

Acronyms and Definitions

Acronyms and Terms

°C	degrees Celsius
AD161	Assessment District 161
APP	Aqueduct Protection Program
BCLA	Biological Core and Linkage Area
BEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BMR	Boundary Modification Report
BO	Biological Opinion
BRCA	Biological Resource Core Area
BSRA	Biologically Significant Resource Area
Board	San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council (formerly the California Exotic Pest Plant Council or CalEPPC)
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
Camp Pendleton	Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
cfs	cubic feet per second
CSP	Carryover Storage Project
DAPTF	Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force
Db	Decibels
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESA	Endangered Species Act (Federal)
ESP	Emergency Storage Project
FCF	Flow Control Facility
FEIR	Final Environmental Impact Report
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FPA	Focused Planning Area
FRS	Flow Regulatory Structure
FY	Fiscal Year
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan

Acronyms and Definitions

HGL	Hydraulic Grade Line
HMA	Habitat Management Area
HMP	Habitat Management Plan
Hp	Horse power
I-5	Interstate 5
I-8	Interstate 8
I-15	Interstate 15
I-805	Interstate 805
IA	Implementing Agreement
IID	Imperial Irrigation District
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan
IPM	Integrated pest management
ITP	Incidental Take Permit
JWA	Joint Water Agencies
LMSE	La Mesa–Sweetwater Extension
LSAA	Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement
LUP	Linear Underground/Overhead Projects
Master Plan	Regional Water Facilities Master Plan, 2002
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCAS	Marine Corps Air Station Miramar
Member Water Agencies	Public agencies supplied water by the Water Authority
Mg	Million gallons
Mgd	million gallons per day
MHCP	Multiple Habitat Conservation Program (North San Diego County cities)
MHPA	Multi-Habitat Planning Area
MMA	Managed Mitigation Area
MSCP	Multiple Species Conservation Program (San Diego County)
MSHCP	Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
MTRP	Mission Trails Regional Park
MW	Megawatts
MWD	The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
NCCPA	Natural Community Conservation Planning Act
NCDP	North County Distribution Pipeline
NCMSCP	North County Multiple Species Conservation Program
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OMWD	Olivenhain Municipal Water District

PAMA	Pre-approved Mitigation Area
PAMP	Preserve Area Management Plan
PAR	Property Analysis Record
PCCP	Pre-stressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe
PCF	Pressure Control Facility
Plan	Water Authority NCCP/HCP
Plan Area	Lands covered by the Water Authority Plan Permits
PIZ	Probable Impact Zone
PSF	Pre-activity Survey Form
Refuge	San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SANDAG	San Diego Association of Governments
SB	Senate Bill
SDG&E	San Diego Gas & Electric
Service Area	The geographic area served by the Water Authority and its Member Water Agencies
SR-52	State Route 52
SR-54	State Route 54
SR-94	State Route 94
SR-395	State Route 395
SR-905	State Route 905
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UCSD	University of California San Diego
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
Water Authority	San Diego County Water Authority
Wildlife Agencies	USFWS and CDFG
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

Definitions

Acre-Feet: The amount of water needed to cover one acre one foot deep (approximately 325,800 gallons).

Adaptive Management: The use of information gathered through monitoring and from other sources to adjust management strategies and practices that provide for the conservation of Covered Species and habitats; this process is also used to develop measures for responding to changed circumstances and unforeseen circumstances. The adapted management measures must be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Plan and the terms and conditions of the Permits.

Administrative Changes: Modifications to the Plan that are not expected to result in a substantial change to the Plan commitments or an increase in the level of take of Covered Species provided under the existing Permits. Administrative Changes may consist of, but are not limited to, clerical changes to the Plan, vegetation mapping and species occurrence updates, and minor adaptive management changes.

Aqueduct Protection Program (APP): A Water Authority program that provides for the inspection and electronic measurement of PCCP integrity. The APP data will indicate the sections of pipelines that need replacement or relining.

Arizona Crossings: A rock or cement roadbed crossing a creek at grade.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BEPA): BEPA means the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. Section 668 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

Biologically Significant Resource Area (BRSA): Habitat areas that support rare vegetation types and species, greater species diversity, are part of core areas of habitat or function as key linkages or corridors for species. These types of habitat areas are generally the focus for conservation by this Plan and other conservation plans. This Plan uses the term “biologically significant resource area” to include the following types of habitat areas within the Plan Area:

- an upland or wetland habitat management area (e.g., all existing Water Authority-committed lands in this Plan);
- areas that have been designated in approved (or in-approval stage) conservation plans as biological resource core areas, pre-approved mitigation areas, corridors/linkages or equivalent designated/defined terms.

Blow off: A valve and outlet pipe or pumping connection installed at a low point in the pipeline to allow draining of a pipeline for interior inspection or repair. The valve is

typically housed in an above ground concrete vault approximately 5 feet in diameter.

California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC): A non-profit organization dedicated to “protecting California’s wildlands from invasive plants through research, restoration, and education.” Cal-IPC was formerly known as the California Exotic Pest Plant Council, or CalEPPC. Founded in 1992, CalEPPC changed its name to the Cal-IPC in 2002. In 1994, CalEPPC published *Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California* known as the “weed list” (Revised 1999). Plants are classified by invasiveness and current extent. In 2006, the weed list was updated and published as the *Invasive Plant Inventory*.

Candidate Species: A native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the CDFG or USFWS has formally noticed as being under review for addition to the list of threatened or endangered species.

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG): The California Department of Fish and Game, a department of the California Resources Agency.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP): San Diego County Water Authority’s program to fulfill the goal to provide the necessary facilities for a safe, reliable, and operationally flexible water storage, treatment, and delivery system.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): The California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA): The California Endangered Species Act (California Fish and Game Code, Section 2050 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

Carryover Storage Project (CSP): Carryover storage refers to a process of accumulating water during wet seasons/years when it is plentiful and keeping it in storage for use in subsequent dry years when there is a shortage. The CSP is necessary to increase the reliability and flexibility of the region’s water supply through the year 2030. The purpose of the CSP is to establish an additional 100,000 acre-feet of carryover water storage for the region.

Changed Circumstances: Changes in circumstances affecting a Covered Species or the geographic area covered by the NCCP/HCP that can reasonably be anticipated by the Parties and that can reasonably be planned for in the NCCP/HCP. Changed Circumstances and planned responses to Changed Circumstances are more particularly defined Section 8.0 of the NCCP/HCP. Changed Circumstances do not include Unforeseen Circumstances.

Clean Water Act: Federal Act (33 U.S.C 1251 *et seq.*), including all regulations promulgated pursuant to that Act. The Clean Water Act is the cornerstone of surface water quality protection in the U.S. The statute employs a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory tools aimed at restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters so that they can support "the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water."

Clearing: The cutting and removal of above-ground vegetation, by any means, without disturbance to the soil and root system.

Compatible Use: A land use or activity that will not permanently interfere with the Preserve Area, MMAs, linkage system, and biological resources, including Covered Species and habitats. If the extent and type of proposed impacts would not threaten the integrity of the Preserve Area, MMAs, or biological resources, or increase take, then the uses are compatible. The MSCP and MHCP Subregional Plans identify linear utilities, including support facilities, as being conditionally compatible with designated preserve lands. According to these plans, a land use is considered potentially compatible if it is a lower intensity use, such as a utility corridor, and adheres to development and design guidelines to ensure that it will not permanently interfere with preserve lands. Existing and Planned Projects within designated or proposed preserve lands of other plans in the region are considered compatible under this Plan.

Consistent with other plans, this Plan defines compatible uses as those that will not permanently interfere with the Preserve Area, MMAs, linkage system, and biological resources, including Covered Species and habitats. If the extent and type of impacts would not significantly threaten the integrity of the preserve or biological resources, then the facilities are compatible. Incompatible uses are those that will result in significant, unmitigable impacts to preserve lands.

Compliance Monitoring. Compliance Monitoring, also known as Implementation Monitoring, is a process to ensure that strategies and treatments are implemented in accord with Permit requirements.

Conditionally Compatible: A land use or activity (e.g., locating a water supply line or infrastructure component within an existing/designated conservation area) undertaken pursuant to the Plan and within the Preserve Area or other conservation reserve lands that may require implementation of additional conservation measures to demonstrate conformance with the preserve or reserve area goals.

Conservation Strategy: All of the conservation and management measures described in Section 6.0 of the NCCP/HCP and as further required by the Permits to minimize, mitigate, and monitor the impacts to Covered Species, plus all reporting requirements described in Sections 6.12 and 8.10 of the NCCP/HCP, and the Plan's responses to Changed Circumstances described in Section 8.8.1 of the NCCP/HCP.

Contingencies: Certain events and outcomes that are expressly anticipated in the Plan and which, if they occur, will require specific actions or adjustments to how certain measures are implemented.

Core Population of Species: Relatively large population of sensitive species that is considered to be critical to the survival of the species on a regional scale.

Covered Activities: Those project activities: construction, facility operations and management, and conservation and management activities (including all ground-disturbing projects and activities that may occur within the Permit (Plan) Area described in Sections 5.0 and 6.0 of the NCCP/HCP) to be carried out by the Water Authority and its contractors in the Permit Area that may result in Authorized Take of Covered Species (with exception of two species not subject to incidental take) during the term of the NCCP/HCP, and that are otherwise lawful.

Covered Projects: A type of Covered Activity that involves land use and development performed by the Water Authority in conformance with this Plan. Covered Projects are a subset of Covered Activities and are discussed in Section 5.0 and Appendix C of this Plan.

Covered Species: The species, listed and non-listed, whose conservation and management are provided for by the NCCP/HCP and for which limited take is authorized by the Wildlife Agencies pursuant to the Permits, with the exception of two species that are not subject to incidental take (see Covered Species Not Subject to Incidental Take). Covered Species are listed in Section 6.0 of the NCCP/HCP.

Creation: The establishment of vegetation types, habitat conditions, and diversity of plant species on lands where it previously did not exist.

Draindown: A maintenance activity that involves stopping flow and draining water from a pipe or other structure to allow an internal inspection. Water is released through blow offs or other structures in a controlled manner to prevent erosion in adjacent drainages. Draindowns are typically performed in a 10-day work period, three to five times per year.

Drawdown: The controlled lowering of underground or surface water levels as a result of the withdrawal of water. Consequently, users may not have access to water without drilling deeper wells or installing reservoir outlet structures in deeper water.

Drill-seeding: A planting technique that utilizes a piece of equipment, towed by a tractor, to create a hole of specified depth, plant a seed and cover the hole in a continuous manner.

Easement: A property right afforded to a person or entity to use or prevent use of another person's real property.

Effectiveness Monitoring. A process to evaluate the degree to which the biological system responds to management activities as expected.

Emergency Actions: Emergency actions are required when there is an immediate threat to life or property. Emergency actions are required when a facility or structure has failed or is about to fail and requires immediate action to minimize or prevent catastrophic failure of all or part of the water treatment, storage, or delivery system. Emergency actions may be required as a result of natural disaster or other damage to facilities. Conditions in this category are those that immediately threaten the integrity of the aqueduct and water distribution system (see also Urgent Repairs).

Emergency Storage Project (ESP): A project designed to improve the reliability of the region's existing water supply system by adding approximately 90,000 acre-feet of emergency water storage in San Diego County. The Project includes construction, re-operation, and expansion of various dams and reservoirs. It also includes construction of associated pipelines, pump stations, and ancillary structures to distribute water throughout the region.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to the ESA (Section 3(6)), the term "endangered species" means any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range other than a species of the Class Insecta determined by the Secretary to constitute a pest whose protection under the provisions of this Act would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to man. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code (Section 2062) "Endangered Species" means a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.

Enhancement: Activities conducted in existing habitats that increase one or more specific functions and/or values.

Environmental Impact Report (EIR): A document prepared in accordance with CEQA. The purpose of an EIR is to provide state and local agencies and the general public with detailed information on the potentially "significant" environmental effects which a proposed project is likely to have; to adopt ways which the significant effects may be minimized; and to indicate alternatives to the project. A public comment period is provided, which encourages the involvement of private citizens in the CEQA process (see also Environmental Impact Statement).

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A detailed written statement required by NEPA containing an analysis of environmental impacts of a proposed action and alternatives considered, adverse effects of the project that cannot be avoided, alternative courses of action, short-term uses of the environment versus the maintenance and

enhancement of long-term productivity, and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources. The purpose of an EIS is to require federal agencies to take into consideration the effects of their actions on the environment before finalizing a particular proposal. A public comment period is provided, which encourages the involvement of private citizens in the NEPA process. The EIS and EIR are frequently prepared jointly as a single document.

Environmental Surveyor: An individual possessing a B.S. or B.A. degree in wildlife management, ecology, zoology, botany, biology, restoration ecology, or similar education and training, and at least two years of field experience in southern California. Additional specific qualifications may depend on the type and location of the project or activity, the habitat and species involved, and measures and activities requiring assessment and/or monitoring. Qualifications and selection of an Environmental Surveyor will be approved solely by the Water Authority. More than one Environmental Surveyor may work on any particular project at a given time to ensure Water Authority activities comply with the Plan.

Existing Project: Projects that have already been approved/permitted by the Wildlife Agencies. For the most part, Existing Projects will be implemented under existing permits and approvals, except for those Existing Projects that propose alternative alignments or project components that would not be covered under existing permits, or a Covered Species occurs at the project site that was not covered by the previous approval. Therefore, Existing Projects with proposed footprints or design considerations that sufficiently deviate from existing alignments or capacity are also proposed for coverage under this Plan.

Facilities: Any physical structure, grouping of structures, stationary or mobile equipment or device used by the Water Authority to convey, store, or treat water, or generate or transmit electricity, including appurtenances thereto.

Feasible: Feasible means the action can be implemented and completed considering environmental, economic, engineering/technological, regulatory and social factors. The Water Authority will document opportunities to avoid and minimize impacts from Covered Activities and adopt those that do not cause extensive additional costs or time delays or additional conservation commitments beyond those specified in this Plan.

Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA): The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C Section 1531 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations, and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

Fully Protected Species: Any species identified in Sections 3511, 4700, 4800, 5050 or 5515 California Fish and Game Code.

Future Project and/or Activity: Projects and/or activities that were not designated as CIP budgeted projects at the time of Plan approval. Site-specific impacts and Take information were not available to analyze, and the impacts/Take analysis is based on projecting the existing trend of facility build-out and O&M Activities associated with Existing and Planned Projects to the maximum Plan term (55-years).

Grading: The mechanical movement of soil by excavating or filling.

Grubbing: The removal of native vegetation by any means, including removal of the root system.

Habitat: The physical location where a particular taxon of plant or animal lives and its surroundings, both living and non-living. The term includes the presence of a group of particular environmental conditions surrounding an organism including air, water, soil, mineral elements, moisture, temperature, and topography.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP): A habitat conservation plan prepared pursuant to section 10 of FESA.

Habitat Management Area (HMA): Area of land and/or water subject to active intervention for management purposes so as to ensure the maintenance of habitats and/or to meet the requirements of specific species. HMAs may support habitat credits or upland and/or wetland areas that are eligible to be used as mitigation for Covered Activities pursuant to this Plan. A HMA typically: 1) provides long-term conservation values for Covered Species and contributes to regional conservation; 2) is protected by a conservation easement or other legal mechanism; 3) is managed under a formal habitat management plan by qualified natural resource managers, and 4) is adequately funded to assure management for a specified term. The combined HMAs make up the Preserve Area.

Incidental Take Permit (ITP): A permit issued under section 7 of the ESA to a federal party undertaking an otherwise lawful project that might result in the take of an endangered or threatened species. Application for an incidental take permit that is associated with an HCP is subject to certain requirements, including preparation by the permit applicant of a conservation plan that meets the findings for issuance of a 10(a)(1)(B) permit.

Implementing Agreement (IA): The legal agreement between the Water Authority and the Wildlife Agencies that ensures implementation of the Water Authority Plan. This document binds each of the parties to perform the obligations, responsibilities, and various tasks assigned, and provides remedies and recourse should any of the parties fail to perform.

Incompatible Use: Incompatible uses are those that will result in unavoidable and unrecoverable significant impacts to preserve functions.

Listed Species: A species (including a subspecies or a distinct population segment of a vertebrate species) that is listed as endangered or threatened under ESA or CESA.

Major Amendment: A modification to the Plan that would increase Take of a Covered Species, add a species to the Covered Species list, significantly alter the Plan Area, add or modify a Covered Activity at a scope and scale that could not be processed as a Minor Amendment, or another action that is otherwise significantly inconsistent with the Plan, IA, and associated Permits. Major amendments will require amending the section 10(a)(1)(B) permit and/or NCCPA permit, and possibly the IA.

Major Amendment Area – Riverside County: Future Projects and O&M Activities in Riverside County could not be analyzed and permitted at the time of the implementation of the NCCP/HCP; therefore, Riverside County has been designated as “Major Amendment Area.” A number of pre-existing HCPs and the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan in this area did not include public infrastructure as “conditionally compatible” activities as do the San Diego County NCCP/HCPs and, without specific alignments, inclusion of those as Covered Activities was not achievable pursuant to the Permit requirements. Therefore, those activities will be processed as Major Amendments if they have impacts to Covered Species. Only the Pipeline 6 alignments and associated PIZ within Riverside County are excluded from the Major Amendment Area.

Major Amendment Species: Three species, California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*), Munz’s onion (*Allium munzii*), and vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), would be considered for coverage under a Major Amendment for the Riverside County portion of the Plan Area (see Major Amendment Area – Riverside County above). Analysis conducted for the Plan determined that these three species are known to primarily occur in the Plan’s Major Amendment Area in Riverside County and would not be included in the proposed incidental take permits. Therefore, the appropriate process for potential take of Orcutt grass, Munz’s onion, and vernal pool fairy shrimp would be through the Major Amendment process for the Riverside County portion of the Plan Area.

Managed Mitigation Area (MMA): A property that was acquired and/or funded by the Water Authority as biological resource mitigation for the Emergency Storage Project or other project, and provides baseline conservation associated with this Plan. Property selection was conducted in coordination with the Wildlife Agencies and/or local governments participating in regional conservation, assuring that the MMA was a priority acquisition that significantly contributed to regional conservation. MMAs do not provide mitigation credits, but contribute to the baseline conservation of the Plan.

Member Water Agencies: Public agencies that receive some or all of their water from the Water Authority, including Carlsbad Municipal Water District, City of Del Mar, City of Escondido, Fallbrook Public Utility District, Helix Water District, Lakeside Water District, City of National City (member of Sweetwater Authority), City of Oceanside, Olivenhain Municipal Water District, Otay Water District, Padre Dam Municipal Water District, Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base, City of Poway, Rainbow Municipal Water District, Ramona Municipal Water District, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District, City of San Diego, San Dieguito Water District, Santa Fe Irrigation District, South Bay Irrigation District (member of Sweetwater Authority), Vallecitos Water District, Valley Center Municipal Water District, Vista Irrigation District, and Yuima Municipal Water District. These agencies are not signatories to this Plan or the Implementing Agreement.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA): The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. Section 703 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations, and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act. This Plan will serve as the basis for incorporating the MBTA Special Purpose Permit into the 10(a) permit.

Minor Amendment: A modification to the Plan resulting in effects on the Covered Species involved and the levels of take that are not greater than those described in this Plan and provided for by the Permits, and the action is otherwise consistent with the Plan, IA and associated Permits. Minor Amendments shall not require amending the section 10(a)(1)(B) permit and/or NCCPA permit.

Monitoring Program: A program within an approved NCCP/HCP that provides periodic evaluations of monitoring results to assess the adequacy of the mitigation and conservation strategies or program (Fish and Game Code Section 2805(g)).

Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA): Defined by mapped boundaries and/or by quantitative targets for habitat conservation within the MSCP Subregional Plan Area, where preserve planning is focused and within which permanent conservation of habitat lands will be accomplished.

Multiple Habitat Conservation Program (MHCP): A comprehensive subregional conservation plan covering seven municipal jurisdictions of northwestern San Diego County: Carlsbad, Escondido, Encinitas, Oceanside, San Marcos, Solana Beach, and Vista. Each jurisdiction is responsible for developing its own Subarea Plan.

Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP): A comprehensive subregional plan covering southwestern San Diego County. Subarea plans within the MSCP include: Chula Vista, La Mesa, Santee, Poway, City of San Diego, and in unincorporated County of San Diego.

Narrow Endemic Species: Covered species that are highly restricted by their habitat requirements, range, and/or other ecological factors. These species are listed in Section 6.0.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): Federal Act (42 USC 4321–4345) requires federal agencies to evaluate and disclose the proposed project's effects on the environment, along with alternatives. Federal activities requiring NEPA review include allocation of federal funds, issuance of federal permits, or federal regulatory decisions. For Water Authority projects, NEPA involvement is typically for wetland or endangered species issues. This Plan will provide the basis for biological mitigation programs for projects subject to NEPA. The EIR/EIS will analyze the effects of approving the Plan.

Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCPA): The California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (Fish and Game Code, Section 2800 *et seq.*), as amended on January 1, 2003, and all rules, regulations, and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. Section 4321 *et seq.*) and all rules, regulations and guidelines promulgated pursuant to that Act.

NCCP Permit: A permit issued by CDFG pursuant to the NCCPA providing take authorization for species whose conservation and management is provided for in an approved NCCP plan (i.e., Covered Species). NCCP permits may authorize take of any species, regardless of its listing status, with the exception of all species fully protected pursuant to Fish and Game Code, Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515, and mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), which is specially protected (Section 4800).

NCCP/HCP (Plan): The Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan prepared by the Water Authority and approved by the Wildlife Agencies under section 10 of ESA and Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code.

No Surprises Assurance (Rule): The guarantee that, provided Permittees are properly implementing the terms and conditions of the HCP, the IA, and the Permit, the USFWS can only require additional mitigation for Covered Species beyond that provided for in the HCP as a result of Unforeseen Circumstances in accordance with the "No Surprises" regulations at 50 C.F.R., Sections 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5). Essentially, non-federal landowners are assured that if Unforeseen Circumstances arise, the USFWS will not require the commitment of additional land, water, or financial compensation or additional restrictions on the use of land, water, or other natural resources beyond the level otherwise agreed to in the HCP without the consent of the permittee.

Operations and Maintenance (O&M): Activities performed by the Water Authority include (but are not limited to) facility security and surveillance; access road

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maintenance, repair, re-establishment, and upgrades; stream crossing improvements (Arizona Crossings); culvert replacement and cleaning; mowing; protection of underground facilities in waterways; fire protection; herbicide application; weed abatement in mitigation areas; tree trimming and removal; pest control; and draindowns. A complete summary of O&M Activities is included in Section 5.0.

Permanent Impacts: Permanent Impacts are those which result in the permanent removal of vegetation that cannot be mitigated onsite through revegetation and other restoration efforts.

Permit Area: The portion of the Plan Area where the Water Authority has obtained authorization from the Wildlife Agencies for the Authorized Take of Covered Species while carrying out Covered Activities.

Permits: Collectively the federal incidental take permit issued by USFWS to the Water Authority pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of ESA, as it may be amended from time to time, and the State take permit issued to the Water Authority pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code, as it may be amended from time to time.

Permittee: The San Diego County Water Authority.

Plan Area: Lands covered by the Water Authority Plan Permits. The Plan Area encompasses the Water Authority's exterior Service Area boundary and those lands that extend northward into Riverside County within a one-mile area on each side of the water delivery systems originating at Lake Skinner and Diamond Valley Reservoir that serve San Diego County, as well as exterior boundaries of other facilities within San Diego County that are outside the Service Area boundary. The Plan Area encompasses approximately 992,000 acres.

Planned Project: Planned Projects are known projects that have not been approved/permitted by the Wildlife Agencies but have been analyzed under this Plan. Planned Projects, which include the current CIP, are Covered Activities under this Plan.

Preserve (Preserve Lands): A geographic area that is dedicated and accepted as permanent habitat conservation area and is managed for biological resources.

Preserve Area: The combined acreage of the HMAs and any future permanently conserved or managed lands (e.g. HMAs) that are subsequently added to the Plan's commitments as a result of satisfying mitigation obligations pursuant to the Plan.

Preserve Area Management Plan (PAMP): Management plans prepared for the Water Authority Preserve Areas that provide detailed descriptions of the land management actions, restrictions, and practices that will be undertaken to maintain effective habitat for the Covered Species.

Probable Impact Zone (PIZ): An area including the rights-of-way and other facility properties, together with a 1000-foot strip of land on each side of the rights-of-way, and the outer edge of other facility properties, where most of the planned or future Covered Activities would occur. The PIZ encompasses existing facilities and lands owned by or under the control of the Water Authority including infrastructure rights-of-way (with and without underlying fee ownership), together with MWD's rights-of-way originating at Lake Skinner and Diamond Valley Reservoir that serve San Diego County, and a 1000-foot area on each side of rights-of-way and 1,000-foot area around the boundaries of nonlinear facilities. The PIZ encompasses approximately 64,600 acres.

Regional Water Facilities Master Plan (Master Plan): Prepared by the Water Authority in 2002, the Master Plan functions as a road map for implementing cost-effective major capital improvements needed to serve forecasted water demands through 2030.

Resources Agencies: Agencies responsible for regulating laws pertaining to natural resources. Resource agencies in this document refer to USFWS, USACE, and CDFG.

Restoration: The re-establishment of vegetation types, habitat conditions, and diversity of plant species on lands where natural habitats once existed but have been removed, either from human induced or natural events.

Rights-of-way: Existing and future land where structures, pipelines and access routes used by the Water Authority or MWD are located. Existing Water Authority rights-of-way occupy approximately 2,900 acres of land. Rights-of-way may be held in fee ownership or as an easement; approximately 90 percent are Water Authority's rights-of-way are easements and 10 percent are Water Authority fee-owned parcels. Portions of the Water Authority's existing rights-of-way remain undeveloped (i.e., lacking either active agricultural or urban land uses), with some areas retaining native vegetation (generally recovered areas of prior pipeline construction).

Road Rut Vernal Pool: Shallow, water-filled depressions that form on dirt roads in areas where vernal pool complexes historically have been identified. Ponding may occur in areas with repetitive compaction of the soils, such as access roads and adjacent to facility structures. Ponded road ruts are generally sparsely vegetated or unvegetated and are often distinguished from vernal pools by the absence of vernal pool indicator plant species (such as *Psilocarphus brevissimus*, *Downingia cuspidata*, *Eleocharis macrostachys*, and *Callitriche* spp.). However, ponded road ruts have the potential to support sensitive vernal pool wildlife species, including fairy shrimp species and spadefoot toad.

Section 4(d) Rule: The regulation concerning the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) published by USFWS on December 10, 1993, and codified at 50 C.F. R. 17.41 (b) pursuant to the ESA, which describes the conditions

under which the incidental take of the coastal California gnatcatcher in the course of certain land use activities is lawful.

Section 7: A section of the federal Endangered Species Act that describes the responsibilities of federal agencies in conserving threatened and endangered species and provides for consultation between a federal agency and the USFWS to ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by the agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species.

Section 10: A section of the federal Endangered Species Act that allows for the incidental take of endangered and threatened species of wildlife by non-federal entities. Section 10(a)(2)(B) of the ESA requires an applicant for an incidental take permit to submit a conservation plan that specifies, among other things, the impacts that are likely to result from the taking and the measures the permit applicant will undertake to minimize and mitigate such impacts. Conservation plans prepared under the ESA, including this Plan, are known as HCPs.

Section 404: A provision of the Clean Water Act (CWA), codified in 33 USC 1251–1376, through which USACE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S., including wetlands and jurisdictional non-wetland waters. Permits for impacts to wetlands or jurisdictional non-wetland waters are issued through Section 404 of the CWA. If the permit action may affect federally listed species, USACE is required to consult under section 7 of the federal ESA prior to 404 permit issuance.

Section 1600: Section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code regulates alteration of streambeds through issuance of a Streambed Alteration Agreement. This regulation applies to all lakes, rivers, streams, and streambeds that show signs of intermittent water flow. This process is subject to CEQA, and may include project changes and mitigation measures.

Section 2835: Section 2835 of the Fish and Game Code allows CDFG to authorize incidental take in an approved NCCP. Take may be authorized for any identified species whose conservation and management is provided for in the plan, whether or not the species is listed as threatened or endangered under the state Endangered Species Act, with the exception of state Fully Protected species.

Sensitive Biological Resources: Sensitive species (listed and/or considered rare within the region), sensitive habitats (see definition below), wetlands, and the Preserve Area.

Sensitive Habitats: Habitats considered to be rare or threatened in the region, support sensitive plant and wildlife species, and/or are under the protection of federal and state policies or regulations.

Service Area: The geographical area where the Water Authority sells water to its Member Water Agencies. The Service Area corresponds to the combined municipal and water district jurisdictional areas served by the twenty-four Member Water Agencies.

Subregional Plan: Planning areas within the coastal sage scrub ecologic unit for a group of related jurisdictions (e.g., MSCP for the County of San Diego and City of Chula Vista, MHCP for North County cities, and Joint Water Agencies for three southern San Diego County water agencies). Subregional plans provide processes, guidelines, and other features that are common to all jurisdictions for their use in creating individual subarea plans. Subregional plans are prepared with the input of all participating jurisdictions and relevant regulatory resource agencies.

Subarea Plan: Prepared by individual jurisdictions using the guidelines and policies provided in a Subregional Plan. Subarea plans describe specific conservation, management, land use, and facilities siting actions that a jurisdiction will take to implement the goals and policies provided in the Subregional Plan. Describes how the jurisdiction will use their existing project review and approval process to ensure the implementation of the Subregional Plan. Used as the basis for the Implementing Agreement.

Survey Area: A planning designation within the Plan Area that provides the basis for determining which species would be appropriate for inclusion in the Covered Species list. The Survey Area encompasses existing facilities and lands owned by or under the control of the Water Authority including infrastructure rights-of-way (with and without underlying fee ownership), together with MWD's rights-of-way originating at Lake Skinner and Diamond Valley Reservoir that serve San Diego County, and a one-mile area on each side of rights-of-way and facilities.

Take (Taking): Take and Taking have the same meaning provided by FESA and its implementing regulations with regard to activities subject to FESA, and also have the same meaning provided in the California Fish and Game Code with regard to activities subject to CESA and NCCPA.

Take Authorization: Incidental take authority granted pursuant to the ESA and/or Section 2835 of the state NCCPA.

Temporary Impacts: Impacts in areas which can be revegetated and restored at the conclusion of the Covered Activity. For the purposes of this Plan, there are two types of temporary impacts: one-time disturbance and repeated disturbance. Mitigation for one-time disturbance is mitigated onsite through planting and restoration efforts. Mitigation for repeated disturbance would require mitigation according to established ratios for permanent impacts for the initial disturbance, and subsequent disturbance would only require that the area is revegetated; no additional offsite mitigation would be required.

Threatened Species: A species designation under ESA or CESA defined as any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Unforeseen Circumstances: Unforeseen Circumstances under the Federal Permit means changes in circumstances affecting a Covered Species or geographic area covered by the NCCP/HCP that could not reasonably have been anticipated by the plan developers and USFWS at the time of the plan's negotiation and development, and that result in a substantial and adverse change in the status of a Covered Species. Unforeseen Circumstances under the State Permit means changes affecting one or more species, habitat, natural community, or the geographic area covered by a conservation plan that could not reasonably have been anticipated at the time of plan development, and that result in a substantial adverse change in the status of one or more Covered Species.

Urgent Repairs: Actions required when a facility or structure is compromised and requires repairs to remain functional. Urgent repairs are those that do not pose an immediate threat to life or property, but are among the top priorities of the Water Authority to ensure continued service, as they have the potential to jeopardize the integrity of the water treatment, delivery, and storage system if deferred (see also Emergency Actions).

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): Agency of the U.S. Department of Defense charged with administering the Clean Water Act.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS): The United States Fish and Wildlife Service, an agency of the United States Department of Interior.

Validation Monitoring: A process to determine if predictive models or conditions outlined in the conservation analysis adequately protect the Covered Species within the Plan Area. Used to track trends in population performance measures and confirm that as environmental attributes change, wildlife and plant populations respond as predicted.

Vegetation Tier(s): Categories into which ecologically/biologically-similar or similarly rare vegetation communities are grouped. This Plan uses tiers that are generally comparable to those used in other conservation plans within San Diego County.

Vernal Pool: Seasonal wetlands that form in depressions on soils above a water-restricting layer of soil or rock. Plant and animal taxa endemic to vernal pools are those which can adapt to a unique cycle of flooding, temporary ponding, and drying (also see Road Rut Vernal Pool).

Vernal Pool Habitat: In this Plan, Vernal Pool Habitat means the seasonal wetland defined as a Vernal Pool together with its contributing upland watershed.

Water Authority: The San Diego County Water Authority; established following the passage of the County Water Authority Act of 1943. As a regional public agency, the Water Authority's mission is to provide a safe, reliable water supply to the San Diego region.

Wetlands: Generally defined as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency or duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands include those vegetation communities and land cover types listed under "Wetland Habitats" in Table 6-5.

Wildlife Agencies: USFWS and CDFG.

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