

**Draft – for public review
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration**

**Sanborn County Park Demolition and
Remediation Project**

December 8, 2022

Delivering a better world



DRAFT – For Public Review

Prepared for:

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ACRONYMS AND OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Assembly Bill
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
Alquist-Priolo Act	Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
ATCM	Airborne Toxic Control Measure
AUF	acoustical usage factor"
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin
BERD	Built Environment Resources Directory
bgs	below ground surface
BMP	best management practices
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CAFE	Corporate Average Fuel Economy
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CALGreen	California Green Building Standards Code
CalOSHA	California Division of Occupational Safety and Health
CalRecycle	California Integrated Waste Management Board
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGS	California Geological Survey
CH ₄	methane
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CIWMA	California Integrated Waste Management Act
CMP	Congestion Management Program
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ e	carbon dioxide equivalents

Construction General Permit	General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities [Order 2009-009-DWQ as amended by Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ]
County	County of Santa Clara
County Parks	County of Santa Clara Department of Parks and Recreation
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CWA	Clean Water Act
CY	cubic yard
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DDT	dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DPR	California Department of Parks and Recreation
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EO S-3-05	Executive Order S-3-05.
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
ESLs	environmental screening levels
EZRI	Earthquake Zone of Required Investigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
GHG	greenhouse gas
GWP	Global warming potential
HCPs	Habitat Conservation Plans
HPD	Historic Property Data
HS-sr	Hillside zoning
Hz	Hertz
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
IS	Initial Study
Landmark	Santa Clara County Landmark
LEAs	local enforcement agencies
L _{eq}	Equivalent Sound Level
L _{max}	Maximum Noise Level
LOS	level of service
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
mph	miles per hour
MT	metric ton
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCCPs	Natural Community Conservation Plans
NEHRP	National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program
NHD	National Hydrography Database
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NO _x	oxides of nitrogen
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWIC	Northwest Information Center
OHP	Office of Historic Preservation
OPR	Office of Planning and Research
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PM	particulate matter
PM ₁₀	PM equal to or less than 10 micrometers in diameter
PM _{2.5}	PM equal to or less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter
ppm	parts per million
PPV, in/sec	peak particle velocity in inches per second
PRC	Public Resources Code
Proposed Project	Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project
PVC	polyvinyl chloride
RCNM	Roadway Construction Noise Model
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
ROG	reactive organic gases
RV	recreational vehicle
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	Senate Bill
SCCFD	Santa Clara County Fire Department
SF	square feet
SFBAAB	San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SLF	Sacred Lands File
SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
SO ₂	sulfur dioxide
SOD	Sudden Oak Death
SR	State Route
SR-35	State Route 35

SR-9	State Route 9
SRA	State Responsibility Area
SVOCs	semivolatile organic compounds
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
SWPPP	stormwater pollution prevention plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	toxic air contaminants
the Park	Sanborn County Park
TMDLs	total maximum daily loads
TPZ	Tree Protection Zone
UCMP	University of California, Berkeley Museum of Paleontology
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compounds
WDRs	waste discharge requirements

1 Introduction

Project Title:	Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project
File Number:	N/A
Date:	December 8, 2022
Project Type:	County Project
Project Location / Address:	16000 Sanborn Road, Santa Clara County, CA 95070
APN(s):	517-04-034 and 517-04-061
GP Designation:	Regional Parks, Existing
Zoning:	Hillsides HS-sr
Urban Service Area:	Not Applicable
Lead Agency Name/Address:	County of Santa Clara 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669
Applicant Name and Address:	County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669
Owner Name and Address:	County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669
Telephone:	(408) 355-2200

2 Project Description

2.1 Project Location and Existing Conditions

The County of Santa Clara (County) Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) proposes the Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project (Proposed Project) in unincorporated Santa Clara County, California. Sanborn County Park (the Park) is at 16055 Sanborn Road, approximately 2.2 miles southwest of downtown Saratoga, near the southeast corner of Pick Road and Sanborn Road (see Figure 2-1, Project Location Map). The Park is nearly 3,500 acres and provides a variety of recreational opportunities for visitors.

A 57-acre parcel within the northeastern portion of the Park, east of Sanborn Road, was formerly known as the Christensen Nursery when it operated as a commercial conifers and evergreen nursery by the Christensen family. County Parks purchased the property in 1993, with a 25-year lease back to the sellers, allowing the family to continue with nursery operations until 2018. The former nursery area is currently closed to the public and is not connected to the existing trail network of the Park. The street address of the former nursery parcel is 16000 Sanborn Road.

The Project Site comprises the former nursery parcel (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 517-04-034), as well as a small portion of the adjacent parcel to the north (APN 517-04-061) which is also part of Sanborn County Park (see Figure 2-2, Project Site Map). Project activities would be limited to an approximately 42-acre area of these two parcels bounded by Aubrey Creek to the west and Sanborn Creek to the east.

The Project Site slopes gently from Sanborn Road towards the north down towards two man-made, concrete-lined irrigation ponds. The area contains native and non-native landscape intermingled with overgrown remnants of the previous nursery business. Vegetation communities include redwood, low-growing coastal scrub, annual grassland, and montane hardwood-conifer. Some areas of the site are densely forested while others are more open. Some areas of the site, particularly along the two creeks, contain slopes exceeding 20 percent.

There are two entrances to the Project Site from Sanborn Road, one located on the west side of the property (the main entrance) and one on the south side (the residence driveway). The property is currently closed to the public and is not currently connected to the existing trail network.

The Project Site contains the Christensen house, a single-story approximately 3,800 square feet (SF) ranch-style single-family residence near the southern boundary of the site, labeled as "House" on see Figure 2-3), Existing Site Features. The Christensen house was constructed in 1961 and is currently inhabited by Parks Staff through a lease program.

The Caretaker's Cottage (Location C on see Figure 2-3) is an approximately 1,500 SF two-story, single-family residence approximately 500 feet northwest of the Christensen house. The cottage was built around 1880 and is currently vacant and in poor condition. Approximately 100 feet south of the Caretaker's Cottage is a circa 1880 single-story barn (labeled "Barn" on see Figure 2-3), which is currently vacant.

Several other structures are also present on the Project Site, including outbuildings (225 SF), greenhouses (combined 6,000 SF), pump houses, sheds, other ancillary structures, and two

man-made irrigation ponds constructed of concrete. These features are shown as Locations A, B, and D through R on see Figure 2-3). Several of the structures, including Location G (Pay Shack), Location I (Boiler Building), Location C (Caretaker's Cottage), Location D (Caretaker's Trailer), Location K (Trailer West) and Location L (Trailer East), are known to have asbestos-containing materials. Additionally, Location A (Chemical Storage), Location M (Outhouse), Location R (Steel Water Tank), and Location J (Pump Building) were confirmed to contain paint with lead content above 10,000 parts per million (ppm) (AECOM 2021a).

There are two primary dump sites on the property (Locations 1 and 2 on see Figure 2-3) and several other smaller dump sites where trash and debris has been discarded (Locations 3 through 10). These dumps and debris areas contain various household wastes as well as light industrial waste including nursery materials, trailers, car and tractor parts, steel drums and other materials. Location 1 was used as the main dump for the property, with a large area densely covered with forest growth. Location 2 is a smaller forested area on a steeper slope with more concentrated garbage and debris. Soil testing in Locations 1 through 10 detected concentrations of metals, pesticides, and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) that were slightly above the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB's) environmental screening levels (ESLs) (AECOM 2020), which is discussed further in Section 3.9, Hazards and Hazardous Materials.

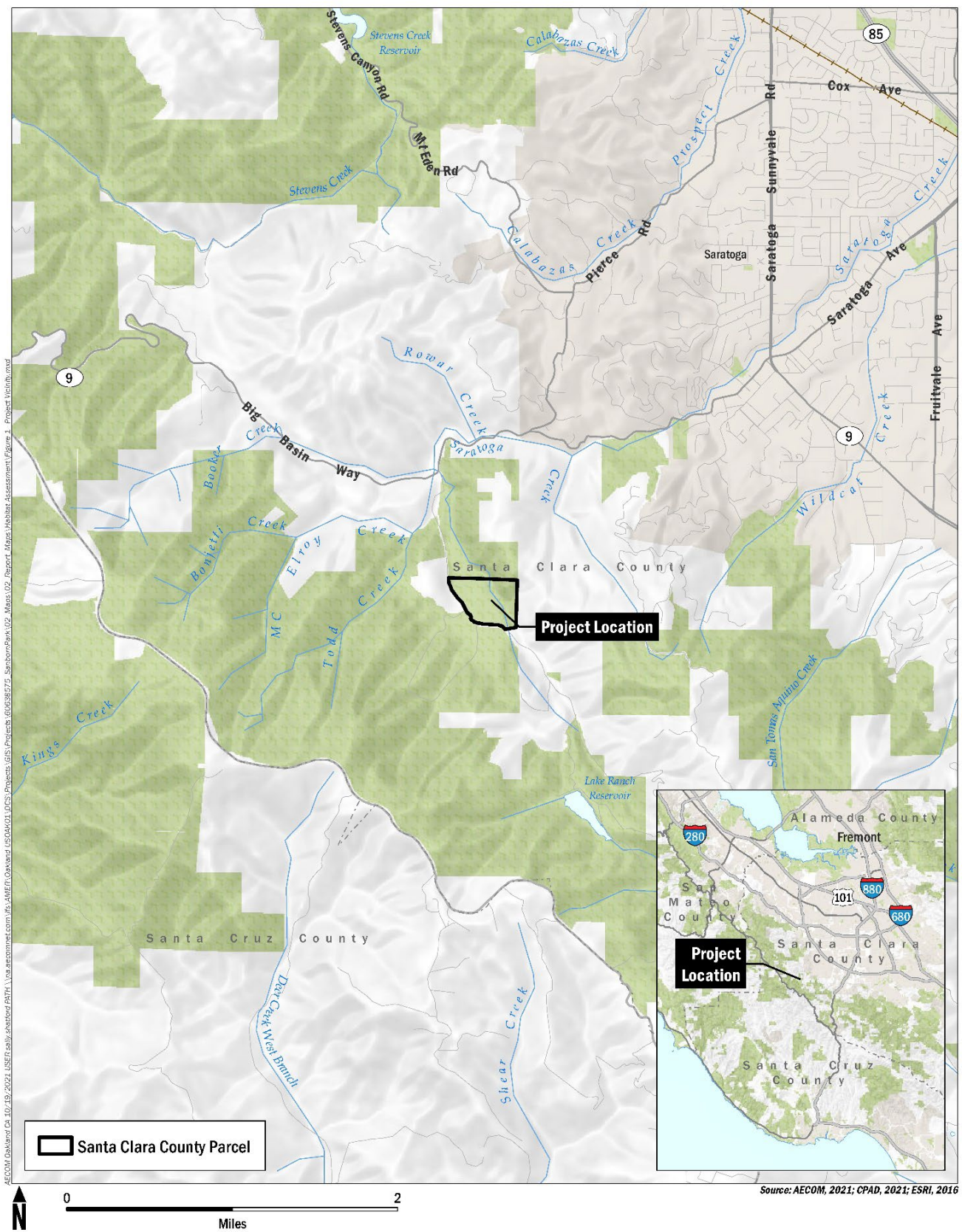


Figure 2-1 Project Location Map

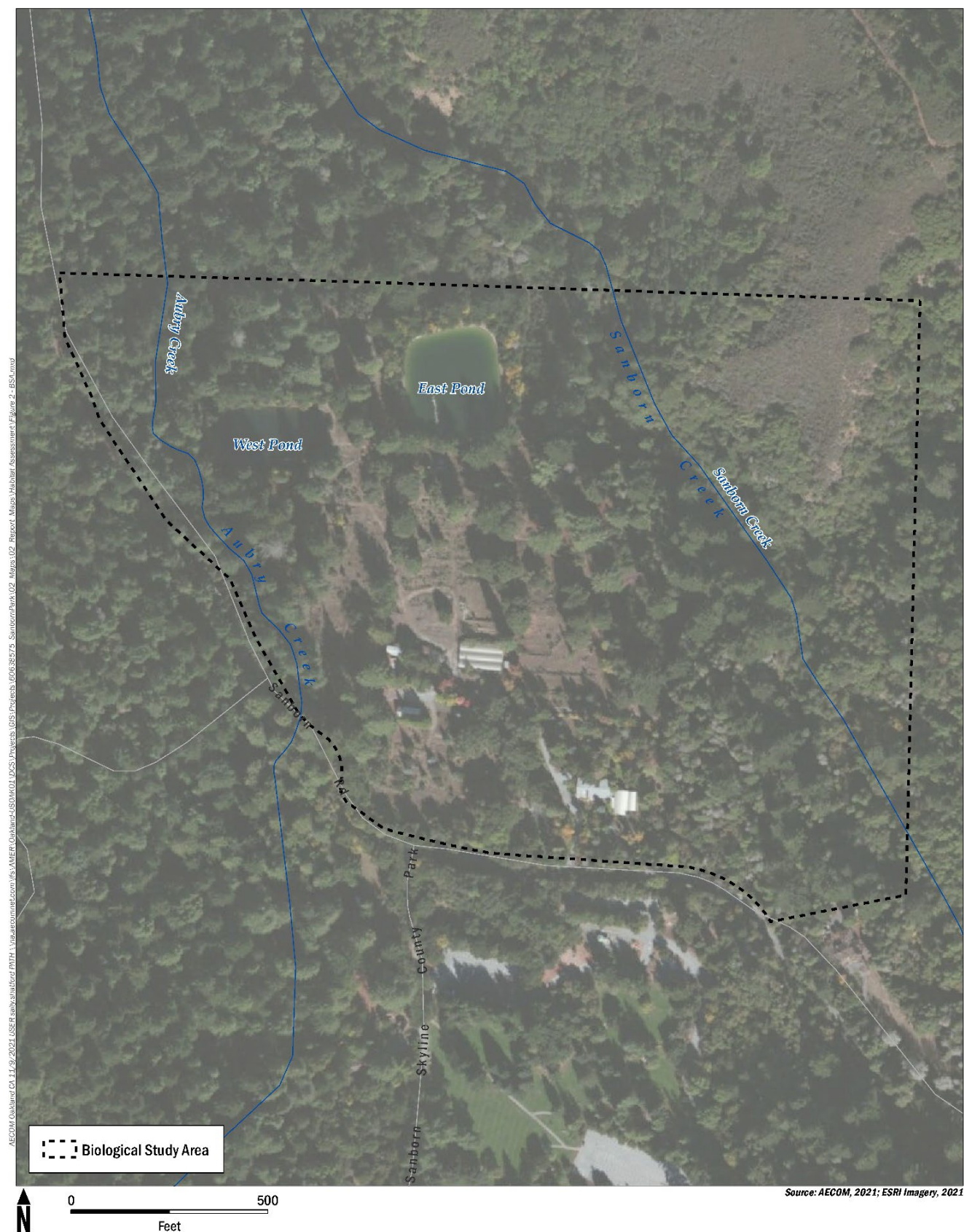


Figure 2-2 Project Site Map

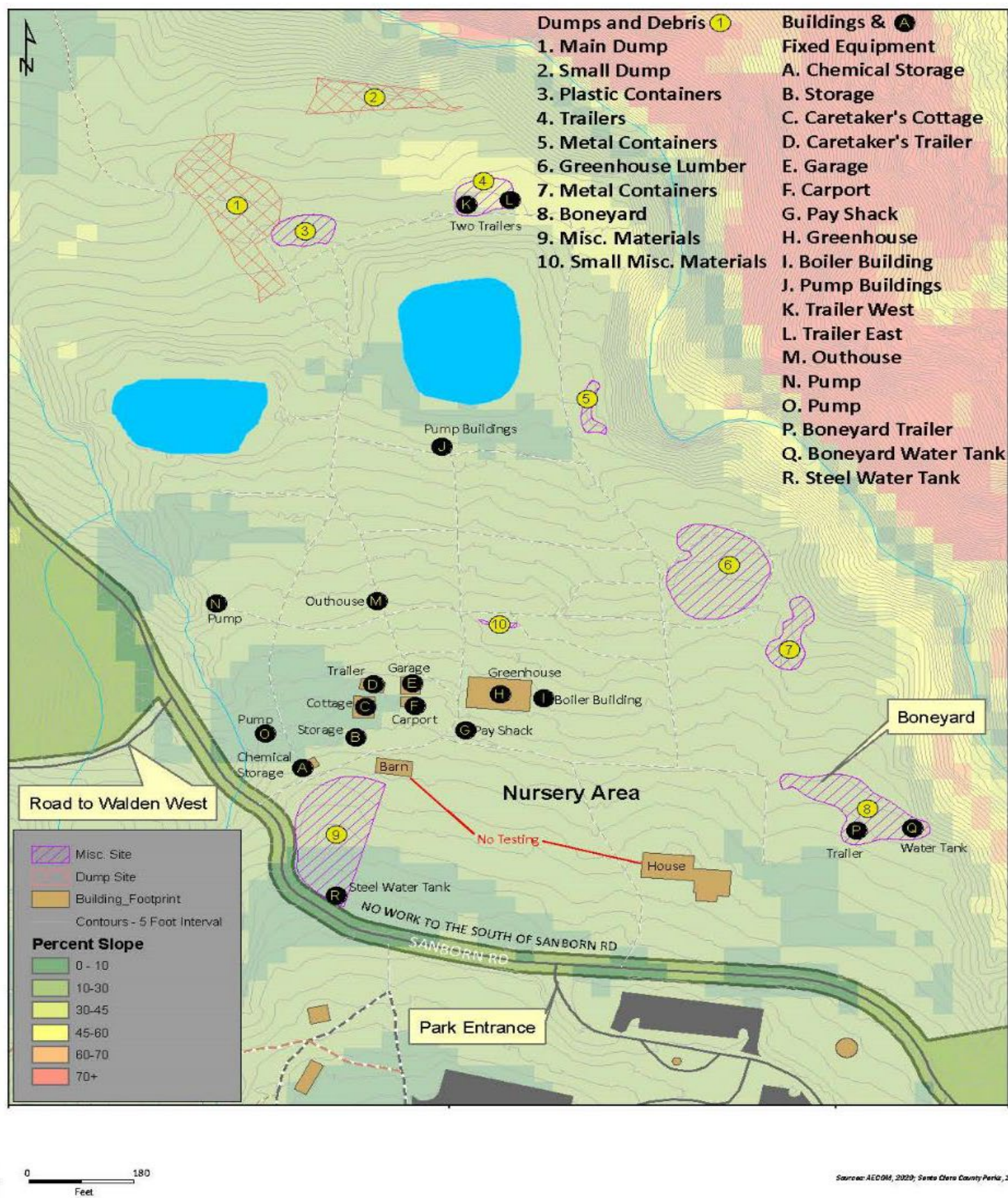


Figure 2-3 Existing Site Features

2.2 Project Area and Surroundings

The Project Site is located in unincorporated Santa Clara County, on County-owned property within the limits of Sanborn County Park. The Park is located in the eastern slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains with varying elevations from 840 to 3,160 feet above mean sea level.

Surrounding areas are mostly large, forested areas with a few small agricultural operations (e.g., wineries) and very low density residential properties. The nearest residential dwelling is immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the Project Site. The Walden West Outdoor School is approximately 650 feet west of the Project Site. The nearby Domaine Eden winery is approximately 1,600 feet to the north of the Project Site and the Savannah-Chanelle winery approximately 4,500 feet to the northwest. California State Route 35, as well as Castle Rock State Park, are approximately 2 miles to the southwest of the Project Site.

The Project Site is designated as Regional Parks, Existing, according to the Land Use Plan Map (County 1994). The official zoning of the Project Site is listed as Hillside (HS-sr), applied to hillside areas that are suitable for very low-density single-family residential and agricultural land uses. Surrounding properties are designated in the County General Plan as Hillside resource conservation areas and Other Public Open Lands resource conservation areas (County 1994).

2.3 Project Characteristics

The County intends to remove the debris and trash, demolish the majority of buildings and structures, and excavate contaminated soils associated with these features, so that the area can eventually be developed and operated as a public campground as planned in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. The debris and derelict structures pose a potential public safety hazard.

The Proposed Project would include demolition of 19 structures (including two pump houses) and fixed equipment (Locations A through R, see Figure 2-3) including their foundations and associated contents and materials (if present), and removal of all demolition debris from the Project Site. Existing utilities would be capped and left in place. The Proposed Project also includes the removal of fallen trees, diseased trees, and snags. All trees would be chipped in a chipping machine and stockpiled for use and spreading after demolition and removal activities have been completed.

The main residence (Christensen house) would not be removed and would remain on site and continue to be used by Parks staff, as per existing conditions. The barn foundation materials (rock/boulders) and, if any, historical/salvageable building materials would also be retained on site for future use during Park development. The two artificial ponds and associated piping would be left in place, but they would be fenced off and signed using 6-foot chain-link fencing to prevent unauthorized access. The existing driveways, roads, and associated surface parking areas would not be removed and may be used as staging areas for equipment and material handling and storage during implementation of the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project would also include removal of trash and debris from the two dump sites and eight other areas of the site (Removal Sites 1 through 10, see Figure 2-3). These areas would be cleared and all materials and debris would be removed. The forest floor would be

scarified¹ to assure that all debris has been removed from the areas. Following removal of debris, these 10 areas would be excavated to a depth of approximately 2.5 feet below ground surface, increasing to 5 feet below ground surface to remove contaminated soils if determined to be necessary by County Environmental Health. The excavated areas, and any voids from demolition of structures would be backfilled with clean soil to approximately the original grade.

Approximately 12,000 cubic yards (CY) of demolition debris and 12,000 CY of contaminated soil would be removed from the site as part of the Project. This material would be hauled off site in 10 CY capacity dump trucks to an appropriate Class II or Class III landfill. A small amount (approximately 40 CY) of hazardous waste (e.g., asbestos-containing materials) would need to be hauled and disposed of separately to a licensed hazardous waste disposal facility. For the excavated contaminated soil, haul trucks would only be filled to 2/3 capacity and would be securely covered with tarps and straps to prevent loss of material during transit.

Approximately 12,000 CY of clean fill material would be imported to the Project Site for use as backfill. The exact source of clean fill materials and the particular landfill(s) to be used for the Proposed Project have not yet been determined; however, it is assumed that these facilities would be within 25 miles of the Project Site, as there are several Class II or III landfills and sources of clean fill within this distance of the site².

It is anticipated that the majority of trees (approximately 296) within the dump and debris sites (including a 10-foot buffer around each site) would need to be removed to facilitate implementation of the Proposed Project. The remaining minority (109) of the trees within these areas could be protected in place if minimal amounts of soil are removed around each tree, with establishment of fenced Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) around the critical root zone of each tree in accordance with the Tree Assessment and Survey (AECOM 2022a). Within the TPZs, debris would be removed by hand and excavation of soil would be limited to one foot or less below ground surface. Other trees on the Project Site would be preserved but would not have TPZs established.

Table 2.3-1 Proposed Project Elements

Project Element	Figure 2-3 Reference	Details
Chemical Storage Shed	A	Approximately 300 SF. To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation.
Storage Shed	B	Approximately 120 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Caretaker's Cottage	C	Approximately 900 SF (footprint), 1300 SF total including second floor. To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation.
Caretaker's Trailer	D	Approximately 2,000 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Garage and small carport	E	Approximately 1,900 SF total. To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation.
Carport	F	Approximately 2,000 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Pay Shack	G	Approximately 100 SF. To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation.

¹ Scarification consists of mechanical break-up or scratching of the ground surface (e.g., by ripping, scraping, or tilling) to loosen and mix the soil profile and improve infiltration.

² Landfills within 25 miles of the Project Site include Guadalupe Landfill, Kirby Canyon Landfill, and Zanker Road Landfill. Potential sources of clean fill materials within 25 miles of the Project Site include Stevens Creek Quarry, Permanente Quarry, and Lexington Quarry.

Project Element	Figure 2-3 Reference	Details
Greenhouse	H	Approximately 7,000 SF. To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation and supports.
Boiler Building	I	Approximately 500 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Pump Buildings	J	Approximately 400 SF each (800 SF total). To be demolished and removed, including concrete foundations.
Trailer West	K	Approximately 1,000 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Trailer East	L	Approximately 1,000 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Outhouse	M	Approximately 40 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Water Pump	N	Approximately 400 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Water Pump	O	Approximately 400 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Boneyard Trailer	P	Approximately 1,000 SF. To be demolished and removed.
Boneyard Water Tank	Q	To be demolished and removed.
Steel Water Tank	R	Approximately 26,000 SF to be demolished and removed, including concrete foundation and debris. Fence to be removed and replaced once removal is complete.
Main Dump	1	Approximately 26,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Small Dump	2	Approximately 11,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Plastic Containers	3	Approximately 5,400 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Trailers	4	Approximately 6,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Metal Containers	5	Approximately 3,300 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Greenhouse Lumber	6	Approximately 24,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Metal Containers	7	Approximately 6,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Boneyard	8	Approximately 17,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Misc. Materials	9	Approximately 26,000 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Small Misc. Materials	10	Approximately 500 SF. Debris to be removed, soils to be excavated to depth of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet.
Barn	Barn	Upper portions of the barn to be demolished, but foundation (rock/boulders) to remain in place. Any historical/salvageable building materials, if present, to be retained for future re-use during Park development. A photo plaque and standing tablet will be prepared and displayed to illustrate the former structure of the barn. This will be part of the implementation of the Sanborn County Park Master Plan.
Manmade Ponds	Unlabeled	To remain in place and be permanently fenced with chain link fencing.
Christensen House	House	To remain in place. No changes proposed.

Acronyms: SF = square feet

2.3.1 Project Phasing and Schedule

Construction work would occur Mondays through Fridays, between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm. No weekend or early morning work would be permitted. Work is anticipated to begin in March 2023 and would take approximately six months to complete. The Proposed Project would include the following phases:

- **Site Preparation** – the contractor would install construction improvements at the entrance and exit to the Project Site, clear and create a haul route up to 14 feet wide to provide access to the removal sites and clear a buffer (up to 20-feet-wide) around each removal site. Sensitive areas of the Project Site (e.g., Tree Protection Zones) would be fenced off to prevent accidental access during construction activities. Existing fencing would typically be protected in place but may be temporarily removed and replaced if necessary to access the removal sites. Pull outs would be established to allow two-way vehicle access. Soil stockpile areas, debris stockpile areas, and material storage locations would be identified during site preparation. Temporary construction fencing, silt fencing, and best management practices (BMPs) as described in Section 2.3.4 below would be established during site preparation and biological resources training would occur during this phase.
- **Hazardous Materials Abatement** – asbestos-containing materials and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) would be removed from structures prior to demolition by a registered abatement contractor, hauled offsite, and disposed of in accordance with federal (Occupational Safety and Health Administration [OSHA]), state (California Division of Occupational Safety and Health [CalOSHA]) and local Bay Area Air Quality Management District [BAAQMD]) regulations, as described in the pre-demolition hazardous materials report (AECOM 2021a). Lead-based paints within the structures would not require special abatement prior to demolition; conventional demolition techniques would be employed for all painted surfaces in compliance with applicable OSHA and CalOSHA regulations.
- **Demolition/Debris Removal** – structures and fixed equipment (Locations A through R), including foundations (where present) and all associated contents and materials would be demolished and hauled offsite for disposal. In addition, debris would be removed from the 10 removal areas (Locations 1 through 10) and hauled offsite for disposal. Any existing underground or overhead utility connections would be capped and left in place.
- **Contaminated Soil Excavation** – once debris has been removed, each of the 10 soil removal areas (Locations 1 through 10) would be excavated to a depth of approximately 2.5 feet to 5 feet below ground surface. The excavated soil would be hauled offsite for disposal at a regulated landfill.
- **Site Rehabilitation** – following completion of demolition/debris removal and excavation at each removal site, the demolition voids and/or excavated areas would be backfilled with clean imported soil and regraded to approximately the existing ground level. After each area has been regraded, the exposed soil would be hydroseeded or have mulch placed, and straw wattles will be placed around the perimeter of each demolition area for control of erosion and stormwater runoff.

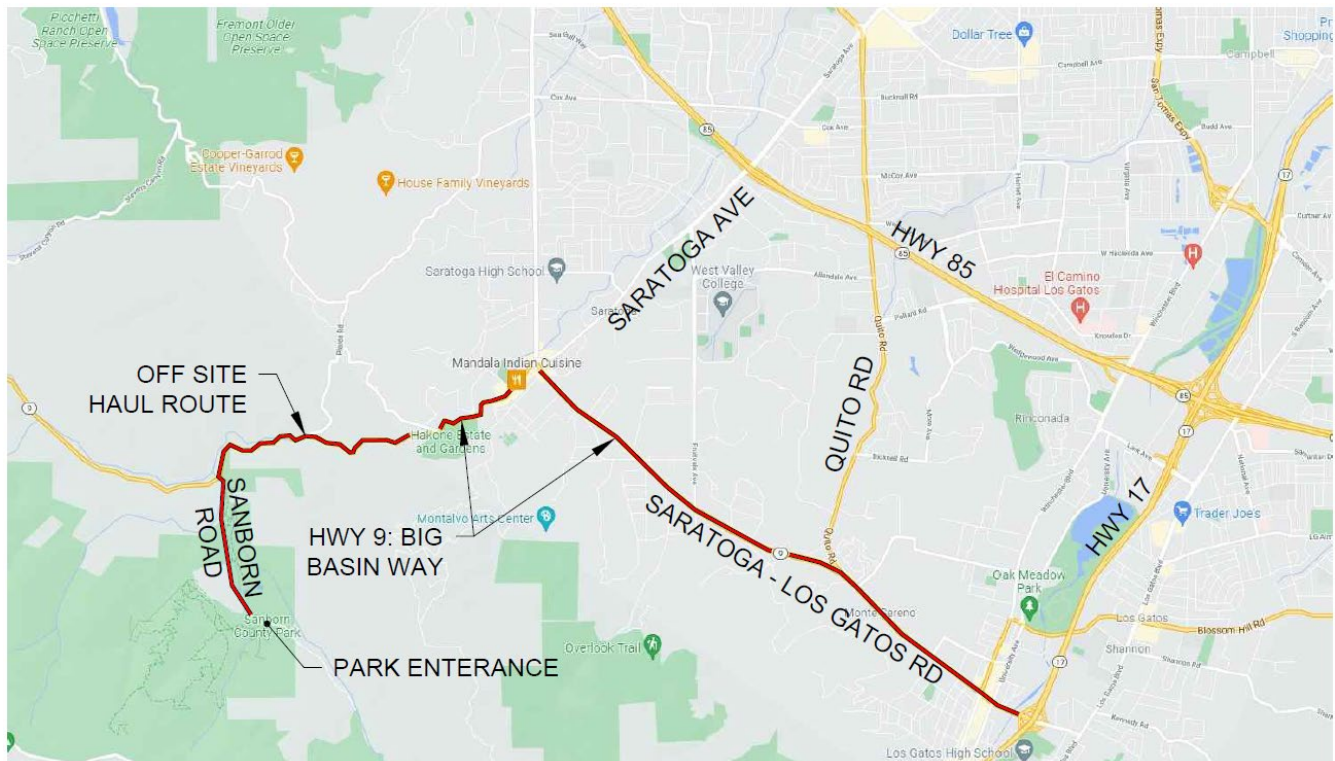
Table 2.3-2 Estimated Construction Phasing, Equipment, and Personnel

Construction Phase	Estimated Duration	Type and Number of Equipment	Average Number of Workers	Estimated Number of Haul Truck Trips
Site Preparation	Week 1 through Week 3	4 tractors/loaders/backhoes 3 rubber-tired dozers 2 wood shredders/chippers chainsaws	9	negligible
Abatement	Week 4 through Week 5	1 air compressor	2	6
Demolition	Week 6 through Week 16	3 excavators 2 rubber-tired dozers 1 concrete/industrial saw	8	1,200
Excavation	Week 17 through Week 21	1 rubber-tired dozer 3 tractors/loaders/backhoes 1 grader 1 excavator	8	1,820
Site Rehabilitation	Week 22 through Week 26	1 rubber-tired dozer 3 tractors/loaders/backhoes 1 grader 1 excavator	8	1,200

Source: Type and number of equipment and workers is based on California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) default assumptions for a 3- to 5-acre grading project, with additional equipment added based on information provided by the County's Project Manager (McLauchlan 2022). Number of haul trips is based on estimated volume of debris/soil assuming a 10-cubic yard capacity (5 ton) dump truck. For the hauling of hazardous materials and contaminated soils (abatement and excavation phases) the trucks would only be filled to 2/3 capacity.

2.3.2 Staging and Haul Routes

Haul trucks would access the Project Site via the designated haul truck route along Highway 17, Highway 9 (Saratoga-Los Gatos Road and Big Basin Way), and Sanborn Road (see Figure 2-4, Off-site Haul Truck Routes). Exiting trucks would follow the same route in reverse.

**Figure 2-4 Off-site Haul Truck Routes**

All haul trucks would enter the gated main site entrance just southeast of the intersection of Sanborn Road and Pick Road. Haul trucks would then follow the designated haul truck route within the Project Site (see Figure 2-5, On-site Haul Routes). This route is designed for effective access to specific locations that require removal and hauling activities. The route would include turn-outs every 500 feet maximum for haul trucks. All haul trucks will exit from the residential driveway at the former Christensen House, where visibility is greater. Staging areas would also be established on the Project Site, as indicated on Figure 2-5.

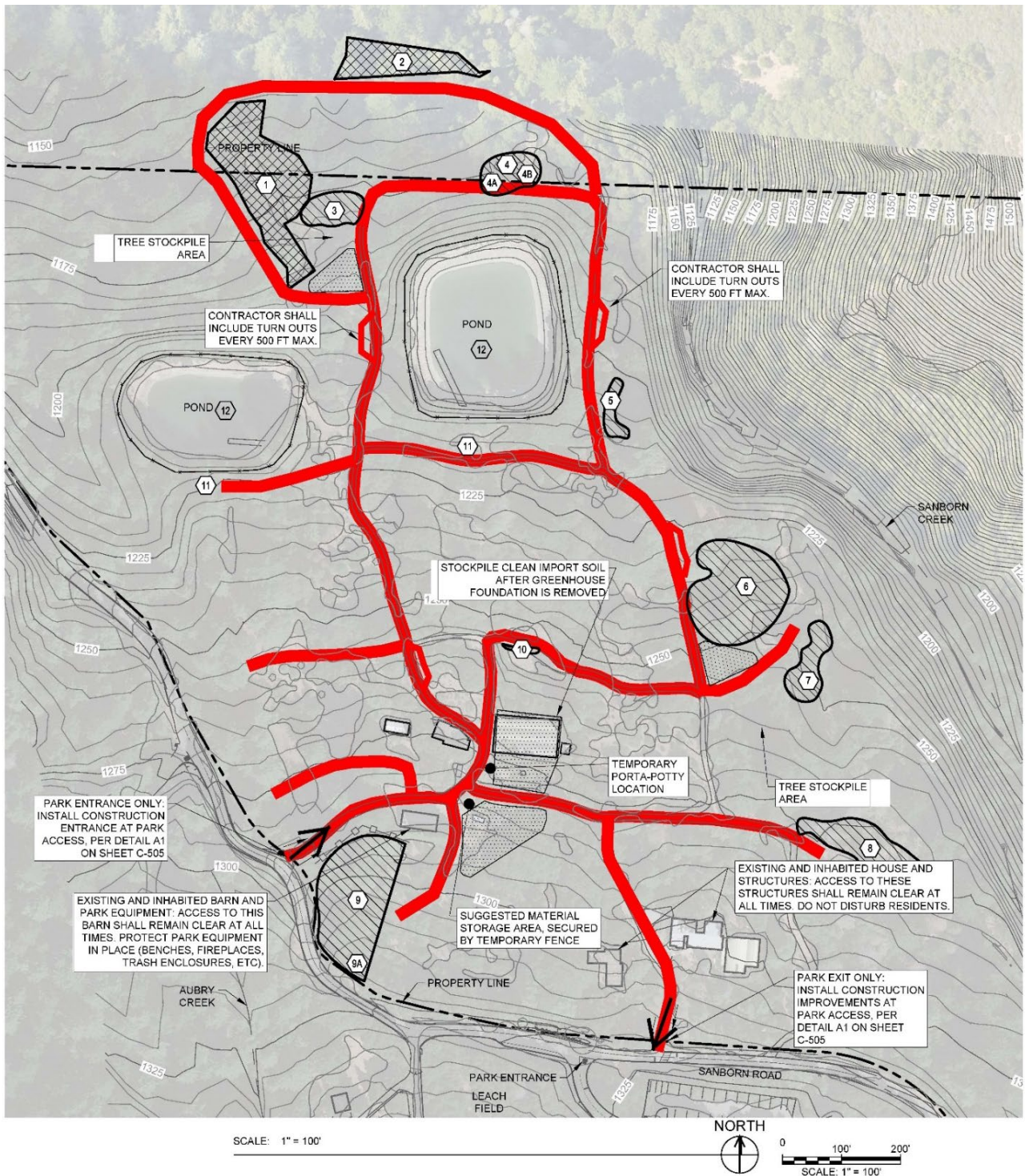


Figure 2-5 On-site Haul Routes

2.3.3 Operation and Maintenance

The Proposed Project is a “construction-phase” project only. Ongoing and future operation of the Project Site as a public campground has already been analyzed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan Initial Study (IS)/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (County Parks, 2019). Implementation of the Project would not change the current or future operations of the County Park and therefore operation of the Project Site does not need to be reassessed under CEQA within this document.

2.3.4 Best Management Practices Incorporated as Part of the Project

Standard County Best Management Practices (BMPs) relating to fire prevention, invasive plants, stormwater and erosion control, dust control and vehicle emissions, and construction noise will be incorporated into the Proposed Project to ensure that project-related effects are minimized or avoided. These include:

- County’s Parks Fire Prevention Operational Procedures (County 2012).
- California Invasive Plant Council’s (Cal-IPC) BMPs for Land Managers (Cal-IPC 2012).
- Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program’s (SCVURPPP) Construction BMPs (SCVURPPP no date).
- BAAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures (BAAQMD 2017a).
- County’s permitted hours of construction (County Ordinance Code Section B11-154(6)(a)).

2.3.5 Required Permits and Approvals

The Proposed Project is anticipated to require the following approvals, actions, and permits from public agencies:

- County of Santa Clara Department of Environmental Health approval of remediation excavation workplan.
- County of Santa Clara Tree Removal Permit or exemption.
- BAAQMD approval of asbestos dust mitigation plan.
- RWQCB National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Construction General Permit).

3 Environmental Checklist

The environmental factors listed below would be potentially affected by the Proposed Project, involving at least one impact that is a “potentially significant impact,” as discussed further in the analysis within this section:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology /Soils
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

The Proposed Project would have no impact or a less-than-significant impact on the environmental factors listed below, as discussed further in the analysis within this section:


- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Land Use / Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population / Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Utilities / Service Systems
- Wildfire

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that although the Proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions to the Proposed Project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent.

A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

DocuSigned by:

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12/1/2022

Signature

Date

3.1 Aesthetics

Table 3.1-1 Potential Impacts on Aesthetics

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
I. Aesthetics. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	-	-
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	Less than Significant Impact	1, 2, 3, 4
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	No Impact	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10f
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 a 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?	Less than Significant Impact	1, 2, 3, 4
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	No Impact	1, 2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.1.1 Setting

Visual Character

The Project Site slopes gently from Sanborn Road towards the north, with large relatively level areas stepping down towards two concrete-lined irrigation ponds. The tree canopy and spaciousness of the landscape create a private setting with views to the north. The Project Site contains both native and nonnative landscape intermingled with overgrown remnants of the previous nursery business and grounds. Although the native landscape includes redwood forest and montane hardwood forests, low growing coastal scrub and annual grassland dominate the area, especially the central areas near the existing structures. The Project Site contains many dilapidated fences, structures, and areas of dumped debris, some of which are visible.

Views of the Project Site from the road are generally limited or intermittent due to the dense vegetation along the roadside and within the Project Site. Some structures (e.g., the Christensen House, steel water tank, and dilapidated boundary fencing) are visible from surrounding public vantage points on Sanborn Road; however, most site structures and debris/dump areas are not.

Scenic Highways and Corridors

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) manages the State’s Scenic Highways Program. State Route 35 (SR-35), also known as the Skyline Scenic Recreation Route, follows the crest of the Santa Cruz Mountains from Highway 17 in Santa Clara County to State Route 92 in Redwood City, passing approximately 1.2 miles to the southwest of the Project Site. The northern portion of SR-35 (within San Mateo County) is officially designated as a State Scenic Highway, while the portion in Santa Clara County (near the Project Site) is eligible but not officially designated (Caltrans 2019).

State Route 9 (SR-9) runs from Highway 17 in Los Gatos to Saratoga, and then turns into the Santa Cruz Mountains under the name of Congress Springs Road, and travels up to Skyline Boulevard, passing approximately 0.75 miles north of the Project Site. The portion of SR-9 from the Santa Cruz County line (Skyline Boulevard) to the Los Gatos city limit is officially designated as a State Scenic Highway; the portions of SR-9 within Los Gatos city limits and within Santa Cruz County are eligible but not officially designated (Caltrans 2019).

Sanborn Road, which borders the eastern and southern boundaries of the Project Site, is a County-designated scenic road (County 2008); however, it is not recognized as an officially designated County Scenic Highway by Caltrans (Caltrans 2015).

Scenic Vistas

There are no designated scenic vistas in the vicinity of the Project Site; however, the County identifies prominent hillsides and ridgelines visible from the valley, riparian areas, scenic transportation corridors, and county entranceways as scenic resources of special significance (County 1994a). The Project Site is not visible from the valley floor and is not considered an entranceway to the County but does contain riparian areas associated with Sanborn and Aubry Creeks, and borders Sanborn Road, which is identified as a scenic transportation corridor by the County, as discussed above.

Light and Glare

Existing sources of light and glare in the vicinity of the Project Site are limited. The Project Site contains existing buildings and structures, most of which do not have exterior lighting or highly reflective surfaces. Nearby properties such as the Walden West Outdoor School and Sanborn County Park main area contain some exterior lighting for security; however, due to the terrain and highly vegetated nature of the area this lighting is typically not visible from outside of the respective properties.

3.1.2 Discussion

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

The Project Site is adjacent to a County-designated scenic highway (Sanborn Road); however, views of the Project Site from the road are generally limited or intermittent due to the dense vegetation along the roadside and within the Project Site.

Most Project activities would be undertaken within internal areas of the Project Site or along the northern and eastern boundaries away from Sanborn Road. Some Project activities might be visible from Sanborn Road, particularly the removal of the steel water tank and debris from Area 9 (Miscellaneous Materials) which are directly adjacent to Sanborn Road, installation of construction accesses, installation of temporary site fencing, and the removal of trees to facilitate site access and Project implementation.

Such Project activities in proximity to Sanborn Road would be noticeable for motorists or other Sanborn Road users; however, on completion of Project activities these areas would be mulched or hydroseeded to allow for rapid revegetation of the area. As noted in Section 3.4, Biological Resources, the County would be required to comply with the requirements of the County Tree Removal and Preservation Ordinance where applicable, including requirements for replacement plantings for protected trees that would be removed from the site. However, even without any replacement tree planting, the removal of dilapidated structures from the

property (such as the steel water tank) and clean-up of the site would generally improve the scenic quality of views from Sanborn Road.

Given that Project activities would be temporary and would improve the scenic quality of Sanborn Road along the Project site, the impact on scenic vistas or County-recognized special scenic resources would be **less than significant**.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

The Project Site is approximately 1.3 miles northeast of SR-35 and 0.75 mile south of SR-9; however, the Project Site is not visible from either of these State Scenic Highways because of the intervening terrain. Impacts to views from the County-designated scenic highway (Sanborn Road) are addressed under impact (a) above. Because the Project Site is not visible from any State Scenic Highway, there would be **no impact**.

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 a 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?

The Proposed Project would involve the removal of trees, structures, debris, and contaminated soil and would not result in any new permanent structures or facilities, other than permanent chain link fencing around the East and West Ponds to prevent unauthorized access. Many of the structures to be removed are in poor condition and could be considered an eyesore.

The Project Site is currently closed to the public and is not connected to the existing trail network within the wider Sanborn Park. Impacts of the Project to views from the adjacent Sanborn Road are addressed under impact (a) above. While intermittent glimpses of the Project Site may be visible from more distant public roads or trails, as discussed above most Project activities would only temporarily affect the visual character of the area and/or would result in an overall improvement of scenic quality due to the removal of dilapidated structures and debris as well as revegetation. For these reasons, the impact would be **less than significant**.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Project activities would occur during the day and would not require nighttime lighting or other sources of light or glare. The Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. No new buildings or other facilities are proposed that would require light or cause glare. Therefore, there would be **no impact** related to new sources of light or glare.

3.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Table 3.2-1 Potential Impacts on Agriculture and Forestry Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
II. Agriculture 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?	No Impact	3, 20, 21
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	No Impact	3, 4, 5
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))?	No Impact	3, 4, 5
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	No Impact	3, 4
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	No Impact	3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.2.1 Setting

The Project Site was formerly operated as a commercial conifers and evergreen nursery. There are no active agricultural uses within or immediately adjacent to the Project Site. The Project Site is zoned “Hillsides,” which allows for agricultural uses. Timber harvesting (commercial) is permitted in Hillsides districts subject to a discretionary use permit (County Ordinance Code Appendix I, Section 2.20.030). The Project Site does contain more than 10 percent native tree cover but is not used for the production of timber or other forest uses.

The California Department of Conservation’s (DOC’s) Important Farmland classifications—Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance—recognize the land’s suitability for agricultural production by considering the physical and chemical characteristics of the soil, such as soil temperature range, depth of the groundwater table, flooding potential, rock fragment content, and rooting depth. The classifications also consider the location, growing season, and moisture available to sustain high-yield crops. Together, Important Farmland and Grazing Land are defined by the DOC as “Agricultural Land” (California Public Resources Code, Sections 21060.1 and 21095). Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines focuses the analysis regarding conversion of agricultural land on Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland; any conversion of these lands would be considered a potentially significant impact under CEQA.

According to the Santa Clara County Important Farmland map, published by the DOC’s Division of Land Resource Protection, the Project Site is designated as Urban and Built-Up Land and Other Land. The DOC defines these categories as follows (DOC 2022):

1. **Urban and Built-Up Land**—Land that is used for residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, and public utility structures and for other developed purposes.
2. **Other Land**—Land that consists of miscellaneous uses, such as low-density rural developments; brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing; confined livestock, poultry, or aquaculture facilities; and water bodies.

Under the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, also known as the Williamson Act, local governments can enter into contracts with private property owners to protect land (in agricultural preserves) for agricultural and open space purposes. The Project parcels are not held under Williamson Act contracts (County 2022a).

PRC Section 12220(g) defines forest land as land that can support 10 percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits. Although the Project Site contains more than 10 percent native tree cover, it is not actively used for forest or timberland purposes.

3.2.2 Discussion

- 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?**

The Project Site does not contain any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, and is designated as Other Land and Urban and Built-Up Land (County 2022a; DOC 2018). Areas designated Other Land and Urban and Built-Up Land are not considered Important Farmland under CEQA (Public Resources Code Sections 21060.1 and 21095 and CEQA Guidelines Appendix G). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not convert Important Farmland to non-agricultural use, and **no impact** would occur.

- b) **Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?**

The Project Site is not under a Williamson Act contract. Although agricultural uses are permitted within the HS-sr zone, the Proposed Project would not change the zoning or underlying land use of the property. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural uses or with a Williamson Act contract, and **no impact** would occur.

- 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))?**

The Project Site is not zoned as forest land, as timberland, or as a Timberland Production Zone. Furthermore, the Proposed Project would not change the zoning or conflict with existing zoning of the site (see Section 3.12, Land Use and Planning). There would be **no impact**.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The Proposed Project would not alter the ongoing use of the site and therefore would not result in conversion of forest land³³ to non-forest use. **No impact** would occur.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

See the responses to Impact a) and Impact d) above. Because no agricultural or forestry uses are present in or adjacent to the Project Site, the Proposed Project would not result in other changes in the physical environment that would cause the conversion of agricultural land, including Important Farmland, to nonagricultural uses or cause conversion of forestland to non-forest uses, and **no impact** would occur.

³³ PRC Section 12220(g) defines forest land as land that can support 10 percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits.

3.3 Air Quality

Table 3.3-1 Potential Impacts on Air Quality

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
III. Air Quality.		
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied on to make the following determinations.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	Less than Significant	3, 4
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	3, 4
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	Less than Significant	3, 4
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	Less than Significant	3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.3.1 Setting

Air quality is defined by the concentration of pollutants in relation to their impact on human health. Concentrations of air pollutants are determined by the rate and location of pollutant emissions released by pollution sources, and the atmosphere’s ability to transport and dilute such emissions. Natural factors that affect transport and dilution include terrain, wind, and sunlight. Therefore, ambient air quality conditions within the local air basin are influenced by natural factors such as topography, meteorology, and climate, in addition to the amount of air pollutant emissions released by existing air pollutant sources.

The Proposed Project is located in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB), which is comprised of complex terrain types, including coastal mountain ranges, inland valleys, and bays, which distort normal wind flow patterns. During the summer, mostly clear skies result in warm daytime temperatures and cool nights. Winter temperatures are mild, except for very cool but generally frost-less mornings. Wind patterns are influenced by local terrain, with a northwesterly sea breeze typically developing during the daytime. Winds are usually stronger in the spring and summer. Rainfall amounts are modest, ranging from 13 inches in the lowlands to 20 inches in the hills (BAAQMD 2019).

Air Pollutants of Concern

Individual air pollutants at certain concentrations may adversely affect human or animal health, reduce visibility, damage property, and reduce the productivity or vigor of crops and natural vegetation. Six air pollutants have been identified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) as being of concern both on a nationwide and statewide level: ozone; carbon monoxide (CO); nitrogen dioxide (NO₂); sulfur dioxide (SO₂); lead; and particulate matter (PM), which is subdivided into two classes based on particle size: PM equal to or less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀) and PM equal to or less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM_{2.5}). Because the air quality standards for these air pollutants are regulated using human health and environmentally based

criteria, they are commonly referred to as “criteria air pollutants.” Ozone is not emitted directly into the air but is formed through a series of reactions involving reactive organic gases (ROGs) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) in the presence of sunlight. ROG and NO_x are referred to as “ozone precursors.”

Toxic Air Contaminants

In addition to criteria air pollutants, EPA and CARB regulate hazardous air pollutants, also known as toxic air contaminants (TAC). TAC collectively refers to a diverse group of air pollutants that can cause chronic (i.e., long-duration) and acute (i.e., severe but short-term) adverse effects on human health, including carcinogenic effects. TACs can be separated into carcinogens and noncarcinogens based on the nature of the effects associated with exposure to the pollutant. For regulatory purposes, carcinogens are assumed to have no safe threshold below which health impacts would not occur. Any exposure to a carcinogen poses some risk of contracting cancer. Noncarcinogens differ in that there is generally assumed to be a safe level of exposure below which no negative health impact is believed to occur. These levels are determined on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis.

Sensitive Receptors

Sensitive receptors are facilities that house or attract children, the elderly, people with illnesses, or others who are especially sensitive to the effects of air pollutants. Hospitals, schools, convalescent facilities, and residences are examples of sensitive receptors. The nearest sensitive receptors include the on-site inhabitants of the Christensen house and the residential dwelling immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the Project Site. The Walden West Outdoor School is approximately 650 feet west of the Project Site.

Regulatory Framework

Federal Clean Air Act and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Pursuant to the Clean Air Act, the EPA has established ambient air quality standards to protect public health and welfare with an adequate margin of safety. These federal standards, known as NAAQS, were developed for the six criteria pollutants described above. NAAQS represent safe levels of each pollutant to avoid specific adverse effects to human health and the environment. Two types of NAAQS have been established, primary and secondary standards. Primary standards set limits to protect public health, especially that of sensitive populations such as asthmatics, children, and seniors. Secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protections against decreased visibility and damage to animals, crops, and buildings.

The Clean Air Act was amended in 1977 to require each state to maintain a State Implementation Plan (SIP) for achieving compliance with the NAAQS. In 1990, the Clean Air Act was amended again to strengthen regulation of both stationary and mobile emission sources.

California Clean Air Act and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS). In 1988, the state legislature adopted the California Clean Air Act, which established a statewide air pollution control program. The California Clean Air Act requires all air districts in the state to make progress towards meeting the CAAQS by the earliest practical date. The California Clean Air Act establishes increasingly stringent requirements over time. CAAQS are generally more stringent than NAAQS and incorporate additional standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, visibility-reducing particles, and vinyl chloride.

The California Clean Air Act substantially adds to the authority and responsibilities of air districts. The California Clean Air Act designates air districts as lead air quality planning agencies, requires air districts to prepare air quality plans, and grants air districts authority to implement transportation control measures.

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). In the County of Santa Clara, BAAQMD is the agency responsible for protecting public health and welfare through the administration of federal and state air quality laws and policies. BAAQMD's tasks include air pollution monitoring, preparing air quality plans, and promulgating rules and regulations. BAAQMD rules and regulations relevant to the Proposed Project include but are not limited to: Regulation 6 (Particulate Matter), Regulation 7 (Odorous Substances), and Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation and Manufacturing).

BAAQMD also maintains multiple air quality monitoring stations that continually measure the ambient concentrations of major air pollutants throughout the SFBAAB. Under the California Clean Air Act, BAAQMD is required to develop an air quality attainment plan for nonattainment criteria pollutants within the air district. The 2017 Bay Area Clean Air Plan: Spare the Air and Cool the Climate was adopted on April 19, 2017 and provides a regional strategy to protect public health and protect the climate. To fulfill state ozone planning requirements, the 2017 control strategy includes all feasible measures to reduce emissions of ozone precursors and reduce transport of ozone and its precursors to neighboring air basins. In addition, the 2017 Clean Air Plan builds upon and enhances BAAQMD's efforts to reduce emissions of fine PM and TACs (BAAQMD 2017b).

Attainment of Federal and State Air Quality Standards

Areas are classified under the Federal Clean Air Act and California Clean Air Act as attainment, non-attainment, or maintenance (areas that were previously non-attainment but are currently attainment) for each criteria pollutant based on whether the federal and state air quality standards have been achieved. With respect to the NAAQS, the SFBAAB is designated as a nonattainment area for ozone and PM_{2.5}, and as an attainment or unclassified area for all other pollutants. With respect to the CAAQS, the SFBAAB is designated as a nonattainment area for ozone, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}, and as an attainment or unclassified area for all other pollutants (BAAQMD 2017c).

3.3.2 Discussion

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Air quality plans describe air pollution control strategies to be implemented by a city, county, or regional air district. The primary purpose of an air quality plan is to bring an area that does not attain NAAQS and CAAQS into compliance with those standards pursuant to the requirements of the Clean Air Act and California Clean Air Act. As discussed previously, the most recent air quality plan is the BAAQMD 2017 Clean Air Plan. The 2017 Clean Air Plan identifies potential control measures and strategies, including rules and regulations that could be implemented to reduce air pollutant emissions from industrial facilities, commercial processes, on- and off-road motor vehicles, and other sources. BAAQMD implements these strategies through rules and regulations, grant and incentive programs, public education and outreach, and partnerships with other agencies and stakeholders.

A project is determined to be consistent with the 2017 Clean Air Plan if it supports the goals of the Clean Air Plan, includes applicable control measures from the Clean Air Plan, and would not disrupt or hinder implementation of any control measures from the Clean Air Plan (BAAQMD 2017b). Consistency with the Clean Air Plan also is determined through evaluation of project-related air quality impacts and demonstration that project-related emissions would not increase the frequency or severity of existing violations, or contribute to a new violation of the NAAQS or CAAQS. The BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines include thresholds of significance that are applied to evaluate regional impacts of project-specific emissions of air pollutants and their impact on the BAAQMD's ability to reach attainment (BAAQMD 2017c). Emissions that are above these thresholds have not been accommodated in the air quality plans and would not be consistent with the air quality plans.

Demolition and remediation activities under the Proposed Project would involve the temporary use of off-road equipment, haul trucks, and worker commute trips. As discussed in Impact (b) below, construction-related emissions of the Proposed Project would not exceed the thresholds of significance recommended by BAAQMD. In addition, consistent with Stationary Source Control Measures SS36 (PM from Trackout) and SS38 (Fugitive Dust) of the 2017 Clean Air Plan, the Proposed Project would implement BAAQMD's Basic Construction Mitigation Measures as noted in Mitigation Measure AQ-1, which would reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction. As described in Section 2.3.3, the Proposed Project is limited to the demolition and remediation activities and would not involve any long-term activities. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan and this impact would be **less than significant**.

b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

By its very nature, air pollution is largely a cumulative impact. The nonattainment status of regional pollutants is a result of past and present development within the SFBAAB, and this regional impact is cumulative rather than being attributable to any one source. A project's emissions may be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable when taken in combination with past, present, and future development projects.

Construction emissions are short term but have the potential to result in a significant impact on air quality. Demolition and remediation activities would generate temporary emissions of precursors to ozone (VOC and NO_x), CO, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. VOC, NO_x, and CO emissions are associated primarily with mobile equipment exhaust, including off-road construction equipment and on-road motor vehicles. Fugitive particulate matter dust emissions are associated primarily with site preparation and travel on unpaved roads and vary as a function of parameters such as soil silt content, soil moisture, wind speed, acreage of disturbance area, and miles traveled by construction vehicles.

As described in Section 2.3.1, Construction Phasing and Schedule, demolition and remediation activities are anticipated to begin in March 2023 and last approximately six months. Emissions associated with demolition and remediation activities were modeled using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) version 2022.1. CalEEMod allows the user to enter project-specific construction information, such as types, number and horsepower of construction equipment, and number and length of off-site motor vehicle trips. Based on the anticipated construction activities, it is estimated that approximately 12,000 cubic yards of demolition debris would be exported from the Project Site, requiring approximately 1,200

truckloads or 2,400 truck trips. An estimated 12,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil export would also be necessary, requiring approximately 1,820 trucks and generating 3,640 truck trips. Following excavation of the contaminated soil, site rehabilitation would require the import of approximately 12,000 cubic yards of clean fill, resulting in an additional 2,400 truck trips. It is also anticipated that approximately 40 cubic yards of hazardous waste would be removed from the site during the abatement activities. The demolition and remediation activities would require between two and nine workers per day. Additional modeling assumptions and details are provided in **Appendix A**. Modeling results are presented in Table 3.3-2 below.

BAAQMD published the May 2017 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, which provides lead agencies assistance in evaluating air quality impacts of projects and plans proposed in the SFBAAB (BAAQMD 2017c). The guidelines provide recommended procedures for evaluating potential air impacts during the environmental review process, consistent with CEQA requirements, and include recommended thresholds of significance, mitigation measures, and background air quality information. BAAQMD has stated that the CEQA Guidelines are for informational purposes only and should be followed by local governments at their own discretion (BAAQMD 2017c). The BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines may inform environmental review for development projects in the Bay Area, but do not commit local governments or BAAQMD to any specific course of regulatory action. The thresholds for criteria pollutants were developed through a quantitative examination of the efficacy of fugitive dust mitigation measures and a quantitative examination of statewide nonattainment emissions and are used for the analysis of project-generated emissions.

Table 3.3-2 shows the total and average daily emissions associated with demolition and remediation activities, which would be less than the applicable thresholds of significance established by BAAQMD.

Table 3.3-2 Total and Average Daily Construction Emissions

Source/Description	ROG	NOx	PM ₁₀ (Exhaust)	PM _{2.5} (Exhaust)
Total Construction Emissions (tons)	0.18	2.14	0.08	0.07
Average Daily Emissions (lbs/day) ¹	2.77	32.92	1.23	1.08
Threshold of Significance (lbs/day) ²	54	54	82	54
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	No

Notes: ROG = reactive organic gases; NOx = nitrogen oxides; PM₁₀ = particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter; lbs/day = pounds per day

¹ Average daily emissions estimated assuming 130 construction workdays based on a 5-day construction workweek and 26 weeks of construction.

² BAAQMD 2017c

BAAQMD does not have quantitative mass emissions thresholds for fugitive PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} dust. Instead, BAAQMD recommends that all projects, regardless of the level of average daily emissions, implement applicable BMPs, including those listed as Basic Construction Measures in the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines (BAAQMD 2017c). Without implementation of BAAQMD's Basic Construction Measures, the impacts would be **potentially significant**.

In order to comply with the BAAQMD threshold for fugitive dust, the following mitigation measure is needed:

MM-AQ-1. Implement Basic Construction Emission Control Practices. The construction contractor shall comply with the following BAAQMD Basic Construction Measures, as applicable, for reducing construction emissions of uncontrolled fugitive dust (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}):

1. All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.
2. All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
3. All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
4. All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).
5. All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
6. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
7. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
8. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The BAAQMD's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

As shown in Table 3.3-2, construction-related emissions of ROG, NO_x, PM₁₀ exhaust, and PM_{2.5} exhaust would not exceed the applicable mass emission thresholds of significance recommended by BAAQMD. In addition, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, the Proposed Project would be consistent with BAAQMD guidance and would not result in the generation of significant fugitive dust emissions.

As described previously, following construction activities, the Proposed Project would not result in new operational activities or emissions. As a result, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, the Proposed Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Criteria Air Pollutants

As previously discussed, criteria air pollutants may adversely affect human or animal health, reduce visibility, damage property, and reduce the productivity or vigor of crops and natural vegetation. As shown in Table 3.3-2, demolition and remediation activities would result in emissions of criteria air pollutants but at levels that would not exceed the BAAQMD thresholds of significance. The thresholds of significance were designed to identify those projects that would result in significant levels of air pollution and to assist the region in attaining the applicable state and federal ambient air quality standards, which were established using

health-based criteria to protect the public with a margin of safety from adverse health impacts due to exposure to air pollution.

The Proposed Project is estimated to generate approximately 2 tons of NO_x emissions, less than 1 ton of ROG emissions during demolition and remediation activities. As discussed above, NO_x and ROG are ozone precursors. Individuals exercising outdoors, children, and people with lung disease, such as asthma and chronic pulmonary lung disease, are considered to be the most susceptible subgroups for ozone effects. Short-term ozone exposure (lasting for a few hours) can result in changes in breathing patterns, reductions in breathing capacity, increased susceptibility to infections, inflammation of lung tissue, and some immunological changes. Chronic exposure to high ozone levels can permanently damage lung tissue (BAAQMD 2017a). Because of the reaction time and other factors involved in ozone formation, ozone is considered a regional pollutant that is not linearly related to emissions (i.e., ozone impacts vary depending on the location of the emissions, the location of other precursor emissions, meteorology, and seasonal impacts). Peak ozone concentrations often occur far downwind of the precursor emissions. Thus, ozone is considered a regional pollutant that often affects large areas. There currently is no way to accurately quantify ozone-related health impacts from NO_x and ROG emissions from small projects. These limitations are due to photochemistry and regional model limitations; it takes a large amount of additional precursor emissions to cause a modeled increase in ambient ozone levels (SCAQMD 2015). However, because the BAAQMD regional thresholds of significance for NO_x and ROG were established with these factors in mind, the Proposed Project's compliance with the BAAQMD thresholds indicates that the Project's NO_x and ROG emissions would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of ozone. . In addition, the Proposed Project would implement Mitigation Measure AQ-1 and would comply with applicable BAAQMD rules, including but not limited to Regulation 6 (Particulate Matter), which reduces the amount of PM entrained in the ambient air. Therefore, criteria air pollutant emissions associated with the demolition and remediation activities would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial criteria pollutant concentrations.

Toxic Air Contaminants

The health effects associated with TACs are quite diverse and generally are assessed locally, rather than regionally. TACs can cause long-term health effects such as cancer, birth defects, neurological damage, asthma, bronchitis or genetic damage; or short-term acute effects such as eye watering, respiratory irritation (a cough), running nose, throat pain, and headaches. The greatest potential TAC emissions would be related to diesel PM emissions associated with activity by heavy-duty construction equipment. The total duration of construction activities is anticipated to be approximately 6 months; the exposure of sensitive receptors to construction emissions would be short term, intermittent, and temporary in nature. Health effects from TACs are often described in terms of individual cancer risk, which is based on a 30-year lifetime exposure to TACs (OEHHA 2015). Therefore, the total exposure period for construction activities would be less than two percent of the total exposure period used for typical health risk calculations (i.e., 30 years). Construction activities would vary and span across the 42-acre area across several noncontiguous sites and structures. For example, although the nearest sensitive receptors are the on-site inhabitants of the Christensen house, demolition and construction activities would occur approximately 270 feet away at the Debris Site 8, Boneyard and as far as 1,500 feet for activities at Debris Site 2, Small Dump. A residential dwelling is also located immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the Proposed Project site and approximately 400 feet south from the nearest proposed work area (Debris

Site 8, Boneyard) and approximately 1,900 feet away from the farthest work area (Debris Site 2, Small Dump). The Walden West Outdoor School is also located near the Proposed Project, at a distance of approximately 650 feet west of the western boundary of the Proposed Project site and approximately 870 feet from the nearest proposed work area (Equipment Sites N and O, Pumps), and up to 2,300 feet away at the farthest work area (Debris Site 8, Boneyard). Concentrations of mobile-source diesel PM emissions are typically reduced by approximately 60 percent at a distance of 300 feet (100 meters) (Zhu et al. 2002). As described above, emissions would vary by activity and equipment intensity and would take place across several noncontiguous sites and structures across the approximately 42-acre project site. In addition, the topography varies between the Proposed Project sites and the sensitive receptors, and includes a vegetated terrain, which acts as a buffer and separates the sensitive receptors from project work areas. Studies regarding vegetation for pollutant dispersion have shown that vegetation between sensitive land uses and emission sources can lead to air quality benefits (e.g., pollution concentration reductions of up to 20 percent on the leeward side of the tree line) (BAAQMD 2016, CARB 2017). Therefore, trucks and off-road equipment would not operate in the immediate vicinity of any sensitive receptor for an extended period of time and the potential exposure to TAC emission concentrations would be limited.

Given the construction schedule, varying topography and buffer distances to the nearest sensitive receptors, and the highly dispersive nature of diesel PM emissions, construction of the Proposed Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations that could cause short- or long-term health effects. In addition, TAC emission exposure would also be reduced with implementation of CARB regulations, such as the Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM), which limits idling of diesel-fueled commercial motor vehicles. The demolition and hazardous waste abatement activities would also comply with BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation and Manufacturing), which would control emissions of asbestos to the atmosphere and reduce exposure of receptors to this TAC.

As discussed previously, the Proposed Project is limited to demolition and remediation activities and would not involve any long-term activities. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not expose sensitive receptors to any long-term pollutant concentrations. On the contrary, the purpose of the Proposed Project is to improve the existing conditions of the site by cleaning up contaminated soils with concentrations of metals, pesticides, and VOCs, that were above the RWQCB's environmental screening levels, and demolition of structures that contain asbestos and lead paint, which are regulated TAC compounds. Therefore, this impact would be **less than significant**.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

The occurrence and severity of odor impacts depend on numerous factors, including the nature, frequency, and intensity of the source; wind speed and direction; and the presence of sensitive receptors. While offensive odors rarely cause any physical harm, they still can be very unpleasant, leading to considerable distress and often generating citizen complaints to local governments and regulatory agencies. Projects with the potential to frequently expose individuals to objectionable odors are deemed to have a significant impact. Typical facilities that generate odors include wastewater treatment facilities, sanitary landfills, composting facilities, petroleum refineries, chemical manufacturing plants, and food processing facilities (BAAQMD 2017c).

Construction activities associated with the Proposed Project could result in short-term odor emissions from diesel exhaust associated with construction equipment and removal of certain hazardous wastes, such as fuels, oils, and lubricants. The Proposed Project would use typical construction techniques, odors would be typical of most construction sites and limited to duration of construction, and the intervening vegetated terrain would help dissipate any emissions (such as those leading to odors). Furthermore, nuisance odors are regulated under the BAAQMD's Regulation 7, Odorous Substances, which requires abatement of any nuisance generating an odor complaint. Regulation 7 places general limitations on odorous substances, and specific emission limitations on certain odorous compounds. Following demolition and remediation activities, the Proposed Project would not result in any long-term sources of emissions. Thus, the Proposed Project would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. This impact would be **less than significant**.

3.4 Biological Resources

Table 3.4-1 Potential Impacts on Biological Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
IV. 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?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	1, 2, 3, 4, 11d,
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	Less than Significant	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10b, 49
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?	Less than Significant	1, 2, 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?	Less than Significant	1, 2, 3, 4
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 49
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?	No Impact	1, 2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.4.1 Setting

This section describes the environmental conditions of the Project Site. These physical characteristics provide context for the biological conditions and the potential for special-status species to occur in or near the Project Site.

To evaluate the existing biological conditions in the Project Site a background review of the following data sources was conducted to identify special-status wildlife, special-status plants, and sensitive natural communities with the potential to occur in the Project Site:

- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (USFWS 2021). This was consulted for a resource species list generated from the USFWS Sacramento Office (AECOM 2021b see Attachment B).
- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). This database was used to generate, using a 5-mile radius buffer around the Project Site, a list of known special-status wildlife and plant species occurrences (CDFW 2021a).
- Federal Register. This was consulted for ESA-listed species, including listing status and critical habitat.

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Sensitive Natural Communities list. This list was consulted to identify Sensitive Natural Communities in the Project Site (CDFW 2021b)
- Recovery Plans for federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)-Listed Species. This was consulted to determine species' current and historical ranges, life history characteristics, and suitable habitats.
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Inventory. This database was consulted to identify special status plant species with CNPS ratings that could occur in the Project Site (CNPS 2022).

AECOM biologists also conducted a series of reconnaissance surveys to gather additional information about biological resources present within the Project Site; a wildlife and habitat assessment was conducted on October 12, 2021 (AECOM 2021b), a tree inventory was conducted on October 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 28 and 29, 2021 (AECOM 2021c) and a wetland and waters delineation survey was conducted on March 8, 2022 (AECOM 2022b). A further site visit was conducted on July 26, 2022, along with representatives from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) resulting in preparation of a revised delineation survey (AECOM 2022d).

Vegetation Communities

Vegetation communities mapped in the Project Site include coastal oak woodland, coastal scrub, montane riparian, redwood forest, and Sierran mixed conifer (see Figure 3-1).

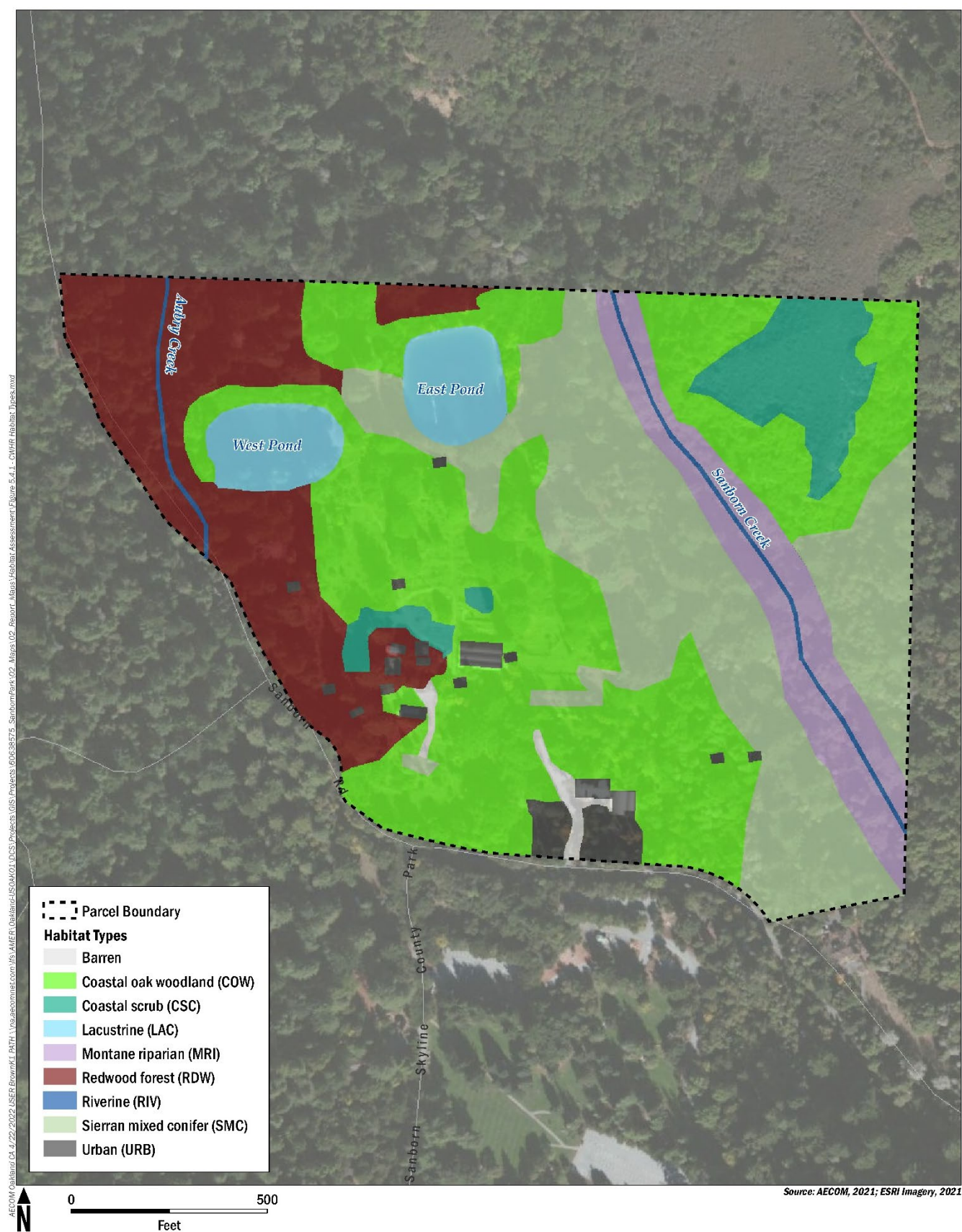


Figure 3-1 Vegetation Communities

Coastal oak woodland is the dominant hardwood community in upland areas in the Project Site with numerous large, mature coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*). Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) are also found in the canopy. Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), and common manzanita (*Arctostaphylos manzanita*) are present in the understory.

Coastal scrub habitat is found in small patches near the western edge of the Project Site adjacent to many abandoned nursery buildings. The coastal scrub habitat consists of coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), hairy ceanothus (*Ceanothus oliganthus*), and common manzanita. In the understory, coast live oak saplings, smaller ornamental shrubs, and annual grasslands are present.

Montane riparian habitat is present along Sanborn Creek on the eastern edge of the Project Site. This vegetation community is dominated by big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), and tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*). Understory growth includes low-growing forbs and leaf litter.

Redwood forest habitat is confined to the western edge of the Project Site along Aubry Creek. In addition to coast redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*), the tree canopy also includes Douglas fir, California bay, and tanoak. In the understory, western bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), and low growing forbs are present.

Sierran mixed conifer forest is the dominant conifer forest in the Project Site. This habitat type is found on the western side of Sanborn Creek and is dominated by Douglas fir and pine trees (*Pinus* sp.). Tanoaks and coast live oak saplings are also present. Understory species include Spanish broom and coyote brush intermixed with annual grasses.

Special Status Species

The potential for special-status species to occur in the Project Site was evaluated based on a review of available databases and literature, including California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (CDFW 2021a) and the IPaC resource report from USFWS (USFWS 2021), and reconnaissance surveys. For the purposes of this analysis “special-status species” are defined as any plant or animal that meets the definitions of threatened or endangered; or is proposed for listing as threatened or endangered; or is identified as a species of special concern, rare, or a candidate species under the ESA and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Additionally, plants that are listed in the California Native Plant Society’s Inventory for Rare Plants (Rare Plant Rank 1 through 3) are similarly considered “special-status species”.

Appendix B provides a list of the regionally occurring special-status species, based on evaluation of CNDDDB, USFWS iPaC, and CNPS database queries. The appendix lists each species and its listing statuses, habitat requirements, local occurrences, and an evaluation of their potential to occur in or near the Project Site.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

Based on information from the site surveys and background data eighteen special-status wildlife species were evaluated for potential suitable habitat in or near the Project Site (**Appendix B**). Of these, eleven taxa were eliminated from further consideration because of a lack of suitable habitat, local range restrictions, and/or regional extirpations. The remaining seven taxa have a potential to occur in the Project Site and are summarized in Table 3.4-2.

Table 3.4-2 Summary of Special Status Species with Potential to Occur in Project Site

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status	Taxonomic Group
Santa Cruz black salamander (<i>Aneides niger</i>)	California Species of Special Concern	Amphibian
California giant salamander (<i>Dicamptodon ensatus</i>)	California Species of Special Concern	Amphibian
California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>)	Federally Threatened California Species of Special Concern	Amphibian
American peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>)	California Fully Protected	Bird
western pond turtle (<i>Emys marmorata</i>)	California Species of Special Concern	Reptile
Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>)	California Species of Special Concern	Mammal
San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (<i>Neotoma fuscipes annectens</i>)	California Species of Special Concern	Mammal

Source: **Appendix B.**

Special-Status Plant Species

Based on information from background data, fourteen special-status plant species were evaluated for potential suitable habitat in the Project Site (see **Appendix B**). Of these, all taxa were eliminated from further consideration due to lack of suitable habitat and/or regional extirpations. Therefore, no special-status plant species have the potential to occur in the Project Site.

Critical Habitat Designation

Critical habitat designations were reviewed for the California red-legged frog and determined to be absent from the Project Site. The closest critical habitat for California red-legged frog lies more than 5 miles west of the Project Site. No other Critical Habitat Designations for the remaining special-status species were found in the Project Site or nearby (USFWS 2022).

Sensitive Natural Communities

Natural Communities with a State Rank⁴ of 1, 2, or 3 are Sensitive Natural Communities and identified by the CDFW Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (CDFW 2021b). Sensitive Natural Communities present in the Project Site includes Redwood Forest and Montane Riparian with big leaf maple and California Bay trees as the codominant species. Redwood Forest habitat is rated S3 and is confined to the western edge of the Project Site along Aubry Creek and covers 9.95 acres in the Project Site. Montane Riparian habitat is rated S3 and is located along Sanborn Creek on the eastern edge of the Project Site and covers 4.77 acres in the Project Site.

Wetlands and Other Waters

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has primary federal responsibility for administering regulations under the Rivers and Harbors Act (Sections 9 and 10), which governs specified activities in “navigable waters”; and the Clean Water Act (CWA) (Section 404), which regulates the discharge of dredged and fill materials into Waters of the United States (WOTUS). Jurisdictional WOTUS include “intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows,

⁴Evaluation of natural communities is done at both the Global (full natural range within and outside of California) and State (within California) levels resulting in a single G (global) and S (state) rank ranging from 1 (very rare and threatened) to 5 (demonstrably secure) (CDFW 2021b).

playa lakes, natural ponds, and wetlands adjacent to any water of the United States” (33 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Section 328). During field investigations four potentially jurisdictional WOTUS features were identified (Figure 3-2): four of which are other waters of the U.S. including, one unnamed intermittent creek and one unnamed ephemeral creek tributary to Aubry Creek, Aubry Creek and Sanborn Creek. Two other aquatic resources were delineated consisting of two artificial irrigation ponds (West Pond and East Pond). Except for a wetland that developed from sediment buildup along the northwest shore of one of the artificial irrigation ponds (West Pond), there were no areas within the Project Site containing signs of wetlands (AECOM 2022b, AECOM 2021b, AECOM 2022d).

Aubry Creek is a high-gradient freshwater creek that flows along the western boundary of the Project Site (OWUS-1 on Figure 3-2). The creek is characterized by large substrate (mostly boulders and cobble), pools, runs, and frequent drops. The creek is labeled as an “intermittent creek” by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Hydrography Database (NHD) (USGS 2022) and confirmed intermittent based on field investigations. Intermittent creek waters include natural and artificial drainages that convey waters during the wet season (winter to spring) but are normally dry during summer months. Little to no emergent aquatic vegetation was observed in Aubry creek. There is a short intermittent creek fed from a seep near the creek bank (OWUS-2 on Figure 3-2) and another ephemeral high gradient, large substrate creek that flows east from Sanborn Road (OWUS-3 on Figure 3-2) that is tributary to Aubry Creek.

Sanborn Creek is a low to moderate gradient freshwater creek that flows along the eastern perimeter of the Project Site. It is similarly characterized by large substrate of boulders and cobbles. The creek is labeled as a “perennial creek” by the USGS NHD (USGS 2022) and carries water all year round. Small pools of standing water were observed during field investigations and flowing water was observed downstream of the Project Site. Aubry Creek confluences with Sanborn Creek about 0.5 mile downstream of the Project Site. Little to no emergent aquatic vegetation was observed in Sanborn Creek.

West Pond (0.48 acre) and East Pond (0.79 acre) are two artificial irrigation ponds that were constructed in 1968 to collect and retain water to irrigate plants grown for the commercial nursery operations conducted at the Project Site (labeled as Irrigation Pond-1 and Irrigation Pond-2, respectively, on Figure 3-2). These artificial ponds were excavated in upland areas and are lined with concrete and black plastic. They are hydrologically isolated and provide no direct hydrological connection to either Aubry Creek or Sanborn Creek. There is little to no vegetation growing in or adjacent to the ponds. However due to sediment build up and the fluctuation of waters from direct precipitation and evaporation, a wetland has recently developed on the northwest end of the pond dominated by nutsedge (*Cyperus eragrostis*), which was observed during the July 26, 2022 site visit but was not present during earlier field surveys. Historically, the ponds were connected to Aubry Creek via a 6-inch-diameter polyvinyl chloride (PVC) water pipeline that is now disconnected and is not operational. Currently, water levels in the West and East Ponds rely on direct precipitation and overland flow for their water supply. Due to the concrete and plastic liner, water does not percolate through the ground surface and is only lost via evaporation. Surface water was present in both ponds at the time of the field survey; surface water levels vary depending on the amount of precipitation.

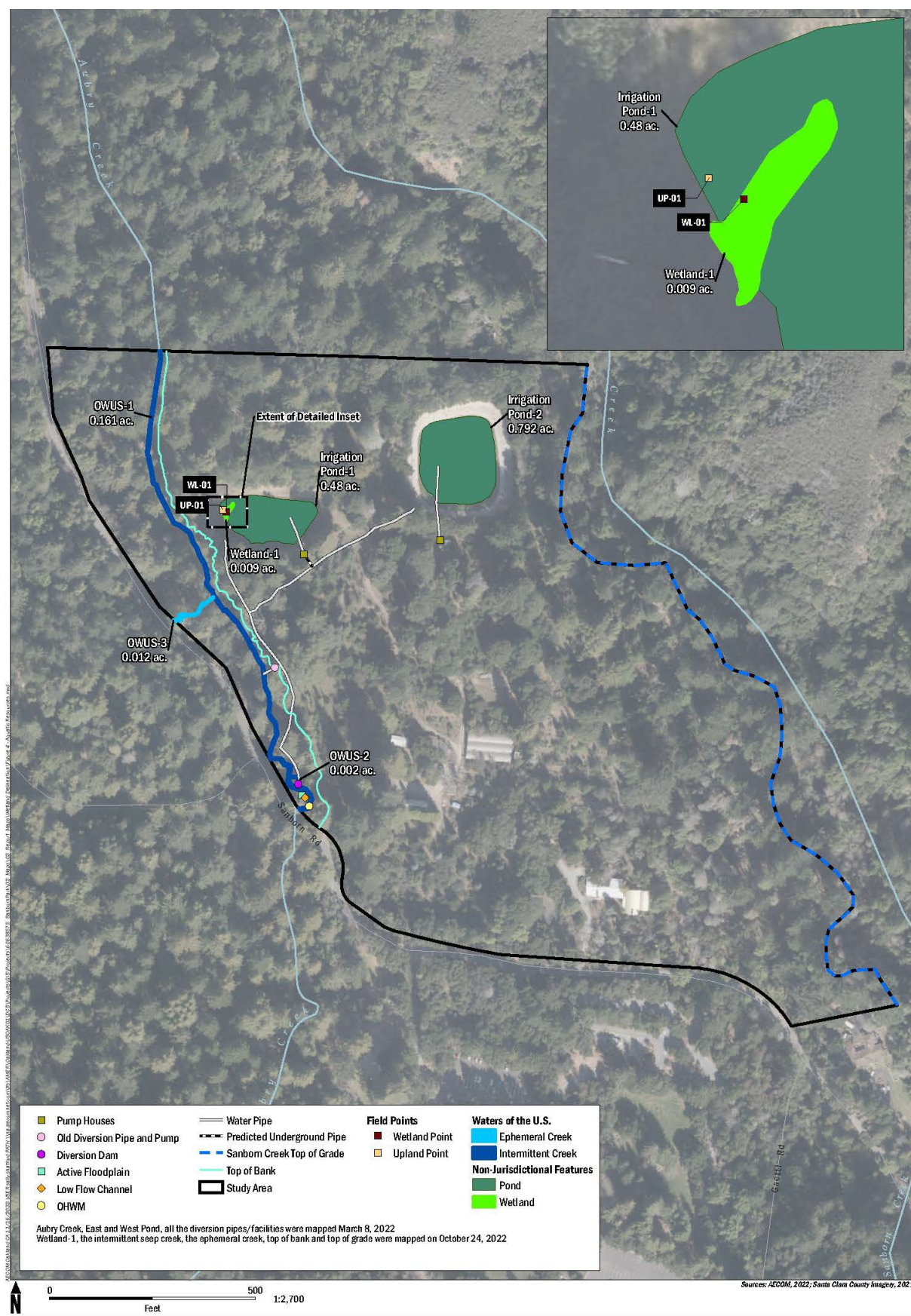


Figure 3-2 Aquatic Resources

Wildlife Movement

Based on a review of existing databases containing locations of wildlife movement corridors, the Project Site falls within the designations of an 'Essential Connectivity Corridor' as mapped by Caltrans and CDFW in 2010. This coarse-scale assessment of wildlife movements map was based primarily on the concept of ecological integrity, rather than the needs of an individual species (Caltrans and CDFW 2010). Essential Connectivity Areas are areas crucial for ecological connectivity. The Project Site is designated as 'Regional Parks', bordering Sanborn County Park in the eastern Santa Cruz Mountain foothills. Regionally, Sanborn County Park forms part of a large network of protected open space providing habitat for a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic species and offers increased potential to support wildlife movement providing a significant wildlife corridor for terrestrial wildlife species.

Local Ordinances

The County of Santa Clara Ordinance Code, Division C16, *Tree Preservation and Removal*, requires an administrative permit or encroachment permit for removal of any protected tree on any private or public property in unincorporated Santa Clara County or on any other land owned or leased by the County. The ordinance defines a protected tree as including, but not limited to, the following:

- Any heritage tree that the County Board of Supervisors has included on the County's heritage resource inventory.
- Any tree on any property owned or leased by the County that measures over 37.7 inches in circumference (12 inches or more in diameter) measured 4.5 feet above the ground, or which exceeds 20 feet in height.
- Any tree, regardless of size, within road rights-of-way and easements of the County anywhere in Santa Clara County.

Under Section C16-4 of the County's tree preservation ordinance, a permit for removal of a protected tree is not required for the cutting, removal, destruction, or pruning of a tree in circumstances where the tree is diseased, dead, or dying, or substantially damaged from natural causes; is needed to remove a hazard to life and personal property; is necessary to carry out a building site approval or other land use application approved by the County; or for maintenance works within public utility easements. Section C16-6 also allows for tree removal on Hillside-zoned parcels of more than three acres, provided the yield is not more than ten percent of trees over 37.7 inches in circumference (12 inches or more in diameter) per year on any parcel, together with contiguous parcels under the same ownership, and that no more than ten cords of wood per year shall be cut on parcels of 100 acres or less.

Section C16-7 of the tree preservation ordinance specifies the requirements for an administrative permit to remove protected trees. Among other provisions, Section C16-7(e) specifies that the ratio of trees removed to trees planted shall be determined by the County Planning Department.

Habitat Conservation Plans

Based on a review of USFWS and CDFW websites, there are no Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) or Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) that are applicable at the Project Site. The closest HCP and NCCP is the Santa Clara Valley HCP that covers the City of San Jose and southern Santa Clara County (CDFW 2022).

3.4.2 Discussion

- 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?**

As summarized in Table 3.4-2 above, three special-status amphibians, one special-status bird, one special-status reptile and two special-status mammals have the potential to occur in the Project site and no special-status plants, fish, or invertebrate species are expected to occur in the Project Site.

Project implementation could impact these species through modifications to habitat present in the Project Site or as a result of direct contact with construction equipment or personnel. This impact would be **potentially significant**.

Mitigation Measures MM-BIO-1 through MM-BIO-11, detailed below, include worker training and species-specific measures that are designed to avoid and minimize impacts on species with the potential to occur.

MM-BIO-1: Environmental Awareness Training.

Before the start of ground-disturbing activities, the County or its contractor shall retain a qualified biologist to prepare and implement an Environmental Awareness Training session for all workers who will be conducting the construction and remediation activities at the Project Site. All Project personnel must have attended the training prior to entering the Project work area.

Training materials shall include the following: discussion of the federal Endangered Species Act (federal ESA), the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and the Clean Water Act (CWA); the consequences and penalties for violation or noncompliance with these laws and regulations and project permits; identification and value of special-status plants, special-status wildlife, and jurisdictional waters and explanations about their value; hazardous substance spill prevention and containment measures; the contact person in the event of the discovery of a dead or injured wildlife species; and review of mitigation measures, permit conditions, and any other required environmental compliance measures. In the training, project timing in relation to species' habitat and species' life-stage requirements will be detailed and discussed on project maps, which will show areas of planned minimization and avoidance measures.

A fact sheet conveying this information will be prepared by the qualified biologist or designee for distribution to attendees. On completion of the training, workers will sign a form stating that they attended the training, understood the information presented, and will comply with the training requirements. This training may be combined with other environmental training for the Project, such as cultural resource training, and may be provided virtually or via recording. In the event that non-English-speaking crew members are employed during the Project, an interpreter will be present during the environmental training, or training materials will be supplied in an alternative language.

MM-BIO-2: Ground-Disturbing Activity During Dry Season.

Where feasible, ground disturbing activities shall be timed to occur during the dry season (non-breeding season for California red-legged frog from April 15 through October 15) to minimize impacts to potential frog breeding and dispersal.

MM-BIO-3: Stop Work if ESA-Listed Amphibian or Reptile Species are Detected

If at any time a listed amphibian or reptile species, or suspected listed amphibian or reptile species, is discovered, work within 50 feet of the individual shall cease immediately and the Onsite Project Manager and USFWS-approved biologist shall be notified immediately, and the biologist will implement the procedures described below. At no time will work continue if it will cause take of a listed species.

- If, based on the professional judgment of the USFWS-approved biologist, construction activities can be conducted without harming or injuring the special-status individual, it may be left at the location of discovery and monitored by the qualified biologist. All construction personnel will be notified of the finding, and at no time will work occur within 50 feet of the special-status individual without a biological monitor present. The individual would be allowed to remain on site until it leaves of its own volition.*
- If the individual is not expected to relocate from the project area, then the USFWS-approved biologist will contact the USFWS (for California red-legged frog) or CDFW (for Santa Cruz black toed salamander, California giant salamander, or western pond turtle) to determine the appropriate additional steps or actions. The individual would not be relocated without written permission and authorization from the USFWS or CDFW.*

MM-BIO-4: Preconstruction Surveys for Amphibians

Two weeks prior to the onset of work activities (including equipment mobilization), a USFWS-approved biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey in suitable upland habitat in the project disturbance areas to identify suitable burrow refuge areas for California red-legged frog. As feasible in the construction area, all burrows within 20 feet of the project disturbance areas will be temporarily marked and avoided. At locations where potential burrows are identified and cannot be avoided, burrows will be monitored during excavation.

Within 24 hours prior to initial ground-disturbing activities, construction sites where potential California red-legged frog or Santa Cruz black toed salamander or California giant salamander habitat has been identified will be surveyed by a USFWS-approved biologist for salamanders and frogs to clear the site of salamanders and frogs moving above-ground or taking refuge in burrow openings or under materials that could provide cover such as boards, scrap metal, woody debris, or other materials.

MM-BIO-5: Pre-construction/Pre-disturbance Surveys for Nesting Birds/Raptors/Peregrine Falcons

Prior to any Project activities occurring between February 1 and August 31, (i.e., during nesting bird season), then pre-construction surveys for nesting birds, including raptors, shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed

during Project implementation. These surveys will be conducted no more than one week prior to the initiation of Project activities. During this survey, a qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nesting habitats (e.g., trees, shrubs, grasslands, and buildings) within 300 ft. of impact areas for raptor nests and within 100 ft. of impact areas for nests of non-raptors. If an active nest (i.e., a nest with eggs or young, or any completed raptor nest attended by adults) is found sufficiently close to work areas to be disturbed by these activities, the biologist, in consultation with the CDFW, will determine the extent of a disturbance-free buffer zone to be established around the nest (typically 300 ft. for raptors and 50–100 ft. for other species), to ensure that no nests of species protected by the Migratory Bird and Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code will be disturbed during Project implementation. The buffer shall be clearly marked and maintained until the biologist has determined that all of the young have fledged and are foraging independently. Prior to construction, the qualified biologist shall conduct baseline monitoring of the nests to characterize “normal” bird behavior and establish a buffer distance which allows the birds to exhibit normal behavior. The qualified biologist shall monitor the nesting birds daily during construction activities and increase the buffer if the birds show signs of unusual or distressed behavior (e.g., defensive flights and vocalizations, standing up from a brooding position, and/or flying away from the nest). If buffer establishment is not possible, all project activities in the area shall cease until the young have fledged and the nest is no longer active. If work cannot be feasibly avoided within a buffer, such work may only commence if a permit and authorization from USFWS are obtained in accordance with the MBTA.

MM-BIO-6: Preconstruction Survey for Western Pond Turtle:

No more than 48 hours before start-of-work activities begin, a qualified biologist shall survey the work site for signs of western pond turtles and/or western pond turtle nesting activity (i.e., recently excavated nests, nest plugs) or nest depredation (partially to fully excavated nest chambers, nest plugs, scattered eggshell remains, eggshell fragments). Preconstruction surveys to detect western pond turtles will focus on suitable aerial and aquatic basking habitat such as logs, branches, rootwads, and riprap, as well as the shoreline and adjacent warm, shallow waters where pond turtles may be present below the water surface beneath algal mats or other surface vegetation. Preconstruction surveys to detect western pond turtle nesting activity should be concentrated within approximately 300 ft of suitable aquatic habitat and should focus on areas along south- or west-facing slopes with bare hard-packed clay or silt soils or a sparse vegetation of short grasses or forbs. If western pond turtles or their nesting sites are found, the biologist shall contact CDFW to determine whether relocation and/or exclusion buffers and nest enclosures are appropriate, and work shall not commence within 50 feet of any nest or other identified sign of activity until appropriate avoidance and minimization measures are agreed and implemented. If CDFW approves of moving the animal, the biologist shall be allowed sufficient time to move the western pond turtle(s) from the work site before work activities begin.

MM-BIO-7: Preconstruction Survey for Roosting Bat

Before the start of construction, a qualified biologist shall conduct preconstruction surveys for all areas that provide suitable bat roosting habitat within 200 feet of proposed construction areas, including manmade structures, snags, rotten stumps, mature trees with broken limbs, exfoliating bark, dense foliage, etc. If an active bat roost

for a special-status bat species is found sufficiently close to work areas to be disturbed by these activities, the biologist, in consultation with the CDFW, will determine the extent of a disturbance-free buffer zone to be established around the bat roost. The buffer shall be clearly marked and maintained until the roost is determined to be inactive. If project activities cannot feasibly be avoided within the buffer zone, such work may only commence after consultation with CDFW, and implementation of bat protection measures recommended by CDFW.

MM-BIO-8: Preconstruction Surveys for San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat.

Before the start of construction, a qualified biologist(s) shall conduct a survey of the project footprint and a 10-foot buffer beyond the project footprint boundaries to determine the location of active and inactive woodrat dens. Any dens detected during the surveys would be recorded and mapped in relation to the construction disturbance footprint. In addition, the biologist would evaluate any signs of current woodrat activity, including the presence of fresh scat, freshly chewed vegetation, and the presence of cobwebs covering nest entrances. A 10-foot equipment exclusion buffer would be established around active and inactive dens that can be avoided; within such buffers, all vegetation would be retained, and nests would remain undisturbed. If Project activities cannot feasibly be avoided within the buffer zones of detected dens, such work may only commence after a qualified biologist has in the case of an inactive den, relocated the den; and in the case of an active den, submitted and received approval from CDFW for a San Francisco dusky footed woodrat den relocation plan that is subsequently implemented.

MM-BIO-9: Wildlife Exclusion Fencing

Prior to the start of construction, WEF will be installed at the edge of all project disturbance areas. The Onsite Project Manager and the USFWS-approved biologist will determine the location of the fencing prior to the start of staging or surface-disturbing activities, which shall be depicted on the project plans and delineated in the field by the biological monitor, as follows:

- Wildlife Exclusion Fencing (e.g., ERTEC E-Fence™ or similar product determined by the USFWS-approved biologist to be equally protective of the species) will installed according to manufacturer's recommendations specific to California red-legged frog, Santa Cruz black toed salamander or California giant salamander. If recommendations vary by species, the most stringent recommendation shall be used.*
- The WEF specifications will be included in the final project plans and in the bid solicitation package (special provisions); they will include the WEF specifications, including installation and maintenance criteria.*
- The WEF will remain in place throughout the duration of all proposed Project activities within the area enclosed by the WEF, and will be regularly inspected and fully maintained. Repairs to the WEF will be made within 24 hours of discovery of the need for repair.*

- *Upon completion of all proposed Project activities and removal of all construction equipment from the area enclosed by the WEF, the WEF will be completely removed; the area will be cleared of debris and trash and returned to natural conditions.*

MM-BIO-10: Biological Monitoring for Amphibians.

A USFWS-approved biological monitor shall be present onsite during all construction activities where take of a California red-legged frog could potentially occur. Through communication with the Onsite Project Manager or designee, the USFWS-approved biologist may stop work if it is deemed necessary for any reason to protect California red-legged frog and will advise the Onsite Project Manager or designee on how to proceed accordingly. The biologist will conduct clearance surveys of proposed work areas at the beginning of each day and whenever initial ground disturbing construction, debris removal, or vegetation clearing is occurring within a work. If California red-legged frogs or Santa Cruz black toed salamander or California giant salamander are discovered during the initial ground-disturbing activities, see MM BIO-3, above.

MM-BIO-11: Avoid Entrapment

To prevent inadvertent entrapment of animals during construction, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 1 foot deep will be covered with plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day or will be equipped with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. A USFWS-approved biologist will inspect all holes and trenches at the beginning of each workday and before such holes or trenches are filled. All replacement pipes, culverts, or similar structures that are stored in the proposed Project area overnight will be inspected before they subsequently are moved, capped, and/or buried. If at any time a listed species is discovered, the Onsite Project Manager and USFWS-approved biologist will be notified immediately, and the biologist will implement the procedures described above.

Implementation of the above mitigation measures MM-BIO-1 through MM-BIO-11 would reduce the potential for construction activities to adversely affect special-status species by either avoiding work during periods of increased sensitivity, educating workers to recognize listed-species and understand required protocols if they are encountered, undertaking pre-construction surveys to identify sensitive resources and establish buffer zones to avoid disturbance, or taking other measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts. The measures listed above are based on standard biological practices that USFWS and CDFW consistently apply to projects with similar habitats, wildlife compositions, and biological resources for the purposes of reducing the potential for adverse impacts to the listed species with potential to occur on the Project Site. With implementation of mitigation measures MM-BIO-1 through MM-BIO-11, the impact on special-status species would be **less than significant**.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

No project activities will be occurring within the Montane Riparian habitat along Sanborn Creek. Additionally, USFWS designated critical habitats were determined to be absent from the Project Site. Some proposed activities will be occurring in the developed areas of the existing

Redwood Forest, a natural community alliance classified under the CDFW's Sensitive Natural Community designation.

The Redwood Forest alliance is considered a Sensitive Natural Community with associated conspecifics of Douglas fir and California bay. However, the redwood forest in the Project Site is a secondary growth forest and was logged about 100 years ago. It was disturbed and degraded due to the prior nursery operations on the property. These historical impacts have substantially decreased the quality of this habitat type at the Project Site. Additionally, project activities occurring within this natural community will be limited to small focus areas and will not threaten or eliminate the entire natural community at the Project Site.

For these reasons the Proposed Project would not result in any temporary or permanent impacts on riparian communities, would not impact designated critical habitat for a federally listed species protected under the ESA, and would not have a substantial adverse effect on any other sensitive natural communities. The impact would be **less than significant**.

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?

The Proposed Project would not result in any temporary or permanent impacts to state or federally protected waters and wetlands. As previously discussed, there is one small wetland on the shore of the artificial west irrigation pond, and there are six potentially jurisdictional features: Aubry Creek and its two tributaries, Sanborn Creek, and the two artificial irrigation ponds. No project activities would occur at the two creeks, Aubry and Sanborn Creeks, that border the Project Site or at the Aubry Creek tributaries. The nearest project activities will occur approximately 45 feet east of and above the top of bank from Aubry Creek and 180 feet west of and above the top of bank from Sanborn Creek. The two artificially constructed irrigation ponds and associated piping would be left in place but would be fenced off using 6-foot chain-link fencing and appropriate signage would be posted to prevent unauthorized access. These activities will not result in any direct or indirect impacts to the irrigation ponds. For these reasons the impact would be **less than significant**.

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?

Construction activities that include site preparation, demolition, excavation of soils, removal of debris, soils and hazardous materials, and site rehabilitation may disturb local wildlife movement. However, these project activities would occur in small, localized areas within the Project Site, and wildlife would easily be able to disperse to the adjoining open spaces surrounding the Project Site. These impacts would also be temporary and limited to the six-month construction duration. In addition, the cleanup of the site of contaminants, and nursery trash and debris would benefit wildlife over the long term by removing contaminants, nursery debris and artificial materials from the environment and opening areas to native species. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory wildlife species, or with an established native resident or migratory wildlife corridor, and impacts would be **less than significant**.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

In October 2021, 794 trees were inventoried in areas of the Project Site in and around the areas of access haul routes, structure demolition, and debris removal. Of these trees, approximately 300 trees are assigned to be removed as they had a low vigor rating of 1, showed signs of Sudden Oak Death (SOD), were snags, or were within a mapped dump or debris area, including a 10 foot buffer around the mapped area (AECOM 2021c). The exact number of trees that will be removed during implementation of the Proposed Project is unknown, as some trees currently assigned for preservation may not be able to be preserved, depending on the amount of soil excavation required within the root zone. Some of the trees to be removed are anticipated to be protected under the County's Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance (i.e., non-snags that are more than 12 inches in diameter at breast height and/or more than 20 feet tall, without signs of Sudden Oak Death), unless exempt under Section C16-4 of the ordinance.

The Proposed Project would be subject to the requirements of the County's Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance, including replacement of protected trees. Generally, the required replacement ratios are as follows, which are typically applied only to the number of healthy protected trees that are removed, not to snags or downed trees, trees with signs of Sudden Oak Death, or those that need to be removed for health and safety reasons:

- For the removal of each small tree (5 - 18 inches): replant three (3) 15-gallon trees, or two (2) 24-inch box trees.
- For the removal of each medium tree (18 – 24 inches), replant four (4) 15-gallon trees or three (3) 24-inch box trees.
- For the removal of each tree larger than 24 inches, replant five (5) 15-gallon trees or four (4) 24-inch box trees (County 2010).

If replacement plantings are required due to the removal of protected trees during implementation of the Proposed Project, such replacement trees would not be planted immediately. Instead, County Parks intends to include replacement planting for this Proposed Project, if required, during implementation of the proposed future development of the Project Site in accordance with the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. Because the timing of the future redevelopment of the Project Site under the Master Plan is uncertain—and could potentially not be implemented at all if funding or other circumstances were to change—there is a possibility that the required replacement planting for the Proposed Project might not occur. In that situation, the Proposed Project would conflict with the County's Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance and the impact would be **potentially significant**.

Mitigation Measures MM-BIO-12 is recommended to address this potentially significant impact.

MM-BIO-12: Replacement Tree Planting

Prior to completion of the Proposed Project, a qualified arborist shall submit a report to the County Planning Department, detailing the number and size of trees that were removed and/or damaged as part of the Project, and identifying whether each of the removed or damaged trees is protected under the County's Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance or exempt from the Ordinance (including the reason for exemption). The report shall also recommend a suitable tree replacement ratio in accordance with the requirements of the Ordinance, if applicable. The recommended replacement planting, if required, shall be implemented by the County, either as part of future

redevelopment of the Project Site as part of the Sanborn County Park Master Plan implementation, or based on a timeframe to be determined by County Planning, if the Master Plan implementation does not begin within five years of completion of the Proposed Project.

Because mitigation measure MM-BIO-12 would ensure that appropriate replanting to replace any protected trees removed by the Proposed Project would occur whether or not the future redevelopment of the Project Site goes ahead, the Project would comply with County's Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance. With implementation of MM-BIO-12, the potential impact would be reduced to **less than significant with mitigation**.

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?

There are no HCPs, NCCPs, or other approved local, regional, or state HCPs in or in the immediate vicinity of, the Proposed Project. For these reasons, the Proposed Project would not conflict with any HCP or NCCP, and there would be **no impact**.

3.5 Cultural Resources

Table 3.5-1 Potential Impacts on Cultural Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
V. Cultural Resources.		
Would the project:	-	-
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	No Impact	1, 2, 3, 4, 25, 40, 41, 42
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	1, 2, 3, 4, 41, 42
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	Less Than Significant	3, 4, 40, 41, 42, 49

3.5.1 Environmental Setting

Project Setting and Context

A full setting description and cultural context is provided within the Cultural Resources Memorandum prepared for the Proposed Project by AECOM archaeologists and architectural historians (AECOM 2022c), which is attached to this IS/MND as **Appendix C**. A brief summary is provided herein for context.

The property was initially developed around 1880 by an Austrian immigrant, J. Taudt, as a winery and contains three buildings from that time period as well as several stacked stone walls and foundations. The remainder of the buildings and structures are from the twentieth century. The property was purchased by the Dyer family in 1912, for use as a summer retreat. Then, in the 1950s, the property was sold to Juel (sometimes Jules) and Irma Christensen who transformed the property into the growing grounds for their nursery business. The Christensens commissioned Wilfred W. Davies of San Carlos to design the main residence (Christensen House) on the property in 1961. The Christensen's son, John L. (Jack) Christensen, continued the family's nursery business and lived in the main residence. The Christensen family used the property as a conifer nursery until 1993, when Jack donated it to Santa Clara County for the expansion of Sanborn Park (Alameda Family Funeral and Cremation 2006).

Data Collection and Review

Baseline historical and archaeological conditions in the proposed Project vicinity are based on a review of available ethnographic and historical literature and maps, archaeological base maps and site records, survey reports, and atlases of historic places on file at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at Sonoma State University; a review of the Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP's) Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data (HPD) File for Santa Clara County (OHP 2012); a review of OHP's Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) (OHP 2019, County of Santa Clara Historical Heritage Commission 1999); and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) review by the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) (April 2022). No cultural resources

were identified in the HPD or BERD, nor were resources identified in the SLF search of the proposed Project site or adjacent area. Four resources were identified within 0.5-mile of the proposed Project site, all are historic-era built environment resources. The records search (NWIC File No. 21-1604) identified no previously studied areas on the proposed Project site.

Study

County Parks provided AECOM copies of two previous reports that involved built environment resources on the Christensen Property. Brad Brewster and Sheila McElroy of ESA recorded the Caretaker's House and Barn in late 2015 as part of the *Historic Resources Evaluation Report, Christensen Property, Santa Clara County, California* in 2016 (ESA 2016).. ESA staff did not prepare a California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form but provided photographs of all the structures at the property and evaluations of the caretaker's house and barn for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and designation as a Santa Clara County Landmark. ESA concluded that:

“Although the former caretaker's house and barn on the subject property are relatively old (built circa 1880), they do not meet the criteria for listing as a Santa Clara County Landmark (Landmark) or inclusion in the CRHR because they lack significant associations with important events and persons, are considered more typical examples of vernacular architecture rather than exemplary ones, and would reveal nothing especially important to the understanding of history or prehistory that is not already known about the area. In addition, the integrity and condition of both (the house and barn have) been compromised through alterations and benign neglect. Virtually no other traces of the property's original winemaking history, including vines or other viticultural activities, remain evident on the property today (ESA 2016).”

Siegel & Strain Architects prepared a condition assessment report on the Christensen house (Main Residence) in 2016 (Siegel & Strain Architects 2016). The report photo-documented the existing conditions of the Christensen house, identified code deficiencies, and cost estimates of work needed to make the house Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible in the event that County Parks would re-use the house in a publicly accessible capacity. The report was prepared by an architect and an architectural conservator but did not evaluate the Christensen house for eligibility for listing in any register.

For the current identification and evaluation efforts, AECOM conducted a pedestrian survey of the nursery grounds on April 5, 2022. An architectural historian surveyed all buildings on the nursery property and prepared a new DPR 523 form (Miller and Gardner 2022) to record all the buildings and structures with comprehensive descriptions and mapping, provide additional information on the Christensen house, and re-evaluate the property for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), CRHR, or as a Santa Clara County Landmark. An archaeologist surveyed the periphery of all buildings and debris or dump sites, and all likely access routes. The archaeologist identified no other archaeological resources during the survey.

Historical Resources

The Welch-Hurst House (P-43-000399/CA-SCL-393H), is an historic-era residence eligible for listing in the NRHP and therefore is also eligible for the CRHR (County of Santa Clara Historical Heritage Commission 1999). The Welch-Hurst House is also listed as California Point of Interest SCL 048, noted as Judge James R. Welch's Redwood Lodge and Grounds.

This resource is to the west of Sanborn Road, approximately half a mile west of the proposed Project Site.

Native American Outreach

Following a request from AECOM, the NAHC responded on April 21, 2022 with the results of a SLF search and a Native American contact list for the proposed Project site. The NAHC reported that the SLF search was “negative...[however] a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource.” Native American consultation pursuant to AB 52 is being completed by the County and discussed further in Section 3.18. Letters containing a project summary and map were sent to all tribal representatives on June 15, 2022. To date no responses have been received.

3.5.2 Discussion

a) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?**

As discussed in more detail in the Cultural Resources Memorandum (**Appendix C**), the Christensen Property does not meet the criteria for eligibility for the NRHP, CRHR, or as a Santa Clara County Landmark. Neither the components of the property or the property as a whole has important associations with significant historic events, including early winemaking in the late nineteenth century or post-war commercial nursery growing. Likewise, neither the components of the property or the property as a whole has important associations with persons important to local, state, or national history. None of the buildings or structures on the property is an important example of a type, period, or method of construction, nor do they represent the work of a master or possess particularly high artistic values. Further, the integrity of these buildings and structures has been compromised by benign neglect. Neither the components of the property or the property as a whole appear to have any likelihood of yielding important or unique information about historic construction materials, technologies, or nursery operations that would make them eligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR, or as a Santa Clara County Landmark.

One NRHP-eligible property, the Welch-Hurst House (P43000399/CA-SCL-393H), was identified during the records search at NWIC. This resource is to the west of the Walden West Outdoor School, approximately 0.5 mile west of the Project Site. Ground-disturbing activities at the proposed Project site would be conducted at least 2000 feet from the resource and therefore would not physically demolish or alter any part of the historical resource or its setting, or alter the characteristics that convey its historical significance and justify its eligibility for inclusion in the CRHR for the purposes of CEQA. Therefore, there would be **no impact** to historical resources.

b) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?**

No archaeological resources were identified in the NWIC records search, and the search of the SLF was also negative. Other than the refuse scatters associated with the Christensen Nursery, no archaeological resources were observed during the pedestrian survey of April 5, 2022. As discussed further in Section 3.19, *Tribal Cultural Resources*, Native American outreach undertaken by the County for the Proposed Project identified no tribal cultural resources in the vicinity of the Project Site. Letters containing a project summary and map were

sent on June 15, 2022 to all tribal representatives identified by the NAHC and those requesting to be notified (Tamien Nation). To date no responses have been received.

While the likelihood of encountering archaeological resources during Project implementation is low, it cannot be completely discounted. The Proposed Project would require disturbance and excavation up to 5 feet below ground surface in multiple areas of the site. If archaeological resources were encountered during these ground disturbing activities, the impact could be **potentially significant**.

The following mitigation measure is recommended to avoid or minimize this potential impact:

Mitigation Measure MM-CUL-1: Accidental Discovery Protocols

- A. Prior to construction excavation and after the pre-construction meeting, the County or its contractor shall retain a Consulting Archaeologist to conduct a historic and pre-historic, and tribal cultural resources training session with the Contractor(s), County Parks staff, and subcontractor(s); and all construction personnel will be informed of the potential to inadvertently uncover cultural resources and the procedures to follow subsequent to an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources.*
- B. In the event that suspected precontact or historic-period archaeological resources are encountered during demolition, excavation and/or grading of the site, all activity within a 50-foot radius of the find shall be stopped, the County Planner or designee shall be notified, and the Consulting Archaeologist shall examine the find. Project personnel shall not collect or move any cultural material. The archaeologist shall evaluate the find(s) to determine if it meets the definition of a historical, unique archaeological, and/or tribal cultural resource and follow the further procedures outlined below:*
 - i. If the finds do not meet the definition of a historical resource or unique archaeological resource, no further study or protection is necessary prior to resuming Project implementation.*
 - ii. If the find(s) does meet the definition of a historical resource or unique archaeological resource, then it should be avoided by Project activities. If avoidance is not feasible, as determined by the County, the Consulting Archaeologist in consultation with the County, shall make appropriate recommendations regarding the treatment and disposition of such finds, and significant impacts to such resources shall be mitigated in accordance with the recommendations of the archaeologist prior to resuming construction activities within a 50-foot radius.*
 - iii. If the find(s) is potentially a tribal cultural resource, then tribal representatives shall be consulted. If, after consultation with tribal representatives, it is determined that the find(s) is a tribal cultural resource, then the find(s) shall be avoided by Project activities. If avoidance is not feasible, as determined by the County, the Consulting Archaeologist, in consultation with tribal representatives and the County, shall make appropriate recommendations regarding treatment and disposition of such finds and significant impacts to such resources shall be mitigated in accordance with the recommendations of the archaeologist prior to resuming construction activities within the 50-foot radius.*

- iv. *If the find(s) are human remains or grave goods, the requirements of Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and County Ordinance Code B6-18 through BC-20 shall be followed.*

Recommendations for treatment and disposition of finds could include, but are not limited to, the collection, recordation, and analysis of any significant cultural materials, or the turning over of tribal cultural resources to tribal representatives for appropriate treatment. A report of findings documenting any data recovery would be submitted to the County Director of Planning and Development.

C. Fill soils used for construction purposes shall not contain archaeological materials.

Mitigation measure MM-CUL-1 requires training for construction workers so that they are aware of the potential for inadvertent discoveries and requires that specified procedures be followed if potential precontact or historic period archaeological resources are encountered during on-site activities, to avoid or reduce impacts to any subsurface cultural resources that may be present on the Project Site. Because the mitigation measure requires that a qualified archaeologist inspect the find and make recommendations for avoiding or reducing impacts, implementation of MM-CUL-1 would reduce impacts of the Proposed Project to subsurface cultural resources to **less than significant with mitigation**.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Human burials, in addition to being potential archaeological resources, have specific provisions for treatment in Section 5097 of the California Public Resources Code. The California Health and Safety Code (Sections 7050.5, 7051, and 7054) also has specific provisions for the protection of human burial remains. Existing regulations address the illegality of interfering with human burial remains, protect them from disturbance, vandalism, or destruction, and established procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered. Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 also addresses the disposition of Native American burials, protects such remains, and established the NAHC to resolve any related disputes. County Ordinance Code Sections B6-18 through B6-20 set out specific procedures to be followed in the event of inadvertent discovery or disturbance of human remains within Santa Clara County.

There are no known burial locations in the proposed Project site, and no known archaeological resources were identified in the NWIC records search or during the pedestrian survey. The search of the SLF was also negative. Despite the low sensitivity of the Project Site for unanticipated human remains, the possibility of encountering human remains during Proposed project activities cannot be completely discounted. If human remains were uncovered during demolition or excavation activities, the mandatory procedures in County Ordinance Code Sections B6-18 through B6-20 would be followed, which would reduce potential impacts to **less than significant**.

3.6 Energy

Table 3.6-1 Potential Impacts on Energy

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
VI. 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?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	No Impact	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.6.1 Setting

As described in Section 2, Project Description, the Proposed Project is located in unincorporated Santa Clara County. Electric and natural gas services to the County are provided by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). The Proposed Project would not require natural gas or electricity services for construction activities. The Proposed Project would be limited to the duration of the demolition and remediation activities; thus, PG&E’s capacity to supply electricity and natural gas is not discussed further in this analysis.

Transportation, such as gasoline and diesel fuel consumption, is also an energy-consuming sector, and applicable to the Proposed Project (diesel and gasoline fuel consumption during construction activities). Transportation is the largest energy-consuming sector in California, accounting for approximately 39 percent of all energy use in the state in 2019 (EIA 2021a). Historically, gasoline and diesel fuel accounted for nearly all demand; now, however, numerous options are available, including ethanol, natural gas, electricity, and hydrogen. Despite advancements in alternative fuels and clean-vehicle technologies, gasoline and diesel remain the primary fuels used for transportation in California, with 360.2 million barrels of motor gasoline and 98.4 million barrels of diesel consumed in 2019 (EIA 2021b).

Regulatory Framework

Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. The Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 established the first fuel economy standards for on-road motor vehicles sold in the United States. The National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration is responsible for establishing standards for vehicles and revising the existing standards. The Corporate Average Fuel Economy program was created to determine vehicle manufacturers’ compliance with fuel economy standards. The EPA administers the testing program that generates fuel economy data.

Energy Policy Acts of 1992 and 2005. The Energy Policy Act of 1992 was enacted to reduce dependence on imported petroleum and improve air quality by addressing all aspects of energy supply and demand, including alternative fuels, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. This law requires certain federal, state, and local government and private fleets to purchase alternate fuel vehicles. The act also defines “alternative fuels” to include fuels such as ethanol, natural gas, propane, hydrogen, electricity, and biodiesel.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 was enacted on August 8, 2005. This law set federal energy management requirements for energy-efficient product procurement, energy savings performance contracts, building performance standards, renewable energy requirements, and use of alternative fuels. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 also amends existing regulations, including fuel economy testing procedures.

Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Signed into law in December 2007, the Energy Independence and Security Act was enacted to increase the production of clean renewable fuels; increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles; improve the federal government’s energy performance; and increase U.S. energy security, develop renewable fuel production, and improve vehicle fuel economy. The Energy Independence and Security Act included the first increase in fuel economy standards for passenger cars since 1975. The act also included a new energy grant program for use by local governments in implementing energy-efficiency initiatives, as well as a variety of green building incentives and programs.

Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards. On May 7, 2010, the final Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standards were published in the Federal Register. Phase 1 of the emissions standards required that model year 2012–2016 vehicles meet an estimated combined average emissions level of 250 grams of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per mile, which is equivalent to 35.5 miles per gallon, if the automobile industry were to meet this CO₂ level solely through fuel economy improvements.

On March 31, 2022, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) finalized the CAFE Standards for model years 2024-2026. The final rule establishes standards that would require an industry-wide fleet average of approximately 49 miles per gallon for passenger cars and light trucks in model year 2026, by increasing fuel efficiency by 8 percent annually for model years 2024 and 2025, and 10 percent annually for model year 2026.

Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards. In September 2011, in response to a Presidential Memorandum issued in May 2010, EPA in coordination with NHTSA issued GHG emissions and fuel economy standards for medium and heavy duty trucks manufactured in model years 2014-2018, known as Phase 1 GHG Rule.

In October 2016, EPA and NHTSA jointly finalized Phase 2 standards for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles through model year 2027 that will improve fuel efficiency and cut carbon pollution to reduce the impacts of climate change, while bolstering energy security and spurring manufacturing innovation.

On March 28, 2022, EPA published a proposed rule that would set new, more stringent standards to reduce pollution from heavy-duty vehicles and engines starting in model year 2027. This proposal is consistent with President Biden’s Executive Order, “Strengthening American Leadership in Clean Cars and Trucks” and would ensure the heavy-duty vehicles and engines that drive American commerce are as clean as possible while charting a path to advance zero-emission vehicles in the heavy-duty fleet.

Advanced Clean Cars Program. In 2012, CARB adopted a set of regulations to control emissions from passenger vehicles, collectively called Advanced Clean Cars. Advanced Clean Cars combines the control of criteria pollutants and GHG emissions into a single coordinated package of regulations: the Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) regulation for criteria and GHG emissions and a technology forcing regulation for zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) that

contributes to both types of emission reductions. The Advanced Clean Car I regulations were adopted in 2012 to address model year 2015-2025. The proposed Advanced Clean Cars II regulations, which includes standards and ZEV requirements for model years 2026-2035, were sent for approval by November 30, 2022.

Santa Clara County General Plan. The Santa Clara County General Plan, 1995-2010, was adopted in December 1994 and contains goals, strategies, and policies in order to achieve managed, balanced growth, livable communities, responsible resource conservation, and social economic well-being (County 1994). Strategy #1 (Reduce Transportation Energy Demand and Oil Dependency) calls for a reduction in energy use and fossil fuel dependency in the transportation sector by increased availability and use of alternative fuels, among other growth management policies.

3.6.2 Discussion

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

Energy efficiency is a possible indicator of environmental impacts. The actual adverse physical environmental effects of energy use and the efficiency of energy use are detailed throughout this IS/MND in the environmental topic-specific sections. For example, the use of energy for transportation sources (including construction equipment and haul trucks) leads to GHG emissions, the impacts of which are addressed in Section 3.9, “Greenhouse Gas Emissions.” There is no physical environmental effect associated with energy use that is not addressed in the environmental topic-specific sections of this IS/MND.

The Proposed Project activities would increase energy consumption for the duration of construction in the form of fossil fuels (e.g., gasoline, diesel fuel). Transportation energy use during construction would come from the transport and use of construction equipment (off-road), delivery and haul trucks (on-road), and construction employee passenger vehicles (on-road). Construction-related transportation energy use depends on the type and number of trips, vehicle miles traveled, fuel efficiency of vehicles, and travel mode. Most of the construction equipment used during demolition activities would be gas- or diesel-powered equipment. The use of fuel by on-road and off-road vehicles would be temporary and would fluctuate according to the phase of construction. Construction fuel use under the Proposed Project would cease upon completion of demolition and remediation activities.

Table 3.6-2 presents the energy consumption as a result of the fuel used during the anticipated demolition and remediation activities. The annual energy consumption was estimated using the CalEEMod CO₂ emissions calculations for the proposed construction activities, application of the U.S. Energy Information Administration’s CO₂ emissions coefficients (EIA 2021c) to estimate fuel consumption for construction activities, and The Climate Registry’s 2021 Default Emission Factors (The Climate Registry 2021) to estimate the energy content per fuel type. Additional modeling assumptions and more details are provided in Section 3.4, Air Quality, and **Appendix A**.

Table 3.6-2 Construction-Related Energy Consumption

Fuel Type	Total Fuel Consumption (gallons)	Total Energy Consumption (MMBtu)
Diesel	55,057	7,603
Gasoline	948	118

Notes: MMBtu/year = million British thermal units per year

Based on the anticipated phasing of the Proposed Project demolition and remediation activities, the anticipated equipment and construction work staff, the temporary nature of construction, and the project type, the Proposed Project would not include unusual characteristics that would necessitate the use of construction equipment that is less energy-efficient than the equipment used at comparable construction sites.

In addition, construction contractors are required, in accordance with Mitigation Measure AQ-1 and the CARB Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Diesel-Fueled Commercial Motor Vehicle Idling, to minimize the idling time of construction equipment and trucks by shutting equipment off when it's not in use or reducing the idling time to 5 minutes. Per Mitigation Measure AQ-1 construction contractors would also be required to maintain and properly tune all construction equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's specification. These required practices would limit wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption. As described in Section 2.3, the Proposed Project would demolish 19 structures, including two pump houses and fixed equipment and would cap existing utilities. As a result, any remnant energy consumption from the vacant structures would be terminated. The purpose of the Proposed Project is to remove contaminated soils and demolish structures that could pose a public safety hazard. Therefore, fuel consumption associated with the demolition and remediation activities of the Proposed Project would not be inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary. This impact would be **less than significant**.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

The Proposed Project area would not use land that was otherwise slated for renewable energy production and does not otherwise conflict with any state or local renewable energy plans. In addition, fuel use would be consistent with current construction and manufacturing practices and energy standards that promote strategic planning that reduces consumption of fossil fuels and enhances energy efficiency. Therefore, Proposed Project activities would not obstruct any state or local plans for renewable energy and there would be **no impact**.

3.7 Geology and Soils

Table 3.7-1 Potential Impacts on Geology and Soils

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
VII. 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 California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 11a, 12a, 17
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 9b, 17, 48
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 10c, 11a, 17
iv) Landslides?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 17
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4, 17, 20, 21
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable because of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 17, 20, 21
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 17, 20, 21, 48
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	2, 3, 4,

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.7.1 Setting

Geology, Seismicity, and Soils

Sanborn County Park lies within the Santa Cruz Mountains, which are part of the California Coast Ranges. The main strand of the San Andreas Fault Zone—Santa Cruz Mountains Section is approximately 860 feet west of the Project Site, on top of the adjacent western ridgeline. The San Andreas Fault Zone formed as a result of ongoing movement along the transform boundary between the Pacific and North American tectonic plates. The fault trace west of the Project Site has exhibited evidence of activity during Historic time (i.e., the last 150 years). Another trace of this fault zone, which parallels Sanborn Creek, is approximately 325 feet east of the Project Site and has shown evidence of activity during the Holocene epoch

(i.e., the last 11,700 years). (Jennings and Bryant 2010; USGS and California Geological Survey [CGS] 2017.)

The Santa Cruz Mountains Section of the San Andreas Fault Zone is considered active and is designated under the Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone Act. Furthermore, the entire Project Site is within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Zone of Required Investigation (EZRI) for surface fault rupture, which is approximately 3,115 feet (just over one-half mile) wide in the vicinity of the Project Site (CGS 2022a). During the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake, horizontal (right-lateral) ground movements of approximately 14–20 inches were documented near Lake Ranch reservoir approximately 1 mile southeast of the Project Site (Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. 2016). The Project Site is also within EZRIs for liquefaction (along Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks) and landslides (along Sanborn Road and Sanborn Creek) (CGS 2022a).

The park area experienced strong earthquake shaking during the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake (magnitude 7.8) and the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake (magnitude 7.0) (Stoffer 2005). The Santa Cruz Mountains Section of the San Andreas Fault (which includes the Project Site) ruptured during an estimated magnitude 7.4 earthquake in 1838 (CGS 2022b). In addition, three earthquakes with magnitudes just over 5.0 and centered southwest and south of the Sanborn Park boundary occurred in 1781, 1914, and 1989 (CGS 2022b). Peak horizontal ground acceleration, which is a measure of the projected intensity of ground shaking from seismic events, can be estimated using a computer model. The Project Site is mapped with a very high earthquake shaking potential, based on a 2 percent probability of major earthquake occurrence in 50 years (Branum et al. 2016). The USGS indicates that the estimated probability of one or more magnitude 6.7 earthquakes occurring during the period 2014–2043 in the San Francisco Bay Area is 72 percent. During the period 2014–2043, the probability of an earthquake of magnitude 6.7 or larger occurring along the San Andreas Fault is 22 percent (Aagaard et al. 2016).

Based on a review of the *Geologic Map of the Palo Alto Quadrangle* (Brabb et al. 2000), the Project Site is composed of Pleistocene-age Alluvial Fan and Fluvial Deposits. These deposits consist of brown, dense, gravelly and clayey sand or clayey gravel that grades upward to sandy clay. These deposits are related to modern stream courses and are located along most stream channels in Santa Clara County (Brabb et al. 2000). The sloping fields in the main park area, including the Project Site, are part of a system of alluvial fans associated with streams draining from Castle Rock Ridge to the west (Stoffer 2005, County Parks 2007). Soil sampling conducted at the Project Site encountered sandy gravel, boulders, and sandy sediments (AECOM 2020), along with colluvium, clayey sand, and weathered sandstone (Ninyo & Moore 2018). These materials are consistent with alluvial fan deposits.

A review of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS 2021) soil survey data indicates that near-surface soils at the Project Site consist of Ben Lomond gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes. This soil map unit consists of four soil components: Ben Lomond (80%), Felton (10%), Ultic Haploxerolls⁵ (5%), and Aptos (5%). The Ben Lomond gravelly sandy loam soil map unit has a moderate water erosion hazard, a moderately low wind erosion hazard, a moderate shrink-swell potential, and is highly permeable and well-drained (NRCS 2021). Soil underneath the Christensen house, which was constructed in 1961, likely consists of artificial fill.

⁵ Composed of colluvium (soil and debris that accumulate at the base of a slope and containing more than 50% cobbles) derived from granodiorite and rhyolite.

Paleontological Resources

The potential paleontological sensitivity of a project area can be assessed by identifying the paleontological importance of rock units that are exposed there. A paleontologically sensitive rock formation is one that is rated high for potential paleontological productivity (i.e., the recorded abundance and types of fossil specimens, and the number of previously recorded fossil sites) and is known to have produced unique, scientifically important fossils. Exposures of a specific rock formation at any given Project Site are most likely to yield fossil remains representing particular species or quantities similar to those previously recorded from the rock formation in other locations. Therefore, the paleontological sensitivity determination of a rock formation is based primarily on the types and numbers of fossils that have been recorded previously from that rock unit.

An individual vertebrate fossil specimen may be considered unique or significant if it is identifiable and well preserved, and if it meets one of the following criteria:

- a type specimen (i.e., the individual from which a species or subspecies has been described);
- a member of a rare species;
- a species that is part of a diverse assemblage (i.e., a site where more than one fossil has been discovered) wherein other species are also identifiable, and important information regarding life history of individuals can be drawn;
- a skeletal element different from, or a specimen more complete than, those now available for its species; or
- a complete specimen (i.e., all or substantially all the entire skeleton is present).

The value or importance of different fossil groups varies, depending on the age and depositional environment of the rock unit that contains the fossils, their rarity, the extent to which they already have been identified and documented, and the ability to recover similar materials under more controlled conditions (e.g., for a research project). Marine invertebrates generally are common; the fossil record is well developed and well documented, and they generally are not considered to be a unique paleontological resource. Identifiable vertebrate marine and terrestrial fossils generally are considered scientifically important because they are relatively rare.

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP), a national scientific organization of professional vertebrate paleontologists, has established standard guidelines that outline acceptable professional practices in the conduct of paleontological resource assessments and surveys, monitoring and mitigation, data and fossil recovery, sampling procedures, specimen preparation, analysis, and curation. In keeping with the SVP (2010) significance criteria, all vertebrate fossils are generally categorized as being of potentially significant scientific value.

In its standard guidelines for assessment and mitigation of adverse impacts on paleontological resources, the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP 2010) established four categories of sensitivity for paleontological resources: high, low, no, and undetermined. Areas where fossils have been found previously are considered to have a high sensitivity and a high potential to produce fossils. Areas that are not sedimentary in origin and have not been known to produce

fossils in the past typically are considered to have low sensitivity. Areas consisting of high-grade metamorphic rocks (e.g., gneisses and schists) and plutonic igneous rocks (e.g., granites and diorites) are considered to have no sensitivity. Areas that have not had any previous paleontological resource surveys or fossil finds are considered to be of undetermined sensitivity until surveys and mapping are performed to determine their sensitivity. In keeping with the SVP significance criteria, all vertebrate fossils generally are categorized as being of potentially significant scientific value.

A paleontological resources records search was performed for the Proposed Project at the University of California, Berkeley Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) on April 19, 2022. In addition, AECOM performed a review of relevant geological and paleontological literature. There are no known recorded fossil localities from within the Project Site or anywhere in Sanborn County Park (UCMP 2022). However, vertebrate fossil specimens from sediments referable to the Pleistocene-age Alluvial Fan and Fluvial Deposits mapped at the Project Site have been reported at a variety of locations in Santa Clara County. Fossil specimens that were recovered from these localities include mammoth, *Platygonus*, ground sloth, bison, and horse (Brabb et al. 2000; Jefferson 1991; Maguire and Holroyd 2016; UCMP 2022). Because the geologic unit at the Project Site is known to have yielded vertebrate fossil specimens in locations throughout the County, it is considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity.

Federal, State, and Local Regulations

Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act

The federal Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act (1977) was enacted to reduce the risks to life and property from future earthquakes in the U.S. through the establishment and maintenance of an effective earthquake hazards reduction program. The act established the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP), as amended in 1990. The mission of NEHRP includes improved understanding, characterization, and prediction of hazards and vulnerabilities; improved building codes and land use practices; risk reduction through post-earthquake investigations and education; development and improvement of design and construction techniques; improved mitigation capacity; and accelerated application of research results.

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (Alquist-Priolo Act) (California Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 2621–2630) was passed in 1972 to reduce the hazard of surface faulting to structures designed for human occupancy. The main purpose of the law is to prevent the construction of buildings used for human occupancy on the surface trace of active faults. The Alquist-Priolo Act requires the State Geologist to establish regulatory zones around certain faults, and to issue associated EZRI Maps. The maps are distributed to all affected cities, counties, and state agencies for their use in planning efforts. Site-specific investigations within EZRIs are required for the following: (1) any proposed structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any human use or occupancy, which is expected to have a human occupancy rate of more than 2,000 person-hours per year (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 2, Section 3601[e]); or (2) for a proposed addition or alteration to a structure in existence prior to May 4, 1975, if the proposed change exceeds 50% of the value of the structure (PRC Division 2, Chapter 7.5, Section 2621.6). If the site-specific investigation determines that a potential for hazard is found to exist, plans to reduce the hazard of surface

fault rupture—either through avoidance or engineered design—must be provided prior to a lead agency issuing a permit for construction (CGS 2018).

Seismic Hazards Mapping Act

The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act of 1990 (PRC Sections 2690–2699.6) addresses earthquake hazards from non-surface fault rupture. The act established a mapping program (EZRLs) for areas that have the potential for liquefaction, landslide, and strong seismic ground shaking. Before a development permit can be issued or a subdivision approved, cities and counties must require a site-specific investigation to determine whether a significant hazard exists at the site and, if so, measures to reduce the risk to an acceptable level (such as structural design or site modifications) must be incorporated in the proposed development.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) administers regulations promulgated by the EPA (55 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 47990) requiring the permitting of stormwater-generated pollution under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). These regulations are administered through the State's nine regional water quality control boards (in the case of this project, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board [RWQCB]). Under the NPDES regulations, an operator must obtain a general permit through the NPDES Stormwater Program for all construction activities with ground disturbance of 1 acre or more. The SWRCB's statewide NPDES Permit, *Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities* (Order 2009-009-DWQ as amended by Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ) (Construction General Permit), requires preparation of a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) that addresses control of water pollution, including sediment, in runoff during construction. BMPs must be identified in the SWPPP and implemented during construction to reduce sedimentation into surface waters and to control erosion. The Construction General Permit also includes post-construction stormwater performance standards that address water quality and hydromodification protection. (See Section 3.10, "Hydrology and Water Quality," for more information about the NPDES permit program and SWPPPs.)

California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.5

This law protects artifacts at paleontological sites, including fossilized footprints, that are situated on public lands, except with the permission of the public agency with jurisdiction over the lands. "Public lands" is defined as lands owned by the state, any city, county, district, authority, or public corporation. Disturbing paleontological resources on public lands is a misdemeanor.

Santa Clara County Ordinance Code, Grading and Drainage Ordinance

Title C, Division C12, Chapter 3 of the County Ordinance Code establishes minimum requirements for all grading and drainage alteration work to protect surface water quality and prevent soil erosion. Grading permits are required for the following: (1) cuts or fills, which each independently are greater than 150 cubic yards; or (2) cut or fill that is greater than 5 feet in vertical depth at its deepest point when measured from the natural ground surface; or (3) work that alters, diverts, or impairs the flow of water in the watercourse (Section C12-406).

Grading performed by or under the supervision or construction control of a governmental agency, including the County of Santa Clara, where that agency has provided written

confirmation from an authorized representative of that agency assuming full responsibility for the work, is exempt from the grading permit requirement, provided the grading meets the land use requirements in Division C12, and does not create a hazardous condition, endanger adjacent property, or cause a public nuisance (Section C12-407).

3.7.2 Discussion

- 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 California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)**

Two active fault traces of the San Andreas Fault Zone–Santa Cruz Mountains Section are located approximately 860 feet west and 325 feet east of the Project Site, respectively (CGS 2022a). The San Andreas Fault Zone–Santa Cruz Mountains Section is active and is delineated under the Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone Act (CGS 2022a). The entire Project Site is within a delineated EZRI for surface fault rupture (CGS 2022a). However, the Proposed Project only involves excavation, demolition, and removal of contaminated soil, debris, and existing structures. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, and no change in land use would occur as a result of the Proposed Project, there would be no permanent increase in population or new structures at the site that would increase the risk of loss, injury, or death if a fault rupture were to occur. Although the Proposed Project would result in a temporary increase in the number of people within the EZRI (i.e., construction workers implementing the Project) this would not exacerbate the likelihood of fault rupture, and the proposed demolition and removal of dilapidated structures and debris from the Project Site may decrease the risk of injury or loss of life in the event of a fault rupture. Thus, the impact would be **less than significant**.

- ii) **Strong seismic ground shaking?**

As described in detail in Section 3.8.1, “Setting,” the Project Site is located in a seismically active area only a few hundred feet from an active fault zone. Historic large- to moderate-magnitude earthquakes are known to have occurred in the Project vicinity (CGS 2022b). Regional probabilistic seismic hazard analyses performed by CGS have determined that the Project Site is located in an area subject to a very high earthquake shaking hazard (Branum et al. 2016). Thus, a strong level of seismic ground shaking seismic shaking would be anticipated for the Project Site at some point during the next 20 years. However, the Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, and no change in land use would occur, there would be no permanent increase in population or new structures at the site that would increase the risk of loss, injury, or death during a seismic event. Although the Proposed Project would result in a temporary increase in the number of people at the Project Site (i.e., construction workers implementing the Project) this would not exacerbate the likelihood of a seismic event occurring, and the proposed removal of dilapidated structures and debris from the site may decrease the risk of injury or loss of life during a seismic event. Thus, the impact would be **less than significant**.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Liquefaction occurs when loose, water-saturated sediments lose strength and fail during strong ground shaking. Liquefaction is most likely to occur in the presence of loose unconsolidated geologic deposits, a shallow depth to groundwater (i.e., less than 40 feet below the ground surface), and where active seismic sources are nearby. Structures on soil that undergoes liquefaction may settle or suffer major structural damage and underground pipelines can rupture. Portions of the Project Site, along Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks, are within a delineated EZRI for liquefaction (CGS 2022a). However, the Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new structures that could be potentially impacted by liquefaction or seismic-related ground failure in the event of an earthquake. Furthermore, because the Proposed Project would remove dilapidated structures from the Project Site, there would be fewer existing structures that could be damaged by liquefaction during an earthquake. Thus, the impact would be **less than significant**.

iv) Landslides?

The potential for seismically induced landslides primarily exists in weak soil and rock on sloping terrain. Portions of the Project Site, along Sanborn Road and Sanborn Creek, are within a delineated EZRI for landslides (CGS 2022a); these portions of the Project Site contain slopes exceeding 20 percent. However, the areas proposed for remediation consist of fairly level ground that slopes gradually downward toward the north and are not on or near the toe of steep slopes that might be potentially destabilized by excavation activities. The Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new structures that could be potentially impacted by landslides. For all these reasons, the impact would be **less than significant**.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

The Proposed Project would require earthmoving activities, including excavating, grading, and compacting, for excavation of contaminated soil, demolition of facilities, and subsequent backfilling and site grading. The Ben Lomond gravelly sandy loam soil at the Project Site has a moderate water erosion hazard, a moderately low wind erosion hazard, and is well drained (NRCS 2021). Disturbance of existing soil would expose soils to rain events, which could mobilize loose soil and result in soil erosion. Subsequent soil transport during storm events could result in sedimentation both within and downstream of the Project Site, and could result in water quality degradation in Aubrey, Sanborn, and Saratoga Creeks. Furthermore, earthmoving activities during the summer months could result in wind erosion.

Because the Project would disturb more than 1 acre of land, County Parks and its remediation/demolition contractor(s) are required by law to prepare a SWPPP and implement associated BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce erosion associated with earthmoving activities. A Notice of Intent (prepared by the County of Santa Clara), along with the SWPPP and associated BMPs (prepared by the Contractor), would be submitted to the San Francisco Bay RWQCB, in compliance with the statewide NPDES Construction General Permit (Order 2009-009-DWQ as amended by Order 2012-0006-DWQ). BMPs that could be implemented to reduce erosion may include silt fences, staked straw bales/wattles, geofabric, trench plugs, terraces, water bars, soil stabilizers, mulching, and revegetation of disturbed areas. Techniques that could be implemented to reduce the potential for stormwater runoff

include minimizing site disturbance, controlling water flow over the Project site, stabilizing bare soil, and ensuring proper site cleanup.

Because a SWPPP would be prepared and BMPs designed to control stormwater runoff and reduce erosion would be implemented, the Project's impact on soil erosion or loss of topsoil would be **less than significant**.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable because of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

The Project Site is composed of relatively stable Pleistocene-age Alluvial Fan and Fluvial Deposits. The Proposed Project would involve the excavation, demolition, and removal of existing structures, debris, and contaminated soil, as well as associated removal of trees. No Project-related activities would be conducted in areas of steep slopes or areas subject to subsidence or collapse (NRCS 2021, CGS 2022a), and therefore Project activities would not be expected to result in destabilization of soils or geologic units. As discussed previously, although portions of the Project Site, along Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks, are within an identified liquefaction zone (CGS 2022a), the Proposed Project would largely avoid such areas and would not involve the construction of any new structures that could be subject to future liquefaction. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new structures that could be potentially impacted by unstable slopes, landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Thus, the impact would be **less than significant**.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating direct or indirect substantial risks to life or property?

Expansive soils are composed largely of clays, which greatly increase in volume when saturated with water and shrink when dried (referred to as “shrink-swell” potential). Based on a review of NRCS soil survey data, Project Site soils are moderately expansive (NRCS 2021). However, the Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities; no new buildings or other facilities are proposed for construction or operation. Excavation and demolition activities associated with the proposed site remediation would not be affected by expansive soil. Thus, there would be **no impact**.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

Portable restroom facilities would be provided for construction workers. The Proposed Project does not include operation of buildings or other facilities that would require wastewater treatment or disposal. No septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems are required and no changes to the existing septic system serving the Christensen House are proposed. The septic system for the Caretakers Cottage would be abandoned in place. Thus, there would be **no impact** relating to the ability of site soils to support septic or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Unique geologic features consist of outstanding natural landforms such as mountain peaks, deep scenic canyons and gorges, scenic rock formations, and large waterfalls. There are no unique geologic features within or adjacent to the Project Site. Thus, there would be **no impact** on unique geologic features.

The Pleistocene Alluvial Fan and Fluvial Deposits at the Project Site are of high paleontological sensitivity because numerous vertebrate fossil specimens have been recovered from this geologic unit in various locations throughout Santa Clara County (see Section 3.8.1, “Setting”). Therefore, Project-related earth-moving activities could result in accidental damage to, or destruction of unique paleontological resources. Thus, this impact would be **potentially significant**. Mitigation Measure MM-GEO-1, detailed below, is recommended to address this potentially significant impact.

The following mitigation measure is recommended to reduce impacts to unique paleontological resources:

MM-GEO-1: Paleontological Resource Avoidance Measures

Before the start of earth-moving activities, County Parks shall require that all construction personnel involved with earth-moving activities be informed regarding the possibility of encountering fossils, the appearance and types of fossils likely to be seen during construction, and proper notification procedures if such fossils are encountered. This worker training may be prepared and presented by an experienced field archaeologist at the same time as construction worker education on cultural resources, or prepared and presented separately by a qualified paleontologist.

If paleontological resources are discovered during earth-moving activities, all work within 50 feet of the find shall cease immediately, and the construction contractor shall notify the County Planning Department. County Parks shall retain a qualified paleontologist to evaluate the resource and prepare a recovery plan, based on SVP guidelines (SVP 2010). The recovery plan may include a field survey, construction monitoring, sampling and data recovery procedures, museum curation for any specimen recovered, and a report of findings. Recommendations in the recovery plan, or alternative measures that the paleontologist agrees are adequately protective of the resource, shall be implemented before construction activities resume at the site where the paleontological resources were discovered.

Mitigation Measure MM-GEO-1 would protect unique paleontological resources because construction workers would be alerted to the possibility of encountering paleontological resources and, in the event that resources were discovered, construction would be halted, and fossil specimens would be recovered and recorded and would undergo appropriate curation in accordance with the recommendations of a qualified paleontologist. Therefore, with implementation of MM-GEO-1, potential impacts to unique paleontological resources would be reduced to **less-than-significant with mitigation**.

3.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Table 3.8-1 Potential Impacts on Greenhouse Gas Emissions

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.		
Would the project:	-	-
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	Less Than Significant	2, 3, 4
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	Less Than Significant	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.8.1 Setting

Certain gases in Earth’s atmosphere, classified as greenhouse gases (GHGs), play a critical role in determining the Earth’s surface temperature. A portion of the solar radiation that enters the Earth’s atmosphere is absorbed by the Earth’s surface, and a smaller portion of this radiation is reflected back toward space. Infrared radiation is absorbed by GHGs; therefore, infrared radiation released from Earth that otherwise would have escaped back into space is instead “trapped,” resulting in a warming of the atmosphere. This phenomenon, known as the “greenhouse effect,” is responsible for maintaining a habitable climate on Earth.

GHGs are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural sources and anthropogenic sources, and are formed from secondary reactions taking place in the atmosphere. The following GHGs are widely accepted as the principal contributors to human-induced global climate change that would be relevant to the Proposed Project: carbon dioxide (CO₂); methane (CH₄); and nitrous oxide (N₂O). Emissions of CO₂ are byproducts of fossil fuel combustion. CH₄ is the main component of natural gas and is associated with agricultural practices and landfills. N₂O is a colorless GHG that results from industrial processes, vehicle emissions, and agricultural practices.

Global warming potential (GWP) is a concept developed to compare the ability of each GHG to trap heat in the atmosphere relative to CO₂. The GWP of a GHG is based on several factors, including the relative effectiveness of a gas to absorb infrared radiation and length of time that the gas remains in the atmosphere (atmospheric lifetime). The reference gas for GWP is CO₂; therefore, CO₂ has a GWP of 1. The other main GHGs that have been attributed to human activity include CH₄, which has a GWP of 28, and N₂O, which has a GWP of 265 (IPCC 2013). For example, 1 ton of CH₄ has the same contribution to the greenhouse effect as approximately 28 tons of CO₂. GHGs with lower emissions rates than CO₂ still may contribute to climate change, because they are more effective at absorbing outgoing infrared radiation than CO₂ (i.e., high GWP). The concept of CO₂-equivalents (CO₂e) is used to account for the different GWP potentials of GHG to absorb infrared radiation.

Regulatory Framework

In addition to the regulations presented below, the light-duty and heavy-duty vehicle GHG emission standards discussed in Section 3.7, Energy, are also applicable.

Executive Order S-3-05. EO S-3-05, signed in June 2005, proclaimed that California is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. EO S-3-05 declared that increased temperatures could reduce the Sierra Nevada’s snowpack, further exacerbate California’s air quality problems, and potentially cause a rise in sea levels. To combat those concerns, the EO established total GHG emissions targets. Specifically, emissions are to be reduced to the 2000 level by 2010, the 1990 level by 2020, and to 80 percent below the 1990 level by 2050.

Assembly Bill 32. In 2006, California passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32; California Health and Safety Code Division 25.5, Sections 38500, et seq.). AB 32 further details and puts into law the mid-term GHG reduction target established in EO S-3-05, which is to reduce statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. AB 32 also identifies CARB as the state agency responsible for the design and implementation of emissions limits, regulations, and other measures to meet the target.

Executive Order B-30-15. In April 2015, Governor Edmund Brown issued an EO establishing a statewide GHG reduction goal of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The emission reduction target acts as an interim goal between the AB 32 goal (i.e., achieve 1990 emission levels by 2020) and Governor Brown’s EO S-03-05 goal of reducing statewide emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. In addition, the EO aligns California’s 2030 GHG reduction goal with the European Union’s reduction target (i.e., 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030) that was adopted in October 2014.

Senate Bill 32. SB 32, signed on September 8, 2016, requires California to reduce GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. That 2030 target represents reductions needed to ensure California can achieve its longer-term 2050 target of a reduction of greenhouse gases 80 percent below 1990 levels per Executive Order B-30-15.

County of Santa Clara. The County of Santa Clara is currently in the process of creating the Climate Roadmap 2030 which will outline actions the County and partners will take to reduce GHG emissions. The County has created draft actions to combat climate change, create livable communities, and restore natural spaces, in the following sectors: buildings/ construction, transportation, water and waste, and agriculture (County 2022c).

3.8.2 Discussion

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Heavy-duty off-road equipment, materials transport, and worker commutes during construction of the Proposed Project would result in GHG emissions from vehicle exhaust. As described previously, the purpose of the Proposed Project is to remove contaminated soil and demolish structures that could pose a public safety hazard. The Proposed Project is not anticipated to result in an increase in vehicle trips or emissions associated with operations or maintenance following the demolition and remediation activities.

On April 24, 2022, the BAAQMD adopted updated thresholds of significance for climate impacts. As described in the BAAQMD *CEQA Thresholds for Evaluating the Significance of Climate Impacts From Land Use Projects and Plans* (BAAQMD 2022), there is no proposed construction-related climate impact threshold at this time. The BAAQMD states that GHG emissions from construction represent a very small portion of a project’s lifetime GHG

emissions. Since the Proposed Project would not result in any long-term emissions, and the BAAQMD has determined that operational activities represent the vast majority of a project's GHG emissions, the Proposed Project would not generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. This analysis also quantified the Proposed Project's construction-related emissions for informational purposes. Construction of the Proposed Project would result in the generation of approximately 589 metric tons (MT) CO₂e. Additional modeling details and results are available in **Appendix A**.

The County intends to remove the debris and trash, demolish most buildings and structures, and excavate contaminated soils associated with these features, so that the area can eventually be developed and operated as a public campground as planned in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. As described in Section 2.3, ongoing and future operation of the Project Site as a public campground has already been analyzed under CEQA in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan IS/MND. Since implementation of the Proposed Project would not change the current or future operations of the County Park, the Proposed Project's contribution to cumulatively significant impacts to global climate change would not be considerable. The impact would be **less than significant**.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

In response to AB 32 and SB 32, CARB has approved a series of Climate Change Scoping Plans and Scoping Plan updates that chart a path for meeting the state's GHG reduction targets. While the Scoping Plan updates do include measures that would indirectly address GHG emissions associated with construction and operational activities, including the phasing in of cleaner technology for diesel engine fleets (including construction equipment) and Low Carbon Fuel Standard, successful implementation of these measures predominantly depends on the development of laws and policies at the state level. For example, the Draft 2022 Scoping Plan includes a proposed scenario action of achieving 25 percent electrification by 2030 and 75 percent by 2045 in the construction equipment sector; however, the Draft 2022 Scoping Plan has not been adopted at the time of this analysis and following adoption of the 2022 Scoping Plan Update, state agencies will continue to update and implement new and existing programs to align with the outcomes in the final plan. Therefore, the policies included in the Scoping Plan updates do not constitute a regulation to adopt or implement a regional or local plan for reduction or mitigation of GHG emissions. Thus, it is assumed that any requirements or policies formulated under the mandate of AB 32 and SB 32 that would be applicable to the Proposed Project, either directly or indirectly, would be implemented consistent with statewide policies and laws.

As described in Section 3.9.1, the County of Santa Clara is currently in the process of developing the Climate Roadmap 2030. The County has created draft actions to combat climate change, create livable communities, and restore natural spaces—all while promoting equity in the region. The Climate Roadmap 2030 includes draft actions related to active and public transportation, buildings, waste and water, and agriculture. The Proposed Project would allow for the conversion of the former nursery area to a public campground as planned within the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. Since the Proposed Project would remove the debris and trash, demolish most buildings and structures, and excavate contaminated soils associated with these features and allow for the restoration of natural spaces, the Proposed Project would not conflict with the goals of the Climate Roadmap 2030.

Thus, the Proposed Project would not conflict with the AB 32 and SB 32 Scoping Plan; or any other relevant plans, policies, or regulations for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Therefore, the Proposed Project's impact would be **less than significant**.

3.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Table 3.9-1 Potential Impacts on Hazards and Hazardous Materials

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
d) Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, therefore, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 31
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	See Section 3.20, "Wildfire"	2, 3, 4, 10g

Note: "-" indicates blank cell

3.9.1 Setting

Hazardous Materials

Several publicly available databases maintained under Public Resources Code Section 65962.5 (i.e., the "Cortese List") were reviewed to determine whether known hazardous materials release sites are present either at or within 0.5 mile of the Project Site. These databases included the EnviroStor database maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the GeoTracker database maintained by the SWRCB, and other Cortese-list components identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA 2022). In addition, AECOM performed a search of the EPA's National Priorities List (Superfund) database.

The Project Site is not on the Cortese list but is listed as a Cleanup Program Site (Case T10000018560) as a result of the known on-site contamination from the former Christensen Nursery operations (SWRCB 2022). There are no other known hazardous materials contamination sites within 0.5 mile of the Project Site (DTSC 2022, SWRCB 2022, EPA 2021).

As described in Chapter 2, "Project Description," the Project Site was formerly operated as a commercial nursery. There are two primary dump sites on the property (Locations 1 and 2 on

Figure 2-3) and several other smaller dump sites where trash and debris has been discarded (Locations 3 through 10 on Figure 2-3). These dumps and debris areas contain various household wastes as well as light industrial waste including nursery materials, trailers, car and tractor parts, steel drums and other materials. Location 1 was used as the main dump for the property, whereas Location 2 is a smaller area containing more concentrated garbage and debris. Soil testing in Locations 1 through 10 was performed for a variety of constituents of concern, including metals, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, petroleum hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). Two soil samples were obtained from each of the 10 locations (for a total of 20 soil samples), at depths ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 feet below the ground surface (AECOM 2020). The soil testing results detected concentrations of three metals (cadmium, lead, and vanadium), two organochlorine pesticides (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane [DDT] and dieldrin), and one SVOC (nitrophenol) that were slightly above the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) environmental screening levels (ESLs) (AECOM 2020). These constituents can result in environmental and human health hazards when present at concentrations that are above ESLs. Additional soil sampling was undertaken at the site in October 2022 at the request of the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health (AECOM 2022e). The nursery site was not operated under any waste disposal permit.

There are three groundwater wells in Sanborn County Park; more details of which are provided in Section 3.11, Hydrology and Water Quality. At the Project Site, groundwater was not encountered in any of the soil borings or test pits to a maximum depth of 7.5 feet below ground surface (bgs) (AECOM 2020; Ninyo & Moore 2018); therefore, the exact depth to groundwater at the Project Site is presently unknown. Testing for potential contaminants in groundwater has not been performed. A potential exists that the contaminants which are present in soil at the Project Site may have migrated through the soil and into the groundwater held in the fractured bedrock underneath the Project Site. Because the potential for groundwater contamination has not been investigated, the level of contamination, if any, is presently unknown. Because the two County Park wells that supply water for the Sanborn Core Use area are approximately 0.5 mile upstream and upgradient of the Project Site, water quality at those wells would not be affected by soil contamination at the Project Site.

The Project Site also contains a variety of older structures and facilities, including buildings, trailers, tanks, and pumps. A *Pre-Demolition Hazardous Materials Survey* was performed in 2021 (SCA Environmental, Inc. 2021). The survey found that a variety of on-site facilities contain asbestos, lead-based paint, and PCBs. The use of lead as an additive to paint was discontinued in 1978 because human exposure to lead was determined to be an adverse human health risk, particularly to young children. Prior to 1989, asbestos was used in a variety of building materials, particularly insulation. If asbestos fibers are inhaled, they can cause lung cancer and mesothelioma. PCBs have been shown to cause cancer in animals as well as several serious non-cancer health effects in animals; as a result, the manufacture and most uses of PCBs were banned by the federal government in 1979.

Schools

There are no K–12 schools within 0.25 mile of the Project Site. The closest K–12 school is Saratoga Elementary, approximately 2 miles to the northeast.

The Walden West Outdoor School, operated by the Santa Clara County Office of Education, provides 3- to 5-day outdoor classroom learning experiences for grades 5 and 6. This facility is

located at the top of a steep ridge approximately 650 feet west of the Project Site and approximately 200 feet above the Project Site topographically. The school is approximately 875 feet from the nearest of the proposed work areas for the Project.

Airports

The nearest airport is the San Jose International Airport, approximately 11 miles northeast of the Project Site.

Wildland Fire Hazards

Please see Section 3.20, “Wildfire,” for the discussion of wildland fire hazards.

Federal, State, and Local Regulations

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the primary responsibility for promulgating regulations related to the use, handling, and disposal of hazardous wastes. The Federal Toxic Substances Control Act (1976), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) as amended in 1984 by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Act, established a program administered by EPA for the regulation of the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. The RCRA was enacted to protect human health and the environment from the improper management of hazardous waste.

The 1976 Toxic Substances Control Act (as updated in 2016) provides EPA with authority to require reporting, record-keeping, and testing requirements, and restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures, including materials commonly found during the demolition of older structures; these materials include asbestos, lead-based paint, and PCBs. The EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program Rule (40 CFR 745) applies to demolition of structures containing lead-based paint. EPA regulations that apply to projects intended to remove and dispose of PCB-containing building materials are contained in 40 CFR Part 761.

The EPA regulates asbestos use and demolition as an airborne pollutant under the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. However, the EPA does not regulate asbestos as a hazardous waste. In California, asbestos is regulated by DTSC as a hazardous waste if it is friable and contains 1.0 percent or more asbestos. Asbestos demolition is regulated by CalOSHA and local agencies such as air quality management districts (discussed below).

Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration is the federal agency responsible for enforcing and implementing federal laws and regulations pertaining to worker health and safety. The administration's Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response regulations require training and medical supervision for workers at hazardous waste sites (29 CFR § 1910.120). Additional regulations have been developed regarding exposure to lead (29 CFR § 1926.62) and asbestos (29 CFR § 1926.1101) to protect construction workers.

California Division of Occupational Safety and Health

CalOSHA has the primary responsibility for developing and enforcing workplace safety regulations within California. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health enforces hazard communication program regulations that contain training and information

requirements, including procedures for identifying and labeling hazardous substances, communicating hazard information related to hazardous substances and their handling, and preparation of health and safety plans to protect workers and employees at hazardous waste sites. Cal/OSHA regulations also include requirements for protective clothing, training, and limits on exposure to hazardous materials.

Cal/OSHA also enforces occupational health and safety regulations specific to lead (CCR Title 8 Section 1532.1) and asbestos (CCR Title 8 Section 1529) investigation and abatement.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control

DTSC implements the State's hazardous waste management program for the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC has the primary regulatory responsibility, with delegation of enforcement to local jurisdictions that enter into agreements with DTSC, for the management of hazardous materials (including remediation) and the generation, transport, and disposal of hazardous waste under the authority of California's Hazardous Waste Control Law (California Health and Safety Code Section 25100, et seq.).

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

The San Francisco Bay RWQCB is authorized by the State Water Resources Control Board to enforce provisions of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1969. This act gives the San Francisco Bay RWQCB authority to require groundwater investigations when the quality of groundwater or surface waters of the state is threatened and to require remediation of the site, if necessary.

Cortese List, California Government Code Section 65962.5

The provisions of Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code are commonly referred to as the "Cortese List" (after the legislator who authored the legislation that enacted it). The Cortese List is a planning document used by state and local agencies to comply with CEQA's requirement to provide information about the location of hazardous-materials release sites. Government Code Section 65962.5 requires California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to develop an updated Cortese List at least annually. DTSC and SWRCB are responsible for most of the information contained on the Cortese List. Other state and local government agencies, the RWQCBs and local Cities and Counties, are required to provide additional information for the Cortese List about releases of hazardous materials.

In addition, Section 65962.5 requires all CEQA project applicants to consult the Cortese List and determine whether any site-specific project is within a hazardous materials site on the list. If so, the project applicant is required to notify the lead agency in writing prior to the issuance of a building permit, so the lead agency can determine the appropriate course of action (which generally includes environmental site assessments and site-specific remediation).

Hazardous Waste Transportation

Statutory requirements governing hazardous waste transportation in California are contained in the California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.5, Articles 6.5, 6.6, and 13. Hazardous waste transporters must have a valid registration permit issued by DTSC. In addition, hazardous waste transporters must comply with a variety of other State and federal regulations, including the California Vehicle Code (CCR Title 13); California State Fire Marshal Regulations (CCR Title 19); U.S. Department of Transportation regulations (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations); and EPA regulations (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations).

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2, adopted December 15, 1976, regulates hazardous pollutants from asbestos demolition, renovation, and manufacturing activities. The purpose of the rule is to control emissions of asbestos to the atmosphere during demolition, renovation, milling, and manufacturing and establish appropriate waste disposal procedures. The rule sets out specific procedures to be followed and methods for reducing hazards from asbestos-containing materials during such activities.

Santa Clara County Emergency Operations Plan and Annexes

The *Santa Clara County Emergency Operations Plan* (EOP) establishes a county incident management organization and includes procedures for planning, management, and response to emergency situations (Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Services 2017). Several separately-published hazard-specific annexes provide additional situational guidance. The *EOP Wildfire Annex* establishes emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies and general procedures, and provides for coordination of planning efforts for respective staff as related to wildfires (Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management and Santa Clara County Fire Department 2019).

Santa Clara County Hazardous Materials Compliance Division

The County Department of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Compliance Division maintains and oversees a PCB Demolition Program that includes requirements for pre-demolition sampling and proper disposal procedures.

3.9.2 Discussion

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

The proposed demolition and excavation processes would involve the use of heavy equipment and associated small quantities of hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, and lubricants. Project-related staging would be established in upland areas located as far as practicable from Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks.

Based on the soil sampling undertaken at the site (AECOM 2020), the soil to be excavated from the dump and debris areas are not anticipated to contain high enough concentrations of contaminants to be considered federal or California hazardous waste. Several of the existing structures at the Project Site have been tested and found to contain asbestos, lead-based paint, and PCBs (SCA Environmental, Inc. 2021), which have potential to result in environmental and human health hazards if not handled and disposed of appropriately. Similarly, it is possible that some of the debris on site could contain hazardous materials such as fuels or lubricants.

Contaminated soil and demolition materials containing asbestos, lead-based paint, and PCBs would be removed from the Project Site and transported to an appropriate off-site landfill that is permitted to receive such waste. As briefly described in Section 3.9.2, “Federal, State, and Local Regulations,” there is an established, comprehensive framework independent of the CEQA process that is intended to reduce the risks associated with the use, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials. The use, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials is heavily regulated at both the federal and state level; these regulations are promulgated and

enforced by agencies such as EPA, SWRCB and DTSC, and local agencies such as BAAQMD and Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health.

As discussed in more detail in Section 3.10, “Hydrology and Water Quality,” coverage under the SWRCB’s Construction General Permit would be obtained for the Project, which would require preparation and implementation of a SWPPP. The SWPPP is required to include BMPs that are specifically designed to minimize the risk of accidental spills of hazardous materials during construction, and to specify the procedures for prompt and efficient cleanup if an accidental spill does occur. Therefore, impacts from routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials would be **less than significant**.

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

For the same reasons listed in criterion a) above, the Proposed Project would not create a significant hazard to the public from accidental release of hazardous materials to the environment, and this impact would be **less than significant**.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

As described in Section 3.9.1, “Setting,” above, the Walden West Outdoor School is approximately 650 feet (approximately 0.12 miles) west of the Project Site and approximately 875 feet (0.17 miles) from the nearest proposed work area. As discussed under criterion a) above, the Proposed Project would involve the handling of small quantities of hazardous materials (e.g., fuels, oils, and lubricants) and would require the handling and disposal of a small amount (approximately 40 CY) of hazardous waste (asbestos-containing materials). Although contaminated soils would be excavated and removed from the site, the level of contamination is not high enough for the waste to be considered “hazardous” under State or Federal regulations. No acutely hazardous materials would be handled at the Project site. The Proposed Project would also result in the emission of criteria pollutants and TACs at the Project Site, as discussed in Section 3.2, “Air Quality.” Therefore, the Proposed Project would emit hazardous emissions and handle hazardous substances and hazardous wastes within a quarter mile of an existing school.

However, the environmental impact of such emissions and handling would be less than significant, as adherence to applicable regulations and implementation of measures to protect Project workers and the general public from hazardous emissions during the proposed remediation project, including watering for dust control, BMPs for spill and leak prevention, and adherence to regulations governing the handling and transportation of hazardous waste, would also serve to protect sensitive receptors at the nearby school. Furthermore, as discussed in Section 3.2, “Air Quality,” the proposed demolition and excavation activities at the Project Site would not result in a human health hazard for nearby sensitive receptors, including the Walden West Outdoor School. Therefore, the impact of hazardous material emissions or handling of hazardous materials or wastes on schools within 0.25 mile would be **less than significant**.

d) Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, therefore, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

As described in Section 3.9.1, “Setting,” above, the Project Site is not included on the Cortese List (Government Code Section 65962.5) but is listed on the GeoTracker database as a Cleanup Program site as a result of soil contamination from prior use as a commercial nursery. The results of site-specific soil testing found levels of several constituents of concern that were slightly above the San Francisco Bay RWQCB ESLs (AECOM 2020). The presence of these constituents in the soil results in an environmental and human health hazard that has potential to cause environmental impacts as a result of Project implementation, particularly to construction workers handling the soils, or if the contaminated soils are not transported and disposed of appropriately.

To protect groundwater and surface water quality, contaminated soil would not be stored on site, but rather, would be loaded directly into haul trucks, as noted on the construction drawings for the Project. The excavated areas, and any voids from demolition of structures would be backfilled with clean soil to approximately original grade. In addition, most of the existing structures and facilities would be demolished (except for the Christensen house, the barn foundation, and the two ponds and associated piping). Contaminated soil and hazardous wastes contained in on-site facilities that are demolished would be excavated and transported to an appropriately permitted Class II or III landfill. County Parks and its contractors are required to comply with all federal, State, and local laws and regulations pertaining to the use, transport, handling, and disposal of materials; these laws and regulations are specifically designed to protect human health and the environment.

In particular, the construction contractor would be required to prepare a site-specific health and safety plan in accordance with OSHA and CalOSHA requirements and to implement adequate engineering and administrative controls (e.g., appropriate training, hygiene and decontamination procedures, dust control, and soil handling protocols) to protect worker health and safety. Such controls would also, by design, be protective of other receptors such as tenants at the Christensen house, neighboring property owners, and Park staff and visitors.

Although the exact depth to groundwater at the Project Site is unknown, groundwater was not encountered in excavations up to a maximum of 7.5 feet bgs at the Project Site (AECOM 2020; Ninyo & Moore 2018), and the depth to water in nearby wells ranges from 27 and 39 feet below the top of casing (LPA 2018). Therefore, it is anticipated that groundwater depth at the site is at least 7.5 feet bgs. Because the maximum depth of excavation for the Proposed Project (up to 5 feet bgs) would not exceed the anticipated depth of groundwater (at least 7.5 feet bgs), it is unlikely that groundwater will be encountered during Project excavations; therefore, the Proposed Project would not exacerbate existing conditions by potentially exposing contaminated groundwater or remobilizing contaminants from the soil to groundwater.

For the reasons presented above, the Proposed Project would not exacerbate existing conditions relating to known soil contamination (and potential groundwater contamination) at the Project Site, and overall would have a beneficial impact due to the removal of contaminated soils. The impact would be **less than significant**.

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?

The nearest airport is the San Jose International Airport, approximately 11 miles northeast of the Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in an airport safety hazard or excessive aircraft noise for people residing or working at or near the Project Site, and there would be **no impact**.

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The *Santa Clara County General Plan* (County 1994a) does not designate any emergency evacuation routes. The EOP *Wildfire Annex* (Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management and Santa Clara County Fire Department 2019) notes that decisions related to evacuation routes are based on the site-specific locations of individual hazards. During an emergency, including a wildfire event, County Parks provides the County Emergency Operations Center and other County partners with situational awareness regarding park closures or other impacts, awareness of hazardous conditions, and monitoring guest safety (Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management and Santa Clara County Fire Department 2019).

Sanborn Road, a local two-lane road immediately adjacent to the Project Site to the west, would serve as the primary north-south evacuation route for traffic in the area. Sanborn Road connects with State Route (SR) 9 approximately 0.6 mile north of the Project Site; SR 9 would provide evacuation from the area in an east-west direction. All project-related work and staging areas would be conducted within the Project Site boundaries; and the Proposed Project would not result in long-term lane closures along Sanborn Road that would impede emergency evacuation or emergency response. As discussed in Section 3.17, *Transportation*, the Proposed Project may require temporary one-way traffic restrictions at certain sections of Sanborn Road; however, in the case of an emergency situation requiring evacuation, Project operations would cease and such traffic restrictions would not be in place. Furthermore, although not required as mitigation for this potential impact, mitigation measure MM-TRA-1, detailed in Section 3.17.2, requires that a temporary traffic control plan be prepared for the Proposed Project, which would include requirements to maintain emergency access at all times and to notify local emergency service providers regarding the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of any temporary one-way traffic controls or other restrictions. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not interfere with emergency access services or emergency evacuation planning, and the impact would be **less than significant**.

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?

Please see Section 3.20, “Wildfire,” for the analysis related to wildland fire hazards.

3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

Table 3.10-1 Potential Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
X. 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?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4, 46, 47
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	No Impact	2, 3, 4
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 that would:	-	2, 3, 4
i) result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site;	No Impact	2, 3, 4
iii) create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	No Impact	2, 3, 4
iv) impede or redirect floodflows?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 12c
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 12c,
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.10.1 Setting

Surface Water Hydrology and Drainage

The Project Site is within the Santa Cruz Mountains in the headwaters of the Saratoga Creek Watershed, which encompasses approximately 19 square miles. The average annual rainfall at Sanborn County Park is reported to range from 38 inches at the lower elevations to 54 inches at the highest elevations along the southwestern park boundary (County Parks 2007). Over time, the combination of stream erosion and movement along the San Andreas Fault Zone has resulted in the formation of the San Andreas Rift Valley, where the Project Site is located.

Sanborn Creek (along the east side of the Project Site) flows northward through the San Andreas Rift Valley and is the principal drainageway for the park. Sanborn Creek discharges into Saratoga Creek north of the park, near SR 9. Saratoga Creek discharges into Guadalupe Slough and then into the South San Francisco Bay. Aubrey Creek, which runs along the west side of the Project Site, is a small tributary to Sanborn Creek. The San Andreas Rift Valley drains both to the northwest (towards Saratoga Creek) and to the southeast (towards Lexington Reservoir). Lake Ranch Reservoir is located at the point where the two drainage directions intersect, with impoundment structures at both ends of the reservoir. Lake Ranch

Reservoir is managed for water storage by the San Jose Water Company (County Parks 2007).

There are no existing stormwater drainage features at the Project Site.

Flood Hazards

Federal Emergency Management Agency Special Flood Hazard Areas

The Project Site is not located in a 100-year flood zone as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA 2009). The Project Site is designated by FEMA as Zone D. This designation is applied to areas where flood hazards are possible, but such hazards are undetermined because no analysis of flood hazards has been conducted. Sanborn Creek flows along the eastern Project Site boundary, in an incised channel that is 50 to 100 feet below the Project Site. Aubrey Creek is a very small tributary (about 2 feet wide) to Sanborn Creek. Aubrey Creek flows northward near the western Project Site boundary, and is 15 to 20 feet lower in elevation as compared to the Project Site.

Tsunami, Seiche, and Seismic Dam Failure Flood Hazards

The Project Site is in the Santa Cruz Mountains, approximately 15 miles from the Pacific Ocean and approximately 13 miles from the south San Francisco Bay. Therefore, tsunamis would not represent a hazard.

Lake Ranch Reservoir is approximately 1 mile southeast (upstream) of the Project Site and is approximately 500 feet higher in elevation. Originally constructed between 1874 and 1876, the reservoir has a capacity of 70 million gallons. The reservoir is under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams. The Saratoga Dam impounds the north side of the reservoir, while the Beardsley Dam impounds the south side. The reservoir lies within the San Andreas Fault Zone–Santa Cruz Mountains Section and is within a delineated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. During the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, ground cracks were observed and documented in the Saratoga Dam and in the bottom of the reservoir, and the Beardsley Dam was severely damaged. Saratoga Dam is approximately 20 to 25 feet high and 685 feet long. An outlet pipe beneath Saratoga Dam formerly provided the necessary stream releases to Saratoga Creek via Sanborn Creek for water supply. Recent inspections of the reservoir facilities determined that the outlet pipes from both dams were in various stages of disrepair, and due to seismic safety concerns, the reservoir was upgraded in 2018 by the San Jose Water Company to install new water siphon pipes over the dams. In case of a severe earthquake, the new design allows the siphon pipes to break, which then stops the flow of water and prevents the dams from eroding. The reservoir upgrades substantially reduced the potential for seismically induced dam failure and the resultant downstream flooding. The environmental analysis performed for the dam upgrades concluded there were no hazards from seismic seiches at the reservoir. (Denise Duffy & Associates 2016.)

Surface Water Quality

Under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, RWQCBs are required to designate beneficial uses for all water body segments in their jurisdictions, and then set criteria necessary to protect these uses. Consequently, the water quality objectives developed for particular water segments are based on the designated use and vary depending on such use. Water quality in the San Francisco Bay and its tributaries is regulated primarily by the San

Francisco Bay RWQCB, which has established beneficial uses, and narrative and numeric standards to protect those beneficial uses, for Saratoga Creek, Guadalupe Slough, and the South San Francisco Bay in its *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin* (Basin Plan) (San Francisco Bay RWQCB 2019).

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) requires states to identify waters where the permit standards, any other enforceable limits, or adopted water quality standards are still unattained. The CWA also requires states to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) to improve the water quality of impaired water bodies. TMDLs are the quantities of pollutants that can be safely assimilated by a water body without violating water quality standards. TMDLs are developed for impaired water bodies to maintain beneficial uses as designated in the applicable Basin Plan, achieve water quality objectives, and reduce the potential for future water quality degradation. NPDES permits for water discharges must consider the pollutants for which a water body is listed as impaired.

Table 3.10-2 lists impaired water bodies included in the SWRCB's 303(d) list that could receive runoff from the Proposed Project, including the pollutants of concern and whether they have approved TMDLs. Even if a stream is not included in the SWRCB's 303(d) list, any upstream tributary to a 303(d)-listed stream (such as Sanborn Creek or Aubrey Creek) could contribute pollutants to the listed segment.

Table 3.10-2 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies

Impaired Water Body	Pollutant	Pollutant Source	TMDL Status
Saratoga Creek	Diazinon	Unknown	Approved in 2007
	Trash	Unknown	Expected in 2029
Guadalupe Slough	Toxicity	Unknown	Expected in 2029
San Francisco Bay, South	Chlordane	Unknown	Expected in 2013; still in process
	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT)	Unknown	Expected in 2013; still in process
	Dieldrin	Unknown	Expected in 2013; still in process
	Dioxin compounds	Unknown	Expected in 2019; still in process
	Furan compounds	Unknown	Expected in 2019; still in process
	Invasive species	Unknown	Expected in 2019; still in process
	Mercury	Unknown	Approved in 2008
	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (non-dioxin-like)	Unknown	Approved in 2010
	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (dioxin-like)	Unknown	Approved in 2010
	Selenium	Unknown	Expected in 2021; still in process

Notes: TMDL = total maximum daily load

Source: SWRCB 2021

Groundwater

The Project Site is located in the Santa Cruz Mountains and is not within the boundaries of a groundwater basin as defined by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR 2019). Mountainous areas such as Sanborn County Park generally consist of fractured bedrock, with small areas of shallow alluvial deposits in the valleys. The groundwater quantity and quality

vary greatly from well site to well site because of the unpredictable yields of the fractured rock system that typifies the geology. Because the Project Site is not within a DWR-defined groundwater basin, the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) do not apply, no identified groundwater sustainability agency exists, and a groundwater sustainability plan is not required.

Sanborn County Park is served by two existing groundwater wells that are upstream from and approximately 0.5 and 0.75 mile south of the Project Site respectively. Both wells are connected to a small groundwater treatment plant in the vicinity of the northernmost well that provides manganese treatment and chlorination, after which groundwater is pumped to a storage tank prior to distribution to various facilities throughout the Park, including the existing houses on the Project Site. Well yields in the Park range from 12 to 24 gallons per minute, at depths of approximately 300–400 feet bgs (LPA 2018.) An additional groundwater well, approximately 0.5 mile southwest of the Project Site, serves the Walden West Outdoor School.

Groundwater was not encountered in any of the soil borings (maximum depth 1.5 feet bgs) associated with soil testing at the Project Site (AECOM 2020), nor was groundwater encountered in any of the soil percolation test pits (maximum depth 7.5 feet bgs) excavated at the Project Site (Ninyo & Moore 2018). The exact depth to groundwater at the Project Site is presently unknown. Water levels in the two groundwater wells were measured at approximately 27 and 39 feet below the top of casing during an inspection in 2018 (LPA 2018).

Testing for potential contaminants in groundwater has not been performed. A potential exists that the contaminants which are present in soil at the Project Site may have migrated through the soil and into the groundwater held in the fractured bedrock underneath the Project Site. Because the potential for groundwater contamination has not been investigated, the level of contamination, if any, is presently unknown. Because the two County Park wells that supply water for the Sanborn Core Use area are approximately 0.5 mile upstream and upgradient of the Project Site, water quality at those wells would not be affected by soil contamination at the Project Site.

Federal, State, and Local Regulations

Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA), enacted in 1972, provides for restoration and maintenance of the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. The Clean Water Act also limits the amount of pollutants that may be discharged and requires wastewater to be treated with the best treatment technology economically achievable regardless of receiving water conditions. The control of pollutant discharge is established through NPDES permits that contain effluent limitations and standards. The EPA has delegated responsibility for implementation of portions of the CWA, such as Sections 303 and 402 (discussed below), to the SWRCB.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the state to implement the provisions of the Clean Water Act and establishes a regulatory program to protect the water quality of the state and the beneficial uses of state waters. The act requires project proponents whose projects would result in discharge of wastes that could affect the quality of the State's water to file a report of waste discharge with the appropriate RWQCB. The act also requires that the SWRCB or a RWQCB adopt basin plans for the protection of water quality. Basin plans provide

the technical basis for determining waste discharge requirements (WDRs), taking enforcement actions, and evaluating clean water grant proposals. As required by the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the CWA, basin plans include designated beneficial water uses, water quality objectives needed to protect the designated beneficial water uses, and strategies and time schedules for achieving the water quality objectives.

Clean Water Act Section 303(d) and Total Maximum Daily Loads

California adopts water quality standards to protect beneficial uses of waters of the State as required by the CWA Section 303(d) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The SWRCB identifies waters failing to meet standards for specific pollutants, which are then State-listed in accordance with CWA Section 303(d). If it is determined that waters of the State are impaired for one or more constituents, and the standards cannot be met through point-source or nonpoint-source controls (NPDES permits or WDRs), the CWA requires the establishment of TMDLs. Implementation of this program in the Project region is conducted by the San Francisco Bay RWQCB. To identify candidate water bodies for TMDL analysis, a list of water quality-impaired segments is generated by the SWRCB. These stream or river segments are impaired by the presence of pollutants and are more sensitive to disturbance because of this impairment.

Clean Water Act Section 402—National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

The 1972 amendments to the Federal Water Pollutant Control Act established the NPDES permit program to control discharges of pollutants from point sources (Section 402). NPDES is the primary federal program that regulates point-source and nonpoint-source discharges to waters of the U.S. EPA has granted primary administration and enforcement of the provisions of the CWA and NPDES to the SWRCB and the nine RWQCBs. NPDES permit regulations have been established for broad categories of discharges, including point source municipal waste discharges and nonpoint source stormwater runoff. NPDES permits generally identify limits on the concentrations and/or mass emissions of pollutants in effluent discharged into receiving waters; prohibitions on discharges not specifically allowed under the permit; and provisions that describe required actions by the discharger, including industrial pretreatment, pollution prevention, self-monitoring, and other activities.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit

The SWRCB's statewide NPDES Permit, *Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities* (Order 2009-009-DWQ as amended by Order Nos. 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ) (Construction General Permit), is applicable to all construction activities that would disturb 1 acre of land or more (SWRCB 2012).

Construction activities subject to the general construction activity permit include clearing, grading, stockpiling, and excavation. Dischargers are required to eliminate or reduce non-stormwater discharges to storm sewer systems and other waters.

Through the NPDES and WDR process, SWRCB seeks to ensure that the construction and post-construction conditions at a Project Site do not cause or contribute to direct or indirect impacts on water quality (i.e., pollution and/or hydromodification) upstream and downstream. To comply with the requirements of the Construction General Permit, project applicants must file a Notice of Intent with the SWRCB to obtain coverage under the permit; prepare a SWPPP; and implement inspection, monitoring, and reporting requirements appropriate to the project's risk level as specified in the SWPPP. The SWPPP must include a site map, describe construction activities and potential pollutants, and identify BMPs that would be employed to

prevent soil erosion and discharge of other construction-related pollutants that could contaminate nearby water resources, such as petroleum products, solvents, paints, and cement. Construction activities subject to the general construction activity permit include clearing, grading, stockpiling, and excavation. Dischargers are required to eliminate or reduce non-stormwater discharges to storm sewer systems and other waters. The permit also requires dischargers to consider the use of post-construction permanent BMPs that will remain in service to protect water quality throughout the life of the project. All NPDES permits also have inspection, monitoring, and reporting requirements.

Santa Clara County Ordinance Code, Grading and Drainage Ordinance

Title C, Division C12, Chapter 3 of the County Ordinance Code establishes minimum requirements for all grading and drainage alteration work to protect surface water quality and prevent soil erosion. Grading permits are required for the following: (1) cuts or fills, which each independently are greater than 150 cubic yards; or (2) cut or fill that is greater than 5 feet in vertical depth at its deepest point when measured from the natural ground surface; or (3) work that alters, diverts, or impairs the flow of water in the watercourse (Section C12-406).

Grading performed by or under the supervision or construction control of a governmental agency, including the County of Santa Clara, where that agency has provided written confirmation from an authorized representative of that agency assuming full responsibility for the work is exempt from the grading permit requirement, provided the grading meets the land use requirements in Division C12, and does not create a hazardous condition, endanger adjacent property, or cause a public nuisance [Section C12-407(a)].

3.10.2 Discussion

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?

The Proposed Project would require earthmoving activities, including excavating, grading, and compacting, for excavation of contaminated soil, demolition of facilities, and subsequent backfilling and site grading. Disturbance of existing soil would expose soils to rain events, which could mobilize loose soil and result in soil erosion. Subsequent soil transport during storm events could result in sedimentation both within and downstream of the Project Site, and could result in water quality degradation in both on-site (Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks) and downstream waterbodies (Saratoga Creek, Guadalupe Slough, and South San Francisco Bay). Furthermore, earthmoving activities during the summer months could result in wind erosion.

Because the Project would disturb more than 1 acre of land, County Parks and its remediation/demolition contractor(s) are required by law to prepare a SWPPP and implement associated BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce erosion associated with earthmoving activities. A Notice of Intent, along with the SWPPP and BMPs, would be submitted to the San Francisco Bay RWQCB, in compliance with the statewide NPDES Construction General Permit (Order 2009-009-DWQ as amended by Order 2012-0006-DWQ). A range of BMPs are available that could be implemented to reduce erosion, including silt fences, staked straw bales/wattles, geofabric, trench plugs, terraces, water bars, soil stabilizers, mulching, and revegetation of disturbed areas. Techniques that could be implemented to reduce the potential for stormwater runoff include minimizing site disturbance, controlling water flow over the Project Site, stabilizing bare soil, and ensuring proper site cleanup. The exact BMPs to be implemented at the Project Site during remediation/demolition would be determined by

consultation between County Parks and its contractor, and would be included as part of the SWPPP, which requires approval by the San Francisco Bay RWQCB prior to the start of remediation/demolition.

Because groundwater was not encountered in any of the soil borings or test pits, to a maximum depth of 7.5 feet bgs (AECOM 2020; Ninyo & Moore 2018), project-related soil excavation to depths of up to 5 feet bgs would not encounter groundwater. To protect groundwater and surface water quality, contaminated soils would not be stored or temporarily stockpiled on site, but rather, would be loaded directly into haul trucks. Because a SWPPP would be prepared and BMPs designed to control stormwater runoff and reduce erosion would be implemented, earth-moving activities associated with the Proposed Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality.

Therefore, with implementation of BMPs as part of the SWPPP, the Proposed Project would not degrade surface or groundwater quality or violate applicable water quality standards. Furthermore, the Proposed Project would reduce the potential for future groundwater impacts by removing contaminated soils and debris from the Project Site. For all these reasons, the impact would be **less than significant** (beneficial).

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

The Project Site is not within a DWR-defined groundwater basin and therefore the requirements of the SGMA do not apply and a groundwater management plan does not exist. The Proposed Project involves excavation of contaminated soil and demolition of on-site facilities; no new buildings or other facilities are proposed for construction or operation. Therefore, groundwater supplies are not required, and new impervious surfaces that could in turn reduce groundwater recharge would not be created. Thus, there would be **no impact**.

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 that would:

i) Result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

The Proposed Project would require earth-moving activities for excavation of contaminated soil, demolition of surface facilities, and removal of associated subsurface foundations, which could result in on-site erosion and resultant siltation in nearby on-site and downstream waterbodies. However, the excavated areas, and any voids from demolition of structures would be backfilled with clean soil to approximately original grade. Staging areas would be established at existing gravel areas, to the extent practicable. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed for construction or operation, there would be no new impervious surfaces that could result in increased stormwater runoff leading to erosion or siltation. As described in criterion a) above, County Parks and its remediation/demolition contractor(s) are required by law to prepare a SWPPP and implement associated BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce erosion and downstream sediment transport associated with earth-moving activities. Therefore, this impact would be **less than significant**.

ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or offsite?

The Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new impervious surfaces that would increase the rate or amount of surface runoff and result in flooding. Thus, there would be **no impact**.

iii) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

There is no existing stormwater drainage system at the Project Site. Stormwater runoff during the winter rainy season currently flows into Aubrey Creek to the east and Sanborn Creek to the west via overland flow. The Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities, and would fill any voids created by demolition or excavation to approximate existing grade. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new facilities that could create or contribute to increased stormwater runoff or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff over the long term. Thus, there would be **no impact**.

iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

The Proposed Project would not involve work within a FEMA flood hazard zone (FEMA 2009). The Project Site is classified by FEMA as Zone D, an area where the flood hazards have not been evaluated and therefore are unknown. Furthermore, Sanborn Creek flows in an incised channel that is 50 to 100 feet below the elevation of the proposed work and staging areas, along the east side of the Project Site. Aubrey Creek is a very small (approximately 2 feet wide) tributary to Sanborn Creek. It flows northward near the western Project Site boundary and is 15 to 20 feet lower in elevation as compared to the proposed work and staging areas. There is no known history of flooding at the Project Site. Furthermore, the Proposed Project only involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new facilities that could impede or redirect flood flows. Thus, there would be **no impact**.

d) Risk release of pollutants in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones due to project inundation?

The proposed demolition and excavation processes would involve the use of heavy equipment and associated small quantities of hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, and lubricants would be temporarily stored in on-site staging areas. Project-related staging would be established in upland areas located as far as practicable from Aubrey and Sanborn Creeks. As described in criterion c) iv) above, the Project Site is not in a FEMA flood hazard zone. Since the Project Site is in the Santa Cruz Mountains approximately 15 miles from the Pacific Ocean and approximately 13 miles from the south San Francisco Bay, tsunamis and seiches from these waterbodies would not represent a hazard. As described in detail in Section 3.10.1, "Setting," new outlet works at Lake Ranch Reservoir, which is approximately 1 mile upstream from the Project Site, were installed in 2018. The reservoir modifications were specifically intended to reduce the hazard from downstream flooding in Sanborn and Saratoga Creeks in the event of a major earthquake along the San Andreas Fault Zone. Furthermore, the environmental analysis prepared for the reservoir modifications determined that seiches did not represent a hazard at the reservoir. (Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. 2016). Therefore, the

Proposed Project would not risk release of pollutants in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, or other seismically induced flooding due to Project inundation, and there would be **no impact**.

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

As previously described, the requirements of the SGMA do not apply and there is no sustainable groundwater management plan applicable to the Project Site. County Parks and/or its remediation/demolition contractor(s) would prepare and implement the required SWPPP and BMPs to comply with the NPDES Construction General Plan. As discussed under Impact (a), the Proposed Project would not violate applicable water quality standards, and is intended to remediate the existing contaminated soil, which would result in an environmental benefit. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct the *San Francisco Bay Basin Water Quality Control Plan* (San Francisco Bay RWQCB 2019). The impact would be **less than significant** (beneficial).

3.11 Land Use and Planning

Table 3.11-1 Potential Impacts on Land Use and Planning

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XI. Land Use and Planning.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Physically divide an established community?	No Impact	2, 3, 4
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9a, 10a, 49

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.11.1 Setting

The Project Site is designated within the Santa Clara General Plan as “Regional Parks, Existing” (County 1994). The official zoning of the Project Site is Hillside (HS-sr), applied to hillside areas that are suitable for very-low density single-family residential and agricultural land uses. The Project Site is identified in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan as the Former Nursery Area, which is recommended for future potential development for campground purposes (tent, recreational vehicle (RV), and convenience camps), parking, and other park support functions (County of Santa Clara 2019).

3.11.2 Discussion

a) Physically divide an established community?

The Project Site comprises two parcels (i.e., the former nursery parcel [APN 51704034] and a small portion of the adjacent parcel to the north [APN 51704061]) within the Park boundaries. The former nursery area is currently closed to the public and is not connected to the existing trail network of the Park. Excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities would not introduce physical features that would create a barrier, divide, or separate adjacent uses. On the contrary, the Project would remove existing barriers to public use of the Project Site, so that future redevelopment of the property can be undertaken in accordance with the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. Use of designated haul truck route along Highway 17, Highway 9 (Saratoga-Los Gatos Road and Big Basin Way), and Sanborn Road would not impede movement or circulation on existing public roads or streets. There would be **no impact** related to physically dividing an established community.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

The County intends to remove the debris and trash, demolish most buildings and structures, and excavate contaminated soils associated with these features, so that the area can eventually be developed and operated as a public campground as planned in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. The Proposed Project would not introduce new uses or development of new buildings or structures that would conflict with the existing designation and zoning.

For an impact to be considered significant under this threshold, any inconsistency with applicable plans, policies, or regulations would also need to result in a significant adverse change in the environment not already addressed in the other resource sections of this IS/MND. Those other resource sections discuss consistency of the Proposed Project with relevant plans, policies, and regulations, as appropriate; provide a detailed analysis of other relevant physical environmental effects that could result from implementation of the Proposed Project; and identify mitigation measures, as necessary, to reduce impacts. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not conflict with adopted County General Plan policies or other land use plan, policy, or regulation that would generate any adverse physical impacts beyond those addressed in detail in the resource sections of this IS/MND.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. There would be **no impact**.

3.12 Mineral Resources

Table 3.12-1 Potential Impacts on Mineral Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XII. 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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 19
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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 5

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.12.1 Setting

Under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), the State Mining and Geology Board may designate certain mineral deposits as being regionally significant to satisfy future needs. The board’s decision to designate an area is based on a classification report prepared by the California Geological Survey (formerly the California Division of Mines and Geology) and on input from agencies and the public. The Project Site lies within the designated South San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region for Portland cement concrete aggregate; however, it has not been specifically evaluated or classified for potential mineral resources (Kohler-Antablin 1996). The two areas that are known to contain regionally important deposits of mineral resources (i.e., classified as MRZ-2) nearest to the Project Site are the Stevens Creek Quarry (near Stevens Creek Reservoir) and the West Coast Aggregates Quarry (near Lexington Reservoir), approximately 4 miles north and 5.75 miles south, respectively (Kohler-Antablin 1996). Both of these quarries are situated in areas where larger watercourses carried eroded sediments such as sand and cobbles downstream, where these sediments were eventually deposited as alluvium.

The Project Site is not located within a locally-designated locally important area of known mineral resources under the Santa Clara County General Plan (Santa Clara County 1994c).

3.12.2 Discussion

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?

The Project Site has not been classified for mineral resources (Kohler-Antablin 1996). The Project Site is located in a small area of Pleistocene-age Alluvial Fan and Fluvial Deposits above Sanborn Creek (Brabb et al. 2000). Soil testing results indicate that the Project Site is composed of sandy gravel, clayey sand, colluvium, and weathered sandstone to the maximum depth explored of 7.5 feet below the ground surface (AECOM 2020; Ninyo & Moore 2018). Although materials suitable for use in Portland cement concrete aggregate may be present at the Project Site, due to the small size of the site, they are unlikely to be present in quantities that would represent an economically viable source. Furthermore, due to the existing soil contamination, the Project Site would not be a suitable location for aggregate mining. Finally, the Project Site is within Sanborn County Park, and mining operations are not planned

anywhere in the park because they would be incompatible with existing and future park uses (Santa Clara County Parks 2019). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in the loss of a regionally important mineral resource deposit, and there would be **no impact**.

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?

The Project Site is not located within a locally-designated important area of known mineral resources under the Santa Clara County General Plan (Santa Clara County 1994a). Thus, there would be **no impact**.

3.13 Noise

Table 3.13-1 Potential Impacts on Noise

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XIII. Noise.		
Would the project result in:	-	-
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?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4
b) Generation of excessive vibration or ground-borne noise levels?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4
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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 31

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.13.1 Setting

Existing Noise Setting

Existing ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity are likely dominated by natural sounds, such as bird calls, as well as vehicular traffic on Highway 9 (Big Basin Way) and Sanborn Road.

Noise-sensitive land uses are typically considered any land use where the intrusion of noise can disrupt regular activities. Existing noise-sensitive land uses in the vicinity of the Project Site include:

- The single-family residence at 16203 Sanborn Road, approximately 40 feet south of the Project Site. The closest façade of the residence is approximately 400 feet south from the nearest proposed work area (Debris Site 8, Boneyard).
- The Walden West Outdoor School at 15555 Sanborn Road, to the west of the Project site. The nearest buildings on the Walden West site are approximately 650 feet from the nearest proposed work area (fencing around West Pond).

Residential properties adjacent to Highway 9 (Congress Springs/Big Basin Way) would also be sensitive receptors for potential increases in haul truck traffic noise associated with the Project. There are no residential dwellings directly adjacent to the portion of Sanborn Road north of the Project site that would be used as a haul route.

Applicable Regulations

Santa Clara County Code of Ordinances, Title B – Regulations, Division B11 – Environmental Health, Chapter VIII, *Control of Noise and Vibration* regulates noise within unincorporated areas of the County and on County-owned or operated land. Section B11-154(b)(6) prohibits the following in relation to construction/demolition noise: Operating or causing the operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, drilling, repair, alteration or demolition work

between weekdays and Saturday hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., or at any time on Sundays or holidays, that the sound therefrom creates a noise disturbance across a residential or commercial real property line, except for emergency work of public service utilities or by variance. This section does not apply to the use of domestic power tools.

Where technically and economically feasible, construction activities will be conducted in a manner that the maximum noise levels at affected properties will not exceed those listed in the following schedule⁶:

- i. Mobile equipment. Maximum noise levels for nonscheduled, intermittent, short-term operation (less than ten days) of mobile equipment:
 - Single- and Two-Family Dwelling Residential Areas:
 - 75 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 50 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.
 - Multifamily Dwelling Residential Areas:
 - 80 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 55 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.
 - Commercial Areas:
 - 85 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 60 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.
- ii. Stationary equipment. Maximum noise levels for repetitively scheduled and relatively long-term operation (periods of ten days or more) of stationary equipment are as follows:
 - Single- and Two-Family Dwelling Residential Areas:
 - 60 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 50 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.
 - Multifamily Dwelling Residential Areas:
 - 65 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 55 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.
 - Commercial Areas:
 - 70 dBA: 7am to 7pm daily except Sundays and legal holidays.
 - 60 dBA: 7pm to 7am daily and all day Sundays and legal holidays.

Section B11-154(b)(7) of the County Noise Ordinance also prohibits operating or permitting the operation of any device that creates a vibrating or quivering effect that:

- a) Endangers or injures the safety or health of human beings or animals;
- b) Annoys or disturbs a person of normal sensitivities; or
- c) Endangers or injures personal or real properties.

⁶ Adapted from Section B11-154(b)(6) of the County Code of Ordinances.

The ordinance defines the vibration perception threshold as “the minimum ground or structure borne vibrational motion necessary to cause a normal person to be aware of the vibration by direct means as, but not limited to, sensation by touch or visual observation of moving objects. The perception threshold will be presumed to be a motion velocity of 1/100 inches per second over the range of one to 100 Hz.”

3.13.2 Discussion

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?

The Proposed Project would generate noise from construction equipment operating on the Project Site, as well as from the movement of haul trucks along the Project haul routes. These are addressed in turn, below. The Proposed Project would not introduce any permanent noise sources or alter the use of the Project Site; thus, operational noise is not addressed within this analysis.

Project Construction Equipment Noise

The construction noise assessment was conducted using construction prediction methodologies based on Federal Transit Administration (FTA 2018) guidance manual. Utilization factors for construction equipment (or the percentages of time in a given hour that a piece of equipment is operating at maximum power) as recommended for FTA detailed assessments, were also included in the calculations to help accurately predict construction noise levels during the various construction phases, which are detailed in Section 2.3.1, above. The compliance assessment for this analysis focused on predicted 1-hour Leq levels. Project construction noise was estimated for construction phases by considering the quantities of contributing sound sources and calculating their aggregate sound propagation to the studied representative nearest receptor locations.

The key assumptions for this analysis included in this method are as follows:

- Free-field conditions and no attenuation factors
- For a given construction phase, the two loudest pieces of construction equipment are assumed to operate—on average—from the same source point location at the general geographic centroid of the Project site or stationed range (e.g., construction equipment for clean up of Debris Area 8, Boneyard, is assumed to operate at the geographic centroid of the debris area).
- Each piece of equipment or vehicle is assigned a reference Lmax value at a reference distance (e.g., 50 feet), and an “acoustical usage factor” (AUF) that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM) User’s Guide (FHWA 2006) describes as an estimated portion of a construction operation time period when the Lmax value can be expected.

Table 3.13-2 provides a list of equipment types anticipated to operate during the various project construction activities along with their reference maximum sound level, usage factor, and calculated 1-hour Leq. Since reference sound levels for the listed construction equipment are presented as maximum sound levels (i.e., the maximum sound level the equipment would produce at any moment in time, or Lmax), the usage factor is applied to account for the fact that equipment is not continuously operated in a full-throttle condition throughout its use. Thus,

typical usage factors for each type of construction equipment were applied to reference maximum sound levels to arrive at average hourly sound levels. L_{max} values and usage factors provided herein are generally based on a combination of the Federal Highway Administration Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM) User's Guide (FHWA 2006) and the FTA Manual (FTA 2018).

Table 3.13-2 Proposed Project Construction Equipment Reference Sound Pressure Levels

Anticipated Project Construction Equipment	L_{max} , dBA at 50 Feet ¹	Usage Factor	Resulting 1-Hour L_{eq} , dBA at 50 Feet ²
Air Compressor	78	40%	74
Backhoe	78	40%	74
Bulldozer	82	40%	78
Chainsaw	90	20%	83
Dump Truck	76	40%	72
Excavator	81	40%	77
Grader	85	40%	81

- L_{max} values are based on representative equipment in RCNM ("Actual Measured" levels) and the FTA Manual.
- 1-Hour L_{eq} values are calculated by applying the usage factor (reductive adjustment) to the momentary L_{max} reference noise level.

Individual hourly noise levels generated by Proposed Project construction equipment would range from 72 to 83 dBA, 1-hour L_{eq} at 50 feet from the equipment.

The nearest offsite noise-sensitive receptor is the single-family residential dwelling approximately 400 feet from the closest work area, but more than 2,000 feet from other work areas in the northern area of the Project Site. There are no multi-family or commercial properties in the vicinity of the Project Site. The Walden West Outdoor School is an educational/institutional use, for which the County has not established thresholds. However, given that the buildings on the Walden West site are further from the Project work areas than the nearest dwelling, it can be assumed that noise levels at the Walden West site due to project construction are less than significant.

The CadnaA® Noise Prediction Model (Version 2021 MR2) was used to estimate the propagation of sound from the construction equipment, and thereby predicting noise levels at nearby noise-sensitive receptors. CadnaA is a software program that predicts sound pressure levels generated by a variety of noise sources and is based on ISO 9613-2 algorithms for the calculation of sound propagation (ISO 1996).

Table 3.13-3 provides the hourly noise level for each piece of equipment at the nearest noise-sensitive receptor as well the combined construction noise level generated by the two loudest pieces of equipment operating for each construction phase/activity in the nearest work area (Debris Site 8, Boneyard) in accordance with the General Assessment methodology from the FTA Transit and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual (FTA 2018).

Table 3.13-3 Combined Project Construction Noise Levels per Construction Phase

Construction Phase/Activity	Estimated Duration (Weeks)	Two Loudest Pieces of Equipment ²	Construction Equipment Noise Level at Nearest Noise-Sensitive receptor (Hourly L_{eq} , dBA at 400')	Combined Construction Activity Noise Level at Nearest Noise-Sensitive receptor (Hourly L_{eq} , dBA at 400')	Applicable Daytime County Threshold ¹ (dBA)
Site Preparation	3	Bulldozer	53	54	60 dBA
		Backhoe	49		
Abatement	1	Air Compressor	47	47	60 dBA
		No Addl. Equipment	N/A		
Demolition & Debris Removal	11	Chainsaw	53	56	60 dBA
		Bulldozer	53		
Excavation	5	Grader	58	59	60 dBA
		Bulldozer	53		
Site Rehabilitation	5	Grader	58	59	60 dBA
		Excavator	52		

Source: calculated by AECOM in 2022 using CadnaA® Noise Prediction Model (Version 2021 MR2).

Acronyms: L_{eq} = equivalent noise level; dBA = A-weighted decibels; Addl = additional.

Notes:

1. Single-family residential daytime threshold for stationary equipment is conservatively applied to all phases due to mobile equipment being operated for more than 10 days, per definition of “stationary equipment” in County Ordinance. Construction activities would only occur during daytime periods; therefore, nighttime thresholds are not applicable.
2. The two loudest pieces of equipment were selected per the General Assessment guidelines of the FTA Transit and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual (FTA 2018). Due to the absence of discrete construction equipment locations, the loudest two pieces of equipment were assumed to operate at the closest work area boundary to the nearest noise-sensitive receptor, as it is unlikely for all equipment to be operating at the same worst-case location.

Table 3.13-3 shows that project construction activities are anticipated to result in noise levels up to 59 dBA at the nearest noise-sensitive receptor. These estimates conservatively do not account for additional attenuation that may be provided by the apparent heavily wooded foliage and are based on the minimum distance between the property line of the noise-sensitive receptor and the geometric center of the closest Project work area. The majority of Project work areas are much further from the receptor (up to 2,000 feet away); therefore, the noise levels experienced at the nearest residence will fluctuate over time depending on where the equipment is being used and will typically not reach the noise levels indicated in Table 3.13-3 during the majority of Project construction activities.

Because construction equipment for the Project will not generate noise levels in excess of the Santa Clara County construction noise criteria of 60 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest noise-sensitive receptor during the daytime period, the impact would be **less than significant**.

Off-Site Traffic Noise

As shown in Table 3.17-2 in Section 3.17, *Transportation*, the most intense haul truck generation would occur during the excavation phase, with an average of 146 truck trips per day (19 truck trips per hour). For environmental noise exposure, the average healthy ear can

barely perceive changes of 3 dBA or less (increase or decrease), whereas a change of 5 dBA is readily perceptible (Caltrans 2013). For traffic noise, a doubling (or halving) of traffic volumes typically results in a 3 dBA change in noise levels, which is barely perceptible to most people. Existing traffic volumes on this section of Highway 9 (Congress Springs Road/Big Basin Way) are approximately 6,700 trips per day (City of Saratoga 2020), which is more than 40 times the average daily truck trips that would be generated during the most traffic-intensive phase of the Project. Because the Project would not double existing traffic volumes along Highway 9, the impact from Project-related traffic noise would be **less than significant**.

b) Generation of excessive vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

The County Noise Ordinance prohibits any device that creates a vibrating or quivering effect that endangers the safety or health of human beings or animals, annoys or disturbs a person of normal sensitivities, or endangers personal or real properties, and defines the vibration perception threshold, but does not define at what level annoyance or disturbance of humans or property damage would occur, or at what level property damage might occur. In the absence of discrete vibration limits, the Caltrans Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual (Caltrans 2020; the Caltrans Manual) provide a means of both vibration prediction and impact assessment.

The Caltrans Manual provides guidance threshold criteria for both structural damage and human annoyance that could result from construction activities. Applicable to this Project are the structural damage guidance threshold of 0.3 peak particle velocity in inches per second (PPV, in/sec) for intermittent vibration sources at older residential structures and the human response guidance threshold of 0.1 PPV (in/sec) for intermittent vibration sources during which vibrations would be “Strongly Perceptible”.

Construction and demolition activities can generate ground-borne noise and vibration of varying degrees based on the construction activity and equipment, soil conditions, and distance to vibration-sensitive structures or land uses. Vibration associated with Project activities would occur most notably during major ground-disturbing activities, such as site grading.

Table 3.14-6 shows a list of sample vibration generating equipment along with their reference vibration levels in PPV.

Table 3.13-4 Vibration Source Levels for Construction Equipment and Applicable Criteria

Major Vibratory Construction Equipment	Reference Equipment PPV at 25 ft (in/sec) ¹
Large Bulldozer	0.089
Loaded Truck	0.076
Jackhammer	0.035

1. Per FTA Transit Noise and Impact Assessment Manual (2018), Table 7-4.

The Caltrans Vibration Manual provides an equation for vibration level prediction at a receiver distance, which is expressed as:

$$PPV (in/sec) = PPV_{ref} \left(\frac{25}{D} \right)^n$$

Where:

PPV_{ref} = reference level of a vibration source at 25 feet

D = distance of the receiver from the vibration-generating activity in feet

n = value related to the vibration attenuation rate through the subject soil type

The Caltrans Vibration Manual recommends a conservative “n” value of 1.1.

Considering the large bulldozer as the most significant source of vibration during Proposed Project activities, corresponding vibration levels have the potential to generate a strong human perception when occurring within 23 feet from any inhabited building. Additionally, Project construction vibration levels have the potential to generate structural damage when occurring within 8 feet from the façade of any building.

No vibration-sensitive structures or human receptors were identified within the applicable buffer distances listed above. Therefore, vibration levels generated by construction activities would be **less than significant**.

- 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 2 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?**

The Project Site is approximately 11 miles from the Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport runway edge and is not within a key area covered by its airport land use compatibility plan. As a result, **no impact** would occur.

3.14 Population and Housing

Table 3.14-1 Potential Impacts on Population and Housing

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XIV. 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)?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 5
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	No Impact	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.14.1 Setting

According to the US Census, 1,682,585 people were living in Santa Clara County in 2000. In 2010, the population grew to 1,781,292 people, a 5.8 percent increase. The 2020 population was 1,936,259, an 8.7 percent increase from 2010. The 2021 population was estimated at 1,885,508, a 2.6 percent decrease from 2020 (US Census Bureau, 2000; 2010; 2020; 2021; Bay Area Census, 2022).

3.14.2 Discussion

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)?

The Proposed Project would not directly or indirectly induce significant population growth in the area. The Proposed Project would bring a small number (up to 9) of workers to the Project area to perform remediation and demolition activities for approximately six months. Due to its proximity to large urban centers, the Project would be expected to draw from the existing local workforce, and therefore temporary worker housing would not be required.

The Proposed Project would not result in the construction of additional housing or businesses that would generate population growth, nor the extension of roads or other infrastructure that would remove barriers to growth in the area. As the Project only consists of the removal of contaminated soil and demolition of structures that could pose a public safety hazard, there would be no impact to population growth in the local area. There would be **no impact**.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The Proposed Project would not displace any existing people or housing which would necessitate construction of replacement elsewhere. The main residence (Christensen house) would not be removed and would remain on site as per existing conditions. The caretaker's cottage is not occupied. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not displace existing housing in the area that would necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. There would be **no impact**.

3.15 Public Services

Table 3.15-1 Potential Impacts on Public Services

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XV. Public Services.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:		
Fire protection?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 50
Police protection?		
Schools?		
Parks?		
Other public facilities?		

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.15.1 Setting

Fire Protection Services:

Sanborn County Park, including the Project Site, is within a State Responsibility Area where the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) provides fire protection services. The area is served by Battalion 3 of the CAL FIRE’s Santa Clara Unit (CAL FIRE 2022). The battalion has two fire stations: Stevens Creek Fire Station in Cupertino on the Stevens Creek Reservoir (approximately 3.5 miles north of the Project Site) and Alma Fire Station in Los Gatos at Lexington Reservoir (approximately 5 miles south of the Project Site). The Saratoga Summit Station, operated by CAL FIRE’s San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit, is located approximately 4 miles northwest of the Project Site, near the intersection of Highways 9 and 35. Additional information is provided in Section 3.21, *Wildfire*.

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) provides first response paramedic level services to unincorporated Santa Clara County and several incorporated cities (SCCFD 2022). The SCCFD and Saratoga Fire Protection District jointly operate the Saratoga Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue, approximately 2.5 miles northeast of the Project Site.

Police Protection Services:

The Santa Clara County Sheriff Station is located approximately 4.6 miles northeast of the Project Site, at 1601 S De Anza Blvd in Cupertino. The West Valley Patrol Division of the Sheriff’s Office serves the unincorporated areas of the County from Summit Road to Moffett Field, as well as several incorporated cities (Santa Clara County Sheriff 2022). Additional safety support is offered by County of Santa Clara Park Rangers, which are considered peace officers, and can issue citations but do not carry firearms.

Schools:

The Santa Clara County Office of Education is responsible for educational services throughout the County. The County has outlined seven areas of responsibility based on geographic boundaries. These areas include 79 high schools, 80 middle schools, and 256 elementary schools. Walden West Outdoor School is operated by the Santa Clara County Office of Education and is located within the County Office of Education owned parcel to the west of the Project Site (across Sanborn Road). The Walden West Outdoor School provides 3- to 5-day outdoor classroom learning experiences for grades 5 and 6.

Park and Recreation Services:

Sanborn County Park is a park managed by Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation. The project area is located within the Sanborn County Park, so facilities near the two entrances to the Project Site from Sanborn Road, one located on the west side of the property (the main entrance) and one on the south side (the residence driveway) could be impacted. However, the property is currently closed to the public and is not currently connected to the existing trail network.

Other Public Services:

No other public services are located in proximity to the Project Site.

3.15.2 Discussion

- a) **Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection, Police protection, Schools, Parks, or Other public facilities?**

The Proposed Project would involve implementation of remediation and demolition activities at the Project Site by up to 9 construction workers over a short (6 month) duration and would not involve any development related to new housing or employment opportunities that would increase population in the area. Therefore, there would not be a noticeable change in demand for public services, including fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and other public facilities, and the Project would not necessitate the provision of additional fire or police protection, school, or other public facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services. There would be **no impact**.

Potential impacts to park and recreation facilities are discussed in Section 3.16 below.

3.16 Recreation

Table 3.16-1 Potential Impacts on Recreation

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XVI. 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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4, 5, 10h 50
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	No Impact	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.16.1 Setting

The Project Site is part of the 3,500-acre Sanborn County Park, which offers year-round hiking, hike-in camping, RV camping, and picnicking opportunities, operated and maintained by County Parks. In addition, the Park includes two amphitheaters, horseshoe pits, volleyball courts, and interpretative facilities (County of Santa Clara 2019).

The Project Site is currently closed to the public and is not connected to the existing trail network. County Parks plans to eventually develop and operate the Project Site as a public campground as planned in the Sanborn County Park Master Plan.

3.16.2 Discussion

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?

The Proposed Project would involve implementation of remediation and demolition activities at the Project Site by up to 9 construction workers over a short (6 month) duration and would not involve any development related to new housing or employment opportunities that would increase population in the area. Therefore, there would not be a noticeable change in demand for parks or recreational facilities that would cause or accelerate physical deterioration of existing park facilities. There would be **no impact**.

b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

The Proposed Project involves excavation and removal of contaminated soil and demolition and removal of on-site facilities. Although the County is conducting these demolition and remediation activities so that the area can eventually be developed and operated as a public campground in accordance with the Sanborn County Master Plan, the Proposed Project does not involve construction of new or expansion of existing recreational facilities. Potential environmental impacts related to future development and use of the Project Site for recreational purposes have already been analyzed under CEQA in the Sanborn County Park

Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (County of Santa Clara 2019). In addition, the Proposed Project would not increase the population of the Project Site or surrounding areas by introducing new housing or employment opportunities that would result in the need to construct or expand recreational facilities. There would be **no impact**.

3.17 Transportation

Table 3.17-1 Potential Impacts on Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XVII. Transportation.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 28, 49
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	Less than Significant Impact	2, 3, 4
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4, 28
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.17.1 Setting

State Route 9 (Highway 9) and Sanborn Road provide regional access to the Project Site. State Route 9 is a two lane undivided roadway with mountainous and rolling terrain in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Highway 9 is a Congestion Management Program (CMP) highway facility and is designated as a California Scenic Highway which provides regional access to recreational uses in the Santa Cruz Mountains. In the vicinity of the Project Site, Highway 9 is not designated as a bicycle route but bicycles are permitted to share the road with the motor vehicles. Sanborn Road is a two-lane County road that begins at Highway 9 and travels north-south for approximately 1.5 miles.

Senate Bill 743 and Vehicle Miles Traveled

SB 743 was signed by Governor Brown in 2013 and required the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to amend the CEQA Guidelines to provide an alternative to level of service (LOS) for evaluating transportation impacts. SB 743 specified that the new criteria should promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, promote the development of multimodal transportation networks, and promote a diversity of land uses. The bill also specified that delay-based LOS could no longer be considered an indicator of a significant impact on the environment. In response, Section 15064.3 was added to the CEQA Guidelines beginning January 1, 2019. Section 15064.3(c) states that the provisions of the section shall apply statewide beginning on July 1, 2020.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Determining the Significance of Transportation Impacts, states that vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is the most appropriate measure of transportation impacts and provides lead agencies with the discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology and thresholds for evaluating VMT. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7(c) allows lead agencies to adopt their own thresholds of significance that are supported by substantial evidence. The County of Santa Clara has not yet adopted its own thresholds of significance for

VMT analysis. OPR's *Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA* (OPR 2018) provides advice and recommendations that lead agencies may use at their discretion.

3.17.2 Discussion

a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

During construction of the Proposed Project, construction vehicles would access the Project Sites via State Route 9 (Highway 9) and Sanborn Road. Overall, approximately 4,226 truckloads of materials would be imported to, or exported from, the Project Site over the total 26-week duration of the Project, resulting in an average of 66 truck trips per day, or an average of 8 truck trips per hour. The most traffic-intensive phase of the Project would be during excavation of contaminated soils, with approximately 1,800 truckloads of soil being exported for off-site disposal over a 5-week period, which would account for approximately 146 truck trips per day, or 19 truck trips per hour. In addition, up to 9 workers would be commuting to the Project Site, generating up to 18 additional vehicle movements per day along Highway 9 and Sanborn Road, throughout the Project duration.

Table 3.17-2 Estimated Construction Traffic

Construction Phase	Duration (weeks)	Total Truckloads per Phase	Avg. Truckloads per Day	Avg. Truck Trips per Day	Avg. Truck Trips per Hour
Site Preparation	3	negligible	negligible	negligible	negligible
Abatement	2	6	<1	<2	negligible
Demolition & Debris Removal	11	1,200	22	44	6
Excavation	5	1,820	73	146	19
Site Rehabilitation	5	1,200	48	96	12
Total Construction Duration	26	4,226	33	66	8

While construction activities would temporarily result in more construction-related traffic along these roadways, this temporary increase is not anticipated to conflict with an applicable program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing roadways.⁷ As discussed in Section 3.1, Aesthetics, the Project would not adversely impact a State Scenic Highway (Highway 9) or County-designated scenic highway (Sanborn Road). There are no continuous sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or public transportation services along Highway 9 or Sanborn Road. The proposed site is in a remote area of the County and is primarily accessed via private motor vehicles. All construction activities and staging would occur on the Project Site and would not alter public rights-of-way. The Proposed Project would not conflict with County policies related to transportation, transit, pedestrian, or bicycle networks because these policies generally relate to the design, routing, and operation of transportation facilities, which would not be altered by the Proposed Project. Moreover, the Proposed Project would only occur for a short duration (6 months) and would not have long-lasting impacts that could adversely affect operations or plans for new elements or improvements to the transportation network. Because

⁷ Because VMT is now the preferred methodology for assessing transportation impacts under CEQA, programs, plans, ordinances, and policies related to Level of Service (LOS) and traffic congestion are not considered as part of the impact analysis under CEQA, even though such standards are still present in planning documents such as the County's General Plan and the VTA's CMP.

the Proposed Project would not conflict with any program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, the impact would be **less than significant**.

b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(a) describes specific considerations for evaluating a project's transportation impacts and states, "Generally, VMT is the most appropriate measure of transportation impacts." As stated in CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b)(3), "if existing models or methods are not available to estimate the VMT for the particular project being considered, a lead agency may analyze the project's VMT qualitatively... for many projects, a qualitative analysis of construction traffic may be appropriate." Furthermore, Section 15064.3(b)(4) gives the lead agency discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology to evaluate a project's VMT. OPR's Technical Advisory on evaluating transportation impacts in CEQA also suggests that lead agencies may screen out VMT impacts using project size, maps, and other factors. Absent any substantial evidence indicating that a project would generate a potentially significant level of VMT, projects that generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per day generally may be assumed to cause a less-than-significant transportation impact (OPR 2018).

Because the Proposed Project would only involve the short term demolition of structures, removal of debris, and remediation of contaminated soils at the Project Site, there would be no change to operational traffic generated from the Project Site once remedial actions are complete. The few existing traffic trips associated with the existing County Park operations are anticipated to continue, and no new operational trips would occur as a result of the Project. Therefore, there would be no long-term change in VMT compared to existing conditions.

Vehicle trips for construction purposes would be temporary, and any VMT generated during the Proposed Project would generally be minor and limited to construction equipment and personnel and material haul trips, and would not result in long-term trip generation that would impact average daily VMT rates in the vicinity of the Project Site or in the wider region. As discussed above under impact (a), the Proposed Project is anticipated to generate an average of 66 truck trips and 18 worker commute trips per day over the 6-month construction period, which is less than 110 vehicle trips per day. Although the exact source of clean fill materials and the particular landfill(s) to be used for the Proposed Project have not yet been determined, it is assumed that these facilities would be within 25 miles of the Project Site, as there are several Class II or III landfills and sources of clean fill within this distance. Because the Proposed Project would only generate a small number of additional vehicle trips of limited distance over a short period of time, the overall impact on VMT in the region would be negligible. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, and the impact would be **less than significant**.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The Proposed Project would not involve the creation or alteration of roadways; therefore, would not result in the creation of unsafe geometric design features. All construction staging and movement of off-road construction equipment would occur within the Project Site; therefore, incompatible uses would not be introduced to Sanborn Road. While the Project would temporarily increase the volume of traffic along Sanborn Road, as discussed under impact (a) above, the construction-related traffic would be passenger vehicles and/or on-road

haul trucks which are not incompatible with existing uses of the local transportation network; however, due to the narrowness of some portions of Sanborn Road (as narrow as approximately 18 feet in some areas), there are certain portions of the road where there may not be adequate space for two trucks traveling in opposite directions to pass.

All haul trucks would enter the Project Site through the gated main site entrance just southeast of the intersection of Sanborn Road and Pick Road and would exit from the residential driveway at the former Christensen House. Sight distance from the main site entrance is approximately 88 feet to the north and 128 feet at the south (see Figure 3-3); whereas site distance from the Christensen House driveway is approximately 128 feet to the north and 223 feet to the south (see Figure 3-4). A sight distance of 250 feet is required at speeds of 35 miles per hour (mph), which reduces to 150 feet at 25 mph, and 125 feet at 20 mph (Caltrans 2018). There is no posted speed limit on Sanborn Road, except for 10 mph at certain curves or narrow sections. Although the open road speed limit for a two-lane undivided rural highway in California is 55 mph, it is anticipated that the majority of traffic would travel at approximately 25 to 35 mph on most sections of the road due to its narrowness. However, higher speeds are possible, particularly on straight segments. Sight distances at both the main sight entrance and the Christensen House driveway are inadequate at 35 mph.

Figure 3-3 Sight Distances Map of the Gated Main Site Entrance



Figure 3-4 Sight Distances Map of the Main Site Exit



Because the Proposed Project would substantially increase the number of vehicles exiting from a driveway that does not meet recommended sight distances, and because there may not be adequate road width in some parts of Sanborn Road for two trucks to pass at the same time, the impact would be **potentially significant**.

The following mitigation measure is recommended to avoid or minimize this potential impact:

Mitigation Measure MM-TRA-1: Traffic Control Plan

Prior to commencement of site work, the County's construction contractor shall develop a traffic control plan in accordance with the County Roads and Airports Department requirements for temporary Traffic Control Plans, and shall submit the plan to the County for review and approval. The Traffic Control Plan shall be implemented throughout the duration of construction and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Prohibition for all construction-related traffic to exit from the main site entrance.*
- Restriction for construction-related traffic exiting the Christensen House driveway to right-turn exit only. This restriction need not apply to regular Parks staff use of the driveway to access Christensen House that is unassociated with the Proposed Project.*
- Use of advanced warning signage in accordance with MUTCD specifications to reduce speeds to 25 mph in proximity of the Project Site egress for duration of Proposed Project, and use of flaggers to enforce speed limits*

during truck-intensive phases of the Project (i.e., demolition/debris removal, excavation, and site rehabilitation), if necessary.

- *Use of advanced warning signage in accordance with MUTCD specifications for vehicles entering Sanborn Road from Highway 9 to warn of increased truck traffic.*
- *Identification of portions of the haul route where roadway width is insufficient for two haul trucks to safely pass, including details of temporary one-way traffic restrictions with flaggers for those portions during truck-intensive phases, if necessary.*
- *Notification of administrators of any affected police and fire stations, and ambulance service providers regarding the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of any temporary one-way traffic controls or other restrictions. Access for emergency vehicles along Sanborn Road shall be maintained at all times.*
- *Scheduling equipment/deliveries during off-peak vehicular commuter hours and additional use of flaggers if oversized loads are required.*

With implementation of mitigation measure MM-TRA-1, traffic entering Sanborn Road would be provided advance warning of the possibility of encountering construction-related traffic and large trucks on the road, and temporary one-way traffic restrictions and/or additional signage would be implemented if needed at any particular portions of Sanborn Road which have inadequate width to accommodate two large vehicles at a time. Traffic speeds in the vicinity of the Christensen House driveway would be reduced to 25 mph throughout the duration of the Proposed Project, such that the sight distance for oncoming traffic from the south (225 feet) would exceed the required minimum sight distance at that speed (150 feet minimum, per Caltrans 2018). Although southbound traffic approaching the driveway from the north would only have 128 feet sight distance (compared to the 150 feet minimum), the exiting trucks would be restricted to a right-turn exit only from the driveway into the northbound lane and therefore would not be turning into the southbound lane. For these reasons, with implementation of MM-TRA-1, the Proposed Project would not substantially increase hazards associated with geometric design features or incompatible uses, and the impact would be reduced to **less than significant with mitigation**.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Traffic disruption from construction activities would be short-term and limited to the immediate vicinity of the construction areas. However, as discussed above, Sanborn Road has some sharp curves and narrow roadway segments that might interfere with emergency access, particularly during those phases of the Proposed Project with the most intensive truck traffic. This impact could be potentially significant.

The following mitigation measure is recommended to avoid or minimize this potential impact:

Mitigation Measure MM-TRA-1: Traffic Control Plan. Detailed above under Impact (c).

With implementation of mitigation measure MM-TRA-1, a traffic control plan would be prepared for the Proposed Project to identify portions of Sanborn Road that might not accommodate two large vehicles at a time and to implement appropriate traffic controls in those areas, as

needed. Furthermore, the traffic control plan would require advance notification to emergency services providers regarding potential disruptions along Sanborn Road, and would require that emergency access be maintained at all times. For these reasons, with implementation of MM-TRA-1, the Proposed Project would not result in adequate emergency access, and the impact would be reduced to **less than significant with mitigation**.

3.18 Tribal Cultural Resources

Table 3.18-1 Potential Impacts on Tribal Cultural Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources. Would the project:		
(a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:		
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4, 41, 42
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.18.1 Environmental Setting

Project Setting and Context

A full setting description and cultural context is provided within the Cultural Resources Memorandum prepared for the Proposed Project by AECOM archaeologists and architectural historians in 2022, which is attached to this IS/MND as **Appendix C**. A brief summary is provided herein for context.

Ethnographic literature indicates the Project area was the territory of Ohlone speakers of the Tamien dialect (Kroeber 1925; Levy 1978; Milliken 1995). The Project site was likely inhabited by the Lamaytu who lived in the vicinity of Saratoga Gap (Milliken et al 2007). The Tribes who comprised the Ohlone language group—such as the Lamaytu —had socio-cultural concepts unique to their territory and a dialect that reflected this.

The basic Ohlone social unit was the family household, which was extended patrilineally (Harrington 1942). A household was made up of about 15 individuals. Households grouped together to form villages, which in turn combined to form “tribelets,” “an aggregate of villages in the largest of which lived the tribelet chief” (Heizer and Alsasser 1980). Tribelets exchanged trade goods such as obsidian, shell beads, and baskets; participated in ceremonial and religious activities together; intermarried; and could have extensive reciprocal obligations to one another involving resource collection.

For the Ohlone, like many other native Californians, the acorn was a dietary staple and is attributed to high population densities and complex social and economic organizations in Central California (Bartelink 2006; Baumhoff 1963). Acorns were knocked from trees with poles, leached to remove bitter tannins, and eaten as mush or bread. The Ohlone used a range of other plant resources as food, medicine, soap, tools, and building materials, including buckeye, California laurel, elderberries, strawberries, manzanita berries, goose berries, toyon

berries, wild grapes, wild onion, cattail, soap root, wild carrots, clover, and an herb called chuchupate. Animals eaten by the Ohlone and their neighbors included large fauna such as black-tailed deer, Roosevelt elk, antelope, and marine mammals; smaller mammals such as dog, skunk, raccoon, rabbit, and squirrel; birds, including geese and ducks; and fish such as salmon, sturgeon, and mollusks. Frogs, toads, owls, eagles, and ravens were not eaten (Levy 1978).

Besides providing sustenance, the Bay Area's flora and fauna provided the Ohlone with raw materials. For example, the Ohlone built dome-shaped shelters thatched with ferns, tule, grass, reeds, and willow withes. The Ohlone also built small sweathouses, accommodating six to eight persons, which were dug into creek banks and roofed with brush; and circular dance areas, which were enclosed by fences woven from brush or laurel branches (Levy 1978). Plants, particularly sedge, were also woven into baskets. Basket making was generally done by women, who crafted cooking and storage containers, fish traps, and trays for leaching acorns. Tightly woven baskets, decorated with feathers or shell, were valued exchange items (Levy 1978).

Animal bones, teeth, beaks, and claws were made into awls, pins, knives, and scrapers. Pelts and feathers became clothing and bedding, while sinews were used for cordage and bow strings. Feathers, bone, and shells were crafted into ornaments (Heizer and Elsasser 1980).

By the late eighteenth century, Spanish settlers moved into northern California, established the mission system, and dramatically transformed Ohlone culture. Many Ohlone were baptized by the Franciscan missionaries and made to work on mission farms. Throughout the mission period, the Ohlone people staged acts of resistance and escape in response to the brutality of the missions. Following secularization of the missions, the Gold Rush, and California's admission to the United States in 1850, Ohlone people continued to reinforce their connections to important sites and resist outside efforts to erase their history (Atkins and Bauer 2021). Today, Ohlone people remain in their traditional territory, which includes Santa Clara County, and continue to engage in traditional cultural practices.

Data Collection and Review

Baseline historical and archaeological conditions in the proposed Project vicinity are based on a review of available ethnographic and historical literature and maps, archaeological base maps and site records, survey reports, and atlases of historic places on file at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at Sonoma State University; a review of the Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP's) Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data (HPD) File for Santa Clara County (OHP 2012); a review of OHP's Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) (OHP 2019; County of Santa Clara Historical Heritage Commission 1999); and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) review by the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) (April 2022). No cultural resources were identified in the HPD or BERD, nor were resources identified in the SLF search of the proposed Project site or adjacent area. Four resources were identified within 0.5-miles of the proposed Project site, all historic-era built environment resources.

Native American Outreach

Following a request from AECOM, the NAHC responded on April 21, 2022 with the results of a SLF search and a Native American contact list for the proposed Project site. The NAHC reported that the SLF search was "negative...[however] a negative response to these searches

does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource.” Native American consultation pursuant to AB 52 is being completed by the County. Letters containing a project summary and map were sent to all tribal representatives identified by the NAHC and those requesting to be notified (Tamien Nation) on June 15, 2022. To date no responses have been received.

3.18.2 Discussion

- a) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geologically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:**
 - i) **Listed or eligible for listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or**
 - ii) **A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1? In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.**

The history of Native American occupation in this area is poorly documented, as the population was displaced and disrupted by the arrival of the Spanish, decimation by disease, and the recruitment efforts of Mission Santa Clara (Milliken 1995). No archaeological resources were identified in the NWIC records search, and the search of the SLF was also negative. Native American outreach identified no tribal cultural resources in the vicinity of the proposed Project site. A cultural resources pedestrian survey, conducted by AECOM on April 5, 2022, identified no Native American resources.

The potential for encountering undocumented tribal cultural resources in the surficial contaminated soils in the proposed Project’s footprint is considered extremely low, but cannot be completely discounted. The proposed Project would require disturbance and excavation up to 5 feet below ground surface in multiple areas of the site. If tribal cultural resources were encountered during Project implementation, the impact could be **potentially significant**.

The following mitigation measure is recommended to avoid or minimize this potential impact:

Mitigation Measure MM-CUL-1: Accidental Discovery Protocols

(Full mitigation measure is detailed in Section 3.5, Cultural Resources)

Mitigation measure MM-CUL-1 requires training for construction workers so that they are aware of the potential for inadvertent discoveries and requires that specified procedures be followed if potential tribal cultural resources are encountered during on-site activities, to avoid or reduce impacts to any subsurface tribal cultural resources that may be present on the Project Site. Because the mitigation measure requires that a qualified archaeologist inspect the find and, in consultation with tribal representatives and the County, make recommendations for avoiding or reducing impacts, implementation of MM-CUL-1 would reduce impacts of the Proposed Project to tribal cultural resources to **less than significant with mitigation**.

3.19 Utilities and Service Systems

Table 3.19-1 Potential Impacts on Utilities and Service Systems

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XIX. Utilities and Service Systems.	-	-
Would the project:		
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,
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?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4,
e) Comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,

Note: "-" indicates blank cell

3.19.1 Setting

The Park itself has limited utility and service system connections due to its rural nature and because Park uses are primarily recreational. As stated below, no impacts on wastewater treatment facilities would occur; therefore, this topic is not discussed further in the environmental setting. See Section 3.7, "Energy," for a discussion of electrical and natural gas services and Section 3.10, "Hydrology and Water Quality," stormwater drainage. The following discussion provides an overview of water supply and solid waste management since those topic areas could be affected by the Proposed Project.

Water Supply

Sanborn County Park is served by two existing groundwater wells that are approximately 0.5 and 0.75 mile south of the Project Site respectively. Both wells are connected to a small groundwater treatment plant in the vicinity of the northernmost well that provides manganese treatment and chlorination, after which groundwater is pumped to a nearby storage tank prior to distribution to various facilities throughout the Park, including the Christensen House and Caretakers' Cottage at the Project Site. Well yields in the Park range from 12 to 24 gallons per minute, at depths of approximately 300–400 feet bgs (LPA 2018.) Water for landscaping (irrigation) use at the Sanborn Core Use area comes from surface water obtained from Aubrey Creek upstream of the Project Site.

Two water pumps and a network of water lines and water risers are present in the southern portion of the Project Site, which previously served nursery operations. These utilities are no longer in use.

Solid Waste

Guadalupe Landfill is located at 15999 Guadalupe Mines Road in San Jose and is the primary solid waste disposal facility for Sanborn County Park. The Guadalupe Landfill is classified as a Class III municipal solid waste landfill facility and is permitted to accept general residential, commercial, and industrial refuse for disposal, including municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris (i.e., contaminated soil, treated and untreated wood, concrete, scrap metals and steel), nonfriable asbestos, green materials, and other nonhazardous designated debris.

According to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the Guadalupe Landfill has a maximum permitted throughput of 1,300 tons per day, a total maximum permitted capacity of 28.6 million cubic yards (CalRecycle 2022a). The landfill is anticipated to have disposal capacity through 2048 at current disposal rates because of municipal programs to recover and divert waste. The associated large volume transfer/processing facility has a maximum permitted throughput of 3,650 tons per day.

Zanker Road Material Processing Facility is located at 675 Los Esteros Road San Jose and is another solid waste disposal facility that could be utilized for the Project. The Zanker Road Landfill is classified as a Class III privately owned solid waste landfill and recycling facility. The facility is a full-service resource management and composting/recycling facility. The solid waste landfill has a maximum permitted throughput of 350 tons per day, and a total maximum permitted capacity of 640,000 cubic yards (CalRecycle 2022b). The landfill is anticipated to have disposal capacity through 2025. The associated large volume transfer/processing facility has a maximum permitted throughput of 1,800 tons per day.

Kirby Canyon Landfill is located at 910 Coyote Creek Golf Drive in San Jose and is another solid waste disposal facility that could be utilized for the Project. The Kirby Canyon Landfill is classified as a recycling and disposal facility and recyclable materials and solid waste landfill and has a maximum permitted throughput of 2,600 tons per day, a total maximum permitted capacity of 36.4 million cubic yards, and a remaining capacity of approximately 16.2 million cubic yards (CalRecycle 2022c). The landfill is anticipated to have disposal capacity through 2059 at current disposal rates because of municipal programs to recover and divert waste.

Wastewater

The Project Site has two existing septic leach field systems; one for the existing Christensen House and the other to the west for the Caretaker's Cottage (LSA 2018).

Stormwater

See Section 3.10, "Hydrology and Water Quality" for a description of existing stormwater drainage facilities.

Electrical and Natural Gas Services

See Section 3.7, "Energy," for a description of electrical and natural gas services.

Regulatory Framework

California Integrated Waste Management Act

The California Integrated Waste Management Act (CIWMA) of 1989 is the result of two pieces of legislation, Assembly Bill (AB) 939 and SB 1322. The CIWMA was intended to minimize the

amount of solid waste that must be disposed of by transformation and land disposal by requiring all cities and counties to divert 25 percent of all solid waste from landfill facilities by January 1, 1995, and 50 percent by January 1, 2000.

The CIWMA created the California Integrated Waste Management Board (now known as CalRecycle). CalRecycle is the agency designated to oversee, manage, and track California's 92 million tons of waste generated each year. CalRecycle provides grants and loans to help cities, counties, businesses, and organizations meet the state's waste reduction, reuse, and recycling goals. In addition to many programs and incentives, CalRecycle promotes the use of new technologies for the practice of diverting resources away from landfills. CalRecycle is responsible for ensuring that waste management programs are primarily carried out through local enforcement agencies (LEAs).

The State Water Resources Control Board and the San Francisco Bay RWQCB also regulate waste disposal (the latter regulated solid waste prior to CalRecycle). In Santa Clara County, the County Department of Environmental Health is the LEA responsible for municipal solid waste management planning and compliance efforts required by CalRecycle for the unincorporated County and all cities except the City of San Jose.

California Green Building Standards Code

The California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) (Title 24, Part 11 of the California Code of Regulations) requires all construction contractors to reduce construction waste and demolition debris by 65 percent.⁸ Code requirements include preparing a construction waste management plan that identifies the materials to be diverted from disposal by efficient usage, recycling, reuse on the project, or salvage for future use or sale; determining whether materials will be sorted on-site or mixed; and identifying diversion facilities where the materials collected will be taken. The code also specifies that the amount of materials diverted should be calculated by weight or volume, but not by both. In addition, CALGreen requires that 100 percent of trees, stumps, rocks, and associated vegetation and soils resulting primarily from land clearing be reused or recycled (California Building Standards Commission 2019).⁹

3.19.2 Discussion

- a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

The Proposed Project would not involve any development that would increase population growth or result in new land uses that would increase the demand for water supply, wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, which would require or result in the relocation or construction of new expanded utilities services. Existing utilities serving the Caretakers Cottage and other buildings that would be demolished as part of the Proposed Project would be capped off and abandoned in place. Because no new buildings or other facilities are proposed, there would be no new impervious surfaces that could result in

⁸ The most recent standards included California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code) (Title 24, Part 11 of the California Code of Regulations) became effective on January 1, 2020. The CALGreen Code was developed to enhance the design and construction of buildings, and the use of sustainable construction practices, through planning and design, energy efficiency, water efficiency and conservation, material conservation and resource efficiency, and environmental air quality (California Building Standards Commission 2019).

⁹ The California Energy Commission approved the 2022 CALGreen Code August 11, 2021 and it was approved by the California Building Standards Commission in December 2021. The 2022 CALGreen Code will become effective January 1, 2023.

increased stormwater runoff and therefore no new or expanded storm drainage systems are required (see Section 3.10, “Hydrology and Water Quality,” above for further discussion of stormwater runoff). Thus, there would be **no impact**.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

The Proposed Project does not include operation of buildings or other facilities that would increase the demand for water supply. Watering for dust control during the 6-month construction period would be met by existing water sources serving Sanborn County Park. Water would be applied by occasional light spraying to keep exposed soil moist, not saturated. Construction demands for water supplies would be short term and small compared to the existing water supply demands for the Park, which can be up to 7,800 gallons per day. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not affect water supplies during normal, dry, and multiple-dry years. **No impact** would occur.

c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?

The Project Site is not served by a municipal wastewater service provider; rather, the two existing dwellings on the site have separate septic leach field systems. Contractors would use portable restroom facilities or existing restroom facilities at the Sanborn Core Use area. The Proposed Project does not include construction of buildings or other facilities that would require wastewater treatment or disposal. Therefore, there would be **no impact** related to wastewater treatment capacity.

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?

Approximately 12,000 CY of demolition debris, 12,000 CY of contaminated soil, and a small amount (approximately 40 CY) of hazardous waste (e.g., asbestos-containing materials) would be removed from the Project Site as part of the Proposed Project. County Parks or its construction contractor would comply with CALGreen, which requires all construction contractors to reduce construction waste and demolition debris by 65 percent and that 100 percent of trees, stumps, rocks, and associated vegetation and soils resulting primarily from land clearing be reused or recycled.

In addition, the County requires contractors to prepare a Construction Waste Management Plan to ensure compliance with CalGreen Code. Materials required to be recycled include scrap metal, inert materials (concrete, asphalt paving, bricks, etc.), corrugated cardboard, wooden pallets, and clean wood waste. A Construction Waste Management Plan must identify waste that would be generated by a project, estimated weight of waste that would be recycled, as well as the proposed recycling and hauling methods. During construction, the Construction Waste Management Plan must be maintained at the Project Site and submitted to the County at project completion documenting the actual diversion tonnage.

The particular landfill(s) to be used for the Proposed Project have not yet been determined. Nonrecyclable solid waste generated at the Sanborn Core Use area is disposed of at the Guadalupe Landfill, which also could be an option for disposal of solid waste generated by the

Proposed Project. Other options include the Kirby Canyon Landfill in East San Jose or the Zanker Road Landfill in north San Jose.

The quantity of solid waste (approximately 24,000 CY over six months) that would be generated by the Proposed Project is negligible compared to the remaining capacities of any of the potential landfills that might be used for the Project. Hazardous waste would be hauled and disposed of separately to a licensed Class II hazardous waste disposal facility, such as Clean Harbors Buttonwillow in Kern County, Forward Landfill in San Joaquin County, or McKittrick Waste Landfill in Fresno County.

The Proposed Project does not include operation of buildings or other facilities that would generate solid waste. For the reasons described above, the Proposed Project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards and impacts related to sufficient landfill capacity would be **less than significant**.

e) Comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

As discussed in Impact d), the Proposed Project would comply with all applicable solid waste statutes and regulations, including CALGreen. **No impact** would occur.

3.20 Wildfire

Table 3.20-1 Potential Impacts on Wildfire

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XX. Wildfire.		
If located in or near State Responsibility Areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	-	-
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4,
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?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4,
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 on the environment?	Less than Significant	2, 3, 4,
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, therefore of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	No Impact	2, 3, 4,

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.20.1 Setting

Public Resources Code Sections 4201–4204 and Government Code Sections 51175–51189 require identification of fire hazard severity zones within the state of California. In SRAs, CAL FIRE is required to delineate three wildfire hazard ranges: moderate, high, and very high. Fire hazard severity zones are measured qualitatively, based on vegetation, topography, weather, crown fire potential (a fire’s tendency to burn upward into trees and tall brush), and ember production and movement within the area in question.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has mapped fire hazard severity zones in Santa Clara County based on fuels, terrain, weather, ember production, and other relevant factors (CAL FIRE 2008; Santa Clara County 2016). Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) are classified by the CAL FIRE Director in accordance with Government Code Sections 51175–51189 to assist responsible local agencies and identify measures to reduce the potential for losses of life, property, and resources from wildland fire.

Sanborn County Park, including the Project Site, is designated by CAL FIRE as a High Fire Severity Zone (CAL FIRE 2007).

Sanborn Park, including the Project Site, is within a State Responsibility Area where the State is responsible¹⁰ for wildland fire protection services. The Project Site and surrounding areas are served by Battalion 3 of CAL FIRE’s Santa Clara Unit (CAL FIRE 2022). The Santa Clara Unit is located between the San Francisco Bay and the San Joaquin River, encompassing Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, and western portions of Stanislaus and San Joaquin

¹⁰ California Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 4125–4127 define a State Responsibility Area as lands in which the financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing wildland fire resides with the State of California.

Counties. There are 1.34 million acres of direct protection area within the Santa Clara Unit with a combined population of 5.5 million people (CAL FIRE 2022).

Battalion 3 is in Santa Clara County and includes the eastern slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains from the San Mateo County line in Los Altos, south to Hecker Pass (Hwy 152) west of Gilroy. The battalion has two fire stations: Stevens Creek Fire Station in Cupertino on the Stevens Creek Reservoir (approximately 3.5 miles north of the Project Site) and Alma Fire Station in Los Gatos at Lexington Reservoir (approximately 5 miles south of the Project Site). Both stations are staffed with one Type 3 Engine Company. The battalion includes the Alma Helitack Base (near the Alma Fire Station), which houses one UH-1H Bell 205 Super Huey Helicopter and one Helicopter Support Unit. During fire season the battalion responds to wildland fires related to the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and assists the Santa Clara Central Fire Protection District with their life/property mission. During winter months, the fire captains assigned to the battalion perform duties in support of the Unit Fire Plan through the Vegetation Management Program (CAL FIRE 2022).

The Saratoga Summit Station, operated by CAL FIRE's San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit, is located approximately 4 miles northwest of the Project Site, near the intersection of Highways 9 and 35.

The Park is identified by Battalion 3 as a Priority Area for vegetation management and fuel modification work in cooperation with County Parks (CAL FIRE 2022).

3.20.2 Discussion

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Impacts relating to impairment of adopted emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans are discussed in Section 3.10, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, Impact (f). As discussed in that section, the Proposed Project would not impair an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, and the impact would be **less than significant**.

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?

The Proposed Project would not include development of new buildings or other facilities that would change the type or intensity of existing uses at the Project Site, except temporarily during the 6-month period that the Proposed Project would be implemented.

During Project implementation, the primary fire hazards would be from vehicles and construction equipment operating on site. Construction equipment and vehicles use flammable fuels, such as diesel and gasoline, and could be operated in proximity to dry vegetation; their hot tailpipes or sparks from chains or other metal objects could ignite dry brush, especially during the warmer, dry months between June and October.

The contractor for the Proposed Project would be required to comply with the County Parks and Roads and Airport Department Fire Prevention Operational Procedure (County of Santa Clara 2012), which was developed in cooperation with CAL FIRE's Santa Clara Unit and outlines protocols to be followed when mowing, disking, or performing hot work in non-irrigated grass, brush, or forest-covered areas of the County. Such procedures include, but are not

limited to, the prohibition of certain operations within 24 hours of a predicted Red Flag Day, monitoring of humidity and wind conditions, provision of firefighting equipment at the job site, and provision of working spark arrestors on combustible engine equipment. In addition, PRC Sections 4421 through 4446 contain additional provisions to reduce the risk of wildland fires. Adherence to these safety measures, when considered together, would minimize the risk of increased frequency, intensity, or size of wildfires and decrease the risk of exposure of people or structures to wildfire. Therefore, the potential for the Proposed Project to exacerbate wildfire risks would be **less than significant**.

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 on the environment?

The Proposed Project would not install or maintain fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities that could exacerbate fire risk. The Proposed Project would include the clearing of additional onsite haul roads within the Project Site to facilitate access for machinery and equipment to the debris areas and structures to be demolished. As discussed for Impact (b) above, the contractor would be required to comply with the County's Fire Prevention Operational Procedure (County of Santa Clara 2012) and applicable provisions of the PRC, which would minimize the risk of wildland fires from road clearing activities. The impact would be **less than significant**.

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?

The Proposed Project would require earth-moving activities for excavation of contaminated soil, demolition of surface facilities, and removal of associated subsurface foundations. The Project does not propose development of new buildings or other facilities that create new public uses within the Project Site. The areas proposed for remediation consist of fairly level ground that slopes gradually downward toward the north. The excavated areas, and any voids from demolition of structures, would be backfilled with clean soil to approximately original grade. In addition, County Parks and its remediation/demolition contractor(s) are required by law to prepare a SWPPP and implement associated BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce erosion, such as silt fences, staked straw bales/wattles, geofabric, trench plugs, terraces, water bars, soil stabilizers, mulching, and revegetation of disturbed areas (See Section 3.10, "Hydrology and Water Quality," for a detailed discussion of stormwater runoff and drainage changes). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not create conditions that cause downstream runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes that would expose people or structures to significant risks, and **no impact** would occur.

3.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

Table 3.21-1 Mandatory Findings of Significance

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE	SOURCE(S)
XVI. 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?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	Less than Significant with Mitigation	2, 3, 4

Note: “-” indicates blank cell

3.21.1 Setting

The setting for the Proposed Project is described in relation to each environmental topic in Sections 3.1.1 through 3.21.1, above.

3.21.2 Discussion

- 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 an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?**

As discussed within the preceding sections of this document, the environmental impacts of the Proposed Project would be less than significant or less than significant with mitigation, including to biological and cultural resources. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not 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 an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The overall impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**. No additional mitigation beyond those measures already specified would be required.

- 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.)

The geographic context for cumulative impacts is generally limited to the immediate vicinity of the Project Site or the Sanborn Creek watershed, with the exception of air quality and greenhouse gas impacts, which are more regional. Past, present, and foreseeable future projects in the vicinity of the Project Site include the past development of Sanborn County Park and related trails and recreational facilities, past operations of the Christensen Nursery, and ongoing and future implementation of the Sanborn County Park Master Plan.

Air quality and greenhouse gas impacts are inherently cumulative by nature, and the impact discussions in Sections 3.4 and 3.9 already consider potential cumulative impacts, which were found to be less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.

Because the majority of Project impacts would be short-term, localized impacts that would only occur during the six-month period of Project implementation, and because none of the past or future projects would overlap with that implementation period, there would be no potential for short-term impacts such as disturbance of wildlife species, construction noise, water quality, or traffic safety to combine with the impacts of other projects to cause a significant cumulative impact.

Potential longer-term impacts resulting from the Proposed Project include changes to the visual character of the site, which could also be impacted from the future development of the Project Site as a recreational area in accordance with the Sanborn County Park Master Plan. The overall cumulative impact would not be significant, as County policies require that new structures be set back at least 100 feet from scenic roads and are subject to design review and conditions to assure the scenic quality of the corridor. Furthermore, the Proposed Project's impact on aesthetics would largely be beneficial, due to the removal of dilapidated structures and debris; therefore, the Project's contribution to the cumulative aesthetic impact would not be cumulatively considerable.

Both the Proposed Project and other cumulative projects would be required to follow standard inadvertent discovery protocols and undertake tribal consultation in accordance with AB52, which would avoid or minimize both individual project impacts and cumulative impacts to cultural or tribal cultural resources.

Overall, cumulative impacts from the Proposed Project in combination with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future projects would be **less than significant with mitigation** and no additional mitigation beyond those measures already specified would be required.

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

As discussed within the preceding sections of this document, the environmental impacts of the Proposed Project would be less than significant or less than significant with mitigation. Because all impacts could be reduced to a less-than-significant level, the Proposed Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**. No additional mitigation beyond those measures already specified would be required.

4 Sources and References

4.1 Initial Study Recommended Source List

1. Field Inspection
2. Project Plans
3. Planner's Knowledge of Area
4. Experience with Other Project of This Size and Nature
5. County General Plan
6. The South County Joint Area Plan
7. County Zoning Regulations (Ordinance)
8. Second Amendment to Agreement [with San Jose] for Allocation of Tax Increment Funds
9. MAPS (various scales)
 - a. County Zoning (500' or 1,000')
 - b. ABAG "On Shaky Ground"-Santa Clara County Map Set (2 miles)
 - c. Barclay's Santa Clara County Locaide Street Atlas (2631')
 - d. County Regional Parks, Trails and Scenic Highways Map (10,000')
10. 5000' or 1-mile Scale MAPS
 - a. County General Plan Land Use
 - b. Natural Habitat Areas
 - c. Relative Seismic Stability
 - d. Archaeological Resources
 - e. Water Resources & Water Problems
 - f. Viewshed and Scenic Road
 - g. Fire Hazard
 - h. Parks and Public Open Space
 - i. Heritage Resources
 - j. Slope Constraint
 - k. Serpentine soils
11. 2000' Scale MAPS
 - a. State of California, Special Studies Zones [Revised Official Map]
 - b. Water Problem/Resource
 - c. USGS Topo Quad (7-1/2 minutes)
 - d. Dept. of Fish & Game, Natural Diversity Data Base Map Overlays & Textual Reports
 - e. Natural Resources [Key to map found in: Natural Resource Sensitivity Areas-Locality Data, Harvey & Stanley Associates-Contact County staff]
12. 1000' Scale MAPS/Air Photos
 - a. Geologic Hazards
 - b. Color Air Photos (MPSI)
 - c. Santa Clara valley Water District-Maps of Flood Control Facilities & Limits of 1% Flooding
 - d. Soils Overlay Air Photos
 - e. "Future Width Line" map set
13. County Lexington Basin Ordinance Relating to Sewage Disposal
14. Los Gatos Hillside Specific Area Plan
15. Stanford University General Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report [EIR]
16. Stanford Protocol and Land Use Policy Agreement
17. County Geologist
18. Site Specific Geologic Report
19. State Department of Mines and Geology, Special Report #146
20. USDA, SCS, "Soils of Santa Clara County"
21. USDA, SCS, "Soil Survey of Eastern Santa Clara County"
22. County Environmental Health/Septic Tank Sewage Disposal System - Bulletin "A"
23. San Martin Water Quality Study
24. County Environmental Health Department Tests and Reports
25. Santa Clara County Heritage Resource (including Trees) Inventory [computer database]
26. Official County Road Book
27. County Transportation Agency
28. County Standards and Policies Manual (Vol. I – Land Development)
29. Public Works Departments of Individual Cities
30. County Off-street Parking Standards
31. ALUC Land Use Plan for Areas Surrounding Airports [1992 version]
32. County Fire Marshal
33. California Department of Forestry
34. BAAQMD Annual Summary of Contaminant Excesses & BAAQMD, "Air Quality & Urban Development- Guidelines for Assessing Impacts of Projects & Plans"
35. Architectural and Site Approval Committee Secretary
36. County Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval
37. County Development Guidelines for Design Review
38. Open Space Preservation, Report of the Preservation 2020 Task Force, April 1987 (Chapter IV)
39. Riparian Inventory of Santa Clara County, Greenbelt Coalition, November 1988.
40. Section 21151.4 of California Public Resources Code.
41. Site Specific Archaeological Reconnaissance Report
42. State Archaeological Clearinghouse, Sonoma State University
43. Transportation Research Board, "Highway Capacity Manual", Special Report 209, 1985
44. Design Guidelines for Non-residential Development in San Martin
45. Southwest San Martin Area Interim Development Guidelines
46. 2009 NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit
47. 2002 Clean Water Act Section 303(d)
48. California Building Code (2007)
49. County of Santa Clara Ordinance Code
50. Santa Clara Countywide Trails Master Plan Update, November 1995
51. Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Resources Protection Collaborative Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams

4.2 Other Cited References

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Appendix A – Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Modeling

Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project - Criteria Air Pollutants Emissions Summary

Description	ROG	NOx	CO	SO ₂	PM10 Exhaust	PM2.5 Exhaust
Total Emissions (tons)	0.18	2.14	1.75	0.005	0.08	0.07
Average Daily Emissions (pounds/day)	2.77	32.92	26.92	0.08	1.23	1.08

Notes: ROG = reactive organic gases; NOx = nitrogen oxides; PM₁₀ = particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter

Average daily emissions estimated assuming 130 construction workdays based on a 5-day construction workweek and 26 weeks of construction.

Construction Energy Consumption

Calculations based on the modeling methodology and GHG Emissions. Please refer to the CalEEMod outputs for additional information.

Construction Activity - Fuel Consumption Sources	Total MTCO ₂ ^a	Fuel Type	Emission Factor (MT CO ₂ /gallon) ^b	Fuel Consumption (gallons)	Energy Consumption (MMBtu) ^c
Offroad Equipment	196.91	Diesel	0.01019	19,324	2,669
Hauling	361.4100	Diesel	0.01019	35,467	4,898
Vendor	2.71	Diesel	0.01019	266	37
Worker	8.32	Gas	0.00878	948	118
Total		Diesel		55,057	7,603
		Gasoline		948	118

Notes:

^a Modeled by AECOM in 2022;

^b U.S. Energy Information Administration 2021 (https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.php)

^c The Climate Registry 2021 (<https://www.theclimateregistry.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-Default-Emission-Factor-Document.pdf>)

Carbon Dioxide Emissions Coefficients by Fuel	MT/gallon
Diesel	0.01019
Gasoline	0.00878

Category	Amount	Units
Diesel (heat content)	5.8	MMBtu/barrel
Motor Gasoline	5.25	MMBtu/gallon
Gallons per Barrel	42	gallons/barrel

Phase	Source	MT CO ₂ /yr
Site Preparation	Offroad Equipment	43.70
	Hauling	0.0000
	Vendor	0.31
	Worker	1.13
Hazardous Materials Abatement	Offroad Equipment	0.81
	Hauling	7.41
	Vendor	0.21
	Worker	0.17
Demolition Debris Removal	Offroad Equipment	85.40
	Hauling	101.0000
	Vendor	1.15
	Worker	3.68
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Offroad Equipment	33.50
	Hauling	100.00
	Vendor	0.52
	Worker	1.67
Site Rehabilitation	Offroad Equipment	33.50
	Hauling	153.00
	Vendor	0.52
	Worker	1.67

Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project Custom Report

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1. Basic Project Information

1.1. Basic Project Information

Data Field	Value
Project Name	Sanborn County Park Nursery Dump Demolition and Remediation Project
Lead Agency	—
Land Use Scale	Project/site
Analysis Level for Defaults	County
Windspeed (m/s)	3.00
Precipitation (days)	50.6
Location	37.23790080430881, -122.0626450037602
County	Santa Clara
City	Unincorporated
Air District	Bay Area AQMD
Air Basin	San Francisco Bay Area
TAZ	1791
EDFZ	1
Electric Utility	Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Gas Utility	Pacific Gas & Electric

1.2. Land Use Types

Land Use Subtype	Size	Unit	Lot Acreage	Building Area (sq ft)	Landscape Area (sq ft)	Special Landscape Area (sq ft)	Population	Description
City Park	42.0	Acre	42.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	42-acre acre for project remediation activities

2. Emissions Summary

2.2. Construction Emissions by Year, Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Year	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Daily - Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023	3.92	2.98	37.2	28.5	0.11	1.27	6.32	7.50	1.15	2.30	3.33	—	16,633	16,633	1.29	2.17	29.6	17,341
Daily - Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023	5.85	4.91	47.5	44.4	0.06	2.21	7.84	10.1	2.04	3.98	6.02	—	6,636	6,636	0.27	0.27	0.10	6,663
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023	1.34	0.97	11.7	9.59	0.02	0.44	1.51	1.96	0.40	0.54	0.94	—	3,443	3,443	0.24	0.36	2.14	3,559
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023	0.24	0.18	2.14	1.75	< 0.005	0.08	0.28	0.36	0.07	0.10	0.17	—	570	570	0.04	0.06	0.35	589

3. Construction Emissions Details

3.1. Demolition (2023) - Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Location	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Onsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Off-Road Equipment	3.39	2.84	27.3	23.5	0.03	1.20	—	1.20	1.10	—	1.10	—	3,425	3,425	0.14	0.03	—	3,437
Demolition	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.53	1.53	—	0.23	0.23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.51	0.43	4.12	3.54	< 0.005	0.18	—	0.18	0.17	—	0.17	—	516	516	0.02	< 0.005	—	518
Demolition	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.23	0.23	—	0.03	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.09	0.08	0.75	0.65	< 0.005	0.03	—	0.03	0.03	—	0.03	—	85.4	85.4	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	85.7
Demolition	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.04	0.04	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	158	158	0.01	0.01	0.72	160
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	0.12	48.5
Hauling	0.43	0.08	5.14	2.39	0.03	0.07	0.29	0.36	0.05	0.10	0.15	—	4,060	4,060	0.35	0.64	8.67	4,269

Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.10	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	22.2	22.2	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.05	22.5
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	6.97	6.97	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	7.30
Hauling	0.06	0.01	0.80	0.36	< 0.005	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	612	612	0.05	0.10	0.56	643
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.02	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	3.68	3.68	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	3.73
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	1.15	1.15	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.21
Hauling	0.01	< 0.005	0.15	0.07	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	101	101	0.01	0.02	0.09	106

3.3. Site Preparation (2023) - Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Location	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Onsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	5.77	4.84	47.3	43.6	0.06	2.21	—	2.21	2.04	—	2.04	—	6,426	6,426	0.26	0.05	—	6,448
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.67	7.67	—	3.94	3.94	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.24	0.20	1.94	1.79	< 0.005	0.09	—	0.09	0.08	—	0.08	—	264	264	0.01	< 0.005	—	265
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.32	0.32	—	0.16	0.16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.04	0.04	0.35	0.33	< 0.005	0.02	—	0.02	0.02	—	0.02	—	43.7	43.7	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	43.9
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.06	0.06	—	0.03	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	164	164	< 0.005	0.01	0.02	166
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	< 0.005	48.4
Hauling	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.03	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	6.82	6.82	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	6.92
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	1.90	1.90	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.99

Hauling	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	1.13	1.13	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.15
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	0.31	0.31	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.33
Hauling	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3.5. Grading (2023) - Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Location	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Onsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	2.43	2.04	20.0	19.7	0.03	0.94	—	0.94	0.87	—	0.87	—	2,958	2,958	0.12	0.02	—	2,968
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.77	2.77	—	1.34	1.34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.17	0.14	1.37	1.35	< 0.005	0.06	—	0.06	0.06	—	0.06	—	203	203	0.01	< 0.005	—	203
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.19	0.19	—	0.09	0.09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.03	0.03	0.25	0.25	< 0.005	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	33.5	33.5	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	33.7
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03	0.03	—	0.02	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	158	158	0.01	0.01	0.72	160
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	0.12	48.5
Hauling	1.42	0.26	17.1	7.93	0.08	0.24	0.97	1.21	0.16	0.32	0.48	—	13,471	13,471	1.16	2.13	28.8	14,165
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.05	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	10.1	10.1	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.02	10.2
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	3.17	3.17	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	3.32
Hauling	0.10	0.02	1.21	0.54	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.08	0.01	0.02	0.03	—	923	923	0.08	0.15	0.85	969
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	1.67	1.67	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.70
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	0.52	0.52	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.55
Hauling	0.02	< 0.005	0.22	0.10	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.02	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	—	153	153	0.01	0.02	0.14	160

3.7. Grading (2023) - Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Location	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Onsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	2.43	2.04	20.0	19.7	0.03	0.94	—	0.94	0.87	—	0.87	—	2,958	2,958	0.12	0.02	—	2,968
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.77	2.77	—	1.34	1.34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.17	0.14	1.37	1.35	< 0.005	0.06	—	0.06	0.06	—	0.06	—	203	203	0.01	< 0.005	—	203
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.19	0.19	—	0.09	0.09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.03	0.03	0.25	0.25	< 0.005	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	33.5	33.5	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	33.7

Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03	0.03	—	0.02	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	158	158	0.01	0.01	0.72	160
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	0.12	48.5
Hauling	0.93	0.17	11.2	5.21	0.06	0.16	0.63	0.79	0.11	0.21	0.32	—	8,858	8,858	0.76	1.40	18.9	9,314
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.05	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	10.1	10.1	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.02	10.2
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	3.17	3.17	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	3.32
Hauling	0.06	0.01	0.80	0.35	< 0.005	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	607	607	0.05	0.10	0.56	637
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	1.67	1.67	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.70
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	0.52	0.52	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.55
Hauling	0.01	< 0.005	0.15	0.06	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	100	100	0.01	0.02	0.09	106

3.9. Architectural Coating (2023) - Unmitigated

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Location	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Onsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.24	0.20	1.25	1.54	< 0.005	0.05	—	0.05	0.05	—	0.05	—	178	178	0.01	< 0.005	—	179
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural Coatings	—	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.24	0.20	1.25	1.54	< 0.005	0.05	—	0.05	0.05	—	0.05	—	178	178	0.01	< 0.005	—	179
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural Coatings	—	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.04	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	—	4.88	4.88	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	4.89
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Architect Coatings	—	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Off-Road Equipment	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	—	0.81	0.81	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	0.81
Dust From Material Movement	—	—	—	—	—	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architect ural Coatings	—	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onsite truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offsite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.21	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	39.4	39.4	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.18	40.0
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	0.12	48.5
Hauling	0.15	0.02	1.87	0.81	0.01	0.03	0.12	0.15	0.02	0.04	0.06	—	1,633	1,633	0.13	0.26	3.55	1,717
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.18	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	36.5	36.5	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	36.9
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.07	0.03	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	46.3	46.3	< 0.005	0.01	< 0.005	48.4
Hauling	0.15	0.02	1.97	0.80	0.01	0.03	0.12	0.15	0.02	0.04	0.06	—	1,634	1,634	0.13	0.26	0.09	1,714
Average Daily	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	1.01	1.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.02
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	1.27	1.27	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	1.33

Hauling	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.05	0.02	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	44.8	44.8	< 0.005	0.01	0.04	47.0
Annual	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worker	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.17	0.17	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.17
Vendor	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	0.21	0.21	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.22
Hauling	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	—	7.41	7.41	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	7.78

5. Activity Data

5.1. Construction Schedule

Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Days Per Week	Work Days per Phase	Phase Description
Demolition Debris Removal	Demolition	4/5/2023	6/20/2023	5.00	55.0	—
Site Preparation	Site Preparation	3/1/2023	3/21/2023	5.00	15.0	—
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Grading	6/21/2023	7/25/2023	5.00	25.0	—
Site Rehabilitation	Grading	7/26/2023	8/29/2023	5.00	25.0	—
Haz Materials Abatement	Architectural Coating	3/22/2023	4/4/2023	5.00	10.0	—

5.2. Off-Road Equipment

5.2.1. Unmitigated

Phase Name	Equipment Type	Fuel Type	Engine Tier	Number per Day	Hours Per Day	Horsepower	Load Factor
Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	Diesel	Average	3.00	8.00	367	0.40
Site Preparation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	Diesel	Average	4.00	8.00	84.0	0.37
Haz Materials Abatement	Air Compressors	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	37.0	0.48
Demolition Debris Removal	Concrete/Industrial Saws	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	33.0	0.73

Demolition Debris Removal	Excavators	Diesel	Average	3.00	8.00	36.0	0.38
Demolition Debris Removal	Rubber Tired Dozers	Diesel	Average	2.00	8.00	367	0.40
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Excavators	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	36.0	0.38
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Graders	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	148	0.41
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Rubber Tired Dozers	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	367	0.40
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	Diesel	Average	3.00	8.00	84.0	0.37
Site Rehabilitation	Excavators	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	36.0	0.38
Site Rehabilitation	Graders	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	148	0.41
Site Rehabilitation	Rubber Tired Dozers	Diesel	Average	1.00	8.00	367	0.40
Site Rehabilitation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	Diesel	Average	3.00	8.00	84.0	0.37
Site Preparation	Other Construction Equipment	Diesel	Average	2.00	8.00	82.0	0.42
Site Preparation	Concrete/Industrial Saws	Diesel	Average	2.00	8.00	33.0	0.73

5.3. Construction Vehicles

5.3.1. Unmitigated

Phase Name	Trip Type	One-Way Trips per Day	Miles per Trip	Vehicle Mix
Site Preparation	—	—	—	—
Site Preparation	Worker	18.0	12.9	LDA,LDT1,LDT2
Site Preparation	Vendor	2.00	6.94	HHDT,MHDT
Site Preparation	Hauling	0.00	20.0	HHDT
Site Preparation	Onsite truck	—	—	HHDT

Haz Materials Abatement	—	—	—	—
Haz Materials Abatement	Worker	4.00	12.9	LDA,LDT1,LDT2
Haz Materials Abatement	Vendor	2.00	6.94	HHDT,MHDT
Haz Materials Abatement	Hauling	2.00	225	HHDT
Haz Materials Abatement	Onsite truck	—	—	HHDT
Demolition Debris Removal	—	—	—	—
Demolition Debris Removal	Worker	16.0	12.9	LDA,LDT1,LDT2
Demolition Debris Removal	Vendor	2.00	6.94	HHDT,MHDT
Demolition Debris Removal	Hauling	44.0	25.0	HHDT
Demolition Debris Removal	Onsite truck	—	—	HHDT
Contaminated Soil Excavation	—	—	—	—
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Worker	16.0	12.9	LDA,LDT1,LDT2
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Vendor	2.00	6.94	HHDT,MHDT
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Hauling	146	25.0	HHDT
Contaminated Soil Excavation	Onsite truck	—	—	HHDT
Site Rehabilitation	—	—	—	—
Site Rehabilitation	Worker	16.0	12.9	LDA,LDT1,LDT2
Site Rehabilitation	Vendor	2.00	6.94	HHDT,MHDT
Site Rehabilitation	Hauling	96.0	25.0	HHDT
Site Rehabilitation	Onsite truck	—	—	HHDT

5.4. Vehicles

5.4.1. Construction Vehicle Control Strategies

Non-applicable. No control strategies activated by user.

5.5. Architectural Coatings

Phase Name	Residential Interior Area Coated (sq ft)	Residential Exterior Area Coated (sq ft)	Non-Residential Interior Area Coated (sq ft)	Non-Residential Exterior Area Coated (sq ft)	Parking Area Coated (sq ft)
Haz Materials Abatement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

5.6. Dust Mitigation

5.6.1. Construction Earthmoving Activities

Phase Name	Material Imported (Cubic Yards)	Material Exported (Cubic Yards)	Acres Graded (acres)	Material Demolished (Ton of Debris)	Acres Paved (acres)
Demolition Debris Removal	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000	—
Site Preparation	0.00	0.00	24.0	0.00	—
Contaminated Soil Excavation	0.00	12,000	26.0	0.00	—
Site Rehabilitation	12,000	0.00	26.0	0.00	—
Haz Materials Abatement	0.00	40.0	0.00	0.00	—

5.6.2. Construction Earthmoving Control Strategies

Control Strategies Applied	Frequency (per day)	PM10 Reduction	PM2.5 Reduction
Water Exposed Area	2	61%	61%
Water Demolished Area	2	36%	36%

5.7. Construction Paving

Land Use	Area Paved (acres)	% Asphalt
City Park	0.00	0%

8. User Changes to Default Data

Screen	Justification
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Construction: Construction Phases	Project specific demolition and remediation schedule
Construction: Off-Road Equipment	Type and number of equipment and workers is based on CalEEMod default assumptions for a 3- to 5-acre grading project, with additional equipment added based on information provided by the County's Project Manager
Construction: Dust From Material Movement	Assumes 12,000 CY of contaminated soil exported; 12,000 CY of clean fill imported; 40 CY of hazmat during abatement.
Operations: Vehicle Data	Construction phase only.
Operations: Solid Waste	Construction only project.
Construction: Trips and VMT	Project specific daily worker counts and haul truck trips based on smaller capacity trucks.

Appendix B – Biological Resources Species List

Appendix Table B-1. Special-Status Wildlife and Plant Species with Potential to Occur in the Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
Amphibians						
Santa Cruz black salamander	<i>Aneides niger</i>	—/—/SSC	The species inhabits moist streamside microhabitats in the coastal California fog belt in Douglas fir and redwood forests. Salamanders also occupy grasslands, riparian habitats, valley-foothill woodlands, and wet meadows using rocks, rotten logs, and leaf litter for cover. Their range is limited to the San Francisco Peninsula south to Santa Cruz County.	Eggs are laid in July or early August with juveniles emerging in October and November.	There are 14 CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 0.3 mile to the north in a clearing near Sanborn and Saratoga Creeks.	Potential to Occur. Douglas fir and Redwood habitat are abundant in the BSA.
California tiger salamander	<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	FT/ST/—	The species lives in vacant or mammal-occupied burrows (e.g., California ground squirrel, valley pocket gopher) in grassland, savanna, or open woodland habitats. Breeding occurs in shallow ephemeral or semi-permanent pools and ponds that fill during heavy winter rains or in permanent ponds.	Breeding occurs from December to February.	There are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	No Potential to Occur. The BSA lacks grassland and open woodland habitats. No suitable or occupied breeding habitat is present within dispersal distance of the BSA.
California giant salamander	<i>Dicamptodon ensatus</i>	—/—/SSC	The species inhabits oak woodland and coniferous forests and coastal chaparral near clear, cold, perennial and semi-perennial streams. Adults are typically terrestrial outside of breeding season, using small mammal burrows, underground retreats, leaf litter, and rock cover.	The species breeds from March to May in slow-moving streams, laying eggs beneath rocks and woody debris.	There are nine CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 0.4 mile to the north in redwood forest. Occurrences are found in both Sanborn and Bonjetti Creeks.	Potential to Occur. Adjacent to Sanborn and Aubry Creeks, there are coniferous forests with leaf litter and rock cover that provide quality habitat in the BSA.
foothill yellow-legged frog	<i>Rana boylei</i>	—/SE/SSC	The species is found in partially shaded, shallow streams with rocky substrates in woodland, chaparral, and	Egg masses are laid from April to early July in streams and rivers	There are four CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the study	Not Likely to Occur. Sanborn and Aubry creeks are very

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			forest. It needs some cobble-sized rocks as a substrate for egg laying and requires water for 15 weeks for larval transformation.	after winter flows have subsided.	area. Of the four CNDDDB occurrences, three are considered extirpated. The nearest extant occurrence is 4.5 miles to the south along Bear Creek.	shaded, and habitat is marginally suitable for breeding.
California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	FT/—/SSC	The species occurs in or near quiet permanent water of streams, marshes, ponds, lakes, and other quiet bodies of water from sea level to 4,921 feet in elevation. It is frequently found in woodlands, grasslands, or other plant cover adjacent to streams. In summer, estivates in small mammal burrows, leaf litter, or other moist sites in or near riparian areas. Adults disperse into riparian corridors and in damp thickets and forests.	Breeding and egg laying occurs November to April, typically during or shortly after rainfall events. Metamorphs and tadpoles remain in the aquatic habitat longer.	There are five CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 1.5 miles to the northeast. Habitat in this vicinity includes a well-vegetated perennial creek and adjacent seep habitat. The occurrence is along Saratoga Creek downstream of the BSA.	Potential to Occur. No suitable breeding habitat is found in the BSA. However, Sanborn Creek and Aubry Creek may provide suitable aquatic nonbreeding habitat. Creek adjacent upland habitat with abundant leaf litter, rocks and logs provides suitable upland refugia habitat.
Birds						
marbled murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	FT/SE/—	The species inhabits coastal areas, mainly in salt water within 1.2 miles of shore, including bays and sounds; and is not uncommon up to 3.1 miles offshore; occasionally also on rivers and lakes, usually within 12.4 miles of ocean. It has highly specific nesting requirements associated with old-growth forest.	Breeding occurs from late March to late September.	There are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	No Potential to Occur. The BSA is more than 15 miles from the ocean.
American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Delisted/Delisted/FP	The species occurs in woodland, forest, and coastal habitats. It nests on high cliffs near wetlands, lakes, rivers,	Breeding occurs from late February to June.	There are three CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the	Potential to Occur. Steep-sloped chaparral habitat with some

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			or other water. It is also found in urban areas and uses tall buildings and bridges for nesting and breeding sites. Nests consist of a scrape on a depression or ledge in an open site.		study area. The nearest occurrence is in the vicinity of the study area, where a nest was found in a tree with chaparral habitat below, adjacent to redwood, and hardwood forests.	potential for nesting is found in the BSA.
California least tern	<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>	FE/SE/FP	The species inhabits seacoasts, beaches, bays, estuaries, lagoons, lakes, and rivers. It nests and rests on sandy beaches, mudflats, and salt-pond dikes.	Breeding occurs from May to August.	There are no documented CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	No Potential to Occur. The BSA does not provide coastal beaches and estuaries suitable for California least tern.
Fish						
Tidewater Goby	<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	FE/—/—	Benthic habitat for this species is in small coastal lagoons, lower reaches of streams, and uppermost portions of large bays; it is most abundant in the upper ends of lagoons created by small coastal streams; fresh to brackish water, 10 to 40 inches deep; it prefers high dissolved oxygen. The species spawns on coarse sand, 10 to 20 inches deep.	Breeding occurs year-round (peaking in spring and again in late summer).	There are no documented CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	No Potential to Occur. Estuarine and coastal bay habitat for Tidewater Goby is not present in the BSA.
Delta Smelt	<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	FT/SE/—	The species is found in estuarine waters from the Sacramento-San Joaquin confluence to San Pablo Bay. It is tolerant of a wide salinity range and has been collected from estuarine waters with up to 14 parts per thousand salinity. It migrates upstream from the brackish-water habitat	Breeding occurs from late January to early July.	There are no documented CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	No Potential to Occur. Estuarine and perennial riverine habitat for Delta Smelt is not present in the BSA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			associated with the mixing zone and disperses widely into river channels and tidally influenced backwater sloughs. It generally spawns in tidally influenced backwater sloughs and channel edgewaters.			
Coho Salmon – Central California Coast ESU	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	FE/SE/—	The ESU inhabits coastal California streams with cool, clear water, gravel bottoms, and riparian vegetation for cover. Spawning and juvenile rearing occur in reaches of all rivers, including estuarine areas and tributaries between Punta Gorda south to Aptos Creek. This ESU also includes all tributaries to the San Francisco Bay.	Spawning occurs in low-gradient streams from September through January. Fry emerge from gravel beds between March and July.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the BSA. This occurrence is 3 miles to the west in the San Lorenzo River and its tributaries.	No Potential to Occur. Multiple fish passage obstructions occur downstream of the BSA.
Steelhead – Central California Coast DPS	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>	FT/—/—	This DPS is found in coastal streams from the Russian River south to the Aptos Creek; the drainages of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun Bays eastward to Chipps Island; and tributary streams to Suisun Marsh. Individuals in this DPS spawn in the late spring, maturing in the ocean and then spawning in freshwater during late fall and winter. It requires cool, swift-moving streams with clean, unsilted gravel beds for spawning and egg incubation. Juvenile rearing habitat includes well-vegetated banks with relatively stable flows.	This is a winter run fish, spawning from February to April.	There is one CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. This occurrence is 3 miles west of the project in the San Lorenzo River and its tributaries.	No Potential to Occur. Multiple fish passage obstructions occur downstream of the BSA.
Reptiles						
western pond turtle	<i>Emys marmorata</i>	—/—/SSC	The species occurs west of the Cascade-Sierran crest at elevations between sea level and 6,696 feet. The	Eggs are laid from March to August.	There are six CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The	Potential to Occur. Ponds in the BSA do not provide habitat for

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			species usually occurs in areas of calm freshwater environments but can also occur in brackish and saltwater for short periods of time. It occupies a wide variety of aquatic habitats, including ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, marshes, sloughs, wetlands, and irrigation ditches. Females dig nests to lay eggs up to 0.5 mile from water.		nearest occurrence is 1.1 miles to the south, near Lake Ranch Reservoir. The habitat near the reservoir is described as an impoundment, with submerged vegetation surrounded by disturbed grassland and redwood forest.	western pond turtle, due to lack of cover and compacted banks. Sanborn and Aubry creeks may provide suitable riverine habitat, though steep-sloped banks and boulders make habitat less suitable.
San Francisco garter snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia</i>	FE/SE/FP	The species occurs in densely vegetated wetlands, marshes, and sloughs along the San Francisco Peninsula from southern San Francisco County south to Rancho del Oso State Park in Santa Cruz County. Ideal habitats require abundant prey, including Pacific tree frogs and California red-legged frogs. During summer months, when ponds and wetlands dry, adult garter snakes estivate in small mammal burrows in grasslands and adjacent upland habitat.	Breeding occurs from June through September.	There are six CNDDB occurrences for San Francisco garter snake within 5 miles of the BSA. All occurrences are 3.4 miles to the north in a small pond. The pond has sparsely vegetated banks and abundant prey species, including pacific tree frog and California red-legged frog.	No Potential to Occur. The BSA is outside of the known range. In addition, there are no suitable wetland habitats for this species.
Insects						
monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	FC/—/—	Monarch butterflies overwinter in coastal California, inhabiting eucalyptus groves, Monterey pine, and Monterey cypress forests. In the spring, monarchs migrate across the state and the broader west coast, depositing eggs on their milkweed (<i>Asclepias</i> spp.) host plant.	Breeding occurs in the summer months when milkweed is in bloom.	There are no documented CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable overwintering stands of eucalyptus, Monterey pine, and Monterey cypress are not present in the BSA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
Zayante band-winged grasshopper	<i>Trimerotropis infantilis</i>	FE/—/—	Grasshoppers are found exclusively in Zayante sand hills habitat in the Santa Cruz Mountains. These habitats include northern maritime chaparral and coastal maritime ponderosa pine forests.	Adults' flight season is from May to August.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the BSA. This occurrence is considered extirpated. Habitat is no longer present due to the filling of Lexington Reservoir.	No Potential to Occur. The BSA is outside of the known range. In addition, there are no Zayante sandhills in the BSA.
Mammals						
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	—/—/SSC	The Townsend's big-eared bat occurs throughout California in mesic habitats characterized by coniferous and deciduous forests, but also occupies a broad range of habitats. In California, it is known to occupy limestone caves; lava tubes; hollow trees or tree cavities, and human-made structures in coastal lowlands, cultivated valleys, and nearby hills covered with mixed vegetation.	Mating occurs from November to February, and births occur in May and June, peaking in late May.	There are three CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 3.4 miles away in a mixed conifer and hardwood forest. The other two occurrences are in old, abandoned buildings.	Potential to Occur. Abundant abandoned buildings and coniferous forests could provide roosting habitat.
San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat	<i>Neotoma fuscipes annectens</i>	—/—/SSC	The species occupies large terrestrial stick houses, some of which can last for 20 or more years. Houses typically are placed on the ground against or straddling a log or exposed roots of a standing tree and are often found in dense brush. Nests are also placed in the crotches and cavities of trees and in hollow logs.	Breeding occurs from December to September.	There are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	Potential to Occur. Suitable woodland and coniferous forest habitat are present. However, no middens were observed during the site visit.
Plants						
Anderson's manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos andersonii</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found in open sites of chaparral and broadleafed upland and north coast coniferous forests	Blooming period May to November	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the BSA. The	Not Likely to Occur. The broadleafed upland (oak forests) and north

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			(redwood forests). The elevation range of this species is 300 to 2,500 ft.		nearest occurrence 5 miles west of the BSA.	coast coniferous forests may be suitable but the nearest occurrence is approximately 5 miles away.
Bonny Doon manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos silvicola</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found in sandhill chaparral or scattered in the understory of Pacific ponderosa pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> var. <i>ponderosa</i>) forests in areas of Miocene inland marine sand deposits (Zayante series) in the southern Santa Cruz Mountains. It occurs in an elevation range of 395 to 1,970 ft.	Blooming period January to March.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles west of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur. No suitable chaparral habitat present. The coniferous forest in the project site is not ponderosa pine in marine sand deposits. Also, the nearest occurrence is over 5 miles away.
Ben Lomond spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>hartwegiana</i>	FE/—/1B.1	This species occurs in openings in sandhill chaparral or scattered in the understory of Pacific ponderosa pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> var. <i>ponderosa</i>) forests in areas of Miocene inland marine sand deposits (Zayante series) in the southern Santa Cruz Mountains. This species occurs at an elevation range from 295 to 2,000 ft.	Blooming period April to July.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence 5 miles of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur. The coniferous forest in the project site lacks marine sand deposits or ponderosa pine. Also, the nearest occurrence is over 5 miles away.
robust spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe robusta</i> var. <i>robusta</i>	—/—/1B.1	This species is found in sandy terraces and bluffs or in loose sand in cismontane woodland, coastal dune and scrub, and chaparral. It occurs in an elevation range of 16 to 800 ft.	Blooming period April to September.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 3.5 southeast of the BSA and is considered locally extirpated.	Not Likely to Occur. Woodland habitat is present in the BSA but sandy terraces and bluffs are absent. This species is also found at a lower elevation range than the project site (1,150 ft to 1,400 ft)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
western leatherwood	<i>Dirca occidentalis</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found on brushy slopes, in mesic environments, in mixed evergreen and foothill woodland communities. Habitats include broadleaved upland and riparian forests, chaparral, cismontane woodland, closed-cone coniferous forest. The elevation range of this species is 65 to 2,000 ft.	Blooming period November to March.	There are two CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence lies 3.6 miles north of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur. The habitat in the BSA is marginally suitable but the nearest occurrence is over 3 miles away.
Loma Prieta hoita	<i>Hoita strobilina</i>	—/—/1B.1	This species is found in chaparral, cismontane and riparian woodland, predominantly in mesic environments in serpentine soils. The elevation range of this species is 100 to 2,820 ft.	Blooming period can range from May to July and August to October.	There are three CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence 1 mile northeast of the BSA was documented in 1913.	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland and riparian habitat are present in the BSA but serpentine soils are absent.
woolly-headed lessingia	<i>Lessingia hololeuca</i>	—/—/3	This species is found in broadleaved upland forests, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, valley and foothill grasslands in clay, serpentinite soils. The elevation range of this species is 50 to 1,000 ft.	Blooming period June to October.	N/A – not listed in CNDDDB	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland habitat is present but required serpentine soils are absent in the BSA.
arcuate bush- mallow	<i>Malacothamnus arcuatus</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found in gravelly alluvium of chaparral and cismontane woodlands. It is found at 0 to 2,500 ft elevations.	Blooming period April to September	There are two CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The closest occurrence is 1.5 miles northeast of the BSA and is considered locally extirpated.	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland habitat is present but required gravelly soils are absent in the BSA.
woodland woollythreads	<i>Monolopia gracilens</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found in serpentine soils in broadleaved upland forests, chaparral, cismontane woodland,	Blooming period February/March to July.	There are six CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. The	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland habitat is present in the

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			north coast coniferous forest and valley and foothill grasslands. The elevation range of this species is 330 to 3,935 ft.		nearest occurrence 1 mile northeast of the BSA was documented in 1915.	BSA but serpentine soils are absent.
hairless popcornflower	<i>Plagiobothrys glaber</i>	—/—/1A	This species is found in coastal marshes and alkaline seeps and meadows. Its elevation range 5 to 400 ft.	Blooming period March to May.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 3.5 southeast of the BSA and is considered locally extirpated.	No Potential to Occur. Suitable habitat is not present for this species in the BSA and the species is considered locally extirpated.
Dudley's lousewort	<i>Pedicularis dudleyi</i>	—/SR/1B.2	This species is found in chaparral, cismontane woodland, north coast coniferous forest, valley and foothill grasslands. The elevation range of this species is 195 to 2,955 ft.	Blooming period April to June.	N/A – not listed in CNDDDB	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland and coniferous forest habitat are present in the BSA but no CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles.
white-rayed pentachaeta	<i>Pentachaeta bellidiflora</i>	FE/SE/1B.1	This species is found in cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grasslands in elevation ranges from 115 to 2,035 ft.	Blooming period March to May.	N/A – not listed in CNDDDB	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland and coniferous forest habitat are present in the BSA but no CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles.
white-flowered rein orchid	<i>Piperia candida</i>	—/—/1B.2	This species is found in broadleaved upland forest, lower montane coniferous forest and north coast coniferous forest. Its elevation range is 100 to 4,300 ft.	Blooming period March/May to September.	N/A – not listed in CNDDDB	Not Likely to Occur. Suitable woodland and coniferous forest habitat are present in the BSA but no CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles.
Santa Cruz clover	<i>Trifolium buckwestiorum</i>	—/—/1B.1	This species is found in broadleaved upland forests, cismontane woodlands	Blooming period April to October.	There is one CNDDDB occurrence within	Not Likely to Occur. The habitat in the BSA

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status Fed/State/Other	General Habitat Requirements (Description, Population Range, Elevation Range)	Breeding Season/Blooming Period	Summary of CNDDDB Occurrences	Potential to Occur in the Study Area
			and coastal prairies. Its elevation range is 345 to 2,000 ft.		5 miles of the BSA. The nearest occurrence is 5 mile southeast of the BSA.	is marginally suitable but the nearest occurrence is 5 miles away.

Sources: NERR 2011; CDFW 2021; USFWS 2021; CNPS 2022

Notes:

ESA Listing Abbreviations:

FE – Federally Endangered

FT – Federally Threatened

FC – Federal Candidate for listing under ESA

CESA Listing Abbreviations:

SE – California State Endangered

ST – California State Threatened

FP – California Fully protected

SR – State Rare

SSC – California Species of Special Concern

Delisted species have been removed from the ESA or CESA threatened and endangered list.

Other Abbreviations:

BSA = biological study area

CESA = California Endangered Species Act

CNDDDB = California Natural Diversity Database

DPS = distinct population segment

ESA = Endangered Species Act

ESU = evolutionarily significant unit

California Native Plant Society (CNPS); California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)

1A – Presumed extirpated in California, rare elsewhere

1B – Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere

2A – Presumed extirpated in California, common elsewhere

2B – Rare, threatened, or endangered in California, common elsewhere

3 – More information is needed

0.1 – Seriously threatened in California

0.2 – Moderately threatened in California

Appendix C – Cultural Resources

Memorandum

Appendix C contains sensitive information pertaining to cultural resources and has been withheld from public distribution pursuant to Public Resources Code, Sections 5097.9 and 5097.993

