

5.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. **Would the project:**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance criteria established by CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

5.2.1 Setting

The Proposed Project would be within the City and County of San Francisco, within city streets and partially in the San Francisco Bay. Maps from the California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (DOC, 2011), Williamson Act Program (DOC, 2010), and San Francisco General Plan (San Francisco Planning Department, 2012) provide evidence that there are no agricultural or forestry lands in the project area. Potential impacts on recreational and commercial fishing are addressed in Sections 5.4 (Biological Resources) and 5.15 (Recreation).

Regulatory Background

California Farmland Mapping Program. The California Department of Conservation (DOC) established the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) in 1982 to assess the location, quantity, and quality of agricultural lands and conversion of these lands to other uses. Every even-numbered year, FMMP issues a Farmland Conversion Report. FMMP data are used in elements of some county and city general plans, in regional studies on agricultural land conversion, and in environmental documents as a way of assessing project-specific impacts on Prime Farmland. The City and County of San Francisco does not participate in the farmland mapping program.

Williamson Act. The Williamson Act, or California Land Conservation Act (California Government Code Section 51200 et seq.), is designed to preserve agricultural and open space land. It allows private land-owners to enroll in contracts that voluntarily restrict land to agricultural and open space uses. In return, Williamson Act parcels receive a lower property tax rate consistent with agricultural and open space use instead of their market rate value. The County of San Francisco does not participate in the Williamson Act Program (California Department of Conservation, 2010).

San Francisco General Plan. The San Francisco General Plan does not have Agricultural or Forestry Elements because there are no agricultural or forest lands within the City. Although the City allows small-scale urban agriculture (Planning Code Amendment on Urban Agriculture, Ordinance 66-11), there are no local regulations pertaining to agricultural or forest resources that are applicable to the project.

Applicant Proposed Measures

There are no Applicant Proposed Measures for agriculture and forestry resources.

5.2.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a. *Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as Shown on the Maps Prepared Pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to Non-agricultural use?*

NO IMPACT. The California Department of Conservation's (DOC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) does not include any designated Farmland in the City and County of San Francisco. Therefore, there would be no impact.

b. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?*

NO IMPACT. The City and County of San Francisco does not participate in the Williamson Act. Although San Francisco allows small-scale urban farming, there is no designated zoning for agricultural use, and the San Francisco General Plan does not include an Agriculture Element. Therefore, there would be no impact.

c. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?*

NO IMPACT. There is no designated forest land or timberland in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. Therefore, there would be no impact.

d. *Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

NO IMPACT. Project would not result in any loss or conversion of forest land; therefore, there would be no impact.

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

NO IMPACT. There is no farmland or forest land in the vicinity of the project, so there would be no impact.