

SECTION 5.0

Mitigation

5.1 Introduction

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) require that mitigation measures be developed for the Proposed Action and alternatives for all effects on the environment where it is feasible to do so (40 CFR 1502.14(f) and 1502.16(h)). The CEQ Regulations define mitigation as “avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments” (40 CFR 1508.20). Where potential effects on the environment were identified in early stages of project design and EIS preparation, appropriate changes in the project description were made to minimize or eliminate them. For example, the projects were sited in areas which minimize impacts to jurisdictional water of the U.S. Other applications of mitigation, such as conforming to the California Building Code have been incorporated into the design of the alternatives and have been mentioned throughout the EIS. In addition to the mitigation that has already been incorporated into the design of the alternatives, the following section provides measures to mitigate specific effects identified in the preparation of the EIS.

5.2 Land Resources

The following mitigation measure is recommended for Alternatives A, B, C, D, and E:

Preparation of Design-Level Geotechnical Recommendations

Measure 5.2-1: A design-level geotechnical report shall be prepared along with construction drawings and the Tribe shall adhere to the recommendations of the report.