3.2 Cumulative Projects

This section describes the approach to the cumulative impacts analysis for the Proposed Action and identifies cumulative projects in the vicinity of the SV 100K study area.

3.2.1 Regulatory Framework

Both CEQA and NEPA require that EIR and EIS documents discuss the cumulative impacts of a project, in addition to project-specific impacts.

3.2.1.1 CEQA

According to Section 15355 of the CEQA Guidelines:

> "Cumulative impacts" refers to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.
>
> (a) The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects.
>
> (b) The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

Section 15130(a) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that EIRs "discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as defined in Section 15065(a)(3)." According to that CEQA section, "'cumulatively considerable' means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects."

Section 15130(a) of the CEQA Guidelines further states that a "cumulative impact consists of an impact which is created as a result of the combination of the project evaluated in the EIR together with other projects causing related impacts. When the combined cumulative impact associated with the project's incremental effect and the effects of other projects is not significant, the EIR shall briefly indicate why the cumulative impact is not significant and is not discussed in further detail in the EIR. An EIR may determine that a project's contribution to a significant cumulative impact will be rendered less than cumulatively considerable and thus is not significant. A project's contribution is less than cumulatively considerable if the project is required to implement or fund its fair share of a mitigation measure or measures designed to

alleviate the cumulative impact;" or "if the project will comply with a previously approved plan or mitigation program which provides specific requirements that will avoid or substantially lessen the cumulative problem within the geographic area in which the project is located" (CEQA Section 15064(h)(3)).

According to Section 15130(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, "The discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great detail as is provided for the effects attributable to the proposed project. The discussion should be guided by standards of practicality and reasonableness." As required by this section of the CEQA Guidelines, the analysis of cumulative impacts for the Proposed Action relies on a "list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including those projects outside the control of the [Water Authority];" defines "the geographic scope of the area affected by the cumulative projects;" explains the rationale "for the geographic limitation used;" summarizes "the expected environmental effects [of] those projects with specific reference to where that information is available;" provides a "reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects;" and examines "reasonable, feasible options for mitigating or avoiding the project's contribution to any significant cumulative effects." As stated above, the CEQA guidelines allow for the Proposed Action's contribution to cumulative impacts to be rendered less than cumulatively considerable with implementation of mitigation.

3.2.1.2 NEPA

The assessment of cumulative impacts in NEPA documents is required by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (CEQ, 1987). CEQ's regulations explicitly state that cumulative impacts must be evaluated along with the direct and indirect effects of the Proposed Action and its alternatives. "Cumulative impact" is defined in CEQ's NEPA regulations as "the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time." (40 CFR 1508.7) CEQ interprets this regulation as referring only to the cumulative impact of the direct and indirect effects of the proposed action and its alternatives when added to the aggregate effects of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

In addition, CEQ interprets the NEPA regulations on cumulative effects as requiring analysis and a concise description of the identifiable present effects of past actions to the extent they are relevant and useful in analyzing whether the reasonably foreseeable effects of a proposed action and its alternatives may have a continuing, additive and significant relationship to those effects. Scoping is used to determine what information is necessary for a cumulative effects analysis, and the extent to which "it is reasonable to anticipate a cumulative significant impact on the environment" (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)). The Supreme Court has also emphasized that agencies may properly limit the scope of their cumulative effects analysis based on practical considerations (Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council, 490 U.S. 332 (1989)). The CEQ

regulations provide for explicit documentation of such practical considerations when there is incomplete or unavailable information that is relevant to reasonably foreseeable significant adverse impacts (40 CFR 1502.22).

Additional NEPA guidance on cumulative effects is provided in, but not limited to, the following documents:

- *Considering Cumulative under the National Environmental Policy Act* (CEQ, 1997)
- *Consideration of Cumulative Impacts in EPA Review of NEPA Documents* (EPA, 1999)
- *Executive Order 13274: Indirect and Cumulative Impacts Work Group, Draft Baseline Report* (ICF Consulting, 2005)
- *Guidance on the Consideration of Past Actions in Cumulative Effects Analysis* (CEQ, 2005)

3.2.2 Methodology

Cumulative impacts are evaluated in Chapter 3.0 of this EIR/EIS using a stepped approach, as follows:

1. **Other CIP Projects.** The Program EIR (PEIR) for the Regional Water Facilities Master Plan was reviewed to identify the CIP projects that should be included in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action (refer to Section 1.2.3 [Regional Water Facilities Master Plan] of this EIR/EIS for a discussion of the Master Plan and its components). There are a number of CIP projects scheduled to be implemented during the same time period as the Proposed Action. However, only the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir project would be geographically located within the 4.5-mile radius of the SV 100K cumulative projects study area (see Item 3 below for a discussion of how this study area was derived), and is the only CIP project with the potential for cumulative impacts when combined with the Proposed Action. This CIP project would be located approximately 0.75 mile west of SR-67 in Slaughterhouse Canyon, and approximately 3,500 feet west of the SV 100K study area boundary. Therefore, the short- and long-term impacts of the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir project, as summarized from the Master Plan PEIR, are addressed in the relevant issue areas for the Proposed Action cumulative analysis.

   The conclusions regarding cumulative impacts for the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir project are incorporated into the overall results of the cumulative analyses for the pertinent ESP projects and other planned projects described below. All three categories of cumulative projects are considered together with the Proposed Action when drawing conclusions about overall cumulative effects, and the results are presented under the third heading below ("Other Planned Projects with CIP and ESP Projects").

2. **ESP Projects.** The ESP EIR/EIS was also reviewed to determine if any other ESP projects, separate from the San Vicente Dam raise, would be located within the 4.5-mile radius of the SV 100K cumulative projects study area (see Item 3 below for a discussion

of how this study area was derived). Within this study area, the approved ESP includes the following major projects: the San Vicente Pump Station/Surge Control Facility and the San Vicente Pipeline, both currently under construction and located adjacent to San Vicente Dam.

Major construction activities associated with the San Vicente Pump Station/Surge Control Facility would be completed prior to construction of the Proposed Action. Therefore, short-term construction impacts of this ESP project are not addressed in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action.

Operation of the San Vicente Pump Station could contribute to long-term cumulative air quality and noise impacts when combined with the Proposed Action, and the above-ground San Vicente Surge Control Facility could contribute to cumulative visual quality impacts when combined with the Proposed Action. Therefore, the long-term operational impacts of this ESP project are addressed in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action.

Construction activities at the San Vicente Pipeline tunnel portal may overlap the start of construction for the Proposed Action, and could contribute to short-term cumulative air quality, noise, and traffic impacts when combined with the Proposed Action. Therefore, the short-term construction impacts of this ESP project are addressed in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action.

The San Vicente Pipeline would not contribute to long-term cumulative environmental impacts because it is an underground facility. Therefore, the long-term operational impacts of this ESP project are not addressed in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action.

The conclusions regarding cumulative impacts for the San Vicente Pump Station/Surge Control Facility and the San Vicente Pipeline projects are incorporated into the overall results of the cumulative analyses for the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir CIP project described above and other planned projects described below. All three categories of cumulative projects are considered together with the Proposed Action when drawing conclusions about overall cumulative effects, and the results are presented under the third heading below ("Other Planned Projects with CIP and ESP Projects").

3. **Other Planned Projects with CIP and ESP Projects.** This section explains how the cumulative projects study area around the SV 100K study area was derived; identifies other reasonably foreseeable planned projects within the cumulative study area in addition to the CIP and ESP projects listed above; and describes the methodology used to evaluate the combined cumulative impacts associated with the Proposed Action when considered in conjunction with the CIP, ESP, and other planned cumulative projects.

The County of San Diego Permit Database was reviewed to identify the status of all active and closed permit actions currently under review by the County for the Lakeside Planning Area. Over 760 individual permit actions were identified. Of these, over 450 were "closed-status" permits, which are permits that are temporarily suspended due to inactivity. Closed-status permits can be renewed annually; therefore, it is important to consider these projects in the cumulative analysis because they can be reactivated at any time.

Due to the overwhelming number of permit cases to review, it was necessary to identify a reasonable cumulative projects study area around the SV 100K study area within which to focus the search efforts. In developing the cumulative projects study area, the ESP EIR/EIS was used to identify a reasonable distance from San Vicente Reservoir to encompass cumulative projects. Based on this analysis, the furthest project from the reservoir (4.5 miles away) was identified in the ESP EIR/EIS as being within a reasonable range for considering cumulative effects. Thus, a 4.5-mile radius was determined to be a reasonable distance for the SV 100K cumulative impact analysis (Figure 3.2-1). The Barona Indian Reservation is within the 4.5-mile radius, and there are no projects identified for the cumulative analysis (Bunce, 2007).

All County open- and closed-status permit actions were reviewed within the 4.5-mile cumulative projects study area radius; administrative actions and cellular sites were screened out. From this screening, 22 projects were selected for the SV 100K cumulative impact analysis (Table 3.2-1). Table 3.2-1 shows the permit type, permit number, Assessor Parcel Number (APN), address, and a brief project description for each cumulative project.

Because the timing of implementation of the cumulative projects is unknown, it is assumed under a worst-case analysis scenario that these cumulative projects could be constructed within the same timeframe as the Proposed Action. Therefore, all 22 projects are addressed in the cumulative analysis for the Proposed Action.

Table 3.2-2 describes the geographic scope of the cumulative impact study areas for each environmental issue, and the rationale for the specified geographic area. Based on research of available environmental documentation for the cumulative projects within the 4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1), the short- and long-term cumulative impacts of the other planned cumulative projects are either summarized (for the issue area of Biological Resources with respect to impacts on sensitive species and habitats) or are generally considered for the following issue areas: Aesthetics/Visual Quality, Agricultural Resources, Cultural Resources, Mineral Resources, Paleontological Resources, Public Services/Utilities, and Traffic/Circulation. The cumulative impact study areas are narrower in geographic scope than the 4.5-mile cumulative projects study area for the following issue areas: Land Use/Planning and Noise/Vibration. The cumulative impact study areas are broader in geographic scope than the 4.5-mile cumulative projects study area for the following issue areas: Air Quality, Biological

Resources (with respect to City of San Diego MSCP regional Conservation Goals), Geology/Soils, Mineral Resources, Public Safety/Hazardous Materials, Recreation, and Water Resources. The combined cumulative effects of the Proposed Action; the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir CIP project; the San Vicente Pump Station/Surge Control Facility and the San Vicente Pipeline ESP projects; and the other planned cumulative projects are examined for each Threshold of Significance addressed in the Impact Analysis for that issue area.

Finally, conclusions of significance about cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action are presented. The direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Action (and mitigation measures, if applicable) are summarized for each Significance Threshold; the project-specific contributions of the Proposed Action to cumulative impacts associated with each Significance Threshold are stated; a determination of significance is given for each cumulative impact of the Proposed Action combined with the short-term (construction-related) and/or long-term (operational) impacts associated with the Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir (CIP), San Vicente Pipeline (ESP), San Vicente Pump Station (ESP) and other planned cumulative projects listed in Table 3.2-1; and for significant cumulative impacts, the discussion concludes with a determination of significance after application of mitigation measures (e.g., either less than significant after mitigation or an unmitigable impact requiring a Statement of Overriding Considerations).

**Table 3.2-1. County of San Diego Permit Database –
Cumulative Projects Associated with the Proposed Action**

Cumulative Project Number	Permit Type - Description	Permit Number	APN	Address	Project Description
1	Tentative Map	5317	329-121-02-00	12101 Muth Valley	Lakeside Ranch Project. 462 acres into 180 one-half to one-acre residential lots. Approximately 70% has been delineated for open space.
	Tentative Map	5317	375-040-27-00	12293 Moreno	
	Tentative Map	5317	389-010-15-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5317	389-010-18-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5317	389-011-01-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5317	389-011-08-00	No Address	
	Major Use Permit	03-096	329-121-02-00	12101 Muth Valley	Associated with Permit Number 5317.
	Major Use Permit	03-096	375-040-27-00	12293 Moreno	
	Major Use Permit	03-096	389-010-15-00	No Address	
	Major Use Permit	03-096	389-010-18-00	No Address	
	Major Use Permit	03-096	389-011-01-00	No Address	
	Major Use Permit	03-096	389-011-08-00	No Address	
2	Tentative Map - Schmidt Project	5434	324-051-06-00	13626 SR-67	Relocation of a lot line between two parcels totaling 115 acres and a major subdivision of those two parcels into 14 lots. Lots range from 8 to 10 acres with 4-acre minimums.
	Tentative Map - Schmidt Project	5434	324-051-07-00	No Address	
3	Tentative Parcel Map	19241	324-070-28-00	14085 Lazy Acres	20-acre subdivision into two parcels. Initial Study prepared in 1988 and certified in 1990. Biological issue of 5

Cumulative Project Number	Permit Type - Description	Permit Number	APN	Address	Project Description
					acres of sage scrub.
4	Tentative Parcel Map	20634	379-070-02-00	10846 Vista Camino	Negative Declaration: 4-acre subdivision into two parcels. Wetland placed into bio open easement.
5	Tentative Parcel Map	20732	379-093-02-00	10624 Valle Vista	Negative Declaration: 3.64-acre subdivision into three parcels of about 1 DU/acre.
6	Tentative Parcel Map	20839	377-250-20-00	11347 Post Hill	Exemption: 5.89-acre lot subdivision into four parcels plus a remainder.
7	Tentative Parcel Map - Pulli Residence	20937	377-370-54-00	11623 Hi Ridge	2.83-acre subdivision into two parcels. To add 1 DU with dedicated access.
8	Site Plan Modification	00-067-01	375-190-10-00	12538 Vigilante	Site Plan Modification: Regional sales and leasing office for Mobile Mini, Inc. Increase from 1.14 acres to 6.35 acres. Landscape buffers and chain link fence will border property. Current Zoning is High Impact Industrial.
	Site Plan Modification	00-067-01	375-190-11-00	No Address	
	Site Plan Modification	00-067-01	375-190-12-00	No Address	
9	MUP Modification	87-006-01	375-040-01-00	12356 Moreno	Enniss Sand Mine: Extraction and reclamation is planned to continue over an additional 15-year period. Extraction of over 3,500,000 cubic yards of sand began in the northernmost lot and then progressed to the south, along the east side of the project site. The extraction will continue westerly to the west side of the project. The project serves the entire County of San Diego for both sand and as a disposal site as part of the reclamation of the sand pit. Gross Area: 53.38 acres, Mining Area 49.30 acres.
	MUP Modification	87-006-01	375-040-14-00	12238 Moreno	
	MUP Modification	87-006-01	375-040-15-00	12332 Vigilante	
	MUP Modification	87-006-01	375-040-18-00	12417 Vigilante	
	MUP Modification	87-075-01	375-040-01-00	12356 Moreno	
	MUP Modification	87-075-01	375-040-14-00	12238 Moreno	
	MUP Modification	87-075-01	375-040-15-00	12332 Vigilante	
	MUP Modification	87-075-01	375-040-18-00	12417 Vigilante	
10	REC Plan Modification	88-004-01	392-020-19-00	12455 Willow	Sand Quarry: McGrath Lakeside Sand Pit. A total of 20.01 acres mined since the late 1930s, located along San Vicente Creek, just north of the confluence of the floodways of San Vicente Creek and the San Diego River. Estimated to extract 550,000 cy over the next 50 years.
	REC Plan Modification	88-004-01	392-020-44-00	No Address	
11	MUP Modification	89-033-03	326-060-11-00	12485 SR-67	NOD of EIR filed September 28, 2006. Baxter explosive storage and extraction of aggregate resources
	MUP Modification	89-033-03	326-060-17-00	12485 SR-67	
	Major Use Permit	89-033	326-060-11-00	12485 SR-67	Associated with Permit Number 89-033-03
	Major Use Permit	89-033	326-060-17-00	12485 SR-67	
12	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-01-00	No Address	Industrial subdivision of 45.7 acres into 31 buildable lots and two lots for private road easements. Lots range in size from 0.54 to 5.05 acres. Negative Declaration filed in 1996.
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-02-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-03-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-04-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-07-00	12578 Vigilante	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-08-00	12566 Vigilante	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-09-00	12550 Vigilante	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-10-00	12538 Vigilante	

Cumulative Project Number	Permit Type - Description	Permit Number	APN	Address	Project Description
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-11-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5101	375-190-12-00	No Address	
13	Site Plan	00-003	394-033-18-00	10133 Maine	7/11 store
14	Minor Use Permit	00-121	329-132-03-00	12465 Buena Vida	Project proposes to expand and utilize the existing animal rehabilitation facilities to continue the operation of an animal rescue center for injured native and wild species. Project is located on 2.77 acres with an existing single-family residence.
15	Major Use Permit	68-147	392-140-25-00	13176 Mapleview	Mapleview Baptist Church modifications on 1.3 acre.
16	Major Use Permit	70-304	395-190-16-00	13238 Lakeshore	Negative Declaration: Our Lady Perpetual Help Church: expansion of parking area, re-stripping, zone exceptions to allow additional parking.
	Major Use Permit	70-304	395-190-41-00	13208 Lakeshore	
	Major Use Permit	70-304	395-190-46-00	9825 Pino	
17	Major Use Permit	72-650	395-280-37-00	10404 Lake Jennings Park	Negative Declaration 1998, Church pre-school on 2 acre. Negative Declaration 2000: two 1,400 sq.ft. buildings on 2 acres.
18	Major Use Permit	78-083	326-051-01-00	12590 SR-67	296.4 acre site. A 1991 submittal to allow for the extraction of additional materials in unmined portions of the site as approved mining areas are depleted. The MUP is in effect on 121 acres, which allows mining on 49 acres. The proposed modification would add 108 acres to mining operation totaling 157 acres.
	Major Use Permit	78-083	326-051-03-00	No Address	
	Major Use Permit	78-083	375-171-01-00	12560 SR-67	
19	Reclamation Plan	79-011	326-050-04-00	12855 SR-67	NOD of EIR filed September 28, 2006. Baxter explosive storage and extraction of aggregate resources.
	Reclamation Plan	79-011	326-050-11-00	No Address	
	Reclamation Plan	79-011	326-060-17-00	12485 SR-67	
20	Major Use Permit	99-023	392-020-23-00	12320 Willow	MUP: for gas sales in conjunction with existing convenience store; Circle K and 76 gas on 3.6 acres.
	Site Plan	99-023	375-190-09-00	12550 Vigilante	
21	Site Plan	99-048	392-082-05-00	No Address	NOE: project consists of creating a temporary pipe storage facility for Ameron, Inc.
	Site Plan	99-048	392-090-33-00	No Address	
	Site Plan	99-048	392-120-20-00	No Address	
22	Tentative Map	5314	377-111-32-00	No Address	The project proposed to subdivide 412.4 aces in 140 residential lots, 7 open space lots, 5 street lots, 4 landscape lots and one reservoir lot. The project's open space lots total 214.39 acres.
	Tentative Map	5314	377-112-29-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5314	377-112-30-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5314	377-112-31-00	10902 Oak Creek	
	Tentative Map	5314	379-011-01-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5314	379-011-02-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5314	379-040-01-00	No Address	
	Tentative Map	5314	379-040-14-00	10774 Oak Creek	

Source: County of San Diego, 2007

Table 3.2-2. Cumulative Impact Study Areas by Environmental Issue for the Proposed Action

Environmental Issue	Geographic Scope	Rationale
Aesthetics/Visual Quality	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Areas within the vicinity of San Vicente Dam viewpoints (refer to Figure 3.3-1 in Section 3.3 [Aesthetics/Visual Quality] of this EIR/EIS).
Agricultural Resources	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Local impacts on designated farmlands.
Air Quality	San Diego Air Basin (SDAB)	Criteria pollutant air emissions may disperse anywhere throughout the entire SDAB due to meterological conditions (e.g., wind, temperature inversions, weather patterns, etc.).
Biological Resources	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Local impacts on sensitive habitats and species.
Biological Resources	City of San Diego MSCP	Preservation of sensitive vegetation communities recognized under the regional MSCP Conservation Goals.
Cultural Resources	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Local impacts on NRHP sites.
Geology/Soils	Southern California region	Potential seismic sources within 100 km of SV 100K study area boundary.
Land Use/Planning	Lands immediately adjacent to SV 100K study area boundary	Conflicts with adjacent land uses.
Mineral Resources	San Diego County	Local utilization of mineral resources relative to county-wide availability.
Noise/Vibration	Residence located on Moreno Avenue approximately 1,500 feet south of the southern limit of the SV 100K dam construction zone, and nearby cumulative projects within the 4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Nearest noise-sensitive residential receptor.
Paleontological Resources	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Local impacts on paleontological resources.
Public Safety/Hazardous Materials	San Vicente Creek downstream of San Vicente Dam, and San Diego River floodplain to the Pacific Ocean	Impacts from overtopping of San Vicente Dam spillway or catastrophic dam failure, and subsequent flooding.
Public Services/Utilities	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Local impacts on emergency services response times and potential utility conflicts.
Recreation	All public recreational reservoirs within San Diego County, Mission Bay Regional Park, Pacific Ocean along the San Diego coastline, County Regional Parks (refer to Table 3.15-1 in Section 3.15 [Recreation] of this EIR/EIS)	Other public recreational facilities in the San Diego region that provide related water sports activities (e.g., fishing, water skiing, boating, etc.) and trails, while San Vicente Reservoir is closed during construction of the Proposed Action.
Traffic/Circulation	4.5-mile cumulative projects study area (Figure 3.2-1)	Impacts on local street segments and intersections, including SR-67 between Scripps-Poway Parkway and Willow Road.
Water Resources	San Diego Hydrologic Unit (refer to Figure 3.17-1 in Section 3.17 [Water Resources] of this EIR/EIS)	Water quality impacts on beneficial uses, as defined by the Comprehensive Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region (RWQCB, 1994), downstream of San Vicente Dam.

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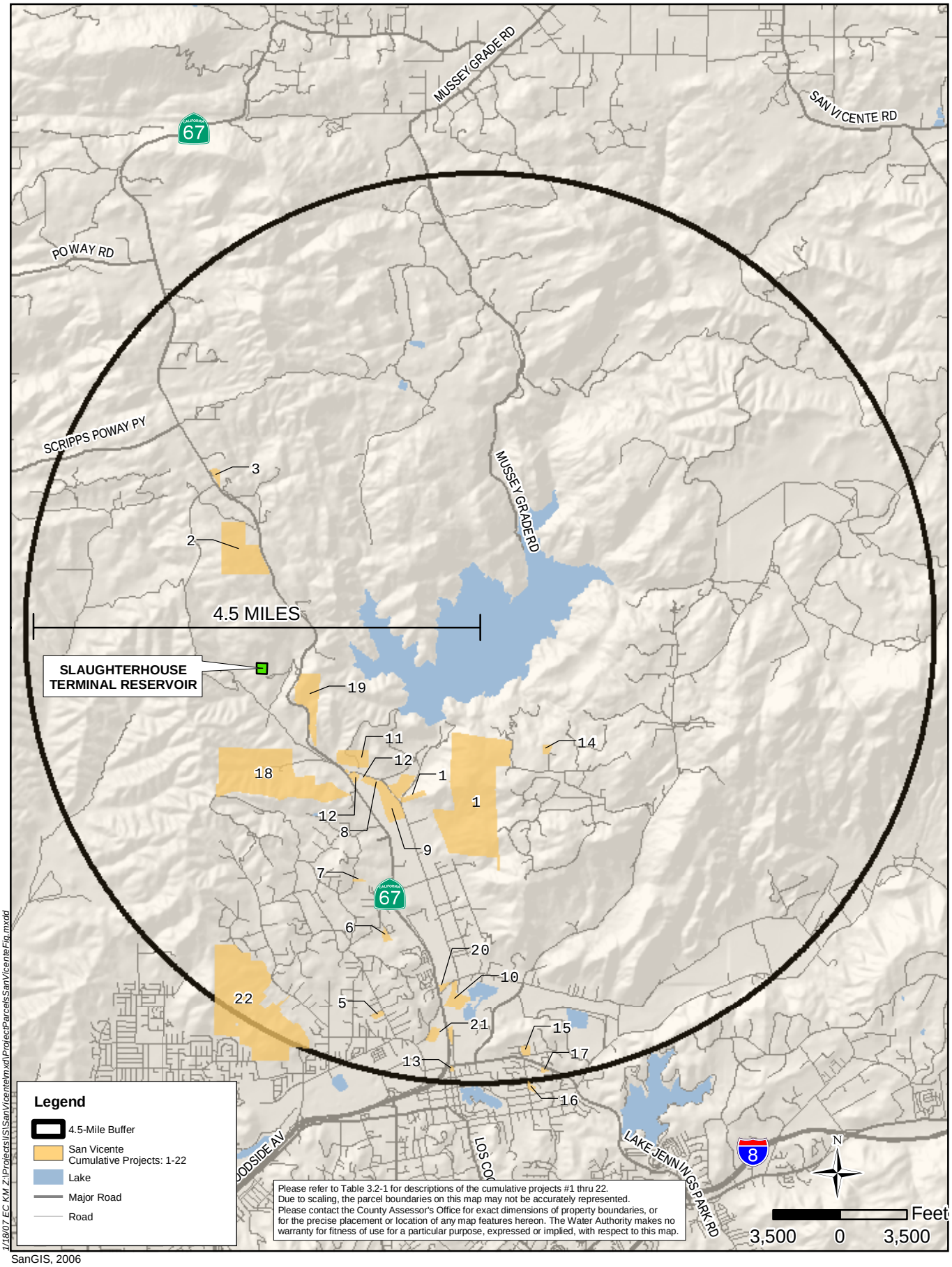

SanGIS, 2006

CUMULATIVE PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED ACTION

FIGURE 3.2-1