

4.6.2.13 Alternative 6b

There are no recreation resources within the bandwidth for Alternative 6b. There are two parks and four schools in the 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area. The parks and schools could potentially be affected by indirect air quality, noise, and visual effects of this alternative. Approximately 3,146 m (10,323 ft) of trails would intersect the bandwidth of Alternative 6b. The trails are comprised of Class I Bike paths, regional trails, and community trails.

4.6.2.14 Alternative H1

There are two recreation resources and one wildlife refuge within the bandwidth for Alternative H1. There are two parks and no schools in the buffer area. Alternative H1 directly intersects the outermost northwest portion of the Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve. MWD, CDFG, and BLM have conservation areas within Lake Mathews that could be impacted by the western portion of Alternative H1. There are two city parks within the bandwidth of Alternative H1 along I-215: Metz Park and Foss Field Park in the City of Perris. Alternative H1 may also indirectly impact Russell Stewart Park and Bob Long Memorial Park in the City of Perris as a result of the alternative's proximity to these resources. There are nine schools in the 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area for Alternative H1. The schools could potentially be affected by indirect air quality, noise, and visual effects of this alternative. Approximately 17,287 m (56,716 ft) of trails would intersect the bandwidth of Alternative H1. The trails are comprised of Class I Bike paths, regional trails, and community trails.

4.6.2.15 Alternative H3

There are two recreation resources and one wildlife refuge within the bandwidth for Alternative H3. There are three parks and 14 schools in the 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area. The western portion of Alternative H3 begins along La Sierra Avenue and SR-91 and runs south to El Sobrante Road. El Sobrante Road is directly adjacent to the Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve. MWD, CDFG, and BLM have properties within Lake Mathews that could be impacted by the western portion of Alternative H3. The 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer for the western portion of Alternative H3 includes Victoria/Cross Park in the City of Riverside. The portion of Alternative H3 along I-215 includes two city parks, Metz Park and Foss Field Park in the City of Perris. The Alternative H3 buffer area includes Russell Stewart Park and Bob Long Memorial Park in the City of Perris. The southeastern portion of Alternative H3 along Mathews Road, Briggs Road, Olive Avenue, and Domenigoni Parkway would likely have no direct impacts to parklands, wildlife refuges, recreation areas, or other public lands. The 14 schools in the 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area for Alternative H3 could potentially be affected by indirect air quality, noise, and visual effects of this alternative. Approximately 13,582 m (44,559 ft) of trails would intersect the bandwidth of Alternative H3. The trails are comprised of Class I Bike paths, regional trails, and community trails.

4.6.2.16 Conclusion

Alternatives 1a, 1b, H1, and H3 would have the greatest effect on conservation areas due to the overlap of each alternative with the Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve

and San Jacinto Wildlife Area. There are wildlife refuge areas within the buffer area for Alternatives 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, and 5e.

As described in Section 4.6.2, all of the HCLE alternatives are within 0.4 km (0.25 mi) of several recreation resources, including parks and public schools. These resources may experience indirect effects from implementation of the applicable alternative as a result of noise, air quality, and visual effects.

There are recreational resources within the bandwidths of Alternatives H1, H3, 4a and 4c. Implementation of one of the HCLE Corridor alternatives could result in the displacement of recreational resources, if the right-of-way cannot be sited in such a way as to avoid direct impacts. Alternatives H1 and H3 affect the highest number of parks (within the bandwidth).

Every alternative in the HCLE Corridor would intersect or parallel planned recreational trails. The off-road trails are planned facilities on public (although not always publicly accessible) and private lands. Public easements to permit the public to use these trails have not yet been recorded.

4.6.3 Potential Mitigation Measures to be Considered in Tier 2

The new Riverside County General Plan (April, 2002) discourages the displacement of recreational resources and requires that any unavoidable displacement be mitigated through a form of replacement as described in the policy below:

OS 20.1 Discourage the absorption of dedicated park lands by non-recreational uses, public or private. Where absorption is unavoidable, replace park lands that are absorbed by other uses with similar or improved facilities and programs.

If a full displacement of a recreational area is required as a result of the selection and implementation of an HCLE Corridor alternative, replacement sites for displaced recreational resources are expected to be available due to the large amount of undeveloped land within the HCLE Corridor and its vicinity.

The following mitigation measures will further protect the resource values associated with the recreational lands, wildlife areas, parklands, and trails within the project limits:

4.6.3.1 Riding and hiking trails and paved bicycle trails shall be repaired if physically impacted during construction. The riding and hiking trails that intersect or are immediately adjacent to corridors will be rerouted if necessary. Any rerouting shall be designed to link the trail segments. Any paved bicycle trails may be used as construction access routes to the corridors. After construction, the trails shall be repaved and restored to their original condition.

4.6.3.2 Replace parkland acquired for right-of-way at a minimum 1:1 ratio, or through comparable compensation.

4.6.3.3 Relocate recreational facilities or build new ones if right-of-way acquisition does not leave sufficient land area remaining for a resource to be viable.