

## 5.0 CONSIDERATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

---

### 5.0.1 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ADDRESSED

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Initial Study Checklist (IS) were prepared for the proposed project in January 2011, and are incorporated by reference as part of this EIR and are attached as **Appendix 1.0**. Based on the findings of the NOP/IS, the City of Solvang, as lead agency, determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was warranted for the project. Agency and public input received during the NOP comment period and the public scoping meeting were used to determine the scope of the evaluation for the EIR. The environmental issues considered in this EIR and their corresponding section numbers are listed below:

- 5.1 Hydrology, Water Supply, and Water Quality
- 5.2 Terrestrial Biological Resources
- 5.3 Fisheries Resources
- 5.4 Cultural Resources
- 5.5 Air Quality
- 5.6 Greenhouse Gas
- 5.7 Land Use
- 5.8 Recreation
- 5.9 Noise
- 5.10 Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- 5.11 Aesthetics
- 5.12 Energy
- 5.13 Utilities/Services Systems

**Sections 5.1 through 5.13** provide a detailed discussion of the environmental setting, applicable project design features, impacts associated with the proposed project, cumulative impacts, and mitigation measures designed to reduce significant impacts.

## 5.0.2 ORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

To assist in comparing information about the various environmental issues, each section contains the following information:

- Overview and Summary
- Data Sources and Methodology
- Applicable Regulations
- Existing Conditions
- Thresholds of Significance
- Environmental Impacts
  - Impacts
  - Mitigation Measures
  - Residual Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts

## 5.0.3 TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS ANALYSIS

For each impact identified in the EIR, a statement of the level of significance is provided. Impacts are categorized as follows:

- Class I Impacts. Unavoidable significant impacts. For these impacts, the City must issue a “Statement of Overriding Considerations” under Section 15093 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* if the project is approved;
- Class II Impacts. Significant environmental impacts that can be mitigated. The City must make "findings" under Section 15091(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* if the project is approved;
- Class III Impacts. Other environmental impacts that are potentially adverse but not significant. Mitigation measures are recommended to minimize adverse impacts; or
- Class IV Effects. Beneficial Effects.