

## ***7.0 Take Authorization for Covered Activities and Term of Permit***

The proposed action is the issuance of a long-term (75-year) Permit for the Take of Covered Species to the Permittees. Covered Species include both listed and non-listed species that are adequately conserved by the Plan. The Permits provide for the Take of these species or loss of their habitat, so long as compliance with the Plan requirements is achieved. Although fully protected species are included in the list of Covered Species, Take of these species is not authorized in the NCCP Permit and is prohibited by the California Fish and Game Code. The following species in the MSHCP are fully protected under the California Fish and Game Code: 1) Peninsular bighorn sheep; 2) Yuma clapper rail and 3) California black rail. The CDFG acknowledges and agrees that if the measures set forth in the MSHCP are fully complied with, the Covered Activities are not likely to result in Take of these species except as provided for pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7.

Figure 7-1 depicts areas where Take Authorization is provided. Take authorized as part of the Plan applies only to non-federal lands.

### ***7.1 Covered Activities outside Conservation Areas***

The Permits will provide Take Authorization for the following types of Covered Activities outside Conservation Areas:

- ***Development permitted or approved by Local Permittees.*** This includes, but is not limited to, new projects approved pursuant to county and city general plans, including the circulation element of said general plans, transportation improvement plans for roads in addition to those addressed in Section 7.2, master drainage plans, capital improvement plans, water and waste management plans, the County's adopted Trails Master Plan, and other plans adopted by the Permittees. See Section 6.9 for information on the Section 7 consultation process for projects that have a federal nexus and require a Section 7 consultation. Covered Activities include Development on agricultural lands.
- ***Public facility construction, operations (not including groundwater withdrawal), and maintenance and safety activities by the Permittees for existing and future facilities, including both on and off site activities.*** Such facilities include, but are not limited to, publicly maintained roads and rights-of-way; materials pits; maintenance yards; flood control facilities; landfills, transfer stations, and other solid waste related facilities, including those for the processing of organic materials; public buildings; water development, production, storage, treatment, and transmission facilities; sewage treatment and transmission facilities; reclaimed water storage and transmission facilities; public

parks; substations and electric transmission facilities; and other public utility facilities providing services essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

- ***Emergency response activities by Permittees required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.*** Such emergency response activities by Permittees include emergency response to wildfire, flooding, earthquakes, and other emergency situations.

The Permits do not provide Take Authorization for agricultural operations.

The Take Authorization does not cover approved Development Projects with legal vested rights as of the date the Permits are issued. Development Projects with legal vested rights (as of the date of Permit issuance) could voluntarily obtain take coverage, provided the applicable Permittee requires the execution of a Certificate of Inclusion by the Project Applicant that requires compliance with all applicable Plan requirements. Alternatively, a Project Applicant with legal vested rights (at the time of Permit issuance) could seek Take Authorization directly from the Wildlife Agencies.

## ***7.2 Transportation Projects within and outside Conservation Areas***

Transportation projects identified in Tables 7-1 through 7-3 are Covered Activities. These include projects both within and outside of Conservation Areas.

### ***7.2.1 Interchange Projects and Associated Arterials***

The Plan includes Permits for the interchange projects shown in Table 7-1 outside the Conservation Areas. Widening of the local arterials associated with these interchange projects are also Covered Activities. These associated arterials are also shown in the table. Portions of some of these related arterials are within Conservation Areas. The interchange projects and associated arterials are depicted in Figure 7-2. The mitigation obligation for the interchange projects and associated arterials is described in Section 6.6.1.

***Table 7-1: Covered Activities – Interchanges and Associated Arterials***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area in or Bordering</i></b>
Indian Avenue I-10 Interchange	Willow Hole; Whitewater Floodplain
From I-10 Interchange Indian Avenue arterial to Dillon Road	Willow Hole
From I-10 Interchange Indian Avenue arterial to San Rafael	Whitewater Floodplain
Palm Drive/Gene Autry Trail I-10 Interchange	Willow Hole; Whitewater Floodplain
From I-10 Interchange Palm Drive arterial to 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Willow Hole

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<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area in or Bordering</i></b>
Gene Autry arterial to Vista Chino	Whitewater Floodplain
Varner Rd. arterial from Palm Drive to Mountain View Rd.	Willow Hole
Date Palm Drive I-10 Interchange	Willow Hole; Whitewater Floodplain
<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area in or Bordering</i></b>
From I-10 Interchange Date Palm arterial to Varner Rd.	Willow Hole
From I-10 Interchange Date Palm arterial to Ramon Rd.	Whitewater Floodplain
Varner Rd. arterial from Mountain View Rd. to Vista Chino	Willow Hole; Edom Hill
Bob Hope Drive I-10 Interchange	Thousand Palms
Bob Hope arterial from Ramon Rd. to Dina Shore Drive	None
Ramon Road arterial from Los Alamos to Bob Hope Drive	None
Ramon Road arterial from I-10 to Bob Hope Drive	None
Ramon Road arterial from I-10 to Varner Rd.	Thousand Palms
Ramon Road arterial from Varner Rd. to Monterey	Thousand Palms
Varner Rd. arterial from Vista Chino to ½ mile before Rio Del Sol	Thousand Palms
Varner Rd. from Ramon Rd. to Harry Oliver Trail	Thousand Palms
Jefferson Avenue I-10 Interchange	None
Jefferson Avenue arterial from I-10 to 40 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	None

## ***7.2.2 Caltrans Projects***

The Caltrans' projects listed in Table 7-2 are also Covered Activities. Portions of some of these projects are in Conservation Areas. Figure 7-3 shows the location of these Caltrans' projects that are in addition to the projects in Section 7.2.1 for which Caltrans is the lead agency.

***Table 7-2: Covered Activities–Caltrans Facilities***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Morongo Parkway I-10 Interchange, and O&M	Cabazon	None <sup>1</sup>
I-10 widening from Fields Road to SR 111, and O&M	Cabazon, Stubbe/Cottonwood Canyons, Snow Creek/Windy Point	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor; Desert tortoise
I-10 widening from SR-111 to SR-62/I-10 Separation, and O&M	Whitewater Canyon, Hwy 111/I-10	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor;
I-10 widening from SR-62/I-10 Separation to Edom Wash, and O&M	Willow Hole, Whitewater Floodplain	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor;
I-10 widening from Edom Wash to Jct. 111, and O&M	Willow Hole, Whitewater Floodplain	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor;

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<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
I-10 widening from Jct. 111 to SR-86S, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
I-10 widening from SR-86S to SR-177 [c. 2,500' west of Red Cloud Rd.] , and O&M	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor; Desert tortoise
SR 62 widening from Jct. I-10 to Mission Creek Rd, and O&M	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor; Desert tortoise
<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
SR 62 widening from Mission Creek Rd to SB County Line, and O&M	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor; Desert tortoise
SR 74 widening from Dead Indian Ck to 1.4 mi W/O Cahuilla Hills Road, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 74 widening from 1.4 mi W/O Cahuilla Hills Rd to Starburst Rd/Carriage Tr., and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 74 widening from Starburst Rd/Carriage Trail to Mesa View Drive, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 74 widening from Mesa View Dr to Jct. SR-111, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 74 from Dead Indian Ck southerly and westerly through the Plan Area, O&M only	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area	PBS in Essential Habitat
SR 86 widening from Imperial Co Line to Jct. I-10, and O&M	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Imperial Co. Line to Jct. SR86 Route Break, and O&M	Dos Palmas	Desert pupfish
SR 111 widening from N Jct. Rte 86 to Ave 45, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Ave 45 to Jct. 86, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from 86 to Jct. Rte 74, and O&M	none	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Jct. Rte 74 to Palm Desert City Limit, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Palm Desert City Limit to Bob Hope Dr, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>

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<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
SR 111 widening from Bob Hope Dr to Gene Autry Trail, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Gene Autry Trail to Cherokee Way, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Cherokee Way to Mesquite Rd, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Mesquite Rd to Vista Chino, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
SR 111 widening from Vista Chino to Roberto Miguel, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Roberto Miguel to Palm Canyon Drive, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from Palm Canyon Drive to Begin Indep. Align Lt lanes, and O&M	None	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from begin Indep. Align to End Indep. Align, and O&M	Snow Creek/Windy Point	None <sup>1</sup>
SR 111 widening from end Indep. Align to Jct. I-10, and O&M	Snow Creek/Windy Point	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor; Desert tortoise

<sup>1</sup> The project is either outside a Conservation Area or has no impact requiring specific avoidance and minimization measures. The projects are mitigated through Caltrans' land acquisition and monitoring and management obligations, as described in Section 6.6.2.

Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the applicable road projects as identified in the table are described in Section 4.4. The mitigation obligation for these projects is described in Section 6.6.2.

### ***7.2.3 Regional Road Projects***

The Permits will also provide Take Authorization for the regional road projects shown in Table 7-3. Figure 7-4 shows the location of these regional road projects.

***Table 7-3: CVAG Regional Road Projects***

<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
<b><i>NORTH – SOUTH REGIONAL ARTERIALS</i></b>		
GENE AUTRY TRAIL	PS	Vista Chino to Whitewater River Crossing
	PS	Whitewater River Bridge Crossing

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	PS	Whitewater River to So. of Railroad Crossing
	PS	Railroad Crossing to Salvia Road
	PS	Salvia Road to and including I-10 Interchange

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
PALM DRIVE	DHS	Two Bunch Palms to Hacienda Avenue
	DHS	Hacienda Avenue to Pierson Boulevard
	DHS	Pierson Boulevard to Mission Lakes
CATHEDRAL CANYON	CC	Bridge over Whitewater Channel
DATE PALM DRIVE	CC	Palm Canyon to Gerald Ford including
	CC	Whitewater Bridge widening
	CC	Gerald Ford to Dinah Shore
	CC	Dinah Shore to Ramon Rd.
	CC	Vista Chino to I-10 (IC & RR Bridge)
	CC	I-10 to Varner Road (includes realignment)
DA VALL ROAD	CAL/CC	Da Vall I-10 Interchange
BOB HOPE DRIVE	UNC/RM	Dinah Shore Drive to Ramon Road
MONTEREY AVENUE	RM/PD	Clancy Lane to Country Club Drive
	RM/UNC/PD	Country Club Drive to Frank Sinatra Drive
	RM/UNC	Intersection of Monterey & Frank Sinatra
	RM/PD	Intersection of Monterey & Country Club
	PD	Intersection of Monterey & Fred Waring
	UNC	I-10 to Ramon Road
COOK STREET	PD	Frank Sinatra Drive to Gerald Ford Drive
	PD	Country Club to Whitewater Brg.
	PD	Whitewater Brg. to Fred Waring Dr.
	PD	Bridge over Whitewater Channel
WASHINGTON STREET	LQ	52nd Avenue to 50th Avenue includes Bridge over La Quinta Evacuation Channel
	LQ	50th Avenue to Hwy. 111
	LQ	Hwy 111 to Whitewater River Channel (includes bridge over Whitewater Channel)
	LQ/UNC	Whitewater Bridge to Fred Waring Drive

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
	PD/UNC/LQ PD/UNC/LQ UNC UNC	Fred Waring Drive to 42nd Avenue 42nd Avenue to Country Club Drive I-10 to 38th Avenue 38th Avenue to Ramon Rd.
ADAMS STREET	LQ	Bridge over Whitewater Channel
DUNE PALMS ROAD	LQ	Bridge over Whitewater Channel
JEFFERSON STREET	LQ LQ/IN LQ/IN IN LQ/IN IN LQ LQ/IN IN IN IN IN	54th Avenue to 52nd Avenue (Includes Bridge over All American Canal) 52nd Avenue to 49th Avenue (Indio City Limit) 49th Avenue to Hwy. 111 Bridge over La Quinta Evacuation Channel (in JEF3) Hwy. 111 to Westward Ho Westward Ho to Miles Avenue Bridge over Whitewater Channel (in JEF4) Miles Avenue to Fred Waring Drive Fred Waring Drive to Indio Blvd. I-10 Interchange and Bridge over Railroad I-10 to Avenue 40 Avenue 40 to Avenue 38
MADISON STREET	UNC LQ LQ LQ IN/LQ IN IN IN IN/UNC IN CAL/IN	60th Avenue to 58th Avenue 58th Avenue to 56th Avenue (Airport Blvd.) 56th Avenue to 54th Avenue 54th Avenue to 52nd Avenue (missing link) 52nd Avenue to 50th Avenue (Includes Bridge over All American Canal) 50th Avenue to 49th Avenue (missing link) 49th Avenue to Hwy. 111 (Includes missing link .25 miles north of 49th Avenue) Hwy. 111 to Miles Avenue Miles Avenue to Fred Waring Drive (missing link) Fred Waring Drive to Indio Blvd. I-10 Interchange and Bridge over Railroad



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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
VAN BUREN STREET	IN/UNC	Indio Blvd. to 48th Avenue
	COA	48th Avenue to 50th Avenue
	COA/UNC	50th Avenue to 52nd Avenue
	COA/UNC	52nd Avenue to 54th Avenue
	COA/UNC	54th Avenue to Avenue 56/Airport
INDIAN CANYON DRIVE	PS	Ramon Road to Tahquitz
	PS	Tahquitz to Alejo
	PS	Alejo to Tacheva
	PS	Tacheva to Vista Chino
	PS	Vista Chino to Racquet Club
	PS	Racquet Club to Old City limits
PALM CANYON DRIVE	PS	Vista Chino to Tacheva
	PS	Tacheva to Alejo
	PS	Alejo to Tahquitz
	PS	Tahquitz to Ramon
	PS	Ramon to Mesquite
	PS	Mesquite to East Palm Canyon
	PS	East Palm Canyon to Sunrise
	PS	Sunrise to Farrell
	PS	Farrell to Gene Autry
	CC	Westerly City Limits to Cathedral Cyn Dr. including widening bridge at West Cathedral Canyon Channel
	CC	200 ft. west of Sungate to easterly City Limits
INDIAN AVENUE	PS	Old City Limit to RR Crossing (including bridge over Whitewater River)
	PS	RR Crossing to 20th Avenue
	PS	I-10 Interchange (in IND2)
	PS	Intersection of Indian Av. & 20th Av.
	PS	20th Av. to 19th Av.
	PS/UNC	19th Av. to Dillon Rd
	UNC	Dillon Rd. to 14th Av.
	DHS	14th Av. to Pierson Blvd.
	DHS	Pierson Blvd. to Mission Lakes
	DHS	Mission Lakes to SR-62

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
LITTLE MORONGO ROAD	DHS	Mission Lakes Blvd. to Pierson Blvd.
	DHS	Pierson Blvd. to Two Bunch Palms Tr.
	DHS	Two Bunch Palms to Dillon Road
MOUNTAIN VIEW	DHS	Hacienda Av. to Dillon Rd.
	DHS	Dillon Rd. to 20th Av.
	UNC/CC	20th Av. to Varner Rd.
THOUSAND PALMS RD	UNC	Ramon Rd. to Dillon Rd.
CHASE SCHOOL ROAD	UNC	I-10 to south of the Whitewater Flood Control Project levee
MONROE STREET	IN/UNC	40th Avenue to I-10 Interchange
	IN	I-10 interchange to Miles Ave.
	IN	Miles Ave. to 48th Ave.
	IN	48th Ave. to 50th Ave.
	IN	50th Ave. to 52nd Ave.
	CAL/IN	Monroe Street I-10 Interchange
JACKSON STREET	IN/UNC	40th Avenue to I-10 Interchange
	IN	I-10 interchange to 46th Ave.
	IN	46th Ave. to 48th Ave.
	IN/COA	48th Ave. to 50th Ave.
	IN/UNC	50th Ave. to 52nd Ave.
	CAL/IN/UNC	Jackson Street I-10 Interchange
GOLF CENTER PKWY	IN	Golf Center Pkwy. I-10 Interchange
INDIO BOULEVARD	IN	Jefferson / I-10 to Madison
	IN	Madison to Monroe
	IN	Monroe to Jackson
	IN	Jackson to Hwy 111
PORTOLA AVENUE	PD	Hwy. 111 to Magnesia Falls Dr.
	PD	Magnesia Falls Dr. to Country Club Dr.

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
	PD PD PD CAL/PD	Country Club Dr. to Frank Sinatra Dr. Frank Sinatra Dr. to Gerald Ford Dr. Bridge over Whitewater Channel Portola Avenue I-10 Interchange
HIGHWAY 111	RM	Bob Hope Drive to Fairway Drive (relinquished by Caltrans to the City of Rancho Mirage)
<b><i>EAST – WEST REGIONAL ARTERIALS</i></b>		
VISTA CHINO	PS PS PS CC CC	Palm Canyon Dr. to Sunrise Way Gene Autry Trail to Whitewater River Whitewater River Bridge Crossing East Bank of Whitewater Bridge to Landau Blvd. Date Palm to Da Vall (missing link parallel to Railroad)
RAMON ROAD	PS PS PS PS PS PS/CC PS/CC CC CC RM/UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC	Palm Canyon Drive to Indian Canyon Drive Indian Canyon to Sunrise Way (includes crossing of Baristo Storm Channel) Sunrise Way to Farrell Drive Farrell Drive to El Cielo Road El Cielo Road to Gene Autry Trail Gene Autry Trail to West Bank of the Whitewater River Bridge at Whitewater River Landau Blvd. to Date Palm Drive Date Palm Drive to Da Vall Drive Da Vall Drive to Bob Hope Drive Intersection of Ramon Road & Varner Road I-10 to Monterey Avenue Intersection of Ramon Rd. & Monterey Av. Monterey Av. to Thousand Palms Canyon Rd.
GERALD FORD DRIVE	PD	Portola Avenue to Cook St.
FRANK SINATRA DRIVE	RM	Whitewater River Bridge (within FS1)

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
	RM RM PD PD RM/UNC RM	Bob Hope Drive to Vista Del Sol Road Vista Del Sol Road to Monterey Avenue Cook Street to El Dorado Drive El Dorado Drive to Tamarisk Row Drive Intersection of Frank Sinatra & Monterey Intersection of Frank Sinatra & Bob Hope
COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE	RM PD/UNC PD PD UNC/PD	Bob Hope Drive to Monterey Avenue Monterey Avenue to Portola Avenue Portola Avenue to Cook Street El Dorado Drive to Oasis Club Drive Oasis Club Drive to Washington Street
FRED WARING DRIVE	IW PD PD/UNC/IW LQ/UNC IN/UNC PD PD PD PD PD PD	Intersection of Eldorado & Fred Waring California Dr. to Elkhorn Trail (north side) (part of FW4) Elkhorn Trail to Washington Street Washington Street to Jefferson Street Silverwood Drive to Indio Blvd. Intersection of Portola and Fred Waring Hwy. 111 to Town Center Way (including bridge) Town Center Way to Monterey Avenue Monterey Avenue to Portola Avenue Portola Avenue to Deep Canyon Drive Deep Canyon Drive to Phyllis Jackson Ln.
AVENUE 44		Avenue 44 Bridge/Low Water Crossing
AVENUE 48	IN IN IN IN/COA COA/IN/UNC COA/IN/CAL COA	Jefferson Street to All American Canal All American Canal Bridge Crossing Hjorth Street to Jackson Street Jackson Street to Van Buren Street (center line) Van Buren Street to West of Hwy. 86 Intersection of 48th and Hwy. 86 Grade Separation at Hwy. 111/SPRR

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
AVENUE 50	CAL/COA	Future Interchange of 50th Avenue and Realigned Route 86
	LQ	Washington to Jefferson
	IN/LQ	Jefferson to Madison
	IN	Madison to Monroe
	IN	Monroe to Jackson
	IN/COA	Jackson to Van Buren
	COA	Van Buren to Harrison (Old 86)
	COA	Harrison (Old 86) to Hwy 111
	COA	Hwy.111 to New SR86 inc. Bridge over Whitewater Channel
	COA	Grade Separation Hwy. 111/SPRR
	COA	New SR-86 to I-10
	COA	Bridge at All American Canal (in 50K)
	CAL/COA	I-10 Interchange
AVENUE 52	LQ	Washington Street to Jefferson Street
	LQ	Jefferson Street to Madison Street (Includes Bridge at All American Canal)
	UNC/IN	Madison Street to Monroe Street
	UNC/IN	Monroe Street to Jackson Street
	UNC	Jackson Street to Calhoun Street
	UNC/COA	Calhoun Street to Fredrick Street
	COA	Fredrick Street to Harrison Street (Hwy 86)
	COA	Intersection of 52nd Avenue and Hwy. 86
	COA	Harrison Street to Hwy. 111
	COA	Intersection of 52nd and Hwy. 111
	COA	Grade Separation at Hwy. 111/SPRR
	CAL/COA	Future Interchange of 52nd Avenue and Realigned Route 86
	COA	Hwy 111 to New SR86 including bridge
AVENUE 54	COA	Van Buren to Harrison (Old 86)
	COA	Harrison (Old 86) to Tyler Street
	COA	Tyler St. to Hwy 111
	COA	Hwy 111 to Fillmore (Include Bridge at Whitewater Channel and Interchange at New SR-86)

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
	COA CAL	Grade Separation at Hwy. 111/SPRR SR-86 Interchange
AVENUE 56 / AIRPORT BLVD.	LQ  UNC/LQ  UNC  COA  UNC  UNC  UNC  UNC UNC/COA CAL/COA/UNC	Madison Street to 0.5 miles East of Madison Street (La Quinta City Limit)  0.5 miles East of Madison Street to Jackson Street  Jackson St. to 0.25 miles West of Van Buren St.  0.25 miles West of Van Buren Street to Harrison Street  Harrison Street to Tyler Street  Tyler Street to Polk Street  Polk Street to Hwy. 111  Grade Separation over Hwy. 111 and SPRR  SPRR to East side of Bridge over Coachella Valley Storm Channel  Interchange at New Extension of Route 86
AVENUE 62	CAL/UNC	Avenue 62 SR86 Interchange
AVENUE 66	CAL/UNC UNC	Avenue 66 SR86 Interchange Avenue 66 Bridge/Low Water Crossing
DILLON ROAD	UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC	SR-62 to Indian Avenue Intersection of Dillon Rd. & Indian Av. Indian Av. to Palm Dr. Intersection of Dillon Rd. & Palm Dr. Palm Dr. to Mountain View Mountain View to Bennett Rd. Bennett Rd. to Thousand Palms Canyon Rd. Thousand Palms Canyon Rd. to Sunny Rock Rd. Sunny Rock Rd. to 44th Avenue 44th Avenue to I-10 I-10 to Whitewater Bridge Bridge over Whitewater Channel Whitewater Bridge to Hwy 111

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<b><i>Table 7-3 (cont.)</i></b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
	UNC CAL/UNC UNC	Dillon Road I-10 Interchange Dillon Road SR 86 Interchange Grade Separation at Hwy. 111/SPRR
VARNER ROAD	UNC/CC CC UNC/CC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC IN IN IN IN	Palm Drive to Mountain View Road Mountain View Road to Date Palm Drive Date Palm Drive to Ramon Road Intersection of Varner Road & Ramon Road Ramon Road to Monterey Avenue Monterey Avenue to Chase School Road Chase School Road to Washington Street Washington to Jefferson Jefferson to Madison (42nd Ave.) Madison to Monroe (42nd Ave.) Monroe to Jackson (42nd Ave.) Jackson to Van Buren (42nd Ave.)
PIERSON BLVD.	DHS DHS DHS DHS	SR-62 to Indian Avenue Indian Avenue to Little Morongo Road Little Morongo Road to Palm Drive Palm Drive to Eastern Terminus of Desert View
MISSION LAKES	DHS DHS DHS	Indian Avenue to Little Morongo Road Little Morongo Road to Palm Drive Palm Drive to Eastern Terminus at Verbena Drive
HACIENDA AVENUE	DHS DHS DHS	Little Morongo Road to Palm Drive Palm Drive to Mountain View Mountain View to Dillon Road
TWO BUNCH PALMS	DHS DHS DHS	Indian Ave. to Little Morongo Rd. (missing link) Little Morongo Road to Palm Drive Palm Drive to Miracle Hill

<b>Table 7-3 (cont.)</b>		
<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
MILES AVENUE	IW/UNC	Hwy 111 to Washington Street
	IW/UNC	Whitewater River temporary undercrossing (missing link) (in MIL1)
	LQ	Washington to Jefferson
	IN	Jefferson to Clinton
	IN	Clinton to Monroe
	IN	Monroe to Indio Blvd.

NOTE: PS=Palm Springs, UNC=Unincorporated, DHS=Desert Hot Springs, CC=Cathedral City, RM=Rancho Mirage, PD=Palm Desert, IW=Indian Wells, IN=Indio, LQ=La Quinta, COA=Coachella, CAL=CALTRANS.

The road projects in the table will comply with all applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures described in Section 4.4. The Permittees' mitigation obligation to acquire land and fund the Monitoring Program, the Management program, and Adaptive Management is described in Section 6.6.1.

## ***7.3 Activities in Conservation Areas***

Implementation of the Plan will provide Permits for Covered Species for the Covered Activities in the Conservation Areas described in 7.3.1 and 7.3.1.1, and for the Compatible Activities in the Conservation Areas described in Section 7.3.3.

### ***7.3.1 Covered Activities***

Implementation of the Plan will provide Permits for Covered Species for the following Covered Activities within the Conservation Areas:

- ***Construction and maintenance of trails, public access facilities, and campground facilities, except on federal land, as provided for in this Plan consistent with the Species Conservation Goals and the Conservation Objectives for the Conservation Areas, and consistent with the guidelines for trails and public access in Section 7.3.4.2.*** As applicable, these activities are subject to the avoidance and minimization measures described in Section 4.4. See also Section 7.3.3.2 for a description of the various types of recreational uses that are Allowable Uses in the Conservation Areas and Section 7.3.4 for a description of conditionally compatible uses.

***Specific projects and operation and maintenance activities listed in Tables 7-1 through 7-13.*** Where indicated in the tables, these activities are subject to applicable Required Measures listed in Sections 4.3.1 through 4.3.21, and to the applicable avoidance and minimization measures described in Section 4.4. A list of operation and maintenance activities is found in Section 7.3.1.1. Take for the projects and O&M activities listed in Tables 7-1 through 7-13 and for the O&M activities listed in Section 7.3.1.1 does not count



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against the acres of Take allowed in the Conservation and Take Authorization tables for the Conservation Areas in Section 4.3.

- ***Development permitted or approved by Local Permittees.*** Development and the associated ground disturbance, consistent with the Conservation Goals and Conservation Objectives within Conservation Areas and Species Conservation Goals and Objectives; and including the construction, operation, and maintenance of new flood control facilities and local roadways (less than 74 feet in width and no more than one through travel lane in each direction) which are either: (1) approved as part of a development proposal or (2) dedicated, or offered for dedication, for public use, are Covered Activities. As applicable, these activities are subject to the avoidance and minimization measures described in Section 4.4.

New ground disturbance associated with repowering or development of new wind energy facilities shall be treated as a Covered Activity similar to development projects permitted or approved by Local Permittees. Within each Permittee's jurisdiction, existing wind turbines may be replaced with new turbines. If old turbines are removed and the former impact area is restored to a natural condition, an equal new area may be disturbed without counting toward the calculation of net disturbance. The MSHCP Plan does not provide Take authorization for wind energy turbine operation. For further clarification of and discussion related to wind power facilities, see Section 6.6.1.1 of the Plan and the Implementation Manual.

- ***Expansion of mining operations on non-federal land.*** Expansion of mining operations holding a valid existing permit as of the date of Permit issuance must be consistent with the Conservation Objectives for the relevant Conservation Area.

The Permits do not provide Take Authorization for agricultural operations.

The Take Authorization does not cover approved Development Projects with legal vested rights as of the date the Permits are issued. Development Projects with legal vested rights (as of the date of Permit issuance) could voluntarily obtain take coverage, provided the applicable Permittee requires the execution of a Certificate of Inclusion by the Project Applicant that requires compliance with all applicable Plan requirements. Alternatively, a Project Applicant with legal vested rights (at the time of Permit issuance) could seek Take Authorization directly from the Wildlife Agencies.

Tables 7-4 through 7-13 identify specific projects and activities that are Covered Activities for Permittees in the Conservation Areas. Roads may be included in more than one table. In each table, the named roads refer only to those portions of the road in that jurisdiction's area. Following each table is a discussion of specific mitigation, avoidance, and minimization measures for which the jurisdiction is responsible.

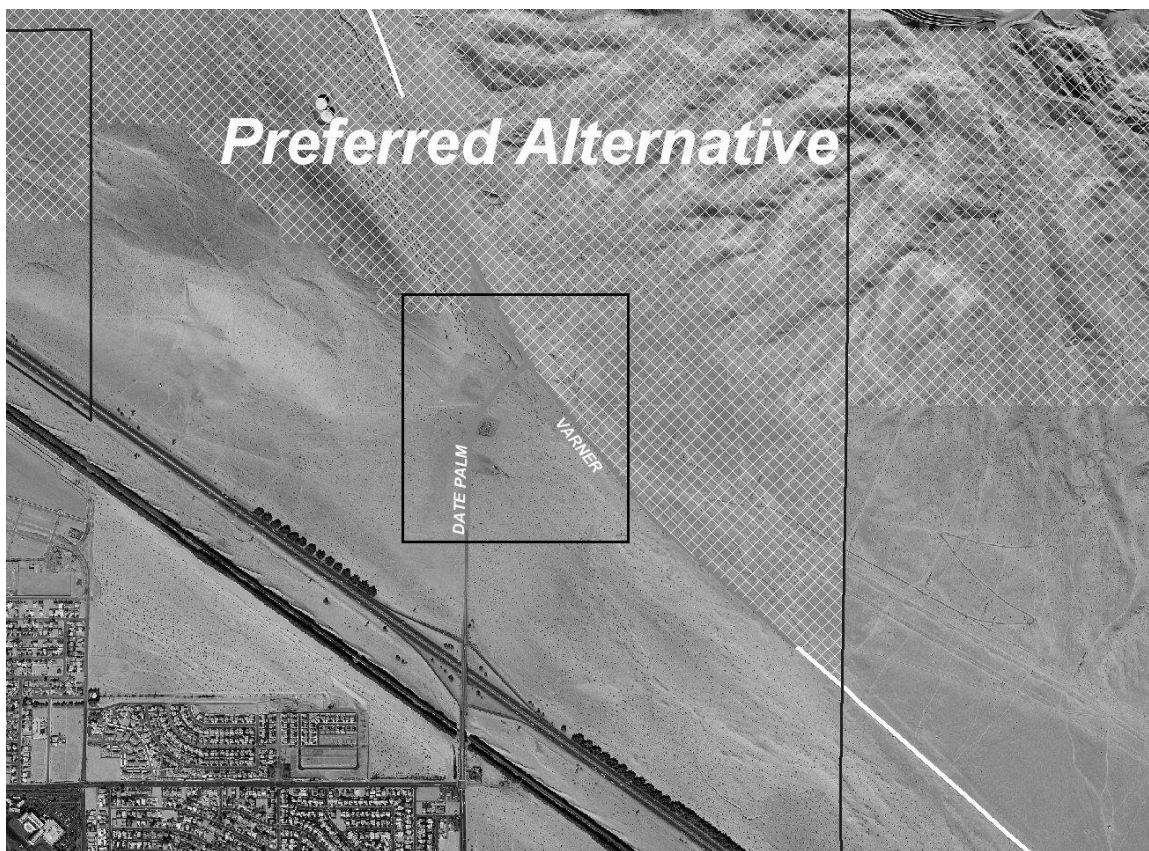
Note that within the Conservation Areas emergency response activities and emergency repair activities by Permittees are considered to be Allowable Uses and Compatible Activities, respectively, as described in Sections 7.3.2.1 and 7.3.3.1.

***Table 7-4: Covered Activities - City of Cathedral City's  
Facilities in Conservation Areas***

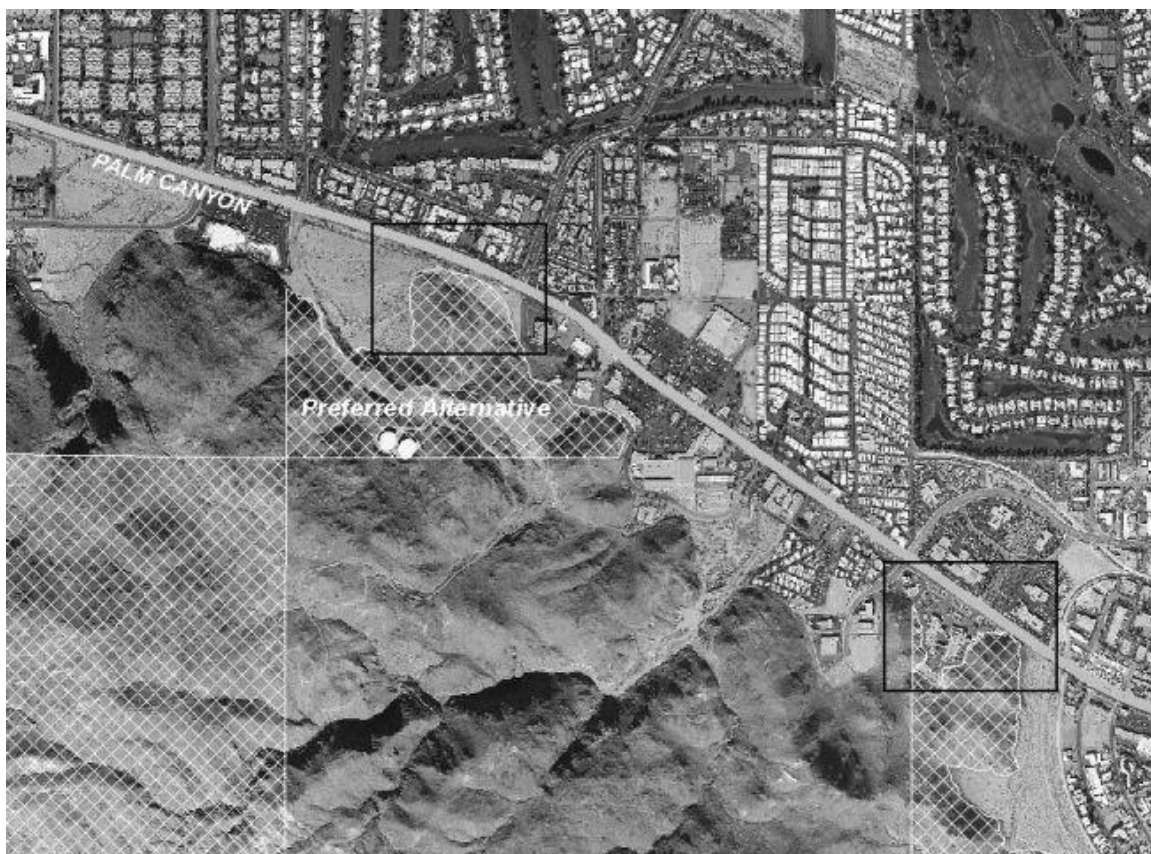
<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
(a) Date Palm Drive-Varner Road; intersection realignment and O&M	Willow Hole	None (on edge of Conservation Area)
(b) East Palm Canyon (SR 111); widening and O&M	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Fence if needed to protect bighorn sheep
(c) Edom Hill Road, widening and O&M	Willow Hole; Edom Hill	None (no impacts to Biological Corridors/ Linkages, or fluvial sand transport)
(d) Frontage road north of I-10; construction of new road and O&M	Willow Hole	Wildlife undercrossing; maintain fluvial sand transport
(e) Long Canyon Wash flood control; construction of new facility and O&M	Willow Hole	Maintain fluvial and aeolian sand transport
(f) Mountain View Road, widening and O&M	Willow Hole	Wildlife undercrossing
(g) Varner Road, widening and O&M	Willow Hole	Wildlife undercrossing; maintain fluvial sand transport

Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the Date Palm Drive-Varner Road, East Palm Canyon (SR 111), Frontage road north of I-10, Long Canyon Wash flood control, and Varner Road projects are described in Sections 4.3.8 and 4.4. Figures 7-5a through 7-5g depict the Covered Activities for Cathedral City (letters correspond to letters in “Facility” column of Table 7-4). Impacts of the above projects are also mitigated through Permittees’ portion of Reserve Assembly and through the Monitoring Program, Management Program, and Adaptive Management.

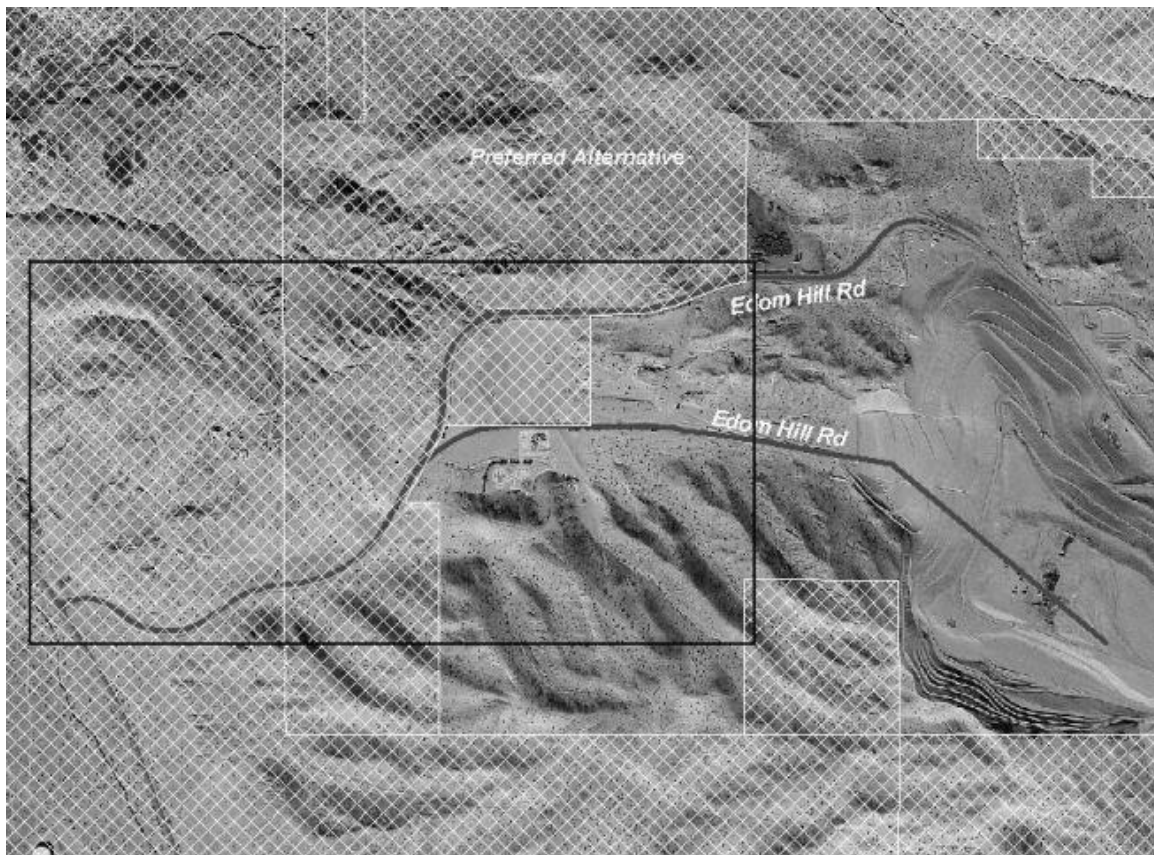
*Figure 7-5a: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas*



***Figure 7-5b: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***

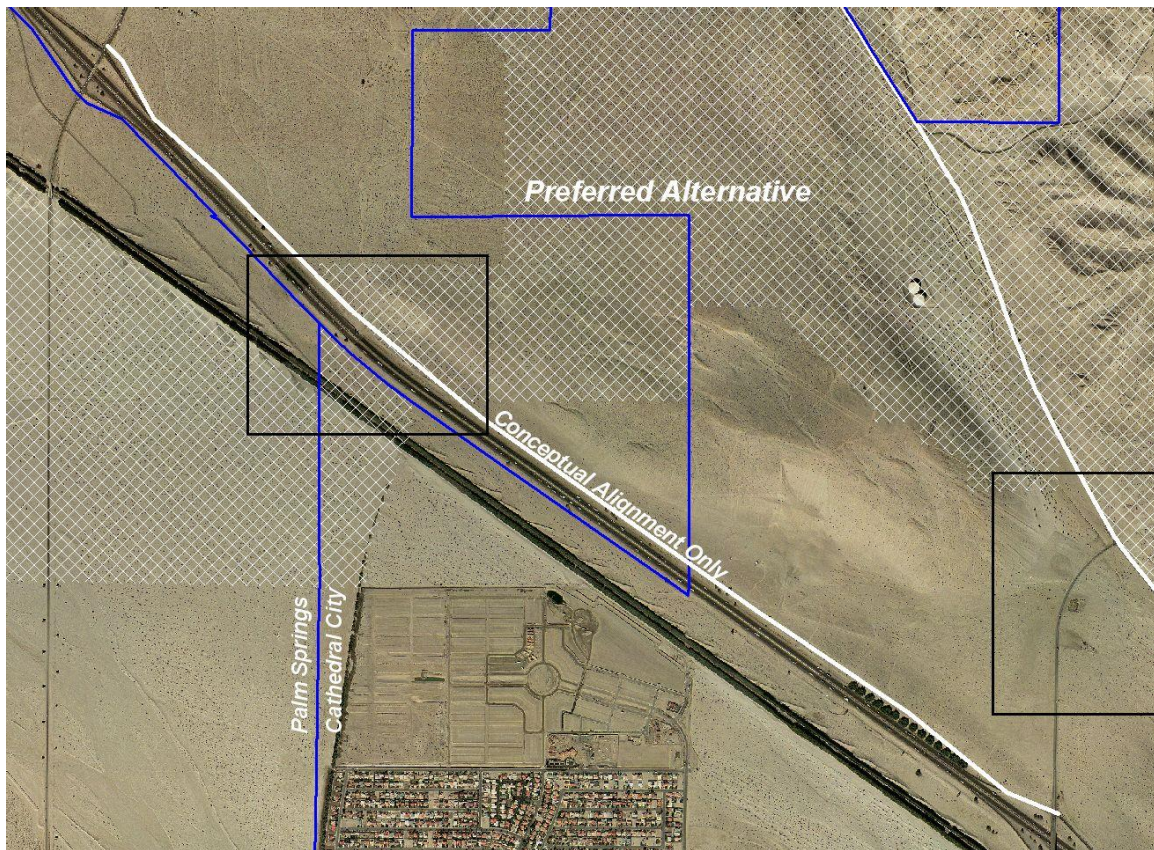


***Figure 7-5c: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



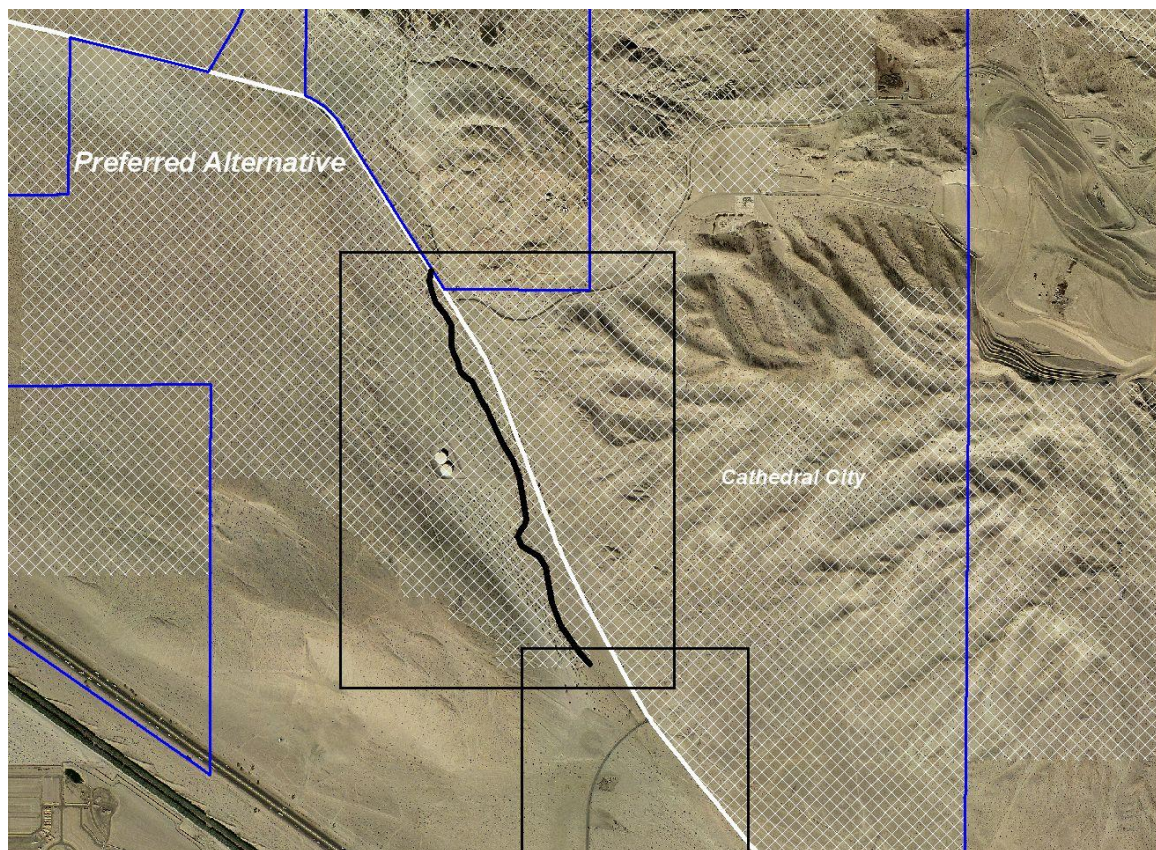


***Figure 7-5d: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



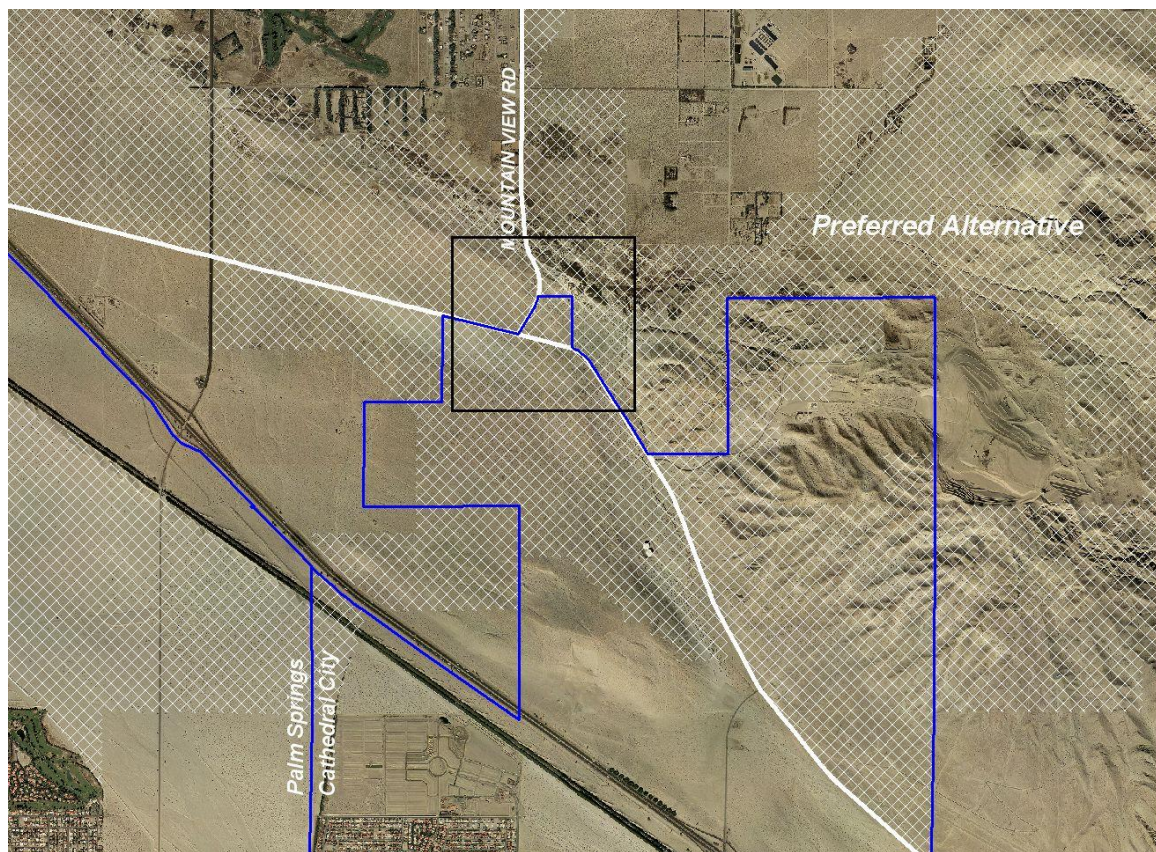


***Figure 7-5e: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



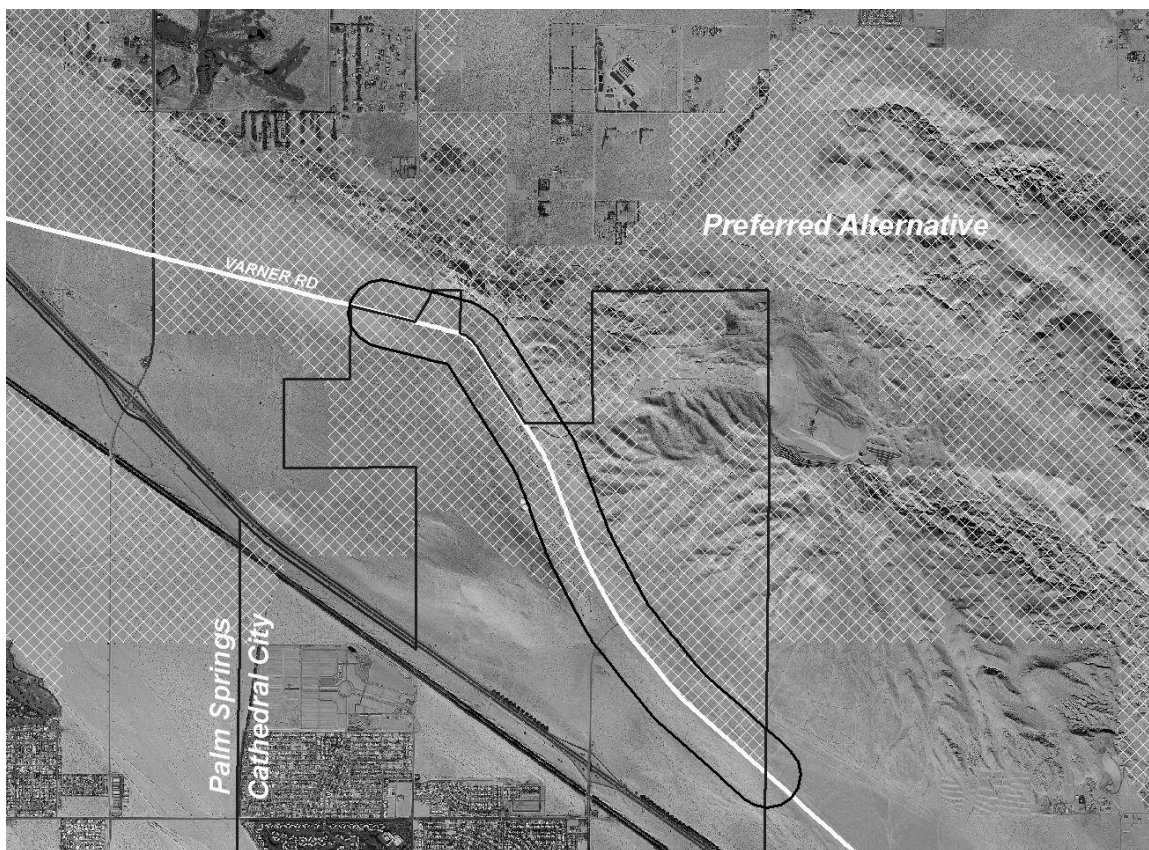


***Figure 7-5f: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***





***Figure 7-5g: City of Cathedral City's  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



***Table 7-5: Covered Activities - City of Palm Springs’  
Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
(a) Gene Autry Trail, widening to 6 lanes and O&M	Whitewater Floodplain	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(a) Indian Canyon Drive, widening to 6 lanes and O&M	Whitewater Floodplain	Fluvial sand transport; Biological corridor
(a) Salvia Road (Micro Place) and Garnet Avenue Extension, construction of new road and O&M	Whitewater Floodplain	Fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(b) North Palm Canyon Drive Bridge at Chino Canyon Creek, construction of bridge on west bound lanes and O&M	Boundary between Whitewater Floodplain and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	Biological Corridor

Figures 7-6a and 7-6b depict the Covered Activities for Palm Springs (letters correspond to letters in “Facility” column of Table 7-5). Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the Gene Autry Trail, Indian Canyon Drive, Salvia Road/Garnet Avenue, and North Palm Canyon Bridge projects are described in Sections 4.3.6 and 4.4. Impacts of the above projects are also mitigated through Permittees’ portion of Reserve Assembly and through the Monitoring Program, Management Program, and Adaptive Management.

***Figure 7-6a: City of Palm Springs' Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



***Figure 7-6b: City of Palm Springs’  
Covered Activities in Conservation Areas***



**Table 7-6: Covered Activities – Coachella Valley  
Water District’s Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
(a)ALERT (Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time) stations, all except Upper Bear Creek	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.; Whitewater Canyon Whitewater Floodplain; Thousand Palms; Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta; Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat and Linkage	None <sup>1</sup>
(b)Coachella Valley (Whitewater) Stormwater Channel, including increased flows resulting from the Water Management Plan	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Provision of replacement habitat; burrowing owl
(c) East valley drains, including increased flows resulting from the Water Management Plan	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Desert pupfish, Yuma clapper rail, California black rail
(d) Oasis area drains, including increased flows resulting from the Water Management Plan	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Desert pupfish, Yuma clapper rail, California black rail
(e) Coachella Canal; canal siphons and overshoots; East side dike and evacuation channels	Dos Palmas; Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains; East Indio Hills	None <sup>1</sup>
(f) WRP 7 recharge facility (construction and O&M)	East Indio Hills	Tamarisk removal; Mesquite restoration
(g) ALERT station, Upper Bear Ck.	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep
(h) Deep Canyon training dikes and channel	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	None <sup>1</sup>
(i) Dead Indian Canyon debris basin	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep
(j) East La Quinta detention basins, channels, and dikes	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep
(k) Magnesia Canyon detention basin	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep
(l) Stormwater drain inlets	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep
(m) Dike No. 4 Recharge Facility, (construction and O&M)	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Minor amendment with criteria; Bighorn sheep
(n) Martinez Recharge Facility, construction and O&M	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Minor amendment with criteria; Bighorn sheep
(o) Reservoirs and associated booster stations and transmission mains (existing)	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep

**Table 7-6: (cont.) Covered Activities –  
Coachella Valley Water District’s Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Conservation Area Where Located</i>	<i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i>
(p) Reservoirs and associated booster stations and transmission mains, (construction and O&M)	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Minor amendment with criteria; Bighorn sheep
(q) Reservoirs and associated booster stations and transmission mains	Thousand Palms	Fluvial sand transport
(r) Reservoirs and associated booster stations and transmission mains, (construction and O&M)	Thousand Palms	Fluvial sand transport
(s) Transmission water mains	Thousand Palms; West Deception Canyon	None <sup>1</sup>
(t) Whitewater River flood control levees, construction and O&M	Thousand Palms	Subject to terms and conditions of Section 7 consultation
(u) Colorado River Aqueduct turnout and recharge channel, O&M	Whitewater Canyon; Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>1</sup>
(v) Spreading area for Colorado River Aqueduct water, O&M	Whitewater Floodplain	Sediment removal and placement in deposition area
(w) Cathedral City transmission mains	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mtns.	Bighorn sheep

<sup>1</sup> These projects have no impact requiring specific avoidance and minimization measures. The projects are mitigated through CVWD’s mitigation obligations, as described in Section 6.6.1.

Applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above projects are described in Section 4.3 under the relevant Conservation Areas, and in Section 4.4. Within one year of Permit issuance, CVWD shall develop a maintenance plan, approved by the Wildlife Agencies, for its facilities in Conservation Areas that will minimize impacts to Covered Species and natural communities. CVWD’s mitigation obligations are described in Section 6.6.1. See Figure 7-7 for CVWD’s Covered Activities Facilities in Conservation Areas.

Construction of the facilities listed below is anticipated by the Plan. They will be Permitted through Minor Amendments if the specified criteria are met.

1. CVWD proposes to site water recharge facilities and associated transmission mains in or adjacent to essential habitat for the Peninsular bighorn sheep in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. One facility, Dike No. 4 Recharge Facility, is proposed to be located at the westerly end of Avenue 62, approximately in Section 34, Township 6 South, Range 7 East. The other facility, the Martinez Canyon recharge facility is proposed to be located at the westerly end of Avenue 72, approximately in Section 29 Township 7 South, Range 8

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East. These facilities may be Covered Activities through Minor Amendments to the Plan if the following criteria are met:

- The facility shall be located at the lowest feasible elevation on the site.
  - If it is determined that a lambing area is located within one mile of the site, construction shall be undertaken outside of the period from February 1 to June 30.
  - Measures acceptable to the Wildlife Agencies will be taken to control disease vectors.
  - Measures, including fencing if needed, shall be taken to ensure that peninsular bighorn sheep are not exposed to any hazardous conditions on the site.
2. If future Development patterns outside the Conservation Area require it, CVWD may need to site new reservoirs and associated booster stations and transmission mains in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area. Such facilities may be Covered Activities through Minor Amendments to the Plan if the following criteria are met:
- The facility shall be located at the lowest feasible elevation consistent with the functionality of the facility.
  - If it is determined that a lambing area is located within one mile of the site, construction shall be undertaken outside of the period from February 1 to June 30.
  - Any roads constructed to provide access to the site shall be gated, closed to the public and such closure shall be enforced by CVWD. Final road alignment shall be reviewed and approved by the Wildlife Agencies.
  - Measures, including fencing if needed, shall be taken to ensure that Peninsular bighorn sheep are not exposed to any hazardous conditions on the site.
3. CVWD proposes to construct a new reservoir and associated ancillary facilities approximately in Section 6, Township 4 South, Range 6 East. This facility may be a Covered Activity through a Minor Amendment to the Plan as long as project design does not appreciably reduce fluvial sand transport capacity on the site.

***Table 7-7: Covered Activities –  
Imperial Irrigation District’s Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Overhead power line “J022”	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Monitoring and Adaptive Management provision for bird kills
Overhead power line “J023”	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Monitoring and Adaptive Management provision for bird kills
Overhead power line “K31”	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Monitoring and Adaptive Management provision for bird kills
Overhead power line “L” Line	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	Monitoring and Adaptive Management provision for bird kills
Overhead power line “P61”	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “N71”	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	Desert tortoise

**Table 7-7 (cont.)**

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Overhead power line “CM” Line	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “K67”	Dos Palmas	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “K” 92 Line	Dos Palmas	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “KN” & “KS” Lines	Dos Palmas	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “L” Line	Dos Palmas	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “N143”	East Indio Hills	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “N71”	East Indio Hills	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “CM” Line	East Indio Hills	None <sup>1</sup>
Overhead power line “N71”	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “N50”	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “CM” Line	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “CM” Line	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “K67”	Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “L” Line	Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “KN” & “KS” Lines	Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “V124”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “V125”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “V126”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “1008”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “1012”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “N50”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management



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**Table 7-7 (cont.)**

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Overhead power line “N50” Circuit Relocation [New Project; see footnote.] ADD FOOTNOTE	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
“N51”	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “KN” & “KS” Lines	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Overhead power line “CA” and “CE” lines	Thousand Palms	Burrowing owl, anti-bird perching monitoring and adaptive management
Sky Valley Substation	West Deception Canyon	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “N50”	West Deception Canyon	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “N51”	West Deception Canyon	Desert tortoise
Overhead power line “CM” Line	West Deception Canyon	Desert tortoise

<sup>1</sup> Based on the absence of sensitive species, Biological Corridors/Linkages, or Essential Ecological processes that might be impacted by the Covered Activity in the Conservation Area, these projects have no impact requiring specific avoidance and minimization measures. The projects are mitigated through IID’s mitigation obligations, as described in Section 6.6.1.

The table includes one new construction project: the Overhead Power Line “N50” Circuit Relocation in the Thousand Palms Conservation Area. This project is described in Section 7.1 of Appendix I. It involves the relocation of an existing line that goes through desert fan palm oasis woodland on the Thousand Palms Preserve. The new alignment will avoid the sensitive habitat and follow Thousand Palms Canyon Road between Avenue 28 and Avenue 24 at which point it will follow Avenue 24 to the west to the Sky Valley Substation.

Applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above projects are described in Section 4.3 under the relevant Conservation Areas, and in Section 4.4. Within one year of Plan adoption, IID shall develop a maintenance plan, approved by the Wildlife Agencies, for its facilities in Conservation Areas that will minimize impacts to Covered Species and natural communities. See Figure 7-8 for IID’s Covered Activities Facilities in Conservation Areas. IID’s mitigation obligations are shown in Section 6.6.1.

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Table 7-8 lists Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's existing facilities within Conservation Areas, and Table 7-8a lists Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's proposed facilities within Conservation Areas (see Section 4.3.7). Construction of the proposed facilities and maintenance of existing and proposed facilities are Covered Activities under the MSHCP.

***Table 7-8: Covered Activities – Riverside County Flood Control  
and Water Conservation District's Existing Facilities in Conservation  
Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Jurisdiction</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Cottonwood Canyon Channel	Unincorporated	Stubbe & Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>1</sup>
Garnet Wash Channel	Palm Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport
Mission Creek Channel (interim)	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon; Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport
Mission Creek Wash (Levee U/S of SH62)	Unincorporated	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>1</sup>
Chino Canyon Channel and Levee	Palm Springs	Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>1</sup>
Chino Canyon Channel and Levee	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Whitewater River Right Bank Levee	Palm Springs	Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>1</sup>
Tachevah Creek – Detention Dam	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Palm Canyon Wash	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Baristo Wash Channel (interim) – South Branch	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>1</sup>
Palm Springs MDP – Line 41 Stg 2	Palm Springs	None <sup>2</sup>	None <sup>2</sup>
Cathedral Canyon Channel - West	Cathedral City	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Cathedral Canyon Channel - East	Cathedral City	Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Cabazon Channel	Unincorporated	Cabazon	Fluvial sand transport
San Gorgonio River Levee	Unincorporated	Cabazon	None <sup>1</sup>
Mission Lakes Levee Stg 1	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>1</sup>
8th Street Levee (interim)	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>1</sup>

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ALERT stations (Cathedral Canyon, Magnesia Springs Canyon, Haystack, Dead Indian Canyon)		Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
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<sup>1</sup> Based on the absence of sensitive species, Biological Corridors/Linkages, or Essential Ecological processes that might be impacted by the Covered Activity in the Conservation Area, these projects have no impact requiring specific avoidance and minimization measures. The projects are mitigated through the Local Permittees' mitigation obligations, as described in Section 6.6.1.

<sup>2</sup> The proposed Palm Springs MDP Line 41 Stg 2 project is located outside of the Conservation Area.

***Table 7-8a: Covered Activities –Riverside County Flood Control  
and Water Conservation District's Proposed Facilities in Conservation  
Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Jurisdiction</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Devils Garden Channel	Unincorporated	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon (connects to Garnet Wash)	None <sup>1</sup>
Desert Hot Springs MDP Line A	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon (connects to Morongo Wash)	None <sup>1</sup>
Desert Hot Springs MDP Line D	Desert Hot Springs	Long Canyon (connects to Long Canyon Channel)	None <sup>1</sup>
Palm Springs MDP Line 1	Palm Springs	None <sup>2</sup>	None <sup>2</sup>
Palm Springs MDP Line 2	Palm Springs	Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>1</sup>
Palm Springs MDP Line 3	Palm Springs	Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>1</sup>
Palm Springs MDP Line 16B	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Palm Springs MDP Lateral 16A	Palm Springs	None <sup>2</sup>	None <sup>2</sup>
Palm Springs MDP Lateral 16	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Palm Springs MDP Lateral 19A	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Palm Springs MDP Line 19	Palm Springs	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	Bighorn sheep
Palm Springs MDP Line 41	Palm Springs	None <sup>2</sup>	None <sup>2</sup>
Long Canyon Channel	Mostly unincorporated	Long Canyon	Fluvial sand transport

**Table 7-8a (cont.)**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Conservation Area</b>	<b>Avoidance/Minimization Measures Required</b>
Long Canyon Channel	Unincorporated	Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport
8th Street Levee	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>1</sup>
Morongo Wash Flood Control Facility	Desert Hot Springs	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon, Willow Hole	Palm Springs pocket mouse, Little San Bernardino Mountains linanthus

<sup>1</sup> These proposed projects are located mostly outside of the Conservation Areas except where they connect into the main system. These proposed projects comply with the avoidance and minimization measures already required for the main system.

<sup>2</sup> The proposed Palm Springs MDP Line 1, Lateral 16A, and Line 41 projects are located outside of the Conservation Area.

Applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above projects are described in Section 4.3 under the relevant Conservation Areas, and in Section 4.4. The measures apply only to those portions of the facilities located in the Conservation Areas. See Figure 7-9 for County Flood Control's Covered Activities Facilities in Conservation Areas. Maintenance of existing flood control facilities that is subject to an MOU or agreement with CDFG for such activities would be covered pursuant to those MOUs or agreements.

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the Morongo Wash flood control facility (proposed Covered Facility) is anticipated by the Plan and a minimum 1,200 foot wide Morongo Wash Flood Control Corridor will be maintained. These activities will be Permitted through a Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agencies' concurrence if the specified criteria are met:

- The proposed Covered Facility shall adhere to the applicable Conservation Objectives and Required Measures within the applicable Conservation Areas.
- The proposed Covered Facility will extend from Indian Avenue (approximately 0.25 mile north of Mission Lakes Boulevard) to the San Andreas Fault (approximately 0.125 mile north of 20th Avenue). The portion of the proposed Covered Facility from Indian Avenue to Dillon Road is within the Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon Conservation Area. The portion of the proposed Covered Facility from Dillon Road to the San Andreas Fault is within the Willow Hole Conservation Area (see Figure 4-12a for specific limits of the proposed Covered Facility).
- Any extension of the proposed Covered Facility north of Indian Avenue and/or south of the San Andreas Fault would require a Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agencies' concurrence to the Plan.
- A Morongo Wash Flood Control Corridor will be maintained within the Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon Conservation Area (depicted on Figure 4-

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12a), and the proposed Covered Facility shall be subject to the following requirements:

- a. CVCC shall be responsible for ensuring conservation of acreages as described in Section 4.3.7 and identified in Tables 4-42d and 4-42e for the proposed Covered Facility.
  - b. The Morongo Wash Flood Control Corridor will include a minimum 1,200-foot suitable habitat corridor, plus 300 acres of refugia outside the suitable habitat corridor, configured to be equivalent to about 25 acres of refugia every 0.25 mile. No individual refugium shall be less than 15 acres nor shall any refugia be more than 0.5 mile apart.
  - c. A suitable habitat corridor is defined as an area that meets the habitat requirements of Palm Springs pocket mouse (see Section 9.8.3); the suitable habitat corridor shall maintain a natural ephemeral desert wash without habitat impediments.
  - d. The proposed Covered Facility may be located within or adjacent to the 1,200-foot habitat corridor, depending on design and maintenance requirements which shall be subject to review as part of the Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agencies' concurrence.
  - e. Funding for the minimum 1,200-foot suitable habitat corridor plus refugia shall be shared by the Riverside County Flood Control District and CVCC subject to a mutually acceptable agreement to be entered into between the Riverside County Flood Control District and CVCC.
- The portion of the proposed Covered Facility from Dillon Road to the San Andreas Fault is within the Willow Hole Conservation Area and shall be subject to review as part of the Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agencies' concurrence.

**Table 7-9: Covered Activities–Riverside County Transportation Department’s  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Adele Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Agnes St		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Almond St		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Apache Tr.	74-118	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Blanche Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Bonita Ave	118	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Broadway St	118	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Carmen Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Dale Ct		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Date Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Deep Creek Rd	100	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Dolores Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Elm St	74-118	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Esperanza Ave	74	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Hattie Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Helen Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Ida Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Lemon St		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Lois Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Magnolia St	100	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Main St	100	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Maxine Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Orange St		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Pamela Way		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Railroad Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Riza Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Rushmore Ave			X	Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department’s Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Seminole Dr	118	X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
Sunrise Ave		X		Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
West View St			X	Cabazon	None <sup>4</sup>
66 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	118			Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	None <sup>4</sup>
66 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	118			Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	None <sup>4</sup>
70th Ave	100			Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	None <sup>4</sup>
Lincoln St	100			Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta	None <sup>4</sup>
Box Canyon Rd	100		X	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Chiriaco Rd				Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Cottonwood Springs Rd				Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Dillon Rd	128		X	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Hayfield Rd				Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Summit Rd				Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Sunny Rock Rd			X	Desert Tortoise and Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
44th Ave	118			East Indio Hills	None <sup>4</sup>
Dillon Rd	128	X		East Indio Hills	None <sup>4</sup>
Landfill Rd		X		East Indio Hills	None <sup>4</sup>
20th Ave	100-118			Edom Hill	None <sup>4</sup>
Bennett Rd	128			Edom Hill	None <sup>4</sup>
Charles St	118			Edom Hill	None <sup>4</sup>



**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department’s  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Edom Hill Rd	100			Edom Hill	None <sup>4</sup>
Stanton Rd	100			Highway 111/I-10	None <sup>4</sup>
22nd Ave	100			Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
28th Ave			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
30th Ave			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Desert Charm Rd		X	X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Dillon Rd	128	X		Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Fluvial Sand Transport; Wildlife Undercrossing
Fan Hill Rd	100			Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Happy Valley Dr			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Holman Way			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Hot Well Rd			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Pace Ln			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Pushawalla Rd		X	X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Sunny Rock Rd			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department’s Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Sunnyslope Rd			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Tamym Rd			X	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Thousand Palms Canyon Rd	74	X		Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Western Ave	100			Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	None <sup>4</sup>
Desert Charm Rd		X		Indio Hills Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
30th Ave			X	Indio Hills Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Sunnyslope Rd			X	Indio Hills Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
18th Ave	100			Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
20th Ave		X		Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Camino Campanero	100			Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Dillon Rd	128			Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Hacienda Dr	128			Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Long Canyon Rd	118	X		Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Mountain View Dr	128	X		Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Mountain View Rd	128	X		Long Canyon	Fluvial Sand Transport
Box Canyon Rd	100	X		Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
Painted Canyon Rd		X		Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
The Bradshaw Tr.		X		Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
44th Ave	128			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
66th Ave	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
77th Ave			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>
Avenida Elenita			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>4</sup>

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Avenida Encino			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
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***Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department's  
Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Maintained<sup>2</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Avenida La Cumbre			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Avenida Los Feliz			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Avenida Los Pinos			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Carrizo Rd	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Esperanza Ave	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Hidden Palms Rd			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Jackson St	128			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Mesa Tr.			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Palm Canyon Dr	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Pinon Dr	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Rancho Rd	100			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Star Shadow Rd			X	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Tramway Rd	118			Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None <sup>d</sup>
Railroad Ave		X		Snow Creek/Windy Point	None <sup>d</sup>
Snow Creek Rd		X		Snow Creek/Windy Point	None <sup>d</sup>
Boulder Dr			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Clay Rd			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Cottonwood Rd			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Cypress Rd			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Lime Rd			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Rockview Dr			X	Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Tamarack Rd	118	X		Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
Verbenia Ave				Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons	None <sup>d</sup>
22nd Ave	100			Thousand Palms	Major Amendment req.
26th Ave	100			Thousand Palms	None <sup>d</sup>

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30th Ave	100			Thousand Palms	None <sup>d</sup>
Calle Francisco			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>d</sup>

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department's  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Chase School Rd/ Chocktaw Rd./Vista del Pajaro	128			Thousand Palms	Realign outside Conservation Area
Desert Moon Dr			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Diamond Ave	100			Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Hot Well Rd			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Moon Shadow Dr			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Ramon Rd	128	X		Thousand Palms	Wildlife undercrossing if widened to four lanes
Rio Del Sol Rd (See Section 4.3.11.)	74			Thousand Palms	Major Amendment Required
Sky Ridge Rd		X		Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Thousand Palms Canyon Rd	74	X		Thousand Palms	Wildlife undercrossing if widened to four lanes
Vista Del Este			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Vista Del Jardin			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Vista Del Norte			X	Thousand Palms	None <sup>4</sup>
Washington St	128	X		Thousand Palms	Wildlife undercrossing if widened to four lanes
14th Ave	100			Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
15th Ave	100			Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department's  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Hacienda Ave	118			Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Indian Ave	110-128	X		Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Mission Creek Rd		X		Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Mission Lakes Blvd.	118			Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Pierson Blvd.	118	X		Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
West Dr			X	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Worsley Rd	74-118	X		Upper Mission Creek/Morongos Cyn.	None <sup>4</sup>
20th Ave	100		X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
22nd Ave	100	X		West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Aurora Blvd.			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Aurora Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department’s  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measu Required</b>
Dillon Rd	128	X		West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Dock Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Dry Gulch Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Henry Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Hot Springs Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Longvue Rd			X	West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Penny Ln		X		West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Sky Ridge Rd		X		West Deception Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Whitewater Canyon Rd		X		Whitewater Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Whitewater Cutoff		X		Whitewater Canyon	None <sup>4</sup>
Gene Autry Tr.	118			Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
Indian Ave	128			Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
Overture Dr		X		Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
Salvia Rd	118			Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
SH-111(Caltrans)	184			Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
Tipton Rd	100			Whitewater Floodplain	None <sup>4</sup>
16th Ave		X		Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
18th Ave	100		X	Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider <sup>4</sup>
20th Ave	74	X		Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
21st Ave		X		Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Angela Dr		X		Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Blair Rd			X	Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>

**Table 7-9: (cont.) Covered Activities – Riverside County Transportation Department's  
Facilities in Conservation Areas**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>General Plan width<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Maintained<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Dedicated and Accepted<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Carol Dr		X		Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Chico Cir		X		Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Dillon Rd	128	X		Willow Hole	Fluvial sand transport; Wildlife undercrossing if widening to four lanes or wider
Circle B Dr		X		Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Date Palm Dr	128			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Edom Hill Rd.	100			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Little Morongo Rd	118			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Mountain View Rd	128			Willow Hole	Wildlife undercrossing if widened to four lanes
Palm Dr	128			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Varner Rd	128			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
Vista Grande Dr		X		Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
West Dr			x	Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>
<b>Facility</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Conservation Area Where Located</b>	<b>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</b>
Borrow pit	11 acre borrow pit from which materials may be periodically taken for use in road construction. It is located on Mountain View Road approximately ¼ mile north of Varner			Willow Hole	None <sup>4</sup>



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	Road.		
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***Table 7-9 (cont.)***

- <sup>1</sup> General Plan roads are those roads from 74' to 184' which appear on the General Plan Circulation Element as planned roads. Most, though not all, General Plan roads exist but are not improved to their ultimate width.
- <sup>2</sup> Maintained roads are those that have been accepted into the County's Maintained system. The County is responsible for maintaining them. -Some General Plan roads are also Maintained. Many maintained roads are not General Plan facilities, they are local streets, usually less than 74'. The table shows all three classes of roads so it could be seen that there is overlap between General Plan and Maintained.
- <sup>3</sup> Dedicated and Accepted are roads which have been dedicated for public use but that are not maintained by the County. They may be privately maintained or not maintained at all. This category of roads was included in the table because The County considers them most likely to be brought into the maintained system, other than roads built as a part of approved new development, if improved to County standards.
- <sup>4</sup> Based on the absence of sensitive species, Biological Corridors/Linkages, or Essential Ecological processes that might be impacted by the Covered Activity in the Conservation Area, these projects have no impact requiring specific avoidance and minimization measures. The projects are mitigated through the Permittees' mitigation obligations, as described in Section 6.6.1.
- <sup>5</sup> *O&M for newly improved public roads brought into the County's Maintained system is a Covered Activity.*

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Applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above projects are described in Section 4.3 in the relevant Conservation Area subsection, and in Section 4.4. The County Transportation Department shall develop a worker education program to avoid impacts to desert tortoise.

***Table 7-10: Covered Activities –Riverside County Waste Resources Management District’s Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Edom Hill Landfill well on APN 659-130-004	Edom Hill	Maintain fluvial sand transport and wildlife movement

Required Measure 1 in Section 4.3.10 describes the avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above project. See Figure 7-10 regarding the location of the above facility.

***Table 7-11: Covered Activities –State Parks’ Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
Maintenance and use of trails in Mt. San Jacinto State Park Wilderness and the existing Aerial Tramway <sup>1</sup>	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	None
Maintenance and use of trails in Salton Sea State Recreation Area <sup>1</sup>	Dos Palmas	None
Development and O&M of campground facilities, trails, and trailheads not to exceed 100 acres	Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage	Requires preparation of and consistency with a RMUP
Recreation activities in Indio Hills Palms (unclassified unit): associated with Covered Wagon Tours; trails; signs; and interpretive displays	Thousand Palms; Indio Hills Palms	None

<sup>1</sup> Other than as specifically mentioned, the developed facilities in this State Park facility, including campgrounds, ranger stations, structures, and developed day use areas, are outside the Conservation Area, and are Covered Activities under Section 7.1.

See Section 6.6.2 for a description of State Park’s obligations to Plan implementation.

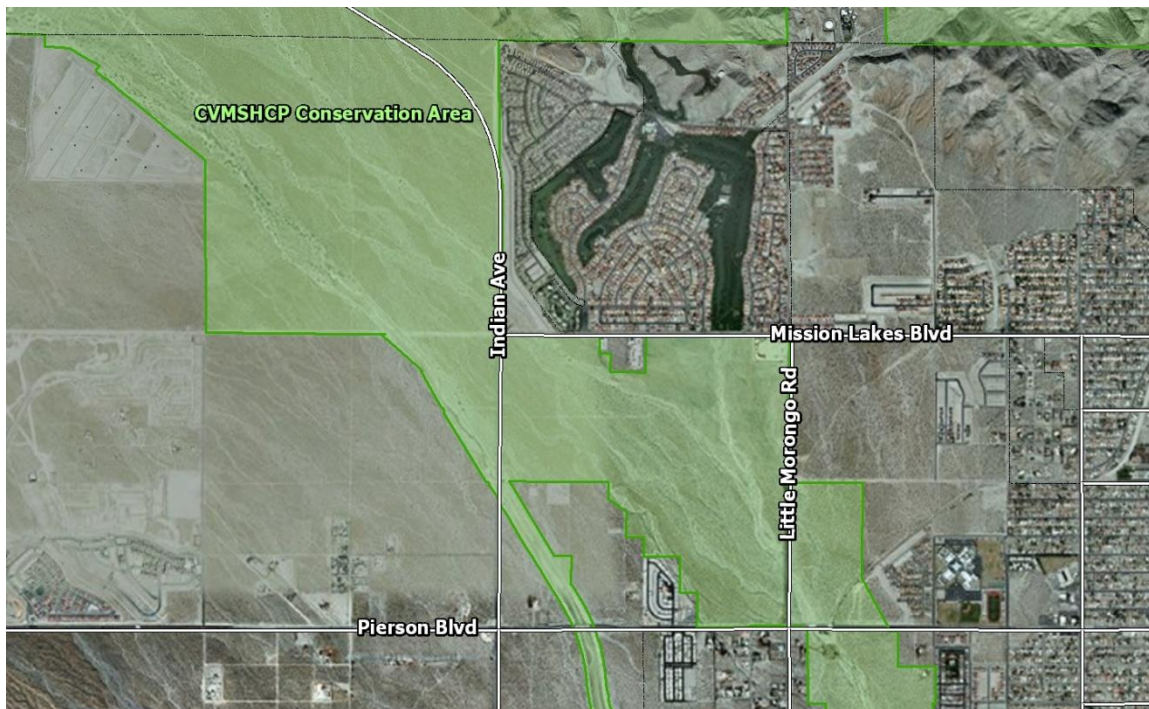
***Table 7-12 Covered Activities - City of Desert Hot Springs's Facilities in Conservation Areas<sup>1</sup>***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
(a) Indian Avenue (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Desert tortoise; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(a) Mission Lakes Blvd. (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Desert tortoise; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(a) and (b) Little Morongo Road (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological corridor
(a) Pierson Blvd. (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(b) Two Bunch Palms Trail	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(b) Hacienda Avenue (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological Corridor
(b) Cholla Drive (widening and O&M)	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Burrowing owl; Le Conte's thrasher; Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus; fluvial sand transport; Biological corridor

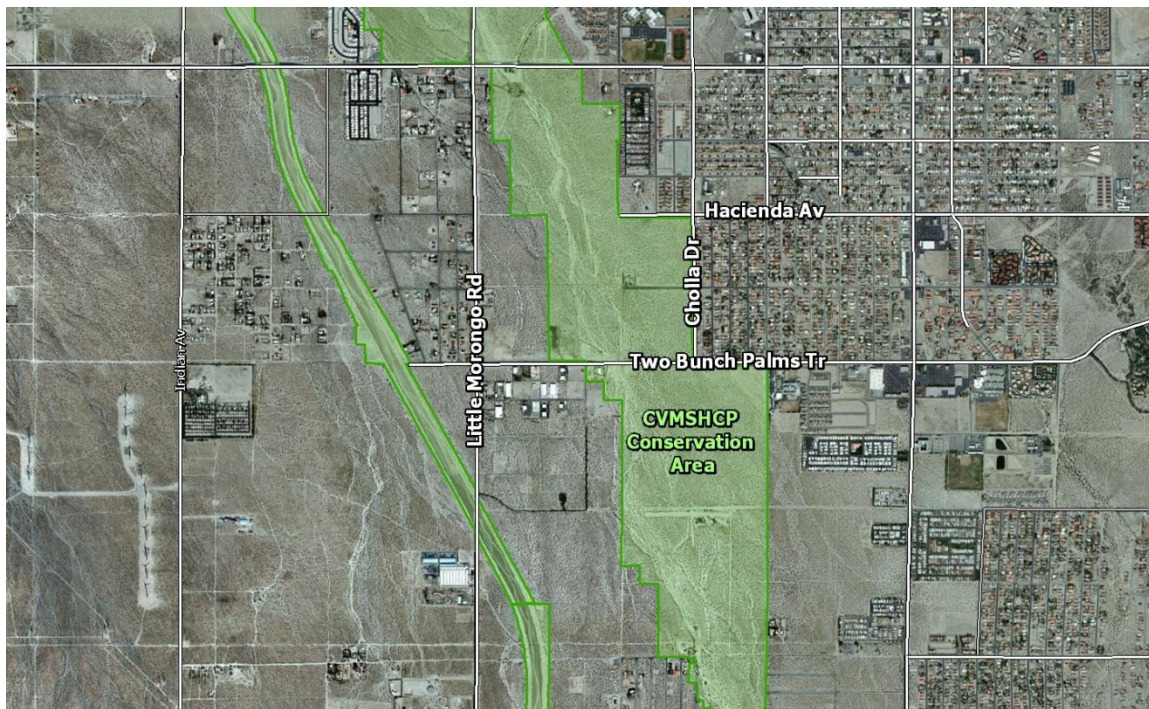
a. Table 7-12 only lists projects within the area of the City subject to the Major Amendment. The area included in the Desert Hot Springs I-10 Annexation completed in 2010 is already covered by the CVMSHCP.

Figures 7-6a and 7-6b depict the Covered Activities for Desert Hot Springs (letters correspond to letters in "Facility" column of Table 7-12). Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the road projects identified in the table are described in Sections 4.3.7 and 4.4. Impacts of the above projects are also mitigated through Permittees' portion of Reserve Assembly and through the Monitoring Program, Management Program, and Adaptive Management.

***Figure 7-6a: City of Desert Hot Springs Covered Activities  
in Conservation Areas***



***Figure 7-6b: City of Desert Hot Springs Covered Activities  
in Conservation Areas***



***Table 7-13: Covered Activities – Mission Springs Water District’s Facilities in Conservation Areas***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Conservation Area Where Located</i></b>	<b><i>Avoidance/minimization Measures Required</i></b>
(1) 913 / 1070 Pressure Zone – 2 New Water Transmission Lines	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte’s Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(2) 1240 Pressure Zone – New Water Transmission Line – Hacienda/Mountain View Road to Long Canyon Road	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte’s Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(3) 1400 Pressure Zone-2 New Wells, 3 Water Transmission Lines-Little Morongo Road	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte’s Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(4) 1530 Pressure Zone-New Water Transmission Line- Indian Avenue to the north of Mission Lakes Boulevard	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte’s Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(5) 1700 Pressure Zone-1 Water Storage Reservoir-north of Verbena Drive	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte’s Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse

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(6) 1875 Pressure Zone-3 Water Storage Reservoirs-	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(7) 2035 Pressure Zone-3 Water Storage Reservoirs, 3 Water Transmission Lines- west of Highway 62, north of Mission Lakes Boulevard	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(8) 2155 Pressure Zone-1 Water Storage Reservoir and one water transmission line - West of Mission Creek Trails project	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(9) New Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant to be located north of 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and west of Little Morongo Road	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse
(10) Network of sewer main lines along Dillon Road to Palm Drive and onto Indian Avenue.	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Crissal Thrasher, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Mesquite Hummocks, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse, Fluvial Sand Transport
(11) One sewer trunk line under the 62 freeway down Dillon Road to Diablo, and then to 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Crissal Thrasher, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Mesquite Hummocks, Palm Springs

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		Pocket Mouse, Fluvial Sand Transport
(12) Recycled Water and Purple Pipe – Pipe #1 from the future Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant heads north along Indian Avenue north of Pierson Blvd. and extends to the Mission Lakes Country Club. Pipe #2 from the Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant along Pierson Blvd. crossing the Morongo and Mission Creek Channels heading to the Highland Falls Subdivision.	Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon	Hwy 62 Biological Corridor, Fluvial Sand Transport, Covered Riparian Bird Species, Desert Tortoise, Le Conte's Thrasher, Little San Bernardino Mountains Linanthus, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse

<sup>1</sup> The projects are mitigated through MSWD's mitigation obligations, as described in Section 6.6.1.

Applicable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the above projects are described in Section 4.3 under the relevant Conservation Areas, and in Section 4.4. Within one year of Plan adoption, MSWD shall develop a maintenance plan, approved by the Wildlife Agencies, for its facilities in Conservation Areas that will minimize impacts to Covered Species and natural communities. See Figure 7-8 for MSWD's Covered Activities Facilities in Conservation Areas. MSWD's mitigation obligations are shown in Section 6.6.1.



**7.3.1.1 Covered Operation, Maintenance, and Safety Activities within Existing Rights-of-Way or Easements**

This section describes the types of activities which may occur in conjunction with the projects delineated in Tables 7-1 through 7-13. As indicated in the table, some of these activities are subject to the applicable avoidance and minimization measures described in Section 4.4. Except as otherwise identified in the Section 4.3 subsections on individual Conservation Areas, operation and maintenance activities by Permittees within Conservation Areas that are Covered Activities include, but are not limited to, the following within existing rights-of-way or easements:

**IID Communication sites**

- ♦ Refueling of standby generators as needed (occurs irregularly after power outages)
- ♦ Site inspections; maintenance as needed

**CVWD, County Flood Control Facilities**

- ♦ The removal of sand, silt, sediment, debris, rubbish, woody, and herbaceous vegetation in existing flood control facilities in order to maintain design capacity of the facility and or compliance with local fire regulations
- ♦ Control of weeds and vegetation by non-chemical means, and control of debris on all access roads and District rights-of- way
- ♦ The repair or replacement of constructed flood control facilities, such as channels, basins, drop structures, and levees, as necessary to maintain the structural integrity and hydraulic capacity of the facility.
- ♦ For ALERT stations, an annual inspection visit
- ♦ For ALERT stations, emergency maintenance to replace batteries or make repairs on transmitters, solar panels, tipping buckets, etc. Emergency access may occur at any time of year via the Dunn Road, notwithstanding bighorn sheep avoidance measures

**State and Interstate Facilities, City and County Roads**

- ♦ Installation and maintenance of signs, including overhead signs
- ♦ Installation and maintenance of traffic control devices, such as traffic signals
- ♦ Installation and maintenance of guardrails and fences for vehicle and pedestrian safety
- ♦ Routine repair, resurfacing, and reconstruction of pavement
- ♦ Repair of natural disaster damage and restoration of emergency access
- ♦ Grading of shoulders up to 12 feet from the edge of paved or unpaved roadways
- ♦ Grading of existing dirt roadways



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- ♦ Construction, replacement, and repair of curbs, gutters and sidewalks
- ♦ Minor widening and realignment for safety purposes that does not add through travel lanes, but may include turn lanes
- ♦ Construction and maintenance of berms
- ♦ Slope maintenance and slope protection such as rip-rap
- ♦ Dust stabilization, including application of soil stabilizers and paving of dirt roads
- ♦ Construction, repair, replacement, and cleaning out of culverts, drop structures, and down drains
- ♦ Bridge maintenance, including deck and railing replacement, column replacement, and reconstruction/placement of check dams
- ♦ Ditch clearing and lining
- ♦ Tree trimming and weed control by non-chemical means
- ♦ Landscape maintenance
- ♦ Utility relocation incidental to above activities
- ♦ Sand removal

### **IID Substation Facilities**

- ♦ Preventive maintenance, including electric test of high voltage equipment, electric test of protection relays and communication system
- ♦ Corrective maintenance in case of an unscheduled event, shut down, or emergency; repairs as necessary involving cranes, service trucks, pick-up trucks, etc.
- ♦ Routine operational activities, including, but not limited to, KW, KWH, KV, KVAR, KVARH, and temperature readings

### **IID Overhead/Underground power and communication line Facilities**

- ♦ Patrol on existing access roads
- ♦ Maintenance of existing access roads
- ♦ Corrective maintenance/repair of transmission facilities as needed, using existing access road

### **Waste Management Facilities, including Landfills, Transfer Stations, and Other Solid Waste Related Facilities**

- ♦ Clean up of waste illegally dumped on parcels in a Conservation Area proximate to a landfill in a manner which is consistent with the Species Conservation Goals and Objectives for the affected Conservation Area. This may include publicly sponsored activities related to the removal and cleanup of waste on illegal dumpsites.

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- ♦ On the Edom Hill Landfill well site located on Assessor's Parcel Number 659-130-004 in Section 22, T3S R5E access to, operation and maintenance of the existing well and appurtenant facilities, and any related construction activities, including but not limited to, testing, drilling, operating and maintaining an additional well and water pipelines
- ♦ Edom Hill landfill closure

### **CVWD Water Storage and Transmission Facilities**

- ♦ Maintain reservoirs by removing interior and exterior coating; caulking joints as needed; repainting exterior roof, shell, and appurtenances; and recoating interior with an approved epoxy system.
- ♦ Maintain boosters by providing routine oil changes and obtaining samples; remove, repair, replace, or add booster pump as needed.
- ♦ Maintain landscaping around reservoirs (where applicable) by maintaining irrigation pumps, performing routine repairs on irrigation system, trimming trees and shrubs as needed, and clearing brush from site.
- ♦ Maintain hydroelectric generating facility turbine by inspecting, repairing, or replacing turbine components, changing oil, and obtaining samples for analysis. Inspect, test, and certify the associated crane.
- ♦ Maintain altitude valves by checking water level with valve operation, check function of valves, and rebuild or replace as needed.
- ♦ Maintain pipelines by inspecting, repairing, or replacing as needed.
- ♦ Maintain sediment basin by inspecting, removing sediment as needed, and making any necessary repairs.

### **MSWD Water Storage and Transmission Facilities**

- ♦ Maintain reservoirs by removing interior and exterior coating; caulking joints as needed; repainting exterior roof, shell, and appurtenances; and recoating interior with an approved epoxy system.
- ♦ Maintain boosters by providing routine oil changes and obtaining samples; remove, repair, replace, or add booster pump as needed.
- ♦ Maintain landscaping around reservoirs (where applicable) by maintaining irrigation pumps, performing routine repairs on irrigation system, trimming trees and shrubs as needed, and clearing brush from site.
- ♦ Maintain altitude valves by checking water level with valve operation, check function of valves, and rebuild or replace as needed.
- ♦ Maintain pipelines by inspecting, repairing, or replacing as needed.

- ♦ Maintain sediment basin for wells by inspecting, removing sediment as needed, and making any necessary repairs.

### **7.3.2 Allowable Uses**

This section describes uses that may occur on non-federal Reserve Lands that are not Covered Activities and which are not precluded by the Plan, and describes Allowable Uses both in and outside the Conservation Areas.

#### **7.3.2.1 Non-Recreation-Related Allowable Uses**

The following activities are considered to be compatible with the Species Conservation Goals and Conservation Objectives on non-federal Reserve Lands.

- **Emergency, safety, and police services.** Local, state, and federal law enforcement entities will be allowed access to the Reserve Lands as necessary to enforce the law. Medical, rescue, fire fighting operations, and other emergency service providers will be allowed access to Reserve Lands to carry out operations necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Local law enforcement agencies and other entities such as the National Guard or Immigration and Naturalization Service operating on Reserve Lands are subject to existing state and federal laws. The MSHCP will not create additional permit requirements for these entities beyond those of existing state and federal laws.
- **Emergency response activities by Permittees required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.** Such activities by Permittees include emergency response to wildfire, flooding, earthquakes, and other emergency situations. As the MSHCP Reserve System management plan is developed, it will address advance planning, as feasible, with emergency response agencies to facilitate emergency response activities and minimize their impacts. Such planning will not impede or delay critical emergency responses that could put the public's health and safety at risk.

#### **7.3.2.2 Allowable Uses in and outside the Conservation Areas**

**Pesticide use.** Pesticide use on non-Covered Species is an Allowable Use, but any Take of Covered Species resulting from toxicological effects of the use of pesticides pursuant to applicable requirements is not a Covered Activity.

### **7.3.3 Compatible Activities**

This Section describes activities that may occur on non-federal Reserve Lands that are Covered Activities.

### **7.3.3.1 *Emergency Repairs and Reserve Management and Monitoring***

- ***Emergency repairs by Permittees of public infrastructure facilities.*** Public infrastructure facilities and utilities are currently located in areas anticipated to be included within the MSHCP Reserve System and may be constructed in the future in the MSHCP Reserve System in accordance with the Covered Activities described in this section. From time to time, emergency repairs may be required to these facilities as necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Such activities are compatible activities within the MSHCP Reserve System. The following procedures will be employed for emergency repairs that occur outside the boundaries of existing cleared areas:
  - The entity initiating the emergency repair will notify designated CVCC staff that a repair is necessary; after-the-fact notification will occur for emergency repairs that must be carried out immediately for the protection of public health and safety.
  - Immediately upon notification, CVCC staff or the Land Manager will conduct a site visit with emergency repair staff to assess the situation and determine if the repair may affect MSHCP resources; recommendations will be made regarding methods for implementing the emergency repair while minimizing environmental impacts, including post-repair restoration efforts; sensitive areas may be flagged in the field to assist in providing direction for repair crews.
  - If necessary, CVCC staff or the Land Manager will conduct onsite monitoring during the repair.
  - Upon completion of the repair, CVCC staff will assess and document onsite conditions and include such documentation in the administrative record of the MSHCP; if warranted, revegetation plans will be prepared for areas disturbed by the repair and CVCC staff or the Land Manager will oversee implementation of such plans.
- ***Reserve management and monitoring.*** Certain activities associated with management on new Reserve Lands or Existing Conservation Lands may result in Take of Covered Species (e.g., fuel modification, fire management, weed control, access control, and habitat enhancement). Moreover, some activities undertaken during monitoring (e.g., capture, relocation to prevent injury or death, trapping, handling, enhancement or propagation, use of recorded vocalizations, marking) likely will result in the Take of Covered Species. Take of Covered Species resulting from management activities is authorized under the MSHCP provided that:
  1. Such Take occurs during activities described in the Management Program or in Annual Work Plans approved by the RMOC; and
  2. Such Take occurs during activities conducted by the agents or employees of USFWS, CDFG, CVCC, or any person acting under the direct guidance or authority of these entities.

For desert tortoise and Peninsular bighorn sheep, regional consistency and specialized training and handling are required.

Take of Covered Species resulting from monitoring activities is authorized under the MSHCP provided that:

1. Such Take occurs during activities described in the Monitoring Annual Work Plans prepared by the MPA;
2. The person(s) undertaking such activities successfully completed the training program(s) designed by the MPA;
3. The person(s) undertaking such activities carry out their duties in conformance with the protocols and procedures specified in the training; and
4. The activity is occurring consistent with the Monitoring Program.

These provisions are consistent with the USFWS policy as described in the FWS “Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook” (USFWS, 1996).

### ***7.3.3.2 Public Use and Trails Management on Reserve Lands within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area***

Planning for public use and trails management on Reserve Lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area involves trails that cross both federal and non-federal land. The MSHCP has been prepared pursuant to Section 10(a) of the ESA to provide Take Authorization for Covered Activities and compatible activities on non-federal lands. The Peninsular bighorn sheep is a California Fully Protected Species and as used with respect to PBS, Take Authorization refers only to disturbance of habitat. The MSHCP does not permit Take of an individual PBS. All Covered Activities of the Plan must avoid actions in violation of Section 4700 of the Fish and Game Code that addresses Fully Protected Species (See IA Section 15.5). Take Authorization on federal lands is provided under the ESA through Section 7. Use of trails on CDFG land is subject to Title 14 CCR. As a result, the Permittees, CDFG, BLM, and USFS have coordinated in the planning process for public use and trails management. The MSHCP, however, can only provide authorization for impacts to Covered Species for those portions of trails and any other compatible uses on non-federal lands. BLM is pursuing a Section 7 consultation for the components of the coordinated plan on federal lands. On other federal lands, the USFS will determine whether public use and trails management will require consultation with USFWS pursuant to Section 7 of the FESA. State of California lands within Magnesia Spring and Carrizo Canyon Ecological Reserves are subject to decisions made by the State.

Impacts to Covered Species associated with the public use and trails management plan (“Trails Plan”) described in this section are authorized upon issuance of the Permits. For existing trails in bighorn sheep habitat, this authorization applies only to those trails specifically listed in Section 7.3.3.2.1, Elements 1 and 2.

In order to illustrate the entire public use and trails management plan, the text and maps in this section do not distinguish between trail segments on non-federal and federal lands. The names of all the trails, both on federal and non-federal land, are provided in the

lists below for informational purposes to provide context for the reader. Actions that apply only to federal lands are not described in this section. The public use and trails management plan for federal lands within the Reserve System is described and analyzed in the EIR/EIS, along with several alternatives.

#### **7.3.3.2.1 Trails Management Program**

The trails management program in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area has adopted an Adaptive Management approach with an emphasis on research. The Trails Plan will initially focus on multi-agency scientific data gathering to evaluate the effects of recreational trail use on Peninsular bighorn sheep health, behavior, habitat selection, and long-term population dynamics. The overarching goal of this research program is to obtain empirical data from the Plan Area to guide trails management. The basic research questions relate, in part, to the proximate response of bighorn sheep to recreation disturbance; for example, *“Is there evidence of bighorn sheep avoiding recreational trails? What is the relationship between distance of sheep to disturbance and their response? What is the current distribution of bighorn sheep home ranges relative to trails? If sheep avoid trails, what levels of human use and which trail characteristics (e.g., elevation, viewshed, terrain roughness, visibility, and slope) are associated with trail avoidance?”* Other questions that would require a longer time frame would include: *“What effect does recreation have on persistence of bighorn sheep populations?”* and *“What effect does recreational trail use have on connectivity among bighorn sheep populations?”* The research program is discussed further in Element 2 of the trails management program below.

This research program will be coordinated with monitoring of human trail use, and will be integrated with educational and public awareness efforts, and other trail management prescriptions. The trails management program is composed of eight elements, which are described below. In addition, the public use and trails management plan addresses other public access issues, such as dogs and cross country travel, in Section 7.3.3.2.2. The eight elements, detailed in the following sections, are summarized here: (1) use of existing trails, which will remain open all year, except for manipulation of use levels on some trails may occur as part of the research program; (2) initiation in Plan year 1 of a research program designed to ascertain bighorn sheep response to, and any significant adverse impacts from, recreational trail use in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. This research may include manipulation or limitation of use levels or closures on selected trails as an element of the study design to address specific hypothesis-based research questions; (3) gathering of data on human trail use, primarily on trails within sensitive bighorn sheep lambing habitat and other trails as appropriate. A year-round mandatory self-issue permit system for selected trails, and other methods as appropriate, will be part of the human use monitoring program. Ongoing monitoring of bighorn sheep populations will be expanded to include regular monitoring of the distribution, abundance, recruitment, survival and cause-specific mortality of bighorn sheep throughout the Plan Area; (4) closure of three trails from June 15 through September 30 to minimize the potential impediments for access to water by bighorn sheep and other wildlife during the hot season; (5) deferral of construction of new trails, pending the results of the initial research program, monitoring of trail use, and monitoring of bighorn sheep populations; (6) implementation

of a public awareness and education program; (7) annual review of the effectiveness of the public use and trails management program, including results of monitoring, research, and trail management prescriptions. This annual review will consider prudent management actions, including potential trail closures, in response to scientific data or sheep population declines below identified threshold levels; and (8) rerouting and decommissioning of trails to protect sensitive resource values, pending results of the research program.

Due to specific resource concerns associated with the Art Smith Trail and the Mirage Trail, management actions to benefit Peninsular bighorn sheep recovery were addressed separate from the Trails Plan and have been initiated prior to issuance of the Permits. These actions include rerouting the easternmost segment of the Art Smith Trail to incorporate the southern Schey Trail; restricting access to Dead Indian Canyon and the decommissioned segment of the Art Smith Trail; constructing the Hopalong Cassidy perimeter trail; closing the upper portion of the northern Schey Trail; providing an alternate access to the Mirage Trail; closing the upper Mirage Trail; and implementing an education, signage, and enforcement program to support these actions. Environmental documentation for, and approval of, these actions are separate from the Trails Plan.

A Reserve Management Unit Plan (RMUP) will be prepared within 3 years after Permit issuance (See Section 6.2) for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area (Reserve Management Unit 6). This RMUP will include public use and trails management. A sample Memorandum of Understanding is provided in Appendix III to describe potential interim management of the Conservation Area pending approval of the RMUP. This sample MOU among the Wildlife Agencies, BLM, and the CVCC describes the roles and responsibilities of these agencies in implementation of the Trails Plan, including monitoring, enforcement, and research.

**(1) Trail Management Program Element 1: Trails Open All Year**

The following trails within Essential bighorn sheep Habitat will be available for year-round non-motorized use subject to annual review and modification as described in Element 7 below. As part of the research program, some of the trails listed below may be subject to manipulation of trail use levels--including increases, decreases, or prohibitions of use altogether--to determine the effects of recreational trail use on Peninsular bighorn sheep. Selected trails that will be the initial focus of the research program are listed in Element 2 below.

➤ ***West of Palm Canyon***

- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
- North Lykken Trail
- Skyline Trail
- Museum Trail
- South Lykken Trail
- Picnic Table Trail

➤ ***South Palm Springs***

- Araby Trail
- Shannon Trail
- Berns Trail
- Garstin Trail
- Henderson Trail
- Alexander Trail
- Goat Trails
- Eagle Canyon Trail (not including portions of trail on Indian Reservation land)
- Wild Horse Trail
- Clara Burgess Trail
- Fern Canyon Trail
- Vandeventer Trail
- Hahn Buena Vista Trail
- Dry Wash Trail
- Dunn Road (Note: A portion of this trail is currently closed to public access where it crosses private lands in Section 5, T5S R5E.)
- Dry Wash to Vandeventer Trail connector
- Thielman Trail
- Palm Canyon Trail
- Indian Potrero Trail
- Potrero Canyon Trail

➤ ***Cathedral City / Rancho Mirage***

- Cathedral Canyon Trail
- Bighorn Overlook Trail
- Mirage (“Bump and Grind”) Trail below its intersection with the new perimeter trail (Hopalong Cassidy Trail) that connects with the Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park trail system.

➤ ***Palm Desert / Indian Wells***

- Art Smith Trail from the Art Smith Trailhead to the Hopalong Cassidy Trail



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- Hopalong Cassidy Trail
- Eisenhower Mountain Trail (access through *The Living Desert*)

### ➤ *La Quinta*

- Bear Creek Canyon Trail north of its intersection with the Bear Creek Oasis Trail
- La Quinta Cove to Lake Cahuilla Trail (includes the Morrow Trail and a portion of the Boo Hoff Trail)
- Guadalupe Trail
- Boo Hoff Trail

### ➤ *Southern Santa Rosa Mountains*

- Cactus Spring Trail
- Martinez Canyon Trail

### ➤ *U.S. Forest Service lands*

- The use of trails on Forest Service lands is subject to existing regulations, policies, and land management plans.

### ➤ *Perimeter and other new trails*

- Once constructed, any perimeter trails approved by the Plan will be compatible activities.

Figure 7-11 depicts Peninsular bighorn sheep habitat, the existing trails open all year, new and perimeter trails to be deferred under the Plan, and trails addressed separate from the Plan. Figure 7-12 depicts trails with special management prescriptions, including trails that are subject to the self-issue permit program, that are also the focus of the research program, as described in Element 3, and trails subject to the hot season closure described in Element 4. Figure 7-15 depicts the anticipated changes (reroutes, new trail construction, trail closures) to the trails from the Art Smith trailhead in Palm Desert to the lower Mirage Trail in Rancho Mirage. As previously indicated, these specific management actions to benefit Peninsular bighorn sheep recovery are addressed separate from the Trails Plan and will be initiated prior to issuance of the Permits.

## **(2) Trails Management Program Element 2: Research Program**

A focused research program to evaluate the effects of recreational trail use on Peninsular bighorn sheep within Essential bighorn sheep Habitat in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains will be initiated during Plan implementation in year one, if this program has not already been initiated. This research will address the proximate response of bighorn sheep to recreation disturbance as well as broader questions about the population-level effects and impacts to long-term persistence of bighorn sheep. A separate research program focusing on the effects of recreational trail use on captive bighorn sheep is also proposed.

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This research program may require manipulation of use levels on trails. Manipulation could include increases, decreases, or prohibitions of use altogether on one or more trails, while simultaneously monitoring responses of bighorn sheep. Manipulated trail use will be based on a research study design focused on addressing specific research questions related to the impacts of trail use on Peninsular bighorn sheep (see Section 8.5.1). The research study design will determine which trails, if any, would be subject to manipulation of use levels. Data gathered from this research program will be used as the basis for future trails management decisions. Implementation of the research program will be coordinated with the Trails Management Subcommittee.

Upon completion of the research program, study results and management recommendations will be integrated into a revised public use and trails management plan and implemented by Plan Year 10 using best available science, professional judgment, and wildlife management principles where study results may be less than definitive. This process will include a review of the status of the species at that time, evaluation of the scientific literature, and other available data. The initial trails research will be carried out during an approximately five year period. The implementation of the trails research program will be initiated in Plan year one with development of a problem analysis and request for proposals. Field research may not actually begin until Plan year two. Some elements of the research may not require five years to complete. It is anticipated that interim feedback from the bighorn sheep and trails research will also be available via annual reports which will be provided to the various management committees and the CVCC for their use. The research results in their entirety will be available for review and use by the Trails Management Subcommittee, RMOC, CVCC, and other entities by no later than year nine of Plan implementation; this schedule incorporates the time necessary for complete data analysis and final report preparation. The research results will be incorporated in the trails management program. At that time, re-initiation of the Section 7 consultation with BLM will occur for federal lands in coordination with the Trails Plan. Depending on future sheep population fluctuations, research results, and management needs, subsequent research will be provided throughout Plan implementation as part of the Monitoring Program, Management Program and Adaptive Management if needed.

This research program will be carried out through a contract (or contracts), solicited by a Request for Proposals (RFP) to qualified research institutions or scientists. The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies are outlined in Section 8.5.1. Funding for this research is outlined in Section 8.8.2. Development of the RFP, review of proposals, and selection of researchers would be by qualified representatives from the Wildlife Agencies, CVCC, BLM, and outside objective reviewers. The outside reviewers will be approved by the other members of this group. All contracted research on recreational trail use must be based on research proposals that conform to the Scientific Principles.

As part of the refinement of the research program and development of the RFP, a problem analysis will be prepared. Additional description of the research program is provided in Section 8.5.1.

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The trails or trail segments listed below will be subject to the self issue permit system, except as noted (*Trails shown in italics are not subject to the self-issue permit system described in Element 3 below*). These trails will also be the initial focus of the research program; this list of trails may be adjusted as the research study design is developed:

### **San Jacinto Mountains**

- West of Palm Canyon
  - North Lykken Trail north of Desert Riders Park
  - Skyline Trail

### **Santa Rosa Mountains**

- ***South Palm Springs***
  - Clara Burgess Trail
  - Hahn Buena Vista Trail
  - Lower Dunn Road from the second BLM gate in Section 5, T5S R5E, to the Road's intersection with the Dry Wash Trail. (Note: A portion of this trail is currently closed to public access where it crosses private lands in Section 5, T5S R5E.)
- ***Cathedral City/Rancho Mirage***
  - Cathedral Canyon Trail south of the intersection of the trail's two legs that originate in Cathedral City Cove
- ***Palm Desert/Indian Wells***
  - Art Smith Trail west of its intersection with the proposed Hopalong Cassidy Trail
- ***La Quinta***
  - Bear Creek Canyon Trail south of its intersection with the Bear Creek Oasis Trail
  - Bear Creek Oasis Trail
  - Guadalupe Trail
  - Boo Hoff Trail except for segments included in the La Quinta Cove to Lake Cahuilla Trail, segments north of its intersection with a secondary trail in the center of Section 24 (T6S R6E), and segments from Lake Cahuilla south to the eastern boundary of the Santa Rosa Wilderness

### **(3) Trail Management Program Element 3: Monitoring of Trail Use and Peninsular Bighorn Sheep Population**

The Monitoring Program for the Plan will focus on further evaluation of the use of recreational trails by hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers as it relates to habitat use by

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bighorn sheep. Among questions the Monitoring Program will address is, “*What are current levels of human use on recreational trails in bighorn sheep habitat year round with an emphasis on lambing season?*” The intent of this effort is to increase the currently available data and information on the levels of use on various trails using a statistically valid protocol, within the first two years of Plan implementation if this monitoring has not already been conducted or where this additional monitoring appears warranted. Compliance with the mandatory self-issue permit system, hot season closures, and other trails management prescriptions will also be assessed as part of the Monitoring Program. This monitoring effort will involve statistically valid methods to assess human use levels (See Section 8.8.2).

A mandatory self-issue permit system will be implemented on the trails or trail segments listed in Element 2 to provide data for the human use monitoring program. These self-issue permits will be required of all trail users on a year-round basis. They will be designed to be as user-friendly as possible and will not be limited in number. One permit per group will fulfill the permit requirement; however, the number of individuals in the group must be recorded in the appropriate location on the permit, and the group must remain together throughout the duration of the activity on the trail(s) subject to the permit requirement. If it is anticipated that the group will separate into subgroups along the trail, a separate permit must be obtained by each subgroup. The permits will likely be available at trailhead kiosks but may also be available online and at other convenient locations, as appropriate. The permits will provide an opportunity to educate trail users about trail use rules, conservation of bighorn sheep, and safety recommendations for desert hiking. Failure to have a permit in possession when using the applicable trails may result in issuance of a citation.

To date, CDFG has been conducting ongoing population surveys of Peninsular bighorn sheep on a biannual basis in cooperation with the Bighorn Institute. Population level monitoring of bighorn sheep for the Plan will increase in resolution for the first seven to nine years of Plan implementation or until the revised public use and trails management plan is implemented to obtain data on the distribution, abundance, recruitment, survival, and cause-specific mortality of bighorn sheep in the Plan Area. Intensive monitoring will continue until the results from the research described in Element 2 are complete and the trails management program is revised to incorporate the results and recommendations from the research. Monitoring of bighorn sheep will be a cooperative effort involving CDFG, USFWS, BLM, CVCC, and other partners, with funding provided primarily by CDFG, to the extent possible, and CVCC. This more intensive monitoring during the initial research phase is necessary for the Trails Management Subcommittee’s annual review of bighorn sheep data (see Trails Plan Element 7). Ongoing annual monitoring is also provided for in the Monitoring Program. All data used in decisions regarding the public use and trails management plan will be available to the CVCC and appropriate committees, including the Trails Management Subcommittee.

The Monitoring Program is outlined in Section 8.4.7.1.1.

### **(4) Trails Management Program Element 4: Hot Season Trail Closures**

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Three trails will be closed to recreational activities during the hot season to minimize the potential impediments for access to water by bighorn sheep and other wildlife. These trails will be closed from June 15 through September 30, as follows (Figure 7-12):

- Art Smith Trail west of its intersection with the Hopalong Cassidy Trail.
- Bear Creek Canyon Trail south of its intersection with the Bear Creek Oasis Trail
- Bear Creek Oasis Trail

Carrizo Canyon and Magnesia Canyon are within CDFG Ecological Reserves and are closed to public access from June 15 through September 30, in accordance with the California Code of Regulations.

Compliance with the hot season closures will be evaluated as part of the monitoring described in Element 3.

### **(5) Trails Management Program Element 5: Construction of New Trails**

Construction and use of new perimeter trails described in this section will be a Covered Activity unless research results indicate that the proposed trails would adversely affect bighorn sheep. Current analysis indicates that these perimeter trails will not substantially impact Peninsular bighorn sheep populations, nor result in Take. Additional research will be conducted through Element 2 (described above) to further analyze impacts to Peninsular bighorn sheep from recreational trail use, thereby confirming and expanding upon previous impact assessments. Proposals to construct perimeter trails and other new trails will be deferred until the initial phase of the monitoring and research program has been completed. This deferral will ensure that trail conditions (e.g., use levels) are as consistent as possible once the research and monitoring programs are initiated. Once the research is completed, perimeter trails may be constructed unless the research results indicate that perimeter trails will substantially impact Peninsular bighorn sheep. Subsequent CEQA and/or NEPA analysis of these trails will also be required.

As noted above, due to resource concerns, construction of the following new trails was addressed separate from the Trails Plan and has been initiated. Figure 7-15 illustrates these changes to the existing trail system. They are briefly described as follows:

- Art Smith Trail reroute: A reroute of the easternmost segment of the existing Art Smith Trail. This reroute from the Art Smith Trailhead parking lot off Highway 74 avoids a bighorn sheep ewe subgroup in the Dead Indian Canyon area.
- Hopalong Cassidy Trail: A new perimeter trail connecting the Art Smith Trail reroute with the Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park trail complex, and then continuing in a northerly direction to join the existing Mirage Trail.

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- Desert Crossing Trail: A connector trail from the Desert Crossing shopping center to the existing Mirage Trail.

In conjunction with rerouting the Art Smith Trail, the Dead Indian Canyon Trail to the oasis is closed from January 1 through September 30.

### *New Perimeter Trails*

New perimeter trails were proposed to provide alternative hiking opportunities and thereby reduce trail usage in more sensitive bighorn sheep habitat areas. Appropriateness of perimeter trails will be determined upon completion of the research program described in Element 2. If research results show that recreational trail use would not adversely impact bighorn sheep health, behavior, demography, and population sustainability and connectivity, construction of these perimeter trails could be initiated as soon as feasible, depending on funding availability and acquisition of easements or other authorizations, and completion of applicable NEPA and CEQA requirements. Actions on certain lands cannot begin until easements or other authorizations from landowners are acquired. Actions regarding trails on BLM lands are not a Covered Activity under the MSHCP; BLM will undertake its own approval process for trails on lands it administers. Construction of new trails on CDFG lands requires authorization from CDFG.

As described below, new perimeter trail alignments have been identified and are shown in Figures 7-11 and 7-14, including alignments of trails that were addressed separate from the Trails Plan. Once constructed, these trails will be available for use by all means of non-motorized conveyance (e.g., on foot, bicycle, horse), unless restrictions on a particular use are deemed necessary.

Future proposals for new trails on Reserve Lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area, other than the identified trails described herein, will be addressed on a case-by-case basis, subject to existing regulations, policies, and land management plans. Such future trail proposals will require a Minor Amendment to the Plan with Wildlife Agencies' concurrence.

General guidelines for development of perimeter trails are as follows:

- Perimeter trails will generally run parallel to and not rise more than 200 feet above the toe of slope, except where necessary to avoid residential or other developed areas or topographically inaccessible terrain.
- Perimeter trails will not be constructed within 1/4 mile of wildlife water sources.
- Perimeter trails will incorporate topographic variability where possible.
- Perimeter trails will be available for year-round use.
- Construction of perimeter trails will be allowed from July 1 through December 31 only.

Identified perimeter trails, listed from west to east, are as follows:

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- Garstin to Thielman Link Trail: Trail along the western flank of the Murray Hill complex of trails linking the Garstin Trail with the Thielman Trail.
- Cathedral City Cove: Trail along the eastern, southern, and western flanks of Cathedral City Cove, except for a segment of the trail in Section 33, T4S R5E. This perimeter trail will utilize segments of the lower Cathedral Canyon Trail.
- West La Quinta Cove: Trail to summit of isolated prominence in Section 1, T6S R6E, northwest of La Quinta Cove. This trail would connect with the proposed new Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail.
- East La Quinta Cove: Trail on the western flank of the Coral Reef Mountains starting from the flood control basin access gate at the south end of La Quinta Cove. Although a specific trail alignment has been identified, development of a new reservoir by the Coachella Valley Water District will require some modification to the identified trail alignment. CVWD has agreed to cooperate in determination of this alignment.
- Trails should not deviate more than 50 feet from the original alignment. Specific alignments are on file with CVAG.

#### Perimeter Trail Corridors

Specific alignments for these perimeter trails have not been ascertained. Perimeter trail corridors are identified in which new trails may be constructed after NEPA and CEQA requirements are met, and the appropriate authorizations are secured. These corridors are as follows:

- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail at Snow Creek to the northern boundary of Section 4, T4S R4E (lands owned by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians)
- Southern boundary of Section 4, T4S R4E to the northern terminus of the North Lykken Trail
- Terminus of one of the Goat Trails at Rimrock Shopping Center to the new perimeter trail encompassing Cathedral City Cove, including the northwest segment of the perimeter trail flanking Cathedral City Cove in Section 33, T4S R5E
- Cathedral City Cove to Rancho Mirage (not shown in Figure 7-14). This perimeter trail corridor is not within bighorn sheep Habitat as a result of the fence installed by the City of Rancho Mirage.
- Northeast flank of the Coral Reef Mountains in an area known as “Silver Rock Ranch.” This trail is proposed by the City of La Quinta as part of development of a public golf course project on the adjacent flat lands.
- Western flank of the Coral Reef Mountains starting from the flood control basin access gate at the south end of La Quinta Cove (pending coordination with CVWD). This corridor is to provide adequate area to realign the East La Quinta Cove Perimeter Trail.

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- East side of the Santa Rosa Wilderness from the southern terminus of the proposed trail through Coral Mountain Regional Park to the road providing access to Martinez Canyon (the road would be used as a trail for access to the Canyon)
- Southern boundary of the proposed Travertine project in La Quinta in the vicinity of the Martinez rock slide then north along the boundary between BLM land in Section 32 and Travertine land in Section 33 (T6S R7E), then connecting to the Boo Hoff Trail.
- The proposed corridors for perimeter trails are shown in Figure 7-14.

### *Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail*

An alignment for a trail connecting the interpretive loop trail south of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center with the northwest portion of La Quinta Cove has been identified and is known as the Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail. Portions of the preferred alignment traverse areas used by wild sheep. Therefore, the portion of the Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail between the Visitor Center and the *Living Desert* will be a Covered Activity when the research program evaluating the effects of recreational trail use on wild sheep in the Conservation Area and a subsequent research program evaluating the effects of this portion of the Connector Trail on captive sheep at the Bighorn Institute have been completed. When research is pursued on the captive sheep at the Bighorn Institute, the permission of the Bighorn Institute will be obtained prior to the study being initiated. If impacts to wild and/or captive breeding populations would result as determined through the research programs and Feasible mitigation measures cannot be implemented to reduce impacts, then all or a portion of the preferred alignment of the Connector Trail will not be constructed. If research results are less than definitive, then wildlife management principals, professional judgment, and the best available science will be used to assess impacts and develop mitigation measures. Mitigation measures will be considered that will reduce potential adverse impacts to levels that are less than significant. Subsequent CEQA and/or NEPA analysis of the Connector Trail will be conducted.

Depending on the results of the research, construction of the connector trail and alternative access trail could be initiated as soon as feasible, depending on funding availability and acquisition of easements or other authorizations, and completion of applicable NEPA and CEQA requirements.

A trail beginning on Portola Avenue in Palm Desert just north of *The Living Desert* and connecting with the Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail is under consideration. Because a specific alignment for this trail near *The Living Desert* has not been fully analyzed in the EIR/EIS, a preliminary trail alignment as well as the corridor in which this trail may be constructed is identified. (See Figure 7-13.) This trail would be available for use by all means of non-motorized conveyance (e.g., on foot, bicycle, horse), unless restrictions on a particular use are deemed necessary. Limits on the use of this trail by equestrians may be necessary pending coordination with *The Living Desert*.



Figure 7-13 depicts the proposed Palm Desert to La Quinta Connector Trail as well as the alignment and corridor for the trail near *The Living Desert*.

### Trailheads

Trailheads are defined as locations where individuals commence their use of a trail or network of trails, and often transfer from motorized to non-motorized conveyance (e.g., arrive by car to begin travel on foot, horse, or bicycle). Intersections of trails in the backcountry are generally not considered to be trailheads. Existing trailhead facilities would be used whenever possible; improvements to these facilities may be undertaken to meet the minimum requirements identified below, upon separate approval by the applicable jurisdiction.

#### Minimum Facilities for Trailheads:

- Parking availability commensurate with anticipated levels of use.
- Signs that explain the rules for trail use and applicable restrictions, if any.

Trail registers, kiosks, and interpretive information may be provided as determined on a case-by-case basis.

### **(6) Trail Management Program Element 6: Public Awareness and Education Program**

A public awareness and education program will be developed and implemented by CVCC and BLM in consultation with the Trails Management Subcommittee and the Monument Advisory Committee, with the following objectives:

1. To inform the public about bighorn sheep ecology and conservation issues.
2. To encourage trail users to comply with the Trails Management Program to limit potential impacts to bighorn sheep.

Existing educational materials may be used or modified as appropriate. BLM and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument already provide information to trail users about measures to benefit bighorn sheep conservation. The program will include information about Peninsular bighorn sheep ecology and behavior in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains, as well as the overall conservation program for this species. It will include information about the importance of and timeline for the monitoring and research programs to assess human trail use levels and examine bighorn sheep response to recreational trail use. Information will include the specific elements of the public use and trails management program including trails open all year, trails that are subject to the mandatory self-issue permit, trails that are closed during the hot season, and approved dog use areas. As new perimeter trails are completed, information about the availability of these trails will be provided to the public in as many outlets as possible to

encourage the use of these trails as alternatives that avoid sensitive bighorn sheep habitat. The public awareness and education program information will be provided in a variety of ways including contact with rangers and other personnel, maps, signage and kiosks at trailheads, brochures and written information, postings to both the CVMSHCP and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument websites as well as others, and news releases to the local media.

**(7) Trail Management Program Element 7: Review of Trails Program**

The Trails Management Subcommittee will annually review effectiveness of the overall public use and trails management program. Annual review will include progress reports and recommendations from the researcher(s) working on bighorn sheep within the Plan Area; an assessment of bighorn sheep population trends; recreational trail use data; compliance with the hot season closures, mandatory self-issue permits, and other trail management prescriptions; and other new data acquired.

Until such time as the initial phase of the monitoring and research program is completed [see Trails Management Program Elements (2) and (3) above], the annual review will consider the best information available to evaluate the public use and trails management program and any effects on the Peninsular bighorn sheep. Best information available will include, but is not limited to, Peninsular bighorn sheep demographic data, results from ongoing agency monitoring programs, and interim results of the monitoring and research program.

The Subcommittee will make recommendations to both the RMOC and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Advisory Committee regarding modifications to the public use and trails management program. The RMOC will make recommendations to CVCC for the portions of trails on non-federal land. The Monument Advisory Committee will make recommendations to BLM and USFS regarding trails on federal land. See Section 6.3 for additional information regarding the Trails Management Subcommittee.

As described on pages 67-110 of the Recovery Plan (USFWS 2000), a variety of approaches are being used to recover bighorn sheep in the Peninsular Ranges. These approaches include but are not limited to: protecting, restoring and acquiring habitat; removing non-native vegetation; managing fire to restore habitat; maintaining existing water sources and developing additional water where necessary; developing bighorn crossing areas over highways or other barriers where necessary to maintain or improve habitat connectivity; constructing fencing to exclude bighorn sheep from urban areas; reducing or eliminating detrimental human activities within bighorn habitat; and if the number of ewes in any recovery region drops below 15 and mountain lion predation is known to be a cause of death within that area, removal of mountain lions.

In accord with Recovery Task 1.2.2., if in the year under review, the number of ewes within a ewe group (defined by Rubin et al. 1998 as groups of ewes having overlapping 100% minimum convex polygon home ranges) or subgroup (a group of ewes

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with overlapping 90% fixed-kernel home ranges, e.g., the Dead Indian Canyon/Carrizo Canyon ewe subgroup) drops below 15, the Trails Management Subcommittee and researchers shall meet and review all data regarding the decline and the causes thereof. Management actions needed to address the decline may include but are not limited to trail rerouting, adjustments in use levels, enforcement actions, and trail closures.

If data indicate that a ewe group or subgroup population has dropped to five or fewer ewes, immediate action to close trails shall be taken. The Wildlife Agencies, BLM, a representative of the CVCC, and researchers will meet and confer as soon as possible, but in not more than thirty days, to review the data and to identify appropriate measures to be taken regarding trail use in the area that may affect the ewe group or subgroup. Actions may include long-term trail closure, trail rerouting, or other measures deemed appropriate. Trails associated with the various identified ewe groups and subgroups are delineated in Table 7-14. The delineation of ewe groups and subgroups and associated trails is subject to review and modification as data warrant.

It is noted that the Dead Indian Canyon subgroup has, as of May 2005, fewer than five ewes. To avoid or minimize trail use impacts to this subgroup, management actions are being addressed separate from the Trails Plan and will be initiated prior to issuance of the Permits. As described in Element 5, these actions include rerouting the easternmost segment of the Art Smith Trail as depicted in Figure 7-15, and restricting access to Dead Indian Canyon and the decommissioned segment of the Art Smith Trail. The rerouted portion of the Art Smith Trail is not subject to closure at this time although the Dead Indian Canyon subgroup has fewer than five ewes. The research program will monitor the subgroup and trail use to assess whether use of the rerouted trail has any impacts on the subgroup. If there is evidence of a decline in the number of ewes in the subgroup, the meet and confer process described above will be used to determine appropriate actions.

It is expected that over time as the sheep population increases, new ewe subgroups may form. These ewe subgroups will be monitored to determine what, if any, management actions may be necessary to ensure their survival. Table 7-15 provides adult population estimates for the ewe groups in the four recovery regions from 2000 through 2004.

***Table 7-14: Ewe Groups and Subgroups and  
Associated Trails in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains  
Conservation Area as of June 2005***

<b><i>Ewe group or subgroup</i></b>	<b><i>Associated trails</i></b>
Recovery Region 1	North Lykken, Skyline, Museum, South Lykken
Recovery Region 2a	Garstin, Wild Horse, Clara Burgess, Goat, Eagle Canyon, Cathedral Canyon, Dunn Road, Hahn Buena Vista, Mirage, Art Smith
Recovery Region 2b	Art Smith, Carrizo Canyon, Schey
Recovery Region 3	Bear Creek Canyon, Bear Creek Oasis, Guadalupe, Boo Hoff,
Recovery Region 4	Martinez Canyon, Cactus Spring

***Table 7-15: Adult Population Estimates for  
PBS Ewe Groups and Subgroups in the Santa Rosa  
and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area***

<i>Year</i>	<i>Recovery Region 1 – San Jacinto Mountains</i>	<i>Recovery Region 2a – Bradley/Magnesia/Cathedral Canyons</i>	<i>Recovery Region 2b– Carrizo/Dead Indian Canyons</i>	<i>Recovery Region 3 – La Quinta Area</i>	<i>Recovery Region 4 – Martinez Canyon</i>
2006	26*	53	5	163	n/a
2004	32*	57	4	234**	234**
2003	25	44*	3	87	100
2002	24*	35	3	115	84
2001	31	41	4	57	96
2000	26	27	3	53	51

\* An asterisk denotes the population was augmented with captive-reared bighorn sheep from Bighorn Institute.

\*\* In 2004, separate population estimates for Recovery Regions 3 and 4 were not available and the estimate is for both regions combined.

For more information about management of trails and public use, see Section 8.4.6.2.

#### **(8) Trails Management Program Element 8: Rerouting and Decommissioning of Trails**

*Trail Rerouting.* As with construction of new trails, proposals to reroute trails will be deferred until the initial five-year phase of the monitoring and research program has been completed. This deferral will ensure that trail conditions (e.g., use levels) are as consistent as possible once the research and monitoring programs are initiated. The construction and use of trail reroutes described in this section would be a Covered Activity pending the results of the research program. Rerouting, and associated decommissioning, of trails would occur following approval of a specific project by the appropriate project lead agency and completion of NEPA and CEQA requirements. Actions on certain lands cannot begin until easements or other authorizations from landowners are acquired. Actions regarding trails on BLM lands are not a Covered Activity under the MSHCP; BLM will undertake its own approval process for rerouting trails on lands it administers. Actions regarding the rerouting of trails on CDFG lands require authorization from CDFG.

Rerouting of a portion of the Art Smith Trail and closure of a portion of the Mirage Trail has been addressed separate from the Trails Plan and will be initiated prior to issuance of the Permits. The alignment of the reroute is described under Element 5 and illustrated in Figure 7-15.

Trails will be rerouted to protect sensitive resource values (e.g., cultural resources, wildlife habitat, soils) where feasible. “Feasible” trail reroutes are those that can be accomplished without extraordinary expenditures or efforts, i.e., the benefits derived are commensurate with the expenditure of funds and/or the level of effort. Reroutes are assumed to replace, not augment, trails or trail segments.

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Identification of trails to be rerouted to protect bighorn sheep will be based on habitat use patterns, home ranges, and distribution of bighorn sheep and other available research. Proposals regarding specific reroutes will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Outside Essential bighorn sheep Habitat, proposals for trail reroutes will also be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Trails will be rerouted around existing wildlife water sources, where feasible, to prevent disturbance to wildlife during the hot season. Construction of trail reroutes within Essential bighorn sheep Habitat is allowed from October 1 through December 31 only.

Trails to be rerouted are as follows:

- Segments of the Goat Trails if construction of the Palm Hills project occurs. Trail rerouting in this area would avoid bighorn sheep Habitat in the Eagle Canyon area.
- Rerouting a portion of the Guadalupe Trail to avoid desert slender salamander habitat will be proposed, if meaningful and feasible, upon locating salamander populations and determining levels of trail use.
- If a North Lykken Tribal trail is Permitted through a Tribal HCP, the existing North Lykken in Tachevah Canyon will be decommissioned.
- Rerouting the portion of the Art Smith Trail where it crosses Cat Canyon adjacent to a yearlong water source; rerouting the trail would be proposed if a less environmentally damaging location is identified.

*Trail Decommission and Removal.* Trails may be decommissioned and removed if their use is determined to cause adverse impacts to resource values, including visual resources where multiple trails occur in close proximity to one another (e.g., “braided” trails). Measures to mitigate adverse impacts will be considered as an alternative to trail removal. Recommendations for decommissioning and removing trails will be made by the Trails Management Subcommittee to the RMOC and the Monument Advisory Committee. On lands for non-Permittees, final approval for trail decommissions and removal rests with the entity having jurisdiction over the applicable lands. Decommission and removal of trails would occur following approval of the project by the appropriate project lead agency and completion of NEPA and CEQA requirements. Trail removal in Essential bighorn sheep Habitat will be allowed from October 1 through December 31 only. Approval of a trail reroute by the appropriate project lead agency will include approval for decommission and removal of the associated trail or trail segment, unless restrictions on the use of the associated trail or trail segment is deemed more appropriate than removal. Once approved, removal shall occur within three years.

Except as noted below, recommendations regarding the decommission and removal of trails to minimize potential adverse impacts to Peninsular bighorn sheep will be deferred until the initial phase of the monitoring and research program has been completed [see Trails Management Program Elements (2) and (3)].

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Prior to making recommendations for decommissioning and removing trails in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area, an inventory of all trails in the Conservation Area will occur. This inventory will be completed within one year of Permit issuance. Trails not listed as approved in the Trails Plan are unauthorized. The Trails Management Subcommittee will evaluate whether unauthorized trails will be decommissioned and removed.

Decommission and removal of the following trails and trail segments are being addressed separate from the Trails Plan, as part of the rerouting of the Art Smith and Mirage Trails and construction of the Hopalong Cassidy Trail described in Element 5:

- The lower portion of the Art Smith Trail in Dead Indian Canyon, as shown in Figure 7-15.
- The portion of the northern Schey Trail not incorporated in the Hopalong Cassidy Trail, as shown in Figure 7-15. Decommission and removal of this trail segment would occur upon completion of the Hopalong Cassidy perimeter trail.

The following trails to be decommissioned and removed will be considered by the Trails Management Subcommittee:

- A spur trail in Section 9, T4S R4E that extends in a westerly direction from the North Lykken Trail.
- A spur trail in Section 14, T6S R6E that extends in a westerly direction from the southwest corner of La Quinta Cove.
- Redundant trails in the Murray Hill Complex with particular emphasis on redundant trails in the Murray Hill/Eagle Canyon/Goat Trails area.
- Trails in the Coral Reef Mountains north of the La Quinta Cove to Lake Cahuilla Trail.
- The western leg of the Cathedral Canyon Trail from the toe of slope to its intersection with the new perimeter trail encompassing Cathedral City Cove upon completion of the perimeter trail.

The following trails and trail segments would be decommissioned and removed as a result of decisions of the California Department of Fish and Game, separate from the MSHCP, to facilitate management of the Magnesia Spring Ecological Reserve:

- A segment of the Mirage (“Bump and Grind”) Trail above its intersection with the new perimeter trail (Hopalong Cassidy Trail) that will connect with the Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park trail system. Decommission and removal of this trail segment will occur upon completion of the perimeter trail.

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- Spur trails that extend towards Magnesia Canyon and Ramon Peak from the Mirage Trail.
- Other trails in the Ecological Reserve upon completion of the trails inventory and identification of potential adverse impacts.
- The portion of the Art Smith Trail crossing Cat Canyon conflicts with a yearlong water source; rerouting the trail downhill would be proposed if a less environmentally damaging location is identified.

Removal of these trails shall be completed within nine years of Permit issuance. The location of these trails is shown in Figure 7-15.

All trails on Reserve Lands not recognized in the Trails Plan will be prioritized by the Trails Management Subcommittee for decommission and removal by the appropriate Plan Participant, subject to NEPA and CEQA requirements and any other applicable regulations.

### ***7.3.3.2.2 Other Public Access Issues and Uses on Reserve Lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area***

Because Reserve Lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area provide Essential Habitat for Peninsular bighorn sheep, the Plan must address other recreational activities on non-federal lands. See Section 2.12 in the EIR/EIS for how these recreational activities are addressed on federal lands. The following apply to non-federal lands within Essential bighorn sheep Habitat on Reserve Lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area.

#### ***➤ Cross-Country Travel***

- Cross-country travel is prohibited from January 1 through September 30, and allowed from October 1 through December 31.
- During the period when cross-country travel is prohibited, individuals may venture no more than 50 feet from centerline of trails on either side for purposes of resting, nature study, or other similar activities; this use does not constitute cross-country travel.
- Holders of permits issued for research and extended study are exempt from the cross-country prohibition.
- Bicycles are prohibited year-round from traveling cross-country; travel by such conveyance is restricted to authorized trails.

#### ***➤ Camping***

- Camping is prohibited from January 1 through September 30, and allowed from October 1 through December 31.
- Camping is prohibited within 1/4 mile of water sources.

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- Campers must obtain a permit for camping where and when camping is allowed. The Permittees, CVCC, CDFG, and BLM will develop a system for administering these permits.
- Carrizo Canyon Ecological Reserve and Magnesia Spring Ecological Reserve are closed to camping (California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 430).

### ➤ **Dogs**

- Dogs are allowed in designated areas only. An educational kiosk will be installed at each designated dog walking area. It will include information about basic bighorn sheep ecology and behavior, as well as the potential threats to bighorn sheep due to the presence of dogs. The boundaries of dog walking areas will be clearly signed. The following area is approved for entry with dogs:
  - West of Cathedral City Cove in the wash from Dunn Road to the northern boundary of Section 5, T5S R5E.

Upon construction of the Garstin to Thielman Link Trail, east of the Andreas Hills residential community, a dog use area would be established that incorporates only the lower segments of the Garstin Trail, the link trail itself, and the lower segment of the Thielman Trail.

Note: Additional designated dog areas are located at Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park in the City of Palm Desert, and south of La Quinta Cove to the flood control levee in Section 13, T6S R6E. The latter area is outside Essential Habitat, and is not within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area.

Designated dog areas are depicted in Figure 7-16.

- For designated dog areas incorporating trails (i.e., the Andreas Hills area in Palm Springs and the Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park loop), the applicable jurisdiction will establish a dog permit program whereupon individuals accompanied by dogs on trails are required to obtain a permit that specifies the conditions of use. Conditions of use shall include, but not be limited to, controlling animals to ensure they do not freely roam. Permits will be self-issued and available at each designated dog walking area.
- Dogs must be leashed (maximum length of 10 feet), except on City of Palm Desert lands at Homme-Adams Park/Cahuilla Hills Park where dogs may be under voice control in accordance with a local ordinance.
- Dogs are not allowed in Carrizo Canyon Ecological Reserve and Magnesia Spring Ecological Reserve (California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 430).
- Picking up and properly disposing of a dog's fecal matter is required at all locations; fecal collection bags will be provided at each site.



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- Permittees will encourage the establishment of oversight committees comprised of local residents to implement an outreach effort alerting trail users of the dog restrictions and to monitor compliance.
- Use restrictions will be enforced by the appropriate jurisdiction. Compliance with and enforcement of these restrictions will be addressed by the Trails Management Subcommittee. If non-compliance is a recurring problem that is not effectively controlled by the appropriate jurisdiction(s) for more than 2 years, dog use areas may be decommissioned.
- Persons requiring accompaniment by a companion animal (e.g., seeing-eye dog), and those using dogs to facilitate search and rescue or law enforcement operations are exempt from the prohibition.
- The prohibition does not apply to dogs inside a motor vehicle.
- Working dogs may be permitted with no leash required, pursuant to an authorization for their use.

#### **➤ *Bicycle Restrictions***

Certain trails, or segments thereof, are closed year-round to bicycles, consistent with existing laws, regulations, and local ordinances. These trails are depicted in Figure 7-16 and identified below:

- *Existing closures (these closures are not modified by the Trails Plan)*
  - (a) Trails, or segments thereof, in designated wilderness:
    - Bear Creek Canyon Trail segment
    - Bear Creek Oasis Trail segment
    - Boo Hoff Trail segment
    - Guadalupe Trail (entire trail)
    - Cactus Spring Trail (entire trail)
    - Martinez Canyon Trail segment
    - All U.S. Forest Service trails within (and leading to) designated wilderness
  - (b) Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
  - (c) Bicycles are not allowed in Carrizo Canyon Ecological Reserve and Magnesia Spring Ecological Reserve (California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 430).

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-- *Additional closures consistent with current closures*

- (a) Closures consistent with the existing bicycle prohibition on Tribal lands to preclude bicycle access to Tribal facilities at the Trading Post in Palm Canyon:
  - Fern Canyon Trail west of its intersection with the Wild Horse Trail
  - Vandeventer Trail west of the intersection with the connector trail to the Dry Wash Trail
- (b) Closures consistent with the existing bicycle prohibition on City of Palm Springs lands due to potential terrain-related user conflicts; these closures would apply to trails in their entirety, not City lands only:
  - Araby Trail
  - Shannon Trail
  - Garstin Trail
  - Berns Trail
  - Henderson Trail
  - South Lykken Trail
  - Picnic Table Trail (located east of the South Lykken Trail)

➤ ***Pack Stock***

- Pack stock is limited to horses, mules, and burros.

➤ ***Noncommercial, Noncompetitive Organized Group Activities***

- Noncommercial, noncompetitive organized group activities are subject to the mandatory self-issue permit system described under Element 3.
- Except as required under in accordance with Element 3, a permit is not required for noncommercial, noncompetitive organized group activities on BLM-managed lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument when the primary purpose of the activity is hiking, running, bicycling, or horseback riding. If the primary purpose of the activity on BLM-managed lands is other than hiking, running, bicycling, or horseback riding, a representative of the group must contact the BLM to determine whether a permit is required. Upon completion of the research program, including the issuance of management recommendations, permit requirements for noncommercial, noncompetitive organized group activities may be modified as appropriate to support recovery of Peninsular bighorn sheep.
- Organized group events on state lands are subject to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 550.

➤ ***Non-Motorized Commercial Recreation Activities***

- Non-motorized commercial recreation activities may be allowed, except on selected trails when manipulations of use under the research program or hot season closures are in effect (see Elements 2 and Element 4). CVCC in conjunction with CDFG, BLM, and USFWS shall develop a permit system for commercial activities on non-federal lands in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area. In developing this permit system, consistency with requirements for commercial recreation use permits on federal lands will occur to the extent practicable.

➤ ***Competitive Recreation Events***

- Competitive recreation events on or off trails, including the use of developed trailheads in association with a competitive event, are prohibited.
- Competitive events using paved roads or developed sites except for developed trailheads may be allowed. CVCC in conjunction with CDFG, BLM, and USFWS shall develop a permit system for such activities. In developing this permit system, consistency with requirements for competitive recreation use permits on federal lands will occur to the extent Feasible.

➤ ***Motorized-Vehicle Use of Trails***

- Motorized vehicles are prohibited on all trails, except as specifically approved for trail maintenance and construction projects.
- Use of motorized vehicles for trail maintenance and construction projects in designated wilderness is generally prohibited; exceptions to the prohibition must be in conformance with existing laws and regulations.
- Motorized-vehicle use of trails may only be authorized where and when limitations on public uses are not in effect (see Section 7.3.3.2.1).

***7.3.3.2.3 Existing Trails outside the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area***

Trails on Reserve Lands outside the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area have been established primarily in association with existing parks, preserves, and wilderness areas. These trails are considered as compatible activities under the Plan and are as follows:

- A system of trails on the Thousand Palms Preserve
- The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail traversing Reserve Lands in the Snow Creek/Windy Point and Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons Conservation Areas
- Trails on non-federal lands within Dos Palmas Preserve/ACEC

### ***7.3.4 Conditionally Compatible Uses***

The uses described in this section are considered conditionally compatible with the Species Conservation Goals and Objectives and the Conservation Area Conservation Objectives subject to specific guidelines and criteria. (See Section 7.3.4.2.) All the uses described in this section pertain to Reserve Lands outside the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area, Allowable Uses in which are described in Section 7.3.3.2.

Although the main goal of the MSHCP Reserve System is to protect biological resources, another primary objective is to provide recreational and educational opportunities, while providing adequate protection for the biological resources. Public access is an important part of the MSHCP because it gives the public an opportunity to experience and appreciate the natural environment that is being protected. By increasing awareness and appreciation for the natural resources within the MSHCP Reserve System, local residents and visitors can learn the importance of and practice environmental stewardship.

#### ***7.3.4.1 Covered Public Access Activities***

The conditionally compatible public access uses on Reserve Lands consist of trails, facilities, and passive recreational activities. The primary public access component on Reserve Lands will be trails.

In addition to the trails, trailheads, and interpretive facilities on Reserve Lands, passive recreational activities will also be Allowable Uses on Reserve Lands. These include passive recreation activities that do not adversely impact Reserve Lands and cause minimal disturbance to biological resources. Passive recreation includes hiking, bird watching, photography, and under specified locations identified in the following guidelines, mountain biking, horseback riding, picnicking, scientific research, and hunting. Other activities associated with public access and recreation that will be Allowable Uses include signs and barriers.

#### ***7.3.4.2 Guidelines for Public Access and Recreation on Reserve Lands***

Excessive or uncontrolled access on Reserve Lands can result in habitat degradation and disruption of breeding and other critical wildlife functions at certain times of the year. In order to provide sufficient protection for natural and biological resources on Reserve Lands, the following policies and guidelines have been developed to regulate the covered public access activities described above. These guidelines are separated into two categories: (1) Siting and Design and (2) Operations and Maintenance.

##### **➤ Criteria for the Siting and Design of Trails and Facilities**

The construction of trails and facilities will impact biological resources on Reserve Lands. Therefore, the following guidelines address ways to avoid and minimize impacts

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from the placement and design of these trails and facilities on MSHCP Reserve System natural resources.

1. Trails and facilities will be sited and designed to be consistent with Conservation Goals and Objectives.
2. Trails and facilities will be located in the least sensitive portions of Reserve Lands to avoid or minimize impacts to habitat occupied by Covered Species.
3. Trails and facilities will be designed to discourage and prevent intrusion into adjacent environmentally sensitive areas.

### **Trails**

4. Whenever possible, trail alignments on Reserve Lands will use existing dirt roads.
5. Trails will be kept along the edges of large sensitive areas of habitat such as riparian areas.
6. The type, width, and intensity of trail uses will be consistent with protection of the resources being traversed.
7. Water breaks will be installed on steep trails to prevent accelerated runoff and erosion.
8. Dog-friendly trails will be located in or along the edges of areas that possess relatively low habitat value.

### **Interpretive Facilities**

9. Interpretive facilities such as kiosks and interpretive panels may be constructed in appropriate locations to display and interpret the natural resources. Exhibits will emphasize the need to conserve natural resources in the MSHCP Reserve System.

### **Trailheads**

10. Trail access points to Reserve Lands (e.g., parking lots and staging areas) that are consistent with Species Conservation Goals and Objectives and Conservation Area Conservation Objectives will be identified.
11. Entry controls and signage at trailhead sites will be used to encourage proper resource usage.
12. In most cases, trailheads will be sited at the edge of the resource area.

### **➤ Guidelines for Public Use and Maintenance**

1. Passive recreation will include:
  - bird watching

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- hiking, equestrian, and mountain bike uses on designated trails
  - photography
  - picnicking in designated areas
  - scientific research
  - hunting
2. Off-highway vehicle use is prohibited on Reserve Lands.
  3. Adverse effects of passive recreation such as trampling vegetation and erosion will be minimized.
  4. Motorized vehicular access by the public on Reserve Lands will be prohibited except as necessary by emergency personnel or for operations and maintenance activities.
  5. As appropriate, daily and seasonal limits on trail use will be established. When necessary, trails will be closed on a temporary basis to minimize disruption of nesting and other wildlife functions for Covered Species, or if public access has resulted in, or is expected to result in, significant negative impacts to sensitive species. Passive recreational uses will be limited or restricted in critical wildlife areas during breeding season, as determined appropriate.
  6. Public access may be restricted within and adjacent to wetlands, riparian areas, restoration areas, and sensitive wildlife Habitat (e.g., during the breeding season) at the discretion of the RMUC.
  7. In the event that public access policies and other policies conflict, the conflict will be resolved in the manner most protective of the biological resources on Reserve Lands.
  8. Fencing or other barriers will be used to restrict access to sensitive areas when required to protect the biological resources.
  9. Education and outreach will be used to increase public awareness and appreciation for Habitat and wildlife values. Public access information packets and guides will be developed for users of Reserve Lands.
  10. Reserve Lands will be patrolled on a regular basis in order to ensure that visitors stay on trails and observe all other rules and guidelines established to protect the natural resources on site.
  11. Feeding of all wildlife will be prohibited.
  12. Trails, facilities, signs and barriers will be maintained as needed to discourage and prevent intrusion into adjacent environmentally sensitive areas.

### **Hiking**

13. Hikers must stay on designated trails and must not stray into adjacent areas to prevent trampling of vegetation and erosion.

**Equestrian Use**

14. Equestrian use will be limited to designated trails.
15. Following heavy rains, the use of equestrian trails will be prohibited for appropriate periods to avoid trail damage and impacts to adjacent Habitat.

**Mountain Biking**

16. Mountain bike trails will be limited to areas with low susceptibility to erosion and excluded from wetlands and other sensitive areas.
17. If use becomes heavy and problematic, an access control system will be developed and permits may be required.
18. Mountain bike trails will be constructed wider than foot trails to prevent trail edge disturbance and on grades no greater than 25 percent.

**Litter and Trash Control Measures**

19. Litter control measures will be implemented on Reserve Lands.
20. Closed garbage cans and recycling bins will be provided at trailheads and access points.
21. Litter and trash will be collected and removed on a regular basis. Garbage cans and recycling bins will be maintained appropriately.
22. Penalties will be imposed for littering and dumping on Reserve Lands.
23. Permanent storage of materials (e.g., hazardous and toxic materials) on Reserve Lands will be prohibited.
24. Wildlife Corridor undercrossings will be kept free of all debris, trash, and other obstructions.

**Pets**

25. Pets will be leashed at all times.

**Signage**

26. An adequate number of signs will be provided at appropriate locations to clearly identify public access to Reserve Lands.

***7.3.4.3 Review Process for Approving Public Access and Recreation on Reserve Lands***

For trails and facilities not addressed in an RMUP, an amendment to the RMUP would be required.

## ***7.4 Participating Special Entity***

Any public service provider, such as a utility company or a public district, including, but not limited to, a school, water, or irrigation district, that operates facilities and/or owns land within the Plan Area may request Take Authorization for its activities from CVCC pursuant to the Permits as a Participating Special Entity. Such activities must be consistent with the terms and requirements of the Permits, the Plan, and the IA. The process for submitting an application, review by CVCC and the Wildlife Agencies, and granting of Take Authorization is delineated in Section 11.7 of the IA. Participating Special Entities shall contribute to Plan implementation through payment of a fee or other appropriate mechanism based on the type of proposed activity.