SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
YOUTH REGIONAL TREATMENT CENTER

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
OCTOBER 2010

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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
YOUTH REGIONAL TREATMENT CENTER
HEMET, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service (IHS) proposes to construct and operate a Youth Regional Treatment Center (YRTC) within Southern California. The YRTC would be located south of Hemet, California, within Riverside County. The YRTC would provide services to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth that are not currently available.

The need for a youth regional treatment center was established in the 1980s. The Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Public Law (PL) 94-437, which was amended in 1992 by PL 102-573, states in Section 704 that the IHS area office in California shall construct and operate one youth regional treatment center in the northern area and one to serve the remainder of the state (IHS, 2000). The requirements in the law were based on results of a study conducted by the National Institutes of Mental Health which indicated that 5% of the adolescent AI/AN population in California showed substance use disorders. This amounts to 7,950 youth based on Census 2000 data. In 2001, California tribal leaders voted to develop residential treatment services for AI/AN youth in California to comply with PL 94-437/102-573. An interim program was developed by the Southern Indian Health Council, Inc. Though this program was effective, there were major shortcomings that precluded its continuance (CAIHS, 2003).

The YRTC will consist of developing a 3,948 square meters (42,500 square feet) facility on 0.8 ha (2 acres) of a 8 ha (20 acre) parcel which is currently a residence and former grain farm. The proposed new YRTC is being designed to treat up to 96 AI/AN youth per year on a resident basis (CAIHS, 2003), and create 69.2 new staff positions.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 UCS 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1500-1508) for implementing NEPA, the DHHS General Administrative Manual, Part 30, and the IHS Environmental Review Manual.

This EA analyzes the potential environmental impacts that would result from the Proposed Action and alternatives. The Proposed Action alternative and the No Action alternative are the two reasonable alternatives considered for this project. Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be constructed.

Environmental Effects

No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on air quality; invasive and noxious species; topography and soils; water resources; waste and hazardous materials management; geologic and seismic issues; cultural and visual resources; land use and air space; socioeconomics; utilities and public services; transportation and access; noise; floodplain; and vegetation and wildlife. However, the No Action alternative could result in adverse impacts to human health and safety as a result of the continuance of inadequate and

inappropriate treatment for AI/AN youth in California. The No Action alternative would also lack the beneficial impacts of the Proposed Action in the area of socioeconomics.

Proposed Action

The seventeen resources analyzed indicated that the project as a whole would have minor to moderate beneficial impacts. The only moderate adverse impact would be to rare, threatened and endangered species; wildlife surveys in conjunction with setting aside a conservation area would minimize this impact. Beneficial impacts would include improved health and safety of the population due to construction of an updated, larger facility; economic benefits for tribal members and the community due to increased employment opportunities. The resources and their impacts are summarized below:

	TEMP/ PERM	NEG.	MINOR	MOD.	MAJOR	BENEFICIAL	ADVERSE
Air Quality	temp	X	X				X
Invasive Species	perm		X	X		X	
Topography & Soils	perm	X	X				X
Water Resources	perm		X				X
Waste Management	perm	X					X
Geologic & Seismic	n/a						
Cultural Resources	perm	X					X
Visual Resources	perm	X					X
Land Use	perm		X				X
Socioeconomics	perm		X	X		X	
Utilities	perm	X	X				X
Transportation	perm		X			X	
Noise	temp	X	X				X
Human Health & Safety	perm			X	X	X	
Floodplain	n/a						
RTE	perm		X	X			X
Prime Farmland	Perm		X				X
Global Warming	perm	X					X

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AI/AN	American Indian/Alaska Native
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BMP	Best Management Practice
CA	California
CAA	Clean Air Act
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
IHS/CAO	Indian Health Service California Area Office
CCD	Census County Division
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic feet per second
CGP	Construction General Permit
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	Decibel
dBA	Decibel Measurement Unit
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPD	Environmental Programs Department
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
gpm	Gallons per minute
ha	Hectares
IHS	Indian Health Service
ISDN	Integrated Services Delivery Network
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	National Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PJD	Program Justification Document
PL	Public Law

PSA	Primary Service Area
RCA	Regional Conservation Authority
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
sf	Square Feet
sm	Square Meters
SR	State Route
SSA	Sole Source Aquifer
SSER	Site Selection and Evaluation Report
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
TEO	Tribal Enrollment Office
TERO	Tribal Employments Rights Office
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
USACOE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
YRTC	Youth Regional Treatment Center

CHAPTER 1 PURPOSE AND NEED

1.1 Proposed Project

The Indian Health Service (IHS) proposes to construct and operate a new Youth Regional Treatment Center (YRTC) within the Indian Health Service California Area Office (IHS/CAO). The YRTC would be located south of Hemet, Riverside County, California (Figure 1-1). The YRTC would provide substance abuse treatment services to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth throughout the southern California region.

The YRTC will consist of developing a 3,948 square meters (42,500 square feet) facility on a 8 ha (20 acre) parcel which is currently an active grain farm, and upgrade existing Best Road from from Sage Road (a Riverside County roadway) to the project site (see Figure 1-7)

The proposed new YRTC is being designed to treat up to 96 AI/AN youth per year on a resident basis (CAIHS, 2003), and create 69.2 new staff positions. The proposed facility would also have five family suites to allow concurrent treatment of the family of the youth in residence.

The need for a youth regional treatment center was established in 2001 when California tribal leaders voted to develop residential treatment services for AI/AN youth in California to comply with the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Public Law (PL) 94-437, which had been amended in 1992 by PL 102-573. The amendment states in Section 704 that the IHS area office in California shall construct and operate one youth regional treatment center in the northern area and one to serve the remainder of the state (IHS, 2000). The requirements in the law were based on results of a study conducted by the National Institutes of Mental Health which indicated that 5% of the adolescent AI/AN population in California showed substance use disorders. This amounts to 7,950 youth based on Census 2000 data. An interim program was developed by the Southern Indian Health Council, Inc. Though this program was effective, there were major shortcomings that precluded its continuance (CAIHS, 2003).

A Phase I Site Selection and Evaluation Report (SSER) was prepared in May 2009. Five sites were evaluated according to the IHS Site Selection and Evaluation Process (IHS, 1998). Other criteria were also considered based upon input from the IHS/CAO and Tribal leaders.

The goal of the project to construct a youth treatment center is to help IHS ensure that residential/inpatient rehabilitation, community-based rehabilitation, and follow-up services for substance abuse are available and accessible to AI/AN youth in California at no cost.

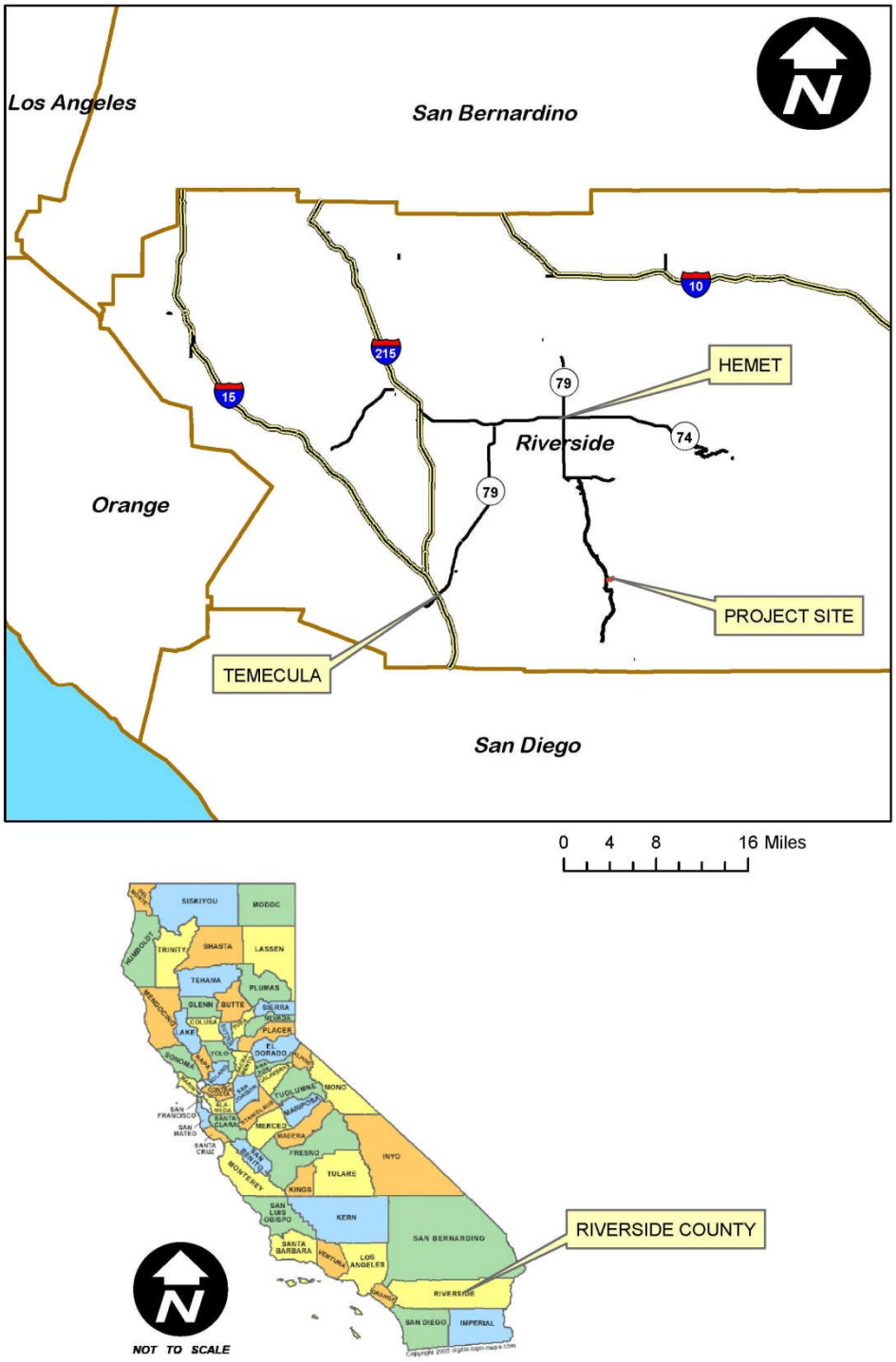

Figure 1-1. Vicinity Map

The project objective is to expand existing YRTC services in California and provide additional services including:

- 32 beds for AI/AN (16 male; 16 female)
- 6 beds for close observation
- 5 family suites
- Case history assessments, evaluation, and testing
- Individual, group, and family counseling sessions
- Individualized treatment
- Activities to meet educational, spiritual and cultural needs

Ultimately, this facility will support the IHS mission, in partnership with American Indian and Alaska Native people, to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health to the highest level.

1.2 The Environmental Assessment

This environmental assessment (EA) analyzes the environmental impacts that would result from the Proposed Action and its alternative, the No Action alternative. This EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 USC 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1500 through 1508) for implementing NEPA, the DHHS's revised GAM Part 30, which details environmental protection and NEPA policy for the Department, and IHS (NEPA) Environmental Review Manual.

Key goals of NEPA are to help Federal agency officials make well-informed decisions about agency actions and to provide a role for the general public in the decision-making process. The study and documentation mechanisms associated with NEPA seek to provide decision-makers with sound knowledge of the comparative environmental consequences of the several courses of action available to them. NEPA studies, and the documents recording their results, such as this EA, focus on providing input to the particular decisions faced by the relevant officials.

In this case, the Indian Health Service will decide whether to fund the construction and operation of a Youth Regional Treatment in Hemet, California. The Associate Director, Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, will make this decision in

The Purpose of an EA

An EA is a study conducted by a Federal agency to determine whether an action the agency is proposing to take would significantly affect any portion of the human or natural environment. The intent of the EA is to provide project planners and Federal decision-makers with relevant information on a Proposed Action's impacts on the environment.

If the EA finds that no significant impacts would result from the action, the agency can publish a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and can proceed with the action. If the EA finds that significant impacts would result from the action, then the agency must prepare and publish a detailed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to help it decide about proceeding with the action.

part based on the results of this EA, the overall management framework already established for the IHS, and the legislation guiding the actions of the IHS.

Public and agency participation was solicited in the preparation of this Environmental Assessment in an effort to involve the general public and agencies in determining the scope of issues to be addressed. Among other tasks, scoping determines important issues and eliminates issues not important; allocates assignments among the interdisciplinary team members and/or other participating agencies; identifies related projects and associated documents; identifies other permits, surveys, consultations, etc. required by other agencies; and creates a schedule that allows adequate time to prepare and distribute the environmental document for public review and comment before a final decision is made. Scoping includes any interested agency or any agency with jurisdiction by law or expertise to obtain early input.

To satisfy scoping requirements for this project, letters were sent out to public officials and tribal resource offices requesting agency and tribal input on issues addressed in the EA. A kickoff meeting was held on June 30, 2010, the outcome of which will be incorporated into the Final EA (Appendix A). IHS underwent consultations with several State and Federal agencies regarding the project. For a more detailed discussion of the scoping process, including persons and agencies contacted and agency consultation letters, refer to Chapter 7 and Appendix B, respectively.

1.3 Project History and Background

There has never been an Indian Health Service built or operated federal hospital facility in CA. Substance abuse treatment services are limited to CA tribal and urban Indian Health programs which only provide outpatient treatment services in the Indian communities. Residential/inpatient treatment services purchased from private-sector treatment programs have not appropriately addressed the unique cultural needs of Indian adolescents.

The California Area Tribal Advisory Committee (CATAC) was created in 1997 by IHS to enable coordination with all the California tribes and communities. Composed of elected tribal leaders from all regions of California, the CATAC oversees the YRTC Task Force. The YRTC Ttask Force is composed of elected tribal leaders, tribal health program administrators, and clinical substance abuse treatment health professionals, and has taken on the task of determining how best to provide residential substance abuse treatment for AI/AN youth in California.

In 2001, California tribal leaders voted to develop two YRTCs in accordance with PL 94-437, amended to PL 102-573. The IHS/CAO submitted two Program Justification Documents (PJD) in 2003 to request funding to develop the YRTCs, one in northern California, and one in southern California. Both YRTCs would serve AI/AN youth from any portion of California.

In order to meet the requirement to develop a YRTC in southern California, the IHS/CAO evaluated five sites in a Phase 1 SSER in May 2009 (Appendix C). Each potential site was surveyed in terms of site requirements, accessibility, adequacy of support services, utilities, potential flood problems, historical and cultural resources, and other applicable considerations. The top three sites were visited by CATAC in June, 2009, and "upon the recommendation of Tribal Leaders after viewing the site, Taylor Ranch was observed to offer greater overall qualities for the development of the YRTC and was, therefore, deemed the highest ranked of the properties in the south" (Appendix D).

Figure 1-2. Existing pond on site

1.4 Location and General Description of the Affected Area

The Taylor Ranch site is located 23.3 km (14.5 miles) south-southeast of the City of Hemet, California, and 24 km (15 miles) east of the City of Temecula, California, in Riverside County (Figure 1-3). The parcel is located at approximately 33°32'46.18" North Latitude and 116°53'47.77" West Longitude. (Sec. 20, T7S, R1E, San Bernardino Meridian), and is shown on USGS Quad Sage.

The 8 ha (20 acre) Taylor Ranch site is bordered on the west by an olive orchard, the north and east by relatively undisturbed chaparral and coastal sage scrub, and to the south by large parcel residential development. Best Road extends approximately 0.8 km (0.5 miles) from the project site to Sage Road and is currently a dirt and gravel driveway (Figure 1-3).

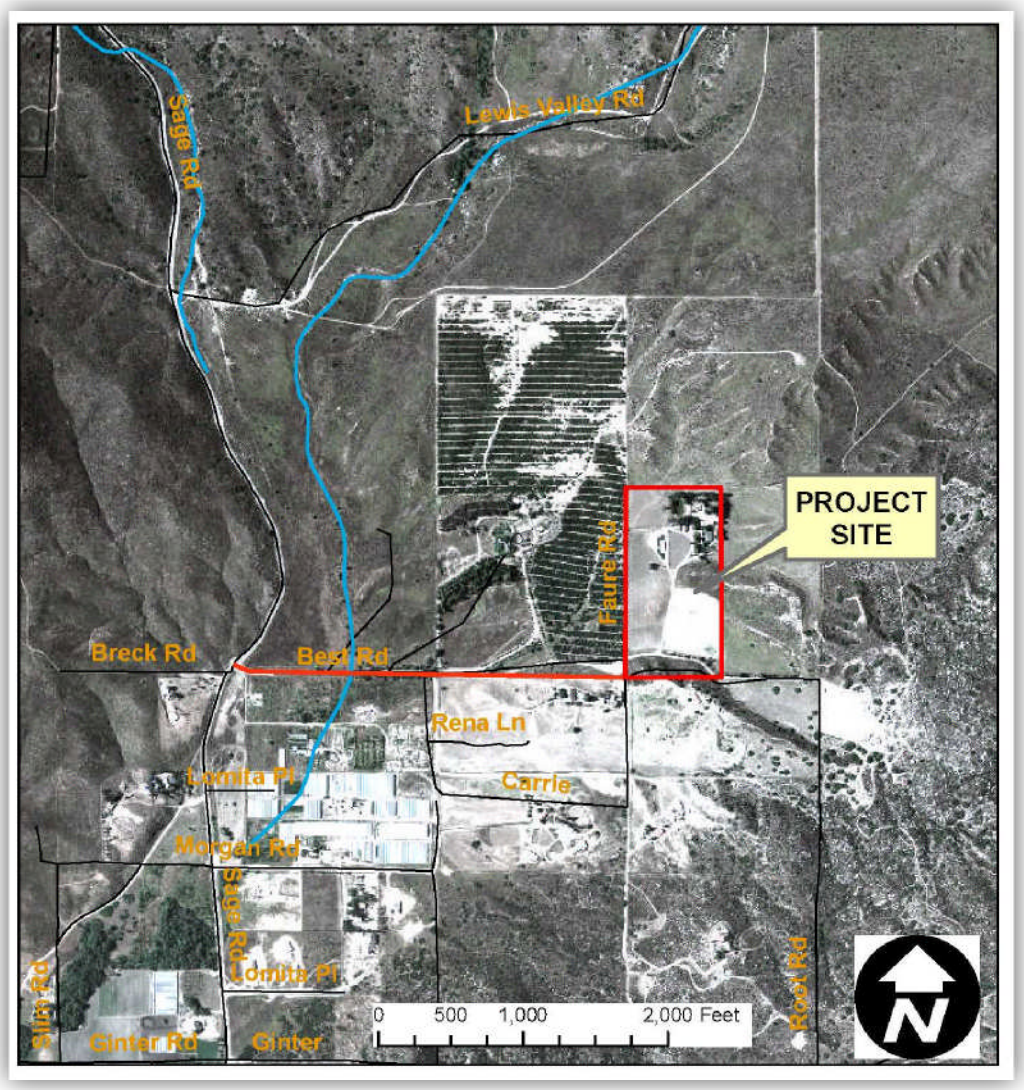

Figure 1-3. Taylor Ranch Site

The City of Hemet has a population of 74,361 (2009) within 25.97 square miles, and is located 45 km (28 miles) southeast of Riverside (the Riverside County Seat) (USACITIES, 2010). The City of Temecula has a population of 102,604 (2009) within 26 square miles, and is located 56.3 km (35 miles) south-southeast of Riverside (the Riverside County Seat) (USACITIES, 2010). Riverside County contains 24 additional cities. The 2009 estimate population of Riverside County is 2,107,653, within an area of 7,303 square miles. The county is bordered by the Orange County to the west, the Colorado River and Arizona to the east, San Diego County to the south, and San Bernadino County to the north; the area is frequently called the Inland Empire (USACITIES, 2010). Elevation ranges from -233 feet below sea level (at the Salton Sea) to 10,834 feet above sea level (San Jacinto Peak). There are several National Forests, State Parks, and a DOD installation within Riverside County (Figure 1-4).

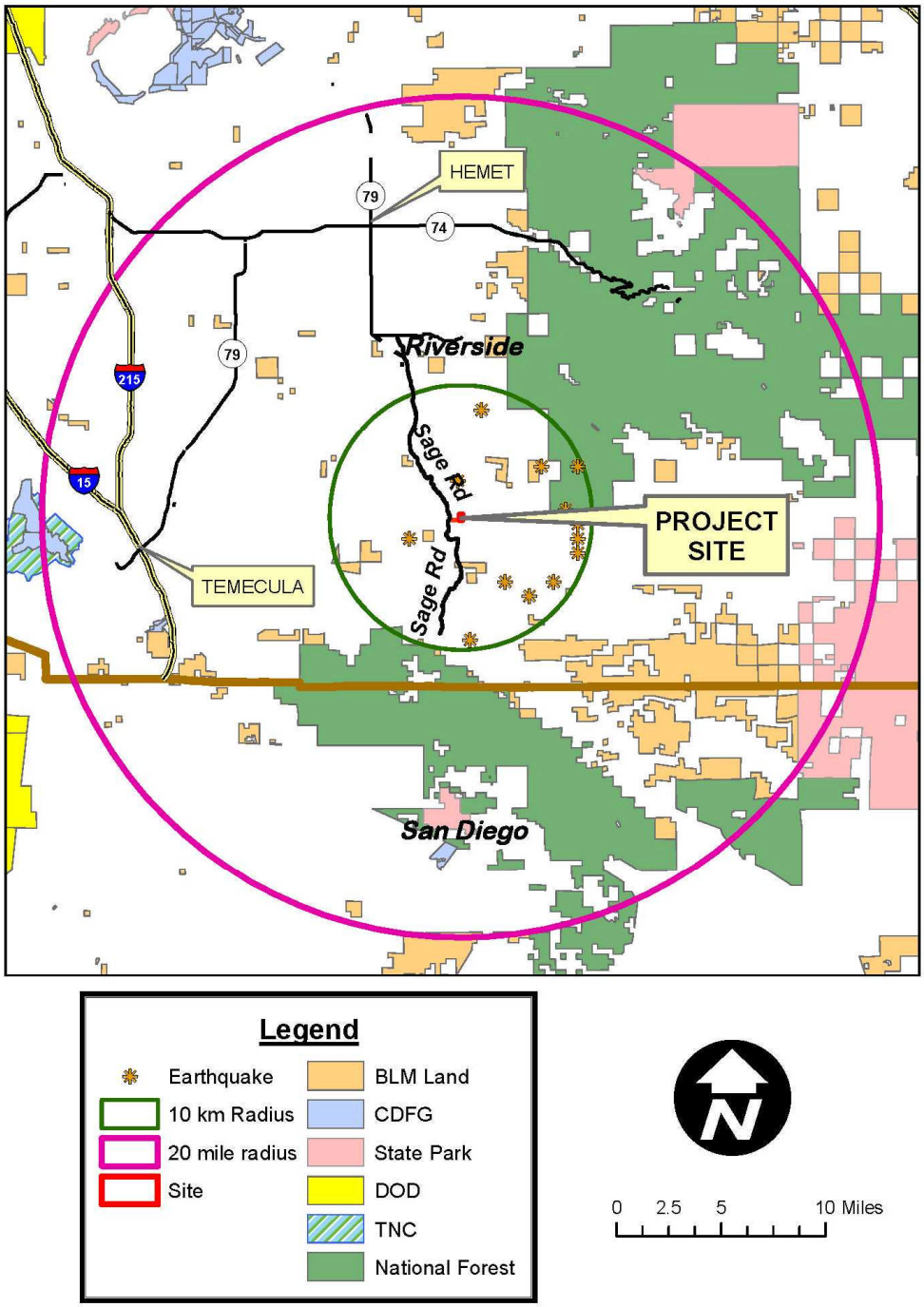

Figure 1-4. Location Map

The Inland Empire was originally inhabited by the Temecula Indians. Upon establishment of the Mission San Luis Rey, the Indians were called Luisenos. After an unratified treaty in 1852 and an eviction in 1875, a reservation was created for them in 1882. They took the name of Pechanga from the spring located in a canyon within their new home.

Hemet was first settled by members of the Cahuilla Indian Tribe. Mission San Luis Rey moved into the area in the early 1800s. Hemet has been made famous by the book Ramona by Helen Hunt Jackson in 1884, and by construction of the Hemet Dam in the early 1890s. The dam provided irrigation for numerous local grain farms and fruit orchards. During the early 1900s a half-mile horse race track was built and there are a number of thoroughbred horse farms around Hemet. The City was incorporated in 1910. In the early 1960s the new mobile home subdivision was introduced in Hemet and it became largely a retirement community. Today's economy in Hemet relies on services provided to the senior community, including financial and health care (COH, 2010).

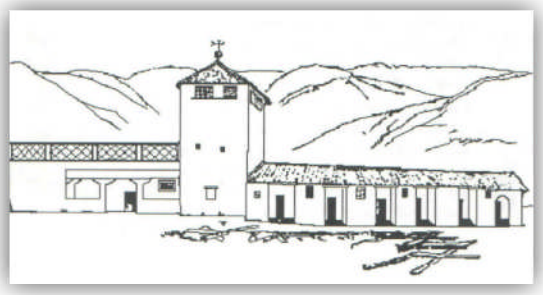

Figure 1-5. Mission San Luis Rey (Kelsey, 2010)

Temecula was first visited by the Spanish in 1797. Creation of the Mission San Luis Rey caused development of farming and cattle ranches in the Temecula area to support the mission. During the gold rush the Butterfield Overland Mail stage route ran through the area from 1858-1861. Sheep ranching expanded after the Civil War, and in 1885 the railroad came to town. The railroad washed out several times where it traveled through Temecula Canyon, and was discontinued as a main line in 1891. Branch rail service continued until 1935. The presence of the railroad in town shifted the town's center and the town's industry. Granite was quarried in the local hills and transported via the railroad to provide stone for buildings in San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The introduction of cement in the early 1900s brought an end to Temecula's granite industry. Cattle remained a viable industry and the backbone of the local economy. The Vails owned most of the ranch land around Temecula and in the interest of supporting their cattle yard, they dammed Temecula Creek in 1948 and formed Lake Vail to develop an irrigation system. The growth of Temecula remained slow until the arrival of I-15 in 1985.

Figure 1-6. Railroad in Temecula Canyon (SDH, 2010)

The City of Temecula was incorporated in 1989. Rancho California, a master planned community, was established in the 1970s and created a number of vineyards, which support the area's tourist economy (TVHS, 2010).

Figure 1-7. Typical landscape near Hemet

The land in the vicinity of the project is predominantly rural with small residential farms and large lot homes (Figure 1-6). It is located in the Pacific Mountain Pacific Border, Los Angeles Ranges physiographic province; the

Peninsular Ranges geomorphic province; and the San Jacinto Foothills bioregion. The Western Riverside area has average rainfall of 12 inches a year, with temperatures ranging from below freezing to mid-summer highs over 110°F (MSHCP, 2010).

1.5 Issues and Impact Topics

1.5.1 Impact Topics Analyzed

The following issues and impact topics are analyzed in this EA:

Air Quality: The Federal 1970 Clean Air Act stipulates that Federal agencies have an affirmative responsibility to protect air quality from adverse air pollution impacts. Air quality has the potential to be temporarily degraded during construction by fugitive dust and emissions from equipment. For this reason, impacts on air quality are included in this EA.

Invasive and Noxious Species: In accordance with Executive Order 13112 – Invasive Species, Federal agencies must not carry out actions that may cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States, unless the agency has determined that the benefits of the actions outweigh the potential harm caused by invasive species; and that all measures to minimize risk of harm will be taken in conjunction with the actions. For this reason, impacts due to invasive and noxious species are included in this EA.

Topography and Soils, Spills: During construction, there is the potential for increased surface water runoff and soil erosion at the project site. Construction equipment and vehicles have the potential to cause soil compaction. Accidental fuel or other chemical spills during construction have the potential to contaminate soils on the site. There are some on-site septic systems and sewer lines which would need to be analyzed for reuse or removal, and maintenance of farm vehicles was performed on the site. For these reasons, impacts on soils and potential for spills are included in this EA.

Water Resources and Stormwater, Water Quality: There is an ephemeral swale which flows only during high rain events, and crosses beneath Best Road via a 12" culvert pipe, approximately 0.3 km (0.2 miles) east of Sage Road. If the swale is jurisdictional, the project would require 404 permitting if it were to be impacted. Work to Best Road will need to be analyzed during design to assess any potential impacts to the swale.

The nearest sole source aquifer is located approximately 80 km (50 miles) southeast of the site. In addition, because the project will involve more than one acre of ground-disturbing work, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be needed prior to project construction, and a Notice of Intent submitted to EPA in accordance with the EPA National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for construction activities. For these reasons, impacts on water resources, stormwater, and water quality are included in this EA.

Waste and Hazardous Materials Management: In accordance with the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, hazardous wastes and materials require proper handling and disposal at approved facilities. Construction and facility operation activities would generate

solid and sanitary wastes. Existing infrastructure to handle such wastes may have the potential to be exceeded. Operations at the facility would not require the storage, use, and disposal of hazardous wastes and materials beyond flashlight batteries. For these reasons, impacts to waste and hazardous materials management are included in this EA.

Geologic, Seismic Considerations: The project is located in an area of moderate seismic activity, and the San Andreas Fault is located 56.3 km (35 miles) to the north and 90 km (56 miles) to the east of the site. Due to historic seismic activity in the area, seismic considerations are included in this EA.

Cultural and Historic Resources: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 provides the framework for Federal review and protection of cultural resources, and ensures that they are considered during Federal project planning and execution. Therefore, potential impacts to cultural and historic resources are addressed in this EA.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq. [Nov. 16, 1990] applies to the intentional or inadvertent discovery of Native American human remains and cultural items on Federal lands or tribal lands after November 16, 1990. The purpose of the act is to determine the ownership or control of Native American items which are excavated or discovered on Federal or tribal lands and to facilitate disposition to owners. NAGPRA would apply to any inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony found under or on the surface of the project area pursuant to section 43 of the Act [43 CFR 10.2 (g)(4)]. Though the possibility of discovering of such remains or objects in the vicinity of the project site are low, potential impacts under NAGPRA are addressed in this EA.

Visual Resources: The presence of the facility could impact the scenic and visual resources of the area. Potential impacts to visual resources are addressed in this EA.

Land Use: The YRTC would be constructed on land that currently contains residential development and fallow agricultural fields. The current land use designation and zoning of the site is rural residential, which allows for public uses. The proposed updates appear to continue to allow public uses such as the use proposed. Since the proposed project would result in a different land use than the current use, land use is addressed in this EA.

Socioeconomics: Construction activities and operation of the proposed facility have the potential to beneficially affect short-term and long-term employment in the area. Additional staff associated with operation of the YRTC could increase the residential population of the area with possible implication on the educational facility capacity of the neighboring communities. The facility is anticipated to increase local property values. The proposed YRTC would have both social and economic impacts on the population; therefore these impacts are addressed in this EA.

Utilities and Public Services: Construction activities and use of the completed facility have the potential to affect area demand for fire, rescue, police, and other public services. Operation of the YRTC would require utility service, including electrical, gas, water, and sewage, which have

the potential to affect current local utility demand and usage. These impacts are addressed in this EA.

Transportation and Access: Construction activities would temporarily increase traffic in the vicinity of the site. Operation of the facility could impact traffic flow and increase traffic on Sage Road. Transportation and access issues will be addressed in this EA.

Noise: Activities associated with the construction and operation of the facility would produce noise, which has the potential to adversely affect nearby residential communities.

Human Health and Safety: Construction activities and the construction site have the potential to pose safety risks to workers and the public. Impacts on other resource areas, such as air and water, may also affect human health and safety. Impacts to human health and safety associated with accessing the YRTC will be discussed under the *Transportation and Access* section. The actual operation of the YRTC would provide expanded services and a higher quality of health care to AI/AN youths, resulting in numerous beneficial impacts to human health and safety.

Floodplains: The proposed project area is located outside the 100-year floodplain of the adjacent watercourses. Because the site is located in a bowl between low ridges, this topic is further evaluated in this EA.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species, including Species of Special Concern: Construction activities have the potential to displace wildlife or eliminate habitats through removal of vegetation. Wildlife may be disturbed from noise generated during construction and operation activities, during transport of equipment and workers, and from artificial lighting during operation. Adverse effects on other resource areas, such as air, water and soils, have the potential to adversely affect vegetation and wildlife. There are several species of federal and state concern in the vicinity of the project site. Additionally, the site is located within the designated critical habitat of the endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly, and adjacent to designated critical habitat of the threatened coastal California gnatcatcher. Due to the potential to impact these species, this topic is further evaluated in this EA.

Prime and Unique Farmland: In accordance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), Federal agencies must assess the effects their actions may have on farmland soils classified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as prime or unique farmland, or land of statewide or local importance. Some soils within the project boundaries are mapped as prime farmland. The project site has been farmed in the recent past, therefore farmland would be impacted by construction of the YRTC. This topic is further evaluated in this EA.

Global Warming: Due to the increased interest and awareness of global wide climate changes and temperature increases, IHS has chosen to investigate the effects of their projects on global warming. Some of the factors that have been identified in increasing the effects of global warming are traffic volumes, construction, industrial facilities, operations and maintenance of buildings, and construction materials. When compared to other development in the County, any additional impact of this project on global warming is not major. However, due to the sensitive

nature of this topic and the uncertainty of the current science related to global warming causes, this topic is further evaluated in this EA.

1.5.2 Impact Topics Dismissed from Further Analysis

The following issues and impact topics were dismissed from further analysis in this EA:

Wetlands: Wetlands are areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas, and are protected under the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit program. The soils in the area are mapped as not hydric. A site visit has further concluded that there are no wetlands on or near the proposed project site. Therefore, this topic is dismissed from further analysis.

Coastal Zones: The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) encourages states to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, restore or enhance valuable natural coastal resources such as wetlands, floodplains, estuaries, beaches, dunes, barrier islands, and coral reefs, as well as the fish and wildlife using those habitats. The CZMA and its implementing regulations require Federal agencies proposing actions, whether within or outside of a State's coastal zone, to determine if the action is reasonably likely to affect any land or water use or natural resource within that coastal zone. There are no coastal zones within the vicinity of the site; therefore this topic is dismissed from further analysis.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is administered by four federal agencies: the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. The Act protects selected rivers, and their immediate environments, which possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values. The nearest wild and scenic river is Sespe Creek located in Ventura County (Figure 1-8). It is located 214 km (133 miles) northwest of the site, and flows into the Pacific Ocean without leaving Ventura County. This topic is dismissed from further analysis.

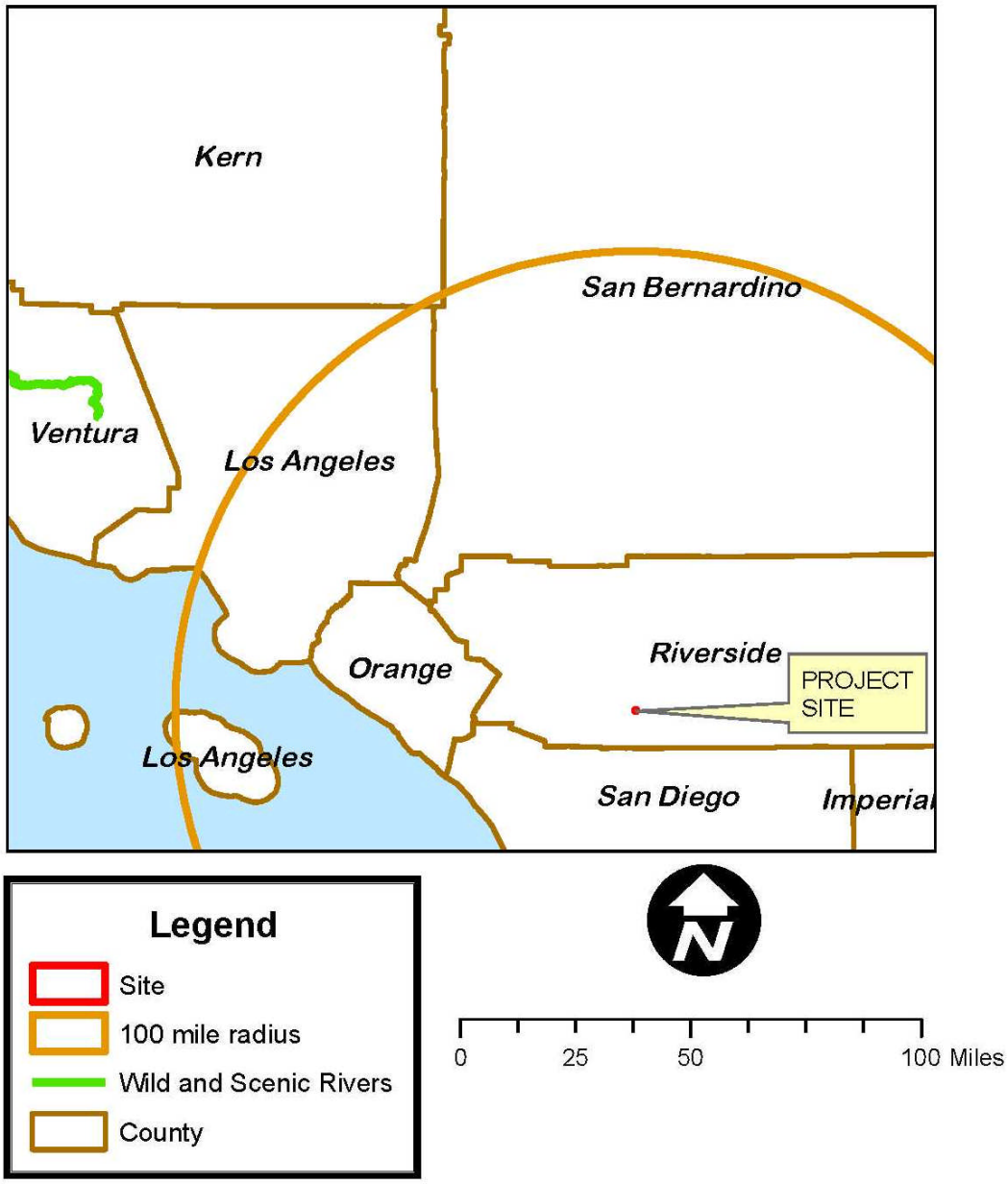

Figure 1-8. Wild and Scenic River location relative to project site.

Coastal Barrier Resources: The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) restricts Federal expenditures and financial assistance which would have the effect of encouraging development of coastal barriers. The Act established a Coastal Barrier Resources System consisting of those undeveloped coastal barriers located on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States. The coastal barriers provide habitat for migratory birds and wildlife, and contain resources of extraordinary scenic, scientific, natural, historic, and other importance. The project area is not in the vicinity of the Coastal Barrier Resources System; therefore this topic is dismissed from further analysis.

National Natural Landmarks: Federal agencies must assess the impacts their actions have on National natural landmarks such as Wildlife Sanctuaries, National Wildlife Refuges, and Wildlife Preserves. There are no wildlife refuges, sanctuaries, or other natural landmarks in the vicinity of the project site; therefore this topic is dismissed from further analysis.

Environmental Justice/Protection of Children: Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations*, requires Federal agencies to identify and address any disproportionate adverse human health or environmental effects of its projects on minority or low-income populations. Executive Order 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, directs Federal agencies to "identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children."

The average median household income in the portion of central Riverside County within 10 miles of the project site is $41,930, compared to $42,887 in Riverside County as whole, and $47,493 in California. In central Riverside County, 16.9% of the population is below poverty level, compared to 14.2% in Riverside County, and 14.2% in California. Though the area in general has lower income/higher poverty rate than the county/state, the proposed project is not expected to have disproportionately high and adverse effects on low income population. The proposed project would increase opportunities for employment in the short-term and long-term and would provide additional treatment opportunities for AI/AN youth. Because no disproportionate impacts on children, minority, or low-income populations would result from the alternatives, this topic was eliminated from further analysis in this EA.

CHAPTER 2 ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Alternatives under consideration

2.1.1 No Action

No permanent center currently exists within California to serve AI/AN youth in need of substance abuse treatment services. Under the No Action alternative, there would be no construction of a YRTC within California. Youth would continue to be treated at outpatient facilities that do not address the unique cultural needs of AI/ANs. In addition, these facilities would be unable to meet the health care demands of the present and projected population of youth in need of treatment.

Without the construction of the YRTC, there would be no possibility of environmental impacts, either positive or negative, from the project. No residential treatment center would be constructed, and the needs of the California adolescent AI/AN population would not be met.

If the property is not purchased by IHS for development of the YRTC, the property could potentially be: 1) not sold and remains in the hands of the current owners, with no change in the use; 2) sold to another individual who intends to continue the historical use of dry-farming on the property; 3) sold to an individual who will use the facilities on site as a residence without the intention of farming; 4) sold to a developer who subdivides the property into 5-acre parcels and sells them as residential sites.

2.1.2 Proposed Action

The Indian Health Service (IHS) proposes to develop a YRTC at the site of the existing Taylor Ranch located at 39990 Faure Road, southeast of Hemet, California in Riverside County. The parcel is located at approximately 33°32’46.18” North Latitude and 116°53’47.77” West Longitude. (Sec. 20, T7S, R1E, Mount Diablo Meridian), and is shown on USGS Quad Sage.

The YRTC will consist of developing a 3,948 square meters (42,500 square feet) facility on a 8 ha (20 acre) parcel. Access to the facility would be from Best Road, off of Sage Road (a Riverside County roadway).

The proposed new YRTC is being designed to treat up to 96 AI/AN youth per year on a resident basis (CAIHS, 2003), and create 69.2 new staff positions. The proposed facility would also have five family suites to allow concurrent treatment of the family of the youth in residence.

Approximately 40 construction jobs will be provided in the short term. Employment at the YRTC would be offered to California tribal members and then local community residents. California Indian tribes had a 40% unemployment rate in 2003. Hemet and Temecula had 2009 unemployment rates of 17.0% and 9.3% respectively (BLS, 2010). Employment conditions for California tribes and the local community will be improved as a result of this project.

Construction of the YRTC is expected to begin in 2012, and continue for 1.2 years. IHS would provide the funding to construct the YRTC through new facilities construction funding authorized by Congressional Appropriations under the Health Facilities Construction Priority System. The total project budget for the facility design, construction, and YRTC equipment is $19 million.

IHS will be required to incorporate LEED Green Building Design Standards in the design of the YRTC, to use alternative energy sources such as solar, geothermic, and wood biomass, and to use eco-friendly building materials to the extent possible. Additionally, IHS would like to ensure that the YRTC minimizes impacts to the environment.

2.2 Alternatives considered but rejected

CEQ regulations for implementing NEPA require that Federal agencies explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives to a proposed action, and to briefly discuss the rationale for eliminating any alternatives that were not considered in detail. Four alternative sites were considered, in addition to the preferred site (the Proposed Action), but were dismissed from further analysis. These alternatives are discussed below (see Figure 2-1).

The four sites were situated as follows: Site 1, Live Oak Canyon, off Live Oak Canyon Road in San Bernadino County; Site 2, Tripp Flats, off of Tripp Flats Road; Site 4, Sage, near the intersection of Stanley Road and Sage Road; and Site 5, Bautista, off Bautista Road (IHS, 2009). All the sites were evaluated during a site inspection and ranked based on parameters such as location, size, aesthetics, proximity to utilities, accessibility, potential flood problems, and development costs. Each of the sites meets the minimum requirement of 4.05 ha (10 acres).

Due to factors such as availability of utilities, aesthetics, drainage, access, and fire protection, Sites 4 and 5 were eliminated. The remaining three sites were visited by CATAC in June, 2009, and ”upon the recommendation of Tribal Leaders after viewing the site, Taylor Ranch was observed to offer greater overall qualities for the development of the YRTC and was, therefore, deemed the highest ranked of the properties in the south.” The alternative sites are not evaluated fully in this EA because they are no longer under active consideration.

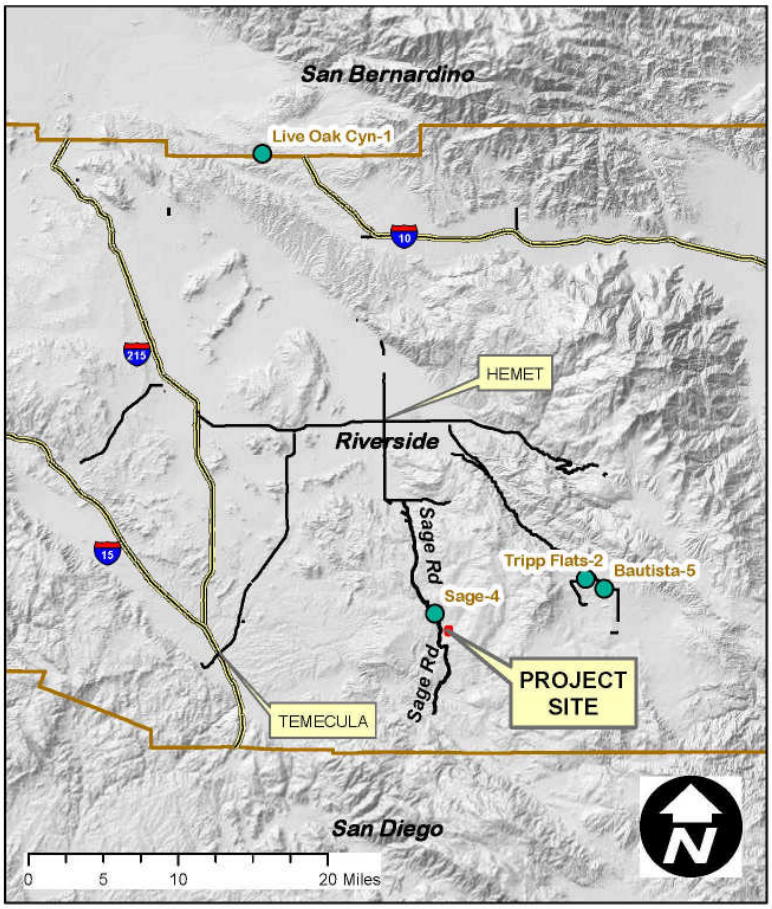

Figure 2-1. Four alternate site locations dismissed from consideration.

Site 1 – Live Oak Canyon

Site 1 (Live Oak Canyon) is located at 32055 Live Oak Canyon Road, and is 7 ha (17.3 acres). On-site water and sewer systems would be required. Drainage concerns were high due to the bowl-shape of the property, surrounded on three sides by sharp ridges.

Development of Site 1 as the YRTC was recommended as per the Phase 1 Site Selection and Evaluation Report, attached in Appendix C. However, the CATAC and other tribal leaders preferred Site 3, the Taylor Ranch.

Site 2 – Tripp Flats

Site 2 (Tripp Flats) is located on Tripp Flats Road approximately 8 km (5 miles) northwest of the town of Anza, and is 32 ha (79.1 acres). On-site water and sewer systems would be required. Tripp Flats Road is paved to within 1.2 km (0.75 miles) of the property, and access to the property is a gravel drive. The property's terrain is rugged and there are limited level areas on the property suitable for building sites. Access and site constraints are concerns on this site.

Development of Site 2 as the YRTC was the second recommended alternative as per the Phase 1 Site Selection and Evaluation Report, attached in Appendix C. However, the CATAC and other tribal leaders preferred Site 3, the Taylor Ranch.

Site 4 - Sage
Site 4 (Sage) is located at the intersection of Sage Road and Stanley Road near Hemet, and is 6.8 ha (16.8 acres). On-site water and sewer systems would be required, and a new well would need to be drilled. This site was discarded from further consideration based on concerns about noise from Sage Road, lack of privacy due to proximity to Sage Road, and building constraints due to the shape of the site.

Development of Site 4 as the YRTC was not recommended as per the Phase 1 Site Selection and Evaluation Report, attached in Appendix C. In addition, this site was sold prior to the final field review, and is no longer available as an alternative.

Site 5 - Bautista
Site 5 (Bautista) is located along Bautista Road near Anza, at the northern limit of the paved section of Bautista Road; it is 5.2 ha (12.8 acres). On-site water and sewer systems would be required, and a new well would need to be drilled. Drainage on site is a concern due to ponded water visible during a field review. Site location, terrain, and availability of water were concerns for this site.

Development of Site 5 as the YRTC was not recommended as per the Phase 1 Site Selection and Evaluation Report, attached in Appendix C.

2.3 Comparison of Alternatives

Table 2-1 briefly summarizes the environmental effects of the various alternatives. It provides a quick comparison of how well the alternatives respond to the project need, objectives, significant issues, and impact topics. Chapter 4 discusses the environmental consequences of the proposed alternatives in detail.

Environmental Resource/ Component	Proposed Action	No Action
Air Quality	*Riverside County is a nonattainment area for air quality.* • Temporary, minor, adverse impacts on air quality during the construction phase from equipment emissions and fugitive dust • Negligible to minor adverse impact during operation	• No changes in current air quality conditions around the project area

Environmental Resource/ Component	Proposed Action	No Action
Invasive and Noxious Species	*Invasive species may be present on the site as it is currently disturbed* • Minimization measures will be utilized to limit the spread of invasive species during construction • Native species will be planted as part of the landscaping component • Minor to moderate, beneficial impacts to invasive species	• Invasive species will remain on the current site and potentially spread to neighboring lands
Topography, Soils	*The site is slightly sloping in the area of proposed development, with a ridge crossing the center of the site;* • Negligible to minor adverse impacts on topography • Localized, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on soils due to disturbance and compaction during site preparation and construction activities • Negligible to minor, short-term increase in soil erosion as a result of construction activities	• If the proposed action is not pursued, there would likely be no changes to the topography or soils on site.
Water Resources	*Four wells serve the farm and the residences* • Localized, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on water quality due to risk of spills and runoff during construction and operation activities • Minor adverse impacts on surface and ground water quantity by the additional diversions to sustain the YRTC	• Continued use of the current facility would have no change on water resources.
Waste and Hazardous Materials Management	• Negligible adverse impacts on waste water management are anticipated • Negligible adverse impacts on solid waste management related to construction and operation activities are anticipated	• Continued use of the current facility would have no change on waste management.

Environmental Resource/ Component	Proposed Action	No Action
Geologic, Seismic	• The new YRTC would be built using modern, seismically safe design, therefore no impacts to seismic concerns	• No changes in structures on the site would result from no action
Cultural and Historic Resources	*No NRHP eligible structures are present on the site. If cultural resources are discovered during construction, must halt operations* • Negligible adverse impacts to newly recorded historic site	• No impacts to historical or cultural resources are anticipated
Visual Resources	*The proposed facility would be within sight of residential neighbors* • Negligible adverse visual impacts of new YRTC facility	• No impacts on visual resources, adverse or beneficial
Land Use	*The proposed facility would be compatible with neighboring land uses and is consistent with the goals and policies of the county plan* • Minor beneficial impacts on land use	• No impacts on land use, adverse or beneficial
Socioeconomics	*AI/AN unemployment is extremely high* • Temporary, minor to moderate, localized beneficial impact due to the creation of employment from construction • Minor localized, beneficial impact due to the creation of employment from operation of the YRTC • Long-term, minor to moderate, regional beneficial social impacts from YRTC operations	• No changes in regional employment or local economy • No potentially beneficial impacts realized from job creation associated with new facility
Utilities and Public Service	• Temporary, minor potential to damage or interrupt utility lines during construction • Negligible to minor long-term increases in demand for utilities and public service	• No potential to damage or disrupt utility lines in the area • No changes in demand for utilities and public services

Environmental Resource/ Component	Proposed Action	No Action
Transportation and Access	*People will primarily access the YRTC via private vehicles; there will be access from Sage Road. Best Road would be upgraded* • Minor increases of traffic on Sage Road from both construction and operation of YRTC • Minor beneficial impact due to upgraded Best Road	• No changes are anticipated to transportation
Noise	• Temporary, minor adverse noise impacts during construction activities • Negligible increase in noise impacts during operation activities at YRTC	• No changes in noise levels around the project area
Human Health and Safety	• Negligible, temporary, localized adverse impacts on human health and safety from construction activities due to fugitive dust, increased traffic, use of heavy equipment, and accidental spills • Moderate to major beneficial impact from availability of residential treatment for AI/AN youth	• Minor to moderate adverse impact to AI/AN youth from continuance of insufficient or unavailable treatment
Floodplain	*The site is not within the 100-year floodplain of adjacent watercourses* • No impacts to the floodplain are anticipated	• No grading or elevation change, therefore, no impacts to the floodplain
Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species	*Designated critical habitat is on site* • Potential minor to moderate adverse impacts to critical habitat of an Endangered species • Potential beneficial impacts to critical habitat of an Endangered species by conserving the habitat	• No change in vegetation or habitat, therefore, no impacts to listed species • No conservation of land to preserve critical habitat
Prime and Unique Farmland	*Site soils are mapped as prime farmland* • Loss of 2 ha (5 acres) of farmland. • Minor adverse impact to prime farmland	• No loss of farmland

Environmental Resource/ Component	Proposed Action	No Action
Global Warming	• Temporary increase in CO2 emissions during building construction • Minor increases in CO2 emissions during maintenance and operation of the building • Minor increases in CO2 emissions from increased traffic volume in area due to facility visitations • Negligible overall impacts on global warming	• There would be no construction or maintenance of a new building to increase CO2 emissions

2.4 Controversial Environmental Effects

Controversial environmental effects associated with the No Action alternative include impacts to:

- ***Human Health and Safety:*** Moderate adverse impacts on the human health and safety of AI/AN youth are anticipated to occur from the continuance of insufficient or unavailable treatment.

Controversial environmental effects associated with the Proposed Action alternative, consisting of the construction and operation of the YRTC include impacts to:

- ***Air Quality:*** Temporary, minor, adverse impacts on air quality during the construction phase from equipment emissions and fugitive dust.
- ***Noise:*** Temporary, minor adverse noise impacts during construction activities. Negligible increase in noise impacts during operation activities at YRTC.
- ***Water Resources:*** Localized, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on water quality due to risk of spills and runoff during construction and operation activities. Minor to moderate adverse impacts on surface and ground water quantity by the additional diversions to sustain the YRTC.
- ***Human Health and Safety:*** Local Community members may be resistant to the facility being located near their residences, due to concerns about safety from the patients.

CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Air Quality

The US Environmental Protection Agency regulates six air pollutants for which standards for safe levels of exposure have been set under the Clean Air Act of 1990 (CAA): ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide and lead. These pollutants are called "criteria pollutants." Hazardous and other toxic air pollutants, including mercury, are regulated under the CAA Amendments of 1990.

For each criteria pollutant, the maximum concentration above which adverse effects on human health may occur is called a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Areas of the country where air pollution levels persistently exceed the NAAQSs may be designated "nonattainment."

In addition to these six criteria pollutants, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a source of concern and are regulated as a precursor to ozone. VOCs are created when fuels or organic waste materials are burned. Most hydrocarbons are presumed to be VOCs in the regulatory context, unless otherwise specified by the USEPA.

The proposed site of the new YRTC is located in Riverside County, California. Riverside County is classified as a non-attainment area for ozone, PM2.5, PM10, and nitrogen dioxide. PM10 is a respiratory irritant that can cause serious health effects in susceptible individuals.

Particulate matter (PM) includes both solid particles and liquid droplets found in air. Particles less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM10) pose a health concern because they can be inhaled into and accumulate in the respiratory system. Sources of coarse particles include crushing or grinding operations, and dust from paved or unpaved roads.

Dust is a sensitive issue in the area, as wind is generally high, and if too much dust is generated, it affects the availability of sunlight and rainfall for local crops. Agriculture is one of the top industries within Riverside County, and several crops are grown in the county that are sensitive to air quality, including grapes, hay, oranges, lemons, and cotton (RCFB, 2010).

Ozone is a highly reactive and unstable gas and is found as an ingredient of smog. It poses a health concern because it is capable of damaging the linings of the respiratory tract. Exposure to levels above the current ambient air quality standard can cause lung inflammation and tissue damage, causing impaired lung functioning. Symptoms of ozone exposure are coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath, and increased asthma symptoms. The greatest risk is to people who spend large amounts of time outdoors during periods of heavy smog. Elevated ozone can also damage rubber, plastics, and fabrics, and reduce crop yields. Ozone forms in the atmosphere from chemicals, such as hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxide, emitted from vehicles, industrial plants, and other sources.

The EPA is responsible for ensuring that air quality protects public health and welfare. Under the EPA's General Conformity Rule, Federal agencies are required to prepare a written conformity analysis and determination for proposed activities where the total of direct and indirect emissions of a non-attainment or maintenance criteria pollutant caused by the activity will exceed the threshold emission levels specified under the CAA. The project is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The area is in extreme non-attainment for Ozone and NO2, serious non-attainment for PM-10 and CO, and attainment for SO2. To conform with the EPA, the project must comply with the 2007 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan. Permits will also need to be obtained from SCAQMD for equipment on site such as emergency generator, boiler, etc.

3.2 Invasive and Noxious Species

The project site is currently a mix of developed residential and agricultural land. Within the area proposed for development there is a mix of landscape and native vegetation. There were no invasive or noxious species on the parcel according to the list obtained for the Santa Ana River and Orange County Weed Management Area (WMA) (CAL-IPC, 2010). In accordance with Executive Order 13112 – Invasive Species, Federal Agencies must not carry out actions that may spread invasive species, unless the Agency has made the determination that the benefits of the action outweigh the potential harm caused by invasive species; and that all measures to minimize risk of harm will be taken in conjunction with the actions.

Figure 3-1. Landscape vegetation and former agricultural field adjacent to residence.

Per the WMA listing, the weed species are of concern in the area are listed in the table below. None of these species was observed within the project area.

Table 3-1. Weeds of concern in vicinity of site

Weed
Arundo
Tree tobacco
Castorbean
Salt cedar
Tree of Heaven
Milk thistle
Perennial pepperweed
Fennel
Spanish broom
Artichoke thistle
Myoporum
Dalmatian toadflax
Fivehook bassia
Musk thistle
Chinese tallowtree
Diffuse knapweed
Yellow star thistle

Discussions with the chairman of the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District indicated that in the project area, the weeds of concern would be tree tobacco, tumbleweed, thistle, castor bean, pepperweed, and fennel. None of these species was observed on the project site. The Sage Road area has been impacted by annual exotic grasses (Russell, 2010).

3.3 Topography and Soils

Topography

The project is located in the Lewis Valley, west of the San Jacinto Mountains, which are part of the Peninsular Ranges and contains peaks over 10,000 feet. The area's elevation within 2.4 km (1.5 miles) of the site ranges between 2,000 and 3,000 feet above sea level.

Figure 3-2. Typical topography in the vicinity of the site.

Figure 3-3. Ridge that bisects the site.

The site is located 0.8 km (0.5 miles) east of Sage Road along the north side of Best Road.The parcel is located in a gently sloping area, with elevation ranging between 660 m (2,165 ft) and 680 m (2,230 ft) NAVD83 above mean sea level. The site is bisected by a 10 m (33 ft) high ridge that protrudes approximately half-way across the site from the east (Figure 3-3). The northern portion of the site is currently developed with two mobile homes and assorted outbuildings, in addition to a former agricultural field. This area slopes east to west at an average slope of 3.4%. The southern part of the site, which is entirely former agricultural field, has an average slope of 3.6% to the west (Valdez, 2010). The southern portion of the site is the area proposed for construction of the YRTC (Figure 2-3). The southernmost 40 m (140 ft) of the site slopes steeply (20%) up to the south to the continuation of Best Road and access drives to neighboring residences.

Figure 3-4. Area proposed for construction of YRTC.

Soils

There are four soil series on the site of the YRTC and along Best Road (Figure 3-5):

- Escondido fine sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, eroded (Map Unit EcC2). Occurs on uplands. Soils are well drained, with moderately high infiltration rate and moderately low runoff potential. Soils have low shrink-swell potential.
- Gorgonio loamy sand, 0 to 8 percent slopes (Map Unit GhC). Occurs on alluvial fans. Soils are somewhat excessively well drained, with high infiltration rate and low runoff potential. Soils have low shrink-swell potential.
- Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes (Map Unit HcC). Occurs on alluvial fans. Soils are well drained, with high infiltration rate and low runoff potential. Soils have low shrink-swell potential.
- Hanford coarse sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded (Map Unit HcD2). Occurs on alluvial fans. Soils are somewhat excessively drained, with high infiltration rate and low runoff potential. Soils have low shrink-swell potential.
- Monserate sandy loam, 5 to 8 percent slopes, eroded (Map Unit MmC2). Occurs on alluvial fans. Soils are well drained, with moderately high infiltration rate and moderately low runoff potential. Soils have moderate shrink-swell potential.
- Terrace escarpments (Map Unit TeG). Occurs on terraces; derived from alluvium.

A geotechnical study was prepared and is included in Appendix E. There was no evidence of expansive soil observed during the geotechnical investigation (Inland, 2010).

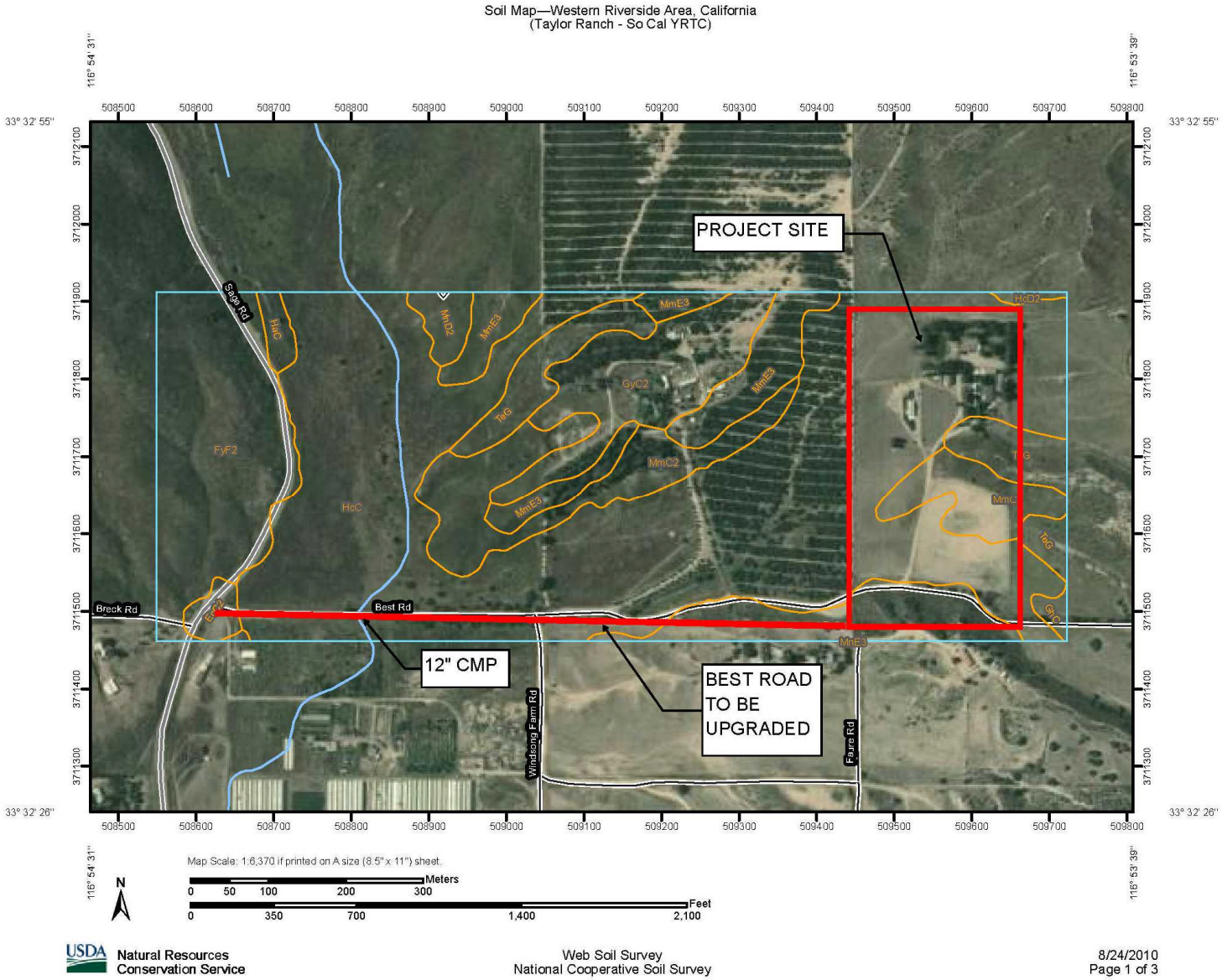

Figure 3-5. Soil map of Project site

3.4 Water Resources and Stormwater, Water Quality

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was enacted to protect the quality of drinking water in the United States (Scorecard, 2008). Primary drinking water regulations established legally enforceable levels for contaminants that can affect people's health. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) were set to be as close as possible to the level that is known to have adverse health effects. Secondary drinking water regulations are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that can cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects.

Water is provided to the project site by four wells on site. Two of the wells have electric pumps and were tested in 2008. One of the wells produces 12-15 gpm, and the other 25-35 gpm, which would provide a range of 17,280 to 50,400 gpd. The water quality test results indicate that the water from both electric powered wells meets the Federal and State requirements for drinking water. There are also two windmill powered wells that feed a pond and a small reservoir. The pond is stocked and used for fishing by the homeowner as well as by local waterfowl (Figure 3-6).

Figure 3-6. Existing pond on site.

USGS mapping indicates that the Lewis Valley watercourse flows west approximately 805 m (0.5 miles) to the north of the site, then swings to the south along the east side of Sage Road where it disperses into a wide, non-defined channel and crosses Best Road approximately 198 m (650 feet) east of Sage Road (DOWL HKM, 2010). This watercourse is not evident in the field, though there is a 12" CMP culvert that routes flow beneath Best Road (see Figure 3-5 and survey in Appendix H).

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 402 protects surface waters through stormwater permitting. This process includes the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Permit, Notice of Intent (NOI) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Groundwater in the Hemet Lake Valley Groundwater Basin ranges to 30 m (100 feet) below ground level. Site investigation encountered groundwater at depths of 12.8 to 13.7 m (42 to 45 feet) (Inland, 2010). The EPA's Sole Source Aquifer (SSA) Program, established in 1977 under the SWDA, requires evaluation of projects to determine if they have the potential to contaminate a sole source aquifer. The nearest sole source aquifer (Campo-Cottonwood Sole Source Aquifer Designated Area) is located approximately 80.5 km (50 miles) southeast of the project site.

3.5 Waste and Hazardous Materials Management

Solid waste generated from the existing facility is subject to all applicable state and federal environmental protection laws governing waste. Solid waste is currently disposed of by Waste Management of Moreno Valley.

Waste Management of Moreno Valley collects residential refuse and recyclables once per week. Garbage collection, cardboard, office paper, green waste, and mixed recycling is also available to commercial establishments in Riverside county (WM, 2010). The YRTC would be required to contract with Waste Management of Moreno Valley for the solid waste removal including during the construction and operation phases. Waste Management also offers recycling services for items such as batteries and fluorescent lamps.

There are no superfunds or industrial facilities within 16 km (10 miles) of the project site or Industrial zoned properties within 4.8 km (3 miles) of the site. There are two large quantity hazardous waste generators 16 km (10 miles) from the site, a Shell service station and a water district facility.

3.6 Geologic, Seismic Considerations

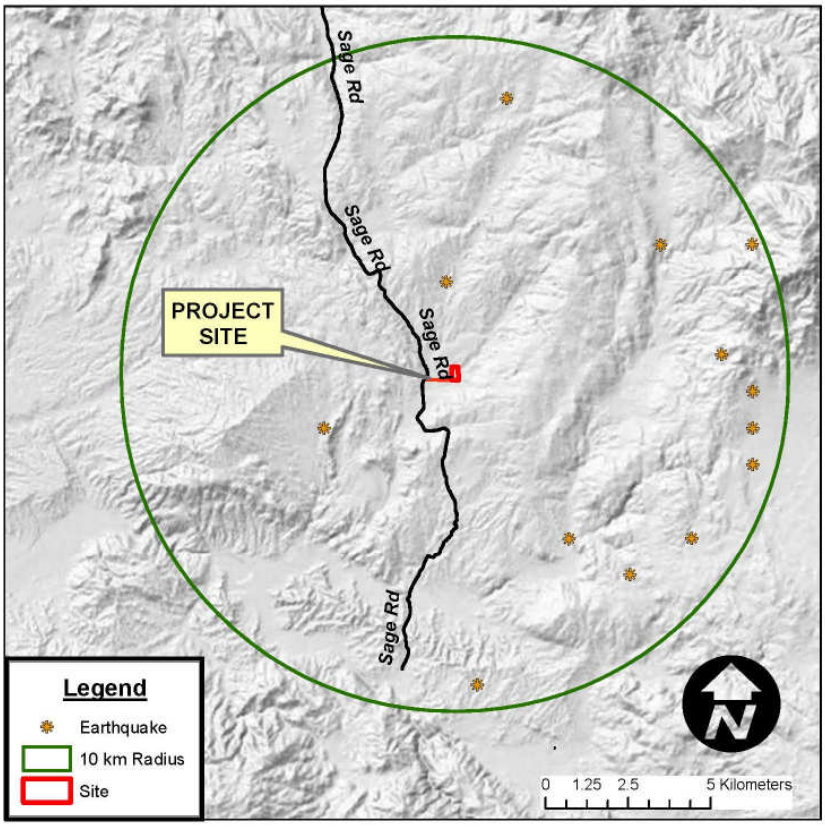

Figure 3-7. Earthquake activity since 1973.

The project site, located in southern California, is in an area of moderate seismic activity (Figure 3-7). The site is not located within a State of California Alquist-Priolo active fault zone. The potentially active Lancaster Fault is located approximately 6.6 km (4.1 miles) south of the site. This fault is associated with the Elsinore Fault Zone system. Based on the geotechnical study prepared for the site, the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions indicate that there may be a potential for liquefaction within thin layers at depths exceeding 10 m (33 feet). The effects of liquefaction at these depths are not expected to be significant at the surface of the site (Inland, 2010).

3.7 Cultural and Historical Resources

Figure 3-8. Water tank and windmill.

A Class III cultural resources survey was completed in July 2010, for 9.3 ha (23.09 acres) within the Taylor Ranch parcel and along Best Road for the proposed YRTC (survey report in Appendix F). One newly-recorded site was identified on the parcel, but not recommended to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The site is the Arnold Line Camp site. The site consists of four features related to the infrastructure required for maintaining a ranching line camp. The features include the two windmills, a water tank that has since been removed, and the pond (Figures 3-8 and 3-9).

Figure 3-9. Windmill and pond

The site is not recommended eligible for the NRHP because it lacks integrity of materials, feeling, and association. It is not associated with a significant event or significant person and therefore is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D. No preservation, treatment, or further research is necessary (LSD, 2010).

No cultural resources were identified as the result of this survey or previous surveys.

3.8 Visual Resources

Figure 3-10. View of existing property from Best Road.

Visual resources in the area are limited to the view of the existing property from the road and neighboring residences (Figure 3-10). The residences to the south are located at a higher elevation and have an unblocked view of the area proposed for development (Figure 3-11). The current view is of fallow agricultural fields and distant mountains.

There are no visual resources associated with the newly-recorded cultural resource site.

Figure 3-11. View of residence to south from area proposed for development.

3.9 Land Use

The site is currently developed with residential uses and areas have previously been used for agriculture (Figures 3-12, 3-13). Adjacent uses include rural residences and agricultural uses.

Land use in the project area is regulated by the Riverside County Planning Department. The project site is currently designated Rural Residential in the County's General Plan (2003) and the Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan (REMAP) and zoned Rural Residential (R-R) (Figure 3-14). The General Plan notes that governmental uses are allowed in Rural Residential areas.

Figure 3-12. Existing residence.

Although Riverside County is currently in the process of updating its General Plan, none of the changes proposed to date would result in any substantial changes to the land use analysis.

Figure 3-13. Outbuilding with farm equipment.

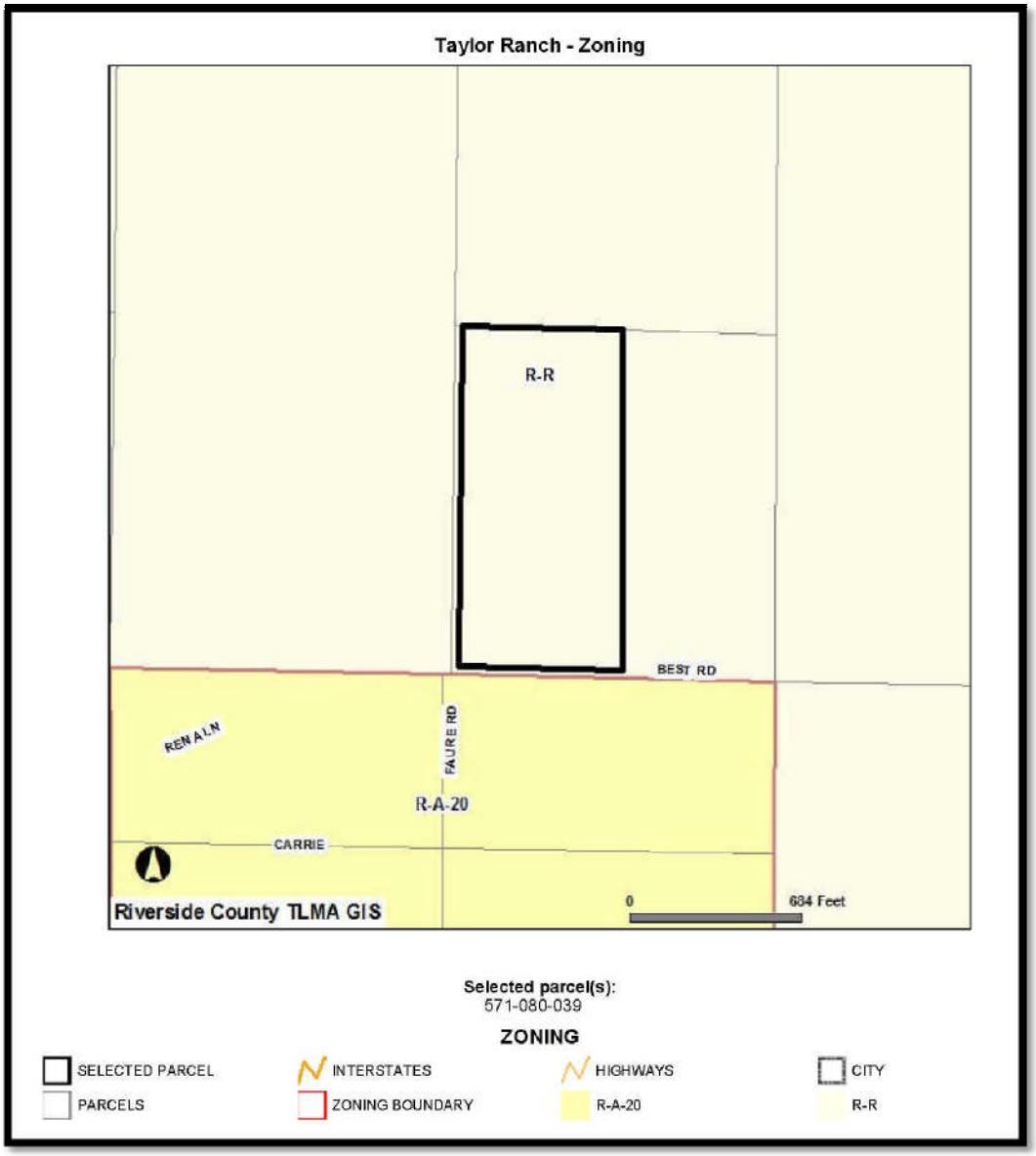

Figure 3-14. Zoning Map.

3.10 Socioeconomics

For the purposes of discussing socioeconomics, three Census County Divisions (CCDs) were analyzed. The project site is located on the boundary between Idyllwild CCD and Murrieta CCD; Hemet-San Jacinto CCD was included in the analysis in order to include the City of Hemet (Figure 3-15). Of the population of Riverside County, 65.6% are white, while 1.2% are AI/AN (Table 3-2). The three CCDs around the project site have an average of 2% AI/AN. Although the population of the area is predominantly white, in general the area has a more diverse population with higher populations of AI/AN and lower populations of African Americans when compared to the nation as a whole (Figure 3-16).

The total population of AI/AN in California is 71,287 according to the BIA Labor Force Report (BIA, 2003). Thirty seven percent of the population is under the age of 16, with 80% of the members ranging in age between 16 and 64. Fifty-nine percent of those employed work for a public agency.

Table 3-2. Economic and Racial Data

	Not in Labor Force	Unemployed	Below Poverty Level	White	Hispanic	AI/AN	African Amer	Median Household Income
Riverside County	41.8	7.5	14.2	65.6	36.2	1.2	6.2	$ 42,887
Combined local CCDs	45.5	8.2	16.9	81.5	20.0	1.9	2.1	$ 41,930
Hemet-San Jacinto CCD	54.1	10.2	16.6	79	25.4	1.8	2.3	$ 30,023
Idyllwild CCD	47.8	9.2	28.4	85.4	16.3	2.8	0.8	$ 35,567
Murrieta CCD	34.7	5.1	5.7	80.2	18.3	1.1	3.3	$ 60,201
California	37.6	7	14.2	59.5	32.4	1	6.7	$ 47,493
CA Tribes	23	40	36					$ 22,257
Nation	36.1	3.9	12.4	75.1	12.5	0.9	12.3	$ 41,994

Of those CA tribal members over the age of 16, 23% are not in the labor force (BIA, 2003). Of the labor force, 40% were unemployed in 2003. This is compared to 3.9% for the nation in 2000, 7% in California, 7.5% in Riverside County, and 8.2% in the three CCDs near the project site. Over a third of the tribal members in California (36%) are below poverty level, compared to 6% to 28% of the population within the three CCDs surrounding the proposed YRTC site (Table 3.2, Figure 3-17).

The median household income within the three CCDs was $41,930 in 2000, compared to $42,887 in Riverside County, and $47,493 in California. The median household income for tribes in California was $22,257.

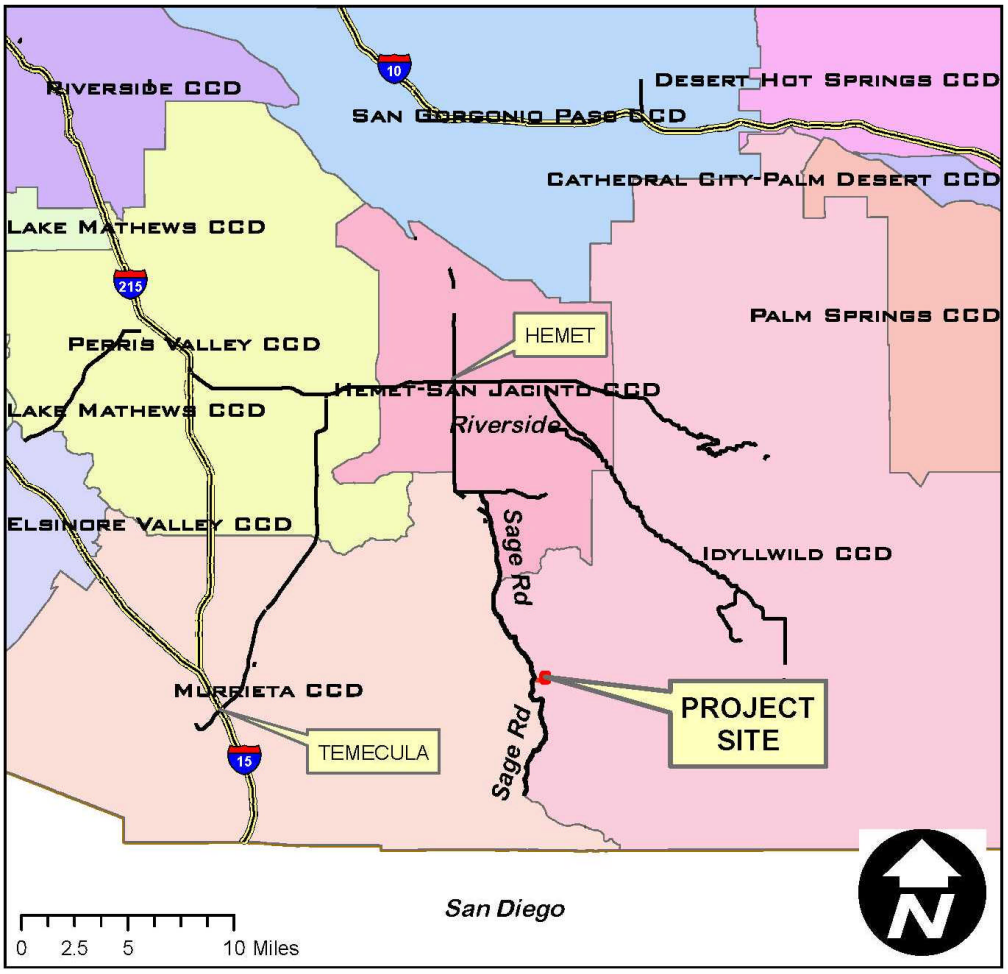

Figure 3-15. Map of CCDs in vicinity of project site.

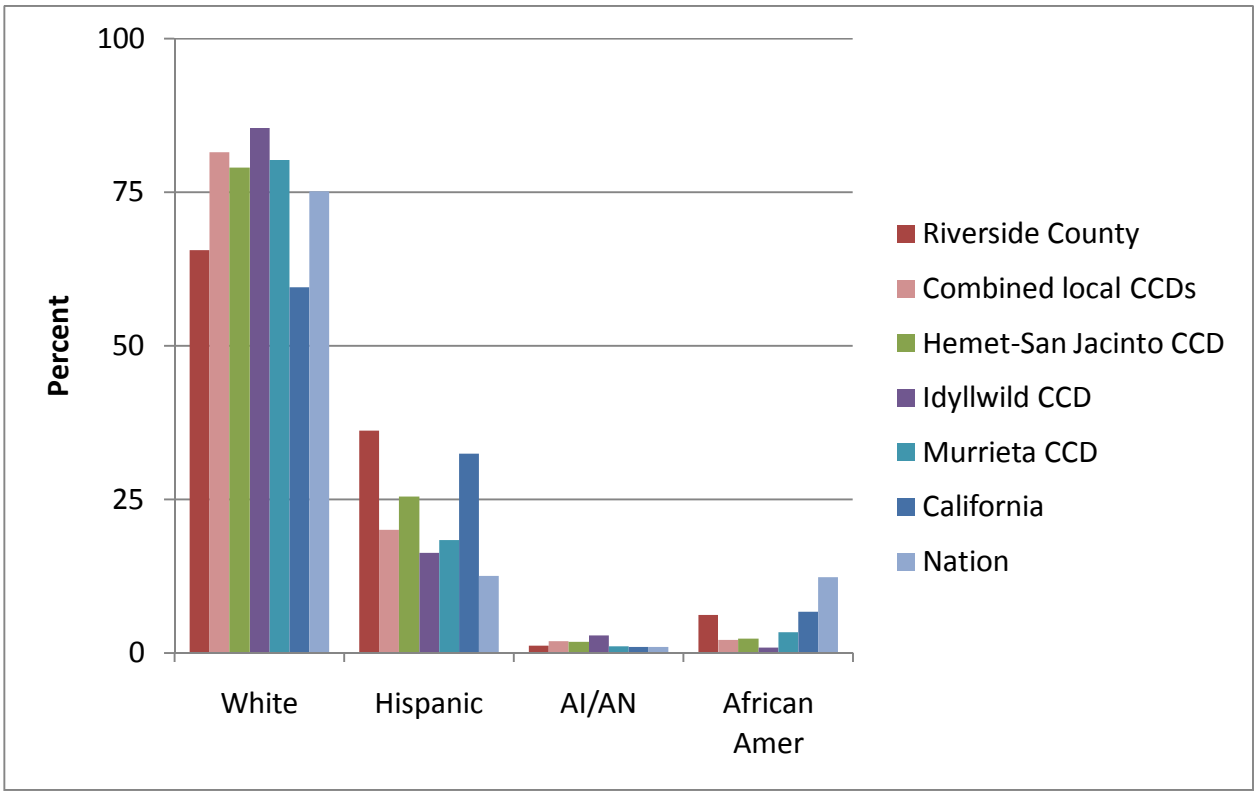

Figure 3-16. Area racial composition (USCB, 2010).

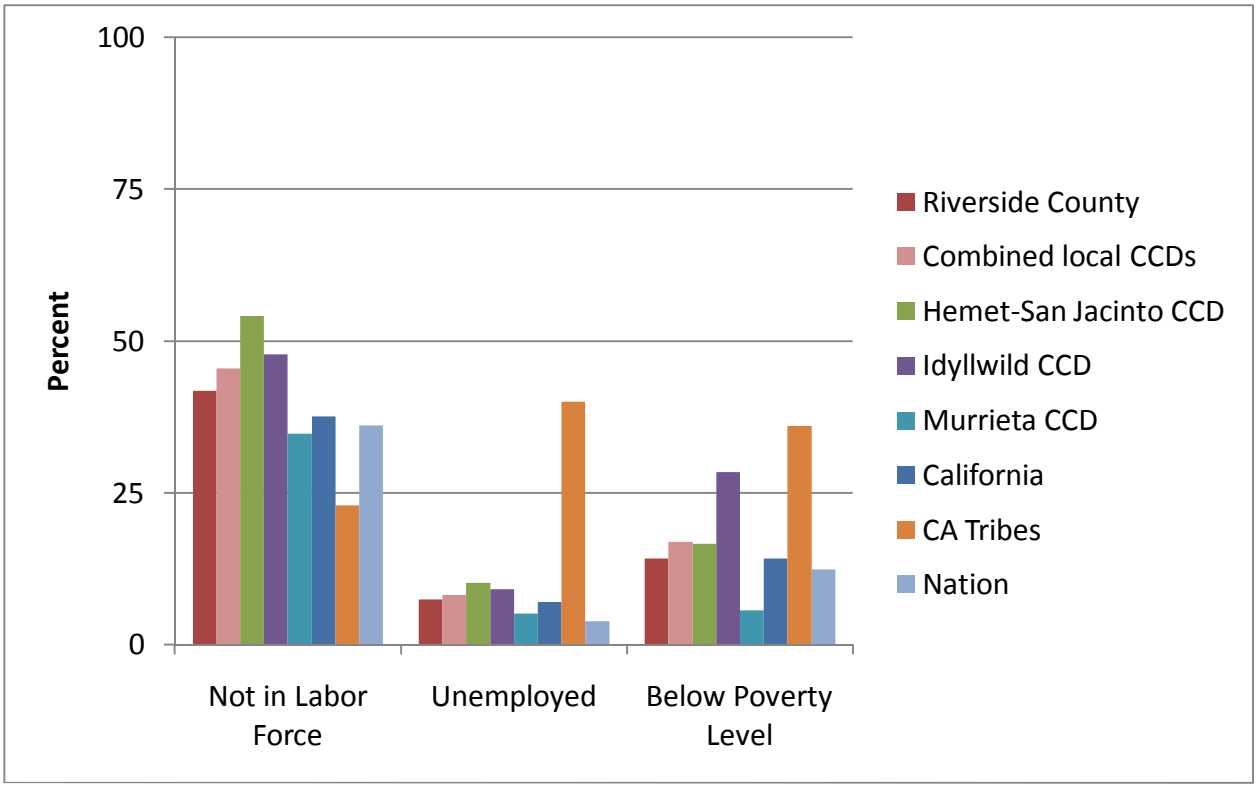

Figure 3-17. Area economic data (USCB, 2010).

3.11 Utilities and Public Service

Utilities

In general, utilities include the following kinds of facilities and infrastructure:

- *Energy*: gas pipelines and substations; electricity transmission and distribution lines; electrical substations
- *Communications*: telephone lines; fiber optics
- *Water supply*: water lines; wells; water storage tanks
- *Wastewater*: sewage pipelines; sewage treatment plants

Electricity is currently provided to the project site by Southern California Edison. There is 3-phase electric near the site, approximately 100 feet along Best Road from the western property line. The system connection may need to be upgraded if there is not sufficient capacity.

Natural gas is supplied in propane tanks by Ferrell Gas. IHS will need to contract with the provider for gas and tanks.

Various companies provide telephone and communication service to the area. Since cable is not offered in the area, a satellite service would be required for television.

Water is provided by four wells on site, two of which are electric powered, and two are powered by windmills. The electric wells have been inspected and tested in 2008. One of the wells produces 12-15 gpm, and the other 25-35 gpm. The water quality test results indicate that the water from both electric powered wells meets the Federal and State requirements for drinking water. There are no fire hydrants near the site.

Wastewater at the existing facility is treated in two existing private septic systems located on the site. The status of the systems will need to be reviewed to determine their condition and capacity. It is unlikely that they will be of the capacity or location to be used for the new facility.

Public services

In this context, public services include the following services provided by the local community:

- Law enforcement
- Emergency medical response (EMS)
- Fire suppression

The Riverside County Sheriff's Office enforces law and serves and protects all citizens and visitors. The project site lies within the Hemet station, which is located just east of Hemet, 35.4 km (22 miles) north of the project site.

Emergency medical responses in the area are performed by the Hemet Valley Medical Center in Hemet. The medical center is a 327 bed full service acute care hospital with a 24-hour emergency department. There are additionally IHS clinics in San Jacinto and Temecula.

The Riverside County Fire Department responds to fire emergencies and provides fire suppression for the County from over 96 fire stations throughout the County. The nearest fire station is at 35655 Sage Road, approximately 8.8 km (5.5 miles) northwest of the proposed facility. The nearest fire hydrant is at DePortola Road and Benton Road, 5.6 km (3.5 miles) west of Sage Road. Firefighters fill their water trucks from these outlying fire hydrants.

3.12 Transportation and Access

The Riverside Transit Agency operates within Riverside County and serves the cities of Hemet and Temecula. However, no service is provided in the vicinity of the project site. Currently AI/AN youth are transported to a health care center for care.

Figure 3-18. Best Road and existing entrance to parcel.

The proposed site of the YRTC is currently developed as a residence and former farm and is located 23.3 km (14.5 miles) south of Hemet along Sage Road. The parcel is located on the north side of Best Road 0.8 km (0.5 miles) east of Sage Road. Sage Road is a two lane paved road, however Best Road is dirt and gravel and would need to be upgraded and rights-of-way obtained from adjacent landowners (Figure 3-18). The Riverside County Transportation Department has requested consultation regarding traffic volume and geometric impacts to Sage Road.

3.13 Noise

Noise is often defined as unwanted sound. The human ear can detect a wide range of sounds, but typically has reduced sensitivity to those of very low or very high pitch. Sound intensity is measured in decibels. Because the decibel (dB) scale does not accurately reflect the sound exposure levels heard by a human listener, a weighted scale (dBA) is used. This sound level scale is progressively reduced in sensitivity to very low and very high pitched sounds, and therefore mimics a human's sense of hearing.

Normal speech has a sound level of approximately 60 dBA. Sound levels above about 120 dBA begin to be felt inside the human ear as discomfort, and eventually pain at still higher levels (IHS, 2006).

Sage Road carries vehicular traffic from Hemet to SH 79, with a measured AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic) at Benton Road (3 miles north of Best Road) of 3,200 trips (RTD, 2009).

The surrounding area is rural with a mix of single family residences and small farms. Although there are no figures for ambient sound levels in the area, noise levels associated with neighboring activities and traffic in the vicinity of the highway can be assumed to be a low. Anecdotal evidence from the homeowner indicates that the area is quiet and peaceful.

3.14 Human Health and Safety

Alcohol and substance abuse is consistently higher among AI/AN youth than among other ethnic groups. A study conducted by the National Institutes of Mental Health indicated that 5% of the adolescent AI/AN population between the ages of 12 and 17 in California showed substance use disorders. This amounts to 7,950 youth based on Census 2000 data.

The source of substance abuse has been linked to low self-esteem and post-traumatic stress as a result of recent generations experiencing confinement in the first reservations, boarding schools, and other social, psychological and spiritual insults (Gale, 1991). Various methods have been proposed to treat and reduce the substance abuse among Indian youth. It has been determined that the most successful methods include the family and community and a "use of culturally sensitive mental health approaches that maintain American Indian values" (LaFromboise, 1990).

It is generally accepted that alcoholism and substance abuse are linked to higher mortality among the AI/AN population. The most common causes of death are cirrhosis of the liver, alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents, and suicide. Tribal communities have recognized the need for treatment of alcohol and substance abuse at an early age in order to stop the downward spiraling trend. The IHS has been tasked by Public Law 99-570 to provide for alcohol and substance abuse treatment programs. Previously these were commercial programs funded by the IHS. The IHS/CAO currently has no residential treatment programs operated by the IHS within California. All youth requiring residential care are referred to outside commercial facilities. Shortcomings of these commercial programs are lack of addressing the cultural needs of the patients, and not involving the family as part of the residential treatment.

Three group homes are available in California for substance abuse treatment for males and females aged 12-17 (CAIHS, 2009). Two of them are residential centers, one for females and one for males. The other is a transitional center for females who have completed a residential treatment program. Currently the residential centers accept youth who are dependents of the state or private placements. The average AI/AN patient is not a dependent of the state, and cannot afford private treatment.

Riverside crime statistics indicate that throughout the county there were almost 2,000 violent crimes, over 1,000 assaults, and 19 murders in 2008. Mapping of the crimes indicated that the majority of these crimes were committed in incorporated areas of the County (HRC, 2010). While crimes such as shootings and robbery were committed in Hemet and Temecula, the area within 16 km (10 miles) of the project site was devoid of recorded crimes.

3.15 Floodplain

The project site is located within the Santa Margarita River drainage basin. The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) 06065C2875G, August 28, 2008, indicates that the site is located within Zone D, in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible. Hydrologic analyses of the site and its offsite tributary areas indicate potential for substantial flows into and out of the site during major storm events. Two drainage channels onsite mitigate the effects to structures currently on the site and contain flows from smaller rainfall events (Figure 3-19) (DOWL HKM, 2010). During a 100-year storm, the northeast corner of the site could flood to a depth of 0.3 m (1 foot), and the southern portion of the site could see flows to 0.1 m (0.32 feet) deep. The current land owners have reported not to have had major drainage issues on the land in the 18 years they have lived there.

Figure 3-19. Drainage channel on north side of ridge.

3.16 Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

Special Status Species are those plant or animal species considered sufficiently rare, threatened, or significant to be included on lists kept by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), or the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). A list of these special status species in Riverside County was obtained from the CDFG's Natural Diversity Database.

The project is located in the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Area, Subunit 2 – Wilson Valley/Sage; Group Cell V; REMAP area, Criteria Cell #6382.

The site is located within the designated Critical Habitat of the coastal California gnatcatcher and the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Figure 3-21). The ridge that bisects the site is naturally vegetated with California buckwheat, which is used by both the gnatcatcher and the butterfly (Figure 3-20). The ridge should be surveyed for presence or utilization by the gnatcatcher, as the property to the east also contains suitable habitat. The gnatcatcher is strongly associated with sage scrub, which includes California sagebrush, California buckwheat, and sages. The butterfly has particular vegetation needs and the site should be assessed to determine if there is suitable habitat on site in addition to the 'buckwheat ridge.' Likelihood of butterfly habitat decreases with the recency of tilling. The fields on site are tilled twice a year, with the most recent being in February, 2010 (Taylor, 2010).

Figure 3-20. Ridge bisecting site and adjacent habitat to the east (view north).

A field survey was conducted within the proposed development limits of the project area on July 1, 2010. All plants and animals observed were identified and recorded. Table 3-3 presents the federally listed species that could be expected to be found in the 9 USGS quads surrounding and including Sage USGS Quad where the project is located, and their preferred habitat. None of these species were observed during the site visit. Table 3-4 presents the complete list of species observed during the survey. Not included on the list are several species of ornamental plants that have been planted near the residences, as they are not native.

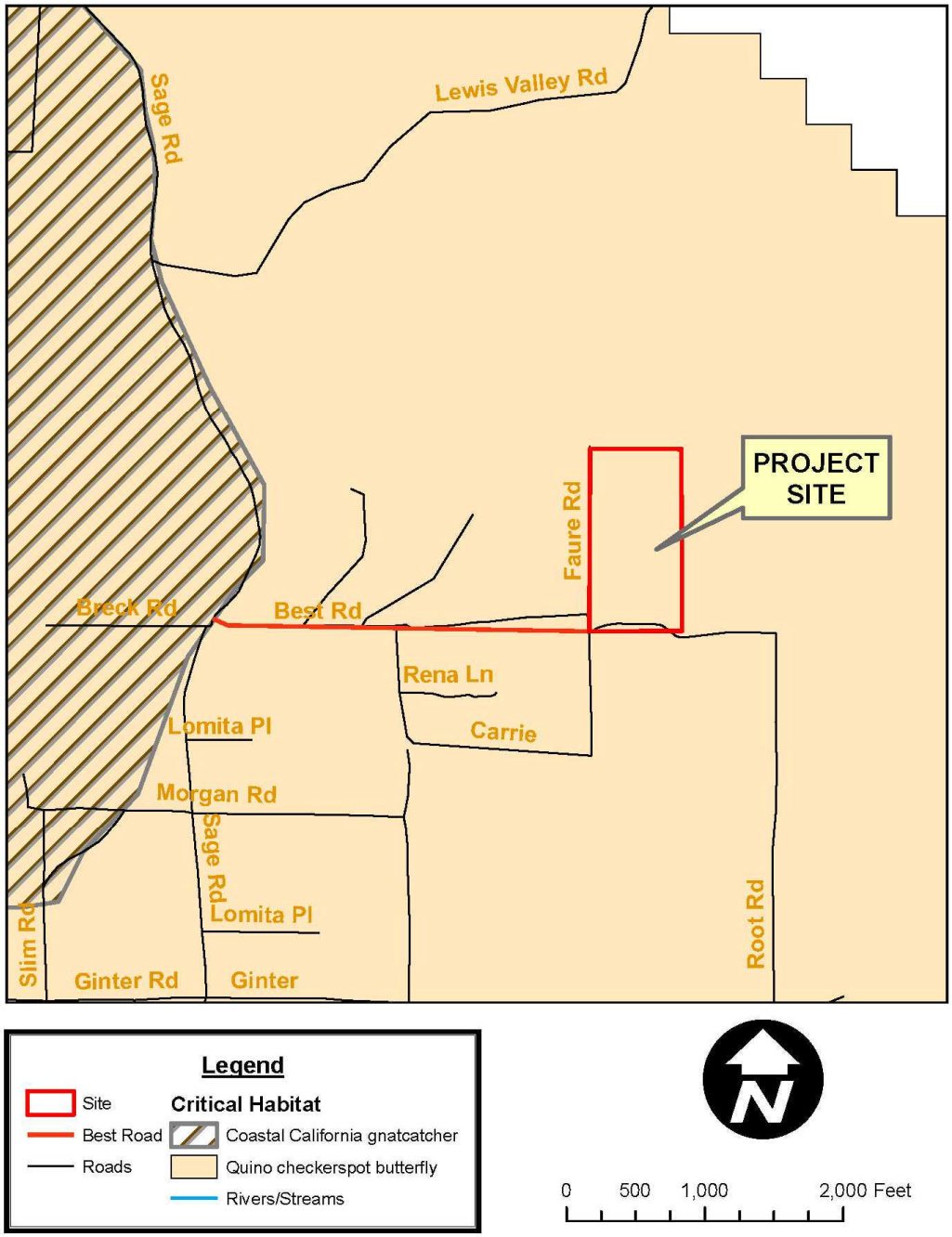

Figure 3-21. Critical Habitat map.

Table 3-3. Federally listed species in Riverside County in 9 USGS Quads surrounding Sage USGS Quad (CNDDB, 2010).

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED STATUS *	CA STATUS *	DFG STATUS **	CRIT HAB	HABITAT	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON SITE
PLANTS							
Allium munzii	Munz's onion	E	T		f-05	Grassy openings in coastal-sage scrub. Moist, heavy clays soils.	N
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego ambrosia	E	T		p-09	Coastal scrub, grasslands, open floodplains, low valley bottoms.	N
Atriplex coronata var. notatior	San Jacinto Valley crownscale	E			f-05	Seasonal wetlands with local and large-scale flooding.	N
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	E	E		f-08	Margins of dry washes with sandy substrates; steep slopes of chaparral.	N
Brodiaea filifolia	thread-leaved brodiaea	T	E		pr-09	Grasslands associated with vernal pools and floodplains.	N
Ceanothus ophiochilus	Vail Lake ceanothus	T	E		f-07	Near Vail Lake; dry ridgetops, north facing chaparral slopes	N
Dodecahema (Centrostegia) leptoceras	slender-horned spineflower	E	E			Old sandy benches or floodplain terraces	N
Navarretia fossalis	spreading navarretia	T			f-05	Vernal pools.	N
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	E	E			Beds of dried vernal pools.	N
Cordylanthus maritimus spp. Maritimus	Salt marsh bird's-beak	E	E			Coastal salt marshes	N
Deinandra mohavensis	Mojave tarplant		E			Chaparral, riparian scrub	N
Delphinium hesperium ssp. cuyamacae	Cuyamaca larkspur		R			Lower montane coniferous forest, meadows; mesic	N
Packera ganderi	Gander's ragwort		R			Burned areas; gabbroic outcrops in chapparal	N
INVERTEBRATES							
Branchinecta lynchi	vernal pool fairy shrimp	T			f-03	Vernal pools, ephemeral wetlands.	N

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED STATUS *	CA STATUS *	DFG STATUS **	CRIT HAB	HABITAT	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON SITE
Euphydryas editha quino	Quino checkerspot butterfly	E			fr-09	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, plantago host plants; buckwheat	Y
Streptocephalus woottoni	Riverside fairy shrimp	E			f-05	Vernal pools.	N
AMPHIBIANS							
Anaxyrus californicus (B. microscaphus c.)	arroyo toad (a. southwestern t.)	E		SSC	pr-09	Coastal ranges; rivers with sandy banks, willows, etc in valley-foothill and desert riparian habitats; loose gravelly streams	N
Rana muscosa (So Cal DPS)	mountain yellow-legged frog	E		SSC	f-06	Streams in ponderosa pine, montane hardwood-conifer, montane riparian habitats	N
Ambystoma californiense	California tiger salamander	T	T	SSC		Grassland, savanna, open woodland within 2km of breeding pond	N
Spea hammondii	Western spadefoot			SSC		Grasslands, open chapparal, pine-oak woodlands	Y
REPTILES							
Charina umbratica	Southern rubber boa		T			San Jacinto mountains	N
Aspidoscelis hyperythra	Orangethroat whiptail			SSC		Open coastal sage scrub; open chaparral; open, dry areas, trails, dirt roads.	Y
Crotalus ruber	Red-diamond rattlesnake			SSC		Western foothills of Coast Ranges; dry, rocky inland valleys; granite outcroppings	N
Emys marmorata	Western pond turtle			SSC		Permanent and intermittent rivers, creeks, lakes, etc.	N

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED STATUS *	CA STATUS *	DFG STATUS **	CRIT HAB	HABITAT	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON SITE
Lampropeltis zonata (parvirubra)	California mountain kingsnake (San Bernadino population)			SSC		No records from Riverside Co.	N
Phrynosoma blainvillii	Coast horned lizard			SSC		Sandy soil, low vegetation in valleys, foothills, semiarid mountains; sandy washes with scattered shrubs.	N
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	Coast patch-nosed snake			SSC		Semi-arid brushy areas, chaparral, canyons, rocky hillsides, plains	N
Thamnophis hammondii	Two-striped garter snake			SSC		Primarily aquatic; rocky areas, oak woodland, chaparral, brushland, around pools, creeks, cattle tanks, water sources	N
BIRDS							
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	bald eagle	PDM	E	FP		Winter migrant in inland waters in southern CA	N
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle			FP/WL		Open country, prairies, open woods; nests on rock ledge of cliff or large tree	N
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	T		SSC	fr-07	Low, dense coastal scrub in arid washes, mesas, slopes of coastal hills; CA buckwheat, coastal sage, pricklypear patches	Y
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	E	E		fr-94	Willows, low, dense valley foothill riparian habitat and lower canyons, western edge of deserts in desert riparian habitat	N

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED STATUS *	CA STATUS *	DFG STATUS **	CRIT HAB	HABITAT	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON SITE
Elanus leucurus	White-tailed kite			FP		Savanna, open woodland, marshes, cultivated fields; nests in trees near marsh	N
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing owl			SSC		Open grasslands, vacant lots	N
Circus cyaneus	Northern harrier			SSC		Non-breeding resident in area; ag fields, abandoned fields, freshwater wetlands	N
Cypseloides niger	Black swift			SSC		Cliffs near forests and open areas.	N
Dendroica petechia brewsteri	Yellow warbler			SSC		Riparian woodlands, willow thickets, scrub-shrub	N
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead shrike			SSC		Open country, scattered trees, shrubs; needs suitable hunting perches	Y
Piranga rubra	Summer tanager			SSC		Willows, cottonwoods at low elevations along streams/canyons	N
Toxostoma bendirei	Bendire's thrasher			SSC		Eastern Riverside Co; desert with large shrubs, cacti	N
FISH							
Gila orcuttii	Arroyo chub			SSC		Permanent streams	N
MAMMALS							
Dipodomys merriami parvus	San Bernadino kangaroo rat	E		SSC	fr-08	Alluvial sage scrub on alluvial fans, floodplains, along washes, adjacent upland areas.	N
Dipodomys stephensi	Stephens' kangaroo rat	E	T			Annual and perennial grassland, coastal scrub, sagebrush with sparse canopy, disturbed areas. Buckwheat, chamise, brome grass, filaree	Y

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED STATUS *	CA STATUS *	DFG STATUS **	CRIT HAB	HABITAT	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON SITE
Chaetodipus californicus femoralis	Dulzura pocket mouse			SSC		Chaparral, desert grassland	Y
Chaetodipus fallax fallax	Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse			SSC		Coastal sage scrub/grassland, chaparral; montane & coastal	N
Eumops perotis californicus	Western mastiff bat			SSC		Desert scrub near cliffs	N
Lasiurus xanthinus	Western yellow bat			SSC		Grassy scrub areas near water, canyons	Y
Lepus californicus bennettii	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit			SSC		Arid shortgrass, open scrub	N
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat			SSC		Shrub, desert with rock outcroppings, boulders	N
Onychomys torridus ramona	Southern grasshopper mouse			SSC		Grasslands, sparse coastal sage scrub	Y
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse			SSC		Fine, sandy soils; sparsely vegetated grassland & sage	N
Perognathus longimembris internationalis	Jacumba pocket mouse			SSC		Arid, coastal sage & chaparral	N
Taxidea taxus	American badger			SSC		Open plains, prairies, farmland, wood edges	Y

* E: endangered; T: threatened; R: rare

** FP: fully protected; SSC: species of special concern; WL: watch list

The only undisturbed area of the site is the ridge that is vegetated with California buckwheat, and a narrow strip of scrub along the southern property line. The remainder of the area has been disturbed by road construction, ground clearing, farming, and residential construction. The habitat requirements of these species were researched and compared to the project area, and there is the possibility of several species to be present on or utilize the site, though they were not observed (Table 3-3).

Table 3-4. All species observed during site visit July 1, 2010.

Scientific Name	Common Name
REPTILES	
Masticophis flagellum piceus	Red Coachwhip*
Lampropeltis getula californiae	California kingsnake*
Sceloporus occidentalis longipes	Great basin fence lizard
BIRDS	
Sturnella neglecta	western meadowlark
Carduelis tristis	American goldfinch
Carduelis lawrencei	Lawrence's goldfinch
Picoides nuttallii	Nuttall's woodpecker
Callipepla californica	California quail
Cathartes aura	turkey vulture*
Tyrannus verticalis	western kingbird
Tyto alba	barn owl
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove
Streptopelia decaocto	Eurasian collared dove
Corvus branchyrhynchos	American crow
	Hummingbird
Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe
Troglodytes aedon	house wren*
Buteo jamaicensis	red-tailed hawk
Ardea nerodias	great blue heron
Icterus bullockii	Bullock's oriole
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard
Sialia Mexicana	western bluebird
Passer domesticus	house sparrow
Carpodacus mexicanus	house finch
INVERTEBRATES	
Papilio rutulus	Western tiger swallowtail
	Dragonfly
MAMMALS	
Spermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel

Scientific Name	Common Name
Canis latrans	coyote*
Sylvilagus audubonii	desert cottontail
PLANTS	
Hemizonia fasciculate	Fascicled tarweed
Hemizonia kelloggii	Kellogg's tarweed
Erodium cicutarium	Red-stem storksbill
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce
Sisymbrium altissimum	Tumbling mustard
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy
Ambrosia artemisiifolia	Ragweed
Euphorbia serpens	Creeping spurge
Bromus tectorum	Cheatgrass
Bromus sp.	Brome
Larrea tridentata	Creosote
Artemisia sp.	Sage
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat
Fraxinus dipetala	Foothill ash
Quercus agrifolia	Coast live oak
Schinus molle	Pepper tree
**owner observations*	

3.17 Prime and Unique Farmland

The soils on the project site have been mapped by the NRCS, and approximately 1.5 acres have been classified as prime farmland (Figure 3-22). The site had been farmed continuously for almost 30 years up until the current owners ceased farming in the last few years. The fields, though fallow, are tilled twice a year to keep down the growth of invasive plants. In accordance with FPPA, Federal Agencies are required to assess the impact their project will have on farmland. The site is rated using form AD-1006, Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, which considers the amount of prime farmland on the site compared to the amount of prime farmland in the area and in the county, and the impact converting the site's farmland would have on local farm support services and continuance of local farms, and the compatibility of the project with agricultural use. If the score exceeds the recommended allowable level, the agency can use the score to consider alternative sites if they are available. The form has been submitted to USDA, NRCS for their review and concurrence.

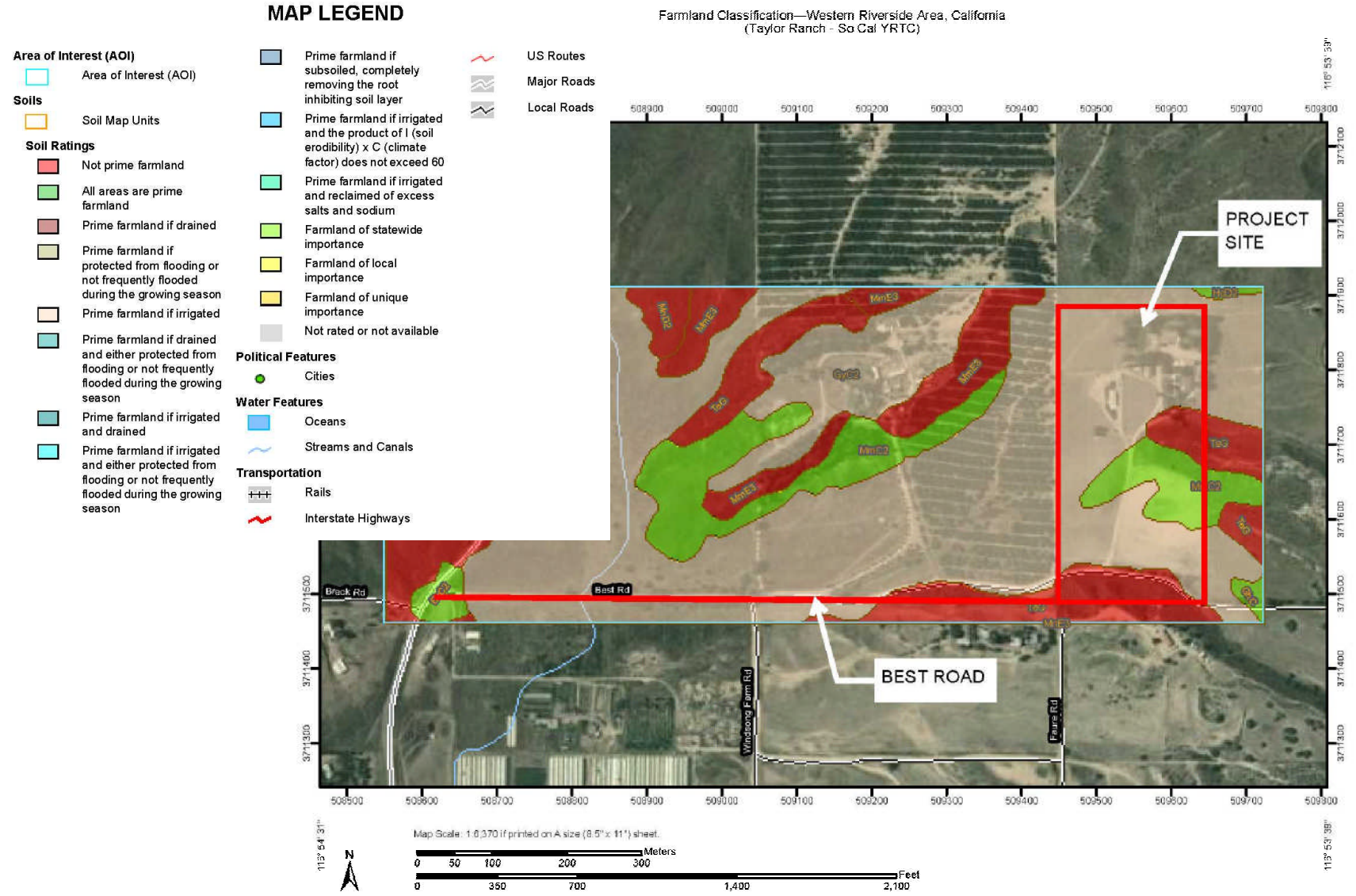

Figure 3-22. Farmland Classification Map

3.18 Global Warming

Transportation in California contributes 38% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the state. Senate Bill 375, signed in September 2008, establishes requirements to reduce vehicle greenhouse gas emissions. Two strategies are to develop sustainable communities and to establish complete streets, with safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transit (BCAG, 2009b). California's AB 1493 enacted in 2002, Pavley Global Warming Bill, requires reductions in GHG from light-duty vehicles. California Air Resources Board (CARB) is setting the standard for the country, requiring that new vehicles reduce emissions by 30 percent by 2016 (PCGCC, 2010).

A study of carbon footprints in Metropolitan America showed that residents of metro areas have smaller carbon footprints than residents of rural areas due to reduced car travel and residential energy use (Brown, 2008). The project site is in a rural area with limited public transit available, thus requiring residents to use motor vehicles to access various services. The area is in extreme non-attainment for Ozone and NO2, serious non-attainment for PM-10 and CO, and attainment for SO2. To conform with the EPA, the project must comply with the 2007 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan. Permits will also need to be obtained from SCAQMD for equipment on site such as emergency generator, boiler, etc. Many of the activities taken to reduce these emission levels are also reducing GHG emissions and the carbon footprint.

CHAPTER 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section describes the environmental consequences associated with the alternatives. NEPA requires consideration of context, intensity, and duration of impacts, direct or indirect impacts, cumulative impacts, and measures to mitigate for impacts. Potential impacts are described in terms of type (beneficial or adverse), context, duration, intensity, and impairment.

4.1 Air Quality

4.1.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the current Taylor Ranch would continue to operate in a non-attainment area for ozone, NO2, CO, and PM10, and the YRTC would not be built. No construction activities would occur, and existing traffic levels and patterns in the community would continue under current trends. There would be no new or increased sources of emissions in the project area as a result of this alternative. There would be no short- or long-term impacts on air quality under this alternative, based on requirements under the NAAQS. The proposed project area would remain in nonattainment for ozone, NO2, CO, and PM10.

4.1.2 Proposed Action

Impacts on air quality resulting from this alternative can be divided into three main categories: 1) temporary effects associated with emissions from construction equipment and fugitive dust on-site; 2) temporary effects as a result of increased construction traffic and associated vehicle emissions off-site; and 3) increased traffic from operation of the facility.

Heavy equipment needed to build the YRTC would likely include, at a minimum, graders, bulldozers, backhoes, dump trucks, cement trucks, cranes, and other diesel and gasoline-fueled heavy and light equipment. Intermittently, over the expected construction time of one year, this equipment would emit quantities of five criteria air pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), particulate matter (PM10), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In addition to tailpipe emissions from heavy equipment, the temporary disturbance of almost two acres of ground surface during excavation and grading activities to prepare the site for construction of the YRTC could potentially generate fugitive dust.

Fugitive dust, such as dirt stirred up from construction sites, can affect public health. The type and severity of effects depend in large part on the size and nature of the dust particles. The types of effects that can occur include inhalation of fine particles that can then accumulate in the respiratory system, causing various respiratory problems, including persistent coughs, wheezing, eye irritations, and physical discomfort.

Construction personnel would be required to implement reasonable measures, such as applying water to exposed surfaces or stockpiles of dirt, when windy and/or dry conditions promote problematic fugitive dust emissions. Adhering to these measures would minimize any fugitive dust emissions. Use of mitigation measures (see 4.1.3 Mitigation) would reduce the possibility

of adverse impacts from fugitive dust emissions. Overall, impacts from fugitive dust emissions would be temporary in duration and of minor intensity.

Exhaust emissions from equipment used in construction, coupled with likely fugitive dust emissions, could cause minor to moderate, short-term degradation of local air quality, but would not be expected to result in significant deterioration of air quality due to the short-term nature of construction emissions.

Under the EPA's General Conformity Rule, the project requires preparation of a written conformity analysis and determination for proposed activities where the total of direct and indirect emissions of a nonattainment or maintenance criteria pollutant caused by the activity will exceed the threshold emission levels specified under the CAA. Riverside County is in nonattainment for ozone, NO2, CO, and PM10. To conform with the EPA, the project must comply with the 2007 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan. Permits will also need to be obtained from SCAQMD for equipment on site such as emergency generator, boiler, etc. Impacts to air quality are anticipated to be negligible to minor and temporary.

4.1.3 Mitigation

During construction activities, construction personnel will comply with EPA, California Air Resources Board (CARB), and Riverside County regulations to minimize emissions of NOx, fugitive dust, and PM10.

All necessary measures to control dust shall be implemented by the developer during grading. PM10 plan may be required at the time a grading permit is issued. The construction contractor shall be required to implement the following construction-related measures to reduce emissions of fugitive dust (including PM10) and NOx emissions below the significance thresholds, and to reduce the potential for substantial nuisance or visibility impacts in the immediate vicinity of the project site.

- Enclose, cover or water all soil piles
- Water all exposed soil (disturbed or inactive) with adequate frequency to keep soil moist at all times; or apply chemical or non-erodible control measures
- Water all unpaved haul roads as needed
- Maintain at least three inches of freeboard for loads of all trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials
- Water, apply (non-toxic) soil stabilizers or non-erodibles to inactive construction areas (previously graded areas inactive for ten days or more)
- Limit traffic speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour
- Install wind fences/barriers of <50% porosity around storage piles, parking and equipment staging areas
- Install a trackout control device on all exits onto paved areas accessible to the public
- Ensure that all mobile and stationary internal combustion engine equipment is properly maintained and well-tuned according to manufacturer's specifications

The guidelines in the 2007 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan should reduce construction emissions of PM10 and NOx to less than the significance criteria. Therefore, construction impacts for PM10 and NOx would be less than significant. California's stringent emission standards and required smog inspections work to reduce vehicle emissions due to increased traffic in the area.

4.2 Invasive and Noxious Species

4.2.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, current invasive and noxious species would remain on the site. There would be no disturbance to the proposed site, therefore danger of incidental spread of invasive species would be eliminated, however, there would be no opportunity to remove the invasive species from the site.

4.2.2 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would involve removal of all undesirable vegetation within the Limits of Disturbance for the YRTC and the upgraded access road. During the process of excavation and grading, it is possible for seeds or reproducible parts of plants to attach to equipment and therefore spread to other areas. Exportation of soil containing seeds of invasive and noxious plants could spread the plants to areas using the soil. Importation of soil for use as fill also has the potential to introduce seeds from invasive and noxious plants from other areas.

Part of the development of the site as a YRTC will involve landscaping the grounds. Use of native plants in the landscaping design will restore the area to a more natural vegetative state. Overall impacts to invasive and noxious plants would be minor to moderate and beneficial.

4.2.3 Mitigation

The construction contractor shall be required to implement appropriate construction-related measures (such as washing of construction equipment) to reduce incidental spread of invasive species by seed or plant dispersal on construction equipment. Any new soil introduced into the project area, or soil exported from the project site, should be treated prior either to exportation or importation to prevent the spread of invasive and noxious plants. Maintenance of the grounds after landscaping would be required to prevent return of invasive plants. The landscaping plan should specify only plants native to the area.

4.3 Topography and Soils

4.3.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, no grading or construction activities would occur and there would be no direct impacts to soils and topography. Existing septic tanks would need to be inspected and maintained on a regular basis to eliminate the possibility of contamination due to leaking tanks. Conditions would continue as they presently are.

4.3.2 Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, the total project site, approximately 0.8 ha (2 acres) of the 8 ha (20 acres) site, would be disturbed by ground clearing activities. The YRTC footprint and access road would likely be contoured to an even grade according to architectural and engineering design specifications. Areas disturbed for the utilities would be returned to existing grade. This would have a permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impact on the topography of the area.

Riverside County Ordinance 457 requires a grading permit prior to clearing, grubbing, or any top soil disturbances related to construction grading. Any soil removed during the construction activities would need to be stabilized according to a Riverside County Erosion Control Plan. The soil could then be transferred to an approved storage site for beneficial reuse.

Construction equipment to be used during the various facets of site development would include bulldozers, backhoes, earth scrapers, motor graders, heavy haul trucks, large tractors, concrete trucks, asphalt pavers, concrete pavers, rollers, and compactors.

As with almost any construction project involving the use of heavy equipment, there is some risk of an accidental fuel or chemical spill, and the potential contamination of soils. Fuel products (petroleum, oils, lubricant) would be needed to operate and fuel excavation equipment. To reduce the potential for soil contamination, fuels would be stored and maintained in a designated equipment staging area. A person(s) designated as being responsible for equipment fueling would closely monitor the fueling operation, and an emergency spill kit containing absorption pads, absorbent material, a shovel or rake, and other cleanup items, would readily be available on site in the event of an accidental spill. Following these precautions, the potential for an accidental chemical or fuel spill to occur and result in adverse impacts on soils would be negligible.

Construction equipment also has the potential to compact soil, reducing the porosity and conductivity of the soil. Such compaction is likely to slightly increase the amount of surface runoff in the immediate area. Stabilization of the soils will be vital to prevent sediment runoff impacts to water sources, possibly degrading water quality.

The soils on site have been determined to have low expansive potential and are considered suitable for use as engineered fill in structural areas (Inland, 2010).

Underground septic tanks are present within the proposed site. Their removal could contaminate local soils.

The NPDES under the CWA prohibits the discharge of any pollutant, including sediments, to waters of the United States. The discharge of stormwater runoff from construction sites is regulated under the NPDES program. Typically, sediment erosion rates from construction sites are 10 to 20 times greater than those from agricultural lands, and 1,000 to 2,000 times greater than those of forest lands. Construction activities disturbing one acre or more of land are regulated by Phase I of the NPDES program. The project will need to be permitted under an NPDES permit through the California State Water Resources Control Board.

The chief requirements of the NPDES general permit for construction sites are a construction NOI and the preparation and implementation of a SWPPP. SWPPPs contain measures to reduce soil erosion and prevent pollution from petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POLS) and other chemicals or hazardous/toxic materials at construction sites. Specifically, SWPPP plans assess the characteristics of the site such as nearby surface waters, topography, and storm water runoff patterns; identify potential sources of pollutants such as sediment from disturbed areas, and stored wastes or fuels; and identify Best Management Practices (BMPs) which will be used to minimize or eliminate the potential for these pollutants to reach surface waters through storm water runoff.

By utilizing standard construction BMPs, such as installing perimeter silt fences, spreading straw and mulch to protect exposed ground, and covering stockpiles of earth or soils, runoff, erosion and impacts to on-site and offsite soils would be minimized. Erosion control methods would also be in place to control the fugitive dust produced during construction activities. Dust control could be obtained through the use of water wagons on exposed earth or the application of calcium chloride on gravel surfaces. Overall impacts to soil resources would be negligible to minor and adverse.

4.3.3 Mitigation

Any new soil introduced into the project area should be treated prior to use, in order to prevent introducing seeds from noxious and invasive plant species. Any excess soil removed from the construction sites should be transferred to a suitable storage area. The amount of vegetative clearing for the YRTC will be minimized to protect the natural woodland vegetation.

BMPs should be vigorously incorporated into and maintained in all project plans. BMPs at construction activity sites typically consist of various erosion and sediment control measures. At the proposed site, silt fences, straw bales, and other temporary measures would be placed in ditches and along portions of the site perimeter to control erosion during construction activities. These temporary erosion prevention measures should be maintained in place until the site vegetation is firmly established and soil has stabilized. Regular inspections of the erosion and sediment control measures would be performed after any storm event by qualified personnel, and as required in the NPDES General Permit. All disturbed areas would be stabilized and revegetated with native plant vegetation following commencement of construction activities. Proper seed selection will result in native plants with deep root systems, which will increase local times of concentration and reduce site outflows. Increased urbanization and loss of pervious soils may result in increased surface runoff, perhaps contributing incrementally to flooding. The potential to impact soils from sediment and contamination will be minimized through use of BMPs described above.

4.4 Water Resources and Stormwater, Water Quality

4.4.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no impacts to water resources, as there would be no new demand on the current supplies or any new effluent discharges that could affect water quality.

4.4.2 Proposed Action

The construction phase of the project will require coverage under EPA Region Nine's NPDES general permit for stormwater discharge from construction activities, and under the Construction General Permit (CGP). This will require a SWPPP and a construction NOI, respectively.

General construction impacts associated with the development of the proposed YRTC site could affect water resources by increased stormwater runoff from the site carrying sediment and contamination loads into surface water during times of heavy rain, and by contamination from construction activities infiltrating area soils and percolating down into the groundwater. Increased stormwater runoff from developed sites leads to increased erosion of streams, which leads to increased siltation in lakes and rivers. The first flush of rains after a long dry period will carry pollutants deposited on pavement into soils and water bodies, posing a risk of contaminating water and harming aquatic life. The incorporation of the mitigation measures into the design phase of the project would reduce impacts to water resources below the level of significance. Stormwater would be retained on site for a 2 year, 24 hour peak rainfall.

Operation of the YRTC would require a total of approximately 11,387 gallons per day (gpd) of water for consumptive use. Fire flows and water for fire storage will be provided in accordance with applicable fire insurance codes. The YRTC would utilize existing wells on site to provide their domestic and fire fighting water. The wells have been inspected for water quality and meet Federal and State standards for domestic water. The wells' capacity of 17,280 to 50,400 gpd is sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed facility with construction of a water storage tank.

There are no streams or wetlands on the site, and the existing pond will not be disturbed. The undefined channel between the property and Sage Road will be directed beneath Best Road in a similar fashion to its present alignment. There are no impacts expected to wetlands or waters of the U.S. during construction of the facility. Overall impacts to water resources would be negligible to minor.

4.4.3 Mitigation

BMPs would be placed along portions of the site perimeter to control erosion during all construction activities, as discussed in Section 4.3. Under all circumstances, sediment runoff from the site should be captured and prevented from entering any streams, so that no sediment loading occurs in the downstream waters or wetlands. Driveways and parking areas for the YRTC should be designed to minimize both the volume and velocity of runoff. Pavement should be minimized, buffers of native vegetation should be maximized and road grades should be

broken frequently to prevent excessive velocity buildup of runoff. Provisions should be made for conveyances of runoff through the developed project area through the existing watercourse corridors, by way of natural and improved channels, and/or storm drains. Water harvesting from impervious surfaces should be considered in order to reduce runoff and provide water for landscape irrigation. Grey water recycling would be used for landscape irrigation. Within the facility itself, water conserving fixtures will be provided for toilets, dishwasher, laundry, etc.

4.5 Waste and Hazardous Materials Management

4.5.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no impacts on waste management, as there would be no new demand on the current supplies or facilities.

4.5.2 Proposed Action

The construction of the YRTC would generate construction debris waste, which would require proper disposal or reuse. Construction of the facility is estimated to take approximately one year, and would begin with site preparation, foundations, and underground utilities, while design of the above-ground mechanical, piping, buildings, structures, and electrical systems is being developed.

Any non-hazardous construction debris that cannot be reused or recycled will be disposed of by Waste Management of Moreno Valley. The construction contractor would be responsible for ensuring that the waste material generated is properly disposed. Portable restrooms for employee use during the construction period would be provided and maintained by a private contractor.

Solid waste generated from operation activities at the YRTC would be disposed of by Waste Management of Moreno Valley. There would be no medical waste. Hazardous waste would consist of flashlight batteries and fluorescent lamp bulbs, which can be recycled through a program at Waste Management of Moreno Valley.

The overall impacts on waste management from the Proposed Action would be localized and negligible.

4.5.3 Mitigation

During both the construction and operation phases of the YRTC, as many materials as possible should be recycled and/or reused to minimize the amount of waste generated by the facility. All hazardous materials stored and/or generated at the YRTC should be properly and uniformly labeled and housed in appropriate storage cabinets. Prior to commencement of facility operations, YRTC staff should provide the local fire department a walkthrough of the facility to familiarize the area's emergency response staff with the nature and location of all hazardous materials kept on the premises, in order to facilitate appropriate responses in the event of facility emergencies.

4.6 Geologic, Seismic Considerations

4.6.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the existing facility would not be rehabilitated, if required, for seismic issues, and it would continue in use in its present state. There is no indication that seismic issues would cause damage to the existing structure.

4.6.2 Proposed Action

The new YRTC would be constructed utilizing seismically safe design, to meet the "immediate occupancy" standard. This would involve reinforced walls, anchored and braced roofs, and properly braced nonstructural elements (lighting, plumbing, Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) equipment, partitions, etc.).

4.6.3 Mitigation

No mitigation would be required to meet seismic considerations, as the new facility would be designed using appropriate current building codes.

4.7 Cultural and Historic Resources

4.7.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be built and no ground disturbing activities would occur in the area. There would be no potential to damage or degrade cultural or historic resources from the presence or operation of the YRTC in the proposed site. The existing facility would remain in operation.

4.7.2 Proposed Action

As discussed in Section 3.7, the newly-recorded site is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. No preservation, treatment, or further research is required concerning the site. Demolition or extensive alteration to the contributing structures can be accomplished without impacting a NRHP site.

If previously unrecorded cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, these activities must be discontinued in the immediate vicinity of the discovery. Work may resume when a qualified archaeologist has been notified and allowed time to evaluate the nature and significance of the discovery. Cultural impacts are considered to be negligible.

4.7.3 Mitigation

Archaeological monitoring during initial excavation and grading could be implemented to guard against impacts to undiscovered historic properties, human remains, or other cultural resources that might be encountered during this phase. Consistent with The Native American Graves

Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq. [Nov. 16, 1990] and following CEQA Guidelines (Sections 15064.5(d) and (e)): If during construction, the existence of, or the probable likelihood, of Native American human remains are identified within the Project Area, the IHS shall work with the appropriate Native Americans as identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as provided in Public Resources Code SS5097.98. The applicant may develop an agreement for treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any items associated with Native American burials with the appropriate Native Americans as identified by the Native American Heritage Commission. In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, the steps identified in Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines shall be taken.

Additionally, design principles and materials that most effectively blend the building into the surrounding landscape, and are congruent with local historic architecture, will be encouraged and favored.

4.8 Visual Resources

4.8.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be built and there would be no impact to visual resources from the presence or operation of the YRTC in the proposed location. The existing facility would remain in operation.

4.8.2 Proposed Action

The proposed facility would have no visual effect on historic resources. Visual impacts to neighboring residences are anticipated from construction of the facility. These impacts could be mitigated for by screening and appropriate architectural design. Visual impacts are considered to be negligible.

4.8.3 Mitigation

Mitigation for the visual effect on the neighbors should consist of additional screening, and design of the new facility that would be appropriate in scale, mass, and style.

4.9 Land Use

4.9.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no impacts to land use in the vicinity of the YRTC site. The current land use zoning is Rural-Residential. The parcel proposed for development may continue in its present use or other uses allowed under R-R zoning per Riverside County.

4.9.2 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would result in a governmental use of the site for a regional on-site treatment center. This proposed use is consistent with the current Rural Residential designation and zoning.

The Riverside County General Plan (2003) lists several land use goals and policies that are relevant for this project (Table 4-1). In general, the plan is designed to accommodate a balanced mixture of compatible land uses throughout the county, including a variety of residential densities and intensities in appropriate locations. Although this federal facility is not required to comply with local land use regulations, the proposed project is consistent with the general principles of the plan and supports many of the specific policies as shown in the table above.

Based on our evaluation of existing land uses, existing land use regulations, and General Plan, the proposed project is compatible with neighboring land uses and is consistent with the goals and policies of the county plan. Therefore, impacts to land use would be minor and beneficial.

Table 4-1. General Plan Land Use Goals and Policies

Goal/Policy	
Countywide Policies	
LU-2.1 Accommodate land use development in accordance with the patterns and distribution of use and density depicted on the General Plan Land Use Map and the Area Plan Land Use Maps.	The site is designated Rural Residential. This allows for governmental uses.
Provide for a broad range of land uses, intensities and densities, including a range of residential, commercial, business, industry, open space, recreation and public facilities uses.	The proposed governmental use is consistent with this policy.
Prevent inappropriate development in areas that are environmentally sensitive or subject to severe natural hazards.	The proposed development complies with this policy.
LU-4.1 Require that new developments be located and designed to visually enhance, not degrade the character of the surrounding area.	The proposed development would be designed to fit the site and be compatible with the surrounding area.
Require than an appropriate landscape plan be submitted and implemented for development projects subject to discretionary review.	Although this federal facility is not subject to discretionary review, a landscape plan would be provided to the County for review.
Require that new development utilize drough-tolerant landscaping and incorporate adequate drought-conscious irrigation systems.	The project landscape plan would use drought-tolerant plants and incorporate adequate irrigation systems.
Pursue energy efficiency through street configuration, building orientation, and landscaping to capitalize on shading and facilitate solar energy.	The proposed facility would incorporate energy efficiency and would be designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.

Incorporate water conservation techniques, such as groundwater recharge basins, use of porous pavement drought-tolerant landscaping and water recycling as appropriate.	The proposed facility would incorporate water conservation techniques and would be designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.
Encourage innovative and creative design concepts.	The proposed facility would be designed using innovative and creative design concepts.
Preserve natural features, such as natural terrain, drainageways and native vegetation, wherever possible, particularly where they provide continuity with more extensive regional systems.	The proposed project would be designed to preserve natural features where possible, including native vegetation areas and drainageways.
LU-5.1 Ensure that new development does not exceed the ability to adequately provide supporting infrastructure and services.	The proposed facility would not exceed the capacity of existing infrastructure and services. The project would propose to make road improvements to improve the supporting infrastructure.
LU-7.1 Accommodate the development of a balance of land uses that maintain and enhance the County's fiscal viability, economic diversity and environmental integrity.	The proposed project would enhance the County's economy by providing additional employment and wages during construction and operation.
LU-7.2 Promote and market the development of a variety of stable employment and business uses that provide a diversity of employment opportunities.	The proposed project would provide new employment opportunities.
LU-8.4 Allow development clustering and/or density transfers in order to preserve open space, natural resources and/or biologically sensitive resources.	The proposed development would occupy a small portion of the site and would maintain open space and native vegetation in specific areas.
REMAP Policies	
REMAP 4.3 Determine minimum parcel size by the availability of adequate disposal area if the proposed development will utilize subsurface waste treatment and disposal systems, irrespective of land use designation or zoning.	The proposed project is located on an adequately-sized parcel for subsurface wastewater treatment.
REMAP 4.19 Require development not on community sewers to adequately dispose of sewage so that it will not harm community health or the environment.	The proposed project would adequately dispose of sewage to protect community health and the environment.
REMAP 4.20 Locate, operate and maintain public services and facilities in a manner that will not degrade environmental quality.	The proposed governmental facility would be located, operated and maintained in a manner that would not degrade environmental quality.
REMAP 5.2 Encourage development to be clustered in areas of lesser slope.	The proposed development would be clustered and located in areas of lesser slope.

REMAP 8.1 Adhere to the lighting requirements of Riverside County Ordinance No. 655 for standards that are intended to limit light leakage and spillage that may interfere with the operations of the Palomar Observatory.	The proposed development would include minimal lighting and the lighting design would incorporate measures to limit light leakage and spillage.
REMAP 12.1 Protect sensitive biological resources in REMAP through adherence to policies found in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.	The proposed site was surveyed for sensitive biological resources as documented in Section xxxx.
REMAP 12.4 Conserve undeveloped uplands including agricultural land, annual grassland and coastal sage scrub that support or provide potential habitat for quino checkerspot butterfly, with a focus on proposed conservation areas within the recovery units identified in the *Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Draft Recovery Plan* (USFWS 2001).	The proposed development would conserve native vegetation located on the site's ridge as discussed in consultation with the USFWS.
REMAP14.4 Protect life and property from the hazards of potential dam failures and flood events through adherence to the Flood and Inundation section of the General Plan Safety Element.	The proposed development will be designed to ensure that life and property are protected from flood events.

4.9.3 Mitigation

The proposed site design incorporates measures to mitigate the potential for adverse land use impacts.

4.10 Socioeconomics

4.10.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be constructed. Therefore, no new employment associated with the construction and operation of the center would be created. No additional wages or benefits would be generated or spent in the local economy.

The social character of the Riverside County neighborhood will not change. The lack of available and appropriate treatment for AI/AN youth in CA would have an adverse effect on the social character of CA as a whole.

4.10.2 Proposed Action

Economic Impacts

CONSTRUCTION
IHS intends to contract with local firms and contractors for design and construction of the YRTC. Approximately 40 construction workers would be required. IHS is further encouraged to select Indian-owned companies for contracts and employ tribal members to the maximum extent possible. Benefits to the local economy would be seen through increased wages, overhead expenses, materials costs, and profit. Local commercial and service entities in the community may expect to see some short-term, minor increase in activity related to expenditures by workers that are not from the area.

The estimated cost for the proposed hospital facility construction would be $15,000,000 (IHS, 2009). Indian Health Service will provide the funding to construct the hospital through new facilities construction funding authorized by Congressional Appropriation under the Health Facilities Construction Priority System. At this time, there is no tribal cost-sharing involved. All funding for the project is expected to come from Federal sources.

Construction activities are anticipated to take one year for the YRTC, with completions anticipated by 2013. The resulting impact on the local economy would be temporary. An additional benefit resulting from construction of the facility would be an increase in State revenue from the collection of contractor's taxes.

OPERATIONS
Local utility companies may expect to see long-term negligible increase in services provided to the YRTC.

A long-term economic benefit would be from the jobs created for operation and maintenance of the new facility. Up to 69.2 FTE would be created with development of the facility.

Social Impacts

In addition to the temporary employment of approximately 40 construction workers, the YRTC will provide long-term employment opportunities for Tribal members and future and local residents. According to preliminary estimates calculated by IHS, 69.2 full-time employees (FTEs) will be necessary to support the project workload at the new facility (CAIHS, 2003).

This does not mean that 69.2 Tribal members will become full-time employees of the YRTC. Since many of the professions require training that is often extensive, it is possible that the new facility will not be able to fill all of the skilled positions despite the high Tribal unemployment rate in the State. These employment opportunities will be available for skilled local residents. The number of Tribal members employed at the YRTC will depend on the availability of skilled workers from the Tribes. However, the increase in positions in the areas of administrative support and facility support, such as security, are anticipated to be largely filled with Tribal

members. The overall impacts of the YRTC on tribal employment in California are anticipated to be minor to moderate and beneficial.

The current population of AI/AN in the three CCDs around the site is 3,980. Operation and use of the facility would employ and treat up to 100 AI/AN staff and patients. If all 100 were from outside this area, the increase in AI/AN population in the area would be 2%. This area has a higher AI/AN population than the County and the State, so the increase would not be a significant change. This increase would likely be less considering that approximately 25% of the staff and residents are expected to be from within the local area. Concerns about changes in safety are not warranted based upon the analysis in section 4.14. The increase in AI/AN staff and residents would not create a significant change in the area demographics.

Although some local residents have expressed concerns about the potential for increased crime associated with juveniles in the program, no similar facilities have resulted in an increase in crime in their communities. Overall, based upon the increased employment opportunities, and insignificant changes in area demographics, socioeconomic impacts as a whole would be minor to moderate and beneficial in the short-term and long-term.

4.10.3 Mitigation

A building design that incorporates LEED Green Building Design Standards, and uses alternative energy sources such as solar, geothermic, and/or wood biomass, would provide more jobs for Tribal members.

4.11 Utilities and Public Service

4.11.1 No Action

Since the proposed facility would not be constructed under the No Action alternative, there would be no potential to disrupt or damage utility lines. No additional utility connections, constructions, or extensions would be necessary under this alternative. Existing utility use patterns and demand would continue. Public services would continue to operate under current conditions and demands. No impacts on utilities and public services are anticipated under this alternative.

4.11.2 Proposed Action

During construction of the YRTC, anticipated to last about one year, there would likely be negligible to minor impacts on utilities.

Energy

There are no major impacts anticipated related to electric utilities. Southern California Edison may need to extend existing electrical lines to the new facility and possibly upgrade the service. As electricity is already in place in the area to serve the existing facility and adjacent residences, there should be minimal disturbance involved.

Communications

Telephone service is already in place to service adjacent residences in the area. A trunk line may need to be installed to serve the new facility, requiring minimal disturbance.

Water Supply

The existing water wells have adequate capacity and pressure to meet the potable needs of the proposed facility. Estimated usage for the proposed facility is 341,610 gallons per month, which equates to 8 gpm. Both wells currently produce two to four times that amount. Fire flow would need to be addressed by construction of water storage tanks on site. There are no issues with water quality.

Wastewater

The existing septic system will be abandoned and a new waste water treatment and disposal system will be part of the new design and site development. A percolation study was performed for the site using calculations of 12,300 gallons per day for wastewater flows. The study indicates that onsite wastewater disposal utilizing leach lines would be feasible on the site (Inland, 2010a). A cursory review of the local aquifer indicates that groundwater from the site would likely flow to the southwest through the valley and any effluent from the leach field would be unlikely to affect water quality in the wells for residences on the surrounding ridges (Deane, 2010).

Emergency Medical Response (EMS)

There will be no change in provision of emergency services.

Fire Suppression

The Riverside County Fire Department has sufficient resources to respond to emergencies at the new YRTC.

Law Enforcement

No impacts to law enforcement will occur as a result of the facility relocation. It is possible that the facility would provide its own security in order to discourage and/or prevent vandalism to the YRTC and to ensure the safety of staff, patients, and visitors.

4.11.3 Mitigation

A sprinkler system would need to be included in the design of the YRTC, in compliance with the National Fire Protection Code. There will be an on-site water storage tank for fire suppression. Pretreatment of the wastewater will be investigated during the design phase. Contingency planning for emergency situations will be incorporated into the facility design phase of the proposed project.

4.12 Transportation and Access

4.12.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative there would be no change in access to the existing properties along Best Road. Traffic volumes on Sage Road would not be impacted.

4.12.2 Proposed Action

Consultation with Riverside County Planning Department has indicated that a Traffic Impact Analysis on the vehicular access to the YRTC from Sage Road will not be needed.

There are no sidewalks existing in the vicinity of the proposed YRTC. It is anticipated that residents will access the YRTC by motor vehicle only. The location of the facility at the proposed location will not change how AI/AN youth currently access their health care.

Figure 4-1. Best Road.

Best Road is currently a dirt and gravel road (Figure 4-1). IHS proposes to upgrade and pave the access road to better serve the employees for safety and convenience during their daily commute and for ease of emergency access. When the roadway is improved to county standards, Riverside County will include Best Road in their road maintenance program and will then maintain the paved roadway. Rights-of-way will be acquired from residents along Best Road so as to achieve a consistent alignment. The impacts to transportation and access of the YRTC would be minor and beneficial.

4.12.3 Mitigation

The existing access road will be upgraded and paved to improve access to the proposed facility with an appropriate grade and alignment. A transportation planner should participate on the design team for the proposed YRTC.

Appropriate traffic control measures would be put in place during construction of the intersection of Sage Road and Best Road in order to minimize disturbance and inconvenience of the residents.

4.13 Noise

4.13.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be built at the proposed site, and there would be no associated noise from new construction or operation of the facility in the immediate vicinity. Noise impacts associated with operation of the current facility would continue at their present level.

4.13.2 Proposed Action

During the construction of the YRTC, noise would be produced by heavy equipment (e.g., scrapers, bulldozers, graders, loaders, dump trucks, pneumatic hammers), and building construction equipment (e.g., saws, drills, compressors, hammers, welding, etc.). Federal workplace standards for protection from hearing loss allow time-weighted average level of 90 dBA over an 8-hour period, 85 dBA averaged over a 16-hour period and 70 dBA over a 24-hour period. Noise produced by diesel-powered equipment is typically 85 dBA at a distance of 50 feet from the equipment (IHS, 2006). However, the noise of individual pieces of equipment can vary considerably depending on age, condition, manufacturer, use, and a changing distance from the equipment to a receptor location. Operation of the equipment also varies considerably throughout the construction phase and day to day.

The primary human effect due to prolonged noise is annoyance. Other non-auditory human effects include speech interference, stress reactions, sleep interference, lower morale, efficiency reduction, and fatigue (IHS, 2006). Although construction noise may be audible at a receptor located within several miles, the proposed construction site is within 0.1 miles of residences. Though neighboring residences already experience background noise related to vehicle and agricultural traffic on Best Road and Sage Road, the impacts of noise due to construction, or as a result of increased traffic due to construction, are expected to be temporary, negligible to minor and adverse, but not substantial.

Operation of the facility at the proposed site is anticipated to have a negligible impact on neighboring residents. The goal of the YRTC is to provide a quiet and serene location for healing of the patients. Loud noises and activities are not part of the facility's program. The YRTC site would be screened from residences, and vehicle noise associated with the new facility would only contribute an incremental amount over the background levels of traffic noise that exist in the area.

4.13.3 Mitigation

To minimize the impact construction noise would have on nearby residents, it is recommended that construction occur only during daytime hours during the week.

4.14 Human Health and Safety

4.14.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, the YRTC would not be constructed. AI/AN youth would continue to be treated at existing commercial treatment centers, which do not address their cultural needs and have insufficient capacity to serve all the California AI/AN youth in need of treatment.

The existing facilities are unable to meet the health care demands of the present and the projected adolescent population. Therefore, health care service would possibly decline in quality and response to increased workload quantities associated with the growing need.

The prolongation of an insufficient substance abuse treatment system would continue to adversely affect numerous AI/AN youth. Many of these youth do not have the means to obtain adequate treatment. A decline in services may result in unnecessary or prolonged illness, possibly even resulting in premature death, for those who do not have the means to go elsewhere.

4.14.2 Proposed Action

The construction of the YRTC would involve direct health and safety issues for workers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health considers construction to be a high-risk industrial sector. In 2001, approximately 9.6 million persons were employed in the construction industry. Fatal occupational injury rates in this industry ranged from 75.6 for ironworkers per 100,000 full-time workers to 6.0 for drywall installers, more than a 12-fold difference. Following ironworkers, the highest occupational injury rates for construction workers occurred in roofers, welders and cutters, construction laborers, and truck drivers (IHS, 2006). All construction activities on the YRTC and associated facilities would be considered routine.

Although the IHS does not have any specific human health and safety regulations, they require compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations. Regulations for safeguarding construction workers on construction site fall under OSHA, and are the responsibility of construction contractor(s). Risks to human health and safety at the project site during construction would be temporary, localized and minor given the OSHA safety regulations and requirements.

The operation of the YRTC would provide residential substance abuse treatment for AI/AN youth. Services to be provided include:

- Individualized assessment and treatment plan directed towards positive development of personal growth
- Individual, group, and family counseling sessions
- Dietary and physical/health care
- Athletic and recreational activities
- Spiritual/religious activities

- Cultural activities
- Educational services

The goals of the YRTC are to help each resident resolve issues hampering personal growth by resolving developmental issues and intra/interpersonal relationships. Each resident would be placed in a structured program setting, behavior would be closely monitored, and goals assessed at weekly progress meetings. Patients would be admitted on a volunteer basis. The goals of the dependency treatment are to break the addictive cycle, provide skills necessary to prevent a relapse, and teach the adolescent to live a healthy balanced life (CAIHS, 2003).

The YRTC also encourages participation and involvement of the family in the healing process. For the AI/AN adolescent who has managed to maintain traditional value systems, the involvement of family and community in healing and overcoming problems is very important.

Consultation with the other 11 YRTCs in the country indicates that over the past 12 years, two patients have left a facility without permission or escort, and there have been no police actions or resident-related crimes in communities that have these facilities. The facility is a voluntary treatment center for those youth whose parents or guardians consent to the treatment. The center would be secured around-the-clock by staff and electronic surveillance. Patients are only admitted if they are not violent criminals, are not likely to be dangerous, and/or have not been charged or convicted of violent crimes. Youth are not allowed to leave the site without an escort, and must adhere to a rigid, demanding schedule. If a youth decides to leave, transportation will be provided to escort the youth home. After almost 20 years of YRTCs in existence, this has rarely happened.

The overall impacts to human health and safety from the operation of the YRTC would be state-wide for all California tribes, moderate to major, and beneficial.

4.14.3 Mitigation

Highly visible signs would be posted to warn and inform the public of construction activities in order to mitigate adverse impacts posed to human health and safety during construction activities.

To ensure that the health care providers can deliver services in a safe, secure environment, with minimal threats to the property and well-being of patients, visitors, and staff, professional security staff may be devoted solely to providing around-the-clock security coverage. Security within the facility would consist of video surveillance monitors, suicide prevention electric outlets, lights and switches, perimeter fencing, and staffing trained in crisis response in attendance overnight.

4.15 Floodplain

4.15.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no grading or change in elevation at the site. The existing floodplain would not be changed by either grading or influx of water.

4.15.2 Proposed Action

Development of the YRTC site would involve grading and elevation change. Runoff would also be generated from impervious surfaces. Because the parcel is situated outside the 100-year floodplain of adjoining watercourses, there would be no impacts either to or from the floodplain due to this action.

4.15.3 Mitigation

Proper treatment of stormwater would minimize adding water to local streams during peak floods. The finished floor of the facility would be built above the 100 year flood elevation.

4.16 Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

4.16.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, current vegetation and wildlife conditions would continue as they are. There would be no disturbance to the proposed site of the YRTC, and no vegetation would be removed. Wildlife species that may utilize the site and its vicinity would not be impacted.

4.16.2 Proposed Action

Vegetation

There are no oak woodlands on site, so there will be no impact to oaks. Since no rare, threatened, or endangered plant species were observed on site, there should be no impact to any rare, threatened, or endangered plant species and no clearance should be required from USFWS or CDFG for impacts to vegetation.

Wildlife

Wildlife can be directly affected by mortality due to construction or operation of the facility or its infrastructure, or indirectly through habitat loss, fragmentation, or conversion.

Wildlife in the vicinity of the site would be exposed to various noise sources during construction and operation activities, and light pollution during facility operation. Numerous studies have been conducted attempting to document the effects of noise on wildlife. Wildlife responses to noise vary considerably and are a function of many other variables besides noise, including the characteristics of the noise and its duration, life history characteristics of the species, habitat type, season and current activity of the animal, sex, age, previous noise exposure, as well as other physical stressors such as drought (IHS, 2006). General wildlife responses to human-made noise are attraction, tolerance and aversion, which are summarized in the following list of potential responses:

- Most animals habituate to sounds (e.g., truck and equipment noise) disassociated with other threatening stimuli.
- Animals (e.g., ungulates) that habituate to traffic noise are vulnerable to oncoming vehicles.
- Steady sounds are less prone to startle animals than sudden onset noise.
- Human-made noise can mask meaningful noise (e.g., mating and other communication).
- Motivation to find food can make animals tolerant of noise.
- Different species have different levels of noise tolerance and habituation.
- Most effects of noisy disturbances are mild enough that they may never be detectable as changes in population size or population growth.
- Animal aversion is measured in avoidance responses and can be lessened if animals can predict exposure (e.g., warning signal before conveyor startup).

Construction noise impacts would likely only affect small game animals that are typically found in the affected landscape, such as mice or rabbits. Since the construction is proposed to occur adjacent to an active farm and in an already developed area, wildlife species that are sensitive to noise may already be displaced due to existing noises from traffic and facility operation.

In addition to noise impacts, light would be emitted from the facility during operation. Though light pollution can disorient and fragment wildlife populations, the extent and nature of the impacts light has on wildlife is often poorly understood (IHS, 2006). The majority of wildlife species that may be displaced during construction and operation of the facility will likely either adapt or move to surrounding habitat.

The field survey observed no federal or state listed species in the vicinity of the project, however, the site is located within federally designated critical habitat of the federally endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly and the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher. Discussions with USFWS have indicated that impacts to the gnatcatcher could be avoided by setting aside the 'buckwheat ridge' as conservation area, without any plans to construct any kind of passive or active recreation (Cleary-Rose, 2010). If activity is possible or likely within this area, USFWS would require a survey to be conducted for presence of or utilization of the area by the gnatcatcher. USFWS additionally suggests that an assessment be made of the entire site to determine if there is suitable habitat for the butterfly. If there is no habitat, then a butterfly survey would not be required. If habitat is present, a survey would need to be done before completion of the design phase of the project.

The species observed on site could be affected directly during the construction activities through disturbance (human activity, noise, and lighting), habitat loss, or indirectly through long-term changes in surrounding land use. Adverse effects on other resources such as air, water, and soils, also have the potential to adversely affect these species. While the construction activities would be temporary, the habitat loss and changes in land use may be permanent.

The impacts from the Proposed Action on the majority of wildlife in the area will be localized, minor to moderate, and adverse.

4.16.3 Mitigation

The project would require consultation with the USFWS. The land that is considered habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher could be set aside for conservation. The proposed action and mitigation must be submitted to the USFWS and CADFG for concurrence.

The site should be assessed for habitat suitable for the Quino checkerspot butterfly prior to completion of the design phase, and a survey for the butterfly conducted if suitable habitat is present.

Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce potential impacts to special-status and other protected wildlife species and their habitats to a less-than-significant level.

4.17 Prime and Unique Farmland

4.17.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no development of the property for construction of a new facility. Farmland would not be impacted and no prime farmland would be converted, depending on the disposition of the property if not purchased by IHS. The potential exists for it to be privately developed.

4.17.2 Proposed Action

Development of the YRTC site would require three to five acres. Currently approximately 4.3 acres of the site are developed for two residences, outbuildings, and a pond. The existing structures are not anticipated to be needed for the new facility, therefore IHS will investigate constructing on the area of the site already disturbed. The bulk of the land outside of the development is proposed to be revegetated to a natural state. There is also anticipated to be some agricultural activity, farming or animals in the treatment program.

Preliminary review of the AD-1006 form indicates that though approximately 1.5 acres of prime farmland may be converted permanently, this would have little impact on the neighboring farms and farm support services. The proposed activity would be compatible with agricultural use, as it may retain some agriculture and farming activities as part of the treatment program. Impacts on prime farmland would be minor.

4.17.3 Mitigation

IHS will review the response from USDA, NRCS and approach site development with the goal of minimizing impact to prime farmland. Site development will be performed on areas already developed to the maximum extent possible. Agricultural activities are anticipated to be retained, especially in the areas classified as prime farmland.

4.18 Global Warming

4.18.1 No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no construction or maintenance of a new facility. There would be no increase in traffic volume in the area due to visits to the YRTC. CO_2 emissions would remain as they are without further increase.

4.18.2 Proposed Action

Project impact on Global Warming
Development of the YRTC site would result in a local increase in CO_2 emissions due to transportation of building materials, and construction activities to include pouring concrete and

asphalt. Maintenance and operation of the YRTC facility would also create a local increase in CO_2 emissions due to increased traffic volume from staff and patients, and energy usage to heat and cool the facility (IIGCC, 2004). The overall impacts of the project on global warming would be negligible.

Global Warming impact on the Project

Global warming's impact on California is forecast to cause a significant loss of cropland and an increase in forest fires. Increased development in the San Jacinto valley will increase the loss of homes. It is forecast that global warming will cause an approximate 5% decrease in precipitation and significant drying of the Mediterranean latitudes of northern California. Reduction of the San Jacinto snowpack combined with drier and hotter conditions will result in water shortages throughout the agricultural belt. Hydropower production will decline as the snowpack and runoff declines at the same time the electrical usage increases. The impact on the project would be increased energy costs to maintain the facility.

4.18.3 Mitigation

IHS guidelines require energy-efficient design for their facilities. By utilizing alternative energy sources such as solar, geothermic, and/or wood biomass while incorporating LEED Green Building Design Standards, IHS would be able to reduce the carbon footprint of the new facility. New federal regulations regulating passenger vehicle emissions have been proposed and when implemented in the area would reduce the amount of CO_2 emissions by facility traffic.

CHAPTER 5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.7) require the assessment of cumulative impacts in the decision-making process for Federal projects. A cumulative impact is an impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of one action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of which agency (Federal or non-Federal), organization, or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time.

To determine potential cumulative impacts, projects in the area surrounding the proposed project site were identified. Potential projects identified as cumulative actions included any planning or development activity that was currently being implemented or that would be implemented in the reasonably foreseeable future. These cumulative actions were evaluated in conjunction with the impacts of each alternative to determine if they would have any additive effects on the resources impacted by the proposed YRTC. There are no known new development projects planned within 3 miles of the project site. The area is zoned Rural Residential and there are very few commercial properties nearby. Development projects are generally concentrated within the commercial and business corridors shown in red cross-hatch in Figure 5-1.

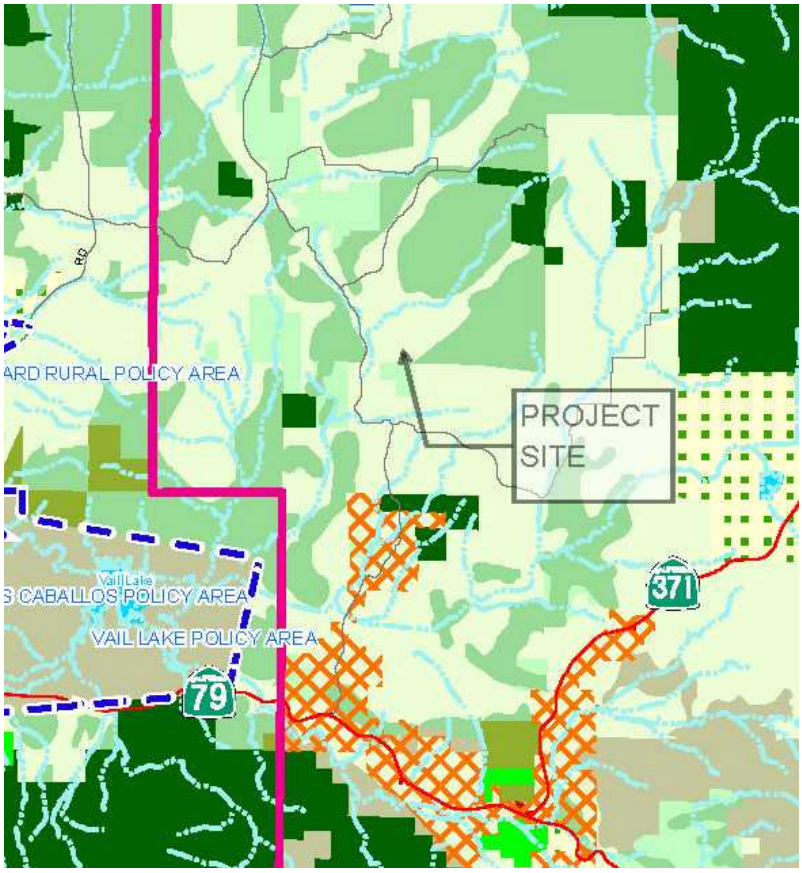

Figure 5-1. Riverside County General Plan; REMAP area plan (RCTLMA, 2010).

Table 5-1 summarizes possible cumulative impacts from the construction and operation of the YRTC. The primary resource areas affected by the proposed YRTC, that are also anticipated to be affected by cumulative impacts, are socioeconomics and land use. Many of the current and future projects within Riverside County would incrementally increase local employment opportunities, thereby increasing the household incomes of an unspecified number of residents and generating more revenue to the County. These impacts to socioeconomics are expected to be direct and indirect, minor to moderate, and beneficial. Any future development within the area that does not meet the zoning of the land use plan would affect the general character of the community. Zoning variances are not anticipated to be granted easily to uses that are not compatible with the General Plan. Impacts to land use are expected to be minor.

There would be no significant adverse cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action.

Table 5-1. Cumulative Impacts.

Resource	Cumulative Impacts
Air Quality	The project area is in extreme non-attainment for Ozone and NO2, serious non-attainment for PM-10 and CO, and attainment for SO2. Any additional construction projects in the vicinity might incrementally contribute particulate matter from dust and wind erosion that could further impair air quality in the area. Any proposed construction activities would be required to follow County guidelines for minimizing impacts to air quality. Cumulative impacts on air quality would be negligible to minimal.
Invasive and Noxious Species	The construction of the YRTC would serve to remove invasive and noxious species, which may be present on the site, and plant native species. Cumulative impacts to invasive and noxious species would be minor to moderate and beneficial.
Topography and Soils	The addition of the YRTC to the landscape will have negligible to minor impacts on topographic and soil resources. The project site of the YRTC facility is currently disturbed. Cumulative impacts to topography and soils should be negligible to minor.

Resource	Cumulative Impacts
Water Resources and Stormwater Water Quality	The projected water consumption of the YRTC represents an incremental increase in the consumptive use of local water resources. Any future growth and development in the area would further increase water demands. The use of water by the YRTC would not represent a substantial increase in the total use of water by neighboring residents and farms in the area. Minimal cumulative impacts are expected on the water supply. There will be negligible to minor cumulative impacts on water resources from the treatment of wastewater in on-site septic systems and a leach field. The project will be avoiding impacts to any wetlands or waters of the U.S. There will be no cumulative impacts to wetlands or waters of the U.S.
Waste and Hazardous Materials Management	The construction of the YRTC will generate a large quantity of construction debris that will have to be disposed of. Any and all other construction projects in the area would also increase the impacts to waste management from the generation of construction debris. Operation of the YRTC will have a negligible to minor impact on waste and hazardous materials management. Any other facilities in the vicinity that store, generate, or dispose of hazardous materials would also cause adverse impacts to hazardous materials management. The cumulative impacts on waste and hazardous materials management from the construction and operation of the YRTC will be minor.
Geologic, Seismic Considerations	Due to modern construction techniques, which address seismic concerns, there will be no impacts to geologic or seismic issues with construction of the YRTC. Any proposed development projects in the area would likewise utilize seismically safe construction and design. There would be no cumulative impacts to geologic and seismic issues.

Resource	Cumulative Impacts
Cultural and Historic Resources	There is a newly-recorded site on the project site, but it is not eligible for NRHP. No preservation is required of the contributing elements. No previously recorded cultural resources have been identified in the project area or its 0.25 mile radius. If unexpected finds of significance are discovered in the course of development of the YRTC, appropriate mitigation would be undertaken. Cumulative impacts to cultural resources are anticipated to be negligible.
Visual Resources	Visual resources will not be impacted by the YRTC due to screening and appropriate siting of the proposed facility. Cumulative impacts to visual resources are anticipated to be negligible.
Land Use	Land use of the proposed YRTC will be consistent with County land use policies. Any future development in that area will also be consistent with the County's General Plan, therefore there will be negligible cumulative impacts.
Socioeconomics	The construction and operation of the YRTC is expected to create a small amount of short-term (construction) and long-term (facility operation) employment. Any and all future growth and development in the County would bring additional jobs to the area that would benefit the local economy. Operation of the YRTC would allow for an increased number of facility visitors and staff to contribute to the local economy. Therefore, minor to moderate beneficial cumulative impacts could result from the Proposed Action.
Utilities and Public Service	Under the Proposed Action, the demand for utilities and public service would increase from the demand of the existing facility. Future growth and development could result from improved utilities and could also impact demand for these services. Minor to moderate adverse impacts are expected due to demand.
Transportation and Access	The Proposed Action would have no change in access for residents near the YRTC. Traffic in the area would increase and result in negligible to minor impacts. Additional projects in the vicinity of the YRTC could bring increased traffic to the area, however, none are proposed. Minor cumulative impacts to transportation and access issues are expected.

Resource	Cumulative Impacts
Noise	Noise is anticipated to increase slightly in the project vicinity as a result of construction and operation of the YRTC. Any additional projects in the vicinity might also incrementally contribute noise impacts which could disturb residents and wildlife in the area during both construction and operation. Based on the level of noise in the area due to vehicle and agricultural traffic, the cumulative impacts to noise could be minor, depending on what type of project is proposed.
Human Health and Safety	The Proposed Action would result in long-term beneficial human health and safety impacts, from the increased quality of substance abuse treatment available to California AI/AN youth. Other projects which are proposed might impact human health and safety during construction. Therefore, there would be negligible cumulative health and safety impacts in the area due to construction and moderate beneficial health and safety impacts due to operation of the facility.
Floodplain	There would be no impacts to the floodplain due to construction of the YRTC. Other projects developed in the area would need to analyze the proposed site for location within the floodplain. There would be no cumulative impacts to the floodplain by the project.
Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species	The proposed facility will have no significant impacts or will mitigate for impacts on listed species. Future projects would need to practice avoidance and minimization procedures to reduce or eliminate impacts if listed species are within the project area. No projects are currently in the planning or design stages for the vicinity of the project area, therefore cumulative impacts to listed species would be considered minor.
Prime and Unique Farmland	The proposed construction would have minor impacts on prime farmland. No projects are currently in the planning or design stages in the vicinity of the project area, therefore cumulative impacts to prime farmland would be considered minor.

Resource	Cumulative Impacts
Global Warming	Due to the global nature of the topic, the integration of CO_2 emissions across the country, and the difficulty of quantifying each individual project's actual impact on global warming, it is not possible to determine the cumulative impact of this project on global warming (USFS, 2009).

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CHAPTER 7 PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

Several individuals were consulted in preparation of this EA. Their names and affiliations are shown below.

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