

INITIAL STUDY
FOR THE
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

Prepared for:

Coachella Valley Water District
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following acronyms and abbreviations are utilized within this document:

A-P Act	State Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
Basin	Salton Sea Air Basin
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CGP	City of Coachella General Plan 2020
CMP	Congestion Management Plan
CVMSHCP	Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
CVSC	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
CVUSD	Coachella Valley Unified School District
CVWD	Coachella Valley Water District
CZM	City of Coachella Official Zoning Map
ECV SMP	East Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan
EOP	Riverside County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan
GHG	Greenhouse gas(es)
ICGP	Imperial County General Plan
IZM	Imperial County Zoning Map
MS4	Municipal separate stormwater sewer system
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OAT	Alternatives Study for the Oasis Area
PRC	Public Resources Code
RCGP	Riverside County General Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SMP	Stormwater Master Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
UPRR	Union Pacific Railroad

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. Project title:

Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

2. CEQA Lead Agency Name and Address:

Coachella Valley Water District
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

3. Contact person email address and phone number:

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(760) 398-2661, ext. 2545

4. Project location:

The Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan (Project, Plan, ECV SMP, or SMP) is generally located in the eastern portion of the Coachella Valley in unincorporated Riverside County, California, within the community areas of Mecca, North Shore, Thermal, Oasis, and Vista Santa Rosa, as well as in the City of Coachella and northwest Imperial County, just south of the Riverside County line and east of the San Diego County line. See **Figure 1 – Vicinity Map** and **Figure 2 – Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan Area**. While no SMP Facilities are proposed to be located in the City of La Quinta, a portion of the ECV SMP Area is within that city. The ECV SMP encompasses a total of 207 square miles and is divided into two areas by the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC).¹ The Oasis/Valley Floor area encompasses 104 square miles and is generally bounded by Avenue 52 to the north, Madison Street and the Santa Rosa Mountains to the west, CVSC and the Salton Sea to the east, and the Riverside County line to the south. The Mecca/North Shore area encompasses 103 square miles and is generally bounded by Avenue 52 to the north, CVSC to the west, the Coachella Canal to the east, and the northern area of the Salton Sea to the south. Collectively these two areas are hereinafter referred to as the “Plan Area.”

5. Project sponsor’s name and address:

Same as Lead Agency.

6. General Plan Designation:

The proposed Project will affect properties in portions of unincorporated Riverside County, the City of Coachella, and Imperial County. As mentioned above, while a portion of the City of La Quinta is within the Plan Area, no SMP Facilities are proposed within that city’s limits. **Figure 3 – General Plan Land Use Map** shows the land use designations from the Riverside County, Imperial County, La Quinta, and Coachella General Plans within the ECV SMP. (CGP, ICGP, RCGP)

¹ CVSC is an unlined, engineered extension of the Whitewater River, which serves agricultural irrigation return water and conveys treated wastewater and urban and stormwater runoff.

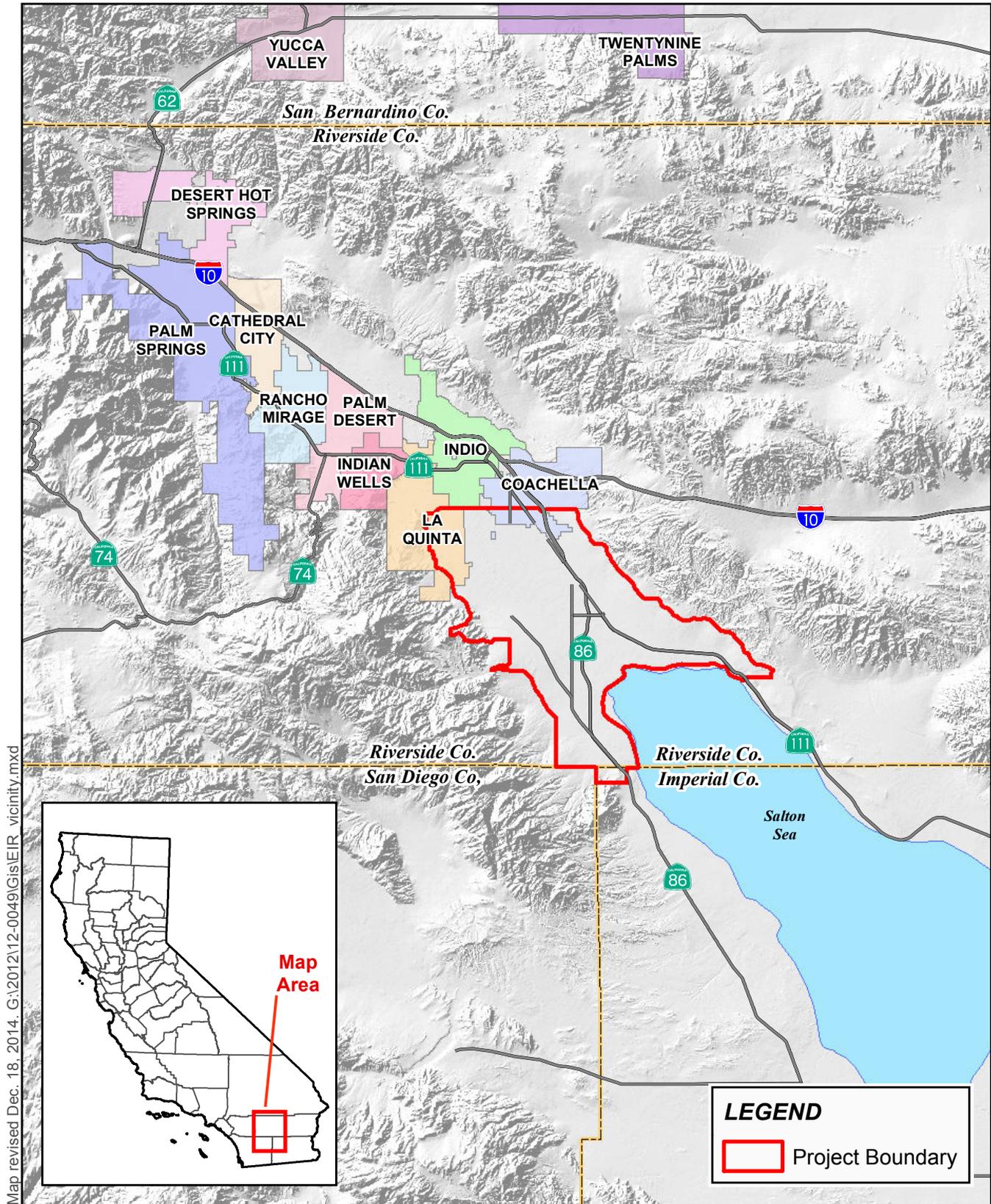
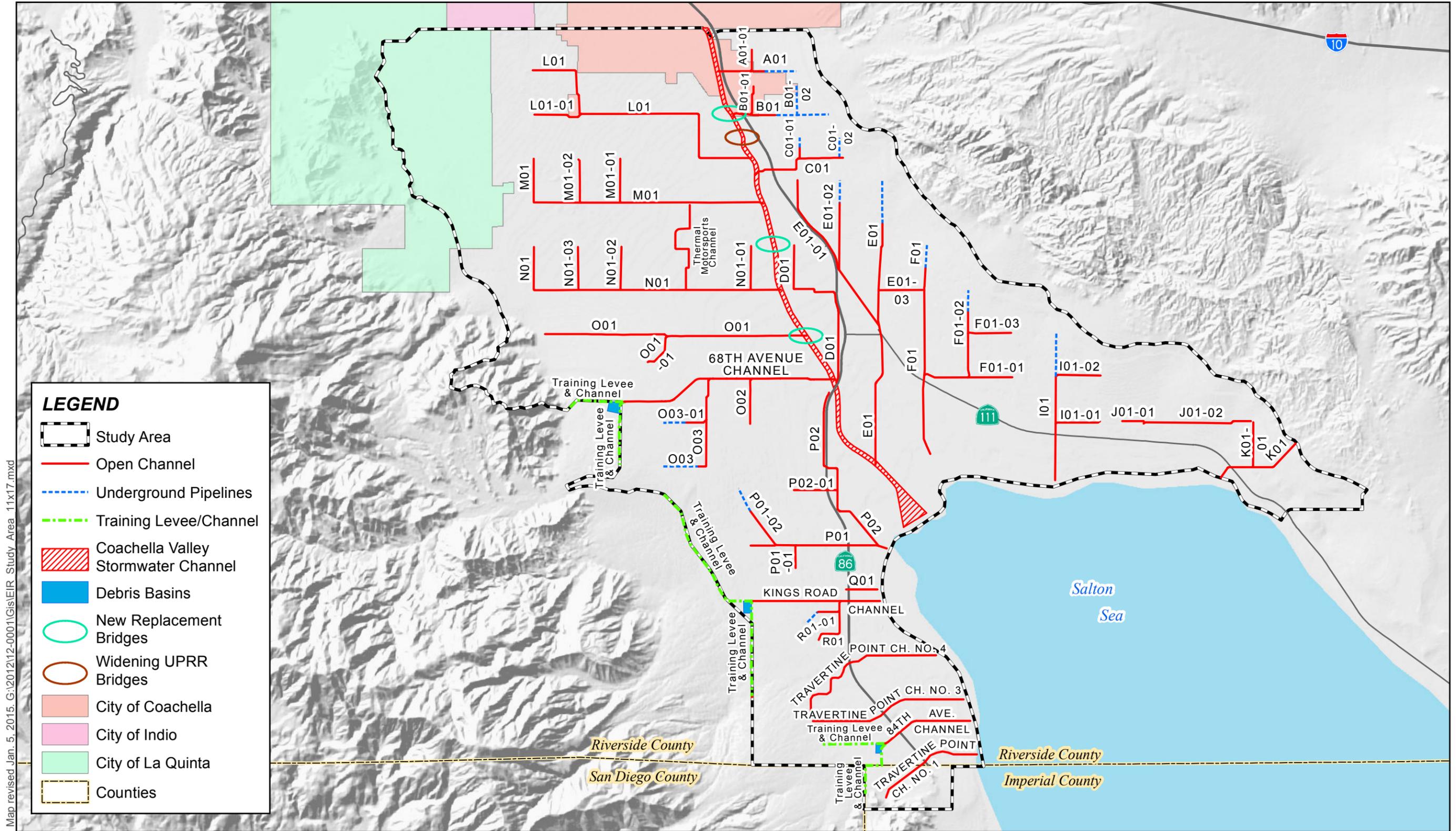


Figure 1 - Vicinity Map
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

0 4 8 12
Miles





LEGEND

- Study Area
- Open Channel
- Underground Pipelines
- Training Levee/Channel
- Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
- Debris Basins
- New Replacement Bridges
- Widening UPRR Bridges
- City of Coachella
- City of Indio
- City of La Quinta
- Counties

Map revised Jan. 5, 2015. G:\2012\12-0001\GIS\EIR Study Area_11x17.mxd

Sources: Riverside Co. GIS, 2014; USGS DEM's

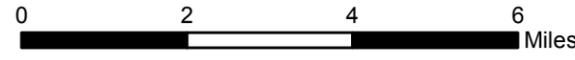
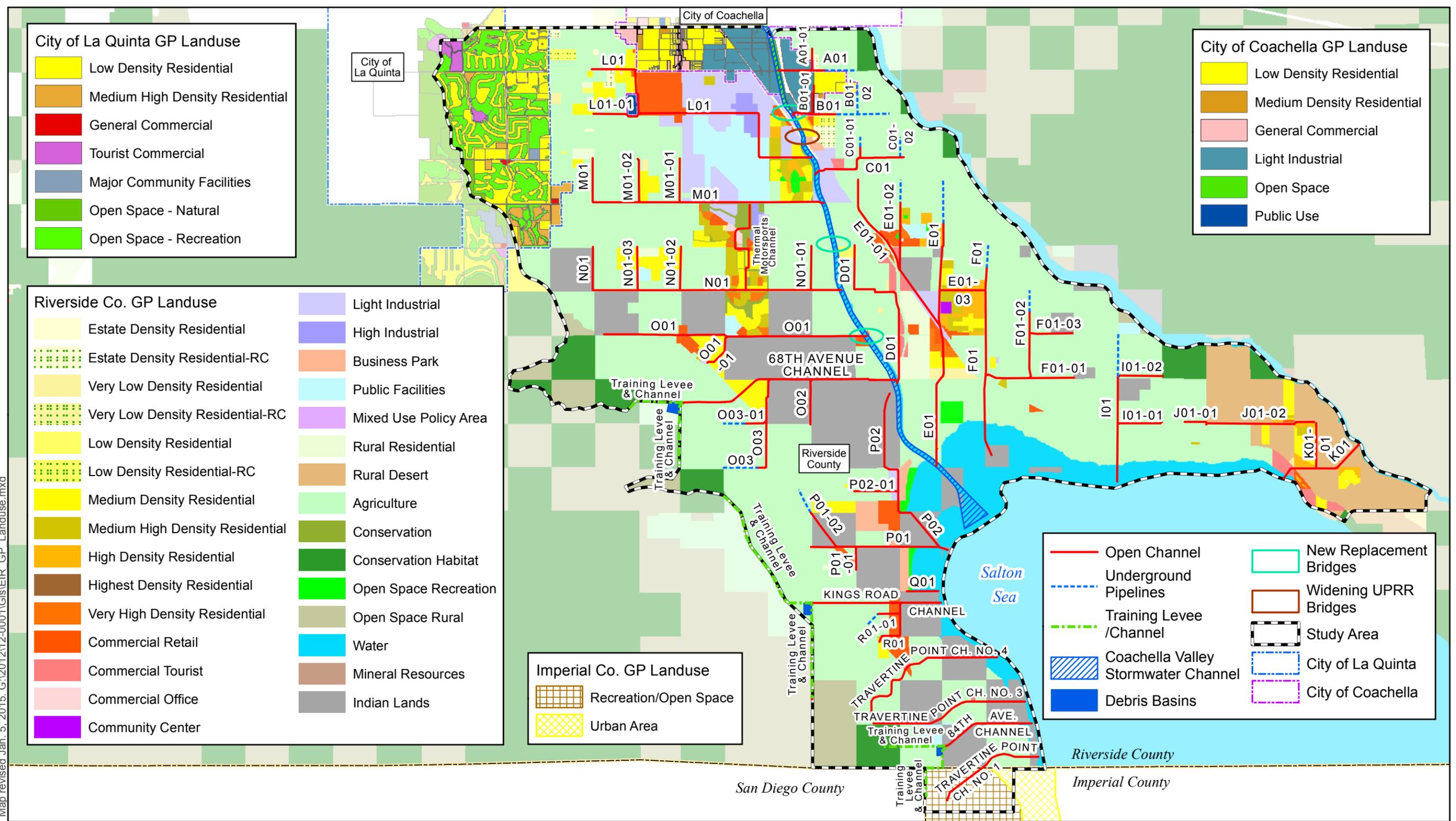


Figure 2 - Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan Area
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

Map revised Jan. 5, 2015. G:\2012\12-0001\GIS\EIR_GP_Landuse.mxd



City of La Quinta GP Landuse

- Low Density Residential
- Medium High Density Residential
- General Commercial
- Tourist Commercial
- Major Community Facilities
- Open Space - Natural
- Open Space - Recreation

City of Coachella GP Landuse

- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- General Commercial
- Light Industrial
- Open Space
- Public Use

Riverside Co. GP Landuse

- Estate Density Residential
- Estate Density Residential-RC
- Very Low Density Residential
- Very Low Density Residential-RC
- Low Density Residential
- Low Density Residential-RC
- Medium Density Residential
- Medium High Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Highest Density Residential
- Very High Density Residential
- Commercial Retail
- Commercial Tourist
- Commercial Office
- Community Center
- Light Industrial
- High Industrial
- Business Park
- Public Facilities
- Mixed Use Policy Area
- Rural Residential
- Rural Desert
- Agriculture
- Conservation
- Conservation Habitat
- Open Space Recreation
- Open Space Rural
- Water
- Mineral Resources
- Indian Lands

Imperial Co. GP Landuse

- Recreation/Open Space
- Urban Area

- Open Channel
- Underground Pipelines
- Training Levee /Channel
- Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
- Debris Basins
- New Replacement Bridges
- Widening UPRR Bridges
- Study Area
- City of La Quinta
- City of Coachella

Sources: RCIP, 2003 (as amended through Oct. 2013); City of La Quinta GP 2035 (approved Dec. 2013); City of Coachella, 2013; Imperial Co., 2007.

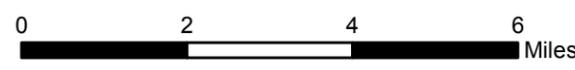


Figure 3 - General Plan Land Use Map
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

Unincorporated Riverside County

The Project Facilities proposed within unincorporated Riverside County are within the General Plan's Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan. The main land use designation within the Oasis/Valley Floor area is agriculture. Other notable land use designations in the northern portion of this area include: commercial retail, light industrial, heavy industrial, public facilities, and low- and medium-density residential. In the middle portion of the area, other notable land use designations, besides agriculture, include: Indian lands, low- medium- and high-density residential, commercial retail, light industrial, and commercial tourist. In the southern portion of the area, other notable land use designations, besides agriculture include, Indian lands, commercial retail, medium- and medium-high-density residential, conservation habitat, public facilities, open space recreation, mixed-use policy area, and water. (See **Figure 3 – General Plan Land Use Map.**)

The primary land use designation within the Mecca/North Shore area is agriculture. Other notable land use designations in this area include: light industrial, commercial, retail, Indian Land, medium- and medium-high and very high-density residential, community center, open space recreation. Land use designations near the southeastern portion of the area include: rural desert, medium-density residential, medium-high density residential, high-density residential, and commercial tourist. (See **Figure 3.**)

City of Coachella

The Project Facilities proposed within the City of Coachella are located in an area designated by the General Plan for low-density residential with an agriculture to urban transition overlay, medium-density residential, light industrial, and general commercial. The CVSC traverses the City of Coachella in areas designated for open space and light industrial. (See **Figure 3.**) (CZM)

Unincorporated Imperial County

The Project Facilities proposed within Imperial County are located in an area designated by the Imperial County General Plan for recreation/open space. (See **Figure 3.**) (ICZM)

7. Zoning:

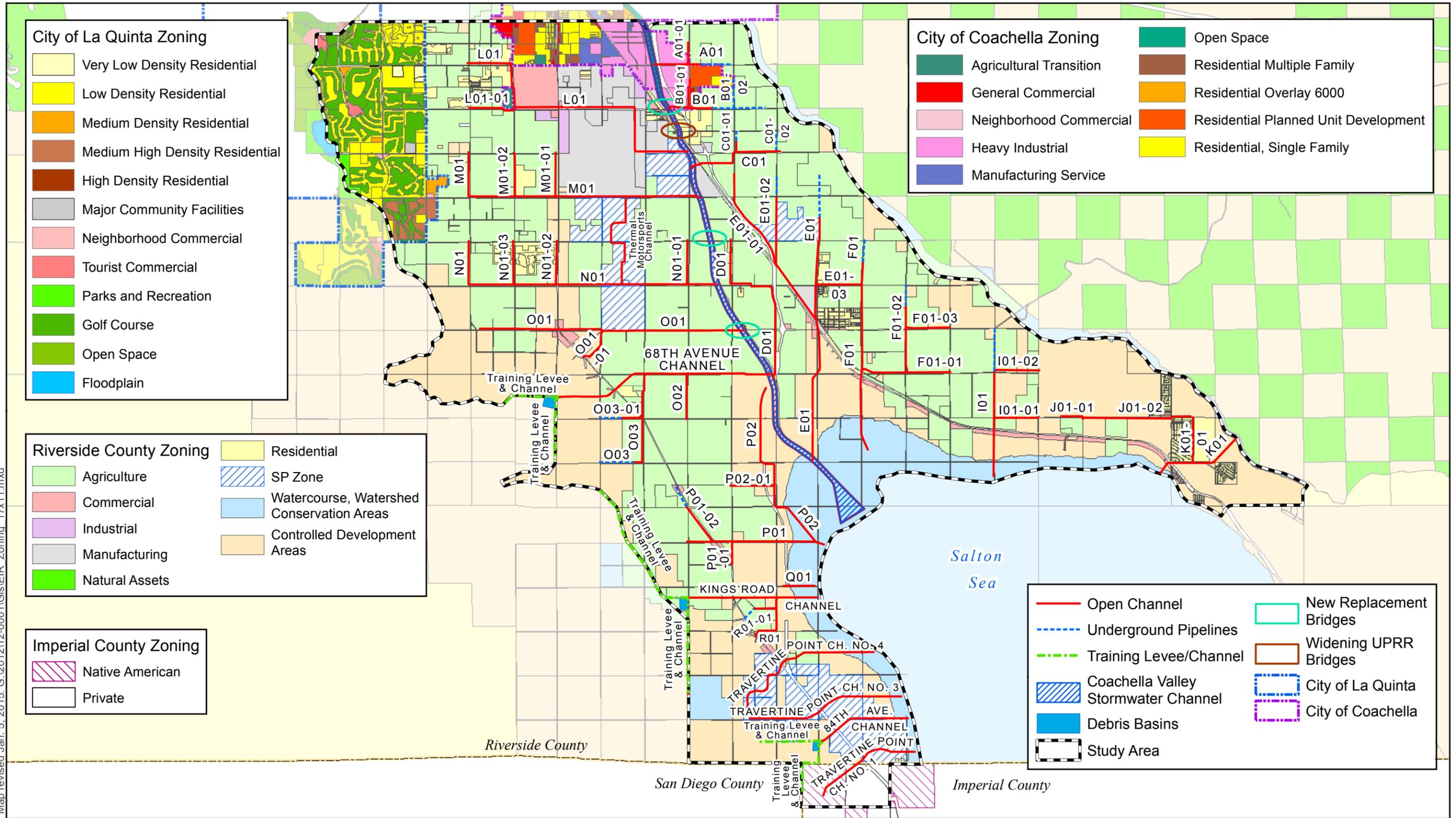
Figure 4 – Zoning Map shows Riverside County,² Imperial County, La Quinta, and Coachella zoning designations within the ECV SMP.

Unincorporated Riverside County

Land in proximity to Facilities proposed within the Oasis/Valley Floor area is zoned: light agriculture (A-1), heavy agriculture (A-2), general commercial (C-1/C-P), scenic highway commercial (C-P-S), industrial park (I-P), service commercial manufacturing (M-SC), heavy manufacturing (M-H), single-family residential dwellings (R-1), planned residential (R-4), residential incentive (R-6), residential agriculture (R-A), Specific Plan zone (SP Zone), watercourse, watershed and conservation areas (W-1), and controlled-development (W-2). (**Figure 4**)

² **Figure 4 – Zoning Map** shows Riverside County zoning by major designations. All residential zones, i.e., R-1, R-4, R-6, R-A are shown as residential; all agriculturally-related zones, i.e. A-1, A-2, are shown as agricultural.

Map revised Jan. 5, 2015. G:\2012\12-0001\GIS\EIR_Zoning_17x11.mxd



Sources: Riverside County GIS, 2014; Imperial County, 2013; City of La Quinta, 2007; City of Coachella, 2013.

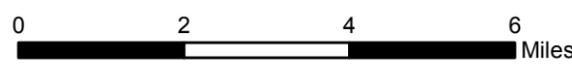


Figure 4 - Zoning Map
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

Land in proximity to Facilities proposed in the Mecca/North Shore area is zoned for: light agriculture (A-1), heavy agriculture (A-2), residential agriculture (R-A), general commercial (C-1/C-P), scenic highway commercial (C-P-S), service commercial manufacturing (M-SC), heavy manufacturing (M-H), Specific Plan zone (SP Zone), watercourse, watershed, and conservation areas (W-1), and controlled-development areas (W-2). Additionally, the community of Mecca consists of various residential zonings including single-family residential dwellings (R-1), multi-family residential dwellings (R-2), general residential (R-3), and residential incentive (R-6). Also, the North Shore community consists of various residential zonings including single-family residential dwellings (R-1), multi-family residential dwellings (R-2), general residential (R-3), and mobile home subdivision/mobile home park (R-T). (See **Figure 4 – Zoning Map**) (CZM)

City of Coachella

Project Facilities that are proposed to be located within the City of Coachella are in an area zoned for: heavy industrial (M-H), residential planned unit development (R-PUD), general commercial (C-G), neighborhood commercial (C-N), open space (O-S), residential single family (R-S), and residential multiple family (R-M). (See **Figure 4**.)

Unincorporated Imperial County

The Project Facilities proposed within Imperial County are located in an area zoned for Indian Reservation/Native American. (See **Figure 4**.)

8. Project Description:

The proposed Project is the administration, right-of-way acquisition (to the extent necessary) and construction of storm drains, channels, levees (collectively referred to as Facilities), and the operation and maintenance of Facilities identified in the Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan (ECV SMP, SMP, Project, or Plan). The Plan is a comprehensive conceptual stormwater master plan that identifies conceptual locations, alignments, and sizes for primary drainage Facilities to address the current and future drainage needs of the approximately 207-square mile Plan Area. The ECV SMP is intended to be used as a planning guide for locating and sizing regional stormwater facilities (SMP Facilities) that will be constructed by Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), City of Coachella, and/or developers over time as development takes place within the area. When implemented, the Plan will provide flood protection to the area during a 100-year flood event.

The ECV SMP was prepared to:

- 1) Identify solutions to existing flood hazards (riverine, alluvial fan and valley floor drainage);
- 2) Provide a guide for the long term scheduling of the regional and/or valley floor stormwater facilities
- 3) Provide a guide for locating and connecting local drainage facilities that will be constructed by developer and others within the Plan Area; and
- 4) Provide an estimate of costs to resolve regional and valley floor flood hazard issues within the Plan Area.

Administration of the SMP

The SMP will be a guide for the alignment, type, size, and cost estimate of major proposed facilities (SMP Facilities or Facilities) within the Plan Area to address the current and future drainage needs of Eastern Coachella Valley.

The SMP will be relied upon by CVWD, Riverside County, and City of Coachella as these agencies review and approve development in the Plan Area. New development may be required to construct SMP Facilities or set aside right-of-way for future SMP Facilities. CVWD, Riverside County, and the City of Coachella may also use the SMP to identify Facilities and cost estimates for inclusion in capital improvement programs. Finally, CVWD, Riverside County, the City of Coachella, and other agencies can use the SMP for long-range planning of other public infrastructure projects such as roads or utility pipelines.

Construction of the SMP Facilities

The construction of the SMP facilities will be performed primarily by private developers as the region develops with some construction possible by CVWD. The SMP proposes the construction of over 100 miles of storm drains and channels, approximately 99 acres of debris basins, 11.25 miles of training levees, and modifications to the existing CVSC as shown on **Figure 5 – Oasis/Valley Floor Region** and **Figure 6 – Mecca/North Shore Region**. The locations and types of Facilities depicted in the SMP can change as more detailed information becomes available during the design process. For example, the locations of underground utilities, new development patterns, right-of-way availability, hazardous materials sites, or the results of subsequent focused archaeological, biological, hazardous materials, or paleontological surveys may necessitate a shift in location or change in facility type. To add to that uncertainty, the construction of the SMP Facilities will be accomplished in discrete phases over a number of decades, which is always a challenge for long-term planning.

Despite this future environment of uncertainty and potential SMP Facility variations, the environmental review documentation still must identify the general types of construction activities anticipated and the associated impacts. Subsequent CEQA analysis beyond the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) will be prepared for this Project which would be required as the individual SMP Facilities are designed and proposed for construction, but those future construction projects could tier from the PEIR. The general types of construction activities include, but are not limited to:

- basin/channel excavation,
- channel/storm drain installation,
- levee construction, and
- asphalt replacement.

Construction will typically entail the use of heavy equipment such as backhoes, excavators, dozers, scrapers, water trucks, wheeled loaders, and dump trucks.

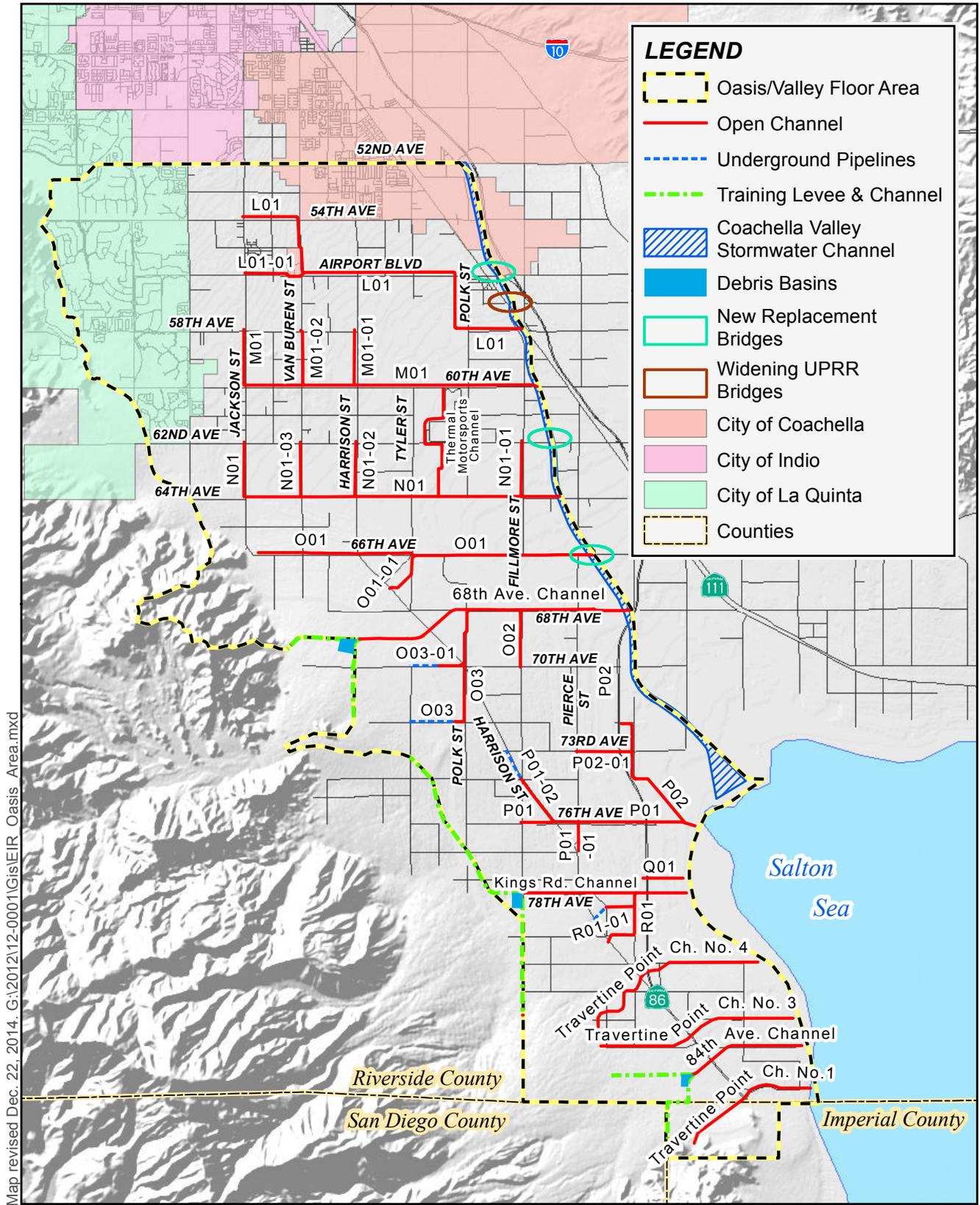


Figure 5 - Oasis/Valley Floor Area
 Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

0 1 2 3 4
 Miles

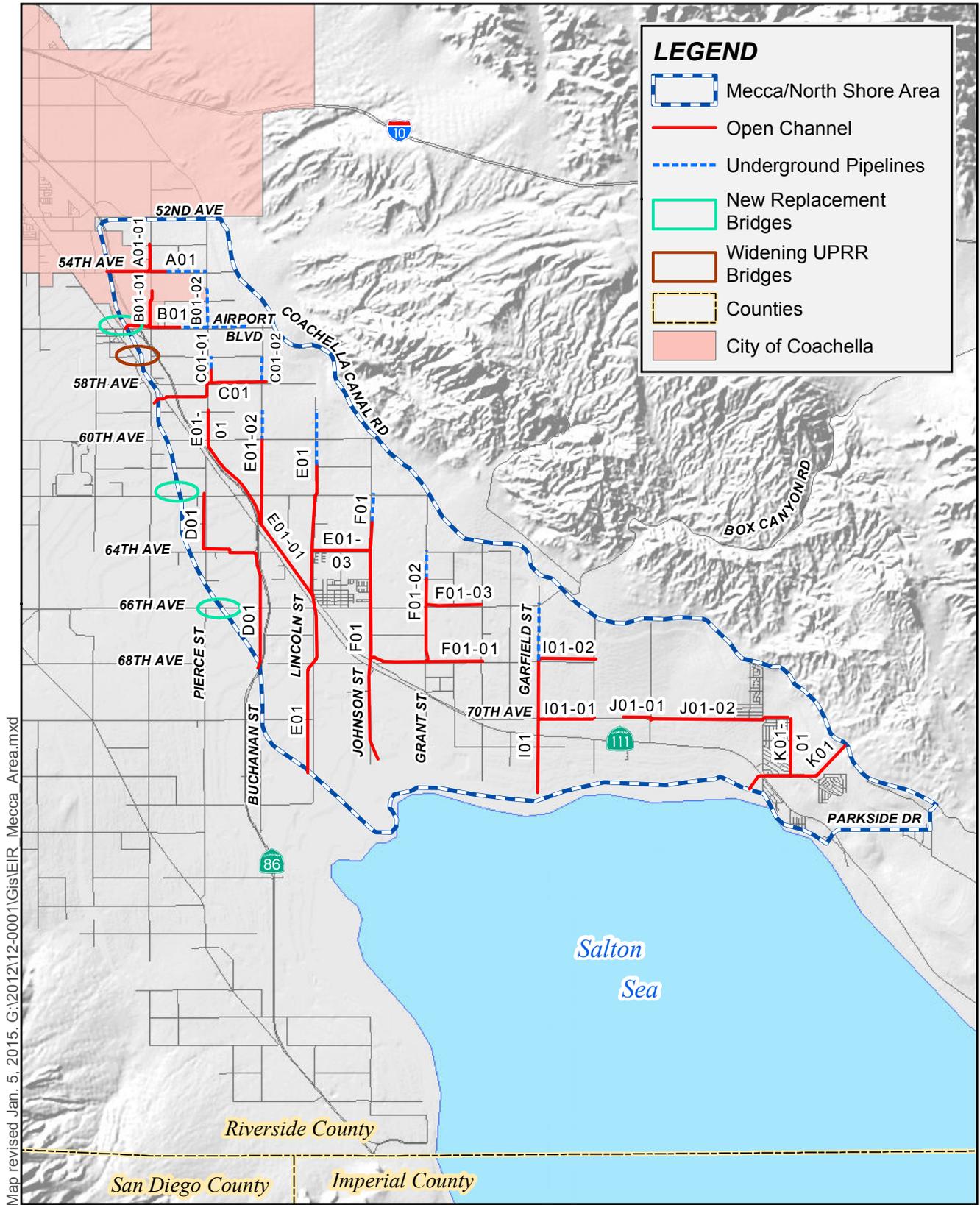
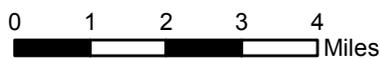


Figure 6 - Mecca/North Shore Area
 Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan



Open Channels

The Project proposes fully lined concrete channels with the exception of the CVSC, as the proposed modifications to the CVSC will not fully concrete line the facility. Lined channels are either trapezoidal or rectangular shaped with concrete paving on the sides and bottom. For trapezoidal channels, sides slope upward from the bottom at a rate of one foot vertically for every 1.5 feet horizontally. Lined channels in the Plan, have a bottom width ranging from 6 to 425 feet and a depth ranging from 6 to 20 feet. The channels may also include a low berm feature from 1 to 3 feet above grade to account for the topography along the alignment and ensure adequate freeboard (i.e., distance between the water level and top of the facility). Along portions of a few alignments in the Mecca/North Shore area, the open channel will include an above grade structure achieving heights greater than 5 feet. These lines include the following:

- Line A01, approximately 6 feet above grade where open channel is proposed
- Line A01-01, approximately 6 feet above grade
- Line D01, north from CVSC to Avenue 66, approximately 7 to 9 feet above grade
- Line D01, north from Avenue 66 to Avenue 64, approximately 4 to 6 feet above grade
- Line E01, north from the northern terminus of the proposed underground pipeline for the line to Avenue 68, approximately 6 feet above grade
- Line F01, from the southern starting point of the alignment north to Avenue 70, approximately 12 feet above grade
- Line F01, north from Avenue 70 to State Route 111, approximately 10 feet above grade.

The remainder of the Mecca/North Shore area system will consist of open channel above grade heights between approximately 1 to 3 feet. Further, open channel rights-of-way must accommodate the channel footprint plus areas needed for channel maintenance including access roads and fences. Open channels are generally considered the most economically feasible means of transporting large flood flows for any appreciable distance and are used wherever appropriate. In addition to their role as flow conveyors, open channels provide an outlet for the underground facilities proposed in the Plan as well as local drainage facilities to be built by developers and others. All open channels proposed in the Plan are intended to carry the runoff from a 100-year frequency storm.

Underground Storm Drains

The underground storm drains proposed by the Plan, generally consist of reinforced concrete pipe (RCP), ranging in size from 60 inches to 96 inches in diameter, and reinforced concrete boxes (RCB). An RCB is rectangular or square-shaped concrete “pipe.” The RCB may be either precast, which means the RCB was cast somewhere other than the location at which it will be installed or cast-in-place, which means the concrete for the RCB was mixed and poured into a frame at a project site.

Manholes are located as necessary for maintenance access with a maximum spacing of 500 feet. Catch basins are not specifically located until final design. A catch basin is a curbside opening that collects rainwater and serves as an entry point to the storm drain system.

Underground drainage facilities are only proposed in those locations within the Project where open channels are not feasible, either because of topographic constraints or existing development.

Where possible, underground storm drains proposed in the Project are located in existing or future street rights-of-way.

Detention/Debris Basins

The Plan proposes three debris basins in the Oasis/Valley Floor area as part of the 68th, Kings Street, and Avenue 84 Street systems. The debris basins will reduce the sediment downstream. The reduction of peak flows and debris allows for smaller, less costly facilities downstream of the basins. The proposed debris basins are designed for 100-year sediment inflow, plus 10% for a factor of safety. The basins are designed to direct discharge into the flood channel system.

Training Levees

The Plan proposes approximately 11.25 miles of training levees. A training levee is a partial levee system that does not tie off to high ground at one or both ends and functions as a raised revetment to re-direct the main flow, in this case, of stormwater. A training levee is designed to prevent bank erosion and channel migration or avulsion. A training levee is designed to provide freeboard over the 100-year (base) flood. Diversion of alluvial fans in the Oasis/Valley Floor area will be accomplished primarily with the use of training levees that will guide flow toward the detention basins which discharge to the inlets of conveyance channels. The location of the training levees along the western boundary of the Plan Area near the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains is limited by development constraints. Moreover, proposed training levees may consist of above grade structural features achieving heights from approximately 6.4 feet to 13.5 feet (OAT, p. 23) with a 15-foot-wide top width to accompany an access road. The training levees will be located in the Oasis/Valley Floor area as shown on **Figure 5 – Oasis/Valley Floor Area**). Specifically, two training levees are associated with the proposed open channel that directly outlets into the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel generally along Avenue 68, two training levees are associated with the proposed open channel that directly outlets into the Salton Sea generally along Kings Road, and two training levees are associated with the proposed open channel that outlets directly into the Salton Sea generally along Avenue 84. The following lists the greatest approximate height associated with each training levee.

- Avenue 68 (west-trending), approximately 12.6 feet
- Avenue 68 (south-trending), approximately 12.6 feet
- Kings Road (north-trending), approximately 12 feet
- Kings Road (south-trending), approximately 13.4 feet
- Avenue 84 (north-trending), approximately 6.5 feet
- Avenue 84 (south-trending), approximately 13.4 feet

It should be noted that these heights also include the minimum 4 feet of freeboard (i.e., distance between the water level and top of the facility). (OAT, p. 23)

CVSC Improvements

The Plan's proposed modifications to the existing CVSC consists of lowering the channel bed (which will require removal of existing vegetation) and constructing concrete-lined channel/levee banks extending from just north of 52nd Avenue south to Airport Boulevard, where the channel

transitions to a fully lined concrete section to the existing Thermal Drop Structure.³ Downstream of the Thermal Drop Structure, the channel will continue as a concrete-lined channel/levee banks extending downstream of Lincoln Street. The purpose of the concrete section is to improve the channel conveyance at the existing State Route 111/Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing to limit the required infrastructure improvements, utility processing, and required right-of-way acquisition. In addition to the channel improvements, a reduction in the height of the existing Thermal Drop Structure, new replacement bridges along Airport Boulevard, 62nd Avenue, and 66th Avenue over CVSC, and widening two UPRR bridges over CVSC is proposed by the Plan. (See **Figure 2.**)

Facilities Operation and Maintenance

Once an SMP Facility is constructed and the CVSC channel modified as proposed, maintenance is required in order to retain function and flood control capacity. It is expected that CVWD and/or a developer will operate and maintain all of the SMP Facilities. For a developer or private entity to operate and maintain any SMP Facility (or Facilities) a recorded regional stormwater facilities agreement will be required per CVWD Ordinance 1234.1.

CVWD periodically inspects its facilities. Maintenance of storm drains and concrete channels typically consists of keeping these facilities and their side drains clear of debris and sediment, as well as repairs to access roads and fences, and removing graffiti. On rare occasions, major repairs may be required following damaging storm events. Thus, major grading will not routinely occur while maintaining the underground storm drains and open concrete channels. To maintain the constructed Facilities, CVWD will occasionally use equipment similar to the types used to construct the proposed Facilities.

The routine maintenance of earthen channels and basins typically require the following activities: the removal of deposition, repair of eroded slopes, and reduction of fire hazards by annually mowing, and application of herbicides as well as the maintenance activities described in the previous paragraph. Vegetation must be removed or mowed, as necessary, to provide the designed hydraulic capacity. Any vegetation that may pose a fire hazard to adjacent structures must also be maintained. The design capacity of the facility and the frequency, duration, and velocity of runoff usually dictate the frequency of vegetation maintenance. Most Facilities require some annual vegetation control.

Traffic Control Measures

As a number of SMP Facilities will be within or adjacent to existing roadway rights-of-way; therefore, as a part of the design of the individual SMP Facilities, Traffic Control Plans will be prepared and implemented when the construction of a Facility requires temporary closure of a travel lane or road segment. The Traffic Control Plan will require that access and circulation be maintained throughout construction activities or a detour provided around the construction site. The Traffic Control Plan will be prepared by the party constructing the Facility or Facilities (e.g., CVWD, Riverside County, City of Coachella, and/or private developer) and submitted to the

³ Drop structures are a manmade structure which are intended to control the energy and velocity of flow from higher elevations to lower elevations. Drop structures also serve to oxygenate water and prevent erosion. It should be noted that drop structures are unlike dams as they are not intended to impound water.

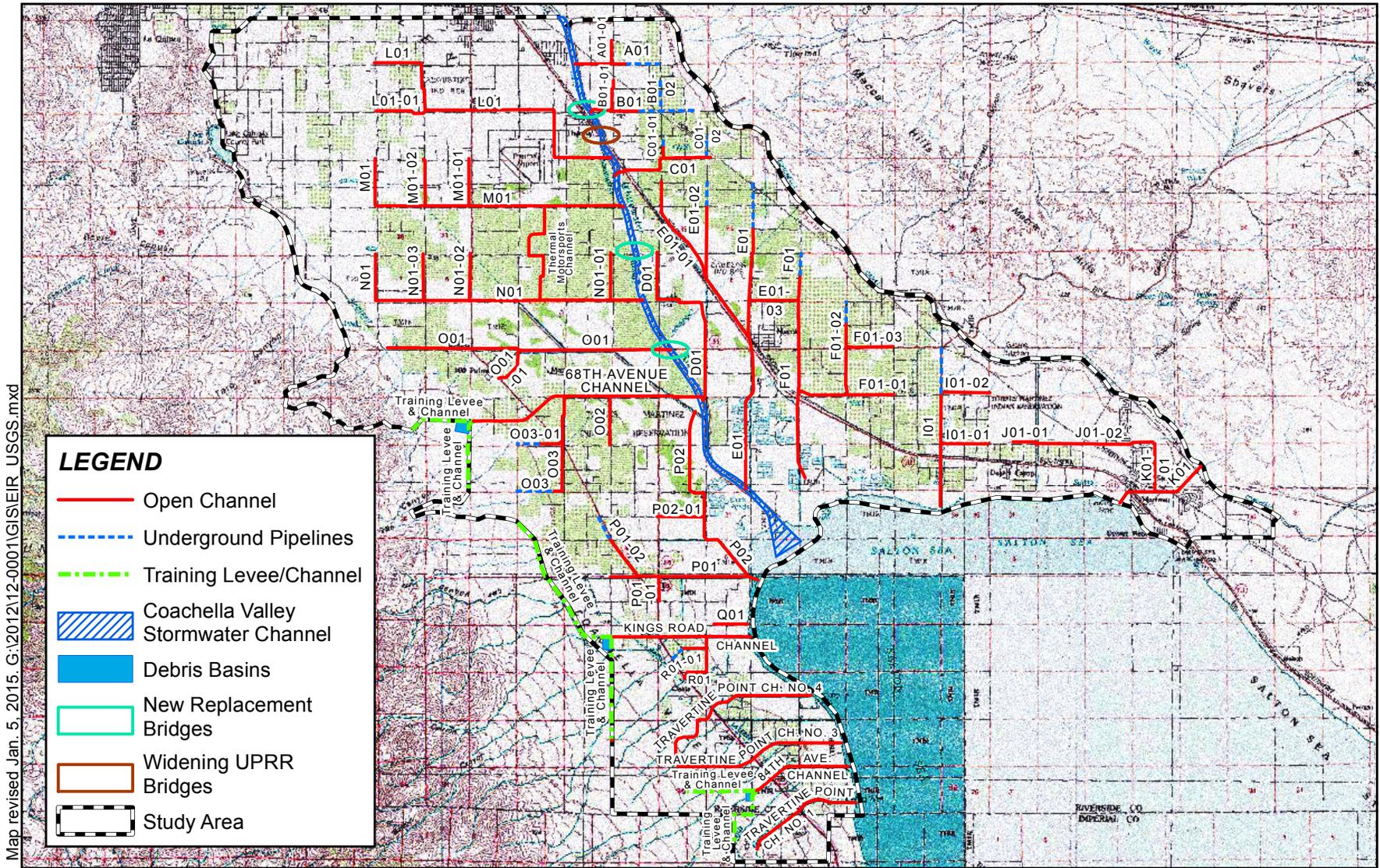
Riverside County Fire Department and Riverside County Transportation Department or City of Coachella Public Works Department, as appropriate, for approval. The Traffic Control Plan will include the estimated day(s), time(s), and duration of any lane or road segment closure that are anticipated to be required on affected roadways for SMP Facility construction.

The Traffic Control Plan shall include measures such as, but not limited to, signage, flagmen, cones, advance community notice, or other acceptable measures to the satisfaction of the Riverside County Transportation Department or City of Coachella Public Works Department, as appropriate. The purpose of the measures are to safely guide motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, minimize traffic impacts and ensure the safe and even flow of traffic consistent with the affected jurisdiction's standards and requirements, in the event that SMP Facilities construction requires any lane or road segment closures. Additionally, if the construction activity will affect access to transit lines, such as SunLine Transit Agency buses, the party constructing the Facility would be required to coordinate with the affected transit agency in advance to maintain service in the area.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The Project is located within the Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan, which is set within the southeast portion of the Coachella Valley, south and east of the City of Indio, and east of the City of La Quinta and the Santa Rosa Mountains, stretching to the Imperial County line on the south with a portion of proposed SMP Facilities extended into Imperial County (See **Figure 7 – USGS Topographic Map**). The area extends east of the All-American Canal, north and south of Interstate 10, taking in Chiriaco Summit. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Colorado River Aqueduct traverses from east to west along the majority of the Eastern Coachella Valley, paralleling Interstate 10 north and west of Chiriaco Summit. The southeastern edge of the Eastern Coachella Valley is bounded by the Chocolate Mountain Naval Reservation Aerial Gunnery Range. Physically, the Eastern Coachella Valley is bounded by the Santa Rosa Mountains to the west, and the Mecca Hills and the edge of Joshua Tree National Park to the northeast. The portion of the Eastern Coachella Valley east of the All-American Canal is either desert or mountainous terrain, and the Plan Area extends to the northern part of the Salton Sea.

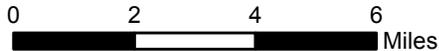
The Plan Area includes the unincorporated communities of Mecca, North Shore, Thermal, Oasis, and Vista Santa Rosa, as well as the City of Coachella and northwest Imperial County. Regarding the unincorporated Riverside County communities, the small residential community of Mecca is located southeast of Thermal east of State Route 111, and predominantly houses permanent residents working in the valley's agricultural sector. Areas are also set aside for light industrial and commercial uses. The North Shore resort community is located northeast of State Route 111 near the north shore of the Salton Sea. This area is largely undeveloped, with some pockets of residential and commercial tourist uses. The community of Thermal is located west of State Route 111, south of the City of Coachella, and contains light industrial uses as well as some residential and commercial uses.



Map revised Jan. 5, 2015. G:\2012\12-0001\GIS\EIR_USGS.mxd

Source: USGS 7.5min DRG's

Figure 7 - USGS Topographic Map
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan



The County-owned Desert Resorts Regional Airport (also known as the Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) is located in the westerly part of Thermal. Oasis, another valley agricultural community, is located along State Route 86 southeast of the community of Valerie Jean. This community particularly benefits from the realigned State Route 86 trade route to Mexico. The Vista Santa Rosa community's boundaries extend from Avenue 50 on the north, to Monroe Street on the west, to State Route 86 (Harrison Street) on the east, and south to Avenue 66. The area is an important producer of date crops. Rural residential uses are also prevalent, with an emphasis on equestrian activities including polo facilities.

While no SMP Facilities are proposed within the City of La Quinta, a portion of the Plan Area includes that city's southeastern area (see **Figure 2**). The City of La Quinta is located along the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains, west of the City of Coachella and the community of Thermal. The City of La Quinta is known as a "resort city" from the high number of golf courses within its boundaries and is a popular destination for seasonal tourists. Much of the city within the Plan Area is disturbed and developed with residential and private recreational uses, primarily golf courses. As a contrast to the overall agricultural character of the Eastern Coachella Valley and majority of the Plan Area, developable land within the City of La Quinta is significantly built out/urbanized and agricultural uses are not designated within the city.

The City of Coachella is located in the northwest corner of the Eastern Coachella Valley. The Plan Area includes the southern portion of that city from Avenue 52 southward. SMP Facilities are proposed within the city boundaries, which also includes a segment of the existing CVSC. The City of Coachella is actively growing and transforming from a small town to a medium-sized city, and in the process, developing a considerable amount land within its boundary that was previously used for agricultural purposes. The portion of the city that is within the Plan Area is about half disturbed/developed with residential subdivisions as well as commercial uses generally along Old State Highway 86/Harrison Street and State Route 111. It should be noted this area is also identified for future development to urban uses.

SMP Facilities will also be just south of the Riverside County line within Imperial County. Land use within the portion of Imperial County adjacent to SMP Facilities consists primarily of undisturbed vacant land with some agricultural uses, State Route 86, and the Salton Sea (east of State Route 86).

The majority of land uses in the surrounding area are devoted to agricultural crops including date palms, grapes, citrus, and seasonal row crops, specifically within the Salton Trough, which encompasses the area surrounding the Salton Sea to the west and stretching north toward the City of Coachella. The majority of the area east of the All-American Canal is open space and rural due to the area's remoteness and lack of services. There are also residential uses within the area primarily providing housing for the agricultural workers in the valley. However, considerable acreages in the Thermal area are designated for light and heavy industrial land uses, and higher-density residential land use is designated in an area east of the airport.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

Implementation of the Project may require permits or other forms of approval from public agencies or other entities prior to construction of the proposed Project's Facilities.

- **Coachella Valley Water District**

The CVWD owns and operates storm drains, channels, and basins within the Project area. To the extent that drainage and flood control improvements are proposed that affect CVWD's Facilities; coordination and approval from the CVWD, would be necessary. Additionally, CVWD owns and operates water and wastewater conveyance and storage systems within the Project area, and to the extent that construction of Facilities impact and/or would require the relocation of water and wastewater Facilities, coordination and approval from CVWD would be necessary.

Moreover, all new Facilities constructed by developers, City of Coachella, or Riverside County, that require maintenance by CVWD, would require CVWD execution of a cooperative agreement and approval of plans and specifications.

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

A Clean Water Act Section 404 permit will be required if the construction or maintenance of the proposed Project Facilities involves the discharge of dredged or fill material within "waters of the United States" or adjacent wetlands.

- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**

Encroachment permits will be required to construct Facilities within the rights-of-way of the Coachella Canal.

- **Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Region (RWQCB)**

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permits will be required for grading activities of one acre or larger.

If a 404 Permit is required, then a Section 401 Water Quality Certification will be required.

A Waste Discharge Permit will be required if ground dewatering is necessary during tunneling activities or if waste is discharged into "waters of the State."

- **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

A Fish and Game Code Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement will be required if a jurisdictional streambed or stream banks will be altered.

- **California Department of Transportation**

Encroachment permits, plus Water Pollution Control Plans, as applicable, will be required if any work associated with proposed Project Facilities is required within the right-of-way of State Routes 86, 86S, 111, or 195.

- **County of Riverside, County of Imperial, City of Coachella**

Encroachment permits will be required to construct Project Facilities within roadway rights-of-way.

- **Imperial Irrigation District**

A cooperative agreement between the facility proponent and Imperial Irrigation District for electrical transmission utility relocation, where necessary, will be required.

- **Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians**

Permission to construct SMP Facilities on Tribal Land

- **Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians**

Permission to construct SMP Facilities on Tribal Land

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.

Prepared by: _____ Date _____
Cheryl Degano
Principal Environmental Analyst
Albert A. Webb Associates

Reviewed by: _____ Date _____
Luke Stowe
Senior Environmental Specialist

Submitted by: _____ Date _____
Steve Bigley
Director of Environmental Services

Environmental Assessment Committee Determination

Concurrence by: _____ Date _____
Julia Fernandez
Chairperson, District's Environmental
Assessment Committee

General Manager Determination

Approved by: _____ Date _____
J. M. Barrett
General Manager

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (*e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone*). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (*e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis*).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). Earlier analyses are discussed below:
 - a. **Earlier Analysis Used.** Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b. **Impacts Adequately Addressed.** Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c. **Mitigation Measures.** For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measure which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (*e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances*). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated. A source list should be attached and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

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

Aesthetics Discussion:

a) *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

Source: RCGP MOS; ECVAP

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the Riverside County General Plan, scenic vistas are points accessible to the general public that provide a view of the countryside. Physically the Eastern Coachella Valley is bounded by the Santa Rosa Mountains to the west, and the Mecca Hills and the edge of Joshua Tree National Park to the northeast. The proposed Project consists of developing a SMP that addresses and identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. Construction of the proposed Project could have short-term visual impacts from construction equipment and construction activity. While a majority of the SMP Facilities will not substantially alter the views of, or from the Project area as they consist of proposed storm drains, open lined channels, and detention basins that are at or below grade (which exception to low berms ranging from 1 to 3 feet above grade along open channels), some of the SMP Facilities, specifically the proposed training levees in the Oasis/Valley Floor area and portions of five (5) open channel line alignments in the Mecca/North Shore area, will include a notable above grade structural height. The proposed training levees will be from approximately 6 feet to 14 feet above grade, and certain above grade open channel structural heights in the Mecca/North Shore area will achieve heights ranging from approximately 4 feet to 12 feet.

The proposed training levees are generally located along the western boundary of the Plan Area near the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains. The main scenic feature in the area is the mountain. The General Plan land use designations in this area is agriculture, conservation habitat, and open space rural (see **Figure 3**). Zoning designations in this area consists of controlled-development, agriculture, and conservation (see **Figure 4**). There are virtually no existing development or structures in these areas; thus implementation of the SMP and the ultimate construction of these facilities will not alter the view for existing residents. With regard to potential future residents, because the main scenic resource are the Santa Rosa Mountains, the Mecca Hills, and the Little San Bernardino Mountains, which achieve considerable elevations and visibility from the valley

floor where the training levees will be located, these aboveground training levees are not anticipated to significantly impact scenic vistas in the area.

Portions of Lines A01, A01-01, D01, E01, and F01 in the Mecca/North Shore area include berms that will be higher than 3 feet. The above grade portions of these Facilities are generally concentrated where they outlet into the CVSC. Lines A01 and A01-01, which will be approximately 6 feet above grade, are in and near the City of Coachella where there is limited existing development; however the area is designated and zoned for industrial, residential, and agricultural uses. Line D01, which from the CVSC to Avenue 66 will have a berm anticipated to be approximately 7 feet to 9 feet above grade and from Avenue 66 to Avenue 64 will be approximately 4 feet to 6 feet above grade, is in an area of limited existing development, and the General Plan designation for this area is agricultural and residential. Existing zoning is for agriculture. Line E01, which from where the open channel begins at the southern part of the alignment north to Avenue 68 will be approximately 6 feet above grade, is in an area of limited existing development, and the area is designated in the General Plan for agriculture and open space recreation and zoned for controlled development. Line F01, which from Avenue 70 to State Route 111 will be approximately 10 feet above grade, is in an area of limited existing development, and the area is designated for agriculture, Indian lands, and water in the General Plan, and zoned for controlled development and watercourse/watershed conservation area. Similar with the proposed training levees, due to their location on the valley floor and comparatively low-profile height, and that the scenic vistas in the area consists of the Santa Rosa Mountains, the Mecca Hills, and the Little San Bernardino Mountains, which achieve considerable elevations and visibility from the valley floor where the SMP Facilities will be located, these identified open channel facilities are not anticipated to significantly impact existing scenic vistas in the area.

Additionally, improvements associated with the CVSC, which include concrete lining the channel and levee banks, new replacement bridges along Airport Boulevard, 62nd Avenue, and 66th Avenue over the CVSC, and widening two UPRR bridges over the CVSC, will not significantly alter scenic vistas as these facilities will be below or at grade, and will not achieve greater elevations than the existing bridges.

Therefore, Project implementation would not obstruct any scenic views and potential impacts to scenic vistas are less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: ECVAP; Caltrans

Less Than Significant Impact. There are no designated state-scenic highways within the Plan Area. State Route 111, from the Bombay Beach on the Salton Sea to State Route 195 near Mecca, is a state-eligible Scenic Highway, providing views of the Salton Sea and the surrounding mountainous wilderness. The nearest SMP Facilities to this portion of State Route 111 are in the Mecca/North Shore area: Line F01, Line I01, and Line K01. These lines are proposed as open concrete-lined channels that will cross under the roadway via a reinforced concrete box. Because Lines I01 and K01 will have berms no greater than 2 feet above grade, these Facilities will not be

highly visible or detract from the distant views of the Salton Sea and the surrounding mountains to motorists travelling on State Route 111.

Line F01 from near State Route 111 south to Avenue 70 is anticipated to be approximately 10 feet above the existing grade and from Avenue 70 south to the end of the alignment is anticipated to be approximately 12 feet above grade. However, due to the speed the one would be traveling on the roadway, motorists would only view Line F01 for a few minutes. This limited view would not substantially disrupt or detract from the views of the Salton Sea and mountainous wilderness visible to motorists from State Route 111. Thus, the Project will not substantially alter the views of the scenic resources within the state-eligible scenic highway.

The conceptual alignments and locations of the proposed SMP Facilities do not contain any rock outcroppings or historic buildings that are of significant visual quality; thus, implementation of the Project would not damage any such resources. The proposed SMP Facilities are primarily within or adjacent to road rights-of-way. Construction of the proposed open channels and detention basins will require vegetation removal. Where underground SMP Facilities are proposed, once construction of the underground facilities is complete the surface will be returned to its original condition. Additionally, the Project will not substantially alter the views of scenic resources from the Project area since the majority of proposed SMP Facilities consist of storm drains, open lined channels, and detention basins, which will be located below or at ground surface level (which exception to low berms ranging from 1 to 3 feet above grade along open channels). However, some of the SMP Facilities, specifically the proposed training levees in the Oasis/Valley Floor area and portions of five (5) open channels in the Mecca/North Shore area, will include a berm or embankment that will be approximately 4 feet to 14 feet above grade. The berms and embankments will be vegetated as each Facility is constructed. Thus, the SMP Facilities are not anticipated to impact scenic resources.

For these reasons implementation of the proposed Project will not substantially damage scenic resources and impacts are considered less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) *Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. Exposed surfaces, construction debris, and construction equipment may temporarily affect the aesthetic quality of the area in immediate proximity to the construction activity. These impacts will be short-term and will cease when construction is completed. Therefore, they are considered to be less than significant. When construction is completed, the underground storm drains will not be visible, while the open storm channels and detention basins will be visible. The proposed canals, detention basins, berms, embankments, and training levees will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the Project Area because these facilities are would not create a defining or distracting visual feature to a degree that would deter from the existing visual character and quality of the area, and additionally, these Facilities will be located below or at ground surface level (which exception to

low berms ranging from 1 to 3 feet above grade along open channels). However, some of the SMP Facilities, specifically the proposed training levees in the Oasis/Valley Floor area and portions of 5 open channel line alignments in the Mecca/North Shore area, will include a notable above grade structural height. The proposed training levees will achieve heights ranging from approximately 6.4 feet to 13.4 feet above grade, and certain above grade open channel structural heights in Mecca/North Shore area will achieve heights ranging from approximately 4 feet to 12 feet. The training levees are located along the western boundary of the Plan Area near the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains in an area of virtually no development, and the previously identified open channels with notable above grade structural heights are generally concentrated to where those lines outlet into the CVSC, and in areas of limited existing development and limited future development.

Moreover, these Facilities will not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the Project area as they will be sparsely located from each other (i.e., not concentrated in close proximity that would visually attract attention) and will not distract from the greater visual character of the area due to the relatively small footprint of these above grade Facilities. Further, the channel-lining improvements of the CVSC will also not be above grade, and thus, will not affect visual character of the area. The new replacement bridges at Airport Boulevard, 62nd Avenue, and 66th Avenue and the two widened UPRR bridges over the CVSC will generally remain at existing street level. It should also be noted that construction of the SMP Facilities will occur as new development occurs in the Plan Area, and the new development may result in a considerable impact. However, the new development will also be subject to CEQA review, which includes an analysis of the potential impacts to this threshold question. Thus, the SMP Facilities in and of themselves will not be the visual feature that affects the existing visual character and quality of the Plan Area. Therefore, implementation of the Plan will not substantially degrade the existing visual character and quality of the Project area, and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

d) *Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

Source: Project Description; ECVAP

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed SMP Facilities will not create new or additional light or glare, either during construction or operation and maintenance; therefore, this will not conflict with any day or nighttime views in the Project area. The only lighting that may be expected to be used in connection with the proposed Project would be temporary lighting used for emergency conditions; however, any such lighting would be directed towards the SMP Facilities and not onto adjacent property or into the sky. Moreover, while the Project includes SMP Facilities within Zone B of the Mt. Palomar Nighttime Lighting Policy Area, the Project will not conflict these nighttime policies for the aforementioned reasons. Therefore, impacts from light and glare will be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

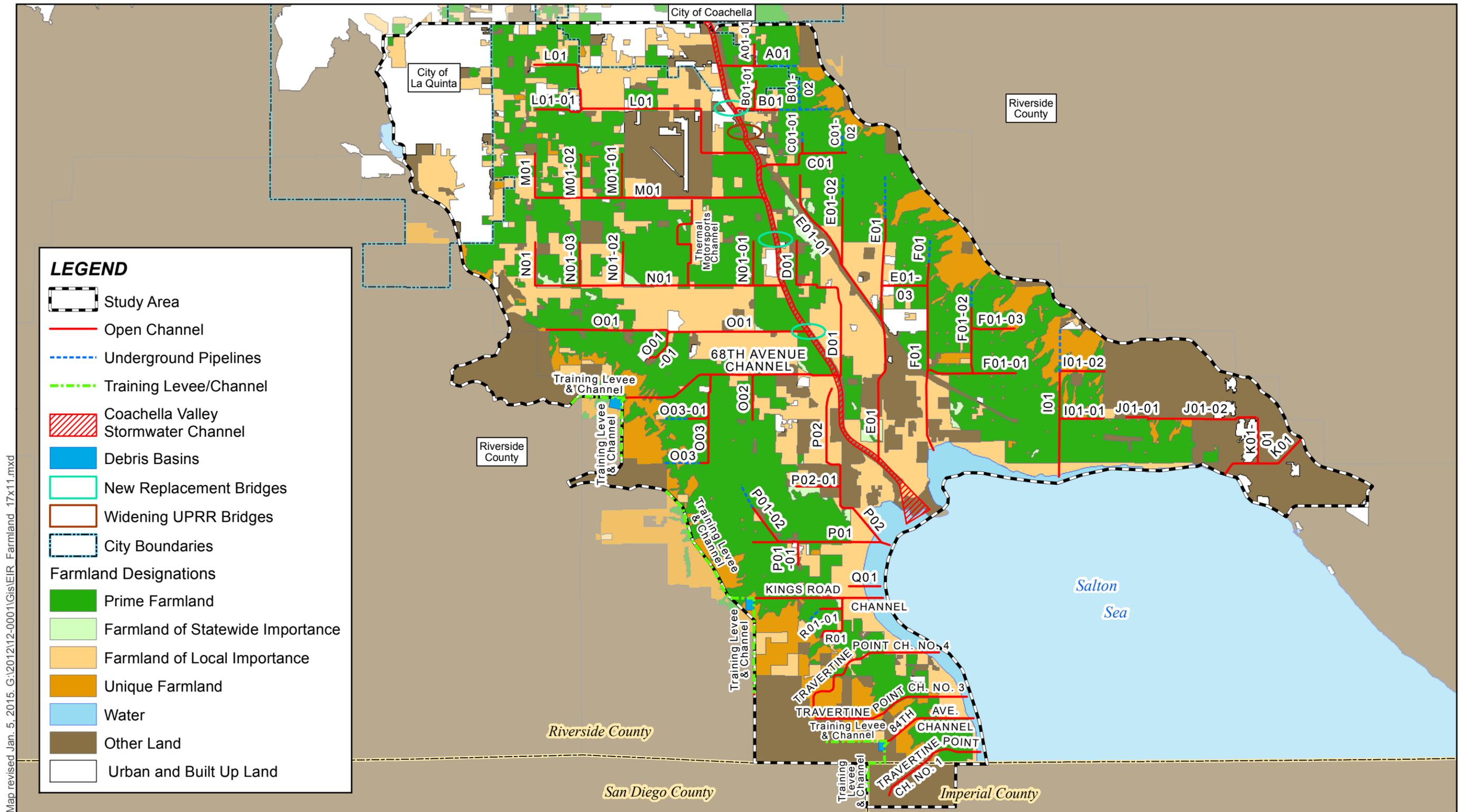
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, 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. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Agriculture and Forestry Resources Discussion:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

Source: DOC; Project Description; ECVAP

Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of developing the SMP and identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. As shown in **Figure 8 – Important Farmland**, approximately 5,104 acres of Farmland of Local Importance, 16,378 acres of Prime Farmland, 353 acres of Farmland of Statewide Importance, and 3,169 acres of Unique Farmland are located within the Plan Area. Implementation of the SMP will result in the construction of Facilities on Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide importance. Therefore, this issue will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.



Sources: CA Dept. of Conservation FMMP, 2010 (Riv. Co. and S.D. Co.) and 2012 (Imp. Co.); Riverside Co. GIS, 2014.

Figure 8 - Important Farmland
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan

0 2 4 6 Miles



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

Source: RCLIS; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of developing the SMP and identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. As shown in **Figure 9 – Williamson Act Parcels**, some of the proposed SMP Facilities will traverse lands under an active Williamson Act contract, which may result in a potentially significant impact. Therefore, this issue will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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))?

Source: Project Description

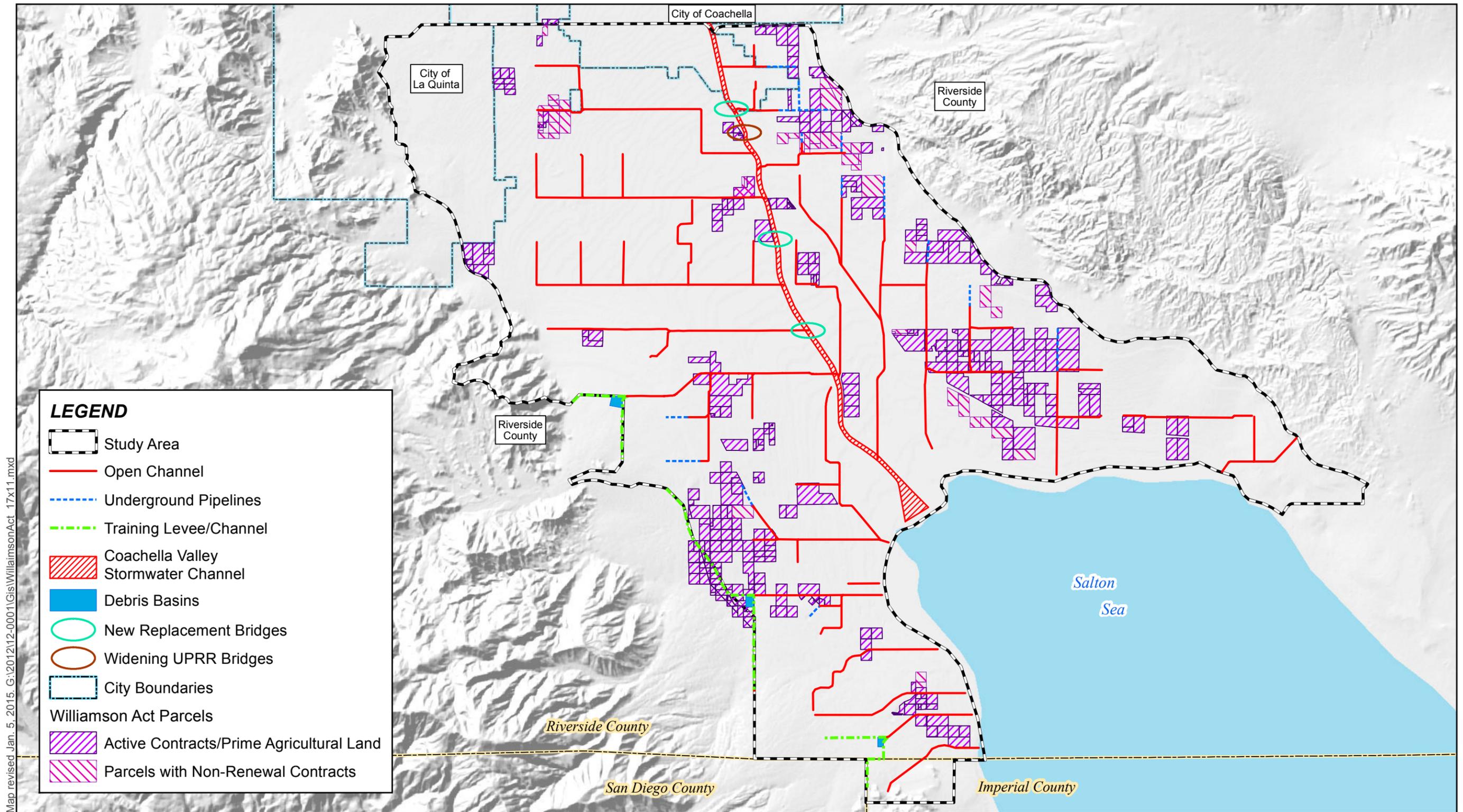
Less Than Significant Impact. Forest land, as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 12220(g) is land that can support 10 percent of native tree cover of any species under natural conditions and that allows for the management of one or more forest resources. Timberland, as defined in PRC Section 4526, means land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated as experimental forest land, which is capable of growing a crop of trees for any commercial species, including Christmas trees.

The proposed Project consists of implementation of a stormwater master plan that identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. The proposed SMP Facilities are considered to be compatible with all zoning designations in unincorporated Riverside County pursuant to Section 18.2.b.b of Riverside County Ordinance No. 348, which exempts public agency projects from zoning designations. SMP Facilities proposed within the City of Coachella and Imperial County will be not traverse or otherwise impact property zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland production. Therefore, implementation of the Project will not conflict with or cause the rezoning or land zoned for forest land and/or timberland. Impacts will be less than significant and this issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description; Google Earth

No Impact. There is no forest land located within the proposed Project Alignment. Thus, implementation of the proposed Project would not result in the loss of forest land, or conversion of forest land to non- forest use. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.



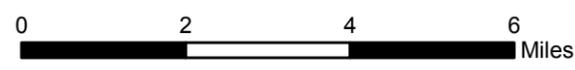
Map revised Jan. 5, 2015. G:\2012\12-0001\Gis\WilliamsonAct_17x11.mxd

LEGEND

- Study Area
- Open Channel
- Underground Pipelines
- Training Levee/Channel
- Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
- Debris Basins
- New Replacement Bridges
- Widening UPRR Bridges
- City Boundaries
- Williamson Act Parcels**
- Active Contracts/Prime Agricultural Land
- Parcels with Non-Renewal Contracts

Sources: CA Dept. of Conservation DLRP, 2009 (Riv. Co.), 2012 (Imp. Co.) and 2014 (S.D. Co.); Riverside Co. GIS, 2014.

Figure 9 - Williamson Act Parcels
Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan



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

Source: Project Description; Google Earth

No Impact. There is no forest land located within the proposed Project Alignment. Thus, implementation of the proposed Project would not result in the loss of forest land, or conversion of forest land to non- forest use. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

f) 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?

Source: DOC; Project Description; ECVAP

Less Than Significant Impact. As discussed in item II. a) above, the proposed SMP Facilities may result in the direct conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. Therefore, potential impacts to Farmland conversion will be discussed in the PEIR under item II. a). However, implementation of the proposed Project would not modify any General Plan land use designations or zoning designations and would therefore, not involve any other changes that could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and this threshold will not be analyzed further in the forthcoming PEIR. However, as previously stated, impacts to Farmland will be evaluated as a part of threshold item II. a) above.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Air Quality Discussion:

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

Source: SCAQMD AQMP; ICAPCD AQMP; Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Plan Area is within the Salton Sea Air Basin (Basin) which encompasses areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties. The Riverside County portion of the Basin is within the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and includes the Coachella Valley. The Imperial County portion of the Basin is within Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD) and includes all of Imperial County.

The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the Riverside County portion of the Basin was established by SCAQMD to set forth a comprehensive program that will lead the Basin into compliance with all federal and state air quality standards. To achieve compliance with these standards, the SCAQMD AQMP establishes control measures and related emission reduction estimates that are based upon emissions projections for a future development scenario derived from land use, population, and employment characteristics defined in consultation with local governments. Accordingly, conformance with the SCAQMD AQMP for any given project is determined by demonstrating that such project is consistent compliance with local land use plans and/or population projections.

The ICAPCD developed and adopted the 2009 8-Hour Ozone Modified Air Quality Management Plan (2009 Modified AQMP). The 2009 Modified AQMP control measures and related emission reduction estimates are based upon emissions projections for a future development scenario derived from land use, population, and employment characteristics defined in consultation with local governments. Accordingly, conformance with the 2009 Modified AQMP for projects is determined by demonstrating compliance with local land use plans and/or population projections and incorporating the appropriate 2009 Modified AQMP-identified mitigation measures into a project.

The proposed Project consists of implementation of the ECV SMP, which identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. The proposed Project does not propose any changes to existing land use patterns. The proposed SMP Facilities are considered to be compatible with all zoning designations in unincorporated Riverside County pursuant to Section 18.2.b.b of Riverside County Ordinance No. 348, which exempts public agency projects from zoning designations, and the SMP Facilities are not incompatible with the zoning designations and regulations of the Cities of Coachella and La Quinta, or Imperial County. Thus, implementation of the proposed Project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the SCAQMD AQMP or ICAPCD's 2009 Modified AQMP and there will be no impacts in this regard. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) *Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?*

Source: AQMP; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Construction of the proposed SMP Facilities has the potential to violate air quality standards and contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality standard. Therefore, an analysis of impacts to air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will be conducted for the Project and consistency with air quality standards will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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)?*

Source: AQMP; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. The portion of the Basin in which the Project is located is designated as a non-attainment area for ozone, PM-10 and PM-2.5 under state and federal standards. The forthcoming EIR will address the Project's potential to contribute to a cumulative increase of criteria pollutants (i.e., carbon monoxide, ground-level ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in size) including those that are considered to be in non-attainment. This issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

d) *Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*

Source: AQMP; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. For CEQA purposes, SCAQMD defines sensitive receptors as residences, hospitals, or convalescent facilities where it is possible for an individual to remain for 24 hours. Sensitive receptors include existing residential uses along the alignments of certain proposed SMP Facilities. Construction of the proposed SMP Facilities could produce emissions that may affect sensitive receptors. Therefore the potential to expose sensitive receivers to substantial pollutant concentrations will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

e) *Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project presents the potential for generation of objectionable odors in the form of diesel exhaust during construction in the immediate vicinity of the proposed SMP Facilities. However, these odors will be of short-term duration and will not result in permanent impacts to surrounding land uses or sensitive receptors in the Plan Area. For these reasons, implementation of the Project will result in less than significant impacts relating to objectionable odors and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Biological Resource Discussion:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Although much of the area in which the SMP Facilities are proposed to be located has been disturbed, the proposed Plan Area may support 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. A constraints-level biological resources assessment will be prepared and the Project’s potential to impact sensitive plant and wildlife species will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. See response to item IV a) above. A constraints-level biological resources assessment will be prepared and the Project's potential to impact sensitive riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community habitats will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. See response to item IV a) above. A constraints-level biological resources assessment will be prepared and the Project's potential to impact wetland habitats will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. There may be fencing around certain proposed SMP Facilities, which could interfere with the movement of native resident or migratory wildlife species with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors. Therefore, this issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description; RCGP MOS

Potentially Significant Impact. Implementation of the proposed Project may adversely affect important plant communities and wildlife habitats. Chapter 5, Multipurpose Open Space of the County of Riverside General Plan, contains policies that address the protection and maintenance of water quality, groundwater recharge, floodplains, and riparian areas in Riverside County. Several policies are intended to protect wetlands and native vegetation. Project compliance with the County of Riverside General Plan policies relating to natural resources and resources management will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: CVMSHCP; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project area is within the boundaries of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP), a comprehensive Multiple Species

Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan encompassing approximately 1,136,400 acres in the Coachella Valley. The CVWD is one of the CVMSHCP's Permittees and as such must comply with the provisions of the CVMSHCP; therefore, the biological resource section of the PEIR will include a discussion of the Project's consistency with the CVMSHCP.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cultural Resource Discussion:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Implementation of the SMP may impact a historical resource. Potential impacts to historical resources will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Implementation of the SMP may impact an archaeological resource. Potential impacts to archeological resources will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Implementation of the SMP may impact a paleontological. Potential impacts to paleontological resources will be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Google Earth; Project Description; HSC; PRC

Less than Significant Impact. There are three formal cemeteries within the Plan Area. Coachella Valley Cemetery, located at the southwest corner of Avenue 52 and Jackson Street, which is adjacent to a proposed line in the Oasis/Valley Floor region. However, the proposed line will be within the existing roadway right-of-way and will not impact this cemetery. The second cemetery is Martinez Cemetery, located in the Torres Martinez Indian Reservation generally south of Martinez Road and west of Polk Street. The nearest SMP Facility is located one-half mile south of the cemetery with Avenue 68, and thus the Project will not impact this cemetery. The third cemetery is Toro Cemetery, generally located northeast of Monroe Street and Avenue 64. The nearest SMP Facility is 0.85 mile east within Jackson Street, thus, the Project will not impact this cemetery.

As to the potential of human remains interred outside of formal cemeteries, due to the previously disturbed condition of most of the Project area, the discovery of human remains is unlikely. Thus, the proposed Project is not expected to disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. However, in the unlikely event that during construction suspected human remains are uncovered, all activities in the vicinity of the remains shall cease and the contractor shall notify the County Coroner immediately, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 and California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. Therefore, potential impacts to human remains are less than significant and this issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Geology and Soils Discussion:

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.

Source: Project Description; ECVAP; RCGP SE

Less Than Significant Impact. The State Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (A-P Act) was passed in 1972 to mitigate the hazard of surface faulting. Surface rupture is the most easily avoided seismic hazard. The main purpose of the A-P Act is to prevent the construction of buildings used for human occupancy on the surface trace of active faults. As shown in Figure 14 of the ECVAP, the Eastern Coachella Valley, including the Plan Area is traversed by the San Andreas fault, an active fault with a significant probability of earthquake activity. However, the Project itself does not contain any structures that would be inhabited by humans; and thereby, will not expose persons directly to substantial adverse effects from ground shaking.

In addition, the proposed SMP Facilities will be designed and constructed to withstand expected ground shaking levels and potential soil instability. Facility specific geotechnical reports will be prepared as part of the final design for the individual SMP Facilities. All recommended measures outlined by the geotechnical engineer in the geotechnical report(s) will be incorporated into the final design and construction of the SMP Facilities. Therefore, at a programmatic level, potential impacts relating to the rupture of a known earthquake fault and the corresponding impacts to people or structures due to seismic hazards are considered less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Source: Project Description; ECVAP; RCGP SE

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to item VI.a)i) above. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Source: ECVAP; RCGP SE

Less Than Significant Impact. According to Figure S-3 of the Riverside County General Plan Safety Element, the Project is located within an area that contains shallow groundwater, and sediments are depicted as having medium to very high susceptibility of liquefaction. However, the proposed SMP Facilities will be designed and constructed to withstand ground failure, including liquefaction. Facility specific geotechnical reports will be prepared as part of the final design for the individual SMP Facilities. All recommended measures outlined by the geotechnical engineer in the geotechnical report(s) will be incorporated into the final design and construction of the SMP Facilities.

Additionally, the proposed Project does not provide habitable structures. CVWD's routine inspection and maintenance activities will ensure that the local SMP Facilities are repaired if damage does occur during a seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Therefore, the Project will have a less than significant impact to people or structures due to seismic-related ground failure and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

iv) Landslides?

Source: RCGP SE Figure S-4

Less than Significant Impact. According to Figure S-4 of the Riverside County General Plan Safety Element, the Project area is not identified as being susceptible for seismically induced landslides. In addition, the Project does not provide habitable structures. Therefore, potential impacts to people or structures due to landslides are not anticipated. The majority of the proposed SMP Facilities will be installed at or below ground surface which exception to low berms ranging from 1 to 3 feet above grade along open channels and the proposed training levees, which may have berms and embankments up to 14 feet above grade level. The embankments will be designed, engineered, and vegetated to prevent erosion and slope failure. Therefore, anticipated impacts are considered less than significant and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description; NPDES

Less Than Significant Impact. Berms, embankments, and levees identified in the SMP will be designed, graded, and vegetated so as to avoid erosion once constructed. Rather, operation of the Project is anticipated to reduce erosion and the loss of topsoil by collecting stormwater runoff that currently sheet flows across the Plan Area and conveying the flows in storm drains, channels, and levees. During construction of the individual Facilities, the proposed Project has the potential

to result in the short-term loss of topsoil due to runoff and soil erosion. However, compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general construction permit requires that a stormwater pollution prevention plan or plans (SWPPP(s)) be prepared prior to construction activities that identifies applicable Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize the loss of topsoil or substantial erosion. Through design of the berms, embankments, and levees and implementation of BMPS identified in the Facility-specific SWPPPs, the Project will not result in substantial soil erosion and potential impacts will be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. As discussed above in responses to IV.a, Facility specific geotechnical reports will be prepared as part of the final design for the individual SMP Facilities and the proposed Facilities will conform to the engineering, design, and construction recommendations provided in such reports. Because the Facilities-specific geotechnical investigation(s) will take into consideration the soil characteristics of the Facility alignment or site and all recommended measures outlined by the geotechnical engineer in the geotechnical report(s) will be incorporated into the final design and construction of the SMP Facilities, potential impacts relating to geologic unit or soil instability are considered less than significant at a programmatic level. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to item VI.c), above. Because the SMP Facilities will be designed and constructed taking the specific soil and other geotechnical considerations into account, there will be a less than significant impact with regards to substantial risks to life and property. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The Project does not propose any habitable structures or any uses that would require the use of septic tanks or waste water disposal systems. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Discussion:

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

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Implementation of the Project has the potential to produce GHG emissions during construction. This topic will be discussed further in the forthcoming EIR.

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

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. See response to item VII.a), above. Impacts are considered potentially significant and this topic will be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hazards and Hazardous Materials Discussion:

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

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The Riverside County Environmental Health Department issues permits to and conducts inspections of businesses that use, store, or handle quantities of hazardous materials and/or waste greater than or equal to 55 gallons or 500 pounds, or 200 cubic feet of compressed gas, at any time. The Riverside County Environmental Health Department also implements the Hazardous Material Management Plans (Business Emergency Plans) that include an inventory of hazardous materials used, handled, or stored at any business in within Riverside County.

The Project consists of implementation of the SMP and will not entail the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Construction and subsequent maintenance of SMP Facilities will require the short-term use of petroleum-based fuels, lubricants, pesticides, and other similar materials. During construction, petroleum-based fuels may be stored at a project site for the specific purpose of fueling construction equipment.

Any hazardous materials used for Project construction or maintenance will be used in accordance with standard safety measures and regulations. Such measures and regulations are under the jurisdiction of numerous federal, state, and local agencies. At the federal level, such agencies and legislation include Environmental Protection Agency; Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Act; Comprehensive Environmental Response,

Compensation, and Liability Act; Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act; Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know; and Code of Federal Regulations titles 10, 29, 40, and 49. At the state level, such agencies and legislations include, but are not necessarily limited to: state Occupational Safety and Health Administration; California Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Fish and Game; Department of Transportation; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Air Resources Board; Regional Water Quality Control Board; Office of Emergency Services; State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment; Hazardous Material Management Act; Hazardous Waste Control Law; Emergency Services Act; Hazardous Materials Storage and Emergency Response; Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986; and the California Code of Regulations. Lastly, at the local level there is the Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan. Therefore, because the use of hazardous materials will be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, the potential impacts regarding creating a significant hazard to the public or environment will be less than significant and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: EnviroStor; GeoTracker; ACOE SIR; Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. As discussed under item VIII.a), above, Project construction and operation will comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding the use and storage of hazardous materials.

Most of the SMP Facilities are proposed to be located adjacent to existing and planned roadways on undeveloped property. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control's EnviroStor database is an online search tool for identifying sites which were contaminated or are potentially contaminated and in need of further investigation. The EnviroStor database also identifies facilities that are authorized to treat, store, dispose of and/or transfer hazardous waste. The EnviroStor database includes lists of the following site types: federal Superfund sites; State Response, including Military Facilities and State Superfund; Voluntary Cleanup; and School sites. EnviroStor provides the site name, site type, status, address, any restricted use and/or recorded deed restrictions, past use(s) that caused contamination, potential contaminants of concern, site history and planned and completed activities. The EnviroStor database identifies a number of hazardous sites in the Plan Area. The following discussion identifies the general location of these potentially hazardous sites and nearby SMP Facilities.

- There are two sites located at the Desert Resorts Regional Airport (also known as the Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) which require further evaluation and action. The first site is the "Army Airport" which is associated with this airport's original use as the Thermal Army Airfield during World War II. This case requires a military evaluation as of July 2005 and is identified for a site cleanup program. The second site is the "Thermal Ground Air Station Base" which is also associated with this airport's original use as the Thermal Army Airfield during World War II. This case is currently inactive and further action is required as of September 2012. The site is identified for a cleanup program due to the previous on-site military firing

range, which has affected the soil with explosives, lead, perchlorate, and munitions debris. The nearest proposed SMP Facility is Line L01. This Facility is not anticipated to impact the existing airport or future evaluations or actions for these listed sites as most of this Facility is generally outside the “Formerly Used Defense Site” boundaries except for the portion along Airport Service Road 6. However, this portion of Line L01 is not in an area identified within the firing range or burial pit per the US Army Corps’ Site Inspection Report from September 2011 (ACOE SIR). Construction and maintenance of Line L01 are not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this site.

- The 10.5-acre Thermal Landfill, generally bounded by Avenue 59 to the north, Fillmore Street to the east, Avenue 60 to the south, and Polk Street to the west, is identified as an active case as of October 2004 for voluntary clean-up to remove metals, organochlorine pesticides, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons from the soils that resulted from its prior use as a landfill and disposal burn site from 1948 until it ceased operation in 1972. The nearest proposed SMP Facility (Line M01) is not anticipated to impact the Thermal Landfill or its clean-up activities as the Facility is located approximately a quarter-mile south of the landfill site. Additionally, other nearby proposed SMP Facilities are Line L01 and the CVSC, which are located approximately 0.55 mile north and 0.37 mile east of the landfill site, respectively. Construction and maintenance of these Facilities are not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from the Thermal Landfill due to their distance from the this site.
- A site in the Salton Sea/Mecca area located southwest of the intersection of Avenue 64 and Grant Street is identified as an inactive site that needs military evaluation as of July 2005. The site is identified as a “Formerly Used Defense Site” and for a site cleanup program, but no potential contaminants of concern or potential media affected are currently specified. The nearest proposed SMP Facility is Line F01-02. Construction and maintenance of this Facility is not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this site.

The State Water Resources Control Board’s (SWRCB) GeoTracker database and geographic information system (GIS) provides online access to regulatory data about leaking underground storage tanks (LUST), Department of Defense (DoD), Spills-Leaks-Investigations-Cleanups (SLIC), and landfill sites. The GeoTracker database identifies a number of sites in the Plan Area. Due to the quantity of sites identified by the database, including a high number of closed sites, the following discussion only identifies the general location of active sites and nearby SMP Facilities.

- A land disposal site is listed west of Tyler Street between Avenue 54 to the south and Avenue 53 to the north that is no longer in operation. The site is identified for cleanup as of January 1965, but no potential contaminants of concern or potential media affected have been specified, and no cleanup efforts are shown in the database. The nearest SMP Facility is Line L01, which is an open channel facility running along Airport Boulevard to the north of that roadway in the Oasis/Valley Floor region. Line L01 is approximately one mile south of that listed site. Due to the distance between Line L01 and the disposal site, construction and maintenance of this portion of Line L01 is not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this site.

- A LUST site is listed south of Airport Boulevard, east of Higgins Drive, and north of the Desert Resorts Regional Airport (Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) on property used by the Riverside County Transportation Department. The site is identified as an open site assessment for cleanup as of July 2009 for diesel contamination in “other groundwater (uses other than drinking water).” An on-site well is currently monitored semi-annually. The associated plume length is estimated to be between 100 feet and 250 feet and the release from the LUST has been stopped. Sensitive receptors that are currently impacted by the LUST site include a municipal well operated by CVWD approximately 2,500 feet from the site; however, it has been determined that the concentration of diesel contamination in the soil will have no significant risk or adversely affect human health. The nearest proposed SMP Facility is Line L01, which is located approximately 330 feet north of the listed site. Because the depth of this portion of Line L01 is anticipated to be only 10 feet, construction and maintenance of this SMP Facility is not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this site.
- A land disposal site is listed south of Avenue 62 and east of Tyler Street that is no longer in operation. The site is identified for cleanup as of January 1965, but no potential contaminants of concern or potential media affected have been specified, and no cleanup efforts are shown in the database. The nearest SMP Facility is the existing Thermal Motorsports Track Channel in the Oasis/Valley Floor region. Maintenance of this existing channel is not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this site.
- A LUST site is listed in the Mecca community north of 4th Street between Hammond Road to the west and Coahuilla Street to the east associated with the former site’s use as the Riverside County Fire Station #40. The site is identified as an open site assessment for cleanup as of July 2009 for diesel contamination in “other groundwater (uses other than drinking water).” An on-site well is currently monitored semi-annually. The associated plume length is less than 250 feet and the release from the LUST has been stopped. Sensitive receptors that are currently impacted by the LUST site include municipal wells operated by CVWD to provide drinking water to the Mecca community, and remediation has not been attempted. The nearest proposed SMP Facilities are an underground pipeline facility within 4th Street and Line L01 approximately 0.10 mile west of the listed site. Construction and maintenance of these SMP Facilities are not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from the listed site or the contaminated groundwater plume.
- A LUST site is listed in the Mecca community north of Avenue 66 and east of Coahuilla Street associated with the site’s former use as a gas station. The site is identified as an open site assessment for cleanup as of August 2012 for potential gasoline contamination; however, potential affected media has not been specified. The associated plume length is between 250 feet and 1,000 feet and the release from the LUST has been stopped. To date, a conceptual model that assesses the nature, extent, and mobility of the release has not been developed and the stability of the plume is unknown. Additionally, remediation has not been attempted. The nearest proposed SMP Facilities are underground pipeline facilities within Avenue 66 and Coahuilla Street. Construction and maintenance of these SMP Facilities are not anticipated to

result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from this listed site or interfere with any future remediation.

- A LUST site is listed south of Avenue 66 and east of Hammond Road associated with the site’s former use as a gas station. The site is identified as an open site assessment for cleanup as of August 2012 for potential gasoline contamination in “other groundwater (uses other than drinking water).” One on-site well is currently monitored semi-annually and another is monitored quarterly. The associated plume length is between 250 feet and 1,000 feet and the release from the LUST has been stopped. Sensitive receptors that are currently impacted by the LUST site include municipal wells operated by CVWD; however, one that is 2,640 feet away from the site is inactive while it is unknown if the other supply well 0.15 mile to the northwest is currently or immediately threatened; and groundwater is currently impacted. Remediation has not been attempted. The nearest proposed SMP Facilities are an underground pipelines within Avenue 66. Construction and maintenance of these SMP Facilities are not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from the listed site or the contaminated groundwater plume.
- A land disposal site is listed south of Avenue 84 and west of State Route 86, which is currently operated by Riverside County Waste Management Department as the Oasis Sanitary Landfill. The site is open and operating, and as such, has been issued waste discharge requirements by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board. Currently, there are no potential contaminants of concern or potential media affected specified, and regular testing of groundwater monitoring wells is conducted by Riverside County Waste Management Department. The nearest proposed SMP Facility is the 84th Avenue Channel, which is an open channel facility running along Avenue 84 to the north of that roadway in the Oasis/Valley Floor region. Construction and maintenance of this SMP Facility is not anticipated to result in or contribute to an accidental release of hazardous materials from the landfill.

For the reasons stated above, potential impacts regarding accidental release of hazardous materials will be less than significant and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: CVUSD; Google Earth; Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The Plan Area is located entirely with the Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD). CVUSD operates a number of schools within the Plan Area. CVUSD and private schools and the proximity of proposed SMP Facilities are shown on the following table.

Schools	School Address	SMP Facility within Quarter Mile?	Location of Nearest SMP Facility(ies)
CVUSD Elementary Schools (Grades K-6)			
Cesar Chavez	49601 Avenida De Oro, Coachella area	No	N/A

Schools	School Address	SMP Facility within Quarter Mile?	Location of Nearest SMP Facility(ies)
Coral Mountain Academy	51375 Van Buren Street, Coachella area	No	N/A
John Kelley	87163 Center Street, Thermal area	No	N/A
Las Palmitas	86150 Avenue 66, Thermal area	Yes	Open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the southern side of the roadway from east of Tyler Street approximately 0.03 mile from the school site, and an open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the northern side of the roadway from west of Tyler Street approximately 0.02 mile from the school site
Mecca	65250 Coahuilla Street, Mecca area	Yes	Adjacent underground pipeline facilities within Coahuilla Street, Date Palm Avenue, and 5 th Street to the west, east, and south, respectively. Open channel facility running along Lincoln Street on the western side of the roadway approximately 0.21 mile west of the school site
Mountain Vista	49750 Hjorth Street, Indio area	No	N/A
Oasis	88175 Avenue 74, Thermal area	Yes	Underground pipeline facility within Harrison Street north of the intersection of Avenue 74 approximately 0.05 mile northwest of the school site which transitions to an open channel facility running along Harrison Street on the western side of the roadway approximately 0.02 mile west of the school site
Palm View	1390 7 th Street, Coachella area	No	N/A
Peter Pendleton	84750 Calle Rojo, Coachella area	No	N/A
Saul Martinez	65705 Johnson Street, Mecca area	Yes	Open channel facility running along Johnson Street to the east of the roadway approximately 0.04 mile from the school site, and an underground pipeline facility within Home Avenue at 4 th Street approximately 0.13 mile east from the school site
Sea View	2467 Sea Shore Avenue, Salton City area	No	N/A
Valle Del Sol	51433 Education Way, Coachella area	No	N/A
Valley View	85270 Valley Road, Coachella area	No	N/A

Schools	School Address	SMP Facility within Quarter Mile?	Location of Nearest SMP Facility(ies)
Westside	82225 Airport Boulevard, Thermal area	No	N/A
CVUSD Middle Schools (Grades 7-8)			
Bobby Duke	85358 Bagdad Street, Coachella area	No	N/A
Cahuilla Desert Academy	82489 Avenue 52, Coachella area	No	N/A
Toro Canyon	86150 Avenue 66, Thermal area	Yes	Open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the southern side of the roadway from east of Tyler Street approximately 0.03 mile from the school site, and an open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the northern side of the roadway from west of Tyler Street approximately 0.02 mile from the school site
West Shore	2381 Shore Hawk, Salton City area	No	N/A
CVUSD High Schools (Grades 9-12)			
Coachella Valley	83800 Airport Boulevard, Thermal area	Yes	Adjacent open channel facility transitioning from running alongside Airport Boulevard to the north of that roadway to south of that roadway at the southwest corner of the school site. The open channel facility along Airport Boulevard to the south of that roadway is approximately 0.03 mile from the school site. This same open channel facility transitions back to running north of Airport Boulevard at the intersection of Van Buren Street. Additionally, an open channel facility running along Van Buren Street to the east of that roadway is approximately 0.03 mile from the school site
Desert Mirage	86150 Avenue 66, Thermal area	Yes	Open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the southern side of the roadway from east of Tyler Street approximately 0.03 mile from the school site, and an open channel facility running along Avenue 66 on the northern side of the roadway from west of Tyler Street approximately 0.02 mile from the school site
La Familia Continuation	56615 Olive Street, Thermal area	No	N/A
West Shore	2381 Shore Hawk, Salton City area	No	N/A

Schools	School Address	SMP Facility within Quarter Mile?	Location of Nearest SMP Facility(ies)
CVUSD Adult School			
Coachella Valley	1099 Orchard Avenue, Coachella area	No	N/A
Private Schools			
Coachella Preschool	51996 Tyler Street, Coachella area	No	N/A
Jordan Christian Academy	50930 Calhoun Street, Coachella area	No	N/A

As shown on the table above, proposed SMP Facilities are within a quarter-mile of seven existing schools. These Facilities identified on the above table are generally within or adjacent to existing roadway rights-of-way and consist of open channels. As discussed in response VIII.a), above, the Project identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. During construction and future maintenance, some potential hazardous materials such as fuel and pesticides will be used. While some of the proposed SMP Facilities may ultimately be constructed within a quarter-mile of an existing or planned school site, because construction and maintenance of the proposed Facilities will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regulating the use and storage of hazardous materials (see item VIII.a), potential impacts resulting from hazardous emissions, materials, and wastes will be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

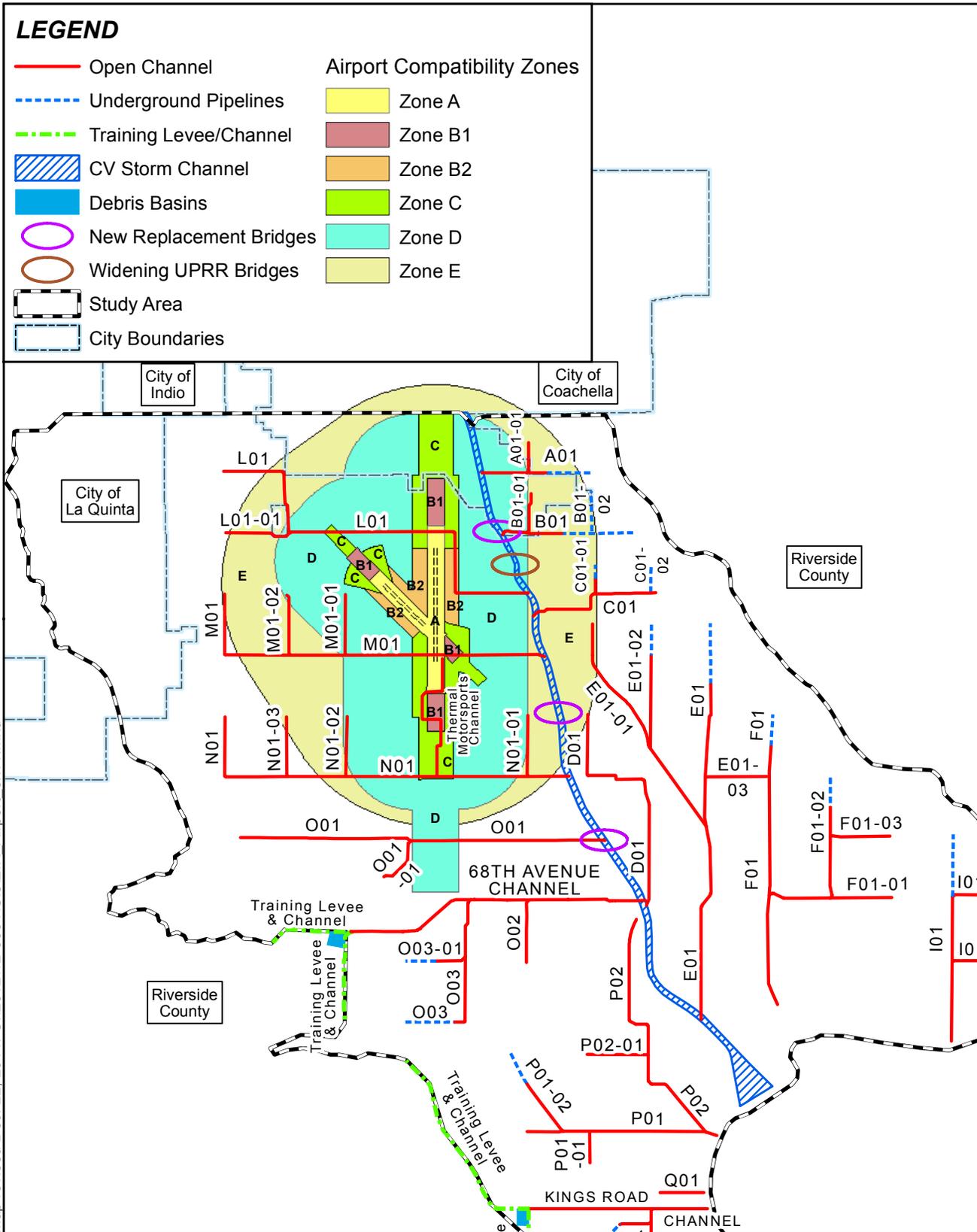
Source: Cortese List

No Impact. There are 11 sites identified on the “Cortese” list in Riverside County. None of these sites are located in the Coachella Valley, or more specifically, within the Plan Area. Therefore, no impact will occur and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: ECVAP Figure 4; RCALUC; RCALUC JCRA

Less Than Significant Impact. The northern most portion of the Project is located within the Desert Resorts Regional Airport (Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) Influence Area. The Desert Resorts Regional Airport (Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) is a public airport operated by Riverside County. The airport is located near the community of Thermal, south of the City of Coachella. Proposed SMP Facilities traverse each of the airport’s six Compatibility Zones due to their proximity to the airport. **Figure 10 – Desert Resorts (Jacqueline Cochran) Regional Airport Compatibility Zones** shows the SMP Facilities near the airport and the airport’s compatibility zones.



Map revised Dec. 22, 2014. G:\2012\12-0001\GIS\AIR_Airport_8x11.mxd

Sources: Co. of Riverside GIS, 2014;
Map JC-1, Riverside Co. ALUC, 2005.

Figure 10 - Desert Resorts (Jacqueline Cochran) Regional Airport Compatibility Zones

Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan



While the majority of the SMP Facilities will be at or below grade which exception to low berms ranging from 1 to 3 feet above grade along open channels, other channels and the training levees may have embankments up to 20 feet above grade level. Development limitations within these zones are enumerated on the following table.

Airport Compatibility Zone	Prohibited Uses
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All structures except ones with location set by aeronautical function • Assemblages of people • Objects exceeding FAR Part 77 height limits • Storage of hazardous materials • Hazards to flight ^a
B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s schools, day care centers, libraries • Hospitals, nursing homes • Places of worship • Buildings with >2 aboveground habitable floors • Highly noise-sensitive outdoor nonresidential uses ^b • Aboveground bulk storage of hazardous materials ^c • Critical community infrastructure facilities ^d • Hazards to flight ^a
B2	Same as B1
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s schools, day care centers, libraries • Hospitals, nursing homes • Buildings with >3 aboveground habitable floors • Highly noise-sensitive outdoor nonresidential uses ^b • Hazards to flight ^a
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly noise-sensitive outdoor nonresidential uses ^b • Hazards to flight ^a
E	Hazards to flight ^a

^a Hazards to flight include physical (e.g., tall objects), visual, and electronic forms of interference with the safety of aircraft operations. Land use development that may cause the attraction of birds to increase is also prohibited. See Policy 4.3.7 (enumerated below).

^b Examples of highly noise-sensitive outdoor nonresidential uses that should be prohibited include amphitheaters and drive-in theaters. Caution should be exercised with respect to uses such as poultry farms and nature preserves.

^c Storage of aviation fuel and other aviation-related flammable materials on the airport is exempted from this criterion. Storage of up to 6,000 gallons of non-aviation flammable materials is also exempted. See Policy 4.2.3(c) for details (enumerated below).

^d Critical community facilities include power plants, electrical substations, and public communications facilities. See Policy 4.2.3(d) for details (enumerated below).

Source: Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Policy Document, adopted October 2004, Table 2A, p. 2-14.

The above table refers to specific county-wide policies which define the wording of the prohibited uses, where applicable. These specific policies are enumerated on the following table.

Policy Number	Policy Language
Policy 4.3.7	<p>Other Flight Hazards: New land uses that may cause visual, electronic, or increased bird strike hazards to aircraft in flight shall not be permitted within any airport's influence area. Specific characteristics to be avoided include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Glare or distracting lights which could be mistaken for airport lights; (b) Sources of dust, steam, or smoke which may impair pilot visibility; (c) Sources of electrical interference with aircraft communications or navigation; and (d) Any proposed use, especially landfills and certain agricultural uses, that creates an increased attraction for large flocks of birds. (Refer to FAA Order 5200.5A, Waste Disposal Sites on or Near Airports and Advisory Circular 150/5200-33A, Hazardous Wildlife Attractants On or Near Airports.)
Policy 4.2.3(c)	<p>Land Uses of Special Concern: Certain types of land uses represent special safety concerns irrespective of the number of people associated with those uses. Land uses of particular concern include:</p> <p>Hazardous Materials Storage: Construction of facilities for the manufacture or storage of fuel, explosives, and other hazardous materials within the airport environs is restricted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Within Compatibility Zone A, manufacture or storage of any such substance is prohibited. (2) Within Compatibility Zones B1 and B2, only the following is permitted: Fuel or hazardous substances stored in underground tanks; On-airport storage of aviation fuel and other aviation-related flammable materials; aboveground storage of less than 6,000 gallons of non-aviation flammable materials (this limit coincides with a break-point used in the Uniform Fire Code to distinguish between different classes of tanks). (3) Within Compatibility Zone C, manufacture or storage of hazardous materials other than the types listed in Sub-policy (2) above is prohibited unless no other feasible alternative site exists and the facility is designed in a manner that minimizes its susceptibility to damage from an aircraft accident.
Policy 4.2.3(d)	<p>Land Uses of Special Concern: Certain types of land uses represent special safety concerns irrespective of the number of people associated with those uses. Land uses of particular concern include:</p> <p>Critical Community Infrastructure: Construction of power plants, electrical substations, public communications facilities, and other critical community infrastructure shall be restricted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Within Compatibility Zone A, all such uses are prohibited. (2) Within Compatibility Zones B1 and B2, such uses are prohibited unless no other feasible alternative site exists and the facility is designed in a manner that minimizes its susceptibility to damage from an aircraft accident.

Source: Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Policy Document, adopted October 2004, pp. 2-25—2-26, 2-30.

The proposed SMP Facilities constitute flood control and storm water conveyance facilities. As such, the SMP is an infrastructure project. While “critical community infrastructure facilities” are prohibited in zones A, B1, and B2, these facilities are understood as electrical and telecommunication facilities, and such uses are not proposed by the Project. The locations of the SMP Facilities shown on **Figures 2, 5, and 6** were selected for the ability to achieve the purpose of the SMP by providing flood protection and storm water conveyance as part of a large stormwater system in the Plan Area. The SMP Facilities within the various airport compatibility zones will consist of storm drains and open channels with berms no greater than 20 feet above grade that would be minimally susceptible to damage from an aircraft accident. Additionally, given the nature of the SMP Facilities, they do not constitute a flight hazard. Because the open channels will be primarily dry due to the comparatively low level of rainfall that occurs in the region and from

their design to convey stormwater instead of impound it, these Facilities will not provide an increased attraction for large flocks of birds.

Construction activities will be short-term and temporary, even though the entire system will be constructed over several years as specific Facilities will be constructed as development occurs based on market conditions. Maintenance of the Facilities will be relatively infrequent. Thus, construction and maintenance of the SMP Project are not expected to result in a safety hazard for people working within the Plan Area. Less than significant impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Google Earth

No Impact. The SMP Facilities are not located within two miles of a private airstrip. Therefore, no impact will occur and this issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: RCFD EOP; Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. Emergency response in Riverside County is the responsibility of the Riverside County Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services. The emergency response plan in effect in the Project area is the Riverside County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The EOP is activated when local jurisdictions request support, and it specifies tasks and responsible agencies for emergency preparedness, emergency response, and disaster recovery. Implementation of the Project would not reconfigure current roadways that would result in inadequate emergency access, and once construction of a Facility is completed, there will be no impairment to the emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan. Construction of certain SMP Facilities may require temporary closure of a travel lane or road segment; however, a Traffic Control Plan would be prepared for any Project Facility which would require that access and circulation be maintained throughout the construction activities. The Traffic Control Plan requires the party constructing the Facility to coordinate with Riverside County Fire Department as well as Riverside County Transportation Department or City of Coachella Public Works Department, as appropriate. Additionally, when the proposed Facilities are constructed in conjunction with the ultimate street improvements, the Project will provide protection from the 100-year flood discharge and alleviate the primary sources of flooding within the Plan Area. Therefore, the proposed Project will not impair or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and this issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: ECVAP Figure 13

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the ECVAP Figure 13, the desert and mountainous region east of the Salton Sea has high and very high wildfire susceptibility. The wildfire susceptibility is moderate to low in the valley and desert regions on the western side of the Salton Sea. However, the proposed Project will not provide any habitable structures and the proposed SMP Facilities are not flammable. Therefore, the proposed Project will not contribute to, nor will it expose people to a significant risk involving wildland fires. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 a watercourse or wetland, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 which would result in flooding on or off site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hydrology and Water Quality Discussion:

a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. During construction of the proposed SMP Facilities there is a potential for short-term discharges of sediments, hydrocarbons, and other pollutants associated with stormwater runoff from a construction site. This will be minimized, through compliance with the NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity and implementation of construction BMPs that will reduce loss of topsoil, substantial erosion, or discharge of polluted runoff. Once construction is complete, the SMP Facilities will not create new sources of stormwater pollutants; however, they will collect, convey, and discharge stormwater runoff emanating from developed and undeveloped areas that may already produce pollutants. The discharge of stormwater is regulated under the NPDES Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) permit issued to the CVWD by the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board. Therefore, through compliance with the NPDES permit programs, the Project's potential to contribute urban runoff that could violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements will be reduced to less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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)?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed SMP Facilities will be designed to convey stormwater through the Plan Area. The proposed Project does not involve the extraction of groundwater, nor will it create a substantial addition of impervious surfaces within the Plan Area such that existing areas of groundwater recharge are altered. For these reasons, impacts to groundwater supplies and groundwater recharge will be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR

c) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of a watercourse or wetland, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project does not entail the alteration of a watercourse or wetland. The Project identifies the conceptual locations of drainage facilities and ultimate implementation of the SMP will entail construction and maintenance of these Facilities. The proposed SMP Facilities generally follow the existing drainage pattern of the area on a large scale but may alter local drainage patterns within the overall SMP area. However, as discussed in item VII, b). above, through design of the berms, embankments, and levees and implementation of BMPs identified in the Facility-specific SWPPPs, the Project will not result in substantial erosion or

siltation and potential impacts will be less than significant. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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 which would result in flooding on or off site?*

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities in response to the existing and planned land use within the Plan Area. The intent of the proposed Project is to reduce the potential for flooding in the SMP Boundary and downstream of the Project area. The SMP will act as a guide for the location and size of SMP Facilities that need to be constructed by CVWD, and/or others as the area develops, or facilities that need to be constructed to resolve existing flooding problems within developed areas. It is expected that many of the SMP Facilities will be constructed in conjunction with local development projects. In these instances, conditions of approval requiring the construction of SMP Facilities will be placed on future development projects within the Plan Area by Riverside County, City of Coachella, and/or CVWD to ensure that impacts with respect to surface runoff are less than significant. However, because the individual Facilities will be constructed by CVWD, another public agency, or private developer over time as development within the Plan area occurs, there exists the possibility the cohesion of the SMP's design may be fractured, and a Facility will not operate as intended due to the lack of a connection with an adequate outlet, which may result in unforeseen flooding. This issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact.. The SMP is designed to prevent the overflow of existing and proposed SMP Facilities through the design and construction of new and/or revised facilities. However, because the individual Facilities will be constructed by CVWD, another public agency, or private developer over time as development within the Plan area occurs, there exists the possibility the cohesion of the SMP's design may be fractured, and a Facility will not operate as intended due to the lack of a connection with an adequate outlet, which may result in unforeseen flooding. This issue will be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

f) *Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. As discussed under item IX.a), above, implementation of the SMP will not violate any water quality standards or substantially degrade water quality as the purpose of the Project is to provide flood protection in the Plan area. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

No Impact. No housing is proposed as part of the Project; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. Portions of the proposed SMP Facilities will be constructed within mapped 100-year flood hazard areas. However, placement of these Facilities within 100-year flood hazard areas is necessary to contain the 100-year storm flows. The proposed SMP Facilities will re-direct sheet flows across the SMP Plan area into basins, open channels, and underground storm drains; and convey these flows towards the Salton Sea. When completed, the SMP Facilities along with existing and future street improvements will provide 100-year protection and eliminate the major flood hazards in the SMP Boundary. Impacts are less than significant and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: RCGP SE Figure S-10

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the Riverside County General Plan Safety Element, Figure S-10, the Project is not located within a dam inundation area. Furthermore, the Project does not propose any habitable structures that would expose people or structures to impacts from failure of a levee or dam. Rather, the purpose of the proposed Project is to prevent flooding through the design and construction of new and/or revised SMP Facilities. Impacts are less than significant and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?

Source: ECVAP Figure 12

Less Than Significant Impact. As shown on Figure 12 of the Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan, much of the Project area north of the Salton Sea is located within a 100-year floodplain. Fluctuation in the level of the Salton Sea, or a seismic event resulting in a seiche (earthquake induced wave action) could cause flooding of areas immediately adjacent to the Salton Sea. However, as previously discussed, the Project does not propose any habitable structures that would expose people or structures to impacts from a seiche. Rather, the purpose of the proposed Project is to prevent flooding through the design and construction of new and/or revised SMP Facilities. Therefore, impacts are less than significant and this issue will not be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
X. LAND USE PLANNING. Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Land Use and Planning Discussion:

a) Physically divide an established community?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. Underground storm drains by their very nature, do not divide communities. While open channels and training levees can divide communities, crossings for traffic, pedestrians, and wildlife will be provided to retain the connections from one side of the channel to the other. For these reasons, no impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Project consists of implementing the CVWD SMP, which identifies conceptual locations for the future installation of SMP Facilities including underground drainage facilities, detention basins, training levees, and channels. The Project is designed to collect and convey runoff from existing development and future development planned for and envisioned in the General Plans for Riverside County and the City of Coachella. The Project does not conflict with the land use plans, policies, regulations, or existing or planning zoning set forth by Riverside County or the City of Coachella. For these reasons, no impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

Source: CVMSHCP; Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. Refer to item IV.f), above. This issue will be analyzed in the Biological Resources section of the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Mineral Resources Discussion:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

Source: ECVAP

No Impact. There are 737 acres in the Eastern Coachella Valley area designated for mineral resources. This area is concentrated east of the Coachella Canal in the Mecca Hills. No SMP Facilities are proposed in that area, nor is that area within the Plan Area. No other areas within the Plan Area are classified as having known mineral resources. Thus, no impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: ECVAP

No Impact. As mentioned in response XI.a), above, no areas within the Plan Area are classified as having known mineral resources. Thus, no impacts are anticipated and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XII. NOISE. Would the project result in:				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Noise Discussion:

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?

Source: Project Description; RCIP FEIR

Potentially Significant Impact. Construction of the SMP Facilities will primarily involve heavy equipment such as backhoes, excavators, cranes, water trucks, wheeled loaders, blades/road graders, tunnel/boring machines, and dump trucks. Construction will also include truck trips to move, cut, and fill material for the proposed basins. Maintenance operations would include the use of utility trucks and occasionally, heavy machinery such as: excavators, scrapers, mowers, dozers, or backhoes to maintain the basins. Typical noise levels range up to 91 dBA L_{max} at 50 feet during the noisiest construction phases. Construction activities, especially those utilizing heavy equipment, may create substantial short-term noise increases near the construction site. Maintenance activities may also create noise increases near the site of the SMP Facilities, but to a lesser degree and on an intermittent basis, as compared to construction activities. This issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. See response to XII.a), above. The Project would involve the temporary use of construction equipment for construction and installation of SMP Facilities, which may result in temporary ground-borne vibration impacts in the Plan Area. This issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The increased noise levels associated with construction activities will not be permanent. Maintenance activities will be infrequent and short-term in nature and would not permanently increase noise levels in the Plan Area. Therefore, operation of the proposed SMP Facilities will not create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise above levels which already exist without the Facilities. This issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Source: Project Description

Potentially Significant Impact. See response to item XII.a), above. This issue will be addressed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: Project Description; Google Earth

Less Than Significant Impact. SMP Facilities will be within a two-mile vicinity of the Desert Resorts Regional Airport (Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport) located in the Thermal community. As the Project will not result in the construction of new places of employment or residences, the Project will not involve placing people in a noisy environment near an existing airport. For these reasons, impacts will be less than significant and this issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?

Source: Google Earth

No Impact. The SMP Facilities are not located within two miles of a private airstrip; therefore, no impact will occur. This issue will not be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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"/>

Population and Housing Discussion:

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)?

Source: Project Description, RCGP; CGP

Less Than Significant Impact. Growth induced by a project is considered a significant impact if it directly or indirectly affects the ability of agencies to provide needed public services, or if can be demonstrated that the potential growth significantly affects the environment in some other way. A project could directly induce growth by constructing homes or businesses, and could indirectly induce growth by removing barriers to growth, by creating a condition that attracts additional population or new economic activity, or by providing a catalyst for future unrelated growth in an area. While a project may have a potential to induce growth, it does not automatically result in growth. Growth can only happen through capital investment in new economic opportunities by the public or private sectors.

Implementation of the proposed Project will not directly induce substantial population growth, as it does not include the construction of homes or businesses, and will not indirectly induce growth as the SMP Facilities are designed to serve existing and planned development in the Plan Area, which is forecasted to increase 250 percent by 2040 regardless of this Project. The land use policies established by the Riverside County General Plan, Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan, and the City of Coachella General Plan will regulate growth in the Project Boundary and Eastern Coachella Valley area.

Implementation of the Riverside County General Plan and City of Coachella General Plan land use policies and proposed developments will increase the need for storm drainage facilities and infrastructure such as those proposed by the proposed Project. The proposed SMP Facilities have been designed to convey stormwater flows from areas of existing development and those planned for future urban development, and to provide protection from 100-year flood discharge events (in conjunction with the ultimate street improvements) within the Project Boundary. Currently, the Project area experiences periodic flooding due to the relatively flat topography of the area and the lack of existing facilities. The proposed Project includes SMP Facilities designed to attenuate peak-flow rates and create a more efficient stormwater drainage system. Though the Project would alter the flow velocity and volume of stormwater flows, the proposed SMP will result in decreased flood potential in the Plan Area. This is because the SMP Facilities have been sized in a comprehensive manner that takes into account the existing and proposed land uses within the proposed Plan Area.

Additionally, it should be noted that the purpose of the proposed SMP is to serve as a long-term guide as development within the Plan Area is based on market conditions. The construction of the SMP Facilities will be realized over an extended period of time, and will not commence at once. Thus, the construction effort associated with each SMP Facility will not be such that a substantial short-term and indirect impact would result from the need for additional housing and services to support the new employment demand.

Therefore, as the proposed SMP Facilities will serve existing and future development that is set forth in the Riverside County General Plan and City of Coachella General Plan and the Project will not in and of itself induce growth directly or indirectly as the purpose is stormwater conveyance and flood protection within the Plan Area, potential impacts to population growth are considered less than significant. This issue will not be discussed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The Project does not propose the displacement of any persons or housing, or necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impacts are anticipated. Therefore, this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. See response XIII.b), above. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project:				
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:				
i. Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Public Service Discussion:

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?*

i. Fire protection?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The nature of this Project generally does not require fire protection and will not necessitate the construction of new facilities or increase the demand on fire services. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ii. Police protection?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The nature of this Project generally does not require police protection and will not necessitate the construction of new police or sheriff facilities or increase the demand on police or sheriff services. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

iii. Schools?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The nature of this Project generally does not require school services and will not necessitate the construction of new school facilities or increase the demand on existing schools. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

iv. Parks?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The nature of this Project generally does not require park services and will not necessitate the construction of new park facilities or increase the demand on park services. The proposed SMP Facilities are not proposed to cross any existing parks within the Plan Area. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

v. Other public facilities?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. There are no other public facilities that would be adversely impacted by implementation of the proposed SMP. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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"/>

Recreation Discussion:

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?*

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Project does not involve new housing or employment opportunities that would directly generate users which would result in an increased use of existing parks or recreational facilities. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Project does not include recreational facilities or involve the construction of housing or creation of employment opportunities that would directly generate users that would result in a need for construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				
b. Conflict with applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Transportation and Traffic Discussion:

- a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?**

Source: Project Description; STA

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project is not a traffic-generating use. Temporary truck traffic will be incrementally increased on area roadways during the construction periods, and may temporarily impact roadway performance during construction of SMP Facilities within roadway rights-of-way; however, a Traffic Control Plan (or Plans) will be prepared for the SMP Facilities during the design phase that would require that adequate access and circulation be maintained throughout the construction activities. Ongoing maintenance of the SMP Facilities will involve infrequent visits to the Facilities, likely utilizing a light truck; however, this will not contribute to any significant increase in traffic on area roadways. Since the Project will not cause an increase in traffic that is considered substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system, less than significant impacts are anticipated. Therefore, the Project does not include

any component that would cause a conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. This includes all modes of transportation, taking into account mass transit bus service provided in the Plan Area by the SunLine Transit Agency, and non-motorized methods of travel, which would utilize the existing roadway rights-of-way. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) Conflict with applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Source: Project Description; CMP

Less Than Significant Impact. There are no components of the proposed Project that would cause a substantial permanent increase in traffic, which would result in an individual or cumulative exceedance of an established level of service standard. There will be a temporary increase in trips associated with construction of the SMP Facilities and there will be a minor increase in trips associated with ongoing maintenance of the SMP Facilities. Therefore, with respect to a Project-specific exceedance, either individually or cumulatively, of an established level of service standard, less than significant impacts are expected. Additionally, for the same reasons, the proposed Project will not conflict with the Riverside County Congestion Management Plan (CMP) or significantly impact CMP-system facilities in the Plan Area, which include State Routes 86, 86S, 111, and 195. Additionally none of these CMP-system facilities are currently operating at a deficiency. As impacts will be less than significant, this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) Result in change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed Project will not change air patterns, interfere with aviation or aviation electronics, create a flight hazard, or impinge upon any flight protection area or protected air space. The proposed Project does not include any tall or lit features. No air traffic impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Project does not include any component that would alter existing roadway design features or introduce new hazards to design features since the Project does not propose any new roadways. Moreover, the Project is not proposing a new use that could introduce incompatible elements to area roadways. Therefore, with respect to substantially increasing hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses, no impact is anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. Construction of the proposed Project will not reconfigure current roadways that would result in inadequate emergency access. Construction of certain SMP Facilities may require temporary closure of a travel lane or road segment; however, a Traffic Control Plan would be prepared for the Project that would require that access be maintained throughout the construction activities . Therefore, impacts will be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

Source: Project Description, STA

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project will not reconfigure any roadways or alternative transportation services. SunLine Transit Agency operates three routes in the Plan Area: Route 90, 91, and 95. These routes serve the communities of Thermal, Oasis, Mecca, and North Shore, and the City of Coachella, connecting them with the Western Coachella Valley. Although construction of SMP Facilities may require temporary closure of a traffic lane or road segment, such closure would be temporary and road access would be maintained or a detour provided as would be part of the Traffic Control Plan. If access to a SunLine Transit Agency bus route will be affected, then the party constructing the specific SMP Facility (e.g., CVWD, Riverside County, City of Coachella, and/or private developer) would be required to coordinate with SunLine Transit Agency in advance to maintain service in the area, which would be part of the Traffic Control Plan. Therefore, impacts to alternative transportation services from the Project are considered less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
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 stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Utilities and Service Systems Discussion:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The purpose of the Project is identify conceptual types, locations, and sizes of Facilities to convey stormwater flows from areas of existing development and those planned for future urban development, and to provide protection from 100-year flood discharge events within the Plan Area. The proposed Project would not generate wastewater, and no new wastewater facilities are required as a result of the proposed Project. Thus, the Project will not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control board. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

b) Require or result in the construction or relocation of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The purpose of the Project is to identify conceptual types, locations, and sizes of Facilities convey stormwater flows from areas of existing development and those planned for future urban development, and to provide protection from 100-year flood discharge events within the Plan Area. The proposed Project would not require water other than for dust control during construction activities, nor will the Project generate wastewater. Thus, the Project would not result in the need for the construction or relocation of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The purpose of the Project is to identify conceptual types, locations, and sizes of Facilities to convey stormwater flows from areas of existing development and those planned for future urban development, and to provide protection from 100-year flood discharge events within the Plan Area. The potentially significant environmental impacts from implementation of the proposed Project will be addressed within each respective issue in the

forthcoming PEIR. Environmental issues where a less than significant impact or no impact has been determined are discussed in this document.

The construction of new or expanded non-SMP Facilities may be needed in the future. However, because the location, type, and size of such non-SMP Facilities are not known at this time, they cannot be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR. A separate CEQA review will be required for any non-SMP Facilities that will connect to the proposed SMP Facilities in the future. Therefore, impacts are less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

d) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?*

Source: Project Description

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project does not involve activities that will require new or expanded permanent water supplies. Construction of the proposed SMP Facilities will necessitate short-term water use in order to provide for dust control. Therefore, impacts are less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

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?*

Source: Project Description

No Impact. The proposed Project would not generate wastewater. No new wastewater facilities are required as a result of the proposed Project. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

f) *Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?*

Source: Project Description; RCWMD

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would not generate solid waste and will not require landfill service on a long-term basis. Construction solid waste will be limited to trash generated by construction crews plus debris generated from construction activity. Additionally, it should be noted that the purpose of the proposed SMP is to serve as a long-term guide as development within the Plan Area takes place based on market conditions. The construction of the SMP Facilities will be realized over an extended period of time, and will not commence at once, thus reducing the quantity of solid waste the local landfill would receive from implementation of this Project and ensure the quantity is not substantial. Moreover, minimal debris will be generated during maintenance of the operational SMP Facilities. Local landfills operated by Riverside County Waste Management Department include Mecca II Sanitary Landfill, located at 95250 Avenue 66 in Mecca; and Oasis Sanitary Landfill, located at 84505 Avenue 84 in Oasis. These landfills serve the communities of Thermal, North Shore, Mecca, and Oasis. These landfills have sufficient capacity to accept the Project-generated solid waste as Riverside County Waste Management District ensures that Riverside County has a minimum of 15 years of capacity at any time for future landfill

disposal. For these reasons impacts would be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Source: Project Description

No Impact. As discussed in item XVI.f), above, the proposed Project will not generate large quantities of solid waste on a long-term basis and construction-related solid waste will be insignificant as specific SMP Facilities will be constructed at different times over the long-term. The disposal of construction waste will comply with all federal, state, and local status and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, no impact will result and this issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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 an endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Mandatory Findings of Significance Discussion:

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 an endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Source: Above checklist

Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project has the potential to degrade the quality of the environment. Construction and maintenance of the proposed Project may affect habitats that

support sensitive plants, wildlife, or historic and prehistoric resources. Potential impacts to special status species and historic and prehistoric resources, as a result of the proposed Project, will be discussed further in the forthcoming PEIR in the biological resources and cultural resources sections.

- 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)?**

Source: Above checklist

Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project may result in cumulatively considerable impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, and noise. These issues will be discussed further in the cumulative impacts discussion in the forthcoming PEIR.

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

Source: Above checklist

Less Than Significant Impact. Given the purpose of the proposed Project, the Project does not have the potential for any significant environmental effects that would cause substantial direct or indirect adverse impacts to human beings. This issue will not be addressed in the forthcoming PEIR.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21083.05, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 65088.4, Gov. Code; Sections 210808(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21083, 21083.05, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21095, and 21151, Public Resources Code; *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino*, (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296; *Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors*, (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 1337; *Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka* (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; *Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency* (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; *San Francisco Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco* (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

EARLIER ANALYSES

Earlier analysis may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration as per California Code of Regulations, Section 1503 (c) (3) (D).

Earlier Analysis Used, if any:

REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following documents were referred to as information sources during preparation of this document. They are available for public review at the locations abbreviated after each listing and spelled out at the end of this section.

Cited As:	Source:
ACOE SIR	United States Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, <i>Site Inspector Report, Former Thermal Ground Air Station Base, Riverside County, California</i> , September 2011. (Available at http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/regulators/deliverable_documents/5059925675/Thermal%20Ground%20ASB%20Final%20SI%20Report.pdf , accessed May 12, 2014.)
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation <i>Officially Designated State Scenic Highways</i> . Available at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/schwy.htm , accessed Dec 3, 2014.)
CGP	City of Coachella, <i>General Plan 2020</i> , adopted August 1996. (Available at http://cityofcoachellageneralplanupdate.weebly.com/general-plan-2020.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)
CMP	Riverside County Transportation Commission, <i>2011 Riverside County Congestion Management Plan</i> , December 2011. (Available at http://www.rctc.org/uploads/media_items/congestionmanagementprogram.original.pdf , accessed April 3, 2014.)
Cortese List	California Department of Toxic Substances Control, Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List. (Available at http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/mandated_reports.asp , accessed May 12, 2014.)
CVMSHCP	Riverside County, <i>Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan</i> , September 2007. (Available at http://www.cvmshcp.org/Plan_Documents.htm , accessed April 3, 2014.)
CVUSD	Coachella Valley Unified School District, Contact Schools. (Available at http://www.coachella.k12.ca.us/contact_schools , accessed April 3, 2014.)
CZM	City of Coachella, Official Zoning Map 2013. (Available at http://www.coachella.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=1232 , accessed April 22, 2014.)
DOC	California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, Riverside County Important Farmland 2010, Sheet 2 of 3, map published January 2012. (Available at ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dlrp/FMMP/pdf/2010/riv10_central.pdf , accessed April 22, 2014.)
ECVAP	Riverside County, Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan, February 2012. (Available at http://planning.rctlma.org/ZoningInformation/GeneralPlan.aspx , accessed April 3, 2014.)
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GeoTracker	State Water Resources Control Board, GeoTracker. (Available at http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/ , accessed April 3, 2014.)
Google Earth	Google, Inc., Google Earth (version 7.1.2.2041). (Available at http://www.google.com/earth/explore/products/desktop.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)

Cited As:	Source:
HSC	California Health & Safety Code. (Available at http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/html/hsc_table_of_contents.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)
ICAPCD AQMP	Imperial County Air Pollution Control District, <i>Final 2009 1997 8-Hour Ozone Modified Air Quality Management Plan</i> , July 13, 2010. (Available at http://imperialcounty.net/AirPollution/ATTAINMENT%20PLANS/2009%20MODIFIED%208-HOUR%20OZONE%20AQMP/ADOPTED%208%20HR%20OZONE%20AQMP%20JULY%202010.pdf , accessed May 13, 2014.)
ICGP	Imperial County, <i>General Plan</i> , 1993. (Available at http://www.icpds.com/?pid=571 , accessed April 22, 2014.)
ICZM	Imperial County, Zoning Map 70 Complete, January 15, 2004. (Available at http://icpds.com/CMS/Media/ZONE70.pdf , accessed April 22, 2014.)
NPDES	California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Region, 2009-0009-DWQ Construction General Permit, July 1, 2010. (Available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml , accessed April 3, 2014.)
OAT	Tetra Tech, <i>Eastern Coachella Valley Stormwater Master Plan, Riverside County California, Alternatives Study for Oasis Area, Final Report</i> , August 2014. (Available at Coachella Valley Water District, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA.)
PRC	California Public Resources Code. (Available at http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/html/prc_table_of_contents.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)
RCALUC	Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission, <i>Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Policy Document</i> , adopted October 2004. (Available at http://www.rcaluc.org/filemanager/plan/new//04-%20Vol.%201%20County%20wide%20Policies.pdf , accessed May 12, 2014.)
RCALUC JCRA	Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission, <i>Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Policy Document, Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport</i> , amended September 2006. (Available at http://www.rcaluc.org/filemanager/plan/new//13-%20Vol.%201%20Jacqueline%20Cochran%20Regional.pdf , accessed May 12, 2014.)
RCFD EOP	Riverside County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services, <i>Riverside County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan</i> , February 2006. (Available at http://www.rvcfire.org/ourDepartment/OES/Pages/EOP.aspx , accessed May 12, 2014.)
RCIP FEIR	Riverside County Integrated Project, <i>General Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report, Volume 1</i> . (Available at http://www.rctlma.org/genplan/content/eir/volume1.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)
RCGP	Riverside County, <i>General Plan</i> , effective August 2013. (Available at http://planning.rctlma.org/ZoningInformation/GeneralPlan.aspx , accessed April 3, 2014.)

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RCGP MOS	Riverside County, <i>General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element</i> , effective August 2013. (Available at http://planning.rctlma.org/ZoningInformation/GeneralPlan.aspx , accessed April 3, 2014.)
RCGP SE	Riverside County, <i>General Plan Safety Element</i> , effective August 2013. (Available at http://planning.rctlma.org/ZoningInformation/GeneralPlan.aspx , accessed April 3, 2014.)
RCLIS	Riverside County, Land Information System, website. (Available at http://www3.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/pa/rclis/index.html , accessed May 13, 2014.)
RCWMD	Riverside County Waste Management Department. (Available at http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/ , accessed April 3, 2014.)
SCAQMD AQMP	South Coast Air Quality Management District, <i>2012 Air Quality Management Plan</i> , February 2013. (Available at http://www.aqmd.gov/aqmp/2012aqmp/Final-February2013/index.html , accessed April 3, 2014.)
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