

4.0 CUMULATIVE SCENARIO

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Cumulative impacts are the effects of project impacts combined with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the *State CEQA Guidelines* require that cumulative impacts be analyzed in an environmental impact report (EIR). As set forth in the *State CEQA Guidelines*,¹ the discussion of cumulative impacts must reflect the severity of the impacts, as well as the likelihood of their occurrence; however, the discussion need not be as detailed as the discussion of environmental impacts attributable to the project alone. As stated in CEQA, “a project may have a significant effect on the environment if the possible effects of a project are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.”²

According to the *State CEQA Guidelines*,

“Cumulative impacts” refer to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable and which compound or increase other environmental impacts.

- (a) The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects.*
- (b) The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonable foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.*³

In addition, the *State CEQA Guidelines* require

Either:

A list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside control of the agency, or

*A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document, or in a prior environmental document which has been adopted or certified, which described or evaluated regional or areawide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact. Any such planning document shall be referenced and made available to the public at a location specified by the lead agency.*⁴

¹ California Public Resources Code, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15130(b).

² Ibid. Section 21083(b).

³ Ibid. Section 15355.

⁴ Ibid. Section 15130(a)(1).

Cumulative impact discussions for each issue area are provided in the technical analyses contained in **Section 5.0, Considerations and Discussions of Environmental Impacts.**

4.2 CUMULATIVE SCENARIO APPLICATION

This EIR analyzes all cumulative impacts and has separated the application of impacts for cumulative consideration into two categories: non-flow related impacts and flow-related impacts.

4.2.1 Non-flow Related Cumulative Analysis

For issues that do not involve flow associated with the Santa Ynez River (such as aesthetics, land use and noise), the cumulative analysis considers the buildout of the City of Solvang's General Plan. The basis for this is that the Water System Master Plan Update is to provide for water supply and treatment facilities and the rights to water supply necessary to meet the anticipated potable water demands of the City at buildout.

4.2.2 Flow Related Cumulative Analysis

The proposed project involves the continued diversion of subterranean flow from the Santa Ynez River within the existing and expanded reach of diversion. Therefore, the "cumulative context," (i.e., the range of project types and locations that could affect the same resources affected by the proposed project) is relatively limited. To address the potential cumulative impacts, this EIR presents a listing of existing and pending water rights and diversions within the Santa Ynez River watershed in order to frame the cumulative context for this discussion. It is important to note that, because historic diversions from the subterranean flow by the City of Solvang are considered part of the environmental baseline for this EIR, these diversions are necessarily considered part of the cumulative context in determining the potential cumulative impact of Solvang further developing its water right under diversion permit number 15878.

To evaluate cumulative impacts, this EIR examined existing and proposed water diversions within the Santa Ynez River from Bradbury Dam to the Highway 101 Bridge in Buellton. Impacts caused by other water diversions within the stretch of the river could potentially combine with the proposed project to create cumulative impacts. These impacts include potential effects on river hydrology, groundwater hydrology, water quality, soil erosion (due to increased application and runoff of irrigation water), and aquatic resources supported by river surface flow and subterranean flow.

At the time of the preparation of the Draft EIR, the SWRCB had 39 permits or licenses, applications, small domestic use registrations, and statements of diversion and use (referred to herein as "claims") on file for the Santa Ynez River, including the proposed project. Of these filings, six were licensed water rights; 18 were statements of diversion and use; eight were permitted water rights, including the proposed project.

Table 4.0-1, Existing and Claimed Water Rights and Diversions along the Santa Ynez River, lists the existing water rights and pending applications within the watershed, along with the date, amount, location, type, and status of the application, claim, or registration. In addition to the list shown in **Table**

4.0-1, there are significant riparian water rights along the Santa Ynez River which are not included in the SWRCB database.

**Table 4.0-1
Existing and Claimed Water Rights and Diversions along the Santa Ynez River**

Location	Application ID	Permit ID	License ID	Water Right Type	Status	Holder Name	Date	Face Amount	County	Source
Bradbury Dam to Alisal Bridge (Solvang)	S015195			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	John V. Crawford	11/19/1999	1000 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S020791			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Palmer Gavit Jackson Trust	04/19/2011	778 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez
	S020793			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Palmer Gavit Jackson Trust	04/19/2011	778 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A004007	1831	1261	Appropriative	Licensed	Anne V. Crawford	2/10/1933	1,219.90 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
	A012601	7436	10415	Appropriative	Licensed	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID No. 1	7/21/1948	515 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A011331	11308		Appropriative	Permitted	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	3/19/1958	347,397.80 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A011332	11310		Appropriative	Permitted	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	3/19/1958	311,198.90 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A022423_02	15878		Appropriative	Permitted	City of Solvang	03/15/1966	3600 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
	A024578_01	17733		Appropriative	Permitted	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID No. 1	03/22/1974	2220 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
A024579_01	17734		Appropriative	Permitted	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID No. 1	02/28/2001	3400 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow	
Alisal Bridge to 101 Bridge (Buellton)	S020792			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Palmer Gavit Jackson Trust U/A 2/25/88	04/19/2011	778 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez
	S020794			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Palmer Gavit Jackson Trust U/A 2/25/88	04/19/2011	778 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
101 Bridge to Pacific Ocean	S015121			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Mary Jane M. Edaltpour	11/02/1999	76 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S015229			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Alan H. Mercer	06/07/2000	50 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S016616			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Georgia S. Gammie Weister Trust	06/07/2010	1 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S016934			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Mary Jane M. Edaltpour	06/08/2010	3 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S016935			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Mary Jane M. Edaltpour	06/08/2010	118 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S016948			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Allison Gammie Hill, et. al.	06/15/2010	1 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S016951			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	John S. Hill	06/15/2010	8.6 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S017091			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Miller Merritt Trust	07/01/2010	11 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S017100			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Miller Merritt Trust	7/1/2010	7.5 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S017124			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Miller Merritt Trust	07/01/2010	162 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S017145			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Bruce A. Steele	07/01/2010	59 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S017151			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Bruce A. Steele	07/01/2010	0 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	S020795			Statement of Diversion and Use	Claimed	Palmer Gavit Jackson Trust	04/19/2011	701 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A002394A	1276	001313A	Appropriative	Licensed	N Edaltpour	06/17/1921	53 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A002394B	1276	001313B	Appropriative	Licensed	Gene Shaw	1/23/1969	50 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River
	A003927A		000932A	Appropriative	Licensed	Michael P. O'Brien	05/03/2002	146 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
	A003927B		000932B	Appropriative	Licensed	John M. Sundheim	05/03/2002	36 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
	A022423_01	15878		Appropriative	Permitted	City of Solvang	03/15/1966	3600 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow
A022516_01	15879		Appropriative	Permitted	City of Buellton	07/01/1966	1385 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Underflow	
A023960_01	17447		Appropriative	Permitted	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	01/06/1972	40000 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River	
Additional Statements Listed in SWRCB Cachuma Water Rights 2011 2nd Revised Draft EIR but not in eWRIMS										
					Claimed	Gildred Trust		27.12 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
					Claimed	Petersen Family Properties,		10.9 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
					Claimed	Petersen Family Properties		0.01 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
					Claimed	Petersen Family Properties		0.80 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
					Claimed	Petersen Family Properties		10.80 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
	S0004237				Claimed	Pitts		2.12 cfs from Mar 1 to Oct 31	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin
					Claimed	Slavik Trust		14.0 acre-ft/yr	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River Alluvial Basin

Source: SWRCB, eWRIMS database, April 2012, and Cachuma Water Rights 2011 2nd Revised Draft EIR.