INITIAL STUDY
AND
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

CHINO HILLS STATE PARK

COAL CANYON WILDLIFE CORRIDOR RESTORATION

May 2004

Prepared for the California Department of Parks and Recreation
Inland Empire District

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT: **COAL CANYON WILDLIFE CORRIDOR RESTORATION**

LEAD AGENCY: California Department of Parks and Recreation

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at:

Southern Service Center
California Department of Parks & Recreation
8885 Rio San Diego Drive, # 270
San Diego, California 92108

Inland Empire District
California Department of Parks & Recreation
17801 Lake Perris Drive,
Perris, CA 92571

Also on the internet at:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=983

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Ecological Restoration- The project involves exotic plant removal, native plant community restoration, creek channel restoration, and landform restoration on a 31 acre parcel of recently acquired State Park land. This project will restore native habitat on critical portions of a bio-corridor that connects Chino Hills State Park and the surrounding Puente-Chino Hills and the Santa Ana River to the Cleveland National Forest and the Santa Ana Mountains. This project will improve the function of this habitat linkage, a critical point of connectivity for the plants and animals utilizing Chino Hills State Park and the surrounding Puente-Chino Hills. This action will help prevent local and regional species extinction.

A copy of the Initial Study is attached. Questions or comments regarding this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be addressed to:

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Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has independently reviewed and analyzed the Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the proposed project and finds that these documents reflect the independent judgment of DPR. DPR, as lead agency, also confirms that the project mitigation measures detailed in these documents are feasible and will be implemented as stated in the Negative Declaration.

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed "Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration" project at Chino Hills State Park (CHSP), Orange County, California. This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §21000 *et seq*., and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 *et seq*. The project is being funded in its entirety through the Department's Major Capital Outlay Program.

An Initial Study is conducted by a lead agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment [CEQA Guidelines §15063(a)]. If there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15064(a). However, if the lead agency determines that revisions in the project plans or proposals (made by or agreed to) mitigate the potentially significant effects to a less-than-significant level, a Mitigated Negative Declaration may be prepared instead of an EIR [CEQA Guidelines §15070(b)]. The lead agency prepares a written statement describing the reasons a proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, why an EIR need not be prepared. The IS/MND conforms to the content requirements under CEQA Guidelines §15071.

1.2 LEAD AGENCY

The lead agency is the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed project. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15051(b)(1), "the lead agency will normally be an agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose." The lead agency for the proposed project is DPR. The contact person for the lead agency is:

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1.3 PURPOSE AND DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration project at CHSP. Mitigation measures have also been incorporated into the project to eliminate any potentially significant impacts or reduce them to a less-than-significant level.

This document is organized as follows:

Chapter 1 - Introduction.
This chapter provides an introduction to the project and describes the purpose and organization of this document.

Chapter 2 - Project Description.
This chapter describes the reasons for the project, scope of the project, and project objectives.

Chapter 3 - Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures.
This chapter identifies the significance of potential environmental impacts, explains the environmental setting for each environmental issue, and evaluates the potential impacts identified in the CEQA Environmental (Initial Study) Checklist. Mitigation measures are incorporated, where appropriate, to reduce potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Chapter 4 - Mandatory Findings of Significance
This chapter identifies and summarizes the overall significance of any potential impacts to natural and cultural resources, cumulative impacts, and impact to humans, as identified in the Initial Study.

Chapter 5 – Project Alternatives
This chapter summarizes the alternatives considered for the Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration.

Chapter 6 - Summary of Mitigation Measures.
This chapter summarizes the mitigation measures incorporated into the project as a result of the Initial Study.

Chapter 7 – References/Document Preparation.
This chapter identifies the references and sources used in the preparation of this IS/MND. It also provides a list of those involved in the preparation of this document.

1.4 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Chapter 3 of this document contains the Environmental (Initial Study) Checklist that identifies the potential environmental impacts (by environmental issue) and a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed project.

Based on the IS and supporting environmental analysis provided in this document, the proposed Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration project will result in less-than-significant impacts for the following issues: aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, and utilities and service systems.

In accordance with §15064(f) of the CEQA Guidelines, a MND shall be prepared if the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment after the inclusion of mitigation measures in the project. Based on the available project information and the environmental analysis presented in this document, there is no substantial evidence that, after the incorporation of mitigation measures, the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment. It is proposed that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be adopted in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines.

CHAPTER 2
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This IS/MND evaluates the environmental effects of the proposed Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration project. The project proposes to restore native vegetation, landforms, and alluvial processes on newly acquired 31 acre parcel adjacent to and lying north of Freeway 91 at Coal Canyon, in CHSP. This project will: improve the function of a major regional habitat linkage between CHSP and the Santa Ana Mountains, increase rare plant and animal habitat, and provide interpretative displays.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION

CHSP is a designated unit of the State Park system. With approximately 12,000 acres, the park serves as an important biological conservation and recreation area. The Project is located at the southeastern corner of the park at Freeway 91 and Coal Canyon Road (recently closed). It lies east of Gypsum Canyon Road and west of Green River Road within Orange County. The nearest city is Yorba Linda (Figure 1).

2.3 EXISTING FACILITIES AND NEED FOR THE PROJECT

State Park Facilities

There exists roughly 0.5 miles of dirt road on State Park land at the project site. This road is accessible to State Park vehicles, and vehicles of those organizations containing easements and rights of way associated with the area (Orange County Flood, Orange County Harbors beaches and Parks, CALTRANS, SpectraSite Communications Inc, Orange County Sanitary, Santa Ana River Project Authority, Police, and Fire Districts). This road is also accessible, via the Santa Ana River trail, to equestrians, hikers and mountain bikers.

Non-State Park Facilities

Non-State Park facilities are adjacent to and associated with the project area, and are closely tied to the need for the project, and therefore are worthy of mention here. They include:

- State Route 91 runs along the length of the southern side of the project area. CALTRANS Rights of Way are adjacent to the project area and CALTRANS easements extend on to the project area footprint.

- The Coal Canyon underpass associated with State Route 91 connects State Park owned Coal Canyon watershed to the south of the SR 91 to the project area on the north. The exiting freeway ramps associated with this underpass have been closed and gated by CALTRANS and much of the asphalt has been

removed in a step toward restoration. A single fenced lane with asphalt remains through the underpass to provide emergency vehicles, and other authorized vehicles the opportunity to use this as a turn around.

- A CALTRANS double box culvert structure conducts the ephemeral flows of Coal Canyon under SR 91 onto the project area and then to the Santa Ana River. The box culvert system is responsible for severe degradation of the Coal Canyon stream system north of SR 91 to the Santa Ana River. Correcting this problem is among the goals of this project.

- Roughly 50 meters upstream of the box culverts south of SR91 lies a Caltrans-maintained check-damn structure or sediment basin, designed to protect the box culverts from filling with sediment and debris.

- The Santa Ana River Trail and associated road run along the south side of the project area just north of SR 91.

Need for Project

Biological Corridor: The Coal Canyon underpass is the last viable habitat linkage between the Santa Ana Mountains and the Puente-Chino Hills. Without full restoration of this critical linkage, as many as 21 vertebrate species are likely to be severely affected and possibly extirpated from the Puente Chino Hills. This project will provide much needed cover and native habitat at the Coal Canyon linkage that will improve the functionality of this connection for the majority of plants and animals of the region. Restoration of this biological corridor is likely to benefit grassland specialists of the Santa Ana Mountains, as this habitat is not common in the Santa Ana Mountains but prevalent in the Puente-Chino Hills. It will also facilitate the movement of large carnivores, the loss of which from the Puente-Chino Hills will likely result in an increase in medium sized predators, with potentially profound negative impacts on bird communities.

Re-vegetation and Exotic Plant Control: Coastal sage scrub and Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub are recognized as rare plant communities through CA Department of Fish and Game's (CDFG) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). These plant communities were historically present on this site but destroyed by previous land uses. The Federally Threatened California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) depends upon these sage scrub habitats that have been greatly reduced throughout Southern California. This project will restore up to 31 acres of coastal sage scrub and Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub habitat to benefit this declining animal. The site is currently dominated by exotic vegetation (primarily *Lepidium latifolium, Silybum marinum, Conium maculatum, Ricinus communis, Brassica nigra, Marrubium vulgare*, and *Eucalyptus spp*) that will be controlled as part of this project.

Stream Channel Restoration: The construction of State Route 91 involved the diversion of the ephemeral flows of Coal Canyon through a box culvert system underneath the freeway. The box culvert outflow has resulted in a deeply incised creek channel on the newly acquired State Park property. This situation has altered the natural meander and habitat-diversifying processes of the creek, and increases sediment discharge into the Santa Ana River. This project will restore the degraded landforms and vegetation associated with this channel, and dissipate the hydraulic force from the box culvert. This will provide habitat diversity, facilitate wildlife usage, and improve the water quality that flows from Coal Canyon into the Santa Ana River. This restoration is also likely to increase the value of the box culverts as a wildlife linkage.

Aesthetics, Recreation and Interpretation: Currently, the project area is highly degraded and scarred from previous use. This project will improve the aesthetic value of the area, which will improve the park visitors' experience as well as those driving on SR 91. Interpretive elements will provide important environmental education and regional information for Park users and those on the adjacent Santa Ana River Trail.

2.4 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this project is to increase the functionality of the biological corridor at Coal Canyon. Project features will provide:

- Greater movement of wildlife through the biological corridor due to improved cover and native habitat on the north side of SR 91.
- Rare plant communities: coastal sage scrub and Riversidian alluvial fan scrub.
- Endangered species habitat (*Polioptila californica californica*)
- Improved water quality for the Santa Ana River
- Increased native habitat diversity
- Improved aesthetic qualities
- Increased visitor resource awareness and appreciation through interpretive and educational elements.

The proposed project, as outlined above, will further the Department's mission by:

- Preserving biological diversity through the restoration of high quality habitat and habitat connectivity.

- Improving the quality of life in California by protecting valuable natural resources, increasing the diversity and availability of high quality recreational experiences and opportunities.

- Providing and maintaining a supportive infrastructure for continued park use and maintenance, and the protection of park resources.

- Providing education, interpretation, and leadership to assist the public in understanding the significance and value of the state's natural and cultural resources.

2.5 Project Description

DPR proposes to restore landforms and native vegetation on approximately 31 acres north of SR 91 at Coal Canyon (Figure 2).Recreational opportunities and interpretive elements will also be developed. Due to limited funds and variable cost per acre of restoration, we have prioritized restoration areas within the site (Figure 3).

Priority 1: The main goals of this project are to increase the value of this area as a bio-corridor and to create California gnatcatcher habitat. Given this, the highest priority restoration regions include those directly adjacent to the underpass and extending north to the Santa Ana River and also the landform work and energy dissipating structure associated with the stream channel restoration.

Priority 2: Secondary priorities include those regions directly adjacent to priority 1 areas, tying them together in a cohesive restoration unit and linking them with the river corridor and adjacent areas being restored by other entities.

Priority 3: The final priority is to complete native plant community restoration throughout the remainder of the site.

The following is a summary of the project:

2.5.1 Restoration of Plant Communities

Exotic vegetation removal- Up to but not exceeding 31 acres of exotic vegetation will be removed. We will utilize a combination of exotic plant control techniques including (1) aerial spraying of herbicide, (2) clear and grub and scrape, and (3) raking. Techniques will vary depending upon the location and exotic species within the site. Aerial spraying of State-approved herbicides will be employed throughout the majority of the site. 'Round-up' (or a comparable herbicide) will be used on upland vegetation, and 'Rodeo' (or a comparable wetland-safe herbicide) will be used on exotic vegetation closer to

riparian habitat or a watercourse. Herbicide will be applied up to three times in a grow/kill treatment throughout the rainy season of 2005. Some regions of the site may be cleared and grubbed and the top three inches of soil scraped from the site. This will produce up to but not exceeding 12,000 cubic yards of material that will be removed from the site and disposed of in an appropriate manner. Areas that receive the herbicide treatment will not be scraped, and therefore herbicide-laden soils will not be removed from the site. In regions of the site where remnant native shrubs exist , exotic vegetation and thatch will be manually raked out.

Re-vegetation of rare plant communities- Re-vegetation efforts will focus on the restoration of coastal sage scrub (CSS) and Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub (RAS). Coastal sage scrub and Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub are considered rare plant communities in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). Re-vegetation is likely to be accomplished with a combination of hydro-seeding and 1-gallon starter plants. All plant material will consist of genetic stock from locally derived sources. Species used (Table # 1), distribution, and cover will be based on State Park Resource Ecologist's vegetation surveys of the site and surrounding park land, including releve surveys of CSS and RAS conducted within representative high quality regions of these habitats within Coal Canyon. No rare plant communities currently exist on-site.

2.5.2 Restoration of Stream Channel and Landform

Creek restoration- This project will restore natural processes to 880 linear feet of Coal Canyon Creek, extending from State Route 91 to the northern border of State Park property adjacent to Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks Property. This will be achieved through the design and construction of a creek flow energy dissipater and the restoration of landform and vegetation throughout that portion of the creek channel on State Park Property. We will work with CALTRANS and Orange County to ensure that the creek restoration activities have no negative effect on their land and facilities.

The creek restoration will involve: removal of an artificial levee, filling the incised channel, construction of an energy dissipating structure downstream of the box culverts, construction of check dams in the stream channel, and general re-contouring of the directly adjacent land. It is estimated that 5,000 cubic yards of on-site material must be cut and filled to remove the artificial levee and restore the incised channel and adjacent natural drainage pattern. An estimated 200 cubic yards of 1 ton and ¼ ton riprap will be utilized to construct the energy dissipating structure adjacent to the box culverts. Roughly 7,700 board feet of lumber will be used to construct check dams structures throughout the length of the creek channel.

Landform Work- General surface grading will be required throughout the entire site to restore the natural drainage pattern and landform. In total, including the "Creek Restoration" work described above, roughly 10,000 cubic yards of native on-site soil will be moved about to complete this project, with a balance of cut and fill material.

2.5.3 Access Roads

All vehicular access to the roads on site is limited to authorized vehicles through locked gates at the (recently closed) SR 91 'Coal Canyon' off-ramp. The project will not involve the single emergency lane road that runs underneath SR 91 within the underpass. A primitive road currently exists along the south perimeter of State Park property and provides access to a cell phone tower on the western corner of the site. This road extends along the northern boundary of the property providing access to the Santa Ana River Interceptor (SARI) line manhole stations. This road currently crosses the stream channel, however, this crossing will not be maintained and this road will terminate at the SARI line manhole. The primitive road that runs along the eastern edge of the site will be preserved for Park patrol purposes and will terminate prior to the stream channel. Otherwise, this project will not change the use of the above-mentioned roadways. The roads mentioned above will be open to non-motorized recreational use.

Other various primitive roads cut through the site from South to North. One of these roads provides direct (and duplicate) access to the northern SARI line manhole; with the exception that these roads will be used for restoration purposes, all will be closed and incorporated into the re-vegetation project, with access to the SARI manhole provided by the northern perimeter road discussed above. These roads will be utilized for access throughout the restoration activity.

2.5.4 Interpretive Elements

Low impact, vandal resistant wayside exhibits will provide trail information as well as interpretation for the importance of open space, the significance of biological corridors, and the impact of exotic species for the natural resources of the area.

2.6 Project Restoration

The restoration window for this project will be from September 30, 2005 to December 15, 2005. All landform work will be completed between September 30, 2005 and November 1, 2005. All initial planting and re-vegetation activities will take place from October 15, 2005 to December 15, 2005. Follow-up restoration maintenance will take place from December 16, 2005 to April 15, 2007, with activities and work windows subject to State Park Resource Ecologist approval. Improvements will be limited to those areas that were disturbed in the past or are otherwise devoid of sensitive resources. All work will occur during daylight hours.

2.7 ATTENDANCE HISTORY

CHSP yearly attendance from 1995 through 1997 averaged approximately 170,000 people. The majority of Park visitors are currently concentrated in regions other than the Coal Canyon area.

2.8 CONSISTENCY WITH LOCAL PLANS AND POLICIES

The project improves the quality of the biological resources for the region and increases recreational and environmental educational opportunities. This project is consistent with local plans and policies and the CHSP General Plan.

2.9 DISCRETIONARY APPROVALS

DPR has approval authority for the proposed "Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration" project at CHSP. In addition, we anticipate permit approvals by the following regulatory agencies: CA Department of Fish and Game, CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CA Department of Transportation (CALTRANS).

2.10 RELATED PROJECTS

Other projects currently underway or in the planning process include within CHSP, or closely associated with the area:

- CHSP Visitor Center (planning stages) in Carbon Canyon, 10 miles away
- CHSP Entrance Road Improvements (planning stages) in Bane Canyon, 7 miles away.
- CHSP Campground and Day Use Improvements (under construction) in upper Aliso Canyon at the Rolling M Ranch, 6 miles away.
- A "Trail Management Plan" in its planning stage, dealing with minor trail adjustments and routing issues.
- ADA trail, 1/4 mile in length in upper Aliso Canyon from Rolling M Ranch, planning and construction in 2004.
- CALTRANS widening of SR 91.
- Yorba Linda Heights Mitigation project consisting of 5 acres of Coastal Sage Scrub Restoration.

CHAPTER 3
ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1 GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Chino Hills State Park (CHSP) is a designated unit of the State Parks system and consists of approximately 12,000 acres. It is located in Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties.

3.1.1 Aesthetics

Aesthetics at CHSP is related to the natural and cultural features such as the plants, animals, waters, geologic features, buildings and archaeological sites. Natural quiet, solitude, space, scenery, a sense of history, sounds of nature, and clear night skies also contribute to the Park's aesthetics. The project site has the potential to positively contribute to the aesthetics of the area, however, the site is heavily disturbed due to previous land uses. Multiple roads, dilapidated structures, land scars, erosion and exotic vegetation dominate the viewshed. This restoration will increase the aesthetic quality of the area.

3.1.2 Agricultural Resources

Roughly 30 acres of citrus groves exist across the Santa Ana River to the Northwest. This in not a directly adjacent land use and the project will have no impact this agricultural resource. There are no other agricultural resources within or closely associated with the project site.

3.1.3 Air Quality

The project site is located in the South Coast Air Basin, as defined in the CA Almanac of Emissions and Air Quality. Air quality data for 2002 is provided at the South Coast Air Quality Management District website and is summarized in attachment # 1.

3.1.4 Biological Resources

<u>Environmental Setting</u>

The project site is located on the alluvial delta deposits of Coal Canyon at the confluence with the Santa Ana River. Previous on-site land uses highly degraded the area. On-site vegetation may be classified as 'ruderal', consisting primarily of exotic grasses and shrubs, eucalyptus trees, with minor patches of disturbed Riversidian alluvial fan scrub (Figure #4). The site conducts a highly modified portion of Coal Creek, an ephemeral stream. A network of dirt roads and utilities exist. State Route 91 borders

the site to the south and riparian and sage scrub associated with the Santa Ana River lie to the north, east, and west. The Santa Ana River trail lies between the site and SR 91, contributing a high level of associated recreation.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

State Park Resource Ecologists are continually visiting this site and have done so since the purchase of the land in 2001. Throughout the winter of 2003/2004 and Spring 2004, State Park Resource Ecologists conducted focused surveys of the site for which identification of significant biological resources was a primary goal. No threatened or endangered species were noted during these visits.

Information regarding special status species potentially present in Chino Hills State Park (CHSP) was obtained from park records, a recent Inventory Monitoring and Assessment Program (IMAP) effort (1999-2002), the resource analysis conducted in association the preparation of CHSP General Plan (1999), and a review of the latest California Department of Fish and Game's Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), (see Table 2).

Due to the highly disturbed and developed nature of the project site, none of the potential special status plant or wildlife species are expected to depend upon the project site to any significant degree.

Table 2
List of Sensitive Wildlife Species That Occur, or For Which Potential Habitat Exists Within Chino Hills State Park

TYPE	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	STATUS*	PRESENCE IN CHSP
AMPHIBIANS	*Taricha torosa torosa*	Coast Range newt	CSC	not likely
	Ensatina eschscholtzi eschscholtzi	Monterey salamander	CSC	**present**
	Batrachoseps nigriventris	black-bellied salamander	local concern	**present**
	Batrachoseps pacificus	pacific slender salamander	CSC	probable
	Aneides lugubris	arboreal salamander	local concern	**present**
	Scaphiopus hammondi	western spadefoot	CFP, CSC	**present**
	Bufo microscaphus californicus	arroyo southwestern toad	FE, CFP, CSC	not likely
	Rana aurora	red-legged frog	FT, CFP, CSC	not likely
	Rana muscosa	mountain yellow-legged frog	CFP, CSC	not likely
BIRDS	*Phalacrocorax auritus*	double-crested cormorant	CSC	not likely

	Ixobrychus exilis hesperis	western least bittern	CSC	not likely
	Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	CSC	not likely
	Pandion haliaetus	osprey	CSC	not likely
	Elanus leucurus	white-tailed kite	CFP	**present**
	Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus	bald eagle	FT, CE, CFP	not likely
	Circus cyaneus	northern harrier	CSC	**present**
	Accipiter striatus	sharp-shinned hawk	CSC	**present**
	Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	CSC	**present**
	Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	CT	**present**
	Buteo regalis	ferruginous hawk	CSC	**present**
	Aquila chrysaetos	golden eagle	CFP, CSC	**present**
	Falco columbarius	merlin	CSC	**present**
	Falco peregrinus anatum	peregrine falcon	FE, CE, CFP	possible
	Falco mexicanus	prairie falcon	CSC	**present**
	Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	CSC	possible
	Numenius americanus	long-billed curlew	CSC	possible
	Larus californicus	California gull	CSC	not likely
	Coccyzus americanus	western yellow-billed cuckoo	CE	possible
	Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	CSC	possible
	Strix occidentalis	spotted owl	FT, CSC	not likely
	Asio otus	long-eared owl	CSC	not likely
	Asio flammeus	short-eared owl	CSC	not likely
	Cypseloides niger	black swift	CSC	not likely
	Chaetura vauxi	Vaux's swift	CSC	**present**
	Empidonax traillii	willow flycatcher	FE, CE	**present**
	Eremophila alpestris actia	horned lark	CSC	**present**
	Progne subis	purple martin	CSC	possible
	Riparia riparia	bank swallow	CT	**present**
	Polioptila californica	California gnatcatcher	FT	**present**
	Lanius ludovicianus	loggerhead shrike	CSC	**present**
	Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	FE, CE	**present**
	Vireo vicinior	gray vireo	CSC	not likely
	Vireo huttoni	Hutton's vireo	local concern	**present**
	Campyforhynchus brunneicapillus	cactus wren	CSC	**present**
	Dendroica petechia	yellow warbler	CSC	**present**
	Icteria virens	yellow-breasted chat	CSC	**Present**
	Piranga rubra	summer tanager	CSC	**present**
	Parus inornatus	oak titmouse	local concern	**present**
	Aimophila ruficeps canescens	rufous-crowned sparrow	CSC	**present**

	Ammodramus savannarum	grasshopper sparrow	local concern	**present**
	Amphispiza belli belli	sage sparrow	CSC	**present**
	Agelaius tricolor	tricolored blackbird	CSC	possible
MAMMALS	*Sorex ornatus*	ornate shrew	CSC, FC/P	possible
	Scapanus latimanus parvus	broad-footed mole	CSC	**present**
	Macrotus californicus	California leaf-nosed bat	CSC	not likely
	Euderma maculatum	spotted bat	CSC	not likely
	Plecotus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	CSC	not likely
	Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	CSC	probable
	Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	CSC	**present**
	Lepus californicus benneti	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	CSC	**present**
	Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	CSC	not likely
	Chaetodipus fallax	San Diego pocket mouse	CSC	not likely
	Chaetodipus californicus femoralis	California pocket mouse	CSC	probable
	Dipodomys stephensi	Stephen's kangaroo rat	FE, CT	not likely
	Dipodomys merriami parvus	San Bernardino kangaroo rat	CSC, FC/P	possible
	Onychomys torridus	southern grasshopper mouse	CSC	not likely
	Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	CSC	**present**
	Microtus californicus stephensi	Stephen's vole	CSC	??
	Bassariscus astutus	ringtail	CFP	possible
	Taxidea taxus	American badger	local concern	probable
	Felis concolor	mountain lion	CFP, CSC	**present**
REPTILES	*Clemmys marmorata pallida*	southwestern pond turtle	CFP, CSC	**present**
	Coleonyx variegatus abbotti	San Diego banded gecko	local concern	possible
	Phyllodactylus xanti	leaf-toed gecko	CFP	not likely
	Phrynosoma coronatum	coast horned lizard	CFP, CSC	**present**
	Xantusia henshawi	granite night lizard	CFP, CSC	not likely
	Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis	Coronado skink	CSC	not likely
	Cnemidophorus hyperythrus	orange-throated whiptail	CFP, CSC	**present**
	Cnemidophorus tigris	coastal western whiptail	local	**present**

	multiscutatus		concern	
	Charina bottae umbricata	southern rubber boa	CT, CFP	not likely
	Lichanura trivirgata	rosy boa	local concern	possible
	Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	coast patch-nosed snake	CSC	**present**
	Coluber constrictor mormon	western yellow-bellied racer	local concern	**present**
	Lampropeltis zonata parvirubra	San Bernardino mountain kingsnake	CSC	not likely
	Lampropeltis zonata pulchra	San Diego mountain kingsnake	CFP, CSC	not likely
	Thamnophis sirtalis parietalis	red-sided garter snake	local concern	possible
	Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped garter snake	FT, CT, CFP	possible
	Diadophis punctatus modestus	San Bernardino ringneck snake	local concern	**present**
	Crotalus ruber ruber	northern red diamond rattlesnake	CSC	**present**
FISHES	*Gila orcutti*	arroyo chub	CSC	**present**
	Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni	unarmored three-spine stickleback	CE, FE	possible
	Rhinichthys osculus	Santa Ana speckled dace	CSC	possible
	Catostomus santaanae	Santa Ana sucker	CSC	possible

*Status Codes: FE = Federal Endangered; FT = Federally Threatened; FC/P = Federal Candidate/Proposal; CE = California Endangered; CT = California Threatened; CFP = California Fully Protected; CSC = California Species of Concern

Sensitive Natural Communities

Sensitive natural communities are those that are regionally uncommon, unusually diverse, or of special concern to local, state, and federal agencies. Elimination or substantial degradation of these communities would constitute a significant impact under CEQA. No sensitive natural communities are found at the project site.

Wetlands and Waters of the United States

State Parks resource ecologists conducted wetland delineation on January 13, 2004, covering roughly 30-acres of the project site at Coal Canyon, Orange County, California. The wetland delineation was performed in accordance with the 1987 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Wetland Delineation Manual (TR Y-87-1). Soil pits were excavated to 10 to 13 inches in depth and Munsell Color Charts were used to determine soil chroma and value. Wetland hydrology was determined by the presence of standing water, inundation within the upper twelve inches of the soil, drainage patterns, stained leaves, drift lines and/or sediment deposits. The dominant plant species in the canopy,

shrub/sapling and herbaceous layers were recorded; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands was consulted regarding the indicator status of the plants. The wetland delineation also included wetlands as defined by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG).

Global positioning units were used to document placement of data stations and features that define the wetland habitat. This data has been overlayed onto digital ortho-photos (Figure #4) as a visual aid for regulatory review and restoration planning. It should be noted that the resolution of these digital photos is such that they introduce a level of error to the data, especially along the margins of the photos. In all cases, State Parks ecologists will provide pre-restoration walk-through and site briefing, marking actual on-the-ground wetland perimeters and clearly reviewing appropriate activity with restoration crews.

The majority of the wetlands near the site are associated with the Santa Ana River off of State Park land and are therefore not within the project site. Small amounts of wetlands are present on the project site within the Coal Canyon drainage. The entire drainage is designated Waters of the United States.

3.1.5 Cultural Resources

Ethnographic Setting

CHSP is located in the inland southern portion of the traditional Gabrielino territory, in close proximity to the Juaneño, Luiseño, Serrano, and Cahuilla groups. Kroeber (1925:620-621) describes Gabrielino territory as extending from the San Gabriel Mountains through Orange County south to Aliso Creek, and including Santa Catalina and San Clemente Islands. Bean and Smith (1978) include San Nicholas Island as well. Like the neighboring Luiseño, Juaneño, Cahuilla, and Serrano, the Gabrielino spoke a Uto-Aztecan Shoshonean language. Bordering the Shoshonean speaking groups to both the north and south were Hokan speaking peoples, the Chumashan above Malibu Creek and Yuman groups in San Diego County. This separation of Hokan speaking groups by Shoshonean speakers has been referred to as the "Shoshonean wedge" and was likely the result of a series of migrations of Shoshonean speakers into Southern California (Koerper 1983; Macko 1987).

For most of the year the Gabrielino occupied village sites in large domed circular structures thatched with tules or ferns. The villages were located near the coast or inland watercourses. The people traveled to various gathering sites within their territory as various resources became seasonally available. Kroeber (1925:649) names twenty varieties of seeds and six varieties of acorns used by the neighboring Luiseño. It is assumed that the Gabrielino exploited similar vegetable resources. Fish and shellfish were a primary source of protein in coastal areas; additionally, a variety of large and small terrestrial vertebrates was hunted with bow and arrow or trapped with nets.

The climate was undemanding, and clothing was simple. Men typically wore loincloths and women the double apron commonly found throughout California. All wore deerskin, fur, or bird skin capes when weather was poor. The Gabrielino manufactured steatite bowls and decorative items, stone mortars and pestles, manos, drills, knives, and projectile points. Bone was utilized to manufacture fishhooks, needles, and awls. Shell was made into fishhooks, beads and spoons. They also manufactured baskets, nets, and coiled paddle and anvil pottery (Barter 1983).

The Gabrielino participated in an extensive exchange network, providing them access to exotic resources such as obsidian, certain foods, and other commodities that were unavailable within their own territory. The most intensively used source of steatite in prehistoric California was within Gabrielino territory on Santa Catalina Island, and manufactured goods as well as raw materials were exchanged with other groups. Additionally, shell beads, dried fish, and sea otter furs were traded with inland peoples for deerskins, acorns, and seeds from the interior (Macko 1987).

Spanish colonization permanently and completely altered the cultures of the people inhabiting Southern California, removing them from their villages and incorporating them into the labor pool necessary to maintain the mission system (Barter 1983).

San Gabriel Mission baptism records suggest that four villages were located in the Santa Ana River basin, immediately adjacent to the Chino Hills. The people of these villages would likely have exploited the resources available in the present-day park (DPR 1999:31). Three pre-contact archaeological sites and numerous isolated occurrences located within the park indicate that the area was used for hunting and gathering. Testing at SBr-3690 revealed an appreciable occupational deposit dating between 1070-2380 years before present, including dart points, milling stones, and charred animal bone (Macko and Weil 1989). Site SBr-5286 was also tested and determined to be a single-use campsite with no subsurface component (Alcorn 1986:14).

3.1.6 Geology/Soils

Topography

The Chino Hills are part of a group of hills that also includes the Puente Hills to the northwest. The Chino Hills and the Puente Hills form a roughly triangular area of approximately 35 square miles of valleys, canyons, hills, and steep slopes. The hills are bounded on the northwest by the San Gabriel Valley, on the northeast by the San Bernardino Valley, and on the south by the Santa Ana River Canyon and the Los Angeles Basin. The highest elevations in the park are San Juan Hill (1,781 feet) and Gilman Peak (1,865 feet). The lowest elevations occur along the Santa Ana River (430 feet).

Geology/Soils
The Chino Hills are made up of a thick sequence of middle to upper Miocene marine sedimentary rocks of the Puente Formation, deposited from five to fifteen million years ago. The Puente Formation has been divided into four members from oldest to most recent: the La Vida, Soquel, Yorba, and Sycamore Canyon members.

The hills are a result of uplift and folding along the Whittier fault zone and the Chino fault. Both the Whittier fault zone and the Chino fault may be branches of the Elsinore fault, which is a major structural feature of the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province to the south. The state geologist classifies the Whittier fault zone as active. A branch of the Whittier fault cuts through the park in the vicinity of Telegraph and Carbon Canyons. Damage to structures or facilities could result from seismic shaking. Landslides could also be generated, especially if the slopes are saturated.

CHSP is located in Soil Region VII – Southern California. In this region, upland soils have clay or clay-loam surfaces, neutral to basic reacting, and often-calcareous subsoil. Alluvial soils are mostly sandy loam, light brown in color, and have neutral reactions. The Chino Hills area soils are primarily upland soils, formed in place with only minor occurrences of alluvial soils.

In CHSP, the Soil Conservation Service has mapped 39 soil units representing 20 soil series. These soils vary widely in depth, fertility, permeability, and other important characteristics. Two important characteristics of the soils in the park, which may affect potential land uses, are erosion hazard and shrink-swell potential.

The steepness of watershed lands, past land-use practices, and the rapid surface runoff create a high potential for erosion throughout CHSP. The park is riddled with a network of roads, fences, transmission easements, power lines, and gas lines. In some places livestock have created linear paths along steep fence lines, leading to development of gullies, loss of soil and vegetative resources, and potentially contributing to development of new landslides. The roads promote gullying, mass wasting, and loss of vegetative resources. Increased water runoff results from water concentration through culverts, removal of vegetation, and diversion from natural watercourses. Ditches, berms, and improperly constructed water bars also lead to erosion of the roads and adjacent lands in the park.

3.1.7 Hazards

CHSP has major geologic hazards and sensitivities. The Chino Hills are prone to frequent landslides. In fact, the area around and including the park has been identified as the most landslide-prone area in southwestern San Bernardino County. Even though many of the landslides occurred long ago by human standards, they must still be considered as areas of instability, because the landslide deposits are generally perched precariously on hill-slopes, awaiting only the proper climatic, hydrologic, and perhaps seismic conditions to become activated.

The previous landowners left much waste and debris scattered about the project site including (but not limited to): tires, metal containers, home furnishings, portions of trailers, bathtubs, various automotive parts, and clothing. At this time it is uncertain whether any of this debris contains hazardous or contaminated material. We will be conducting hazardous material testing throughout the site. If hazardous waste is found, it will be disposed consistent with hazardous waste disposal laws.

3.1.8 Hydrology and Water Quality

The Chino Hills are part of the divide between the Los Angeles and Santa Ana Hydrologic Basins. Most of CHSP is in the Carbon Canyon and Aliso Canyon watersheds. Bane Canyon and Water Canyon are part of the Aliso Canyon watershed and are completely within the park, as is 87 percent of Aliso Canyon. The Carbon Canyon Watershed includes Carbon Canyon, Soquel Canyon, Sonome Canyon, and Telegraph Canyon. Coal Canyon is also a significant watershed within the Park. It is relatively undeveloped and encompasses roughly 2 square miles.

All of the park's watersheds drain to the Santa Ana River and portions of the project site may be flooded when this river reaches extremely high levels. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently working on a project with Orange County Flood to increase the bank armoring in the vicinity of the project. Orange County Flood is currently pursuing an agreement with State Parks to allow seasonal flooding of the property, including the project site.

The construction of State Route 91 involved the diversion of the ephemeral flows of Coal Canyon through a box culvert system underneath the freeway. The box culvert outflow has resulted in a deeply incised creek channel on the newly acquired State Park property. This situation has altered the natural meander and habitat-diversifying processes of the creek, and increases sediment discharge into the Santa Ana River.

3.1.9 Land Use & Planning

The site is part of Chino Hills State Park and is contiguous with land designated as "Core Habitat Zone" in the General Plan. (1999). Existing land use in CHSP includes protection of biological resources, recreation, interpretation, and maintenance use.

3.1.10 Minerals

Petroleum and associated gas have been extracted from oil fields in the region since the late 1800s. In 1885 the first commercial production of oil in the Los Angeles Basin was at the old Puente oil field west of the park. Although numerous oil wells have been drilled in the Chino Hills, there is no record of commercial production in the park.

3.1.11 Noise

The Project site is directly adjacent to State Route 91, which is the primary contributor of noise at this region. The Rail Road line managed by Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Rail Road Company lies just across the Santa Ana River and also contributes significant amounts of noise to the project site.

3.1.12 Population and Housing

The closest community to the project site, the City of Yorba Linda, has a total population of 58,918, consisting of 10.2% Hispanic, 71.3% white, 1.2% African American, .4% American Indian, 11.1% Asian, 3.1% mixed race, and 2.7% other, with a median age of 37.4. However the project area lies in close proximity to the Greater Orange County Metropolitan Area, which has a population base of 2,846,289, consisting of 51.3% white, 13.5 Hispanic, 1.7% African American, .7% American Indian, 13.6% Asian, 4.1% mixed race, and 15.1% other, with a median age of 33.3. The area surrounding the project site has a low population density residing in primarily single-family households. Total housing units in the Yorba Linda area number 19,567 out of the 969,484 housing units within Orange County (US Census–2000).

3.1.13 Public Services

The City of Yorba Linda Police Department and DPR rangers provide law enforcement for the Chino Hills SP. The Yorba Linda Fire Department provides fire protection and ambulance services.

3.1.14 Recreation

The proximity of its natural open space to urban populations and extensive trail network make CHSP a popular and valuable recreational resource. Visitors enjoy both active and passive forms of recreation that focus primarily on trail use. People frequently visit the park from adjacent communities to walk, jog, bike, or ride horses. The park is also a popular spot for family and equestrian campers, as well as picnickers. The Santa Ana River Trail directly adjoins the southern border of the project site, providing a high level of recreational use through the area.

3.1.15 Transportation/Traffic

The Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration is accessible via SR 91. The exiting off-ramps have been closed and gated by CALTRANS and much of the asphalt has been removed. A single fenced lane with asphalt remains through the underpass to provide emergency vehicles the opportunity to use this as a turn-around.

All vehicular access to the roads on site is limited to authorized vehicles through locked gates at the (recently closed) SR 91 'Coal Canyon' off-ramp. The project will not involve the single emergency lane road that runs underneath SR 91 within the underpass. A primitive road currently exists along the south perimeter of State Park property and provides access to a cell phone tower on the western corner of the site. This road extends along the northern boundary of the property providing access to the Santa Ana River Interceptor (SARI) line manhole stations. This road currently crosses the stream channel. However, this crossing will not be maintained and this road will terminate at the SARI line manhole. The primitive road that runs along the eastern edge of the site will be preserved for Park patrol purposes and will terminate prior to the stream channel. Otherwise, this project will not change the use of the above-mentioned roadways. The roads mentioned above will be open to non-motorized recreational use.

Other various primitive roads cut through the site from South to North. One of these roads provides direct (and duplicate) access to the northern SARI line manhole; with the exception that these roads will be used for restoration purposes, all will be closed and incorporated into the re-vegetation project, with access to the SARI manhole provided by the northern perimeter road discussed above. These roads will be utilized for access throughout the restoration activity.

3.1.16 UTILITIES

Sewer
The SARI (Santa Ana River Interceptor) line brings saline water from water treatment plants in the Inland Empire to Huntington Beach treatment plants, and then out to the Ocean. This line runs along the northern edge of the site and includes two access manholes. This line is managed by Orange County Sanitation and Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA).

WATER
There is an existing well on-site near an abandoned house which had a pipeline system to the house, a line east toward the location of the old horse stable area, and a line west toward the cell tower site where the old BMX track existed previously. The PVC piping is still in place.

Electric
A Southern California Edison easement exists adjacent to the Santa Ana River Trail (SART) and two other electric line easements travel north and south at two locations between the SART and the river. There is an active Edison power pole adjacent to the well.

Telephone
Closely associated with the site on the CALTRANS property, running along the SART, exists fiber optic and phone trunk lines.

3.1.17 Easements and Adjacent Land Owners

Directly adjacent to the northwest, County of Orange Harbors, Beaches, and Parks owns and operates Featherly Park. Directly adjacent to the northeast Amada America Inc. owns and operates the Green River Golf Course. Directly Adjacent to the south, CALTRANS owns and operates SR 91. Multiple landowners exist in the vicinity to the north, but not directly adjacent to the site including: Orange County Flood Control District, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Rail Road, City of Yorba Linda, Irvine Company, and private land-owners.

CALTRANS
CALTRANS Right Of Way borders the southern edge of the site. A CALTRANS grading easement exists on the site and is associated with the apron of the box culvert outflow. Another easement exists on the eastern region of the site. State Parks met with CALTRANS project management and planning staff on January 26, 2004 to discuss issues related to this project and the associated easements.

Southern Californian Edison
An Edison Easement runs along the southern border of the site and encompasses the existing dirt road.

Orange County Flood
Orange County Flood is seeking a flood easement across the property to accommodate occasional high-flow events of the Santa Ana River. The flooding activity associated with this easement is not thought to be inconsistent with the natural processes of the site. However, the effect that this potential flooding may have on un-established re-vegetation areas and State Park patrol roads must be assessed.

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and Orange County Sanitation
There is an easement associated with the SARI-line that runs along the northern edge of the site.

SpectraSite Communications Inc.
SpectraSite holds an agreement with Edison for use of the easement that encompasses the dirt road along the southern boundary of the site. The road is used to access a cell phone tower on a small piece of land at the northwestern tip of the site.

Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks
Orange County Harbors and Beaches manages the Santa Ana River Trail that runs on CALTRANS property along the southern border of the site. This agency owns the land that borders the site to the north (riparian corridor and Santa Ana River.

Rail Road

North of the Santa Ana River lies the rail road line managed by Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Rail Road Company. Metrolink and Amtrak also utilize this rail.

3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

PROJECT INFORMATION	
1. Project Title:	Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration
2. Lead Agency Name & Address:	California Department of Parks and Recreation
3. Contact Person & Phone Number:	Ron Saenz, Associate Park and Recreation Specialist (619) 688-3354
4. Project Location:	Chino Hills State Park (CHSP)
5. Project Sponsor Name & Address:	Inland Empire District California Department of Parks & Recreation 17801 Lake Perris Drive, Perris, CA 92571
6. General Plan Designation:	State Park
7. Zoning:	Park Land/Open Space
8. Description of Project:	
Ecological Restoration. • Restoration of plant communities • Restoration of stream channel and landforms • Interpretive elements	
9. Surrounding Land Uses & Setting:	Refer to Section IX, Land Use Planning in this chapter.
10. Approval Required from Other Public Agencies	None

1. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below will 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.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agricultural Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology/Soils
☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning
☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise	☐ Population/Housing
☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation/Traffic
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance	☒ None

DETERMINATION

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 original scope of the proposed project **COULD** have had a significant effect on the environment, there **WILL NOT** be a significant effect because revisions/mitigations to the project have been made by or agreed to by the applicant. 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** or its functional equivalent will be prepared. ☐

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated impact" on the environment. However, at least one impact has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document, pursuant to applicable legal standards, and has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis, as described in the report's attachments. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the impacts not sufficiently addressed in previous documents. ☐

I find that, although the proposed project could have had a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, pursuant to applicable standards, and have been avoided or mitigated, pursuant to an earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, all impacts have been avoided or mitigated to a less-than-significant level and no further action is required. ☐

_____ May 18, 2004

Ron Saenz — Date

Associate Park and Recreation Specialist- Southern Service Center

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers, except "No Impact", that are adequately supported by the information sources cited. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact does not apply to the project being evaluated (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on general or project-specific factors (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2. All answers must consider the whole of the project-related effects, both direct and indirect, including off-site, cumulative, restoration, and operational impacts.

3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, the checklist answers must indicate whether that impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate when there is sufficient evidence that a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change may occur in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project that cannot be mitigated below a level of significance. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.

4. A "Mitigated Negative Declaration" (Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated) applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures, prior to declaration of project approval, has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.

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 (including a General Plan) or Negative Declaration [CCR, Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, § 15063(c)(3)(D)]. References to an earlier analysis should:

a) Identify the earlier analysis and state where it is available for review.

b) Indicate which effects from the environmental checklist were adequately analyzed in the earlier document, pursuant to applicable legal standards, and whether these effects were adequately addressed by mitigation measures included in that analysis.

c) Describe the mitigation measures in this document that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and indicate to what extent they address site-specific conditions for this project.

6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate references to information sources for potential impacts into the checklist or appendix (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances, biological assessments). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should include an indication of the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7. A source list should be appended to this document. Sources used or individuals contacted should be listed in the source list and cited in the discussion.

8. Explanation(s) of each issue should identify:

a) the criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate the significance of the impact addressed by each question **and**
b) the mitigation measures, if any, prescribed to reduce the impact below the level of significance.

3.2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

The Environmental Analysis (Initial Study) Checklist was prepared to assess the impact of the proposed project's impact on the environment. The environmental setting for each topic is described in Section 3.1 above. Potential environmental impacts, identified by checklist point, are addressed in the discussion section. For each impact identified as "less than significant with mitigation," mitigation measures have been specified to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

I. AESTHETICS

WILL THE PROJECT:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a-d) Although the presence of heavy equipment may be regarded as a detriment to aesthetics, it is not considered an impact due to the short window of heavy equipment needs (3 months), and also due to the present level of sites disturbance as a result of previous land use. All restoration will take place within daylight hours. No Impact.

II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

WILL THE PROJECT*:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

*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 for use in assessing impacts on agricultural and farmland.

DISCUSSION

a-c) CHSP is not zoned for agriculture. Roughly 30 acres of citrus groves exist across the Santa Ana River to the Northwest. This in not a directly adjacent land use and the project will have no impact this agricultural resource. This project contains no component that will have an effect on any category of California Farmland, conflict with any existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contract, or interfere with the use or result in the conversion of agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. No impact.

III. AIR QUALITY

WILL THE PROJECT*:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan or regulation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations (e.g., children, the elderly, individuals with compromised respiratory or immune systems)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	☒

*Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied on to make these determinations.

DISCUSSION

a) Work proposed with this project is not in conflict with and will not obstruct implementation of any applicable air quality plan. No impact.

b,c) Grading activities associated with restoration will result in limited surface disruption and operation of diesel-powered construction equipment will emit ozone precursor emissions. Construction vehicles will use unimproved roads and drive off-road as needed through the site.

The proposed project is not anticipated to result in a substantial increase in visitors to the area, therefore, the project will not introduce any new air emissions associated with fossil fuel combustion or particulate matter.

The restoration of the Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor will not result in a violation of any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing, projected, or cumulative air quality violation. The proposed project will not emit air contaminants at a level that, by themselves, will violate any air quality standard, or contribute to a permanent or long-term increase in any air contaminant. However, project restoration will generate short-term emissions of fugitive dust (PM_{10}) and involve the use of equipment and materials that will emit ozone precursors (i.e., reactive organic gases [ROG] and nitrogen oxides (NOx). Increased emissions of PM_{10}, ROG, and NOx could contribute to existing non-attainment conditions and interfere with achieving the projected attainment standards. Consequently, emissions emitted during restoration will be considered a potentially significant short-term adverse impact. Implementation of the following mitigation measures will reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

MITIGATION MEASURE AQ-1
• All active restoration areas will be watered at least twice daily during dry, dusty conditions. On windy days or when fugitive dust can be observed leaving the project site, additional applications of water will be applied to maintain a minimum 12 percent moisture content (as required by SCAQMD Rule 403). • All trucks hauling soil, sand, or other loose materials on public roads will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard. • Traffic speed on unpaved roads will be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph). • Intersections of public and private roads will be swept daily, with water sweepers, if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets. • Exposed stockpiles (dirt, sand, etc.) subject to wind erosion will be enclosed, covered, watered twice daily, or stabilized with (non-toxic) soil binders. • All equipment engines will be maintained in good condition, in proper tune (according to manufacturer's specifications), and in compliance with all State and federal requirements. • Excavation and grading activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 25 mph, instantaneous gusts exceed 35 mph, or dust from restoration might obscure driver visibility on public roads. • Soil stabilization and revegetation will be used in those areas where vegetation was damaged or destroyed during grading, immediately after completion of work. The project manager/contractor will consult with a DPR-qualified resource ecologist to determine the appropriate type and level of revegetation necessary for each area.

d) As noted in the discussion above (III b,c), project restoration will generate dust and equipment exhaust emissions for the duration of the project. No residences are located on or near the project site. These circumstances, in conjunction with Mitigation Measures AQ-1 above, will reduce the potential adverse impact to a less than significant level.

e) The proposed work will not result in the long-term generation of odors. Project-related emissions might result in a short-term generation of odors, including diesel exhaust and fuel vapors. Some visitors to the general area might consider these odors objectionable. However, because restoration activities will be short-term and odorous emissions will dissipate rapidly in the air with increased distance from the source, area visitor exposure to these odors will be extremely limited [see (d) above]. Also, the project site is located just adjacent to SR 91, which is a much more significant source of related odors. Potential odor impacts will be considered less than significant.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a sensitive, candidate, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, as defined by §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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) Although CHSP is home to several special status species, due to the highly disturbed and developed nature of the site, no sensitive, candidate, or special status species are expected to depend on the project site to such a degree that the temporary project restoration window will have a significant effect on their survival or general behavior. *Polioptila californica californica* (CA gnatcatcher) is known to occupy coastal sage scrub habitat south of SR 91, opposite the highway from the project site. In order to effectively restore a more natural stream flow with appropriate alluvial dynamics, a small occurrence of disturbed Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub (DRAS) adjacent to the west bank of the stream channel at the northern boundary of the site will necessarily be impacted (Figure #4). Although this area has been significantly disturbed from past land use and is currently of marginal quality (primarily due to previous clearing and infestation of exotic plant species), the potential value of the existing native shrubs (*Lepidospartum squamatim*, *Sambucus mexicana*, *Artemisia californica*, *Isocoma menzisii*) for California gnatcatcher is

noted, and the region will be preserved to the extent possible.) and all exotic vegetation efforts in this region will be limited performed outside of the gnatcatcher breeding season (February 15-August 30). ***Vireo bellii pusillis* (Least Bell's vireo)**: Although Least Bell's vireo would not be using the site, significant regions of riparian habitat occur adjacent to the north. All construction activity will take place outside of Least Bell's vireo breeding season. ***Lepus californicus bennettii* (San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit)**: San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit is not thought to depend on the site to a significant degree. Earth movement will take place in the summer and fall seasons and should not impact rearing young, if present. Several occurrences of *Romney coulteri* (matilaja poppy; CNPS List 4) are present on the stream bank and underneath the eucalyptus trees that support the artificial levee. *Lepus californicus bennettii* (San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit; CSC) was observed on one occasion. Many eucalyptus trees will be removed from the site presenting a potential issue for raptors

MITIGATION MEASURE BIO-1

- ***Polioptila californica californica* (CA gnatcatcher):** In the region identified as disturbed Riversidian Alluvial sage scrub (DRAS), grading will be kept to the minimum extent feasible All earth movement and construction activity will take place outside of *Polioptila californica californica* (CA gnatcatcher) breeding season (February 15 through August 30).
- ***Romneya coulteri***: Several plants will be taken as a result of the stream channel restoration. To the extent possible, we will collect plant material and seed from this population prior to the stream channel restoration. Plants will be propagated in the District's nursery at Chino Hills State Park and will be transplanted as a component of the vegetation restoration in this area. Seeds will be included in re-vegetation as well.
- **Raptor trees**: Eucalyptus removal will occur in the summer and fall months and should not impact any potentially nesting raptors. Surveys will be conducted by a State Park Resource Ecologist to identify any nesting occurrences. If Raptors are nesting, those trees will be left in place until young have fledged. The area is closely associated with sycamore and cottonwood trees of the Santa Ana riparian, which provide alternate perching and nesting opportunities.

b) No sensitive plant communities are present on site. Riparian habitat occurs adjacent to the north but will not be negatively impacted during restoration. In order to effectively restore a more natural stream flow with appropriate alluvial dynamics, a small occurrence of disturbed Riversidian alluvial sage scrub (DRAS) adjacent to the west bank of the stream channel at the northern boundary of the site will necessarily be impacted. The stream channel of Coal Creek is so deeply cut by the constricted flows that the area does not support any significant amount of wetland habitat. Due of the disturbed nature of this site, and the restored product of the project the impact is considered less than significant.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIO-2

- **Disturbed Riversidian alluvial sage scrub:** In the region identified as disturbed Riversidian Alluvial sage scrub (DRAS), grading will be kept to the minimum extent feasible. Herbicide use will be kept to a minimum, involving localized and discrete

application if necessary. Exotic vegetation control efforts in DRAS will primarily consist of manual raking of eucalyptus debris and exotic thatch.
- **Stream Channel and Adjacent Riparian**: Herbicide use will be kept to a minimum, involving localized and discrete application of a wetland-safe variety (e.g. Rodeo).

c) Coal Canyon Creek supports ephemeral flows. Very limited regions of Coal Canyon Creek currently contain wetland habitat within the project site. This portion of the stream channel has been highly degraded from previous land use and unrestricted high velocity flows from SR 91 culvert system. It is a major goal of this project to restore a more dynamic stream channel system on this site, which will likely result in an increased amount of wetlands on site. In order to achieve this, the current stream channel will be filled with an energy dissipating structure (rip-rap/boulder step pools) at the region adjacent to the SR91 box culvert. It will also be filled throughout its length with bank widening and sediment deposition-promoting structures (brush boxes and tree limbs). The levees and eucalyptus trees constraining the flow will be removed. These activities are intended to promote channel widening and decreased water velocity in order to achieve a more dynamic stream channel and decreased levels of suspended sediment washing to that Santa Ana River. There will be short-term temporary disturbance but because this is an ecologically positive restoration, and in conjunction with mitigation measures, this activity is considered to be a less than significant impact.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIO-3

- Landform work associated with the stream channel will not take place during the rainy season or when any of the creek channel is wet or damp.
- All Structure placed in the stream channel will be designed to withstand high velocities.
- Materials placed in the stream channel for velocity reduction will not contain petroleum products or other toxic chemicals that may harm aquatic life or reduce water quality.

d) Although Coal Canyon is connected to the Santa Ana River, it sustains flow through the project site for very limited durations. It is dry all summer, when restoration will take place. Proposed project activities would not interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish. Currently, the box culvert of SR 91 is known to be used as a wildlife corridor by mountain lions and various other vertebrates. Restoration activities may temporarily impede the movement of these species, however, restoration activities will occur during the day, while animal movements primarily occur at night . The restoration of a viable wildlife corridor is a primary goal of this project. Less than significant impact.

e) The proposed project will not conflict with any local policies, plans, or ordinances protecting biological resources. No impact.

f) The proposed project does not conflict with any HCP, NCCP, or any other local, regional, or state habitat conservation Plan. No impact.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

The proposed project is not anticipated to have any impact upon archaeological resources. A records search conducted January 14, 2004 at the South Central Coastal Information Center identified seven previous studies of the general project area; none identified any cultural resources within the area of potential effect for the present project. Similarly, the Associate State Archaeologist has examined the proposed restoration area and did not identify any resources. Due to the disturbance of the area by previous development, as well as its location within the floodplains of Coal Creek and the Santa Ana River, discoveries of cultural resources are not anticipated.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

WILL THE PROJECT:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
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.)	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will become unstable, as a result of the project and potentially result in on- or off-site 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 (1997), creating substantial risks to life or properties?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste disposal systems, where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☒	☐

DISCUSSION

A As noted in the Environmental Setting in Section 3.1, the project locations lie within a seismically active region subject to the effects of moderate to large earthquake events along major faults, as defined by the State of California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (formerly known as the Division of Mines and Geology). However the proposed project does not increase the potential exposure of people or structures to adverse effects. No impact.

b) Potential exists for loss of soil during the planned grading and/or excavation. However, any grading that will take place would be minimal because the sites are mostly level. Grading will not take place during the rainy season. The following mitigation measures, combined with **AIR**-1, will reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

MITIGATION MEASURE GEO-1 EROSION
• Best Management Practices will be used in all areas to control soil and surface water runoff, such as re-contouring, placement of geotextiles or biodegradable reinforcement, and drainage and slope erosion control methods, as appropriate. Soil disturbance will be minimized during the rainy season, and temporary BMPs will e employed, including such things as covering of any stockpiled soils, silt fences, straw bales, straw or rice wattles, and sediment detention basins to prevent soil loss and siltation into streams.

c) The site is flat and lies on granitic alluvium. The site is generally considered to be stable and there are no areas immediately adjacent to the project with the potential for lateral spreading, subsidence, or collapse. The level of liquefaction hazards at the proposed facility locations would be low to moderate. Impacts will be less than significant.

d) The soils are not considered to be expansive in the vicinity of the project as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1997). No impact.

e) No impact.

f) There are no known unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic features within the proposed project areas.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials, substances, or waste into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites, compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5, and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Be 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? If so, will the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Be located in the vicinity of a private airstrip? If so, will the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death from wildland fires, including areas where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐

DISCUSSION

a) Project activities will require the use of certain potentially hazardous materials, such as fuels, oils, and solvents. These materials are generally used for excavation equipment, generators, and other motorized equipment and will be contained within vessels engineered for safe storage. Large quantities of these materials will not be stored at the restoration site. Spills, leaks, or other restoration-related accidents could result in a release of fuel or other hazardous substances into the environment. Also, debris and rubbish was left on-site by the previous landowner. Some of this material may be hazardous. Testing and removal of this debris is part of the project. The following

mitigation measures will reduce the potential for adverse impacts from these incidents to a less than significant level.

MITIGATION MEASURE HAZMAT-1 SPILLS

- All construction equipment will be inspected for leaks immediately prior to the start of construction, and regularly inspected thereafter until equipment is removed from park premises.
- The contractor(s) will prepare an emergency spill response plan prior to the start of restoration and maintain a spill kit on site throughout the life of the project. This plan will include a map that delineates restoration staging areas, where refueling, lubrication, and maintenance of equipment may occur. In the event of any spill or release of any chemical during restoration, in any physical form on or immediately adjacent to park property, the contractor will immediately notify the appropriate DPR staff (e.g., project manager or supervisor). Emergency containment procedures will be immediately initiated to prevent contamination of the area.
- Equipment will be cleaned and repaired (other than emergency repairs) outside the park boundaries. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be disposed of outside park boundaries, at a lawfully permitted or authorized location.
- All on-site debris will be tested for contaminants. If hazardous materials are found, they will be disposed of according to approved hazardous material disposal methods.
- A safety plan will be developed and reviewed by all project staff prior to the start of any work. Job site characteristics to reduce the potential for fire will be included.
- Spark arrestors or turbo-charging (which eliminates sparks in exhaust) and fire extinguishers will be required for all heavy equipment.
- Restoration crews will be required to park vehicles away from flammable material, such as dry grass and brush. At the end of each workday, heavy equipment will be parked over mineral soil, asphalt, or concrete to reduce the chance of fire.

b) See the VII (a) discussion above. Mitigation Measure **HAZMAT-1** will reduce the potential for adverse impacts to a less than significant level.

c) There are no schools or proposed schools within one-quarter mile of the project site. Therefore, this section does not apply to this project. No impact.

d) The Chino Hills SP is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5. Therefore, no impact will occur with project development. However, the contamination hazards addressed above are addressed here:

e,f) CHSP is not located within a private airport land-use plan, or within two miles of a public airport or public-use airport. Therefore, no impact will occur as a result of this project.

g) All restoration activities associated with the project will occur within the boundaries of CHSP and work will not restrict access to or block any public road. Therefore, the impact of this project on an emergency response or evacuation plan will be less than significant.

h) The project will not add any new uses that could create additional long-term or permanent increased fire risks. The vegetation in the surrounding area consists of Riversidean sage scrub and non-native grasslands. Grasslands can become highly flammable during the dry season (June-October). Heavy equipment can get very hot during the warmer part of the work season; this equipment will not be in close proximity to this vegetation. No impact.

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge, such that there will 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 will drop to a level that will not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which will result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which will result in on- or off-site flooding?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Create or contribute runoff water which will exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Place structures that will impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death from flooding, including flooding resulting from the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) The CHSP is within the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control District (SARWQCD). The project will be in compliance with all applicable water quality standards and waste discharge requirements. (See Mitigation Measure HAZMAT 1 regarding potential impacts from accidents, spills, or upset.) Project-related grading will not create changes that would significantly alter existing drainage patterns. Grading will be conducted in such a way as to maintain or improve drainage and will not increase flow or

result in increased sedimentation in existing drainages. Ground disturbance will be minimal, further lessening the chance of any impact to surface water quality. The project scope does not include waste discharge work of any kind and will not increase or alter existing conditions. Project location, design, in combination with the mitigation measures indicated above for accidental hazardous material exposure and use of BMPs, will control soil erosion and surface water runoff and insure no water quality standards are violated. Also see discussion and mitigation 'Biological Resources part C' above. This will result in a less than significant impact to water quality and waste discharge.

b) There will be no impact to water supplies.

c) See 'Biological Resources (C)' discussion above. This project will significantly alter Coal Canyon Creek in a manner that will positive ecological and environmental benefits to the drainage patterns in the area. The project is small with minimal grading. Grading will be designed to complement the natural drainage patterns in the area and reduce erosion from stormwater. Less than significant impact.

d) See 'Biological Resources (C)' discussion above. This project will significantly alter Coal Canyon Creek in a manner that will positive ecological and environmental benefits to the drainage patterns in the area. Less than significant impact

e) See VIII (c) discussion above. This project will not exceed the capacity of the existing drainage system and will not introduce polluted runoff into the existing system. Less than significant impact.

f) The project will result in improved water quality. Less than significant impact.

g) No housing included in this project. No impact.

h) Structures will be placed in the creek channel that will counter-act the negative effect of the SR 91 box culvert system. They will result in positive ecological and environmental effects. Less than significant impact.

i) No impact.

j) The project is located far from the coast and would not likely be affected by seiche or tsunamis. The project will not change the likelihood of either of these events. No impact.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with the applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of any agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) The project will not divide an established community because there are none existing within the boundaries of CHSP. No impact.

b) This project is consistent with all applicable state and local land use plans, policies, and regulations. With certification of this Mitigated Negative Declaration, the project will be in compliance with CEQA. No impact.

c) The project is not in conflict with any habitat or community conservation plans.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that is or will be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) No easily retrieved mineral resources of local or regional importance have been identified within project boundaries by the Mineral Land Classification Program (administered by the California Department of Mines and Geology). (Refer to Section 3.1.10). Therefore, no loss of mineral resources will occur as a result of the proposed project. No impact.

b) The project site has not been classified or nominated as a locally important mineral resource recovery site. No impact.

XI. NOISE.

WILL THE PROJECT:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
a) Generate or expose people to noise levels in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Generate or expose people to excessive groundborne vibrations or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project (above levels without the project)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project, in excess of noise levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Be 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? If so, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Be in the vicinity of a private airstrip? If so, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a) The project is directly adjacent to SR 91 and just across the Santa Ana River from the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Rail Line, two sources of excessive noise. Project noise levels at and near the project area will fluctuate, depending on the type and number of construction vehicles operating at any given time. There are no noise-sensitive land uses located in the vicinity of the project site that will be substantially affected by the proposed restoration-related activities. However, short-term increases in ambient noise levels could result in a potential increase in annoyance to passers by and those who may be recreating in the general vicinity of the project. As a result, construction-generated noise will be considered to have a potentially significant short-term impact to nearby noise-sensitive receptors (e.g., passers by). Implementation of the following mitigation measures will reduce those potential impacts to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure Noise 1
• Restoration activities will be limited to daylight hours; alterations in this schedule will be made to address overriding project considerations or worker safety. No work will take place on weekends or holidays. • Internal combustion engines used for any purpose at the job site will be equipped with a muffler of a type recommended by the manufacturer. Equipment and trucks used for restoration will utilize the best available noise control techniques (e.g., engine enclosures, acoustically-attenuating shields or shrouds, intake silencers, ducts, etc.) whenever feasible and necessary.

- Stationary noise sources and staging areas will be located as far from sensitive receptors as possible. If they must be located near sensitive receptors, stationary noise sources will be muffled to the extent feasible and/or, where practicable, enclosed within temporary sheds.

b) Restoration activity will not involve the use of explosives, pile driving, or other intensive construction techniques that could generate significant ground vibration or noise. Minor vibration immediately adjacent to grading equipment will only be generated on a short-term basis. Therefore, ground borne vibration or noise generated by the project will have a less tha n significant impact.

c) Once the proposed project is completed, all related construction noise will disappear. Nothing within the scope of the proposed project will result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels.

d) See XI (a) discussion above. Mitigated to a less than significant impact.

e,f) The project area is not located within an private airport land-use plan, or within two miles of a public airport or public-use airport. Therefore, no impact will occur as a result of this project.

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

WILL THE PROJECT:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
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)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) Work proposed by this project is designed primarily to meet the needs of State Park employees to provide public services. The project will not have a housing component and all work will take place within the confines of the park boundaries, with no additions or changes to the existing local infrastructure. Therefore, it will have no impact on population growth in the area.

b) As noted in the XII (a) discussion above, the project will have no housing component and will neither modify nor displace any existing housing. No impact.

c) As noted in the XII (a) discussion above, the project will have no housing component and will displace no one, either temporarily or permanently. No impact.

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Result in significant environmental impacts from construction associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	☐	☐	☐	☒
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) There will be no need to create or alter any government facilities with implementation of this project. Alterations to the area as a result of the proposed project will be designed to provide an improved environment and habitat. Any impact on services will be temporary and nothing in the project scope will contribute to the need for an increase in the level of public services.

XIV. RECREATION

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

DISCUSSION

a) No project component will substantially increase visitation or demands to this or any other park or recreational facility in the area. No impact.

b) The primitive roads will be open to the public for non-vehicular use. It is anticipated that recreationists from the Santa Ana River trail will use these roads for a variety of purposes including experiencing the restoration project and accessing the Santa Ana River. Less than significant.

XV. TRANSPORATION/TRAFFIC

WILL THE PROJECT:	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
a) Cause a substantial increase in traffic, in relation to existing traffic and the capacity of the street system (i.e., a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Exceed, individually or cumulatively, the level of service standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Cause a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Contain a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or a dangerous intersection) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment) that will substantially increase hazards?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) A significant increase in visitation to the area of CHSP is not anticipated as a result of the proposed project. All restoration activities associated with the project will occur within the boundaries of the park and work will not restrict access to or block any public road. The addition of several vehicles entering and leaving during daylight hours will not constitute a substantial increase in traffic volume or result in congestion at the park entrances, or restrict the public's access to adjacent areas. Additionally, most heavy equipment will be stored on park property for the duration of the project, further reducing the traffic impacts. Therefore, the project will result in a less than significant impact.

b) Per the XV (a) discussion above, the impact on congestion resulting from the additional construction vehicles to normal traffic, which is typically light, will be minimal and have no impact on the acceptable Level Of Service for this area.

c) The CHSP is not located within a private airport land-use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public-use airport. Nothing in the proposed project will in any way affect or change existing air traffic patterns in the area. Therefore, no impact will occur as a result of this project.

d) As noted in the XV (a) discussion above, all construction activities associated with the project will occur within the boundaries of the CHSP, and work will not restrict access to or

block any public road. There are no incompatible uses related to this proposed project. No impact.

e) All restoration activities associated with the project will occur within the boundaries of the CHSP and work will not restrict access to or block any public road. No Impact.

f) Project restoration will generate a temporary demand for construction worker vehicle parking. This parking demand will not be substantial and will likely be accommodated in the restoration staging areas. No impact.

g) There are no policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation that apply to the project or project area. The project will have no impact.

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment restrictions or standards of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Will the construction of these facilities cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Will the construction of these facilities cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in a determination, by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project, that it has adequate capacity to service the project's anticipated demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations as they relate to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) The project is within the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control District. The project will be in compliance with all applicable water quality standards and waste discharge requirements. No wastewater or wastewater facilities are involved in this project. (See Mitigation Measure **HAZMAT**-1 regarding potential impacts from accidents, spills, or upset.) No impact.

b) No restrooms or wastewater facilities are included in this project. It contains no elements that will have an impact on public water or wastewater treatment facilities. No impact.

c) Project grading is designed to maintain or enhance existing natural drainage patterns to avoid stormwater erosion. And alteration to overall drainage patterns will be minimal. The flow energy dissipating structure will be designed in such a way that it does not negatively effect the drainage performance of the SR 91 box culverts. Therefore, the proposed

project will have less than significant impact on existing stormwater drainage facilities and not require the construction of new facilities.

d) The project will not increase consumption of water. Rain fall or water trucks will provide any water needs for dust suppression and plant establishment. No impact.

e) No impact.

f) The proposed work will not increase the Park's solid waste disposal needs over current park uses and will be in compliance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, therefore, this project will have no impact.

g) This project will comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations as they relate to solid waste. All debris and materials removed from the site will be disposed of according to state, federal, and local waste disposal standards. This debris will be disposed of in an appropriate landfill. No impact would result from this project.

CHAPTER 4
MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
WILL THE PROJECT:				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Have the potential to eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probably future projects?)	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on humans, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒

DISCUSSION

a) The proposed project was evaluated for potential significant adverse impacts to the natural environment. Because the project area currently has a high degree of disturbance of the natural environment, the restoration will improve the quality of environment and habitat.

b) The proposed project will not eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory by disturbing potential archaeological features and resources. No archeological sites were found in the vicinity of the proposed project. The site has been completely disturbed from previous development. There are also no historic resources in the project area.

c) DPR often has other smaller maintenance programs and rehabilitation projects planned for a park unit. Because the mission of CHSP is to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the area, while making them available for public enjoyment, there may be numerous maintenance and restoration projects on-going at any time. Ongoing maintenance/rehabilitation activities are designed to protect and enhance areas of public use within Parks and typically do not have a negative effect on the environment, either individually or cumulatively. No other additional projects, other than routine maintenance, are planned for the proposed project area in the foreseeable future. Moreover, impacts from other environmental issues addressed in this evaluation do not overlap in such a way

as to result in cumulative impacts that are greater than the sum of the parts. Less than significant impact.

d) Most project-related environmental effects have been determined to pose a less than significant impact on humans. However, possible impacts from construction accidents (Hazards and Hazardous Waste), as well as noise, though temporary in nature, have the potential to result in significant adverse effects on humans. These potentially significant adverse impacts will be reduced to a less than significant level when all mitigation measures incorporated into this project are fully implemented.

CHAPTER 5
PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The following alternatives were considered for this project:

Proposed Project

This project proposes to restore native vegetation, landforms, and alluvial processes on newly acquired 31acre parcel adjacent to Freeway 91 at Coal Canyon, in CHSP. This Project will: improve the function of a major regional habitat linkage between CHSP and the Santa Ana Mountains, increase rare plant and animal habitat, and provide recreational trails and interpretative displays.

Alternative 1

An alternative to the proposed project involved restoration of the SR 91 underpass in addition to the roughly 31 acres north of SR 91. Scoping meetings with CALTRANS revealed that it was not desired by CALTRANS to have CA State Parks restore the underpass.

Alternative 2 (No project)

This would not improve the environment or habitat for that area.

CHAPTER 6
SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

The following mitigation measures will be implemented by DPR as part of the CHSP Coal Canyon Wildlife Corridor Restoration project.

AIR QUALITY

MITIGATION MEASURES AIR-1

- All active restoration areas will be watered at least twice daily during dry, dusty conditions. On windy days or when fugitive dust can be observed leaving the project site, additional applications of water will be applied to maintain a minimum 12 percent moisture content (as required by SCAQMD Rule 403).
- All trucks hauling soil, sand, or other loose materials on public roads will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard.
- Traffic speed on unpaved roads will be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).
- Intersections of public and private roads will be swept daily, with water sweepers, if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets.
- Exposed stockpiles (dirt, sand, etc.) subject to wind erosion will be enclosed, covered, watered twice daily, or stabilized with (non-toxic) soil binders.
- All equipment engines will be maintained in good condition, in proper tune (according to manufacturer's specifications), and in compliance with all state and federal requirements.
- Excavation and grading activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 25 mph, instantaneous gusts exceed 35 mph, or dust from restoration might obscure driver visibility on public roads.
- Soil stabilization and revegetation will be used in those areas where vegetation was damaged or destroyed during grading, immediately after completion of work. The project manager/contractor will consult with a DPR-qualified resource ecologist to determine the appropriate type and level of revegetation necessary for each area.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

MITIGATION MEASURES BIO-1

- ***Polioptila californica californica* (CA gnatcatcher):** In the region identified as disturbed Riversidian Alluvial sage scrub (DRAS), grading will be kept to the minimum extent feasible All earth movement and construction activity will take place outside of *Polioptila californica californica* (CA gnatcatcher) breeding season (February 15 through August 30).
- ***Romney coulteri***: Several plants will be taken as a result of the stream channel restoration. To the extent possible, we will collect plant material and seed from this population prior to the stream channel restoration. Plants will be propagated in the District's nursery at Chino Hills State Park and will be transplanted as a component of the vegetation restoration in this area. Seeds will be included in re-vegetation as well.

- **Raptor trees**: Eucalyptus removal will occur in the summer and fall months and should not impact any potentially nesting raptors. Surveys will be conducted by a State Park Resource Ecologist to identify any nesting occurrences. If Raptors are nesting, those trees will be left in place until young have fledged. The area is closely associated with sycamore and cottonwood trees of the Santa Ana riparian, which provide alternate perching and nesting opportunities.

MITIGATION MEASURES BIO-2

- **Disturbed Riversidian alluvial sage scrub:** In the region identified as disturbed Riversidian Alluvial sage scrub (DRAS), grading will be kept to the minimum extent feasible. Herbicide use will be kept to a minimum, involving localized and discrete application if necessary. Exotic vegetation control efforts in DRAS will primarily consist of manual raking of eucalyptus debris and exotic thatch.

- **Stream Channel and Adjacent Riparian**: Herbicide use will be kept to a minimum, involving localized and discrete application of a wetland-safe variety (e.g. Rodeo).

MITIGATION MEASURES BIO-3

- Landform work associated with the stream channel will not take place during the rainy season or when any of the creek channel is wet or damp.

- All Structure placed in the stream channel will be designed to withstand high velocities. Materials placed in the stream channel for velocity reduction will not contain petroleum products or other toxic chemicals that may harm aquatic life or reduce water quality.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

MITIGATION MEASURES CULT-1

Not applicable.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

MITIGATION MEASURES GEO-1

- Best Management Practices will be used in all areas to control soil and surface water runoff, such as re-contouring, placement of geotextiles or biodegradable reinforcement, and drainage and slope erosion control methods, as appropriate. Soil disturbance will be minimized during the rainy season, and temporary BMPs will e employed, including such things as covering of any stockpiled soils, silt fences, straw bales, straw or rice wattles, and sediment detention basins to prevent soil loss and siltation into streams.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

MITIGATION MEASURES HAZMAT-1

- All equipment will be inspected for leaks immediately prior to the start of restoration, and regularly inspected thereafter until equipment is removed from park premises.

- The contractor(s) will prepare an emergency spill response plan prior to the start of restoration and maintain a spill kit on site throughout the life of the project. This plan will include a map that delineates restoration staging areas, where refueling, lubrication, and maintenance of equipment may occur. In the event of any spill or release of any chemical during restoration, in any physical form on or immediately adjacent to park wetlands, or on park property, the contractor will immediately notify the appropriate DPR staff (e.g., project manager or supervisor). Emergency containment procedures will be immediately initiated to prevent contamination of wetlands.
- Equipment will be cleaned and repaired (other than emergency repairs) outside the park boundaries. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be disposed of outside park boundaries, at a lawfully permitted or authorized location.
- All on-site debris will be tested for contaminants. If hazardous materials are found, they will be disposed of according to approved hazardous material disposal methods.
- A safety plan will be developed and reviewed by all project staff prior to the start of any work. Job site characteristics to reduce the potential for fire will be included.
- Spark arrestors or turbo-charging (which eliminates sparks in exhaust) and fire extinguishers will be required for all heavy equipment.
- Restoration crews will be required to park vehicles away from flammable material, such as dry grass and brush. At the end of each workday, heavy equipment will be parked over mineral soil, asphalt, or concrete to reduce the chance of fire.

NOISE

MITIGATION MEASURES NOISE-1

- Restoration activities will be generally limited to daylight hours; alterations in this schedule will be made to address overriding restoration considerations or worker safety. No work will take place on weekends or holidays.
- Internal combustion engines used for any purpose at the job site will be equipped with a muffler of a type recommended by the manufacturer. Equipment and trucks used for restoration will utilize the best available noise control techniques (e.g., engine enclosures, acoustically-attenuating shields or shrouds, intake silencers, ducts, etc.) whenever feasible and necessary.
- Stationary noise sources and staging areas will be located as far from sensitive receptors as possible. If they must be located near sensitive receptors, stationary noise sources will be muffled to the extent feasible and/or, where practicable, enclosed within temporary sheds.

CHAPTER 7
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