

CHAPTER 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The following chapter provides information relative to seventeen environmental topics as they pertain to each component of the proposed San Diego County General Plan Update project. Each topical section describes existing conditions; regulatory framework; analysis of project effects and determination of significance; cumulative impacts, significance of impact prior to mitigation; mitigation; and conclusion. The County, as the lead agency, would require that the mitigation measures identified in this EIR be implemented, except in the following cases:

- Alternative mitigation is identified that reduces the significant impact to a similar level as would be achieved by the mitigation identified in the EIR; or,
- Substantial evidence is presented that the required mitigation measure is infeasible and that there is no feasible mitigation measure or alternative. In this case, the County, as the lead agency, must balance the benefits of the proposed project against the unavoidable significant environmental impacts to determine whether the unmitigated significant impacts are acceptable in view of specific overriding economic, social or other considerations (CEQA Guidelines Section 15093).

The seventeen topics addressed in Chapter 2.0 are the following:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Paleontological Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Global Climate Change

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