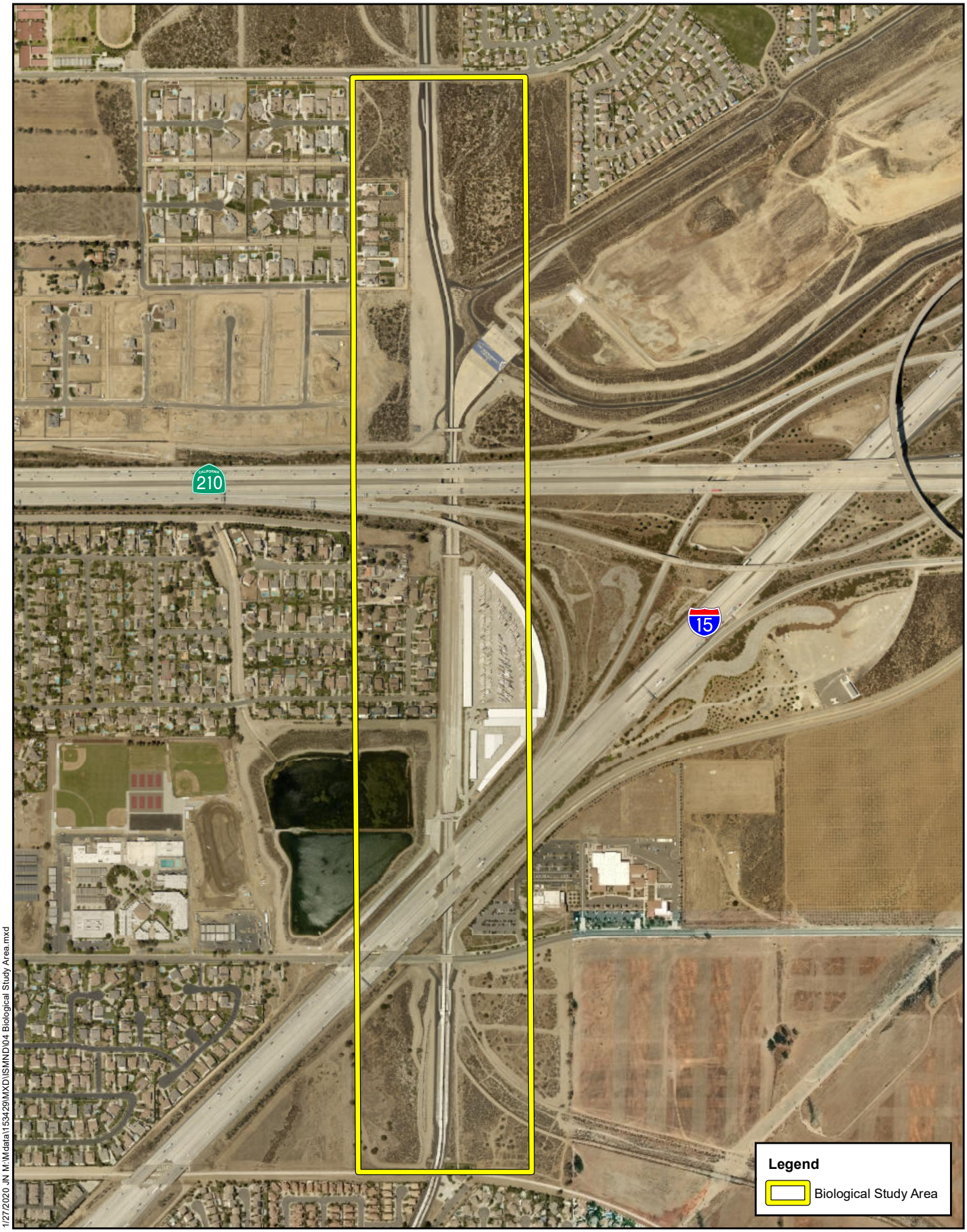
Riversidian Sage Scrub

The Riversidian sage scrub plant community occurs on the northern and southern portions of the survey area. This plant community has been subject to anthropogenic disturbances, but supports a variety of plant species. Plant species occurring within this community include deerweed, black sagebrush (*Artemisia arbuscula*), California sagebrush, California buckwheat, brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), white sage (*Salvia apiana*), chia sage (*Salvia columbariae*), and non-native grasses.

Mature RAFSS

The mature RAFSS plant community can be found in the northern portion of the survey area to the east of the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This disturbed mature RAFSS plant community has been effectively cut-off from the historic fluvial flow patterns and scouring regimes of Lytle Creek and flows exiting the San Gabriel Mountains due to the construction of the surrounding developments and channelization of flood control structures. These activities have eliminated the fluvial processes to this area which are needed to maintain openness of the RAFSS plant community in order to provide suitable habitat for sensitive plant and wildlife species associated with the RAFSS plant communities (i.e., San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami)*, Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*), slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*)). Flooding events that characterize this plant community have not occurred in the general vicinity since the construction of Interstate 15, resulting in a change in soil and alluvial vegetation to mature into a dense plant community that no longer support these species.

This plant community within the survey area is dominated by chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), scalebroom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*), chaparral yucca (*Hesperoyucca whipplei*), hollyleaf redberry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*), and Mexican elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*). Low growing plant species found within this community include deerweed, black sagebrush, California sagebrush, California cholla (*Cylindropuntia californica*), scarlet larkspur (*Delphinium cardinal*), and sapphire woollystar (*Eriastrum sapphirinum*).



1/27/2020 JN M:\Mdata\153429\MXD\ISMND\04 Biological Study Area.mxd

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 400 800 1,600 Feet

Source: San Bernardino County, NRCS Soils Data Mart - ca677, ESRI World Imagery

SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Biological Study Area

Exhibit 2-4

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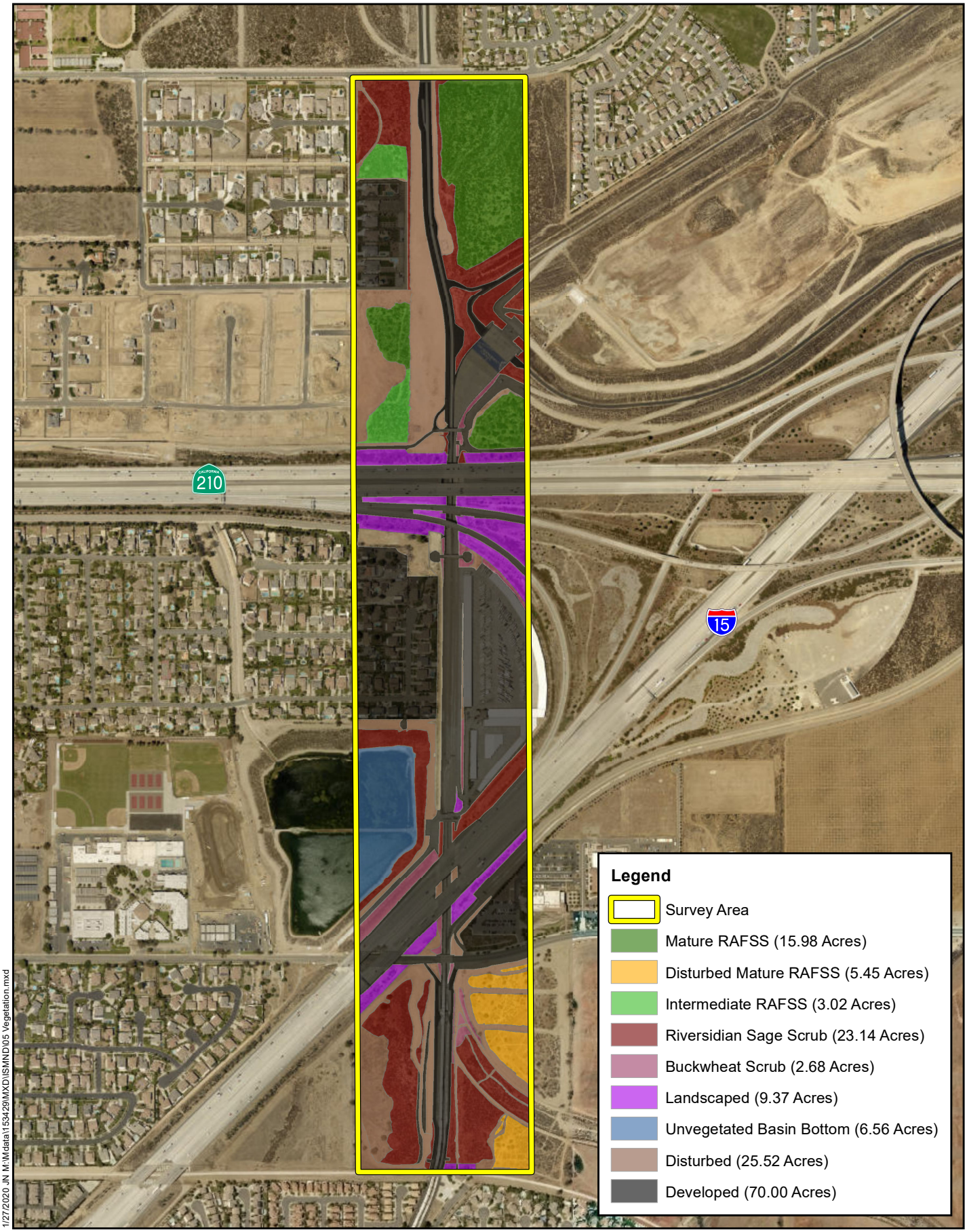

1/27/2020 JN M:\Mdata\153429\MXD\ISMND\05 Vegetation.mxd

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 400 800 1,600 Feet

Source: San Bernardino County, ESRI World Imagery

SAN SEVAINE TRAIL, SEGMENT 2
INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Vegetation

Exhibit 2-5

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Disturbed Mature RAFSS

The disturbed mature RAFSS plant community can be found in the southern portion of the survey area and consists of a remnant mature RAFSS plant community that is dominated by non-native plant species and grasses. Plant species occurring within this plant community include chamise, mountain mahogany, Mexican elderberry, yerba santa (*Eriodictyon californicum*), California buckwheat, red gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), and tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*). Non-native grasses within this plant community include red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*) and Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*).

Intermediate RAFSS

The intermediate RAFSS plant community occurs within the northern portion of the survey area to the west of the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. Intermediate RAFSS habitat forms a few years following a flood event and is characterized as having more diverse vegetation. Dominate plant species found within this plant community include chamise, yerba santa, white sage, and California croton. Other low growing plant species found within this community include black sagebrush, showy penstemon (*Opuntia littoralis*), common phacelia (*Phacelia distans*), and chia sage.

Disturbed

Disturbed areas on-site include unimproved dirt access roads, the areas parallel to the maintenance roads, construction zones, and the areas subjected to weed abatement activities. Disturbed areas consist of highly compacted soils that no longer support a native plant community. Plant species observed within the disturbed areas include short-podded mustard, tree tobacco, Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), and non-native grasses. The proposed trail alignment would be installed within the existing maintenance road.

Developed

Developed areas within the survey area generally consist of paved, impervious surfaces. This includes paved roadways, commercial buildings, residential housing, State Route 210, Interstate 15, the concrete lined East Etiwanda Creek Channel, and maintenance roads.

Un-vegetated Basin Bottom

The un-vegetated basin bottom is located within a basin found in the central portion of the survey area just north of Interstate 15 and west of the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This basin was not storing water at the time of this habitat assessment and the un-vegetated basin bottom consisted of sand and gravel.

Landscaped

Landscaped vegetation primarily consists of manicured lawns and rows of ornamental trees separating State Route 210 and Interstate 15 from the other plant communities found within the

survey area. Plant species observed in these areas include trailing acacia (*Acacia redolens*), California buckwheat, Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), and non-native grasses.

Wildlife

Plant communities provide foraging habitat, nesting/denning sites, and shelter from adverse weather or predations. This section provides a discussion of those wildlife species that were observed or expected to occur within the survey area. The discussion is to be used a general reference and is limited by the season, time of day, and weather conditions in which the field survey was conducted. Wildlife detections were based on calls, songs, scat, tracks, burrows, and direct observation.

Fish

No fish or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of fish were observed within the proposed trail alignment. East Etiwanda Creek Channel does not support perennial water flows and is concrete lined which does not support the native habitats favored by fish known to occur in the general vicinity of the Project. In addition, the channel was dry at the time of the habitat assessment and most likely does not support standing water for long periods of time that would be sufficient to support populations of fish. The water detention basins found on the southern portion of the survey area have the potential to provide suitable habitat for exotic, introduced fish species; however, the water detention basin was dry at the time of the 2016 site investigation. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the survey area.

Amphibians

No amphibians or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of amphibians were observed within the proposed trail alignment. East Etiwanda Creek Channel does not support perennial water flows and is concrete lined which does not support the habitats favored by amphibians known to occur in the general vicinity of the Project. In addition, the channel was dry at the time of the habitat assessment and most likely does not support standing water for long periods of time that would be sufficient to support populations of amphibians. The water detention basins found on the southern portion of the survey area has the potential to provide suitable habitat for amphibians; however, the water detention basin was dry at the time of the 2016 site investigation. Therefore, no amphibians are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the survey area.

Reptiles

Although the proposed trail alignment has been heavily disturbed, it has the potential to support a variety of reptilian species acclimated to human presence and disturbance. Reptilian species detected during the habitat assessment included Great Basin fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis longipes*), Western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*), and red racer (*Coluber flagellum piceus*). Additionally, the undeveloped areas within the survey area provide suitable habitat for a variety of

reptilian species known to occur in the area. Reptilian species expected to occur within the boundaries of the survey area include San Diego alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata webbii*), San Diego gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer annectens*), and southern pacific rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus helleri*).

Birds

The native plant communities within the survey area provide suitable foraging and cover habitat for a variety of resident and migrant bird species. Bird species detected during the field survey included California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Costa's hummingbird (*Calypte costae*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), and northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*), and California thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum*). It should also be noted that one CDFW Watch List species was observed foraging in the southern portion of the Project site during the field survey: Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). One USFWS federally threatened species was also observed foraging within the mature RAFSS plant community within the northern portion of the Project site: coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*).

Mammals

Although the proposed trail alignment has been heavily disturbed, it has the potential to support a variety of mammalian species acclimated to human presence and disturbance. However, most mammal species are nocturnal and are difficult to observe during a diurnal field survey. Cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus audubonii*) and California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) were the only mammalian species observed during the field survey. Additionally, the undeveloped areas within the survey area provide suitable habitat for a variety of mammalian species known to occur in the area. Common mammalian species that are expected to occur include coyote (*Canis latrans*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), deer mouse (*Peromyscus* sp.), and striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*).

Nesting Birds

No active nests or birds displaying nesting behavior were observed during the field survey. However, the plant communities within the survey area provide suitable foraging and nesting habitat for a variety of year-round and seasonal avian residents, as well as migrating songbirds that could occur in the area. Further, the eucalyptus trees found within the southern portion of the survey area have the potential to provide suitable nesting opportunities for raptor species (i.e., red-tailed hawk). Although heavily disturbed, the proposed trail alignment has the potential to support birds that nest on open ground, such as killdeer.

Special-Status Biological Resources

The CNDDB was queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species as well as special-status natural plant communities in the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Guasti, and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles. A search of published records of these species was conducted within these quadrangles using the CNDDB Rarefind 5 online software and CNDDB Quickview Tool in BIOS. The habitat assessment evaluated the conditions of the habitat(s) within the boundaries of the Project site to determine if the existing plant communities, at the time of the survey, have the potential to provide suitable habitat(s) for special-status plant and wildlife species. In addition, species lists from both USFWS and NMFS were generated pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Federal Endangered Species Act.

The literature search identified forty-five (45) special-status plant species, sixty-four (64) special-status wildlife species, and five (5) special-status habitats as having the potential to occur within the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Guasti, and Fontana quadrangles. Special-status plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to occur within the Project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions. Species and communities determined to have the potential to occur within the general site vicinity based on the record search are presented in Attachment C, *Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources*. Attachment C provides a detailed analysis regarding the potential occurrence of special-status plant and wildlife species within the Project site.

Special-Status Plants

Forty-five (45) special-status plant species have been recorded in the CNDDB and CNPS in the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Guasti, and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles (refer to Attachment C). Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status plant species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined native plant communities within the survey area have a low potential to support Catalina mariposa-lily (*Calochortus catalinae*), Plummer's mariposa-lily (*Calochortus plummerae*), Santa Ana River woollystar, and mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneate* var. *puberula*). All remaining special-status plants are presumed absent. However, development of the recreational trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This area has been subject to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including vehicle use and ongoing weed abatement activities. These disturbances have greatly disturbed, if not eliminated, the natural plant communities that once occurred within the proposed Project footprint. Special-status plant species are not expected to occur within the proposed trail alignment and are presumed to be absent from the proposed Project footprint.

Special-Status Wildlife

Sixty-four (64) special-status wildlife species have been reported in the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Rancho Cucamonga, and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles (refer to Attachment C). Cooper's hawk, coastal California gnatcatcher, and Coast's hummingbird were the only special-status wildlife

species observed during the field survey. Other special-status wildlife species that have a high potential to occur within the native plant communities within the survey area include Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*). Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the native plant communities within the survey area have a moderate potential to support great egret (*Ardea alba*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), Bell's sage sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli belli*), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*), lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*), northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami*), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennetti*), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*), and coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*). All remaining special-status wildlife species either have a low potential to occur on the Project site or are presumed to be absent from the Project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions. The potential occurrence of SBKR, burrowing owl and coastal California gnatcatcher within the Project site is described in further detail below.

San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat

SBKR is one of three subspecies of the Merriam's kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami*) and is federally listed as endangered. The species has a restricted southern California distribution, being confined to certain inland valley scrub communities, particularly alluvial scrub communities on gravelly and sandy soils adjoining rivers, streams, and drainages within Riverside and San Bernardino County. SBKR habitat has been historically altered as a result of flood control efforts and the increased use of river resources, including surface mining operations, off-road vehicle use, roadway and housing development. Overall habitat loss is estimated at 96 percent. These alterations to SBKR habitat listed above led to an emergency listing as endangered in 1998 (USFWS, 1998a), followed by a Final Rule issuance in that same year (USFWS, 1998b). SBKR is described as being confined to primary and secondary alluvial fan scrub habitats, with sandy soils deposited by fluvial (water) rather than Aeolian (wind) processes (USFWS 1998). Burrows are dug in loose soil, usually near or beneath shrubs. The species has also been found in highly disturbed areas adjacent to otherwise suitable habitat.

The Project site is situated on an area known as the Etiwanda Alluvial Fan. In 2008, USFWS stated that the Etiwanda Alluvial Fan was likely occupied by a small remnant population of SBKR, but flood control structures and urban development have disrupted the natural flood regime of the Etiwanda Alluvial Fan and resulted in poor quality habitat. Further, the USFWS concluded that areas on the Etiwanda Alluvial Fan occupied by SBKR do not contain the primary constituent elements in the appropriate quantity and spatial arrangement necessary to sustain a core population. The northern and southern portions of the survey area are vegetated with a RAFSS plant community. This plant community has the potential to provide shelter and has greater than 50 percent canopy cover with patches of suitable soils for burrowing and foraging. However, areas surrounding the survey area primarily consist of single-family residential land uses and many of the natural alluvial fans and drainage courses that once occurred within these areas have been channelized into concrete-lined channels for flood control purposes. As a result, the survey area has been disconnected from the natural fluvial processes

associated with Day Canyon Wash, East Etiwanda Canyon Wash, and San Sevaine Canyon Wash. Therefore, it was determined that SBKR has a moderate potential to occur within the undeveloped portions of the survey area.

It should be noted that occurrence records indicate that a single male and single female SBKR were trapped in 2002 in San Sevaine Basin #5 located approximately 500 feet to the east of the proposed trail alignment (CNDDB, 2018; Occurrence Number 28). However, this species was not detected during trapping surveys within San Sevaine Basin #4 (connected to Basin #5 to the northeast) in 2004 or during trapping surveys within San Sevaine Basin #5 in 2005 (CNDDB, 2018; Occurrence Number 28). Further, after a review of historical aerial imagery, San Sevaine Basin's #4 and #5 undergo continual disturbance from flooding and routine weed abatement/flood control maintenance activities which further decrease the likelihood of SBKR occupying within these areas adjacent to the proposed trail alignment. Further, the proposed trail alignment is separated from San Sevaine Basin's #4 and #5 by the concrete-lined East Etiwanda Creek Channel which would prevent any SBKR from dispersing west towards the proposed trail alignment.

Development of the trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This area has been subject to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including vehicle use and ongoing weed abatement activities. These disturbances have greatly disturbed, if not eliminated, the natural plant communities that once occurred within the proposed Project footprint. SBKR is normally confined to pioneer and intermediate RAFSS habitats that have a moderately open canopy and fluvial deposited, sandy soils in order to dig burrows for shelter. The intermediate and mature RAFFS and RSS vegetation communities that are located adjacent to the proposed trail alignment provide some of the habitat features preferred by this species; however, the proposed trail alignment footprint does not. The proposed trail alignment would be constructed within previously disturbed dirt areas that contain heavily compacted soils and non-native plant species and also within a partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. The lack of native shrubs for cover, presence of anthropogenic activity along the proposed trail alignment (i.e., recreation activities, routine weed abatement, illegal trash dumping), and the presence of heavily compacted soils that prevent burrowing opportunities likely precludes SBKR from occurring within the proposed trail alignment footprint. As such, SBKR is not expected to occur within the proposed Project footprint and is presumed absent from the trail alignment, and focused trapping surveys are not recommended.

Burrowing Owl

Burrowing owl is currently designated as a California Species of Special Concern. The burrowing owl is a grassland specialist distributed throughout western North America where it occupies open areas with short vegetation and bare ground within shrub, desert, and grassland environments. Burrowing owls use a wide variety of arid and semi-arid environments with level to gently-sloping areas characterized by open vegetation and bare ground. The western burrowing owl (*A.c. hypugaea*), which occurs throughout the western United States including California, rarely digs its own burrows and is instead dependent upon the presence of burrowing mammals (i.e., ground squirrels, coyotes,

and badgers [*Taxidea taxus*]) whose burrows are often used for roosting and nesting. The presence or absence of colonial mammal burrows is often a major factor that limits the presence or absence of burrowing owls. Where mammal burrows are scarce, burrowing owls have been found occupying man-made cavities, such as buried and non-functioning drain pipes, stand-pipes, and dry culverts. They also require low growth or open vegetation allowing line-of-sight observation of the surrounding habitat to forage as well as watch for predators. In California, the burrowing owl breeding season extends from the beginning of February through the end of August.

It was determined during that habitat assessment that burrowing owl has a low potential to occur. The southern portion of survey area is dominated by low-growing open vegetation and has the potential to provide suitable foraging and nesting habitat for burrowing owls. The burrows found on-site were generally on the smaller end of being able to be used by this species. Further, despite a systematic search of open habitat and the small burrows on the Project site, no burrowing owls or recent sign (pellets, feathers, castings, or white wash) was observed during the habitat assessment. Burrowing owls are presumed absent from the Project site and focused surveys are not recommended. A pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey would be required to confirm whether burrowing owl remain absent from the Project site.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher

The coastal California gnatcatcher is a federally threatened species with restricted habitat requirements: it is an obligate resident of sage scrub habitats that are dominated by California sagebrush. This species generally occurs below 984 feet elevation in coastal regions and below 1,640 feet inland. It ranges from Ventura County south to San Diego County and northern Baja California and it is less common in sage scrub with a high percentage of tall shrubs. The coastal California gnatcatcher prefers habitat with more low-growing vegetation where it breeds between mid-February and the end of August, with peak activity from mid-March to mid-May. Although California gnatcatcher is known to occur within San Bernardino County, the species has a limited distribution.

California gnatcatcher was observed foraging within the mature RAFSS plant community, within the survey area, which provides suitable foraging and nesting habitat for this species. However, development of the trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This area has been subject to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including vehicle use and on-going weed abatement activities. These disturbances have eliminated the natural plant communities that once occurred within this portion of the proposed trail alignment.

The closest occurrence records (CNDDB, 2009 and 2016; Occurrence numbers 509 and 873) for coastal California gnatcatcher were detected in 1998 and 1999, approximately 2 miles to the west of the proposed alignment; however, these areas have since been developed and the species is considered extirpated/possibly extirpated from the area. Extant occurrence records (CNDDB, 2008; Occurrence number 468) for coastal California gnatcatcher occur approximately 2.5 miles to the northwest of the proposed trail alignment, within the North Etiwanda Preserve. The North Etiwanda Preserve provides the necessary sage scrub (e.g., RAFSS, RSS, CSS) habitats for nesting and foraging preferred by coastal

California gnatcatcher. In addition, the preserve provides the necessary non-sage scrub habitats (e.g., chaparral, grassland, riparian) that provide linkages to aid in dispersal, foraging, and nesting.

The proposed trail alignment and surrounding vegetation communities preferred by this species have been isolated and fragmented from the known occupied coastal California gnatcatcher habitats located to the north by residential housing, roadways, and the channelized East Etiwanda Channel. As mentioned previously, signs of illegal trash dumping and routine weed abatement were also observed in these areas which further decreases the quality of habitat and likelihood of coastal California gnatcatcher utilizing these vegetation communities for nesting and foraging in the long term. In addition, the majority of the vegetation growing within the mature and intermediate RAFSS communities do not consist of low-growing species (<3 feet high) preferred by coastal California gnatcatcher for nesting. As such, this species is not expected to nest within the natural vegetation communities located adjacent to the proposed alignment, however; coastal California gnatcatcher could utilize these areas for foraging. It is likely that the single coastal California gnatcatcher that was observed foraging within the mature RAFSS vegetation community during the 2016 survey occupies habitat within the North Etiwanda Preserve and just migrated down from the preserve to forage.

Therefore, as long as development remains outside of the native plant communities surrounding the proposed trail area, it is presumed impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher would not occur. Focused surveys for California gnatcatcher are not recommended. The proposed trail alignment would be constructed within previously disturbed dirt areas that contain heavily compacted soils and non-native plant species and within a partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. As such, direct impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher are not expected as a result of the proposed trail alignment. Construction of the proposed trail alignment during the breeding season may result in indirect impacts (i.e., fugitive dust, noise, and vibration) to coastal California gnatcatcher if present in habitat adjacent to the proposed trail alignment. If coastal California gnatcatcher is detected during a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey, it is recommended that USFWS be contacted in order to determine any stringent avoidance and minimization measures that would need to be implemented to protect the species during construction activities (i.e., 500 foot no work buffer, noise barriers, biological monitoring).

Special-Status Plant Communities

According to the CNDDB, five (5) special-status plant communities have been reported in the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Guasti, and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles: California Walnut Woodland, Coast and Valley Freshwater Marsh, RAFSS, Southern Riparian Forest, and Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland (refer to Attachment C). One of these special-status plant communities occur within the Project site: RAFSS. Development of the trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel, outside of the RAFSS plant community. Based on current design plans, the RAFSS plant community is presumed to not be impacted by development of the trail.

Critical Habitat

Critical Habitat refers to specific areas within the geographical range of a species at the time it is listed that include the physical or biological features that are essential to the survival and eventual recovery of that species. Maintenance of these physical and biological features requires special management considerations or protection, regardless of whether individuals or the species are present or not. In the event that a project may result in take or adverse modification to a species' designated Critical Habitat, a project proponent may be required to engage in suitable mitigation. However, consultation for impacts to Critical Habitat is only required when a project has a federal nexus. This may include projects that occur on federal lands, require federal permits (e.g., CWA Section 404 permit), or receive any federal oversight or funding. If there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for providing funds or permits would be consult with the USFWS.

In 2002, the USFWS designated four (4) Critical Habitat units for SBKR. Portions of the survey area fall within the boundaries of Unit 4, which is associated with the Etiwanda Alluvial Fan and Wash (Exhibit 6, *Critical Habitat*). Since there is no federal nexus (i.e., CWA Section 404 permit, federal funding, etc.), the presence of Critical Habitat would not trigger a consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act. However, if final design results in impacts to East Etiwanda Creek and a Corps CWA Section 404 permit is required, a Section 7 consultation with the USFWS would be required to determine if a loss or adverse modification to Critical Habitat would occur.

The proposed trail alignment is located within a disturbed dirt and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. The areas immediately surrounding the maintenance road consist largely of undeveloped native habitat areas, two freeways (Interstate 210 and Interstate 15), the East Etiwanda Creek Channel, and two residential developments. Five (5) plant communities were observed within the survey area during the habitat assessment: buckwheat scrub, Riversidian sage scrub, mature RAFSS, disturbed mature RAFSS, and intermediate RAFSS. In addition, the Project site contains land cover types that would be classified as disturbed, developed, an un-vegetated basin bottom, and landscaped.

Development of the trail would occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. This area has been subject to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including vehicle use and ongoing weed abatement activities. These disturbances have greatly impacted, if not eliminated, the natural plant communities that once occurred within the proposed Project footprint. Special-status plant and wildlife species are not expected to occur within the proposed trail alignment and are presumed to be absent from the proposed Project footprint.

One (1) intermittent drainage feature, East Etiwanda Creek Channel, runs parallel to the Project site. However, based on the Project's design plan, the proposed Project would not impact the channel and no storm drains would tie into the creek. Development of the trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. Therefore, no impacts to jurisdictional waters would occur as a result of the proposed Project.

Although it was determined that burrowing owl has a low potential to occur, the southern portion of survey area is dominated by low-growing open vegetation and has the potential to provide suitable foraging and nesting habitat for burrowing owls. Therefore, it is recommended that a pre-construction clearance survey be conducted prior the start of any ground disturbing or vegetation removal activities to avoid impacts to burrowing owl. In accordance with the CDFW 2012 Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation, two (2) pre-construction clearance surveys should be conducted 14 – 30 days, and 24 hours, prior to any ground disturbing or vegetation removal activities.

To be compliant with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and Fish and Game Code, construction activities and/or the removal of any trees, shrubs, or any other potential nesting habitat should be conducted outside the avian nesting season. Generally, the nesting season extends from January 1 through August 31, but can vary slightly from year to year based upon seasonal weather conditions. If ground disturbing or vegetation removal activities cannot occur outside of the nesting season, a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey would be required to avoid impacts to nesting birds. The clearance survey can be conducted in conjunction with the burrowing owl clearance survey and should occur no more than three days prior to the start of any ground disturbing activities.

Federal Endangered Species Act Consultation Determination

A USFWS IPaC species list for the proposed Project was generated on October 24, 2018. Pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Federal Endangered Species Act, the proposed Project would result in "No Effect" to the following federally-listed threatened or endangered species:

- San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*)
- California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*)
- Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*)
- Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)
- Mountain Yellow-legged Frog (*Rana muscosa*)
- Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*)
- Braunton's Milk-vetch (*Astragalus brauntonii*)
- San Diego Ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*)

In addition to the above-listed species, federally-designated critical habitat for one species occurs within the Project site: SBKR. However, the presence of Critical Habitat does not trigger a consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act unless there is a federal nexus for the proposed Project. In this case, there is no federal nexus, and the Project would result in No Effect to USFWS-designated critical habitat.

Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Summary

A National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) species list was generated on October 24, 2018. No NMFS species were identified as having the potential to occur within the Project area. Therefore, the Project will not affect aquatic resources and will not impact NMFS-protected resources.

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1 A pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds, including BUOW and coastal California gnatcatcher, shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within three (3) days prior to any ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction. As long as development does not cause direct take of a bird or egg(s) or disrupt nesting behaviors, immediate protections would not be required. The biologist conducting the clearance survey shall document a negative survey with a report indicating that no impacts to active avian nests or burrowing owl burrows will occur.

If an active avian nest is discovered during the pre-construction clearance survey, construction activities might have to be rerouted, a no-work buffer[1] might have to be established around the nest, or construction may be delayed until the nest is inactive. It is recommended that a biological monitor be present to delineate the boundaries of the buffer area if an active nest is observed and to monitor the active nest to ensure that nesting behavior is not adversely affected by the construction activity. Once the qualified biologist has determined that young birds have successfully fledged or the nest has otherwise become inactive, a monitoring report shall be prepared and submitted to the City of Fontana for review and approval prior to initiating construction activities within the buffer area. The monitoring report shall summarize the results of the nest monitoring, describe construction restrictions currently in place, and confirm that construction activities can proceed within the buffer area without jeopardizing the survival of the young birds. Construction within the designated buffer area shall proceed only in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

3.4(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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

According to the CNDDB, five (5) special-status plant communities have been reported in the Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Guasti, and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles: California Walnut Woodland, Coast and Valley Freshwater Marsh, RAFSS, Southern Riparian Forest, and Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland (refer to Attachment C of the Habitat Assessment). One of these special-status plant communities occur within the Project site: RAFSS. Development of the trail is proposed to occur within the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance road

1 The size of the buffer shall be determined by the biologist in consultation with CDFW, and shall be based on the nesting species, its sensitivity to disturbance, and expected types of disturbance. These buffers are typically 300 feet from the nests of non-listed, non-raptors and 500 feet from the nests of listed species or raptors.

that parallels the East Etiwanda Creek Channel, outside of the RAFSS plant community. Based on current design plans, the RAFSS plant community is presumed to not be impacted by development of the trail. Because trail development would not occur in locations within the survey area containing RAFSS, and due to the complete absence of riparian habitat, no impacts would occur.

3.4(c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally or state protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredge or fill materials into "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) regulates discharges to surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated plant communities under Fish and Wildlife Code Sections 1600 *et seq*.

One (1) intermittent drainage feature, East Etiwanda Creek Channel, runs parallel to the proposed trail alignment. Flows that enter this concrete-lined flood control channel continue southwest through surrounding residential development to the Santa Ana River. As such, the on-site drainage feature exhibits a surface hydrologic connection to downstream waters of the U.S. and falls under the regulatory authority of the Corps, Regional Board, and CDFW.

However, based on the Project's design plan, the proposed Project would not impact the channel and no storm drains would tie into the channel. Development of the proposed trail would be limited to the disturbed dirt areas and partially paved flood control maintenance roads that parallel the East Etiwanda Creek Channel. Therefore, no impacts to jurisdictional waters would occur as a result of the proposed Project. If any impacts to this drainage feature occur, the following regulatory permits would be required: Corps CWA Section 404 Nationwide Permit, Regional Board CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and CDFW Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement.

3.4(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? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

Habitat linkages provide links between larger undeveloped habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages, but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. A corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species, but inadequate for others. Wildlife

corridors are significant features for dispersal, seasonal migration, breeding, and foraging. Additionally, open space can provide a buffer against both human disturbance and natural fluctuations in resources.

The survey area has not been identified as occurring within a Wildlife Corridor or Linkage by the City of Fontana General Plan. However, the northern and southern portions of the survey area are relatively undeveloped and consist of natural habitats which have the potential to support wildlife movement through the area in search of food, shelter, or nesting habitat. Although heavily disturbed, and constrained by development, the proposed trail alignment would have the potential to provide movement opportunities for wildlife to travel north to the San Gabriel Mountains and North Etiwanda Preserve, and northeast towards the Lytle Creek Wash. However, implementation of the proposed Project would not include design features or structures that would inhibit any potential movement because the proposed trail would utilize an existing flood control maintenance road that currently runs parallel to the flood control channel. Right-of-way acquisition would be required to obtain an easement from private property located in between I-15 and SR-210. All other improvements would occur within areas already disturbed for flood control and transportation uses. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

3.4(e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

Although the City of Fontana Public Services Department developed a Tree Policy Manual that addresses the protection of Heritage, Significant, and Specimen Trees, no such trees occur on the Project site.

Planting is not proposed in the area of Victoria Street. New vegetation areas along Banyan Street and the trail would incorporate native plantings to be approved by both the City of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga for the areas within their respective jurisdictions.

There are no other local policies or ordinances that apply to biological resources on the Project site, as the site is previously disturbed and has been stripped of all native vegetation. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.4(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?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Habitat Assessment, June 2016)

The Project site does not fall under other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans; therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES. *Would the Project:*				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to§ 15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		X		
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X	

3.5(a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan)

Historic resources generally consist of buildings, structures, improvements, and remnants associated with a significant historic event or person(s) and/or have a historically significant style, design, or achievement. Damaging or demolition of historic resources is typically considered to be a significant impact. Impacts to historic resources can occur through direct impacts, such as destruction or removal, and indirect impacts, such as a change in the setting of a historic resource.

The City of Fontana General Plan includes an Open Space and Conservation Element which inventories known cultural and historical resources. Although specific actions in the General Plan address specific historical resources, none of these resources lie within the Project area.

Although the City of Fontana contains many historic resources, such resources would not be affected by this Project. The Project site is currently developed and there are no historical resources documented on this site; therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.5(b) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan, Cultural Records Search)

Archaeological sites are locations that contain resources associated with former human activities, and may contain such resources as human skeletal remains, waste from tool manufacture, tool concentrations, and/or discoloration or accumulation of soil or food remains.

BCR Consulting Principal Investigator/Archaeologist David Brunzell conducted the cultural resources records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton on May 31, 2016. The records search included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites, as well as recorded built environment resources within one mile of the Project site. The research also reviewed known cultural resource reports completed in the vicinity.

The research revealed that 37 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in nine cultural resources (36 historic-period, and one prehistoric) recorded within one mile of the Project site. The Project site has never been subject to a cultural resources assessment, and no cultural resources have been recorded within its boundaries. Aerial photos from the U.S. Department of Agriculture were also reviewed during the research. This research indicates that the Project alignment between the southern terminus and Victoria Street was paved and channelized after 1980. This research has also indicated that the Project alignment to the north of Victoria Street was channelized and paved between 1966 and 1980. The records search results are summarized in Table 3.5-1, *Records Search Results (One-Mile Radius)*.

Table 3.5-1: Records Search Results (One-Mile Radius)

USGS 7.5 Min. Quad	Cultural Resources	Cultural Resource Reports
Guasti (1981), Devore (1996), and Cucamonga Peak (1996), California	P-36-7661, 10296, 10297, 13027, 13746, 16446, 16489, 16490, 60257	SB-106-1501, 1506, 1532, 1582, 2041, 2043, 2413, 2527, 2621, 2795, 2796, 2851, 3050, 3455, 3456, 3468, 3585, 3774, 3777, 4145, 4206, 4216, 4367, 4409, 5734, 5997, 5999, 6000, 6060, 6174, 6327, 6787, 6986, 7310, 7312, 7401, 7869

Because the only construction associated with this Project would occur on a site that has been previously disturbed by grading activities, it is unlikely that any archaeological resources would be found. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites, artifacts, and/or funerary objects, and historic architectural resources) are identified during earthmoving activities, Mitigation Measure CUL-1 is to be implemented. Therefore, impacts on archaeological resources would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Mitigation Measures

CUL-1 If previously undocumented cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites, artifacts, and/or funerary objects, and historic architectural resources) are identified during earth-moving activities, a qualified archaeologist approved by the City of Fontana, shall be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary. The qualified archaeologist

shall have the authority to halt construction activities within the immediate area (a 100-foot buffer) surrounding the discovery. Redirection of ground disturbance shall be accomplished under the direction of the construction manager. If such resources are found or impacts can be anticipated, the halting and/or redirection of construction shall remain in effect until the following have occurred:

a) The qualified archaeologist has notified the Lead Agency (or its designee) within 24 hours of the find description and the work stoppage/redirection;

b) The qualified archaeologist and the Lead Agency (or its designee) have conferred and determined what, if any, data recovery or other mitigation is needed and the scope of that mitigation; and,

c) Any necessary data recovery and mitigation has been completed.

3.5(c) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan)

The City of Fontana General Plan does not identify any human burial sites on or near the Project area, nor any areas suspected as such. There is some possibility that future land alteration activities associated with the Project to develop currently undeveloped land could uncover some human remains, whether from prehistoric time periods or from more recent time periods. There is some potential that Native American remains or remains of someone who has been missing or known to be dead could be encountered.

In the event of a discovery of human remains during a construction activity, Contractors must comply with the provisions of California Health and Safety Code §7050.5, which requires that further excavation or disturbance of the area containing human remains cease until the County Coroner examines the remains and issues a report. If the Coroner finds evidence of Native American remains, they are required to contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours to verify Native American origin and facilitate recovery the remains in accordance with appropriate Tribal customs. Compliance with this existing state law would prohibit development associated with the Project from indiscriminately destroying or damaging human remains or disturb human burial sites. As such, the Project would have a less than significant impact upon human remains or human burial sites.

3.6 ENERGY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?			X	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				X

3.6(a) *Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The proposed Project would not result in substantial energy consumption or conflict with any plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Implementation of the proposed Project is consistent with the approved *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan* prepared by the City in December 2015. The Project would contribute to the overall strategy for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions which directly relates to a reduction in energy consumption and energy efficiency improvements.

Analysis in this section evaluates energy consumption (e.g., fuel and electricity) associated with the construction and operation of the Project. Construction would be completed in approximately nine months, and would include activities such as site preparation, asphalt paving, and landscaping. Construction of the Project would require the use of fossil fuels (primarily gas, diesel, and motor oil) to operate heavy equipment, light-duty vehicles, machinery, and generators during various construction activities. Temporary grid power may also be provided to construction trailers or electric construction equipment, depending on the location and construction activity. Overall, construction would not require a large amount of fuel or energy usage due to the low intensity of construction activities and low number of construction vehicles, equipment, worker trips, and truck trips. In addition, equipment idling times would be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes or less (as required by the California Airborne Toxic Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485 of the California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Therefore, Project construction would not result in the use of large amounts of fuel and energy in a wasteful manner. Impacts would be less than significant.

The Project would promote bicycle and pedestrian use within the area by providing an alternative mode of transportation from traditional vehicle use. Therefore, the Project would contribute to a reduction of overall energy use and consumption in the area. The Project would not constitute an inefficient or wasteful use of energy. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.6(b) *Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

The proposed Project would provide a direct connection to the existing 21-mile Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail at the Project's southern terminus, approximately 0.25 miles south of Victoria Street. This regional trail connection is a key component of the proposed Project, as it is anticipated to enhance non-motorized access in the area and encourage increased trail use for both recreation and transportation purposes. Use of the trail for transportation purposes would reduce traditional vehicle use (i.e. cars, trucks, motorcycles) and in turn, vehicle emissions and fuel consumption. Operational use of the Project would not lead to an increase in energy use or demand. The Project is a recreational trail project that would not obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, no impacts would occur as a result of the Project.

3.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. *Would the Project*:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause 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.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?			X	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X

3.7(a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

1) *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.* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: USGS, Google Earth).

No known active or potentially active faults have been mapped within the Project area and the area is not located in a Fault Rupture Hazard Zone as established by the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act. A less than significant impact would occur.

2) *Strong seismic ground shaking?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: USGS, Google Earth).

The Project site is located in a seismically active region of Southern California. Seismic shaking activity and intensity is dependent on the distance from the fault and earthquake epicenter. The geologic structure of the entire Southern California area is dominated by the northwesters-trending faults associated with the San Andreas Fault system. Faults such as the Whittier, San Jacinto, and San Andreas are all major faults in this system and are known to active. The nearest fault to the Project site is the San Jacinto Fault, located approximately 5 miles to the northwest.

No large structures or buildings would be constructed as part of the Project. Small structural components associated with the new trail, such as benches, signage, and lighted bollards, would be installed. To minimize potential damage to the structures associated with the proposed trail caused by groundshaking, all construction would comply with the latest California Building Code standards, as required by the City Municipal Code Sec. 5-61. Implementation of the California Building Code standards, would include provisions for seismic building designs. Impacts associated with groundshaking would be less than significant.

3) *Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan).

Liquefaction is a phenomenon in which loose, saturated, relatively cohesion-less soil deposits lose shear strength during strong ground motions. The factors controlling liquefaction are:

1) Seismic groundshaking of relatively loose, granular soils that are saturated or submerged can cause soils to liquefy and temporarily behave as a dense fluid. For liquefaction to occur, the following conditions have to occur: Intense seismic shaking;
2) Presence of loose granular soils prone to liquefaction; and
3) Saturation of soils due to shallow groundwater.

According to the City of Fontana General Plan, the current potential for liquefaction on the Project site is considered "low." As discussed above, no large structures or buildings would be constructed with Project implementation, but the Project would include installation of benches, signage, and lighted bollards. To minimize potential damage to these small structures caused by liquefaction, all construction would comply with the latest California Building Code standards, as required by the City Municipal Code Sec. 5-61. Implementation of the California Building Code standards, would include provisions for seismic building designs. Impacts associated with liquefaction would be less than significant.

4) Landslides? ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Google Earth)

Generally, a landslide is defined as the downward and outward movement of loosened rock or earth down a hillside or slope. Landslides can occur either very suddenly or slowly, and frequently accompany other natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, or wildfires. Landslides can also be induced by the undercutting of slopes during construction, improper artificial compaction, or saturation from sprinkler systems or broken water pipes.

The elevation of the Project site ranges from approximately 1,300 feet above mean sea level (amsl) at the southern boundary at the Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, to 1,475 feet amsl at the northern boundary at Banyan Street. As discussed previously, the new trail segment would be implemented on an existing maintenance road and would cross existing freeway underpasses and roadways, which are already on level terrain. Therefore, the Project site itself and the surrounding terrain are level and do not present hazards of landslides. No impact would occur.

3.7(b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Soil erosion is defined as the detachment and movement of soil particles by the erosive forces of wind or water.

To control soil erosion, construction activities including soil disturbing activities such as clearing, grading, excavating, and stockpiling, that disturb one or more acres are regulated under the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). In addition, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be prepared before construction. A Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) is required to address post-construction soil erosion.

Since the new trail segment would be implemented on an existing maintenance road, as well as freeway underpasses and roadways, which already include paved portions, new pavement would not

be necessary for the entire trail alignment. Portions of the trail would only require new striping. As such, the new impervious surface amount associated with the proposed Project would be minimal, and the overall rate of and potential for erosion would be expected to be minimal. Any grading that would be necessary along the unpaved portions of the trail would be designed to maintain existing drainage flows, and would be maintained to reduce erosion potential. Additionally, a grading design plan would be submitted to the City in compliance with Sec. 28-98.5 of the municipal code. The grading design plan would provide measures for preventing excessive erosion and runoff. With implementation of a grading design plan and Water Quality Management Plan, impacts on soil erosion would be less than significant.

3.7(c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to responses 3.7(a)(2) through 3.7(a)(4). The Project would be constructed in accordance with provisions of the latest California Building Code standards, as required by the City Municipal Code Sec. 5-61. The Project would include construction of ground anchor and retaining walls, which would be designed to support bridge abutments on piles, and would not create additional loading on existing San Sevaine/Etiwanda Channel slope paving and vertical channel walls. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.7(d) *Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (2004), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Expansive soils are those that undergo volume changes as moisture content fluctuates; swelling substantially when wet or shrinking when dry. Soil expansion can damage structures by cracking foundations, causing settlement and distorting structural elements.

For the portions of the new trail segment that are unpaved and would require grading and new pavement, all areas with low density and potentially collapsible soil material, including areas of undocumented fill should be removed and replaced with engineered fill and then compacted in place to a minimum of 90 percent relative compaction. Standards and requirements contained in the California Building Code would be adhered to in the design of the proposed buildings. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.7(e) *Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Application materials)

The Project site currently does not use a septic system or alternative wastewater disposal system. The proposed Project consists of the implementation of a new trail segment within the Etiwanda flood control right-of-way and would not include any residences or commercial buildings that would warrant the need for a septic or wastewater disposal system. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.7(f) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: City of Fontana General Plan, San Bernardino County Museum)

According to the San Bernardino County Museum, the City of Fontana is situated in an area of low paleontological sensitivity. The areas of the City with the highest potential to contain fossil resources are in the southwestern portions, several miles from the Project area.

As discussed above, the Project site is currently developed and has been previously disturbed, including grading. There were no paleontological resources found during these activities; therefore, impacts as a result of the implementation would be less than significant.

3.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. *Would the Project:*				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X	

Global Climate Change

California is a substantial contributor of global greenhouse gases (GHGs), emitting over 400 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO_2) per year.[2] Climate studies indicate that California is likely to see an increase of three to four degrees Fahrenheit over the next century. Methane (CH_4) is also an important GHG that potentially contributes to global climate change. GHGs are global in their effect, which is to increase the earth's ability to absorb heat in the atmosphere. As primary GHGs have a long lifetime in the atmosphere, accumulate over time, and are generally well-mixed, their impact on the atmosphere is mostly independent of the point of emission.

The impact of human activities on global climate change is apparent in the observational record. Air trapped by ice has been extracted from core samples taken from polar ice sheets to determine the global atmospheric variation of CO_2, CH_4, and nitrous oxide (N_2O) from before the start of industrialization (approximately 1750), to over 650,000 years ago. For that period, it was found that CO_2 concentrations ranged from 180 to 300 parts per million. For the period from approximately 1750 to the present, global CO_2 concentrations increased from a pre-industrialization period concentration of 280 to 379 parts per million in 2005, with the 2005 value far exceeding the upper end of the pre-industrial period range.

Regulations and Significance Criteria

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) developed several emission trajectories of GHGs needed to stabilize global temperatures and climate change impacts. It concluded that a stabilization of GHGs at 400 to

[2] California Energy Commission, California Greenhouse Gas Inventory – 2015 Edition, June 2015.

450 parts per million CO_2 equivalent (CO_2eq)[3] concentration is required to keep global mean warming below two degrees Celsius, which in turn is assumed to be necessary to avoid significant levels of climate change.

Executive Order S-3-05 was issued in June 2005, which established the following GHG emission reduction targets:

- 2010: Reduce GHG emissions to 2000 levels;
- 2020: Reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels; and
- 2050: Reduce GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels.

Additionally, issued in April 2015, Executive Order B-30-15 requires statewide GHG emissions to be reduced 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32) requires that the CARB determine what the statewide GHG emissions level was in 1990, and approve a statewide GHG emissions limit that is equivalent to that level, to be achieved by 2020. CARB has approved a 2020 emissions limit of 427 million metric tons (MT) of CO_2eq ($MTCO_2eq$).

Due to the nature of global climate change, it is not anticipated that any single development Project would have a substantial effect on global climate change. In actuality, GHG emissions from the proposed Project would combine with emissions emitted across California, the United States, and the world to cumulatively contribute to global climate change.

In June 2008, the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research published a Technical Advisory, which provides informal guidance for public agencies as they address the issue of climate change in CEQA documents. This is assessed by determining whether a proposed Project is consistent with or obstructs the 39 Recommended Actions identified by CARB in its *Climate Change Scoping Plan* which includes nine Early Action Measures (qualitative approach). The Attorney General's Mitigation Measures identify areas were GHG emissions reductions can be achieved in order to achieve the goals of AB 32. As set forth in the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory and in the proposed amendments to the *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.4, this analysis examines whether the proposed Project's GHG emissions are significant based on a qualitative and performance based standard (Proposed *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.4(a)(1) and (2)).

South Coast Air Quality Management District Thresholds

The SCAQMD has formed a GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Working Group (Working Group) to provide guidance to local lead agencies on determining significance for GHG emissions in their CEQA documents. As of the last Working Group meeting (Meeting No. 15) held in September 2010, the SCAQMD is proposing to adopt a tiered approach for evaluating GHG emissions for development projects where SCAQMD is not the lead agency.[4]

With the tiered approach, the Project is compared with the requirements of each tier sequentially and would not result in a significant impact if it complies with any tier. Tier 1 excludes projects that are specifically exempt from SB 97 from resulting in a significant impact. Tier 2 excludes projects that are consistent with a GHG reduction plan

[3] Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO2eq) – A metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential.

[4] The most recent SCAQMD GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Working Group meeting was held on September 2010.

that has a certified final CEQA document and complies with AB 32 GHG reduction goals. Tier 3 excludes projects with annual emissions lower than a screening threshold. For all non-industrial projects, the SCAQMD is proposing a screening threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_{2eq}$ per year. SCAQMD concluded that projects with emissions less than the screening threshold would not result in a significant cumulative impact.

Tier 4 consists of three decision tree options. Under the Tier 4 first option, the Project would be excluded if design features and/or mitigation measures resulted in emissions 30 percent lower than business as usual emissions. Under the Tier 4 second option the Project would be excluded if it had early compliance with AB 32 through early implementation of CARB's Scoping Plan measures. Under the Tier 4 third option, the Project would be excluded if it was below an efficiency-based threshold of 4.8 $MTCO_2eq$ per service population (SP) per year.[5] Tier 5 would exclude projects that implement offsite mitigation (GHG reduction projects) or purchase offsets to reduce GHG emission impacts to less than the proposed screening level.

GHG efficiency metrics are utilized as thresholds to assess the GHG efficiency of a Project on a per capita basis or on a "service population" basis (the sum of the number of jobs and the number of residents provided by a Project) such that the Project would allow for consistency with the goals of AB 32 (i.e., 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020 and 2035). GHG efficiency thresholds can be determined by dividing the GHG emissions inventory goal of the State, by the estimated 2035 population and employment. This method allows highly efficient projects with higher mass emissions to meet the overall reduction goals of AB 32, and is appropriate, because the threshold can be applied evenly to all project types (residential or commercial/retail only and mixed use).

For the proposed Project, the 3,000 $MTCO_2eq$ per year threshold is used as the significance threshold in addition to the qualitative thresholds of significance set forth below from Section VII of *CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G.

City of Fontana General Plan

The City of Fontana's General Plan contains the following policies relevant to the proposed Project that support the City's GHG reduction measures:

- **Land Use Goal 3 Policy 4:** Improvements shall be made to transportation corridors that promote physical connectivity and reflect consistently high aesthetic values.
- **Land Use Goal 5 Policy 4:** Downtown, its Metrolink Station and Transit Plaza, and the surrounding community shall be accessible and connected by multiple modes of transportation including pedestrian, bicycle, transit and automobile.

3.8(a) *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

(Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Minutes for the GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Stakeholder Working Group #13,* August 26, 2009.)

[5] The project-level efficiency-based threshold of 4.8 $MTCO_2eq$ per SP per year is relative to the 2020 target date. The SCAQMD has also proposed efficiency-based thresholds relative to the 2035 target date to be consistent with the GHG reduction target date of SB 375. GHG reductions by the SB 375 target date of 2035 would be approximately 40 percent. Applying this 40 percent reduction to the 2020 targets results in an efficiency threshold for plans of 4.1 $MTCO_2eq$ per SP per year and an efficiency threshold at the project level of 3.0 $MTCO_2eq$/year.

Project-related GHG emissions would include emissions from construction activities. Construction of the Project would result in direct emissions of CO_2, N_2O, and CH_4 from the operation of construction equipment. Transport of materials and construction workers to and from the Project site would also result in GHG emissions. Construction activities would be short-term in duration and would cease upon Project completion. The proposed Project involves the expansion of an existing trail by converting an existing maintenance road into a paved trail and does not propose a trip-generated land use. The operation of the proposed Project would not result in any new sources of operational GHG emissions, as there would be no increase in vehicle trips and no new land uses are proposed. Consequently, Project-related GHG emissions would only be from construction activities.

Project-related GHG emissions would result from the proposed construction activities over the construction period. Construction GHG emissions are typically summed and amortized over the lifetime of the Project (assumed to be 30 years), then added to the operational emissions.[6] Table 3.8-1, *Estimated Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, presents the estimated CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O emissions of the proposed Project. The CalEEMod outputs are contained within the Appendix A, *Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data*. As shown in Table 3.8-1, the proposed Project would result in 183.91 $MTCO_2eq$ (6.13 $MTCO_2eq$ when amortized over 30 years), which is well below the 3,000 $MTCO_2eq$/year screening threshold.

6 The Project lifetime is based on the standard 30 year assumption of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Minutes for the GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Stakeholder Working Group #13,* August 26, 2009).

Table 3.8-1: Estimated Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Source	CO_2	CH_4		N_2O		Total $MTCO_2eq/yr$[3]
	MT/yr[1]	MT/yr[1]	$MTCO_2eq/yr$[2]	MT/yr[1]	$MTCO_2eq/yr$[2]	
Construction Emissions						
Total Emissions	183.91	0.04	0.88	0.00	0.00	184.65
Total Emissions (amortized over 30 years)	6.13	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	6.16

Notes:
1. Emissions calculated using California Emissions Estimator Model.
2. Carbon dioxide equivalent values calculated using the United States Environmental Protection Agency Website, *Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator*, http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html, accessed May 31, 2016.
3. Totals may be slightly off due to rounding.
4. Conservatively based on a seven day work week, operating eight hours per day.

Refer to Appendix A, *Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Data*, for detailed model input/output data.

As GHG emissions from construction of the proposed Project would be minimal and less than the 3,000 $MTCO_2eq$ GHG emissions threshold proposed by the SCAQMD, impacts would be less than significant.

3.8(b) *Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Sources: City of Fontana, *City of Fontana General Plan Update 2015-2035,* adopted November 13, 2018; .)

Table 3.8-2, *General Plan Consistency Summary*, lists the City of Fontana General Plan policies that are applicable to the proposed Project, and discusses the Project's consistency with each policy.

Table 3.8-2 General Plan Consistency Summary

General Plan Policy	Consistency
City of Fontana	
Land Use Goal 2: Fontana development patterns support a high quality of life and economic prosperity. **Policy:** Preserve land to achieve an interconnected network of environmentally sensitive areas, parks, multi-use paths, and recreation areas. **Action F:** Encourage and help find funding for new bike routes and improved sidewalks to improve active transportation options in selected areas.	**Consistent.** The proposed expansion of the existing Class I San Sevaine Trail would provide a direct connection to the regional trail, Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, which in turn, provides connectivity to the Santa Ana River Trail encouraging increased trail use from pedestrians and cyclists for both recreation and transportation purposes.
Sources: City of Fontana, *City of Fontana General Plan Update 2015-2035, Chapter 15, "Land Use, Zoning, and Urban Design."* Adopted November 13, 2018.	

As summarized in Table 3.8-2, the proposed Project would be consistent with the City applicable General Plan policies that pertain to GHG emissions. The City General Plan policies are based on

existing land use designations. In addition, the Project would be subject to applicable Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements, further reducing Project-related GHG emissions. The Project would not conflict with or impede implementation of reduction goals identified in AB 32 and other strategies to help reduce GHG emissions. Therefore, the implementation of the proposed Project would not affect any plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. No impact would occur.

3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
9.	**HAZARDS AND WASTE 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?				X
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 1/4 mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e)	For a Project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the Project area?				X

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?				X

3.9(a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: Hazardous Materials Memorandum, dated June 7, 2016, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, Electronic Hazardous Waste (E-Waste), http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/EWaste/, accessed June 1, 2016. San Bernardino County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division – CUPA/Permits/Facility Inspection, http://www.sbcfire.org/hazmat/cupa.aspx, accessed June 1, 2016. Supplemental Site Investigation (SSI) Report for the Etiwanda Waste Disposal Site Southeast of the Intersection of Victoria Street and Interstate 15, Etiwanda, San Bernardino County, California, SWIS No. 36-CR-0021, dated December 13, 2016, prepared by Ninyo & Moore. Correspondence dated March 29, 2017, Concurrence of the Action Plan in Response to Comments Regarding Supplemental Site Investigation Report for the Etiwanda Disposal Site (SWIS 36-CR-0021), San Bernardino County. Correspondence dated August 30, 2017, Response to the Work Plan for Landfill Gas Investigation and the Cover Mitigation Plan for the Etiwanda Disposal Site (SWIS 36-CE-0021.)

Implementation of the proposed trail would not result in the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during operations of the proposed Project. Limited amounts of some hazardous materials could be used in the short-term construction of the Project, including standard construction materials (e.g., paints and solvents), vehicle fuel, and other hazardous materials. The routine transportation, use, and disposal of these materials would be required to adhere to State and local standards and regulations for handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous substances. With compliance with the existing State and local procedures that are intended to minimize potential health risks associated with their use or the accidental release of such substances, impacts associated with the handling, storage, and transport of these hazardous materials during construction would be less than significant.

3.9(b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: CERES, Corp., Hazardous Materials Memorandum, dated June 7, 2016, Supplemental Site Investigation Report, dated October 5, 2016.)

During Project construction, there is a minor possibility of accidental release of hazardous substances such as petroleum-based fuels or hydraulic fluid used for construction equipment. The level of risk associated with the accidental release of hazardous substances is not considered significant due to the small volume and low concentration of hazardous materials utilized during construction. The construction contractor would be required to use standard construction controls and safety procedures that would avoid and minimize the potential for accidental release of such substances into the environment. Standard construction practices would be observed such that any materials released are appropriately contained and remediated as required by local, state, and federal law.

Regulatory Database Search

As part of this analysis, Michael Baker reviewed available database records maintained by the California Environmental Protect Agency (CalEPA) (Cortese Database), the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) (GeoTracker Database), and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) (EnviroStor Database). The Project site was not listed on any of the database records as a hazardous site.

Site Visit

Michael Baker performed a visual observation of readily accessible areas of the Project site and immediately adjoining properties on June 1, 2016. Access to the Project site was not available, Michael Baker viewed all areas of the Project site from public thoroughfares.

The Project site consists of the existing Etiwanda flood control channel. Specifically, the Project site is comprised of the flood control channel, paved access roads, and disturbed vegetation on both sides of the channel/access roads. Michael Baker did not observe any manholes, fill pipes, vent piles, fuel pumps, or any areas of abnormal staining during the June 1, 2016 visual site inspection. No evidence suggesting the current or past use of on-site underground storage tanks (USTs), aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), and/or manholes or hazardous material storage was noted within the boundaries of the Project site during the June 1, 2016 site visit. No evidence of spills, solid waste disposal, overhead powerlines, wells, pits/ponds/lagoons, or structures were noted on the Project site during the June 1, 2016 site visit. Michael Baker did not observe any evidence to suggest the release of hazardous materials within the boundaries of the Project site during the June 1, 2016 site visit. Additionally, during a preliminary observation of surrounding properties on June 1, 2016, no visible or physical evidence was observed to suggest that a surface release of petroleum-based material has recently occurred.

Supplemental Site Investigation

In February 2020, Michael Baker obtained a Supplemental Site Investigation (SSI) Report dated December 13, 2016, prepared for the County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division. The SSI Report focused on characterizing and delineating wastes on approximately 31.66 acres of undeveloped land located southeast of the intersection of Victoria Street and Interstate 15, north of the Pacific Electric Bicycle Trail.

The proposed trail alignment bisects 31.66 acres into two smaller parcels, referred to in the SSI Report as the Western Parcel (11.67 acres) and Eastern Parcel (19.99 acres). The proposed trail alignment is not A portion of the Western Parcel is the location of the Etiwanda Waste Disposal Site which consists of several areas of burned wastes at the northwestern portion of the parcel. No waste disposal activity was indicated on the Eastern Parcel. According to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Solid Waste Information System (SWIS) database, Etiwanda is a closed, pre-regulation solid waste disposal site with much of the site underlying Interstate 15. Th SSI Report identified four burned waste and one non-burned waste sites all located in the northwest corner of the Western Parcel. The sites were tested for Constituents of Potential Concern (COPCs) that exceed or potentially exceed hazardous waste criteria and/or exceed the residential/industrial Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) and the findings of which are located in Appendix D – on pages 4 and 5 of the Supplemental Site Investigation. The SSI Report made three recommendations for the identified contaminated areas within the Western Parcel:

- *Exposed wastes found in the Western Parcel should be covered to meet the requirements of California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 27, Section 21140 for Final Cover;*
- *The Western Parcel, north and south of Victoria Street, be restricted from public access due to the presence of surficial burned and other solid wastes; and*
- *The asbestos containing material (ACM) in the Waste Debris Area within the Western Parcel should not be disturbed."*

On March 16, 2017, the County of San Bernardino Public Works Department submitted an Action Plan to the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. The Action Plan implements the recommendations of the SSI Report. Further, the Action Plan removes the Eastern Parcel that does not contain wastes from the boundaries of the Etiwanda Disposal Site and would make the Eastern Parcel available for sale for future development. A summary of the Action Plan is listed below.

Post Closure Land Uses

The Western Parcel was retained by the Flood Control District and County Public Works Department as undeveloped open space, graded to harmonize with the setting and landscaped with native shrubbery and ground cover. A deed/land use restriction was placed on the Western Parcel with notification provided to the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health as the local enforcement agency responsible for oversight of the parcel.

Site Security

On February 16, 2017, the Flood Control District completed the construction of non-climbable chain link metal fencing with locking access gates along the perimeter of the Western Parcel, south of Victoria Street, to restrict public access. The perimeter fencing includes one locked gate/access point with posted no trespassing signs. The existing cable and metal post fencing was upgraded to six-foot non-climbable chain link fencing on March 31, 2017.

Final Cover

Areas of exposed wastes and where the waste cover thickness was less than 1.5 feet thick on the Western Parcel, were covered with clean, imported fine grained soils in 2017. The planned cover was graded to properly drain and will function with minimum maintenance and provide waste containment to protect public health and safety.

Based on the site visit conducted on June 1, 2016, review of the SSI Report and subsequent Action Plan, and the regulatory databases reviewed as part of the Hazardous Materials Memorandum, the proposed grading activities are not anticipated to encounter contaminated soils or groundwater. The proposed trail alignment is outside of the areas identified by the SSI Report as having wastes present and is also outside of the fenced area required by the Action Plan. No impacts would occur.

3.9(c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: Google Earth, 2016, Hazardous Materials Memorandum, dated June 7, 2016)

The nearest school (Etiwanda High School) is located approximately 1,000 feet to the west of the Project site. However, construction activities and proposed operations of the trail are not anticipated to involve the handling of hazardous materials or hazardous emissions. Thus, no impacts would occur.

3.9(d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: Hazardous Materials Memorandum, dated June 7, 2016)

Based on the Cortese Database search conducted as part of the Hazardous Materials Memorandum and the findings of the SSI Report and subsequent Action Plan, the Project site is not reported on a list maintained pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. No impacts would occur.

3.9(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 for people residing or working in the Project area?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: Google Earth, 2016, Ontario City Council, LA/Ontario International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, adopted April 19, 2011.)

The Project site is located approximately 6.7 miles from Ontario International Airport. However, the Project site is not within the airport influence area of either facility. The Project does not include any air travel component (e.g., runway helipad, etc.) Accordingly, the Project would not have the potential to affect air traffic patterns, including an increase in traffic levels or a change in flight path location that results in a substantial safety risk. Implementation of the proposed Project would not introduce a safety hazard associated with airport operations. No impacts would occur.

3.9(f) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: City of Fontana, The Code of the City of Fontana, California, Codified through Ordinance No. 1700, adopted August 12, 2014. [Supp. No. 35]. San Bernardino County, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, approved October 11, 2011. San Bernardino County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services, http://www.sbcfire.org/oes/, accessed on June 2, 2016.)

The proposed Project would not physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Construction of the proposed Project would occur entirely within the existing flood control channel and maintenance road, which is located off of public roadways. No impacts would occur.

3.9 (g) *Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Sources: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA, adopted on November 13, 2008, http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_zones_maps.php, accessed March 26, 2015.)

Although the Project site is located within a completely urbanized area, a portion of the trail is located within an area designated as very high fire hazard severity zone according to California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps (CAL Fire, 2007). However, as a recreational trail project composed primarily of hardscape, the Project would not increase the hazards to people or buildings due to wildlands fire, and may have the potential to act as a fire break. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. *Would the Project:*				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?			X	
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner, which would:			X	
i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on or offsite?			X	
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite?			X	
iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			X	
iv) Impede or redirect flows?			X	

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				X
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			X	

3.10(a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Water Quality Technical Memorandum, June 1, 2016)

The CWA, as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, is the major federal legislation governing water quality, which was enacted "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters." Important sections of the CWA include:

- Sections 303 and 304 – provide for water quality standards, criteria, and guidelines; and
- Section 402 – establishes the NPDES system, a permitting system for the discharge of any pollutant (except for dredge or fill material) into waters of the United States. This permitting program is administered by the California RWQCBs.

The permits associated with these sections of the CWA typically include additional site-specific requirements. The desktop survey indicated that no permits are anticipated under the CWA to develop this site.

The RWQCB is responsible for the protection of beneficial uses of water resources within its jurisdiction and uses planning, permitting, and enforcement authorities to meet this responsibility. Every water body within the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana RWQCB is designated a set of beneficial uses that are protected by appropriate water quality objectives and identified in the Santa Ana RWQCB's Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan). According to the Basin Plan, this proposed Project drains to the Chino-North "maximum benefit" Groundwater Basin, and Etiwanda Channel. The Basin Plan does not identify beneficial uses for Etiwanda Channel. However, drainage from the Project would also discharge to East Etiwanda Creek. The Basin Plan classifies this water body as the Valley Reach of East Etiwanda Creek in the San Gabriel Subarea. The Etiwanda Channel and East Etiwanda Creek Channel meet near the intersection of I-15 and Victoria Street and flow adjacently south through the proposed Project area. Table 3.10-1, *Beneficial Uses of Receiving Water Bodies,* below summarizes the beneficial uses of the receiving waterbodies as identified in the Basin Plan.

Table 3.10-1: Beneficial Uses of Receiving Water Bodies

Beneficial Use Type	Groundwater Beneficial Uses	East Etiwanda Creek Beneficial Uses
Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) – Includes uses of water for community, military, or individual water supply systems including, but not limited to, drinking water supply.	✓	✓
Agricultural Supply (AGR) – Includes uses of water for farming, horticulture, or ranching including, but not limited to, irrigation, stock watering, or support of vegetation for range grazing.	✓	-
Industrial Service Supply (IND) – Includes uses of water for industrial activities that do not depend primarily on water quality including, but not limited to, mining, cooling water supply, hydraulic conveyance, gravel washing, fire protection, or oil well re-pressurization.	✓	-
Industrial Process Supply (PROC) – Includes uses of water for industrial activities that depend primarily on water quality. These uses may include, but are not limited to, process water supply and all uses of water related to product manufacture or food preparation.	✓	✓
Groundwater Recharge (GWR) – Includes uses of water for natural or artificial recharge of groundwater for purposes that include, but are not limited to, future extraction, maintaining water quality or halting saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.	-	✓
Contact Water Recreation (REC-1) – Includes uses of water for recreational activities involving body contact with water, where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. These uses include, but are not limited to, swimming, wading, water-skiing, skin and SCUBA diving, surfing, white water activities, fishing, or use of natural hot springs.	-	✓
Non-contact Water Recreation (REC-2) – Includes the uses of water for recreational activities involving proximity to water, but not normally involving proximity to water, but not normally involving body contact with water, where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. These uses include, but are not limited to, picnicking, sunbathing, hiking, beachcombing, camping, boating, tidepool and marine life study, hunting, sightseeing, or aesthetic enjoyment in conjunction with the above activities.	-	✓
Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD) – Includes uses of water that support coldwater ecosystems that may include, but are not limited to, preservations and enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish and wildlife, including invertebrates.	-	✓
Wildlife Habitat (WILD) – Includes uses of water that support wildlife habitats that may include, but are not limited to, the preservation and enhancement of vegetation and prey species used by waterfowl and other wildlife.	-	✓
Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE) – Includes uses of water that support the habitats necessary for the survival and successful maintenance of plant or animal species designated under state or federal law as rare, threatened or endangered.	-	✓

Section 303 of the CWA requires that the state adopt water quality objectives for surface waters. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives that are considered necessary to protect the specific beneficial uses it identifies for surface waters. Section 303(d) of the CWA specifically requires the state to develop a list of impaired water bodies and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), plans to determine the maximum allowable pollutant load that a water body can receive and continue to meet the designated beneficial uses. East Etiwanda Creek and San Sevaine Channel are not listed on the 2012 Integrated Report (Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List/305(b) Report) nor has a TMDL been developed in either water body.

The proposed Project is located within the urban Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES permitted area (NPDES Order R8-2010-0036) in San Bernardino County. Drainage from the proposed Project drains to channels in the San Bernardino County Flood Control District's jurisdiction, which is the principal permittee in the NPDES permit. A Municipal Stormwater Management Plan (MSWMP) was developed for the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, the County of San Bernardino and the 18 incorporated cities (collectively called "permittees"), including the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. It describes the responsibilities, procedures, and practices the permittees use to protect water quality by reducing or eliminating pollutants discharged from storm drainage systems they own or operate, including the selection and implementation of source control and treatment control BMPs. The proposed Project would meet the requirements of the MSWMP where technically feasible.

The County of San Bernardino Stormwater Program's *Technical Guidance Document for Water Quality Management Plans* was developed to assist project proponents with developing Water Quality Management Plans that comply with the NPDES Permit requirements applicable to private or public development activities. It requires priority projects, such as this one, to implement where feasible and applicable, source control and treatment control BMPs because it would add or replace 5,000 or more square feet in impervious surface on an already-developed site, which is anticipated to increase flows and pollutant loading to downstream facilities. The proposed Project includes approximately 36,000 square feet of new impervious area. Structural treatment control and non-structural source control BMPs should be incorporated into the proposed Project to collect and treat the stormwater runoff volume from an 85th percentile 24-hour runoff event, as determined by the County of San Bernardino's 85th Percentile Precipitation Isopluvial Map, or the stormwater runoff flow from a rainfall intensity of 0.2 inch of rainfall per hour, as stated in the requirements of NPDES Order Number R8-2010-0036. During the proposed Project design phase, the increase in flows and pollutant loading would be addressed through the hydrology and Water Quality Management Plan analyses.

Construction General Permit

The *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities* (Construction General Permit and/or CGP), Order 2009-0009-DWQ, requires coverage for any construction project disturbing more than one acre of land, for any size parcel that is part of a larger common plan of development, or for any site that the Santa Ana RWQCB requires coverage. The CGP generally requires the following:

1. Assessment of the Site Risk (Risk Level 1, 2, 3, from low risk to high risk)
2. Enrollment under the CGP through the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB)
3. Development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
4. Sampling of stormwater and potential sampling of receiving water (depending on project risk)
5. Reporting requirements

Based on the information currently available and if the CGP applies to the proposed Project, the Site Risk for the proposed Project is anticipated to be low, which means visual monitoring is required and effluent monitoring may be conducted as necessary.

Post-Construction BMPs and Runoff Reduction Measures

Post construction (structural and non-structural) BMPs and runoff reduction measures applicable to the proposed Project site may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Implement minimum BMPs as applicable to the proposed Project
- Site design BMPs
- Preservation of existing flow patterns
- Preservation of drainage density
- Infiltration BMPs (where technically feasible)
- Biotreatment BMPs (where technically feasible)

Temporary Construction BMPs

Temporary construction BMPs applicable to the proposed Project site may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Site Management BMPs
- Non-stormwater BMPs (control of non-stormwater discharges)
- Erosion Control BMPs
- Implement wind erosion controls
- Provide effective soil cover for inactive areas
- Limit use of plastic materials
- Ensure soil loss during each phase is equivalent or less than preconstruction soil loss
- Sediment Control BMPs
- Effective perimeter controls
- Stabilize construction entrances/exits

- Implement appropriate erosion control in conjunction with sediment control
- Linear slope controls
- Access Road controls

Regulatory Requirement Summary

Table 3.10-2, *Regulatory Requirements,* below summarizes the regulatory requirements that must be met to construct the proposed Project. With the implementation of the aforementioned permits and BMPs, water quality impacts associated with the development of the proposed Project would be less than significant.

Table 3.10-2: Regulatory Requirements

Regulatory Requirement	Actions to Address Requirement
Municipal NPDES Permit	Design and install site design, structural treatment control BMPs, and LID BMPs (if feasible) to address anticipated pollutants. Conduct geotechnical investigations to determine current groundwater conditions, and consider the results when evaluating structural treatment control BMPs. Evaluate during the proposed Project design phase, through the hydrology and Water Quality Management Plan analyses.
Construction General Permit	Develop and implement a SWPPP. Implement temporary erosion and sediment control BMPs during the construction of the proposed Project. Implement requirements of the Statewide Construction General Permit.
Temporary Construction BMPs	Temporary BMPs such as stabilized construction entrances/exits, erosion control blankets, and other minimum construction BMPs will be implemented consistent with the SWPPP.

3.10(b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Source: Water Quality Technical Memorandum, June 1, 2016)

The Project does not require additional water supplies that could potentially deplete existing groundwater supply.

Development of the Project would increase impervious surface coverage on the site, which would in turn reduce the amount of direct infiltration of runoff into the ground. However, the Project's stormwater runoff is engineered to be conveyed through public street improvements and storm drains. Trail construction would include construction of new inlets with soft bottom treatment to allow collection runoff to infiltrate into soil. Therefore, impacts to groundwater supplies and recharge would be less than significant, and mitigation would not be required.

3.10(c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner, which would:

(Source: Water Quality Technical Memorandum, June 1, 2016)

i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on or offsite? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The existing topography within the proposed Project boundary gently slopes from the north to the south, along the Etiwanda Creek Channel and San Sevaine Channel. These channels are located within the Santa Ana River watershed, and discharge to Reach 3 in the City of Jurupa Valley, approximately 10 miles south of the proposed Project. The surface drainage within the proposed Project area just south of Banyan Street to the meeting of San Sevaine and Etiwanda Creek channels flows freely until it is captured by an underground storm drain system. Throughout the rest of the proposed Project area, surface drainage sheet flows into the channels and pervious areas.

The proposed Project would not result in an increase in erosion or siltation on or offsite. Erosion control measures as described in the SWPPP would reduce potential impacts during construction of the Project. Impacts would be less than significant.

ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.10(c)(i), above.

On-site stormwater runoff associated with the Project would be engineered to be conveyed through public street improvements and storm drains. Additionally, with required adherence to a SWPPP and WQMP as discussed above under Response 3.10(a), the Project would not be a substantial source of polluted runoff. Therefore, less than significant impacts would occur and mitigation is not required.

The proposed Project would not result in an increase in erosion or siltation on or offsite. Erosion control measures as described in the SWPPP would reduce potential impacts during construction of the Project. Impacts would be less than significant.

iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.10(c)(ii), above. Impacts would be less than significant.

iv) Impede or redirect flows? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.10(c)(i), above. The proposed Project would not impede or redirect flows as the implementation of Project design features, as well as adherence to water quality requirements, would reduce this impact to less than significant.

3.10(d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? ***Determination: No Impact.***

(Source: Water Quality Technical Memorandum, June 1, 2016)

The Project site is located approximately 43 miles from the Pacific Ocean and is not susceptible to tsunamis. There are no bodies of water in the City of Fontana or any other area adjacent to the Project site that are capable of producing seiche activity. Therefore, the Project would not result in a risk of release of pollutants due to Project inundation. No impact would occur.

3.10(e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.10(a), above.

According to the Basin Plan, the proposed Project drains to the Chino-North "maximum benefit" Groundwater Basin, and Etiwanda Channel. The Basin Plan does not identify beneficial uses for Etiwanda Channel. In addition, the Project is adjacent to the Victoria Basin operated by IEUA for ground water recharge. However, the proposed trail construction would not impact the existing recharge basin or utility facilities connecting the Etiwanda/San Sevaine Channel to the Victoria Basin. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict or obstruct implementation of a water quality control pan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
11. LAND USE AND PLANNING. *Would the Project:* a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X	

3.11(a) Physically divide an established community? ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Sources: City of Fontana General Plan, Land Use Map and Zoning Districts)

The proposed Project consists of the expansion of Segment 2 of the existing Class I San Sevaine Trail by adding a new 1.25-mile trail segment within the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. The Project would involve converting an existing maintenance road, which currently runs parallel to the Etiwanda flood control channel, into a paved trail, and filling the gaps in the new linear path. The new trail segment would provide a direct connection to the existing 21-mile Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail at the Project's southern terminus, approximately 0.25 miles south of Victoria Street. The Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, in turn, provides connectivity to the 30-mile Santa Ana River Trail. This regional trail connection is a key component of the proposed Project, as it is anticipated to enhance non-motorized access in the area and encourage increased trail use for both recreation and transportation purposes. Therefore, the proposed Project would serve as a connection to the community, and would not physically divide an established community. No impacts would occur.

3.11(b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan)

Of the total 1.25-mile Project alignment length, approximately 0.30 miles fall within Fontana's city limits and approximately 0.95 miles fall within Rancho Cucamonga's city limits. As such, the zoning designations for both Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga were reviewed. The zoning designation for the 0.30-mile portion of the Project within Fontana's city limits is Specific Plan; specifically, the Project falls within the Westgate Specific Plan boundaries. The zoning designation for the 0.95-mile portion

of the Project within Rancho Cucamonga's city's limits is Specific Plan (SP-E); specifically, the Project falls within the Etiwanda Specific Plan boundaries. The proposed Project would not conflict with any of the allowed uses identified in the Municipal Codes for both the City of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga.

The area within the Westgate Specific Plan contains a mix of commercial, residential, school and open space land uses; however, due to this area's proximity to I-15, this area was designed to become a major commercial regional center within the Inland Empire and to contribute to the City's economic and employment base.

The area within the Etiwanda Specific Plan can be described as a rural community, characterized by large land parcels, eucalyptus tree rows, remnants of citrus groves and vineyards, stone curbs, and other elements that convey its unique and historic sense of place. The main purpose of the Etiwanda Specific Plan is to sustain the continued rural character of this portion of the City. The proposed trail would not conflict with any of the allowed land uses identified within both the Westgate Specific Plan and the Etiwanda Specific Plan.

The *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan* was prepared by the City in December 2015 in order to establish a continuous north/south alignment and determine a set of design standards for the San Sevaine Trail and its various spur trails within the existing constraints of the San Sevaine Channel, power line easement, and various channel, road, freeway, and railroad crossings. Because the proposed Project comprises a portion of the North Segment of the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan*, the proposed Project is subject to the goals, objectives, and priorities contained within Section 1.6, "Project Goals, Objectives, and Priorities" of the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan.* As such, the proposed Project would be required to be consistent with those goals, objectives, and priorities and would not result in a conflict with the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan*. Any impacts would be less than significant.

3.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

3.12(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?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: California Division of Mines and Geology, City of Fontana General Plan)

According to the City of Fontana General Plan and the California Division of Mines and Geology, the most significant mineral resources in the City of Fontana are sand and gravel deposits. However, these resources are not present on or around the Project site. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.12(b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: City of Fontana General Plan)

There are no mineral resource recovery sites on or near the Project area, and no impacts would occur.

3.13 NOISE

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
13.	**NOISE.** *Would the Project:*				
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	
b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X	
c)	For a Project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?			X	

Sound is mechanical energy transmitted by pressure waves in a compressible medium such as air, and is characterized by both its amplitude and frequency (or pitch). The human ear does not hear all frequencies equally. In particular, the ear de-emphasizes low and very high frequencies. To better approximate the sensitivity of human hearing, the A-weighted decibel scale (dBA) has been developed. On this scale, the human range of hearing extends from approximately three dBA to around 140 dBA.

Noise is generally defined as unwanted or excessive sound, which can vary in intensity by over one million times within the range of human hearing; therefore, a logarithmic scale, known as the decibel scale (dB), is used to quantify sound intensity. Noise can be generated by a number of sources, including mobile sources such as automobiles, trucks, and airplanes, and stationary sources such as construction sites, machinery, and industrial operations. Noise generated by mobile sources typically attenuates (is reduced) at a rate between three dBA and 4.5 dBA per doubling of distance. The rate depends on the ground surface and the number or type of objects between the noise source and the receiver. Hard and flat surfaces, such as concrete or asphalt, have an attenuation rate of three dBA per doubling of distance. Soft surfaces, such as uneven or vegetated terrain, have an attenuation rate of about 4.5 dBA per doubling of distance. Noise generated by stationary sources typically attenuates at a rate between 6 dBA and about 7.5 dBA per doubling of distance.

There are a number of metrics used to characterize community noise exposure, which fluctuate constantly over time. One such metric, the equivalent sound level (L_{eq}), represents a constant sound that, over the specified period, has the same sound energy as the time-varying sound. Noise exposure over a longer period of time is often evaluated based on the Day-Night Sound Level (L_{dn}). This is a measure of 24-hour noise levels that incorporates a 10-dBA penalty for sounds occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The penalty is intended to reflect the increased human sensitivity to noises occurring during nighttime hours, particularly at times when people are sleeping and there are lower ambient noise conditions. Typical L_{dn} noise levels for light and medium density residential areas range from 55 dBA to 65 dBA.

Regulatory Framework

City of Fontana Municipal Code

Section 30-182 (a), *Noise* of the City of Fontana's Municipal Code states that no use shall create or cause to be created any sound that exceed the ambient noise standards outlined in Table 3.13-1, *City of Fontana Noise Standards*.

Table 3.13-1 City of Fontana Noise Standards

Location of Measurement	Maximum Allowable	
	7:00 AM to 10:00 PM	10:00 PM to 7:00 AM
Interior	45 dB	45 dB
Exterior	65 dB	65 dB
Source: City of Fontana, *Fontana Municipal Code Table 30-182.A., Noise Standards.*		

Additionally, the City of Fontana's Municipal Code states that no person shall create of cause to be created any sound which exceeds the noise levels listed below as measured at the property line of any residentially zoned property:

- The noise level between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. shall not exceed 65 dBA
- The noise level between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. shall not exceed 70 dBA

Furthermore, Section 18-63 (7) *Construction or repairing of buildings or structures* of the City's Municipal Code states that:

> *The erection (including excavating), demolition, alteration or repair of any building or structure other than between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector, which permit may be granted for a period not to exceed three days or less while the emergency continues and which permit may be renewed for periods of three days or less while the emergency continues. If the building inspector should determine that the public health and safety will not be impaired by the erection, demolition, alteration or repair of any building or structure or the excavation of streets and highways within the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., and if he shall further determine that loss or inconvenience would result to any party in interest, he may grant*

permission for such work to be done on weekdays within the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the progress of the work.

City of Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code

Section 17.66.050, *Noise Standards* of the City of Rancho Cucamonga's Municipal Code provides noise provisions in order to control unnecessary, excessive, and annoying noise and vibration in the City. Provisions apply based on the designated noise zones: Noise Zone I: All single- and multiple-family residential properties, and Noise Zone II: All commercial properties. The following provisions are applicable to the proposed Project including:

C. Exterior noise standards.

1. *It shall be unlawful for any person at any location within the city to create any noise or allow the creation of any noise on the property owned, leased, occupied, or otherwise controlled by such person, which causes the noise level when measured on the property line of any other property to exceed the basic noise level as adjusted below:*
    a. *Basic noise level for a cumulative period of not more than 15 minutes in any one hour; or*
    b. *Basic noise level plus five dBA for a cumulative period of not more than ten minutes in any one hour; or*
    c. *Basic noise level plus 14 dBA for a cumulative period of not more than five minutes in any one hour; or*
    d. *Basic noise level plus 15 dBA at any time.*

D. Special exclusions. *The following activities shall be exempted from the provisions of this section:*

1. *Noise sources associated with, or vibration created by, construction, repair, remodeling, or grading of any real property or during authorized seismic surveys, provided said activities:*
    a. *When adjacent to a residential land use, school, church or similar type of use, the noise generating activity does not take place between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays, including Saturday, or at any time on Sunday or a national holiday, and provided noise levels created do not exceed the noise standard of 65 dBA when measured at the adjacent property line.*
    b. *When adjacent to a commercial or industrial use, the noise generating activity does not take place between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. on weekdays, including Saturday and Sunday, and provided noise levels created do not exceed the noise standards of 70 dBA at the when measured at the adjacent property line.*

E. Schools, churches, libraries, health care institutions. It shall be unlawful for any person to create any noise which causes the noise level at any school, hospital or similar health care institution, church, or library while the same is in use, to exceed the noise standards specified in this section and prescribed for the assigned noise zone in which the school, hospital, church, or library is located.

F. Residential noise standards.

1. *Table* 3.13-2, *City of Rancho Cucamonga Residential Noise Standards (Table 17.66.050-1 of the Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code) includes the maximum noise limits in residential zones. These are the noise limits when measured at the adjacent residential property line (exterior) or within a neighboring home (interior).*

   (A) It shall be unlawful for any person at any location within the city to create any noise or to allow the creation of any noise which causes the noise level when measured within any other fully enclosed (windows and doors shut) residential dwelling unit to exceed the interior noise standard in the manner described herein.

   (B) If the intruding noise source is continuous and cannot reasonably be discontinued or stopped for a time period whereby the ambient noise level can be determined, each of the noise limits above shall be reduced five dBA for noise consisting of impulse or simple tone noise.

Table 3.13-2 City of Rancho Cucamonga Residential Noise Standards

Location of Measurement	Maximum Allowable	
	7:00 AM to 10:00 PM	10:00 PM to 7:00 AM
Interior	45 dB	45 dB
Exterior	65 dB	65 dB
Source: City of Rancho Cucamonga, *Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code Table 17.66.050-1, Residential Noise Limits.*		

Additionally, the City of Rancho Cucamonga's Municipal Code Section 17.66.070, *Vibration* addresses uses that generate vibrations that may be considered a public nuisance or hazard on any adjacent property. These uses shall be cushioned or isolated to prevent generation of vibrations. It is noted that vibrations from temporary construction/demolition and vehicles that leave the subject parcel (e.g., trucks, trains, and aircraft) are exempt from the provisions of this section.

Existing Conditions

Stationary Sources

The Project area surrounding the segment of the trail is highly urbanized, consisting of a mix residential, commercial, and open space uses. In addition, the San Sevaine Flood Control Basin is located to the west of the Project area. The primary sources of stationary noise in the Project vicinity are urban-related activities (i.e., mechanical equipment, parking areas, and pedestrians). The noise associated with these sources may represent a single-event noise occurrence or short-term or long-term continuous noise.

Mobile Sources

The majority of the existing noise within the northern segment of the trail is generated from vehicle sources Banyan Street in the City of Rancho Cucamonga. According to the Rancho Cucamonga General Plan, Banyan Street is a tertiary travel corridor, a street that are more locally oriented and locally traveled. Two-lane streets occur in certain locations, and typically carry in the range of 10,000 to 15,000 vehicles per day. The majority of the existing

noise within the southern segment of the trail is generated from vehicle sources along Interstate-15 (I-15) in the City of Fontana. Based on the Rancho Cucamonga 2010 General Plan Update Program Environmental Impact Report, existing traffic noise levels were modeled at 100 feet from roadway centerlines. Traffic noise levels along I-15 typically average to 78.8 dBA CNEL.

3.13(a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

(Sources: Federal Highway Administration, *Roadway Construction Noise Model (FHWA-HEP-05-054)*, dated January 2006. United States Environmental Protection Agency, *Protective Noise Levels (EPA 550/9-79-100)*, November 1978.*)*

Short-Term Construction

It is difficult to specify noise levels that are generally acceptable to everyone; what is annoying to one person may be unnoticed by another. Standards may be based on documented complaints in response to documented noise levels, or based on studies of the ability of people to sleep, talk, or work under various noise conditions. However, all such studies recognize that individual responses vary considerably. Standards usually address the needs of the majority of the general population.

Construction activities generally are temporary and have a short duration, resulting in periodic increases in the ambient noise environment. Construction of the proposed Project would occur over approximately ten months. Construction activities would include grading, paving, decomposed granite placement, and concrete improvements. Ground-borne noise and other types of construction-related noise impacts typically occur during the initial site preparation. This phase of construction has the potential to create the highest levels of noise; however, it is generally the shortest of all construction phases. Typical noise levels generated by construction equipment are shown in Table 3.13-3, *Maximum Noise Levels Generated by Construction Equipment*. Operating cycles for these types of construction equipment may involve one or two minutes of full power operation followed by three to four minutes at lower power settings. Other primary sources of acoustical disturbance would be due to random incidents, which would last less than one minute (such as dropping large pieces of equipment or the hydraulic movement of machinery lifts).

Table 3.13-3: Maximum Noise Levels Generated by Construction Equipment

Type of Equipment	Acoustical Use Factor[1]	L_{max} at 50 Feet (dBA)
Concrete Saw	20	90
Crane	16	81
Concrete Mixer Truck	40	79
Backhoe	40	78
Dozer	40	82
Excavator	40	81

Forklift	40	78
Paver	50	77
Roller	20	80
Tractor	40	84
Water Truck	40	80
Grader	40	85
General Industrial Equipment	50	85

Note:
[1] Acoustical use factor (percent): Estimates the fraction of time each piece of construction equipment is operating at full power (i.e., its loudest condition) during a construction operation.

Source: Federal Highway Administration, *Roadway Construction Noise Model (FHWA-HEP-05-054),* January 2006.

Sensitive uses closest to the Project site include residential uses approximately 80 feet west of the northern segment of the trail and residential uses approximately 30 feet west of the southern segment of the trail. These sensitive uses may be exposed to elevated noise levels during Project construction. However, as the Project involves construction of a trail, construction noise would be acoustically dispersed and not be concentrated in one location for extended periods of time. Construction equipment would move in a linear fashion along the proposed trail expansion.

Pursuant to the Fontana Municipal Code and the Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code, all construction activities may occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays respectively. These permitted hours of construction are required in recognition that construction activities undertaken during daytime hours are a typical part of living in an urban environment and do not cause a significant disruption. Project construction would be required to occur within allowable hours for construction noise and require construction equipment to be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers, and other state-required noise attenuation devices, to further minimize impacts. Thus, a less than significant noise impact would result from construction activities.

Long-Term Operations

Off-Site Mobile Noise

The proposed Project involves a trail expansion adding a new 1.25-mile trail segment along the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. The trail would provide a direct connection to the existing 21-mile Pacific Electric Inland Empire Trail, which in turn would provide connectivity to the 30-mile Santa Ana River Trail, enhancing non-motorized access and encouraging increased trail use for recreation and transportation purposes, consistent with the *Fontana General Plan* Circulation Element and the *Rancho Cucamonga General Plan* Community Mobility Element. The proposed Project would not result in off-site mobile noise impacts, since it is not considered a trip generating land use project and

the traffic would not increase with implementation of the Project. In addition, the Project is anticipated to result in beneficial long-term noise effects, as it would result in improved connectivity in the Project area for alternative modes of transportation. Although the Project would result in a nominal number of trips associated with occasional maintenance, the impact of these trips would be negligible. Thus, impacts would be less than significant.

Stationary Source Noise

Upon Project completion, noise in the Project area would not increase. The Project involves a trail expansion converting an existing maintenance road, which runs parallel to the Etiwanda flood control channel, into a paved trail. The Project would serve a variety of user groups including pedestrians, cyclists, runners, hikers, and equestrian riders, enhancing the pedestrian and cyclist network and connecting the cities of Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga to the surrounding area. The proposed Project would not generate any stationary source noise impacts. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.13(b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

(Source: Federal Transit Administration, *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Guidelines*, May 2006.*)*

Project construction can generate varying degrees of groundborne vibration, depending on the construction procedure and the construction equipment used. Operation of construction equipment generates vibrations that spread through the ground and diminish in amplitude with distance from the source. The effect on buildings located in the vicinity of the construction site often varies depending on soil type, ground strata, and construction characteristics of the receiver building(s). The results from vibration can range from no perceptible effects at the lowest vibration levels, to low rumbling sounds and perceptible vibration at moderate levels, to slight damage at the highest levels. Groundborne vibrations from construction activities rarely reach levels that damage structures.

The types of construction vibration impact include human annoyance and building damage. Human annoyance occurs when construction vibration rises significantly above the threshold of human perception for extended periods of time. Building damage can be cosmetic or structural. Ordinary buildings that are not particularly fragile would not experience any cosmetic damage (e.g., plaster cracks) at distances beyond 30 feet. This distance can vary substantially depending on the soil composition and underground geological layer between vibration source and receiver. In addition, not all buildings respond similarly to vibration generated by construction equipment. The vibration produced by construction equipment is illustrated in Table 3.13-4, *Typical Vibration Levels for Construction Equipment*.

Table 3.13-4: Typical Vibration Levels for Construction Equipment

Equipment	Approximate peak particle velocity at 25 feet (inches/second)	Approximate peak particle velocity at 30 feet (inches/second)	Approximate peak particle velocity at 80 feet (inches/second)
Large bulldozer	0.089	0.068	0.016
Loaded trucks	0.076	0.058	0.013

Small bulldozer	0.003	0.002	0.001

Notes:

[1] Federal Transit Administration, *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Guidelines*, May 2006. Table 12-2.

[2] Calculated using the following formula:

$PPV_{equip} = PPV_{ref} \times (25/D)^{1.5}$

where: PPV (equip) = the peak particle velocity in inch per second of the equipment adjusted for the distance

PPV (ref) = the reference vibration level in inch per second from Table 12-2 of the FTA *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Guidelines*

D = the distance from the equipment to the receiver

The nearest structures to the Project site include residences approximately 80 feet west of the northern segment of the trail and residences approximately 30 feet west of the southern segment of the trail. Groundborne vibration decreases rapidly with distance. As indicated in Table 3.13-4, based on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) data, vibration velocities from typical heavy construction equipment operation that would be used during Project construction range from 0.002 to 0.068 inch-per-second peak particle velocity (PPV) at 30 feet from the source of activity, and would range from 0.001 to 0.016 inch-per-second PPV at 80 feet. With regard to the proposed Project, groundborne vibration would be generated primarily during grading activities on-site and by off-site haul-truck travel. Although the nearest residences are located within 30 feet west of the southern segment of the trail, the proposed construction activities would not be capable of exceeding the 0.2 inch-per-second PPV significance threshold for vibration, as construction activities would be limited in time and duration, and would not be concentrated within 30 feet of the adjacent structures for an extended period of time. Therefore, vibration impacts would be less than significant.

3.13(c) *For a Project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

(Source: LA/Ontario International Airport. *Compatibility Policy Map: Noise Impact Zones.* December 21, 2010, http://www.ontarioplan.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2015/05/policy-map-2-3.pdf, accessed June 6, 2016.)

The Project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or related facilities. The nearest public airport to the Project site is the LA/Ontario International Airport, located approximately 7.33 miles to the southwest of the Project site at 1923 East Avion Street in the City of Ontario. The Project site is located outside the Airport Influence Area and Noise Impact Zones. Furthermore, the Project does not involve any sensitive land uses, and therefore, would not be exposed to excessive noise levels from the LA/Ontario International Airport. Thus, impacts would be less than significant.

3.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
14. POPULATION AND HOUSING. *Would the Project:*				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

3.14(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)?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Project Description, Google Earth)

The proposed Project consists of the implementation of a new trail segment within the Etiwanda flood control right-of-way, and is intended to serve the existing population within the City and adjacent areas. The Project would not include any residences or commercial buildings. As there would be no housing associated with the implementation of the proposed Project, no population growth would occur. In addition, the new trail segment would be implemented on an existing flood control maintenance road and there would be no expansion of public roads on or around the Project site, nor would any other additional infrastructure be required. No impacts would occur.

3.14(b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?* ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Project Description, Google Earth)

There are currently no residential units on the Project site. The Project site is currently uninhabited and the construction and operation of the proposed new trail segment within the Etiwanda flood control right-of-way would not result in the displacement of any people in the Project vicinity. The Project site is non-residential, previously disturbed with flood control and public transportation uses, and would not affect housing in the area. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
15. PUBLIC SERVICES. *Would the Project 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 public services:* a) Fire protection?			X	
b) Police protection?			X	
c) Schools?				X
d) Parks?				X
e) Other public facilities?			X	

3.15(a) Would the Project 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 public services:

1) Fire protection? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Google Earth, City of Fontana General Plan, San Bernardino County Fire Annual Report, 2013/2014)

The proposed Project is located within an existing channel and would not affect response times or service ratios for fire protection services, nor would the Project alter or increase the demand for fire protection services. Therefore, substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered fire protection facilities would not occur and impacts would be less than significant.

2) *Police protection?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Google Earth, City of Fontana General Plan, 2013 Service Report, City of Fontana Police Department)

The proposed Project is located within an existing channel and would not affect response times or service ratios for police protection services, nor would the Project alter or increase the demand for police protection services. Therefore, substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered police protection facilities would not occur and impacts would be less than significant.

3) *Schools?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

The proposed Project does not include residential housing of any kind and would not increase the population of the area or result in new student generation in the Project area. As such, substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered school facilities would not occur and there would be no impact in this regard.

4) *Parks?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

The proposed Project does not include residential housing of any kind and would not increase the population of the area or increase the demand for park space. It would, however, create an additional source of recreational land resulting in a beneficial impact with regard to parks. As such, substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered park facilities would not occur and there would be no impact in this regard.

5) *Other public facilities?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The proposed Project would not generate residents either directly or indirectly and would, therefore, not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of other new or altered public facilities. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.16 RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
16. RECREATION. *Would the Project:*				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?			X	
b) Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?		X		

3.16(a) *Would the proposed Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The proposed Project includes the development of a dedicated recreational trail. Since the Project would create an additional source of recreational land resulting in a beneficial impact with regard to recreational facilities, the Project is not anticipated to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. In addition, existing Cucamonga Valley Water District utilities within the project limits would be protected in place during Project implementation. As such, no substantial physical deterioration of recreational facilities would occur or be accelerated with Project implementation. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.16(b) *Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse effect on the environment?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.***

The proposed Project includes the development of a dedicated recreational trail. The potential impacts associated with the development of this recreation facility are discussed throughout this document. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated as discussed in the Air Quality, Biological Resources, and Noise sections in this document.

3.17 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
17. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. *Would the Project:*				
a) Conflict with a plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			X	
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			X	
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?			X	

3.17(a) Conflict with a plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Project Application Materials)

Construction of the proposed Project would generate minimal traffic, and, therefore, would not affect levels of service of intersections, streets, highways, freeways, or alternative transportation modes. Additionally, traffic is not anticipated to be interrupted during Project operation, as the Project would be constructed within a maintenance road that is not accessible to public vehicles. The Project would also install new security gates and signage to restrict access to areas where public access in not permitted. Additionally, it should be noted that implementation of the proposed Project provides an additional mode of transportation within the City, as well as creates a critical connection point as designed in the *San Sevaine Trail Connectivity Master Plan*. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

3.17(b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Project Application Materials)

Refer to Response 3.17(a) above.

In accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 743, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 was adopted in December 2018. It provides that vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is generally the most important measure of transportation impacts and provides guidance on applying VMT. The newly adopted guidance provides that a lead agency may elect to be governed by the provisions of this section immediately; beginning on July 1, 2020, the provisions of this section shall apply statewide. According to the City's General Plan Update 2015-2035 Draft Environmental Impact Report, the General Plan reduces VMT per capita consistent with State goals outlined in SB 743 and in the pending CEQA revisions However, implementation of the proposed Project would not result in an increase in VMT. Rather, the proposed Project provides an alternative mode of transportation, thus potentially reducing VMT. Therefore, the proposed Project does not conflict with Section 15064.3 and a less than significant impact would occur.

3.17(c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? ***Determination: No Impact.***

Due to the nature and scope of the proposed Project, implementation would not increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses because no such uses are proposed. No habitable structures or new roadways would be constructed as part of the Project. The Project would be developed in an existing channel and would not affect roadway operations. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.17(d) Result in inadequate emergency access? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

The proposed Project would be constructed within an existing channel and would not result in inadequate emergency access. No habitable structures or new roadways would be constructed as part of the Project, and no operational impacts relative to inadequate emergency access would occur. The new pedestrian signal that would be installed along Victoria Street would not impede or restrict emergency response time. In addition, the City would provide reasonable advance notification about the nature, extent, and duration of Project-related construction activities, to service providers such as fire, police, and emergency medical services as well as to local businesses, homeowners, and other residents adjacent to and within areas potentially affected by the proposed Project. Therefore, impacts relative to inadequate emergency access would be less than significant.

3.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES *Would the Project:* a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 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:				
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		X		
2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		X		

Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) has established a formal consultation process for California tribes within the CEQA process. The bill specifies that any project may affect or cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource would require a lead agency to "begin consultation with a California Native American

tribe that is traditional and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project." Section 21074 of AB 52 also defines a new category of resources under CEQA called "tribal cultural resources." Tribal cultural resources are defined as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe" and is either listed on or eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources or a local historic register, or if the lead agency chooses to treat the resource as a tribal cultural resource.

In compliance with AB 52, the City of Fontana distributed letters on June 8, 2016 to applicable tribes that had previously requested to be notified of future projects proposed by the City, notifying each tribe of the opportunity to consult with the City regarding the proposed Project. One response was received from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. No other responses have been received to date.

3.18(a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 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:

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)? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.***

In compliance with AB 52, the City distributed letters to applicable Native American tribes informing them of the Project. One response was received from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, stating that they do not have any specific information about tribal cultural resources at the Project location and do not have any concerns regarding the Project. No other responses were received from the other tribes that were notified. As indicated in Section 3.5, Cultural Resources, no cultural resources have been recorded with the Project boundaries. Given the level of previous disturbance within the Project site, it is not expected that any tribal cultural resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 would occur within the Project area. However, in the event of inadvertent discovery and unearthing of unknown tribal cultural resources during Project construction, implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 below would reduce potentially significant impacts to tribal cultural resources to a less than significant level. Therefore, impacts to a listed or eligible resource under the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register as defined under Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k) would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Mitigation Measures

TCR-1 Prior to the issuance of grading permits, a qualified vertebrate paleontologist shall review the project-specific geotechnical report data, with particular regard to the specific location and depth of earthmoving activities and the rock unit(s) being encountered, for the purpose of assessing the potential for fossil remains being encountered by earthmoving activities. If the paleontologist determines that previously undisturbed strata with potential for containing fossil remains would be encountered by earthmoving activities, Mitigation Measure TCR-2 below shall be implemented. If no such potential for fossil remains is

identified, no further mitigation is required.

TCR-2 Earthmoving activities shall be monitored by a paleontological monitor only in those areas of the site where they would disturb Pleistocene formations. Monitoring shall consist of visually inspecting freshly exposed rock and debris for larger fossil remains and periodically dry test screening a small (25 pound) sample of rock and debris with a 20-mesh box screen for smaller vertebrate fossil remains. Monitoring of grading below 5 feet in depth shall be initially conducted on a full-time basis. However, if too few or no fossil remains are uncovered by earthmoving activities in areas underlain by a particular rock unit and with the approval of the project applicant and the City Planning Division, paleontological monitoring may be reduced or eliminated, generally, to half or quarter time or suspended once 50 percent of earthmoving activities in the area underlain by the rock unit has been completed. Alternatively, if sufficient fossil remains are uncovered by earthmoving activities and with the approval of the project applicant and the City Planning Division, monitoring may be increased in areas underlain by the fossil-bearing rock unit, at least in the immediate vicinity of the fossil locale.

The San Bernardino County Museum, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Western Science Center, San Diego Natural History Museum, or Riverside Municipal Museum shall be the designated museum repository for any vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant fossil remains and associated specimen data and corresponding geologic and geographic site data that might be recovered from the project site.

2) *A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.***

Refer to Response 3.18(a)(1). In compliance with AB 52, the City of Fontana distributed letters to potentially affected tribes for consultation regarding the proposed Project. One response was received from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, stating that they do not have any specific information about tribal cultural resources at the Project location and do not have any concerns regarding the Project. No other responses were received from the other tribes that were notified. However, implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 below would reduce potentially significant impacts to tribal cultural resources as a result of inadvertent discovery during Project construction to a less than significant level. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. *Would the Project:*				
a) Require or result in the relocation or 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?			X	
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?				X
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's Projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			X	
e) Comply with Federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X	

3.19(a) Require or result in the relocation or 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? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.*** (Source: Project Application Materials)

With the exception of the installation of a new drinking water source and irrigation for the trail improvements, the Project would not involve the construction of new water or wastewater facilities nor would it require the use of such facilities. The proposed Project would be developed within an existing stormwater drainage channel. However, the Project does not propose to expand the existing facility. The Project proposes to add a dedicated recreational trail alignment within the existing channel. The Project does not propose new stormwater drainage facilities or significantly change or expand the existing facilities. The Project includes low-current LED (light-emitting diode) lights that would be installed at various points along the trail alignment. The minimal amount of water and electric power the Project would use would not require the construction of new facilities. The Project does not include natural gas or telecommunication services. Impacts would be less than significant.

(Source: Project Application Materials)

3.19(b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years? ***Determination: No Impact.***
(Source: Project Application Materials)

The proposed Project would not require water supplies. No impact would occur.

3.19(c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? ***Determination: No Impact.***

The proposed Project would not require wastewater treatment. No impact would occur.

3.19(d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Source: Cal Recycle, Facility Information Toolbox)

The nearest permitted and active municipal waste landfill to the Project site is the 498-acre (408 disposal acres) Mid Valley Sanitary Landfill in the City of Rialto (2390 N. Alder Avenue). The Mid Valley Sanitary Landfill has a permitted throughput of 7,500 tons per day, or over 2.7 million tons per year. The amount of solid waste generated by the proposed Project would equate to less than 0.01 percent of Mid-Valley Landfill's permitted annual capacity, representing only a nominal increase in the amount of solid waste that is processed at the landfill facility. Impacts would be less than significant.

3.19(e) Comply with Federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***
(Sources: California Assembly Bill 939 (Sher), San Bernardino County Department of Public Works Solid Waste Management, San Bernardino County Integrated Waste Management Plan)

The California Integrated Waste Management Act (Assembly Bill (AB) 939), signed into law in 1989, established an integrated waste management system that focused on source reduction, recycling, composting, and land disposal of waste. In addition, the bill established a 50% waste reduction requirement for cities and counties by the year 2000, along with a process for environmentally safe

disposal of waste that could not be diverted. Pursuant to the requirements of the Integrated Waste Management Act, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors adopted the San Bernardino Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP), which outlines the goals, policies, and programs the County and its cities will implement to create an integrated and cost-effective waste management system that complies with the provisions of AB 939 and its diversion mandates.

Prior to entering into a landfill facility, solid waste collection service providers would be required to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. All collection, transportation, and disposal of any solid waste generated by the proposed Project would comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

3.20 WILDFIRES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
20. WILDFIRES. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, w*ould the Project:*				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			X	
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				X
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				X

3.20(a) *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

(Sources: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA, adopted on November 13, 2008,

http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_zones_maps.php, accessed March 26, 2015. City of Fontana Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, June 2017.)

Refer to Response 3.9(g), above. The County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan includes measures to reduce future hazards and better respond during emergency evacuations. The plan utilizes CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps to determine which areas of the County are most at risk of wildfires so the County can appropriate additional resources to those areas and implement protective measures to new buildings or remodeled older structures to reduce potential fire risk.

According to the NW San Bernardino County Draft Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Local Responsibility Area (LRA) map produced by CAL FIRE, the proposed Project is not located in or near a State Responsibility Area (SRA), but portions of the Project are located on lands designated as a very high fire hazard risk (CAL FIRE, 2007). According to the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), foreseeable wildfire impacts are anticipated to occur mainly due to future residential hillside developments. This is because most of the existing vacant land within the City is in a very high fire hazard severity zone. This will result in many new residential homes and some commercial buildings being exposed to these wildfire hazards and conditions, which will create a greater potential impact because these structures are the least fire resistive in their construction and the population groups that inhabit them are the least prepared to evacuate in a large-scale wildfire event.[7] However, as a recreational trail project, composed primarily of hardscape, the Project would not increase the hazards to people or buildings due to wildlands fire, and may have the potential to act as a fire break. In addition, with compliance with existing state and local building regulations, the City's Municipal Code, and the provisions of the LHMP, impacts to the public and environment related to risks of hazards due to wildland fire would be less than significant.

3.20(b) *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project, 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?* ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.20(a), above. Any development, along with the associated human activity, in previously undeveloped areas increases the potential for the occurrence of wildfires. However, as discussed above, the Project site is located within an urbanized area and all Project improvements would occur within areas already disturbed for flood control and transportation uses. In addition, the new trail segment would be implemented on an existing maintenance road and would cross existing freeway underpasses and roadways, which are already on level terrain.

The City is responsible for implementing the goals and actions relative to wildfire risk reduction identified in the LHMP. Moreover, the City of Fontana Fire Department, as part of the City's review process, will review all plans for adequate fire suppression (California Fire Code Chapter 9), fire access (California Fire Code Chapter 5), and emergency evacuation (California Fire Code Chapter 4), ensuring compliance with the California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Fontana. During Project operation,

7 City of Fontana Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, June 2017, p. 58.

compliance with Section 4906 of the California Fire Code regarding the maintenance of hazardous vegetation and fuel management will be required. These measures would minimize the occurrence of fire during construction and for the life of the proposed Project. Should a wildfire jump the gaps or roadways, the combination of fire-retardant plant species and use of ignition resistant materials for the trail hardscape and associated landscaping is anticipated to provide suitable protection for the Project from a possible wildfire. Therefore, the Project site itself and the surrounding terrain would not exacerbate fire risks and impacts would be less than significant.

3.20(c) *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project 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?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.20(a)and 3.20(b), above. The proposed Project is a hardscaped recreation and transportation trail that does not require the installation of additional infrastructure, such as roads, fuels breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities. Maintenance staff would use the trail or surrounding roads to perform necessary maintenance activities. Therefore, no impacts would occur as a result of the Project.

3.20(d) *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?* ***Determination: No Impact.***

Refer to Response 3.20(a)and 3.20(b), above. As discussed previously, the new trail segment would be implemented on an existing maintenance road and would cross existing freeway underpasses and roadways, which are already on level terrain. Therefore, the Project site itself and the surrounding terrain are level and do not present hazards of landslides. As mentioned in 3.10(c), above, the proposed Project would not result in an increase in erosion or siltation on or offsite. Erosion control measures as described in the SWPPP would reduce potential impacts during construction of the Project. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

3.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE a) Does the Project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		
b) Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a Project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past Projects, the effects of other current Projects, and the effects of probable future Projects)?		X		
c) Does the Project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		

3.21(a) Does the Project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.***

All impacts to the environment, including impacts to habitat for fish and wildlife species, fish and wildlife populations, plant and animal communities, rare and endangered plants and animals, and historical and pre-historical resources were evaluated as part of this IS/MND. Throughout this IS/MND, where impacts were determined to be potentially significant, mitigation measures have been imposed to reduce those impacts to less-than-significant levels. Accordingly, with incorporation of the mitigation measures imposed throughout this IS/MND, the Project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment and impacts would be less than significant with implementation of mitigation.

Mitigation

All mitigation measures specified in this IS/MND shall apply.

3.21(b) Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a Project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past Projects, the effects of other current Projects, and the effects of probable future Projects)? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.***

As discussed throughout this IS/MND, implementation of the proposed Project has the potential to result in effects to the environment that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable, in terms of impacts to Air Quality, Biological Resources, and Noise. In all instances where the Project has the potential to contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact to the environment, mitigation measures have been imposed to reduce potential effects to less-than significant levels. As such, with incorporation of the mitigation measures imposed throughout this IS/MND, the Project would not contribute to environmental effects that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable, and impacts would be less than significant with implementation of mitigation.

Mitigation

All mitigation measures specified in this IS/MND shall apply.

3.21(c) Does the Project have environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? ***Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.***

The Project's potential to result in environmental effects that could adversely affect human beings, either directly or indirectly, has been discussed throughout this IS/MND. In instances where the Project has potential to result in direct or indirect adverse effects to human beings, including impacts to Air Quality, Biological Resources, and Noise, mitigation measures have been applied to reduce the impact to below a level of significance. With required implementation of mitigation measures identified in this IS/MND, construction and operation of the proposed Project would not involve any activities that would result in environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

Mitigation

All mitigation measures specified in this IS/MND shall apply.

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