
3.3 - Hazards and Hazardous Materials

3.3.1 - Summary

This section describes the potential impact for existing hazards and hazardous materials within the proposed incorporation area, and evaluates the potential for hazards-related impacts to result from implementation of the proposed incorporation. Descriptions and analyses in this section are based on information contained in the Arden Arcade Customized Report, prepared on November 15, 2007 by Environmental Data Resources (EDR), Inc. Because of the length of this report, only the executive summary is attached to this EIR as Appendix D. The complete EDR report can be viewed in its entirety at the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) office during its regular business hours. The Sacramento LAFCo office is located on 1112 "I" Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, California. Also included is an overview of hazardous materials regulations.

Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste

A substance is considered hazardous if it appears on a list of hazardous materials prepared by a federal, state, or local agency, or if it has characteristics defined as hazardous by such an agency. The health effects from exposure to hazardous material vary, based on factors that include the quantity to which the person is exposed, the frequency of exposure, the exposure pathway, and individual susceptibility.

The California Code of Regulations (CCR) defines a hazardous material as a substance that, because of physical or chemical properties, quantity, concentration, or other characteristics, may either (1) cause an increase in mortality or an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating, illness or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed of, or otherwise managed. (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 10, Article 2, Section 66260.10)

Hazardous wastes are similarly defined. Hazardous wastes are hazardous materials that no longer have practical use, such as substances that have been discarded, discharged, spilled, contaminated, or are being stored prior to proper disposal. According to Title 22 of the CCR, hazardous materials and hazardous wastes are classified according to four properties: toxicity, ignitability, corrosivity, and reactivity (CCR, Title 22, Chapter 11, Article 3). Toxicity, ignitability, corrosivity, and reactivity are defined in the CCR, Title 22, Sections 66261.20-66261.24.

3.3.2 - Environmental Setting

Environmental Data Resources Report

On November 15, 2007, EDR conducted a search of the regulatory agency databases listed in Table 3.3-1, in order to identify potential hazardous conditions within the proposed area of incorporation and its immediate vicinity (1 mile from the incorporation area boundary). Because of the length of the EDR report (3,151 pages), only the Executive Summary of the report is included as Appendix D

of this EIR. As indicated above, the complete EDR report can be viewed in its entirety at the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission LAFCo office during its regular business hours.

Table 3.3-1: Regulatory Agency Databases Searched

Database Type	Definition of Database	Type of Record	Agency	No. of Records within the Proposed Area of Incorporation ^{1,2}
NPL	National Priority List	Superfund sites undergoing priority cleanup	U.S. EPA	1
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System	Contains data on potentially hazardous waste sites reported by states, municipalities, private companies, and private persons, pursuant to Section 103 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)	U.S. EPA	2
CERCLIS-NFRAP	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System – No Further Remedial Action Planned	Archived sites removed and archived from the inventory of CERCLIS sites	U.S. EPA	2
CORRACTS	Corrective Action Report System	Database of corrective actions taken at a RCRA Regulated site	U.S. EPA	1
RCRAInfo-TSDF	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976	Database includes selective information on sites that generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the RCRA	U.S. EPA	1
RCRA-LQG	—	RCRA database containing large quantity generators	U.S. EPA	7
RCRA-SQG	—	RCRA database containing small quantity generators	U.S. EPA	99
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System	Records and stores information reported releases of oil and hazardous substances	U.S. EPA	19

Table 3.3-1 (cont.): Regulatory Agency Databases Searched

Database Type	Definition of Database	Type of Record	Agency	No. of Records within the Proposed Area of Incorporation ^{1,2}
HMIRS	Hazardous Materials Incident Report System	Contains hazardous material spill incidents reported to the Department of Transportation	U.S. EPA	1
ENG Controls	—	A listing of sites with engineering controls in place	—	1
INST CONTROLS	—	A listing of sites with institutional controls in place	—	1
DOD	Department of Defense	Federally owned or administered lands, administered by the Department of Defense	U.S. Department of Defense	1
US BROWNFIELDS	—	Listing of Brownfields properties addressed by Cooperative Agreement Recipients and Brownfields properties	U.S. EPA	1
RODS	Record of Decision	Permanent remedy at a NPL (Superfund) site containing technical and health information to aid cleanup	—	1
FTTS	—	Tracks administrative cases and pesticide enforcement actions and compliance activities	—	8
DOT OPS	Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety	Incident and accident data	—	
ICIS	Integrated Compliance Information System	National enforcement and compliance of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	—	2
RADINFO	Radiation Information Database	Facilities that contain radiation and radioactivity	—	1
HIST FTTS	FIFRA/TSCA Tracking System	Historic FTTS records from all 10 EPA regions	U.S. EPA	7
PADS	PCB Activity Database	Generators, transporters, and commercial storers of PCBs	U.S. EPA	1

Table 3.3-1 (cont.): Regulatory Agency Databases Searched

Database Type	Definition of Database	Type of Record	Agency	No. of Records within the Proposed Area of Incorporation ^{1,2}
MLTS	Material Licensing Tracking System	Sites that use or possess radioactive materials and are subject to NRC licensing requirements	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	1
FINDS	Facility Index System	Facility information and “pointers” to other sources that contain more detail	U.S. EPA	162
HIST CAL-SITES	Historic ASPIS sites	Contains known and potential hazardous substance sites. No longer updated; replaced by ENVIROSTOR.	California Department of Toxic Substances	1
WDS	Waste Discharge System	Sites that have recorded incidents of discharged waste	California Water Resources Control Board	6
WMUDS/SWAT	Waste Management Unit Database System	Used for program tracking and inventory of waste management units	State Water Resources Control Board	1
CORTESE	California Office of Emergency Information Sites	State index of properties with hazardous waste based on input from fourteen state databases	California Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Emergency Information	99
SWRCY	Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities	Listing of recycling facilities in California	—	8
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	Inventory of reported leaking underground storage tank incidents	State Water Resources Control Board	114
CA FID	Facility Inventory Database	Active and inactive underground storage tank locations	State Water Resources Control Board	104
CA SLIC	Spills, Leaks, Investigation, and Cleanups sites	Records of reported incidents	California Regional Water Quality Control Board	19
UST	Underground Storage Tank	Contains registered USTs	State Water Resources Control Board	45
HIST UST	Historical UST Registered Database	Contains archived registered UST sites	State Water Resources Control Board	134

Table 3.3-1 (cont.): Regulatory Agency Databases Searched

Database Type	Definition of Database	Type of Record	Agency	No. of Records within the Proposed Area of Incorporation ^{1,2}
AST	Aboveground Storage Tank	Contains registered ASTs	State Water Resources Control Board	6
SWEEPS	Statewide Environmental Evaluation and Planning System	No longer maintained	Formerly State Water Resources Control Board	131
CHMIRS	California Hazardous Material Incident Report System	Contains information on reported hazardous materials incidents	California Office of Emergency Services	60
NOTIFY 65	Prop 65 Database	Records of any release that could impact drinking water	State Water Resources Control Board	3
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program	Contains low-level threat properties with either confirmed or unconfirmed releases	California Department of Toxic Substance Control	2
DRYCLEANERS	Drycleaner-related facilities.	A list of dry cleaner-related facilities that have EPA ID numbers	U.S. EPA	25
CDL	—	A listing of drug lab locations	—	12
HAZNET	Hazardous Waste Information System	A listing of facilities that generate hazardous waste	California Department of Toxic Substance Control	762
EMI	Emissions Inventory Data	Toxics and criteria pollutant emissions data	CARB and local air pollution agencies	4
HAULERS	Haulers	A listing of registered waste tire haulers	—	1
ENVIROSTOR	DTSC's Site Mitigation and Brownfields Reuse Program's database	Identifies sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to investigate further	California Department of Toxic Substance Control	27
<p>Notes:</p> <p>¹ Some records are not unique and have been counted in multiple databases.</p> <p>² The physical location of each of these sites is detailed in the Executive Summary, found in Appendix D.</p> <p>Source: EDR Report, 2007.</p>				

McClellan Park

Parts of McClellan Park, formerly known as McClellan Air Force Base, are located within 1 mile of the incorporation boundary. McClellan Air Force Base began as a military installation in 1936, served as a supply depot during World War II (1941-1945), and served as a postwar location for repair and maintenance for military aircraft. In addition, the Air Force Base operated as an active industrial facility from the mid-1930s until the base closure.

Industrial solvents, caustic cleaners, electroplating chemicals, heavy metals, fuels oils and lubricants, and pesticides were used and associated with base operations. In addition, some base activities involved the use and analysis of radioactive substances such as radium, uranium, and plutonium. Contamination has been identified in groundwater, soil and subsoil, and buildings. As of late 2007, there are 319 sites/hazards listed on the Geo Tracker DOD Non-Underground Storage Tank list. There are five areas within the McClellan base listed on the Envirostor database. Four areas are listed as active Federal Superfund sites, and one area is a state response site listed as certified for operation and maintenance. Contamination remaining at McClellan Park today from past uses includes industrial solvents, cleaners, fuel oils, etc., and radioactive substances contamination of groundwater, soils, and buildings. These sites remain open, as does the Federal Superfund listing of four sites. It is estimated that over 12 billion gallons of groundwater beneath the base are severely contaminated as a result of historical base activities. Cleanup of the soils and groundwater are ongoing and are expected to take approximately 40 years and \$900 million (SCGP 2006).

Landfill and Disposal Sites

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) is responsible for protecting the public's health and safety and the environment through oversight, management, and tracking of the estimated 92 million tons of waste generated in California each year. The CIWMB works in partnership with local government, industry, and the public to reduce waste disposal, and to ensure environmentally safe landfills and promote diversion and recycling of waste materials. The CIWMB maintains a Solid Waste Information System (SWIS) Database that contains information on solid waste facilities, operations, and disposal sites throughout the State. The types of facilities found in this database include landfills, transfer stations, material recovery facilities, composting sites, transformation facilities, waste tire sites, and closed disposal sites. The project area does not contain any facilities recorded in the SWIS Database.

3.3.3 - Regulatory Framework

Pertinent hazardous materials-related regulations that apply to the proposed area of incorporation originate at both the federal and state level, but many are implemented and enforced at the local or regional level. Sacramento County's Environmental Management Department (EMD) manages most hazardous materials regulation and enforcement in the proposed area of incorporation. Sacramento County's EMD defers large cases of hazardous materials contamination or violations of the Central Valley Regional Water quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the State Department of Toxic

Substances Control (DTSC). However, it is common for other agencies to become involved—such as the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District in permitting of asbestos abatement, and federal and state Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in preparation of hazardous materials remediation site safety plans—when issues of hazardous materials arise. In addition, the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District is responsible for hazardous materials emergency first response where a hazardous materials incident imminently threatens life or property.

Federal

Throughout the United States including California, hazardous materials are regulated by a number of federal and state laws, most of which are promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA). On the federal level, these regulations include the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Clean Air and Clean Water acts, Safe Drinking Water Act, Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. Together, these regulations serve as guiding principles governing the storage, use, and transportation of hazardous and other regulated materials from their time of origin to their ultimate disposal. The cleanup and remediation of environmental contamination resulting from the accidental or unlawful release of these materials and substances are also governed by these regulations. Solid wastes that are not classifiable as hazardous are regulated under RCRA, and pollution prevention is regulated under the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Safe Drinking Water acts.

State

At the state level, Cal EPA's DTSC is responsible statewide for matters concerning the use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials. Cal EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is involved in the evaluation of risks to public health and the environment posed by hazardous materials and environmental contamination. Cal EPA delegates much of the permitting, inspection, and enforcement responsibility for hazardous materials, hazardous waste, ASTs, USTs, and other related state programs to local governments under the Certified Unified Program Agency program.

Local

Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) is both the local Environmental Health regulatory agency and the countywide Certified Unified Program Agency. EMD is also the Local Oversight Program for UST site investigation, cleanup, and closure, and the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for landfills. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) also has jurisdiction over the management of surface and groundwater contamination such as the cleanup of spill sites. Finally, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is involved in the assessment of health and environmental hazards associated with both "criteria" and toxic (or hazardous) air pollutants.

Sacramento County Plans and Policies

Sacramento County adopted a Hazardous Materials Element (HME) as part of the County General Plan in June 1997. The HME serves as the primary planning document for hazardous waste management in the County. The HME analyzes the hazardous waste situation within the County and provides information on the County's existing programs and policies. The recommendations within the HME encourage a variety of administrative programs to monitor and encourage hazardous waste reduction and to educate and inform hazardous waste generators and the public concerning hazardous waste problems.

The Public Review Draft of the Safety Element of the Sacramento County General Plan (Public Review Draft November 8, 2006, background to the 1993 General Plan and 2006 General Plan Update) contains an Emergency Preparedness Technical Discussion related to hazardous materials and wastes and emergency preparedness. In the event of an emergency, the Sacramento County Office of Emergency Operations Center enforces one of three sets of plans: the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan, the Rancho Seco Off-Site Emergency Response Plan, and the Sacramento County Hazardous Materials Incident Response Plan.

The following policies are also contained in the Sacramento County General Plan:

Emergency Response

- **SA-30.** The County shall insure that the siting of critical emergency response facilities such as hospitals, fire, sheriff's offices and substations, and other emergency service facilities and utilities have minimal exposure to flooding, seismic and geological effects, fire, and explosions.
- **SA-31.** The County shall require that high intensity land uses proposed in areas highly susceptible to multiple hazards, such as the Delta, provide mitigation measures that include emergency evacuation routes. Consideration shall be given to the need for additional roads, particularly in the Delta, that may serve as evacuation routes.

Hazardous Materials Element

Hazardous Materials Policy Plan

- **HM-1.** Work with industry, community groups, and government agencies to develop effective, workable, and equitable hazardous materials regulations and provide information to the general public and interested parties on technical and administrative developments in the field of hazardous materials management.
- **HM-2.** Improve cooperation, information gathering, and information availability within existing County programs.
- **HM-3.** Continue to support a household hazardous waste disposal program while striving to improve its convenience and provide for permanent funding.
- **HM-4.** The handling, storage, and transport of hazardous materials shall be conducted in a manner so as not to compromise public health and safety standards.

- **HM-5.** Support efforts to gather health information in Sacramento County and throughout California that will help public health officials identify the causes of illnesses related to hazardous materials.
- **HM-6.** Strongly encourage federal and state agencies to accelerate their efforts to evaluate human health impacts and establish legally enforceable standards for hazardous materials.
- **HM-7.** Encourage the implementation of workplace safety programs and to the best extent possible ensure that residents who live adjacent to industrial or commercial facilities are protected from accidents and the mishandling of hazardous materials.
- **HM-8.** Continue the effort to prevent ground water and soil contamination.
- **HM-9.** Continue the effort to prevent surface water contamination.
- **HM-10.** Reduce the occurrences of hazardous material accidents and the subsequent need for incident response by developing and implementing effective prevention strategies.
- **HM-11.** Protect residents and sensitive facilities from incidents which may occur during the transport of hazardous materials in the County.
- **HM-12.** Continue the effort through the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD) to inventory and reduce toxic air contaminants as emission standards are developed.
- **HM-13.** Develop and implement a comprehensive hazardous materials management program and permit process for all applicable County agencies. The program and permitting process should be devoid of overlap and shall be consistent with the Goals and Policies of this Hazardous Materials Element to the best extent possible under existing laws and regulations.
- **HM-14.** Support local enforcement of hazardous materials regulations.
- **HM-15.** Support efforts to require state funding for state-mandated local programs.

3.3.4 - Project Impact Analysis

Methodology for Analysis

The EDR Arden Arcade 21-square-mile Customized Report is based on a database search of over one hundred applicable federal, state, and local government as well as private environmental databases. The database search was performed in accordance to American Standards of Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards and the EPA's All Appropriate Inquiries (AAI) rule. The search results and accompanying maps were compiled by EDR into the Customized Report.

Thresholds of Significance

For the purposes of this EIR, to determine whether hazards and hazardous materials impacts are significant environmental effects, responses to the following questions are evaluated.

Would the Project:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?
- Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working the project area?
- For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

3.3.5 - Impact Statements and Mitigation Discussions

Transport or Disposal of Hazardous Materials

Impact 3.3-1: **The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials:**

Impact Analysis

Based on the action outlined in the project description, incorporation of the City of Arden Arcade would not involve the increased delivery, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. No additional hazardous materials would be transported, used, or disposed of beyond the current existing conditions. No impacts are expected to occur as a result of implementing the project.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Accident Conditions Involving Release of Hazardous Materials

Impact 3.3-2: The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment:

Impact Analysis

Several federal, state, and county agencies are currently responsible for regulating hazardous materials generation, use and disposal. The new city would not assume responsibility for the regulation of hazardous materials, hazardous wastes, accidental spills, or contaminated properties. In addition, the ownership of the properties identified in this section would not change or become the responsibility of the new city.

Furthermore, the project does not include the use, storage, or transport of hazardous materials and/or substances. In this context, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. No significant hazard would be created beyond the existing current conditions in the proposed area of incorporation. Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento have hazard materials plans in place, and the proposed City of Arden Arcade would act within the existing framework until the new city adopts its own plans or ordinances. Any new plans, policies or ordinances will be required to be reviewed under CEQA prior to adoption by the City of Arden Arcade.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Hazardous Materials Located Near Schools

Impact 3.3-3: The project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school:

Impact Analysis

The project does not involve the creation, relocation, or changes to operation of any facilities that could emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school. The act of incorporation of the City of Arden Arcade would not create any additional emissions beyond the current existing conditions.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Hazardous Materials Site Listing

Impact 3.3-4: The project would not be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment:

Impact Analysis

As provided in the project description and setting discussion, the area of the proposed incorporation includes numerous sites identified on various agency databases (see Table 3.3-1 and Appendix D for a more comprehensive list). However, the project does not involve the physical disruption of these existing sites. As a result, it is reasonable to conclude that the project would not create or increase existing hazards to the public or the environment compared with existing conditions in the area of incorporation.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Safety Hazard Near Public Airports

Impact 3.3-5: The project would be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. Additionally, the project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working the project area:

Impact Analysis

Airport safety zones are established to minimize the number of people subjected to potential aircraft accidents by limiting the type of development that is allowed around airports through zoning regulations. The zoning regulations are implemented by the Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUCs). Airport safety zones for the McClellan project include lands within 2 miles of the McClellan Park, on the site of the former McClellan Air Force Base. As shown in the McClellan Air Force Base Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)(Amended 1992), northern portions of the

proposed incorporation area would be located in an overflight zone. The portion of the proposed incorporation within the overflight zone is north of Cottage Way and west of Watt Avenue. The ALUC works closely with cities, counties and airport operators regarding airport safety issues. The new city will be required to comply with the ALUC in its land use decisions. Given the overlap of the proposed incorporation area and the CLUP the project may potentially result in impacts for people residing or working in the incorporation area.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

Potentially Significant Impact

Mitigation Measures

MM 3.3-5 Prior to the approval of specific land uses that affects an area within an airport planning boundary established by the ALUC, the new city shall refer the proposed action to the ALUC for consistency determination. Future development and/or proposed new land uses must comply with the 1992 McClellan Air Force Base CLUP, development restrictions.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Safety Hazard Near Private Airstrip

Impact 3.3-6: The project would not be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip and would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area:

Impact Analysis

There are no known private airstrips are in the project vicinity. In addition, the project would not involve changes to the existing land use. Therefore, the project would not result in any new safety hazards for people residing or working in the proposed area of incorporation.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Interference With Emergency Plans

Impact 3.3-7: The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan:

Impact Analysis

Currently, three sets of plans are maintained by the Emergency Operations Center, including supporting documentation to a master preparedness plan known as the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan. The format of this document is in accordance with guidelines established by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Essentially, the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan consolidates all hazard-specific plans prepared by several agencies throughout the County into a single document.

The proposed area of incorporation is currently covered under the County's Multi-Hazard Functional Plan. The act of incorporation would require the new City of Arden Arcade either to provide its own emergency response plan/emergency evacuation plan or to work with the County to incorporate these emergency services. Municipal or contract staff would create their own or work with the County to implement a new or the existing County Multi-Hazard Functional Plan. The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with the adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; rather, the project provides for implementation and adoption of such plans.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

Wildland Fires

Impact 3.3-8: The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands:

Impact Analysis

Wildland fires are those fires that pose a threat to the more rural areas of the County. Grass fires and peat fires are the two main types of wildland fires of concern in Sacramento County. Grass fires are an annual threat in the unincorporated area of the County, especially in recreational areas such as the American River Parkway. Peat fires are unique to the Delta where peat is subject to spontaneous combustion. Once started, these fires become very difficult to control. Peat can still burn some distance underground even when the upper layers of peat are saturated with water over an extended period of time. Once the ground has dried out, a peat fire may return to the surface. Urbanized areas do not have fire hazards associated with high levels of vegetation.

The CalFire defines wildland, wildland fires, and wildland urban interface as follows:

- Wildland: Uncultivated land, other than fallow, neglected or maintained for such purposes as wood or range-forage production, wildlife, recreation, protective watershed cover or wilderness.
- Wildland Fire: Any fire occurring on undeveloped land.
- Wildland Urban Interface: Refers to the geographical point where flammable vegetation meets manmade structures.

The proposed area of incorporation does not include any areas deemed “wildlands,” nor is it shown to be in a Fire Hazard Severity Zone by CalFire. The proposed area of incorporation is almost completely urbanized, and the project would not create any new areas of undeveloped land or flammable vegetation defined as “wildland.” The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.

Significance Determination Before Mitigation

No impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Significance Determination After Mitigation

No impact.

