



Jennifer L. Kaminsky  
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August 16, 2018

Andrew Barnsdale  
Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Minor Project Refinement No. 2 for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project.**

Mr. Barnsdale:

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) is hereby requesting approval of Minor Project Refinement No. 2 (MPR-2) from the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project (SOCRE or Project). Approval of MPR-2 will authorize the use of a new temporary work area on Avenida de la Vista in the City of San Juan Capistrano (City) for the installation of a reclaimed water wharf (hydrant) to meet the Project's reclaimed water needs in compliance with Mitigation Measure PS-1 and the Project's Water Efficiency Plan. Please see below for additional details regarding MPR-2, as well as within the following attachments:

- Attachment A: SOCRE MPR-2 Form
- Attachment B: MPR-2 Figure 1
- Attachment C: MPR-2 Site Photographs
- Attachment D: Biological Review for MPR-2

**1.0 Description of MPR-2 Workspace Area and Activities**

Pursuant to the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), Mitigation Measure (MM) PS-1 and the CPUC approved Water Efficiency Plan, SDG&E is required to demonstrate responsible attempts to reduce overall water use, including the use of reclaimed water. As such, SDG&E (in coordination with the City) has identified a location for a new reclaimed water hydrant that when installed will alleviate the need to use an existing reclaimed hydrant that is located in a high traffic area and where ongoing use of the hydrant will impact public parking.

SDG&E is requesting approval of MPR-2 for a new temporary work area required for the installation of a reclaimed water hydrant that will be used continuously to provide reclaimed water during site development activities at the Capistrano Substation. The reclaimed water hydrant will be located at the end of the cul-de-sac on Avenida de la Vista, near the entrance to the Trabuco Creek Trail (refer to Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure 1 and Attachment C, MPR-

2 Site Photographs). The total work area is approximately 15,460-square feet (0.359 acre), with only approximately 16 square feet of ground disturbance associated with installation of the hydrant and trenching to the existing water pipeline. The majority of the work area will be located within the City of San Juan Capistrano public right-of-way and the hydrant will be located on City property (De la Vista Park).

Installation of the reclaimed water hydrant will require trenching within Avenida de la Vista to tap into the existing reclaimed water line. A lateral pipe will be installed within the trench and connected to a hydrant located on the west side of the road. A hi-line or firehose will be connected to the hydrant and extended to the area to the south (near the entrance onto the Trabuco Creek Trail) where water trucks will park while filling with reclaimed water. The installation of the reclaimed water hydrant will take approximately 5 to 7 days and will require the use of a single 580 back hoe and various hand-held tools to complete the work. Ground-disturbing activities will be limited to the area designated for trenching as shown on Figure 1. The area designated as MPR-2 Temporary Work Area (also shown on Figure 1) will only be used for construction access, parking and staging (requiring no ground disturbance). MPR-2 work activities will not require vegetation or tree removal and SDG&E does not anticipate that the work will require the complete closure of public roadways, trails or parks. However, SDG&E will comply with City permit requirements once issued. Upon completion of the reclaimed water hydrant, the trench will be backfilled and repaved to pre-Project conditions. The reclaimed water hydrant will be permanently left in place as an additional hydrant for the City.

All vehicles and equipment used during the installation of the reclaimed water hydrant, as well as water trucks utilizing the area near the hydrant to fill with reclaimed water, will adhere to FEIR Applicant Proposed Measures (APM) PS-1, PS-2, PS-3, TR-1 and TR-2 and other applicable FEIR MMs, APMs and City requirements. See Attachment A, MPR-2 Form, for additional details and for a complete listing of MMs and APMs that are applicable to MPR-2 work activities.

Although SDG&E has obtained City encroachment, traffic control and recycled water hauling permits for another reclaimed water location currently serving the Project, MPR-2 work activities will require additional site-specific encroachment and traffic control permits. No other permits are required for this work. Hauling of recycled water will be performed in compliance with state and local requirements as described in the Project's Water Efficiency Plan.

## **2.0 Request for Approval**

SDG&E respectfully requests authorization of MPR-2 to install and utilize the reclaimed water hydrant by August 31, 2018. Work within the temporary workspace area is scheduled to begin approximately two weeks after SDG&E secures the necessary permits from the City and use of the area will continue intermittently through the end of construction. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (858) 503-5028 or by email at [jkaminsky@semprautilities.com](mailto:jkaminsky@semprautilities.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.L.K.", with a stylized, cursive script.

Jennifer L. Kaminsky  
SOCRE Environmental Project Manager

cc: Joe Donaldson, Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
Kelly Stallings, SDG&E  
Mary Turley, SDG&E  
Tanzania Ware, SDG&E  
Kenda Pollio, KP Environmental

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**SOCRE MPR-2 Form**



## South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project CPUC Minor Project Refinement Form

**Minor project refinements** are strictly limited to changes that will not trigger an additional permit requirement, do not substantially increase the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on criteria used in the FEIR, create a new significant impact, are located within the geographic boundary of the study area of the FEIR, and that don't conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy.

**Date Requested:** August 16, 2018

**Report No.:** 2

**Date Approved:** TBD

**Approval Agency:** California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and City of San Juan Capistrano (City).

**Property Owner(s):** The new temporary work area is located on City of San Juan Capistrano property and the public right-of-way (Avenida de la Vista).

**Location/Milepost:** The Minor Project Refinement No. 2 (MPR-2) temporary work area is located at the end of the cul-de-sac on Avenida de la Vista, in the City of San Juan Capistrano.

**Land Use/Vegetative Cover:** The MPR-2 work area is located on Avenida de la Vista right-of-way and on the adjacent City property and is near a recreational and residential area. The approximately 15,460-square foot area (0.359-acre) consists of a mixture of developed (10,600 square feet) and landscape/ornamental (4,860 square feet) habitat. No vegetation will be removed as part of MPR-2 activities.

**Sensitive Resources:** There are no sensitive resources located within the MPR-2 temporary work area. See resource discussions below.

**Modification From:**  Permit  Plan/Procedure  Specification  Drawing  
 Mitigation Measure  Other:

## **MPR-2 Work Description:**

Pursuant to the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), Mitigation Measure (MM) PS-1 and the CPUC approved Water Efficiency Plan, San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) is required to demonstrate responsible attempts to reduce overall water use, including the use of reclaimed water. As such, in coordination with the City of San Juan Capistrano (City), SDG&E has identified a location for a new reclaimed water hydrant that when installed will alleviate the need to use an existing reclaimed hydrant that is located in a high traffic area and where ongoing use of the hydrant will impact public parking.

SDG&E is requesting approval of MPR-2 for installation of a new reclaimed water wharf (hydrant) and the use of a new temporary work area required for the installation of the hydrant that will be used continuously to provide reclaimed water during site development activities at the Capistrano Substation. The reclaimed water hydrant will be located at the end of the cul-de-sac on Avenida de la Vista, near the entrance to the Trabuco Creek Trail (refer to Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure 1 and Attachment C, MPR-2 Site Photographs). The total work area is approximately 15,460 square feet (0.359 acre), with only approximately 16 square feet of ground disturbance associated with installation of the hydrant and trenching to the existing water pipeline. The work area will be located within the City's public right-of-way and on City property (De la Vista Park).

Installation of the reclaimed water hydrant will require trenching within Avenida de la Vista to tap into the existing reclaimed water line. A lateral pipe will be installed within the trench and connected to a hydrant located on the west side of the road. A hi-line or firehose will be connected to the hydrant and extended to the area to the south (near the entrance onto the Trabuco Creek Trail) where water trucks will park while filling with reclaimed water. The installation of the reclaimed water hydrant will take approximately 5 to 7 days and will require the use of a single 580 back hoe and various hand-held tools to complete the work. Ground-disturbing activities will be limited to the area designated for trenching as shown on Figure 1. The area designated as MPR-2 Temporary Work Area (also shown on Figure 1) will only be used for construction access, parking and staging (requiring no ground disturbance). MPR-2 work activities will not require vegetation or tree removal and SDG&E does not anticipate that the work will require the complete closure of public roadways, trails or parks. However, SDG&E will comply with City permit requirements once issued. Upon completion of the reclaimed water hydrant, the trench will be backfilled and repaved to pre-Project conditions. The reclaimed water hydrant will be permanently left in place as an additional hydrant for the City.

All vehicles and equipment used during the installation of the reclaimed water hydrant, as well as water trucks utilizing the area near the hydrant to fill with reclaimed water hydrant, will adhere to FEIR Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) PS-1, PS-2, PS-3, TR-1 and TR-2 and other applicable FEIR MMs, APMs and City requirements. See the resource area discussions below for additional details and for a complete listing of MMs and APMs that are applicable to MPR-2 work activities.

Although SDG&E has obtained City encroachment, traffic control and recycled water hauling permits for another reclaimed water location currently serving the Project, MPR-2 work activities will require additional site-specific encroachment and traffic control permits. No other permits are required for this work. Hauling of recycled water will be performed in compliance with state and local requirements as described in the Project's Water Efficiency Plan.

**Describe how project refinement deviates from current project. Include photos.**

- Original Condition: The Project's FEIR and CPUC approved Water Efficiency Plan did not identify the specific location of the Project's reclaimed water source. Therefore, the original condition of the MPR-2 area was not evaluated in any previous document or report.
- Justification for Change: Pursuant to the Project's FEIR, MM PS-1 and the CPUC approved Water Efficiency Plan, SDG&E is required to demonstrate responsible attempts to reduce overall water use, including the use of reclaimed water. Through SDG&E's coordination with the City, it was agreed that installation of a new hydrant at this location would best allow the Project to meet its reclaimed water requirements.
- Maps & Figures: Refer to **Attachment B, Figure 1**, for a map of the MPR-2 proposed work area. Refer to **Attachment C, MPR-2 Site Photographs**, for pictures of the current conditions within the MPR-2 temporary work area.
- Environmental Impact: Utilization of the additional work area for installation of the reclaimed water hydrant would not change the nature or increase the severity of any impacts disclosed within the FEIR; would not result in alteration to APMs or existing mitigation measures and would not require new mitigation measures. Utilization of the MPR-2 work area on Avenida de la Vista is anticipated to incrementally increase the total temporary impact area for the Project by approximately 0.359 acre of developed and landscaped/ornamental habitat that contains no sensitive resources. The work area would be restored to pre-Project conditions upon installation of the reclaimed water hydrant. Specific discussions for each resource area are provided below.
- Concurrence (if appropriate): Concurrence is not required with any other agency, utility or municipality as the new proposed temporary work area is located within the geographic study area analyzed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process. SDG&E will coordinate directly with the City of San Juan Capistrano with regards to traffic control plans and applicable encroachment and hauling permits.

<b>Resources:</b>		
<b>Biological</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> N/A, Change would not affect resources
<b>Previous Biological Survey Report Reference:</b> The MPR-2 work area was not included as part of any previous Project related biological survey report. Please refer to the Biological Review for MPR-2 that is included as <b>Attachment D</b> for details regarding the MPR-2 work area.		
<b>Cultural</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> N/A, changes would not affect resources
<b>Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference:</b> Cultural and paleontological resources within the project's study area (including the MPR-2 work area) were studied, reviewed, and documented as part of SDG&E's application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Project and Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). Previous studies prepared for the Project include the records search data from the South Coastal Information Center, Cultural Resources Assessment Report, Historic Property Evaluation and Paleontological Resources Record Search. These resources were also discussed within the CPUC-conducted CEQA review process (see the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5).		
<b>Disturbance Acreage Changes:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Original disturbance acreage: None (MPR-2 temporary work area was not included in the Project's FEIR).		
New disturbance acreage: 0.359 acre of temporary impact area		

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Utilization of the new temporary work area for installation of the reclaimed water hydrant would not increase the severity of any previously identified impacts to geology, soils, and seismicity, and would not create any new geological related hazard not previously disclosed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.6.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The proposed temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to geology, soils, or seismicity.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Utilization of the new temporary work area for installation of the reclaimed water hydrant would not require any new potentially hazardous materials to be used, would not create any new hazardous waste, would not expose any sensitive receptors not previously identified, and would not create any new hazard not previously disclosed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.8.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The proposed temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to hazards or hazardous materials.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Hydrology	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Utilization of the new temporary work area for installation of a reclaimed water hydrant would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to hydrology and water quality that would be different from the impacts assessed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.9. Applicable APMs and MMs relating to hydrology and water quality that would apply to the Project would also apply to the MPR-2 work area and would mitigate for impacts related to hydrology and water quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	



CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to hydrology or water quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>No new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed new temporary work area. Review of the Project's previous cultural resources survey reports (prepared for the PEA) confirmed the lack of previously recorded cultural resources in the MPR-2 work area. Cultural resources and Native American monitors will be onsite for all ground-disturbing activities (e.g., trenching) in compliance with Project requirements. Impacts would be similar to those disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5. The following applicable APMs and MMs relating to cultural resources that would apply to the Project would also apply MPR-2 work area and would be implemented to mitigate for impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM CUL-1: Worker Training for Cultural Resources</li> <li>• APM CUL-2: Cultural Resource Monitoring</li> <li>• APM CUL-3: Avoid Known Cultural Resources</li> <li>• APM CUL-4: Unanticipated Cultural Finds</li> <li>• APM CUL-5: Curate Cultural Discoveries</li> <li>• APM CUL-6: Archeological Monitoring Results Report</li> <li>• APM CUL-7: Monitoring by Native Americans</li> <li>• MM CUL-1: Supplemental Worker Training for Cultural Resources</li> <li>• MM CUL-2: Construction Monitoring Plan</li> <li>• MM CUL-3: Qualified Cultural Resources Consultants</li> <li>• MM CUL-4: Native American Consultation and Participation Planning</li> </ul> <p>No new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified significant impacts to paleontological resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed new temporary work area. No impacts (or potential for impacts) to paleontological resources are anticipated beyond what was disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5 and a paleontological monitor will be onsite for all ground disturbing activities (e.g., trenching) in compliance with Project requirements. The following applicable APMs and MMs relating to paleontological resources that would apply to the Project would also apply MPR-2 work area and would be implemented to mitigate for impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM CUL-8: Paleontological Monitoring</li> <li>• APM CUL-9: Paleontological Monitoring</li> <li>• MM CUL-6: Qualified Paleontological Consultants</li> <li>• MM CUL-7: Paleontological Monitoring and Treatment Plan</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The area was previously surveyed for potential cultural and paleontological resources and existing APMs and MMs will adequately reduce the potential for impacts to cultural and paleontological resources consistent with the impacts disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5. Therefore, no new agency or tribal consultation would be required.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Public Services and Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>Construction within the new temporary work area would not impact public services and utilities in a manner different from the impacts assessed as part of the Project's FEIR, Section 4.13 and would meet the intent of FEIR MM PS-1. No new or significant increase to previously identified significant impacts would occur as a result of the MPR-2 work activities. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, the following APMs would be implemented for MPR-2 work activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM PS-1: Recreational Facility Access</li> <li>• APM PS-2: Repair Damage to Public Facilities</li> <li>• APM PS-3: Roadway Repair</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to public services and utilities.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>Construction within the new temporary work area is not anticipated to impact recreational facilities in a manner different from the impacts assessed as part of the Project's FEIR, Section 4.14. Impacts to the public trail and park would be temporary (5 to 7 days) and is not anticipated to require the full closure of either recreational facility. However, SDG&amp;E would adhere to any permit requirements imposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano regarding closure or detours of recreational trails in the area during construction of the hydrant. No new or significant increase to previously identified significant impacts would occur as a result of the MPR-2 work activities. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, SDG&amp;E will implement applicable public services and utilities and transportation and traffic APMs and MMs as required by the Project.</p>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	SDG&E will coordinate directly with the City with regards to traffic control plans and applicable encroachment and hauling permits.
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Traffic and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>Construction within the new temporary work area would not affect traffic and circulation in a manner different from the impacts assessed as part of the Project's FEIR, Section 4.15. The new MPR-2 temporary work area would be constructed utilizing construction crews and equipment that are already present in the Project area (at the Capistrano Substation). Furthermore, installation of the hydrant would not require the closure of the roadway or public trail and would only require the use of a single back hoe and a few worker vehicles. Therefore, no new or significant increase to previously identified significant impacts would occur as a result of the MPR-2 activities. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, the following APMs and MMs would be implemented for MPR-2 work activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM TR-1: Avoid Traffic Near Schools</li> <li>• APM TR-4: Off Peak Deliveries</li> <li>• APM TR-5: Material Removal, City Streets</li> <li>• APM TR-6: Traffic Control Plans</li> <li>• MM TR-3: Emergency Access</li> <li>• MM TR-4: City of San Juan Capistrano Traffic Engineer and Parks and Recreation Review</li> <li>• MM TR-4: Content Requirements of the Traffic Control Plan</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	SDG&E will coordinate directly with the City with regards to traffic control plans and applicable encroachment and hauling permits.
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The use of the MPR-2 temporary work area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts as analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.3. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required for MPR-2 work activities.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to air quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Noise and Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Utilization of the new temporary work area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to noise and vibration that were already analyzed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.11. Construction related noise would be short-term (5-7 days) and the following applicable FEIR noise and vibration related APMs and MMs would be implemented to reduce potential impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM NV-1 (Nighttime and Weekend Activities)</li> <li>• MM NV-1 (Nighttime and Weekend Construction Controls)</li> <li>• MM NV-3 (Construction Vibration Control Measures)</li> <li>• MM NV-5 (Noise Control Plan)</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to noise and vibration.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Aesthetics/ Visual Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	No permanent change in impacts to aesthetics/visual resources would result from utilization of the new temporary work area. Installation of the reclaimed water hydrant would not result in a substantial increase in severity or a new significant impact from those analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.1. Temporary impacts associated with the MPR-2 work area would also not require new or altered APMs or MMs. SDG&E would implement APMs AES-1 (Clean Work Areas), AES-2 (Restoring Disturbed Areas), PS-2 (Repair Damage to Public Facilities), and other applicable FEIR measures which would ensure temporary impacts would be insignificant.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to visual resources.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Vegetation and Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The use of the new temporary work area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to biological resources. The proposed 0.359 square-foot impact area occurs within developed and landscape/ornamental habitat and does not include any sensitive biological resources or habitat as described in the Biological Review for MPR-2 (Attachment D). Arroyo Trabuco Creek is located within 200-feet of the MPR-2 work area, and the appropriate setback (50-feet) is provided per FEIR MM BR-1. No vegetation or trees would be removed as a result of the MPR-2 work activities. In coordination with the City, the trenching area would be returned to pre-construction conditions after the reclaimed water pipe is tapped and connected to the hydrant. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, the following APMs and MMs would be implemented for MPR-2 work activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM BR-1: Limit Construction to Designated Areas and Protect Riparian, Aquatic and Wetland Areas.</li> <li>• MM BR-2: Biological Monitoring.</li> <li>• MM BR-3: Preconstruction Surveys.</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MM BR-4: Limit Removal of Native Vegetation Communities and Trees.</li> <li>• MM BR-6: Migratory Birds and Raptors Impact Reduction Measures.</li> <li>• MM BR-8: Western Burrowing Owl Impacts Reduction Measures.</li> <li>• MM BR-9: Invasive Plant Control Measures.</li> </ul>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The new temporary work area would not require agency consultation relating to vegetation, wildlife, or other biological resources.

Approvals	Date	Name (print)	Signature	
San Diego Gas and Electric Project Manager		Mary Turley		<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
San Diego Gas and Electric Environmental Project Manager		Jennifer Kaminsky		<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
CPUC Project Manager		Andrew Barnsdale		<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved with conditions (see below) <input type="checkbox"/> Denied

For CPUC Compliance Manager Use Only		
<input type="checkbox"/> Refinement Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Refinement Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Beyond Authority

<p><b>Conditions of Approval (COAs) or Reason for Denial:</b></p> <p>COA-1. The work area will be restored to pre-Project conditions upon completion of installation of the reclaimed water hydrant.</p> <p>COA-2: No vegetation or trees will be removed or damaged as a result of the MPR-2 work activities.</p> <p>COA-3. Construction work will occur only during daylight hours.</p> <p>COA-4. SDG&amp;E will adhere to any permit requirements imposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano regarding closure or detours of recreational trails in the area during construction of the hydrant.</p> <p>COA-5. SDG&amp;E will obtain a recycled water use permit and an encroachment permit from the City of San Juan Capistrano prior to hauling recycled water from the hydrant.</p> <p>COA-6. Access to the adjacent recreation trail will be maintained during construction.</p> <p>COA-7. All ground-disturbing activities will be limited to the area identified as Trenching Area on MPR-2, Figure 1.</p> <p><b>Prepared by:</b> Joe Donaldson, E&amp;E, CPUC Compliance Manager <span style="float: right;"><b>Date:</b> August 1, 2018</span></p>
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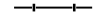


**Attachment B**  
**MPR-2 Figure 1**

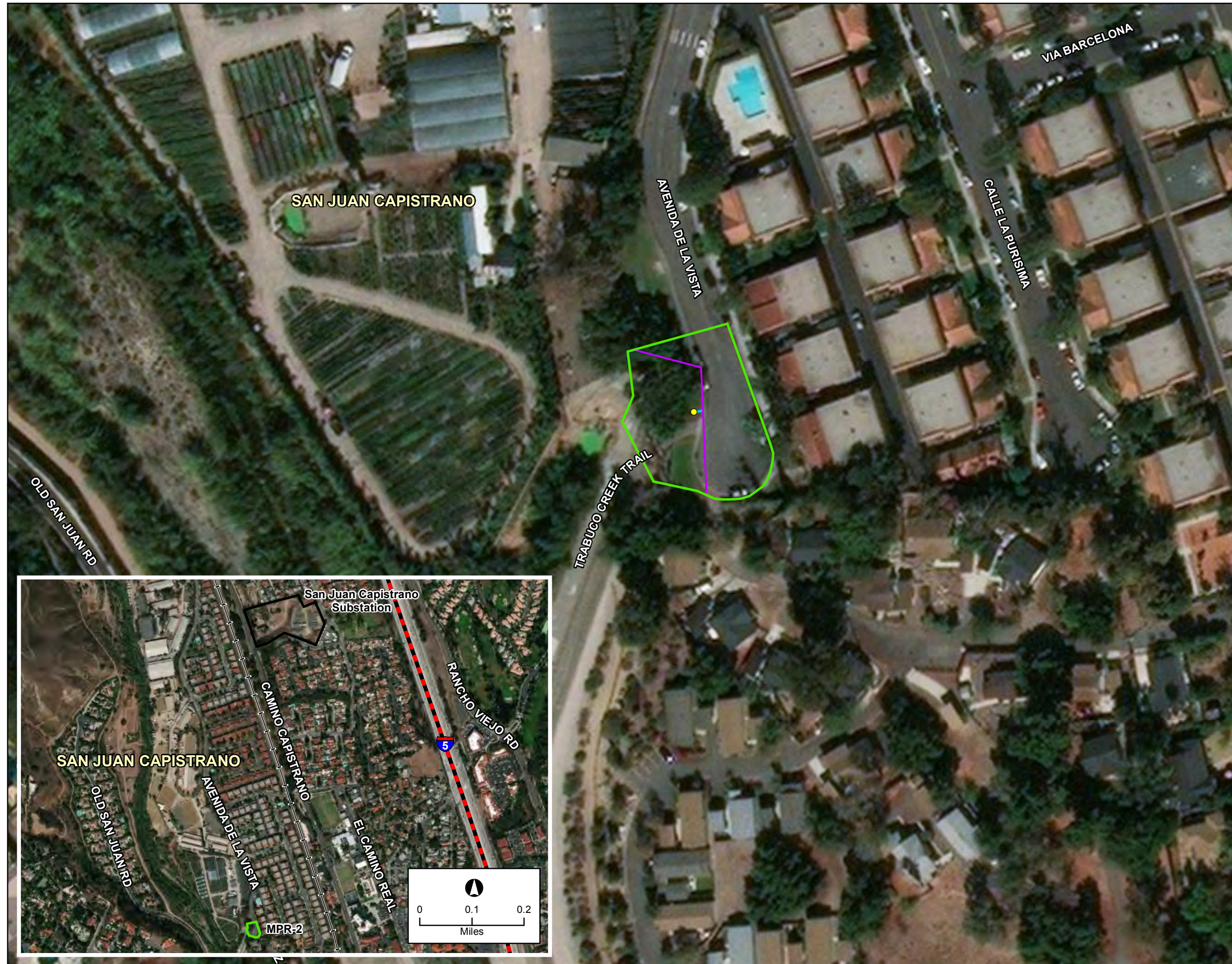
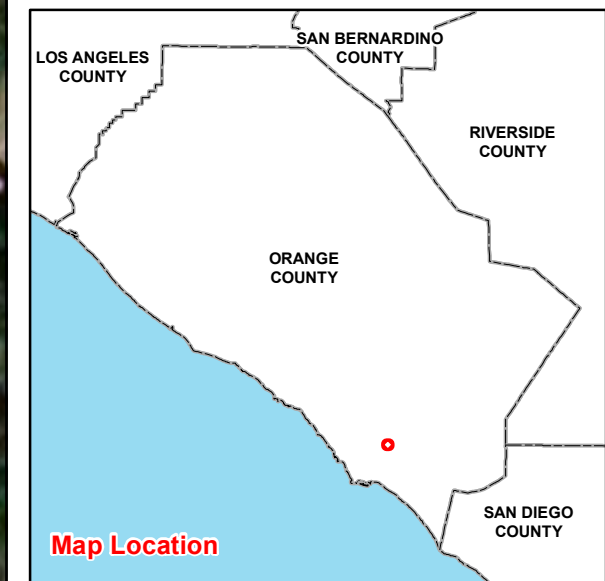
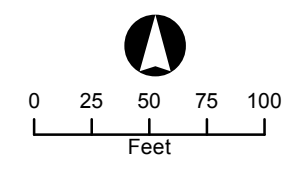
**SOCRE PROJECT**

**MPR-2 FIGURE 1  
RECLAIMED WATER WHARF  
WORK AREA**

**San Juan Capistrano  
Orange County, CA**

**LEGEND**

-  New Wharf Location
-  Trenching Area (Approximately 2 Feet Wide)
-  Existing Non-Potable Water Pipeline
-  Interstate
-  Railroad
-  MPR-2 Temporary Work Area (No ground disturbance or vegetation removal.)
-  San Juan Capistrano Substation Site



**Attachment C**  
**MPR-2 Site Photographs**

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**MPR-2 Site Photographs**



View along Avenida de la Vista looking south. The existing reclaimed water line within the street will be tapped for the project's reclaimed water use.



New Reclaimed Water Hydrant

View looking east along the Trabuco Creek Trail. See approximate location of the new reclaimed water hydrant.



**ATTACHMENT C**  
**MPR-2 Site Photographs**



View looking west at the Trabuco Creek Trail. Water trucks will utilize the driveway access to the trail while filling with reclaimed water. Trucks filling with water would not block access to the trail nor block permitted public parking.

**Attachment D**  
**Biological Review for MPR-2**

**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY**

**SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY RELIABILITY  
ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

**BIOLOGICAL REVIEW FOR  
MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT No. 2**



**PREPARED BY:**



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# Acronyms and Abbreviations

APM	Applicant Proposed Measure
BMP	Best Management Practices
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
FEIR	Final Environmental Impact Report
MPR	Minor Project Refinement
MM	Mitigation Measure
SDG&E	San Diego Gas & Electric Company
SOCRE	South Orange County Reliability Enhancement

# 1. Introduction

This biological review was prepared to document the biological conditions of the Minor Project Refinement No.2 (MPR-2) identified for the San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project (Project). The Project is located in southern Orange County and a portion of northern San Diego County, California.

SDG&E is requesting approval of MPR-2 for a new temporary workspace area required for the installation of a reclaimed water wharf and for continual use of the workspace to fill water trucks intermittently during construction of the Project. The reclaimed water wharf will be located at the end of the cul-de-sac on Avenida de la Vista, near the entrance to the Trabuco Creek Trail. The total area is approximately 15,460 square feet (0.359 acre) and would be located within the Avenida de la Vista (public right-of-way) and on City of San Juan Capistrano property (De la Vista Park).

The installation of the reclaimed water wharf will take approximately 5 to 7 days and will require trenching within Avenida de la Vista with the use of a single 580 back hoe and various hand-held tools to complete the work. Vegetation clearing within the MPR-2 area will be limited to minor impacts of landscaped lawn at the reclaimed water wharf location on the west side of the road. Upon completion of the reclaimed water wharf, the trench will be backfilled and repaved to pre-project conditions. Water trucks will park near the entrance onto the Trabuco Creek Trail while filling with reclaimed water. The reclaimed water wharf will be permanently left in place as an additional fire hydrant for the City.

A biological field survey was conducted on June 14, 2018 to determine if the area within 500 feet of the MPR-2 work area (survey area) provides habitat for special-status species. While onsite, the biologist conducted vegetation mapping and scanned for special-status species and nesting birds within the survey area. Binoculars were used to assess vegetation and habitat potential within restricted areas and privately-owned properties within the survey area. These results, along with aerial imagery and vegetation data were used to assess potential impacts from construction of the reclaimed water wharf associated with this MPR-2 request.

# 2. Results

Riparian vegetation is found outside of the MPR-2 area bordering the southwestern MPR-2 work boundaries along a small, urbanized tributary to Trabuco Creek. No direct impacts are expected on the riparian scrub in this area. Visual and auditory surveying was used to determine the absence of special-status Riparian species within the potential habitat, consistent with CNDDDB reportings. A CNDDDB query showed *Arizona elegans occidentalis*, *Phrynosoma blainvillii*, *Atriplex coulteri*, *Quercus dumosa* to be presumed extant, but the June 14 survey of the area was negative for these species within the MPR-2 work area. No native oak trees or special-status species were noted within the proposed work area.

## 2.1 Vegetation within MPR-2 Work Area

The following vegetation communities or land cover types were noted within the proposed MPR-2 work area during the biological review conducted on June 14, 2018 (Table 1).

**Table 1: Vegetation and Land Cover within the MPR-2 Area**

Vegetation/Land Cover	Total Area (acre)
Developed	0.243
Landscape/Ornamental	0.116
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.359</b>

### 2.1.1 Developed

Developed is a land cover type associated with human-constructed land cover types devoid of vegetation. Developed areas within and surrounding the MPR-2 area include residential development and paved local roads.

### 2.1.2 Landscape/Ornamental

Landscape/Ornamental is a type of land cover that includes turf grass and/or other plant species intentionally placed by humans or that have escaped from nearby ornamental seed sources. Within the broader Landscape/Ornamental land cover mapping in the 500-ft buffer, the dominant plant species include Peruvian pepper (*Shinus molle*), jacaranda (*Jacaranda* sp.), and sycamore (*Plantanus racemosa*) (Figure 1, Vegetation Communities). Landscape/Ornamental vegetation was noted within the MPR-2 area at its northern and southern portions of the western edge. On the northern edge of the MPR-2 work area, two jacaranda trees were noted (See **Appendix A**, Photo 1), and on the southern end of the MPR-2 work area, there is a patch of turf grass (See **Appendix A**, Photo 3). Removal of the trees in this area is not required to complete the MPR-2 work activities.



Figure 1. Vegetation Communities



## 2.2 Other Vegetation in Survey Area

### 2.2.1 Riparian Scrub

Riparian vegetation is found outside of the MPR-2 area bordering the southwestern MPR-2 work boundaries along a small, urbanized tributary to Trabuco Creek. This short tributary drains into the main stem of Trabuco Creek approximately 300 feet south of the MPR-2 work area. Vegetation within the riparian scrub stand includes arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia mexicana*) and giant reed (*Arundo donax*). The short tributary to Trabuco Creek directly adjacent to the MPR-2 work area has been channelized with concrete-lined banks, and originates in a large (approximately 17-ft wide) storm water outlet.

No direct impacts to the riparian scrub in this area will occur as a result of MPR-2 work activities. Construction will occur within 200 feet of this feature, and when this occurs, biological monitors will “establish and maintain a minimum exclusionary buffer of 50 feet from the delineated extent of all jurisdictional wetland features”, in accordance with MM BR-1. This feature would be considered jurisdictional and construction of the wharf would occur adjacent to this feature. The work area for MPR-2 remains outside the 50-foot exclusionary buffer required by MM BR-1.

### 2.2.2 Disturbed Wetland

Wetlands are defined as areas that are periodically or permanently inundated by surface or ground water and support vegetation adapted to saturated soils. A disturbed wetland feature was noted approximately 300 feet south of the MPR-2 work area. This disturbed wetland is located within the main channel of Trabuco Creek, which is also concrete-lined and channelized. Vegetation noted within this disturbed wetland stand includes poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). No direct impacts would occur to this feature. This feature is further than 200 feet from the proposed work area.

## 3. Applicable Applicant Proposed Measures (APM), Mitigation Measures (MM), or Best Management Practices (BMP)

The following represent all applicable APMs and MMs for the MPR-2 request.

**MM BR-1: Limit Construction to Designated Areas and Protect Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Areas.** In all project locations, vehicular traffic (including movement of all equipment) will be restricted to established construction areas indicated by flagging and signage. CPUC notification and approval will be required for any additional disturbance areas already identified and evaluated for the project pursuant to CEQA. As feasible, the applicant shall use disturbed or low habitat value areas before using undisturbed or higher quality habitat areas, as determined by a qualified biologist. Prior to ground disturbing activities, sensitive resources, such as waterbodies, oak trees, special status plant populations, and natural communities, will be clearly marked and avoided.

All aquatic features, including vegetated washes, creeks, drainages (ephemeral and perennial), and riparian areas, will be spanned by the 230-kV transmission and 12-kV distribution line where possible. If construction will occur within 200 feet of an aquatic feature, biological monitors will establish and maintain a minimum exclusionary buffer of 50 feet from the delineated extent of all jurisdictional wetland features. If the applicant cannot maintain the 50-foot exclusionary buffer, the applicant will submit best management practices (BMPs) to the CPUC for review and approval prior to construction. In addition, if the applicant is unable to maintain the 50-foot buffer, the applicant shall consult with USACE and CDFW regarding potential impacts to streams or wetlands.

**MM BR-2: Biological Monitoring.** CPUC-approved, qualified biological monitors will be present during construction and restoration activities in areas where sensitive resources identified by a CPUC-approved biologist may be impacted by construction of the project. Biological monitors will be assigned to the project in areas of sensitive biological resources. The monitors will be responsible for ensuring that impacts on special status species, native vegetation, wildlife habitat, or unique resources will be avoided to the fullest extent possible. Where appropriate, monitors will flag the boundaries of areas where activities will need to be restricted in order to protect native plants and wildlife or special status species. Those restricted areas will be monitored to ensure their protection during construction. The applicant shall submit the biological monitors' daily monitoring reports and monthly biological monitoring reports to the CPUC, CDFW and USFWS.

**MM BR-6: Migratory Birds and Raptors Impact Reduction Measures.** The applicant will develop a Nesting Bird Management Plan in consultation with the USFWS, CDFW, and CPUC that outlines protective measures and BMPs that will be employed to prevent disturbance to active nests of both special status and Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protected bird species with the potential to occur in the project area. The Nesting Bird Management Plan will include the following components:

- Appropriate survey timing, extents, and methods, including dates of local breeding season when surveys must take place; monitoring and reporting protocol; protocol for determining whether a nest is active; and protocol for documenting, reporting, and protecting active nests within construction and restoration areas will be included in the Nesting Bird Management Plan. If preconstruction survey protocols exist for a special status avian species with a potential to be impacted by the project, the plan will outline the implementation of these protocols. The survey area will include the construction area, plus an additional distance large enough to accommodate the protective buffer of MBTA-protected bird species likely to occur in proximity to the construction area. The plan will also specify approved nest deterrent methods, inactive nest management, and state that project-related nest failures will be reported to the USFWS and CDFW.
- Appropriate and effective buffer distances, including horizontal buffers from nests, horizontal buffers from territories, if appropriate, and vertical buffers for helicopters will be included. Buffers will not be based on generalized assumptions regarding all nesting birds, but will be specific to the site and species/guild and account for specific stage of nesting cycle and construction work type. During construction and restoration, a CPUC-approved avian biologist will implement the appropriate buffer distance in accordance with the plan, and a process for a reduction from the plan's nesting buffer distances will be specified. Buffer reductions for special status species and raptors shall be determined upon consultation with USFWS, CDFW, and the CPUC. Buffer reductions for common species must be approved by the CPUC-approved avian biologist and USFWS, CDFW, and CPUC will be notified.

- Vertical buffers would be based on anticipated effects of rotor wash and noise for each class of helicopter (i.e. Light Duty, Medium Duty, and Heavy Duty). Surveys and monitoring of the active buffer areas will be completed by a CPUC-approved biologist before, during, and after helicopter use in the vicinity of active buffers and reported to the CPUC.
- The Nesting Bird Management Plan will include the minimum requirements to become a CPUC-approved avian biologist and biological monitor for nesting birds, including education, experience in conducting biological surveys, and experience with specific birds in the project area.
- The CPUC-approved biological monitor will halt work if it is determined that active nesting will be disturbed by construction or restoration activities until further direction or approval to work is obtained from the CPUC and/or appropriate wildlife agencies.

The Nesting Bird Management Plan will be submitted to the USFWS, CDFW, and CPUC for review and comment no more than six months prior to the start of construction, with the intent that the plan will be finalized no more than two months prior to the start of construction. The final plan will be implemented during construction and restoration activities. A Nesting Tracker will be maintained and updated weekly during the nesting bird season, and will be submitted to USFWS, CDFW, and CPUC on a monthly basis. This Nesting Tracker will contain data such as species, location, buffer, monitor name, and status of the nest.

**MM BR-9: Invasive Plant Control Measures.** The applicant will use standard BMPs to avoid the introduction and spread of controllable invasive plant species such as tamarisk (*Tamarix* sp.) and giant reed (*Arundo donax*) during construction of the project. Proper handling during construction will include the following:

- All vehicles and equipment will be cleaned prior to arrival at the work site.
- Crews, with construction inspector oversight, will ensure that vehicles and equipment are free of soil and debris capable of transporting noxious weed seeds, roots, or rhizomes before the vehicles and equipment are allowed use of access roads.

**Best Management Practices.** The following best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented.

- Pursuant to the NCCP Operational Protocols, hydrologic impacts will be minimized through the use of state-of-the-art technical design and construction techniques to minimize ponding, and avoid erosion siltation into Trabuco Creek and its tributary directly west of the MPR-2 work area.
- No soil, brush, trash or other material will be allowed to enter into Trabuco Creek and its tributary. A perimeter sediment and runoff control BMP will be installed along the western MPR-2 work area bordering the riparian habitat to prevent runoff into the wash.
- During work activities, all trucks, tools, and equipment will be kept on existing access roads or cleared areas.
- Waste management and materials controls will be implemented, including covering and properly disposing of trash and using secondary containment for any staged equipment.

- Daily spot checks will be conducted by a biological monitor or the Lead Environmental Inspector to document compliance with these BMPs.

## 4. References

California Public Utilities Commission. 2016. *South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project Final Environmental Impact Report*. April

## Appendix A. Photo Log of Onsite Conditions



Photo 1: MPR-2 reclaimed water wharf location facing north



Photo 2: MPR-2 parking location facing southwest



Photo 3: MPR-2 parking location facing south



Photo 4: MPR-2 project area facing southeast



Photo 5: MPR-2 project area facing north