

**LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
DRAFT INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District policies and Guidelines Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

PROJECT LABEL:

APN: 555-080-023	
Applicant: Lake Hemet Municipal Water District 26385 Fairview Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544	USGS Quad: Hemet
Community: East Hemet	T, R, Section: T5S R1E Sect 19
Location: Unincorporated Area of Hemet, Riverside County	Thomas Bros.: Page 841 Grid: G2 H2
Project No:	RCIP Area: San Jacinto Valley
Staff: Mike Gow, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District	Zoning District: Little Lake District
Rep: Lilburn Corporation, Michael Perry	Overlays: Agriculture-Potential Development Study Area Overlay
Proposal: The proposed project will involve the conversion of an existing approximate 6-acre flood control detention basin into a retention basin. The objective of the project is to increase groundwater recharge opportunities and to use the basin for stormwater runoff, infiltration of San Jacinto River water, and/or imported State Water Project (SWP) water. The project will involve the excavation of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of material to lower the existing retention basin bottom by approximately five feet. The Project will include a 150-foot extension of an existing irrigation pipeline located in Stetson Avenue to the basin to accommodate the use of SWP water and to facilitate recharge of San Jacinto River water. The irrigation pipeline extension, basin bottom and internal slopes will be maintained by Lake Hemet Water District and the outer slopes, basin outlet structure and maintenance road will be maintained by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD).	

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lead agency: Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
26385 Fairview Ave, Hemet, CA 92544

Contact person: Mike Gow, Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
Phone No: (951) 658-3241 **Fax No:** (951) 766-7031
E-mail: mgow@lhmwd.org

Project Sponsor: Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
1995 Market St. Riverside, CA 92501

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Lake Hemet Municipal Water District is proposing the conversion of the existing approximately 6-acre flood control detention basin (Little Lake Basin) into a retention basin. The basin is currently owned and operated by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFD&WCD). Refer to Figures 1 and 2 for a Regional Location Map and Vicinity Map/Aerial Photograph of the subject property. The objective of the project is to increase groundwater recharge opportunities and to use the basin for storm water runoff, infiltration of San Jacinto River water, and/or imported State Water Project (SWP) water. The District currently recharges an average of 7,500 acre-feet of State Water Project water annually to the aquifers in the San Jacinto and Hemet basins, meeting requirements of the Stipulated Judgment entered April 18, 2013 (*Eastern Municipal Water District v. City of Hemet, City of San Jacinto, and Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, Case No. RIC 1207274*). Construction of basin improvements would allow an additional opportunity for recharging SWP water when it is available. An existing pipeline will be extended to facilitate recharge of San Jacinto River water and accommodate the use of SWP water to be delivered by Eastern Municipal Water District (See Figure 3).

The use of Lake Street Basin for groundwater recharge was identified in the Hemet/San Jacinto Groundwater Management Area Water Management Plan as the Little Valley Project (Water Resources & Information Management Engineering, Inc., 2007). The Water Management Plan identifies Lake Street Basin as one of seven preferred project sites for direct recharge of groundwater. Direct recharge is generally described as the use of imported water, surface water, or recycled water to recharge groundwater through surface spreading. Lake Street Basin was identified as a preferred site based on screening criteria that included: general site characteristics, hydrogeological suitability, sub-basin interaction, engineering suitability, land use suitability, and environmental impacts.

The estimated quantity of recharge supplied by surface flows will depend on rain events. By excavating and deepening the basin it is estimated that an additional 15 acre-feet of water can be captured with each rain event and allowed to percolate into the aquifer, that otherwise would have flowed downstream. Assuming 15 rain events at 15 acre-feet each would total an estimated 225 acre-feet per year of recharge. Dry season recharge would be limited to 225 acre-feet per year maximum from Northern California imported water purchased from Eastern Municipal Water District via Metropolitan Water District and the State Water Project when surplus water is available.

Construction of the retention basin will involve the excavation of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of material to lower the basin depth by approximately five-feet. This will allow stormwater flows and unused/excess irrigation water to be retained for direct recharge of groundwater. The Project will also include construction of an approximate 150-foot extension of the existing irrigation pipeline located in Stetson Avenue. This 8-inch PVC pipeline extension will allow the excess irrigation water to flow into the converted retention basin.

Complete construction is anticipated within 60 days of initiation. Excavators would access the basin bottom via the existing access ramps and remove sediment to an upland location. No stockpiling would occur within the basin banks during construction.

Long-term maintenance of the basin bottom and internal slopes will continue to be provided by Lake Hemet Water District and the outer slopes will continue to be maintained by the RCFCD&WCD.

ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Located in the community of east Hemet, the Lake Street Basin is an existing detention basin used by the RCFC&WCD to assist in storm flow capture and flood control within the San Jacinto Valley watershed. The approximate 6-acre retention basin is fenced and gated. The basin contains concrete spillways for the inflow and outflow of stormwaters. One cement spillway occurs on the south bank of the basin and three culvert inlet structures with riprap are on the south, east, and north banks. Conversion of the detention basin into a retention basin will entail removing approximately 35,000 cubic yards of earthen material from the bottom of the detention basin to effectively lower the basin depth by approximately five-feet. This will allow stormwater flows and unused/excess irrigation water to be retained for direct recharge of groundwater. Currently, the basin is also used by the Water Master for recharging the San Jacinto River near the extension of Esplanade Avenue with excess irrigation water. The Proposed Project will also allow opportunity for the recharge of SWP water to be delivered from Eastern Municipal Water District to the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District through an existing distribution system in the vicinity.

The site is characterized as a highly disturbed area devoid of vegetation. The Project Site is located in an agricultural area of east Hemet and is surrounded on the west, east, and south by inactive agricultural land uses. Property north of the Project Site is actively being used for citrus production.

The Proposed Project is surrounded by land with a MSHCP designation of agricultural land on all sides; the site is located in the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan of the MSHCP. The project site is developed and maintained as a flood control basin operated by RCFC&WCD. The RCFC&WCD also conducts regular maintenance of the basin including vegetation clearing. Soil on the basin bottom is compact with sparse herbaceous vegetation.

Although the project proponent and CEQA Lead Agency is the Lake Hemet Water District, the (RCFC&WCD is acting as responsible agency under CEQA and is assisting in the basin conversion design, permitting, and construction.

SURROUNDING LAND USES

The Proposed Project Site is designated in the Riverside County General Plan and identified in the Riverside County Land Information System¹ (RCLIS) as Very Low Density Residential (RC-VLDR) and the site is zoned for agricultural land uses with a General Plan Policy Area identification of Agriculture-Potential Development Study Area. The existing land uses, general plan, and zoning designations surrounding the Proposed Project Site include:

	Existing Land Use	General Plan Land Use Designation	Existing Zoning
North	Agriculture (Active Citrus Production)	Very Low Density Residential	Agriculture (A1-10)
South	Agriculture (Fallow)	Agriculture (AG)	Agriculture (A1-10)
East	Agriculture (Fallow)	Agriculture (AG)	Agriculture (A1-10)
West	Agriculture (Fallow)	Medium Density Residential	Agriculture (A1-10)

¹ The Riverside County Land Information System or “RCLIS” is an internet based application created and maintained by the Geographic Information Services/Forecasting and Analysis section of the Administrative Services Department for the Riverside County Transportation & Land Management Agency.

As identified within the RCLIS, the Project Site is not located in the following planning areas:

General Plan Policy Overlay	Zoning Overlay	Historic Preservation District
Specific Plan Area	Agricultural Preserve	Airport Influence Area
Airport Compatibility Zone		

As identified within the RCLIS, the Project Site is not located in the following Environmental areas:

- Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area (CVMSHCP)
- CVMSHCP – Fluvial Sand Transport Special Provision Area
- Western Riverside County Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRMSHCP) Cell Group
- Habitat Acquisition and Negotiation Strategy/Expedited Review Process

PURPOSE

The objective of the project is to increase groundwater recharge opportunities and to use the basin for infiltration of storm water runoff, San Jacinto River water, and/or imported State Water Project water.

REGULATORY PERMITS REQUIRED

The Project Proponent has been notified by the Los Angeles District Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division that the Proposed Project will not be regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Project Proponent will be responsible for notifying the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) of proposed impacts to approximately 3.6 acres of jurisdictional waters via a 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Notification. In addition, the Project Proponent will be responsible for notifying the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) of the proposed temporary impacts to the approximately 3.6-acre basin and comply with any Waste Discharge Requirements that may be issued. No regulatory permits are anticipated.



LILBURN CORPORATION

REGIONAL VICINITY

Little Lake Basin Recharge Modifications
Riverside County, California

Figure 1



Date: July 23, 2013



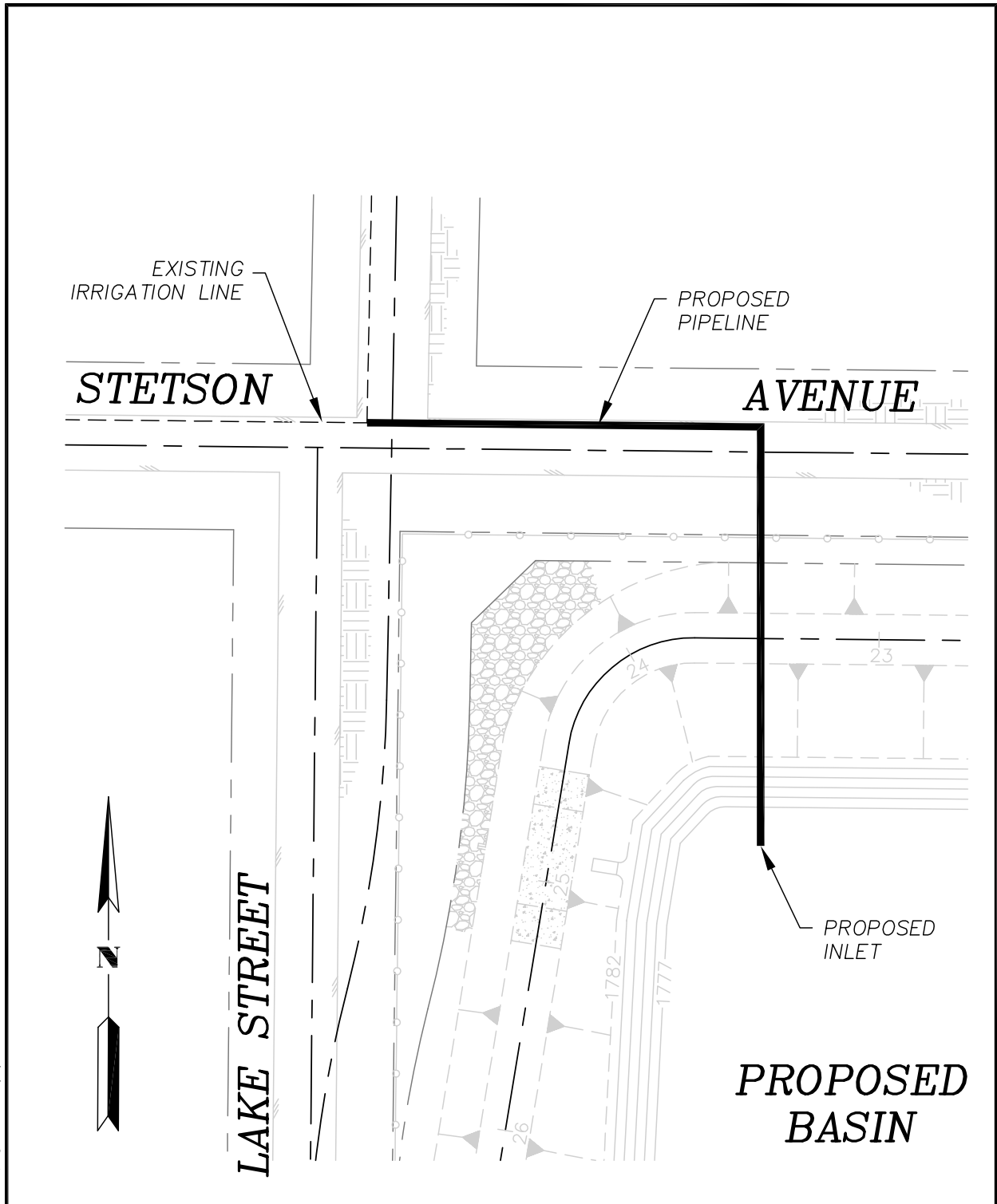
Approximate Feet

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PROJECT LOCATION

Little Lake Basin Recharge Modifications
Riverside County, California

Figure 2



Source: Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, Figure Date: 9/3/2013



LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 26385 FAIRVIEW AVE. HEMET, CA
 P.O. BOX 5039, HEMET, CA 92544

EXHIBIT

**PROPOSED
 BASIN INLET**

NOT TO SCALE

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:


The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

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

DETERMINATION:


On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Signature: Michael Perry, Program Manager-Environmental Studies
Lilburn Corporation (Preparer)

1-8-14
Date



Mike Gow, District Engineer
Lake Hemet Municipal Water District

1/7/14
Date

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS — Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a,c) **No Impact:** According to the County of Riverside General Plan, the Project Site is not within a scenic vista/scenic highway view corridor. Nearby streets including Lake Street and East Stetson Avenue are not considered scenic routes. The Proposed Project includes conversion of an existing detention basin into a retention basin which will not change the visual character of the existing land use. The Proposed Project includes exportation of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of earthen material to lower the bottom of the basin by approximately five feet but not significantly alter the existing vista. No above-ground structures will be developed as part of the Proposed Project. Therefore, less than significant impacts to scenic resources would result. Similarly, there are no rock outcroppings or trees that would be adversely affected by the Proposed Project. No impacts are anticipated.
- b) **No Impact:** The Project Site is located on the southeast corner of East Stetson Avenue and Lake Street in the community of East Hemet, and is not located in the vicinity of a scenic highway. Therefore, no impacts to scenic resources would occur.
- d) **No Impact:** The Project Site is currently a detention basin and will be converted into a retention basin by lowering the bottom of the basin by approximately five feet. The Project Site is located in Lighting Zone B (Riverside County Ordinance No. 655 regulating light pollution) according to the Riverside County General Plan and is located 25.76 miles from the Mt. Palomar Observatory. The Proposed Project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare or introduce any additional nighttime lighting to the area. No impact is anticipated.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES - In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **No Impact:** According to the Riverside County General Plan Land Use Map LU-1, the site is designated Agricultural (AG A-1-10) allowing for Light Agricultural with 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres. The Project Site and surrounding area have not been identified or designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency. No impacts to Farmland would result.
- b) **No Impact:** The existing detention basin is surrounded by active and fallow agricultural land. The basin has been in existence since the 1970s and does not present a conflict with the surrounding agricultural land uses. Since there is not an existing agricultural use or Williamson Act contract on the site occupied

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by the basin, the Proposed Project and its location would not impact any agricultural land use or Williamson Act land conservation contract

- c) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project does not involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to its location or nature, could result in conversion of Prime Farmland, to a non-agricultural use.
- d, e) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing detention basin into a retention basin. The project vicinity is located in the Hemet Valley portion of Riverside County and is not within or near forest lands. Thus no loss of farmland, forest land, or conversion of the land uses to non-forest/non-farmlands would result from project implementation.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY - Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

The Project Site is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the SCAB.

- a) **No Impact.** The project site is within the SCAB and under the jurisdiction of the SCAQMD. The SCAQMD is responsible for updating the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The AQMP was

developed for the primary purpose of controlling emissions to maintain all federal and state ambient air standards for the SCAQMD. The Proposed Project is the conversion of a flood control basin into a retention basin. Construction of the basin will involve the excavation of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of material to lower the basin bottom, and a 150-foot extension of the existing irrigation pipeline located in Stetson Avenue (approximately 70 feet within the road right-of-way). Development of the proposed basin improvements is consistent with the County’s General Plan. The project would not conflict with the AQMP and therefore, no impact is anticipated.

b/c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Proposed Project site development and construction was screened using the SCAQMD Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks 2013 and Off Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors 2013. The criteria pollutants screened for included: reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrous oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), and particulates (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}). Two of these, ROG and NO_x, are ozone precursors. Project emissions are reflected in Table 1, with a worst case haul distance of 20 miles. Once construction is complete and the basin is operational no operational emissions are anticipated. The emission generated by construction of the Proposed Project is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Import Emissions Summary
(Pounds Per Day)

Source	ROG	NO_x	CO	SO₂	PM₁₀	PM_{2.5}
Loader	1.0	3.8	7.4	0.0	0.4	0.4
Dozer	0.6	2.3	5.1	0.0	0.2	0.2
Water Truck	0.2	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.1
Misc. Construction pieces	0.2	0.8	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.1
Hauling Trucks ¹	6.5	19.4	1.4	0.0	0.7	0.7
Total (lbs/day)	8.5	26.6	17.1	0.0	1.5	1.5
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	150	55
Significant	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: SCAQMD Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks 2013

¹ SCAQMD Off Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors 2013

As shown in Table 1, construction emissions would not exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Impacts would be less than significant.

Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds for construction emissions, the District will be required to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations as the SCAB is in non-attainment status for ozone and suspended particulates (PM₁₀).

Compliance with SCAQMD Rule 402, and 403

The project shall comply with, Rules 402 nuisance, and 403, fugitive dust, which require the implementation of Best Available Control Measures (BACM) for each fugitive dust source, and the Air Quality Management Plan (AMCP), which identifies Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) for area sources and point sources, respectively. This would include, but not be limited to the following:

1. The project proponent shall ensure that any portion of the site to be graded shall be pre-watered prior to the onset of grading activities.
 - (a) The project proponent shall ensure that watering of the site or other soil stabilization method shall be employed on an on-going basis after the initiation of any grading activity on the site. Portions of the site that are actively being graded shall be watered regularly (2x daily) to ensure that a crust is formed on the ground surface, and shall be watered at the end of each workday.
 - (b) The project proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are treated to prevent erosion until the site is constructed upon.
 - (c) The project proponent shall ensure that landscaped areas are installed as soon as possible to reduce the potential for wind erosion.
 - (d) The project proponent shall ensure that all grading activities are suspended during first and second stage ozone episodes or when winds exceed 25 miles per hour.

During construction, exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and equipment and fugitive dust generated by equipment traveling over exposed surfaces, would increase NO_x and PM₁₀ levels in the area. Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds during construction, the District will be required to implement the following conditions as required by SCAQMD:

2. To reduce emissions, all equipment used in grading and construction must be tuned and maintained to the manufacturer's specification to maximize efficient burning of vehicle fuel.
3. The project proponent shall ensure that existing power sources are utilized where feasible via temporary power poles to avoid on-site power generation during construction.
4. The project proponent shall ensure that construction personnel are informed of ride sharing and transit opportunities.
5. All buildings on the project site shall conform to energy use guidelines in Title 24 of the California Administrative Code.
6. The operator shall maintain and effectively utilize and schedule on-site equipment in order to minimize exhaust emissions from truck idling.
7. The operator shall comply with all existing and future CARB and SCAQMD regulations related to diesel-fueled trucks, which may include among others: (1) meeting more stringent emission standards; (2) retrofitting existing engines with particulate traps; (3) use of low sulfur fuel; and (4) use of alternative fuels or equipment.

Operational Emissions

The Proposed Project is the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. Although infrequent maintenance will occur on-site, no operational emissions are associated with the proposed basin improvements and as shown in Table 1, development of the

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proposed improvements would not exceed any criteria pollutant thresholds. Less than significant impact is anticipated.

- d) **No Impact:** The modeling results, as shown in Table 1, indicate that development of the Proposed Project is not anticipated to exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Therefore, impacts to sensitive receptors are not anticipated.
- e) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project is the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. This end use is not anticipated to generate emissions that would create objectionable odors. No impact is anticipated.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc...) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation:** The Proposed Project is located within the boundaries of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) – San Jacinto Valley Area Plan and the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency, Habitat Conservation Plan for the Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat in Western Riverside County, California. In addition, the Project Site has MSHCP habitat assessment requirements for burrowing owl.

A Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) {Appendix A} was prepared to assess potential impacts the Proposed Project may have upon biological resources located on or near the subject property. The Project Site is developed and maintained as a flood control basin operated by RCFC&WCD. The RCFC&WCD also conducts regular maintenance of the basin including vegetation clearing. At the time of the BRA surveys, the basin was predominantly devoid of vegetation. Soil on the basin bottom was cracked and had sparse herbaceous vegetation; plant species observed included: mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), telegraph weed (*Heterothca grandiflora*), ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), dove weed (*Croton setigerus*), wire lettuce (*Stephanomeria pauciflora*), and tarragon (*Artemisia dracuncululus*). None of these species are considered rare, threatened or endangered.

As part of the BRA the project area was also evaluated for the potential presence of threatened, endangered, or candidate plant and animal species. The evaluation was based on either direct observation of the species or presence of suitable habitat for that species. If suitable habitat was present, the probability for presence of the species was determined by other factors such as: human influences, existing records and proximity of similar observed species, and any other factors that would either benefit or detract from the species being present. No threatened, endangered, or candidate plant and animal species were observed on the subject site

The Project Site and surrounding developed land was not identified to have habitat suitable for the Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat or burrowing owl. Soil on the Project Site was compact and not amenable for digging of burrows. Land uses adjacent to the Project Site and within the 500-foot survey radius included agricultural land, undeveloped disked fields, and the Little Lake recreational facility. The agricultural lands are susceptible to regular disturbance and no burrowing owls were observed. The adjacent undeveloped land is vegetated with semi-natural herbaceous cover and appears to be disked regularly to control vegetation growth.

As required by the MSHCP focused surveys for burrowing owl were conducted (July 30, 2013) following the protocol established in the Burrowing Owl Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple

Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area. No burrowing owls or sign of burrowing owls were observed within the survey area (refer to Appendix A).

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database indicated that the closest burrowing owl records are located approximately 2½ miles north of the Project Site near the San Jacinto River. However, to insure less than significant impact occur to burrowing owls the following mitigation measures shall be implemented:

BIO-1: The Project Proponent shall conduct take avoidance pre-construction surveys by a qualified biologist for burrowing owl a maximum of 14 days prior to ground disturbing activities. If owls or burrows are identified, take of active nests will be avoided as described in the BMP Appendix C of the MSHCP or passive relocation should be implemented as appropriate.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact:** The RFCF & WCD conducts regular maintenance of the basin including vegetation clearing. At the time of the BRA survey, the basin was predominantly devoid of vegetation. Soil on the basin bottom was cracked and had sparse herbaceous vegetation; plant species observed included: mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), dove weed (*Croton setigerus*), wire lettuce (*Stephanomeria pauciflora*), and tarragon (*Artemisia dracuncululus*). The basin banks were devoid of vegetation and had compact soils with tractor tracks visible. Less than significant impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities would result.
- c) **No Impact:** According to the BRA prepared for the Proposed Project, no wetlands or riparian areas are located on-site. Therefore, no impacts to protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act would result.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact:** The Project Site is located in a developing area and the wildlife corridor utility is largely fragmented. Surrounding land uses to the north, east, and west include fallow and active citrus groves and the Little Lake recreational facility. Parcels south of the Lake Street Basin are fallow agricultural lands and covered with semi-natural herbaceous stands that provide connectivity to the Santa Rosa Hills. The Proposed Project would not impact the existing limited wildlife corridor functions. Therefore, project implementation would result in a less than significant impact.
- e) **Less than Significant Impact:** The Project Site is devoid of trees and only supports limited vegetation; therefore trees would not be impacted. In addition, the BRA completed for the project was conducted in compliance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan guidelines. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 will ensure potential conflicts with local plans and policies will be less than significant.
- f) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project would not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impacts are anticipated

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. **CULTURAL RESOURCES** - Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a, b) **Less than Significant.** McKenna et. al. completed a cultural resource investigation addressing the Project Site in August, 2013 (See Appendix B). The investigation concluded that the project area is not sensitive for prehistoric or archaeological resources. Less than significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated. However, if any sensitive historic or pre-historic artifacts are uncovered during any excavation and construction activities, a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted for evaluation of the deposits.
- c) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** Paleontological resources are the fossilized remains of organisms from prehistoric environments found in geologic strata. Paleontological sites generally occur as small outcroppings visible on the surface of sites encountered during grading. The cultural investigation for the Project Sites concluded that the project area is highly sensitive for paleontological resources. The following mitigation measure shall be implemented:
- CR-1: All excavations exceeding four-feet below the current surface level shall be monitored by a qualified/professional archaeologist. Should paleontological resources be unearthed during grading or excavation activities, a vertebrate paleontologist shall be contacted to determine the significance, and make recommendations for appropriate mitigation in compliance with the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act.**
- d) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** Construction activities, particularly grading, could potentially disturb human remains interred outside of a formal cemetery. The following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

CR-2: In the event that human remains are encountered during grading or excavation activities, all provisions of state law requiring notification of the County Coroner, contacting the Native American Heritage Commission, and consultation with the most likely descendant, shall be followed.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 181-B of the California Building Code (2001) creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact:** The Project Site is situated within the northern Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province of California. Locally, the project lies near the transition zone between the Transverse Ranges Geomorphic Province to the north and the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province to the south. The Peninsular Ranges are a northwest-southeast oriented complex of blocks separated by similarly trending faults which extend 125 miles from the Transverse Ranges to south of the California/Mexican border and beyond another 775 miles to the tip of Baja California.

According to the Southern California Earthquake Data Center (www.data.scec.org), several fault systems including the Casa Loma Fault, San Jacinto Fault and the San Jacinto Fault Zone are located within relatively close proximity to the subject site. The subject site lies on the western edge of the San Jacinto Fault Zone and is capable of producing a maximum credible earthquake magnitude (M_w) of 6.5-7.5. The most recent surface rupture was on April 9, 1968.

The Project Site is located outside of an Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone as depicted on Figure S-2 of Riverside County General Plan. Reviews of official maps delineating State of California earthquake fault zones (7.5 Minute Series, State of California Special Studies Zones, Hemet Quadrangle, Official Map) indicated the site is not located within a zone for mandatory study for active faulting.

Earthquakes, due to their ground acceleration and shifting, can cause major damage to buildings and create dangerous hazards to people through injury or death. Development in the seismically active southern California region must mitigate these potential hazards through strict adherence to the California Building Code (CBC) and recommendations by geotechnical engineers. The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing detention basin into a retention basin. No structures are proposed to be developed on the Project Site that would involve exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving earthquake rupture, liquefaction, or landslides, therefore less than significant impacts are anticipated

- b) **Less than Significant Impact:** The State of California is authorized to administer various aspects of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Construction activities covered under the State's General Construction permit include removal of vegetation, grading, excavation, or any other activity that causes the disturbance of one acre or more.

The General Construction permit requires developments of one-acre or more to reduce or eliminate non-storm water discharges into storm water systems, and to develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Santa Ana Region has issued an area-wide NPDES Storm Water Permit for the County of Riverside. In compliance with its area-wide NPDES Storm Water Permit, the County of Riverside requires implementation of measures for a project to comply with the area-wide permit requirements. The SWPPP would include Best Management Practices (BMP's) to prevent construction of the project to pollute surface waters. This is a standard condition of approval applicable to this project. BMP's would include, but would not be limited to street sweeping of adjacent roads during construction and the use of hay bales or sand bags to control erosion during the rainy season.

Compliance with the NPDES permit requirements, implementation would protect the site from the loss of topsoil and off-site sedimentation, resulting in less than significant impacts.

c) **Less Than Significant Impact:** The Project Site is located outside of an Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone, but within an area susceptible to liquefaction as depicted on Figure S-2 in the Riverside County General Plan. The Proposed Project will entail excavation and exporting of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of fill materials to lower the basin bottom by approximately five feet. All grading and pipeline excavation work would be done in accordance to a grading plan prepared by the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District. The Proposed conversion of the basin from detention to retention does not entail development of any structures that could potentially collapse; therefore the project-related activities would not create unstable soils, and impacts are considered less than significant.

d) **No Impact:** The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Soil Survey (NRCS) identifies five soil types at the project site as follows:

- SeA: San Emigdio fine sandy loam, 0-2% slopes
- SfA: San Emigdio fine sandy loam, deep, 0-2% slopes
- SeC2: San Emigdio fine sandy loam, 2-8% slopes, eroded
- RaB2: Ramona sandy loam, 2-5% slopes, eroded
- SgA: San Emigdio loam, 0-2% slopes

The NRCS identifies all soils within in the project area as not hydric. No occupied structures are proposed as part of the project therefore no impacts are anticipated.

e) **No Impact:** No facilities at Proposed Project would require wastewater facilities or the need to expand the existing capacity of the wastewater disposal system. No septic tanks or alternative wastewater system would be necessary and therefore, no impacts would occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

The County of Riverside has not adopted its own thresholds of significance for greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the SCAQMD approach to determining significance of greenhouse gas emissions was used for the analysis documented below.

GHG Thresholds

On December 5, 2008, the SCAQMD Governing Board adopted an Interim GHG Significance Threshold for industrial projects where SCAQMD is the lead agency (e.g., stationary source permit project, rules, plans, etc.) of 10,000 metric tons CO₂e/year.

As part of the Interim GHG Significance Threshold development process for industrial projects, the SCAQMD established a working group of stakeholders that also considered thresholds for residential/commercial projects. As discussed in the Interim GHG Significance Thresholds guidance document, the focus for residential/commercial projects is on performance standards and a screening level of thresholds. For discussion purposes, the SCAQMD's working group considered performance standards primarily focused on energy efficiency measures beyond Title 24 and a screening level of 3,000 metric tons CO₂e/year based on the relative GHG emissions contributed between residential/commercial sectors and stationary source (industrial) sectors. The working group and staff ultimately decided that additional analysis was needed to further define the performance standards and to coordinate with CARB staff's interim GHG proposal. SCAQMD staff, therefore, did not recommend action for adopting an interim threshold for residential/commercial project but rather recommended bringing this item back to the Board for discussion and possible action in March 2009 if CARB does not take its final action by February 2009. As of this date, no final action on a significance threshold for residential/commercial projects has been taken. Therefore, because the project is a non-industrial use the threshold limit is 3,000 metric tons CO₂e/year.

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact:** Per CEQA guidelines, new project emissions are treated as standard emissions, and air quality impacts are evaluated for significance on an air basin or even at a neighborhood level. Greenhouse gas emissions are treated differently, in that the perspective is global, not local. Therefore, emissions for certain types of projects might not necessarily be considered as new emissions if the project is primarily population driven. GHG emissions were screened for the Proposed Project with the operational criteria described in Section III - Air Quality, and using the SCAQMD "Air Quality Handbook" guidelines, Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2013), SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2013), and California Climate Action Registry General Reporting Protocol, 2009I; Table A9-8-C SCAQMD Handbook. The pollutants screened included: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), and Nitrous oxide (N₂O). Project GHG emissions are shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Construction Emissions Summary
Greenhouse Gases
(Tons/yr)

Source/Phase	CO ₂	CH ₄	N ₂ O ²
Loader	26.2	0.0	0.0
Dozer	57.4	0.0	0.0
Water Truck	29.5	0.0	0.0
Misc. Construction	29.5	0.0	0.0
Hauling Trucks ¹	91.2	0.0	0.0
Total	233.8	0.0	0.0
Total MTCO₂e	212.2		
SCAQMD Threshold	3,000		
Significant	No		

Source: SCAQMD 2013 Off-road Mobile Source Emission Factors

1-SCAQMD, Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks

2-California Climate Action Registry General Reporting Protocol, 2009, Table C.4

As shown in Table 2, GHG emissions are not anticipated to exceed SCAQMD thresholds.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact:** The County of Riverside has not adopted its own thresholds of significance for greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the SCAQMD approach to determining significance of greenhouse gas emissions was used. As shown in Table 2, GHG emissions are not anticipated to exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Therefore, less than significant impact is anticipated.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. Construction activities would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, because construction of the facilities would not involve such activities. Similarly post-construction activities would not involve the routine transport or use of hazardous materials; therefore no impacts are anticipated.
- b) **No Impact:** The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. The proposed land use as a retention basin is not anticipated to generate hazardous waste materials. No Impacts would result.
- c) **No Impact:** The project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of a school. The nearest school is the Hemet Valley Seventh-day Adventist School located at 26312 Hemet Street, Hemet, CA 92544, approximately ¾-mile north of the subject site. The Project will not generate waste that is considered hazardous, release hazardous waste into the neighborhood, or involve the handling of acutely hazardous materials within one-quarter mile of a school, thus no impacts are anticipated.
- d) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. The site does not occur on a list of hazardous materials sites. No impacts would occur as a result of the Proposed Project.
- e-f) **No Impact:** The site is not located within an airport land use plan and is not within two miles of a public airport. The nearest airport is the Hemet-Ryan Airport located approximately 5.5 miles west of the Project Site. As indicted in the County General Plan and within the Riverside County Land Information System, the Project Site does not occur within an Airport Influence Area. Therefore, the project would not result in safety hazard impacts from aircraft-related uses. The proposed retention basin would not create a safety hazard to people or aircraft. No impacts are anticipated.
- g) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project includes involves the conversion of an existing detention basin into a retention basin. The project area is not identified as being subject to any adopted emergency response plan, and is not anticipated to impair or physically interfere with any emergency evacuation plans. No impact is anticipated.

- h) **No Impact:** According to the County General Plan and Riverside County Land Information System, the Project Site is not located in a fire hazard area. No impacts are anticipated.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY –

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level, which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

a,f) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** The Proposed Project would disturb the basin bottom of an approximately 6-acre flood control detention basin and include excavation for 150 feet of pipeline. The project is therefore determined to be subject to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements. The State of California is authorized to administer various aspects of the NPDES. Construction activities covered under the State’s General Construction permit include removal of vegetation, grading, excavating, or any other activity that causes the disturbance of one acre or more. The General Construction permit requires recipients to reduce or eliminate non-storm water discharges into stormwater systems, and to develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The purpose of a SWPPP is to: 1) identify pollutant sources that may affect the quality of discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities; and 2) identify, construct and implement stormwater pollution control measures to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the construction site during and after construction.

The RWQCB has issued an area-wide NPDES Storm Water Permit for the County of Riverside, the RCFC&WCD, and the incorporated cities of Riverside County. The County of Riverside requires implementation of measures for a project to comply with the area-wide permit requirements. A SWPPP is based on the principles of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control and abate pollutants. The SWPPP must include (BMPs) so that construction of the project would not pollute surface waters. BMPs may include, but are not limited to street sweeping of paved roads around the site during construction, and the use of hay bales or sand bags to control erosion during the rainy season. BMPs may also include or require:

- The contractor to avoid applying materials during periods of rainfall and protect freshly applied materials from runoff until dry.
- All waste to be disposed of in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. The contractor will be required to contract with a local waste hauler or ensure that waste containers are emptied weekly. Waste containers cannot be washed out on-site.
- All equipment and vehicles are to be serviced off-site.

Compliance with the area-wide NPDES permit conditions will ensure potential water quality impacts are less than significant.

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The project would allow the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District to recharge the underlying groundwater basin with storm flows, surface flows, and State Water Project water, as available. The recharging of groundwater could have an impact on the underlying groundwater quality and water provided to the District's domestic water customers. The closest source of water level information is "D Well", located on the east side of Hemet Street, south of Mayberry about 1¼ miles from the Project Site. The most recent depth-to-water reading from that well was taken in December 2012 and showed a depth of 348 feet. The Lake Hemet Municipal Water District's nearest wells, used for providing a water supply to their domestic (non-agricultural) water customers, are located approximately 2½ miles from the Project Site. The Project Site is in the Hemet South basin which has a water quality objective of 730 parts per million of total dissolved solids, which is typically higher than SPW water provided by Eastern Municipal Water District. There are no known plumes of contamination underlying, or in the vicinity of the Project Site.

The District uses untreated SWP water as a supplement for irrigation demands of agricultural customers. Surplus, untreated, SWP water is also used to recharge an average of 7,500 acre-feet/year to the aquifers in the San Jacinto and Hemet basins. These recharge operations currently occur at recharge ponds located easterly of Esplanade/Ramona Expressway. Use of SWP in the Lake Street Basin is not a required part of the project but would provide additional recharge opportunities when surplus SWP water is available.

- b) **No Impact:** The project proponent is the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD), a municipal water system that provides potable water to residents within its service area that include portions of the city of Hemet, and the communities of San Jacinto, Garner Valley and surrounding unincorporated areas. The LHMWD also maintains Lake Hemet as a clean and safe water reservoir and recreational facility. The retention capacity provided by the proposed Project will increase LHMWD's groundwater recharge capacity by approximately 55%. The project will not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge but will provide for increased groundwater recharge capacity.

- c-e) **No Impact:** A field survey of the project area was conducted on July 30, 2013 for the purpose of assessing habitat present within and immediately adjacent to the project area and to identify potential jurisdictional drainages and wetlands, resources associated with jurisdictional drainages and wetlands, and potential project impact to jurisdictional drainages and wetlands. Lake Street Basin receives storm water flows from the south and southeast. In the southeast, sheet flow from citrus groves becomes channelized at a culvert under a dirt access road, flows through a sandy channel in an undeveloped parcel, and ultimately flows into the basin via an underground pipe. Water from the basin outlets near the northwest corner, flows west in an open storm drain on the south side of Stetson Avenue, an ultimately enters the RCFC&WCD drain system at Soboba Street which is tributary to the San Jacinto River. The Proposed Project would alter the existing storm flow detention function of the basin to retaining storm flows, San Jacinto surface water, and SPW water when available for groundwater recharge. The basin improvements would be to lower the elevation of the basin bottom and the pipeline extension would involve excavation of 1,500 feet for pipeline placement. None of these project construction activities would result in substantial change to existing drainage patterns of the site or area. The project's objective is to capture storm flows and reduce off site flooding.

- g) **No Impact:** The Project Site occurs outside of the 100-year flood zone according to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 6065C211OG. The Project will not place unprotected housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate

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Map or other flood hazard delineation map, because no housing is proposed as part of the project. According to the Riverside County General Plan and the Riverside County Land Information System a Flood Plan Review is not required for the project. No impacts are anticipated.

- h) **No Impact:** According to FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 6065C211OG the Project Site occurs outside of the 100-year flood zone. No impacts are anticipated
- i) **No Impact:** The Project Site is not located in a flood inundation area that could result from the failure of a dam or levee. Additionally, the Proposed Project does not include facilities that would expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding. No impacts would occur.
- j) **No Impact:** Due to the inland distance from the Pacific Ocean and any other significant body of water, tsunamis and seiching are not potential hazards; therefore impacts from seiche and tsunami are not anticipated.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. The Proposed Project would be consistent with the County’s General Plan and would not physically divide an established community; no impacts are anticipated.
- b) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project does not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project. No impacts would result.
- c) **No Impact:** The project would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan, because there is no habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan within the area surrounding the Project Site and no habitat conservation lands are required to be purchased as mitigation for the Proposed Project. No impacts are anticipated.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES - Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a-b) **No Impact:** No loss of valuable mineral resource will occur with the development of the project. The project will demand minimal aggregate resources during construction consisting primarily of asphalt which will be required to construct the approximate 150-foot pipeline extension. These resources are commercially available in the southern California region without any constraint and no potential for adverse impacts to the natural resources base supporting these materials is forecast to occur. The project demand for mineral resources is not significant due to the abundance of available local aggregate resources.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact:** The Project Site occurs within Mineral Resource Zone MRZ-3 as adopted by the State Mining and Geology Board and as identified in the Updated Mineral Land Classification Map for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the San Bernardino Production-Consumption (P-C) Region, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California, 2008. The primary goal of the mineral resource classification system is to identify regionally significant mineral deposits in an effort to conserve and develop them for anticipated aggregate production needs of the region. The MRZ-3 areas indicate areas containing known or inferred mineral occurrences of undetermined mineral resource significance. By statute, the Board does not utilize existing land uses as a criterion in its classification of Mineral Resources Zones. Based on the urbanized location of the site and its size, mining would not be feasible and therefore the Proposed Project would not result in a significant loss or availability of a known mineral resource that could be developed.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. NOISE - Would the project:				

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

a) **Less than Significant Impact:** Noise can be measured in the form of a decibel (dB), which is a unit for describing the amplitude of sound. The predominant rating scales for noise in the State of California are the Equivalent-Continuous Sound Level (L_{eq}), and the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), which are both based on the A-weighted decibel (dBA). L_{eq} is defined as the total sound energy of time-varying noise over a sample period. CNEL is defined as the time-varying noise over a 24-hour period, with a weighting factor of 5 dBA applied to the hourly L_{eq} for noises occurring from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. (defined as relaxation hours) and 10 dBA applied to events occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. defined as sleeping hours). The State of California's Office of Noise Control has established standards and guidelines for acceptable community noise levels based on the CNEL and L_{dn} rating scales. The purpose of these standards and guidelines is to provide a framework for setting local standards for human exposure to noise. Residential development, schools, churches, hospitals, and libraries have a normally acceptable community noise exposure range of 60 dBA CNEL to 70 dBA CNEL. Industrial development, manufacturing, and warehousing, have a normally acceptable community noise exposure range of 70 dBA CNEL to 80 dBA CNEL. Office buildings, businesses and professional buildings have a normally acceptable community noise exposure range of 67 dBA CNEL to 77 dBA CNEL.

A review of the project area did not reveal any major noise source in the project area that would impact the Project Site or be impacted by proposed on-site activities. Existing and future traffic noise along East Stetson Avenue and Lake Street is not considered significant. Employees utilizing the converted

retention basin would not be exposed to noise levels in excess of State-established standards. Similarly less than significant impacts from the project are anticipated for the single family home located on the northwest corner of East Stetson Avenue and Lake Street.

- b) **No Impact:** Operation of the Proposed Project would not require the use of equipment that would generate excessive ground borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels. It is likely that minor vibration would result from construction and grading activities. However construction activities would be short-term and would occur within the daytime hours. No impacts are anticipated.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact:** The proposed construction is anticipated to generate short-term construction noise. Post-construction activities at the Proposed Project are not anticipated to expose people to noise levels or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the County’s General Plan or Development Code. The nearest receptor, a single family home is located at the northwest corner of East Stetson Avenue and Lake Street approximately 100 feet northwest of the site would not be exposed to excessive post project-related noise levels. Therefore, less than significant impacts are anticipated.
- d) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** The proposed construction is anticipated to generate short-term construction noise. Post-construction activities at the site are not anticipated to expose people to noise levels or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the County’s General Plan or Development Code. The nearest receptor, a single family home is located at the northwest corner of East Stetson Avenue and Lake Street approximately 100 feet northwest of the site would not be exposed to excessive post project-related noise levels. Adhering to the County’s noise ordinance would ensure impacts from construction would be less than significant.
- e-f) **No Impact:** As shown on Riverside County General Plan Map C-the Project Site does not occur within an Airport Influence Area. Therefore, no impacts from aircraft noise would result to employees maintaining the retention basin.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING - Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **No Impact:** Construction at the site would be short-term and would not create any new long-term construction jobs. Operation of the converted retention basin would not result in any new jobs. The Proposed Project would not induce population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. No impact would result.
- b,c) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge thus, the Proposed Project would not reduce the number of existing housing units, displace people or necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact would result.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

- a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

No Impact: The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. The project would not result in impacts to government facilities or require the construction of new government facilities. Service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives of public services would not be impacted as a result of the Proposed Project.

- a) Fire Protection: The Riverside County Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the project site and vicinity. The Fire Department provides emergency medical care (with emergency medical team personnel and paramedics), "HazMat" (hazardous materials) teams and resources, and aircraft rescue and firefighting services. The Fire Department also conducts fire safety inspections of businesses, and educates the public about safety measures through school and disaster

preparedness programs. The Riverside County Fire Department, Little Lake Fire Station, located approximately 1-mile to the north at 25954 Stanford Street in the City of Hemet is the nearest station to the Project Site.

Police Protection: The Riverside County Sherriff’s Department provides law enforcement services for businesses and residences within the project area. The closest Riverside County Sheriff Department is located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the Project Site at 43950 Acacia Avenue in the City of Hemet. The Project Site is currently a detention basin that would be converted into a retention basin and would not require enhanced police protection services; therefore, no impacts to law enforcement are anticipated.

Schools: The Project Site is located within the boundary of the Hemet Unified School District. Implementation of the project would not generate additional housing or students and therefore no impact is anticipated.

Parks: The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. No new jobs would be created, nor would the project create a demand for additional housing or increase population, thus the project will have no impact upon parks or recreational activities within the region, therefore, no impact would result.

Government Services: The proposed development would not require the use of new or increased governmental services beyond the approval and permitting process. The Proposed Project is consistent with the General Plan. No impact is anticipated.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. RECREATION				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

a-b) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge and would not result in any new jobs or increases in population and therefore would not increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities resulting in a substantial physical deterioration of such facilities. No impacts would result.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a-b) Less than Significant Impact: The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. A temporary increase of traffic into the area would occur during the conversion of the basin to accommodate the excavation and exportation of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of fill materials necessary to lower the basin bottom by approximately five feet. Assuming Trucks with a load capacity of 23 cubic yards will be used to haul the material off-site. The proposed development is projected to generate approximately 225 daily vehicle trips in Passenger Car Equivalent ² . The project construction is anticipated to last approximately 5 to 6 weeks. Therefore less than significant impacts are anticipated.				
c) No Impact: According to the Riverside County General Plan Figure C-6, the Project Site does not occur within an airport influence area. The Proposed Project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns, an increase in traffic levels or substantial safety risks therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				

² The County of Riverside utilizes Passenger Car Equivalent factors of 1.5 for 2-axle trucks, 2.0 for 3-axle trucks, and 3.0 for 4+ axle trucks.

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- d) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project would not create or substantially increase hazardous conditions due to its design. The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. No internal roadways or unsafe conditions would be created that would substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible land uses. No impacts are anticipated.
- e) **No Impact:** Project implementation would not increase hazards to bicyclists or pedestrians, nor would it conflict with alternative transportation. Proposed development would be fenced and gated. Emergency access is not anticipated therefore no impacts will result.
- f) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. No operational off or on-street parking would be necessary and adequate area exists on-site for temporary construction workers. No impacts are anticipated
- g) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project would not significantly alter the roadway circulation system or impact roadways outside the Proposed Project area. Implementation of the project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Be served by a landfill(s) with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a-b) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project does not include construction of any restrooms or facilities that would require connection to a sewer system. Therefore the project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements or require construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. No impacts are anticipated.
- c) **No impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. Storm drains and flood control facilities within the planning area include natural and man-made channels, storm drains, street waterways, and natural drainage courses. Storm drain and flood control facilities are administered by RCFC&WCD, and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE). Currently the site sheet flows in a southwesterly direction. During initial rough grading activities, site drainage will be directed to temporary de-silting basins. The improved site will serve as a retention and percolation basin. No impacts are anticipated.
- d) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge. The retention basin will require no irrigated landscaping. No other water uses will be associated with the Proposed Project. No impacts are anticipated.
- f/g) **No impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing flood control detention basin into a retention basin for groundwater recharge, and is not anticipated to generate solid or green waste as part of its operation. The solid waste collection system would not be affected by the development of the Project Site.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) **No Impact:** The Proposed Project involves the conversion of an existing detention basin into a retention basin.

The site is characterized as a highly disturbed and the basin is predominantly devoid of vegetation. The Project Site does not occur within an area designated as critical habitat for any biological resource. No native or special-status plant communities are known to occur on-site due. No substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the USFWS is anticipated. No United States Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) waters of the United States (per Section 401-404 of the Federal Clean Water Act), or streambeds (per Section 1600-1603 of the California Fish and Wildlife Code) were noted on-site. No impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities would result.

According to Figure OS-7 of the Riverside County General Plan, the site is not located in an area of concern for Archaeological Resources or in an Urban Archaeological District containing Historical Archaeological Resources. No impact to cultural resources is anticipated. However, if any sensitive historic or pre-historic artifacts are uncovered during any excavation and construction activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted for evaluation of the deposits. Mitigation measures

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contained in Section V of this Initial Study would relieve any potentially significant impacts to cultural resources.

- b) **No Impact:** Impacts associated with the Proposed Project would not be considered adverse or unfavorable. The project is not anticipated to generate significant amounts of air pollutants. No significant cumulative adverse impacts are expected with implementation of the proposed development, as the majority of the area is disturbed. No impact is anticipated.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact:** Proposed development at the site would not cause substantial long-term adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Construction activities would temporarily increase ambient noise levels for the surrounding area. The County's noise ordinance requires construction activities to be limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, with no heavy construction occurring on weekends or national holidays. Additionally, all equipment is required to be properly equipped with standard noise muffling apparatus. Adhering to the County's noise ordinance would ensure impacts from construction would be less than significant.

XIX. MITIGATION MEASURES.

(Any mitigation measures which are not ‘self-monitoring’ shall have a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared and adopted at the time of project approval)

- BIO-1:** The Project Proponent shall conduct take avoidance pre-construction surveys by a qualified biologist for burrowing owl a maximum of 14 days prior to ground disturbing activities. If owls or burrows are identified, take of active nests will be avoided as described in the BMP Appendix C of the MSHCP or passive relocation should be implemented as appropriate.

- CR-1:** All excavations exceeding four-feet below the current surface level shall be monitored by a qualified/professional archaeologist. Should paleontological resources be unearthed during grading or excavation activities, a vertebrate paleontologist shall be contacted to determine the significance, and make recommendations for appropriate mitigation in compliance with the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act.

- CR-2:** In the event that human remains are encountered during grading or excavation activities, all provisions of state law requiring notification of the County Coroner, contacting the Native American Heritage Commission, and consultation with the most likely descendant, shall be followed.

GENERAL REFERENCES

County of Riverside General Plan, July 25, 2013

CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

Lilburn Corporation. *August 2013. Biological Resources Assessment for the Lake Street Basin, Riverside County, California (Parcel No. 0555-080-023).*

Lilburn Corporation. *August 2013. Jurisdictional Delineation Biological for the Lake Street Basin, Riverside County, California (Parcel No. 0555-080-023).*