
SECTION 16

GLOSSARY OF TERMS, ACRONYMS AND UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

16.1 TERMS

Acre-Foot. The volume of the water that covers one acre to a depth of one foot; approximately 326,000 gallons.

Active Fault. A fault on which movement has occurred during the past 10,000 years and which may be subject to recurring movement usually indicated by small, periodic displacement or seismic activity.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. A 19-member body appointed, in part, by the President of the United States to advise the President and Congress and to coordinate the actions of federal agencies on matters relating to historic preservation, to comment on the effects of such actions on historic and archaeological cultural resources, and to perform other duties as required by law (Public Law 89-655: 16 USC Section 470).

Air Quality Control Region. An area designated by Section 107 of the Clean Air Act, which is based on jurisdictional boundaries, urban-industrial concentrations and other factors including atmospheric areas, that is necessary to provide adequate implementation of air quality standards.

Alluvium. A general term applied to sediments deposited by a stream or running water.

Ambient Air. That portion of the atmosphere, outside buildings, to which the general public has access.

Ambient Air Quality Standards. Standards established on a state or federal level that define the limits for airborne concentrations of designated criteria pollutants (nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, total suspended particulates, ozone and lead) to protect public health with an adequate margin of safety (primary standards) and to protect public welfare, including plant and animal life, visibility and materials (secondary standards).

Anticline. A fold of rockbeds that is convex upward.

Aquifer. A body of rock that is sufficiently permeable to conduct significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

Archaeology. A scientific approach to the study of human ecology, cultural history and cultural process.

Artifact. Anything that owes its shape, form or placement to human activity. In archaeological studies, the term is applied to portable objects such as tools and the by-products of their manufacture.

Attainment Area. An area that has been designated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the appropriate state air quality agency as having ambient air quality levels below the ceiling levels defined under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

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Average Annual Daily Traffic. For a one-year period, the total volume passing a point or segment of a highway facility in both directions, divided by the number of days in the year.

Basalt. A general term for dark-colored mafic igneous rocks.

Baseline. The existing and future growth characterization of an area without a proposed project.

Basin. A drainage or catchment area of a stream or lake.

Bedrock. Geologic formation or unit which underlies soil or other unconsolidated surficial deposits.

Cairn. A distinctly artificial pile of rocks that may mark or enclose burials, vision quests, caches or geodetic locales.

Campsite. A short term habitation site containing evidence of daily living activities, as opposed to specialized activities (e.g., quarry site). Campsites are generally open air occupations of perhaps weeks to months in duration.

Capacity (Transportation). The traffic-carrying ability of a facility while maintaining prescribed operational qualities (e.g., a specific level of service); the maximum amount of traffic that can be accommodated by a given facility. Traffic facilities generally operate poorly at or near capacity, and facilities are rarely designed or planned to operate within this range.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). Common product of combustion. Not a criteria pollutant, but an important greenhouse gas. CO₂ is important on a national and a global scale.

Carbon Monoxide (CO). Common product of incomplete combustion. CO is a criteria pollutant with state and federal standards. Not a primary photochemical reaction compound, but involved in photochemical reactions. Dissipates rapidly and is, therefore, only important on a local scale near pollutant sources.

Chronology. The science of arranging time in periods and ascertaining the dates and historical order of past events.

Climate. The prevalent or characteristic meteorological conditions and their extremes of any given location or region.

Color. The property of reflecting light of a particular wavelength that enables the eye to differentiate otherwise indistinguishable objects.

Component. One location or element within a settlement/subsistence system. Archaeological sites may contain several components that reflect the use of the locality by different groups in different time periods.

Comprehensive Plan. A public document adopted and approved by a local government legislative body which describes future land uses, goals and policies.

Confined Aquifer. An aquifer bounded above and below by impermeable beds, or by beds of distinctly lower permeability than that of the aquifer itself; and an aquifer containing confined groundwater.

Contrast. The effect of a striking difference in form, line, color or texture of a landscape's features.

Corridor. A strip of land of various widths on both sides of a particular linear facility such as a highway or rail line.

Crepuscular. Active in twilight, at dawn or dusk; including many species of birds, mammals and insects.

Criteria Pollutants. Those air pollutants specifically identified for control under the Clean Air Act. There are currently six criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, lead, sulfur oxides, ozone and particulates.

Cultural Complex. A group of artifacts and sites that are distinct from other groups.

Cultural Modification. Any man-made change in land, waterform or vegetation (roads, bridges, buildings or fences); the addition of a structure which creates a visual contrast to the natural character of a landscape.

Culture. The system of behavior, beliefs, institutions and objects human beings use to relate to each other and to the environment.

Cumulative Impacts. Two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. For a complete definition of cumulative impacts, see CEQA Guidelines § 15355 and 40 C.F.R. 1508.7.

Debitage. Waste flakes resulting from stone tool manufacture.

Decibel. The unit of measurement of sound level calculated by taking ten times the common logarithm of the ratio of the magnitude of the particular sound pressure in the standard reference sound pressure of 20 micropascals and its derivatives.

Decumbent. Lying down; reclining on the ground but with ascending apex or extremity.

Delay. Additional travel time experienced by a driver, passenger or pedestrian beyond what would reasonably be desired for a given trip.

Dependable Yield. Water supply that can be expected to be available during a drought period based on historic records.

Detritus. Fragmented particulate organic matter derived from the decomposition of plant and animal remains.

Developed. Said of land, a lot, a parcel or an area that has been built on or where public services have been installed prior to residential or commercial development.

Direct Effect. See "Effect."

District. National Register of Historic Places designation of geographically defined urban or rural area possessing a significant concentration, linkage or continuity of sites, structures or objects united by past events (theme) or aesthetically by plan of physical development.

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Disturbed Area. Land that has had its surface altered by grading, digging or other construction-related activities.

Earthquake. A sudden motion or trembling in the earth caused by the displacement of rocks below the earth's surface due to a release of strain.

Effect. Synonymous with "impacts" and include (1) direct or primary effects which are caused by the project and occur at the same time and place and (2) indirect or secondary effects which are caused by the project and are late in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. For a complete definition of effects, see CEQA Guidelines § 15358 and 40 C.F.R. 1508.8.

Endangered Species. A species that is threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Energy. The capacity for doing work; taking a number of forms which may be transformed from one into another, such as thermal, mechanical, electrical and chemical; in customary units, measured in kilowatt-hours or British thermal units.

Ephemeral. Lasting or existing briefly or temporarily.

Epicenter. The point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake.

Escarpment. A long cliff or steep slope separating two comparatively level or more gently sloping surfaces; results from erosion or faulting.

Ethnography. The description of human groups and their behavior by direct observation and/or by transcription of statements by living persons.

Exotic Species. An organism or species that is not native to the area in which it is found.

Fault. A fracture or zone of fractures along which there has been displacement of the sides relative to one another parallel to the fracture.

Fault Zone. An area or region that is expressed as a zone of numerous fractures or faults.

Feature. (1) Nonportable portion of an archaeological site. These include facilities such as fire pits, storage pits, stone circles or foundations (2) any fixed object, either natural or man-made, from which hydrologic and water quality data is collected.

Federal-Candidate Species. Species which are candidates for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species.

Flake. A small stone fragment produced as a byproduct of stone tool manufacturing; may also be used unmodified as a tool itself.

Floodplain. The relatively flat land lying adjacent to a river channel that is covered by water when the river overflows its banks.

Flora. Plants; organisms of the plant kingdom taken collectively.

Fluvial. Pertaining to a river or stream.

Forage. Food for animals (e.g., desert tortoise), especially when taken by browsing or grazing.

Form. The mass or shape of an object which appears unified; often defined by edge, outline and surrounding space.

Freeway. A multilane, divided highway with a minimum of two lanes for exclusive use of traffic in each direction, allowing full control of access and egress.

Fugitive Dust. Particulate matter composed of soil that is uncontaminated by pollutants from industrial activity. Fugitive dust may include emissions from haul routes, wind erosion of exposed soil surfaces, and other activities in which soil is either removed or redistributed.

Fugitive Emissions. Emissions released directly into the atmosphere that could not reasonably pass through a stack, chimney, vent or other functionally equivalent opening.

Geologic Hazard. A naturally occurring or manmade geologic condition or phenomenon that presents a risk or is a potential danger to life and/or property.

Geologic Scale. Scale of time ranging from Precambrian (approximately 3.8 billion years ago) to the present.

Geologic Unit. A geologic formation, group or member.

Geothermal. Pertaining to heat in the earth's interior.

Gneiss. A foliated metamorphic rock corresponding in composition to granite or some other feldspathic plutonic rock.

Granite. A broadly used term for a quartz-bearing, coarse, crystalline igneous rock formed deep beneath the earth's surface.

Ground Surface Rupture. Surface expression of fractures that are usually a result of seismic activity.

Groundstone Artifacts. Stone artifacts made by grinding rather than flaking (e.g., milling stones and mortar and pestle).

Gypsum. A widely distributed mineral consisting of hydrous calcium sulfate.

Hazardous Material. A substance, or combination of substances, which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may either cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible illness; or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

Hazardous Waste. A waste, or combination of wastes, which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may either cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible illness; or pose a substantial present or

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potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

Hearth/Firepit. A feature used for the placement of fires; may be lined with clay or stones.

Herperofauna. Referring to amphibians and reptiles.

Historic. A period of time after the advent of written history dating to the time of first Euro-American contact in an area. Also refers to items primarily of Euro-American manufacture.

Hydrology. The science dealing with the properties, distribution and circulation of water on the surface of the land and in the soil and underlying rocks.

Impact. See “Effect.”

Inactive Fault. A fault with no historic activity within the past approximately 11,000 years; not recognized as a source of earthquakes.

Indirect Effect. See “Effect.”

Intermittent Stream. A stream that does not flow continuously during all periods of the year.

Interstate. The designated National System of Interstate and Defense Highways located in both rural and urban areas; they connect the East and West coasts and extend from the Canadian border points to various points on the Mexican border.

Isolated Artifact. An artifact or a small, disarticulated group of artifacts that cannot be associated with, or are situated outside of, a cultural resource site.

Land Use Plans and Policies. Guidelines adopted by governments to direct future land use within their jurisdictions.

Landslide. The downslope movement of soil and/or rock material under gravitational influence.

Ldn Noise Level. The 24-hour average-energy sound level expressed in decibels, with a 10-decibel penalty added to sound levels between 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM.

Lead (Pb). A heavy metal present in the environment mainly due to historical use in motor vehicle fuel. Lead is a criteria pollutant with state and federal standards and is primarily of concern near pollutant sources.

Leq Noise Level. A constant amount of acoustic energy equivalent to the energy contained in the time-varying noise measured from a given source for a given time.

Level of Service. In transportation analyses, a qualitative measure describing operational conditions with a traffic stream and how they are perceived by motorists and/or passengers.

Line. The path that the eye follows when perceiving abrupt differences in form, color or texture. In the landscape, ridges, skylines, structures, changes in vegetation, or individual trees and branches may be perceived as a line.

Liquefaction. The transformation during an earthquake or groundshaking of unconsolidated water-saturated sediment into a liquid form.

Lithic Scatter. An archaeological site consisting only of stone artifacts.

Lithology. The physical character of a rock such as its color, hardness, mineral composition and grain size.

Locality. A particular spot within a geologic unit from which a specimen is obtained or may be found; usually a location of dense or well-preserved fossils.

Long-Term (Long Duration). Impacts that would occur over an extended period of time, whether they start during the construction or operations phase. Most impacts from the operations phase are expected to be long term since project operations essentially represent a steady-state condition (i.e., impacts resulting from actions that occur repeatedly over a long period of time). However, long term impacts could also be caused by construction activities if a resource is destroyed or irreparably damaged or if the recovery rate of the resource is very slow.

Magnitude (earthquake). A measure of strength of an earthquake or the energy it releases.

Maximum Credible Earthquake. The largest earthquake capable of being produced from a source, structure or region under the currently known tectonic framework.

Mitigation. A method or action to reduce or eliminate project impacts.

National Register of Historic Places. A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects important in American history, architecture, archaeology and culture, maintained by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of Section 2(b) of the Historic Sites Act of 1953 and Section 101(a)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Native Americans. Used in a collective sense to refer to individuals, bands or tribes who trace their ancestry to indigenous populations of North America.

Native Vegetation. Indigenous plant life that occurs naturally in an area without agricultural or cultivational efforts.

Nonattainment Area. An area that has been designated by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and the appropriate state air quality agency as exceeding one or more National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Non-Native Vegetation. Plant communities dominated by exotic species that have been planted or resulting from the invasion of disturbed natural communities.

Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x). Common product of combustion in the presence of nitrogen. Includes nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), which is a criteria pollutant with state and federal standards. NO_x is locally and regionally important due to its involvement in the photochemical formation of ozone.

Oxides of Sulfur (SO_x). Common product of combustion in the presence of sulfur. Associated primarily with diesel and coal burning. Includes sulfur dioxide (SO₂), a criteria pollutant with state and federal standards. SO_x is primarily of concern near pollutant sources.

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Ozone (O₃). A gas mainly produced by a photochemical reaction between reactive organic gases and NO_x in the presence of sunlight. O₃ is a strong oxidant that is damaging at ground level but necessary at high altitude, in the stratosphere, where it absorbs dangerous ultraviolet light. Also considered an important greenhouse gas. O₃ is a criteria pollutant with state and federal standards.

Paleo-. Prefix meaning old or ancient.

Paleontological Resources. Fossilized organic remains from past geological periods.

Particulate Matter (TSP or PM₃₀). Solid or liquid matter suspended in the atmosphere, excluding water. Includes aerosols and droplets that form in the atmosphere. Particulate matter is locally and regionally important.

Peak Hour. The hour of highest traffic volume on a given section of roadway between 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM or between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM.

Peak Year. The year when a particular project-related effect is greatest.

Perennial Stream. A stream that flows continuously throughout the year.

Permanently Disturbed Land. Surfaces covered by permanent or semi-permanent materials or kept in a cleared condition.

Physiognomy. The characteristic features or appearance of a plant community or vegetation.

Physiographic Province. A region with similar geologic structure and climate that has a unified geomorphic history.

Potentiometric Level. That level to which groundwater would rise under unconfined conditions; it may assume values higher than the local topography.

Prehistoric. The period of time before written records.

Prevention of Significant Deterioration Area. A requirement of the Clean Air Act (Section 160 et seq.) that limits the increases in ambient air pollutant concentrations in clean air areas to certain increments even though ambient air quality standards are met.

Primary Road. A consolidated system of connected main roads important to regional, interstate and statewide travel; they consist of rural arterial routes and their extensions into and through urban areas of 5,000 or more population.

Prime Farmland. Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed and other agricultural crops with minimum inputs of fuel, fertilizer, pesticides and labor, and without intolerable soil erosion, as determined by the United States Secretary of Agriculture (Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 CFR Section 658).

Principal Aquifer. The particular aquifer that supplies the majority of the groundwater used in a given region.

Protohistoric. The period when Native American cultures were affected by Euro-Americans without direct contact. For instance, inland Indian tribes received trade goods and reports of European cultures from coastal tribes before the arrival of European explorers in the interior.

Quarry. An open pit, mine or excavation where stone, sand, gravel or minerals are obtained from open faces with or without a waste rock overburden.

Quartzite. A compact granular rock composed of quartz and derived from sandstone by metamorphism.

Reactive Organic Gases/Volatile Organic Compounds/ Non-Methane Organic Gases/ Non-Methane Organic Compounds (ROG, VOC, NMOG, NMOC). A portion of total organic compounds or gases, excludes methane, ethane and acetone (due to low photochemical reactivity). ROG is generally used by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), VOC is generally used by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). However, all four terms are interchangeable for most uses. Regionally important due to its involvement in the photochemical reaction that produces O₃.

Recharge. The process by which water is absorbed and added to the zone of saturation, either directly into a formation or indirectly by way of another formation.

Relative Abundance. The total number of individuals of one species compared to the total number of individuals of all other species combined, per unit area, volume or community.

Relief. The vertical difference in elevation between the hilltops or mountain summits and the lowlands or valleys of a given region.

Respirable Particulate Matter (PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}). The portion of particulate matter which tends to penetrate into the human lung. The subscript refers to the aerodynamic diameter of the particles. These are criteria pollutants with state and federal standards. Locally and regionally important.

Revegetation. Regrowth or replacement of a plant community on a disturbed site. Revegetation may be assisted by site preparation, planting and treatment, or it may occur naturally.

Reverse Osmosis. An advanced method of wastewater treatment that relies on a semipermeable membrane to separate water from constituents which may be pollutants.

Richter Magnitude Scale. Measure of an earthquake size based on the amplitude of seismic waves that are recorded on a seismograph. The magnitude is based on a logarithmic scale (base 10) of ground motion.

Riparian. Of or relating to land lying immediately adjacent to a water body and having specific characteristics of that transitional area (e.g., riparian vegetation).

Rockshelter. A naturally formed sheltered overhang that was commonly inhabited by prehistoric groups, it is generally found on a vertical rock face and is not as deep as a cave.

Runoff. The non-infiltrating water entering a stream or other conveyance channel shortly after a rainfall event.

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Rural Area. The area outside towns, cities or communities that is characterized by very low-density housing concentrations, agricultural uses and a general lack of most public services.

Safe Sustained Yield. Pumpage over a period of time from a groundwater basin or aquifer that can be permanently maintained without substantially lowering the groundwater below a predetermined level.

Sampling. The selection of a part of a study area or population, the analysis of which is intended to permit generalization about the entire population. In archaeology, samples are often used to reduce the amount of land area covered in a survey or the number of artifacts analyzed from a site. Statistical sampling is generally preferred since it is possible to specify the bias or probability of error in the results, but judgmental or intuitive samples are sometimes used.

Sandstone. A sedimentary rock composed of detrital materials generally consisting of quartz and deposited by physical processes.

Secondary Highways. Rural major collector routes that carry extensive local traffic.

Seismic. Pertains to the characteristics of an earthquake or earth vibrations including those that are artificially induced.

Seismic Zone. An area of seismicity related to a particular earthquake.

Seismotectonic Province. A region characterized by similar tectonic and seismic characteristics.

Shale. A fine-grained sedimentary rock formed by the consolidation of clay, silt and mud.

Sheet Erosion. Erosion caused by a layer of water moving downward on a surface that has not yet developed channels, rills or gullies. Uneven sheet erosion leads to the formation of rills and eventually gullies.

Short-Term (Short Duration). Transitory effects of a proposed project that are of limited duration and are generally caused by construction activities or initiating operations.

Significance. The magnitude of a given impact on a specific resource as defined under the California Environmental Quality Act and Guidelines.

Siltstone. A fine-grained sedimentary rock composed of silt-sized detritus.

Site. Any location where humans have altered the terrain or discarded artifacts.

Soil. A natural body consisting of layers or horizons of mineral and/or organic constituents of variable thickness and differing from the parent material in their morphological, physical, chemical and mineralogical properties, and biological characteristics.

Soil Association. A collection of soils found to geographically occur together.

Soil Series. The lowest category used for differentiating groups of soils based on similar properties and characteristics. Soils are homogenous with respect to profile characteristics except for the A or surface horizon, which may vary in texture.

Soil Types. A category or detailed mapping unit used for soil surveys based on phases or changes within a series (e.g., slope, salinity).

Sole Source Aquifer. An aquifer that provides all or most of the potable water in an area and that has been specifically designated by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency as provided for in the Safe Drinking Water Act. Projects that might affect a sole source aquifer are subject to special review procedures.

Species Diversity. A measure of the number of species and their relative abundance in a given assemblage or community.

Species Richness. The number of different species in a given assemblage or community.

State Historic Preservation Officer. The official in each state, authorized by the state at the request of the United States Secretary of the Interior, to act as liaison for purposes of implementing the National Historic Preservation Act.

State-Sensitive/State-Recognized Species. Plant and wildlife species in each state that are monitored and listed for purposes of protection.

Stratified Site. An archaeological site exhibiting various strata or layers of occupation; usually implies a large site with a long occupation. The interpretation and analysis of strata are concerned with the original succession and age relations of layered materials and their individual properties (i.e., cultural materials are dated relative to each other by their position in stratigraphic layers).

Succession (Plant). The progressive development of vegetation toward its highest ecological expression, the climax; replacement of one plant community by another.

Surface Collection. Systematic mapping and removal of artifacts from a site by means not involving excavation.

Surficial. Material at or near the surface.

Syncline. A fold of rockbeds that is convex downward.

Taxon (pl.) Taxa. A taxonomic entity (species, subspecies or variety) or a group of such entities.

Tectonic. Dealing with the regional assembling of structural or deformational features, and includes a study of their mutual relations, origin and historical evolution.

Temporarily Disturbed Land. Surfaces disturbed during construction, but later regraded and/or revegetated; or those able to return to a natural state during the operations life of the project.

Terrain Failure. A generalized term for any number of mechanisms by which soil or rock is transported downslope under the effect of gravity.

Terrestrial. Living on or in, or growing from, the land.

Texture. The visual manifestation of the interplay of light and shadow created by variations in the surface of an object.

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Threatened Species. Plant and wildlife species likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

Thrust Fault. A fault with a low angle of dip on which the hanging wall has moved upward relative to the footwall.

Topsoil. The upper or productive layer(s) of a soil.

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). The concentration of solid materials that is dissolved in a sample of water; determined as the weight of the residue of a water sample on filtration and evaporation divided by the weight of the total volume of the sample. Expressed in terms of parts per million or milligrams per liter.

Total Organic Compounds/Gases (TOC or TOG). Compounds containing at least one atom of carbon, except CO, CO₂ carbonic acid, metallic carbides and metallic carbonates. Primarily methane in the atmosphere. Includes greenhouse gases, especially methane.

Total Water Use. The amount of water withdrawn from the natural resource base for a beneficial purpose, excluding water used for hydroelectric power generation, and certain nonconsumptive uses such as once-through cooling water for thermoelectric power generation, wildlife habitat and fish farming.

Two-Lane Highway. A road having a two-lane cross section, with one lane for each direction of flow, and where passing maneuvers must be made in the opposing lane.

Unconfined Aquifer. An aquifer where the water table is exposed to the atmosphere through openings (pores) in the overlying materials.

Unique and Sensitive Habitats. Areas that are especially important to regional wildlife populations or protected species that have other important biological characteristics (e.g., severe wintering habitats, nesting areas and wetlands).

Unique Farmland. Land other than prime farmland that is used for production of specific high-value food and fiber crops as determined by the United States Secretary of Agriculture. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high quality or high yields of specific crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Examples of such crops include citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, fruits and vegetables.

Variety. The condition of having differentiated parts; the absence of monotony or sameness.

Viewshed. A geographic area of land where all features are visible.

Volume (Transportation). The total number of vehicles that pass over a given point or segment of a road during a given time interval. Volumes may be expressed in terms of annual, daily, hourly or subhourly periods.

Water Table. The surface in an unconfined aquifer (or in a confined aquifer) at which the pore water pressure is atmospheric.

Waterfowl. Birds species (e.g., ducks, geese, cranes) that live on or near water bodies.

Watershed. A drainage or catchment area of a stream or lake.

Well Yield. The volume of water discharged from a well per unit of time, often expressed in gallons per minute.

Wetlands. Areas that are inundated or saturated with surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil, including swamps, marshes, hogs and similar areas.

Wind Erosion. Detachment, transportation and deposition of loose soil by wind action.

Zoning. The division of a municipality into districts for the purpose of regulating land use, bulk of building, required yards, necessary off-street parking and other prerequisites to development. Zones are generally shown on a map and the Zoning Ordinance specifies requirements for each zoning category.

16.2 ACRONYMS

91-Bank	1991 Governor's Water Bank
AAQS	Ambient Air Quality Standards
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACOE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
Æ	Applied Earthworks, Inc.
AG	Agriculture
AIC	Archeological Information Center
Amsl	Above Mean Sea Level
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AQAP	Air Quality Attainment Plan
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
ARZC	Arizona California Railroad
AT&SF	Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad
Bgs	Below Ground Surface
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
BST	Buried Site Testing
CALFED	California – Federal Agencies
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CAMA	California-Arizona Maneuver Area
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CDCA	California Desert Conservation Area
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game

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CDMG	California Division of Mines and Geology
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CRA	Colorado River Aqueduct
CRWQCB	California Regional Water Quality Control Board
CSC	California Species of Special Concern
CVP	Central Valley Project
DB	Decibel
DBA	A-weighted decibel
DEIR	Draft Environmental Impact Report
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DoD	United States Department of Defense
DOI	United States Department of Interior
DTC	Desert Training Center
DWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
DWRSIM	Department of Water Resources Simulation Model
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ERA	Environmentally Restricted Area
FCR	Field Contract Representative
FEIR	Final Environmental Impact Report
FEIS	Final Environment Impact Statement
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act
FSC	Federal Species Special Concern
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GMP	Growth Management Plan
GPS	Global Positioning System
GTE	General Telephone Company
HABS	Historic American Building Survey
HAER	Historic American Engineering Record
HAS	Hydrographic Subarea
HC	Hydrocarbons
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HSU	Hydrographic Subunit
HVU	Habitat Value Units

I-10	Interstate 10
I-15	Interstate 15
I-40	Interstate 40
IID	Imperial Irrigation District
IMMP	Iron Mountain Pumping Plant
IS	Initial Study
ITA	Indian Trust Assets
IWR-MAIN	Institute of Water Resources-Municipal and Industrial Needs Water Use Forecasting System
KWB	Kern Water Bank
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
LCRBC	Lower Colorado River Basin Concept
LCRM-SHCP	Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan
Ldn	Day-Night Average Sound Level
Leq	Equivalent Noise Level
LLRW	Low Level Radioactive Waste
LOS	Level of Service
LPP	Local Projects Program
MCL	Maximum Containment Levels
MCX	Mandatory Centered Expertise
MDAB	Mojave Desert Air Basin
MDAQMD	Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
Metropolitan	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
MSL	Mean Sea Level
MWD-MAIN	Metropolitan's Adaptation of IWR-MAIN
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NECO	Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO	Nitric Oxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NUSD	Needles Unified School District
NW	Northwest
O ₃	Ozone
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Pcb	Polychlorinated biphenyl
PHEL	Population, Housing, Employment and Land Use

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PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter of 10 Microns or Less in Diameter
PMF	Probable Maximum Flood
RC	Resource Conservation
RMP	Regional Mobility Plan
ROG	Reactive Organic Gases
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SANBAG	San Bernardino Association of Government
SANDAG	San Diego Association of Governments
SBCFD	San Bernardino County Fire Department
SBCM	San Bernardino County Museum
SBCPL	San Bernardino County Public Library
SBCSD	San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCE	Southern California Edison
SCS	United States Soil Conservation Service
SDC	San Diego Canal
SDCWA	San Diego County Water Authority
SDWMP	South Delta Water Management Program
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Program
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SPTC	Southern Pacific Transportation Company
SR 62	State Route 62
SR 66	State Route 66
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists
SWMP	South Delta Water Management Program
SWP	State Water Project
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TSP	Total Suspended Particulates
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USMC	United States Marine Corps
UV	Ultraviolet
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VRM	Visual Resources Management

16.3 UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

cfs	cubic feet per second
db	decibel
dba	decibels on the A-weighted scale
fps	feet per second

gpm	gallons per minute
kV	kilovolt
kWh	kilowatt-hour
L_{dn}	day/night energy equivalent noise level
L_{eq}	energy equivalent noise level
m	meter
m^2	square meter
maf	million acre-feet
mg/L	milligrams per liter
$\mu\text{g/L}$	micrograms per liter
MGD	million gallons per day
MW	megawatt
PM_{10}	particulate matter less than or equal to 10 micrometers
ppm	parts per million
$\mu\text{g/m}^3$	micrograms per cubic meter