# 2.14 Utilities and Service Systems

This section describes the existing utilities and service systems serving the Alpine Community Plan Area (CPA) including the following: wastewater, potable water, stormwater, and solid waste systems, as well as the applicable regulations that govern their use, supply and distribution, and performance. In addition, this section analyzes the potential for the buildout of the proposed project to exceed the existing or planned infrastructure and treatment capacities for these utilities and service systems, requiring the construction of new or expanded facilities that could result in significant environmental effects.

This section incorporates information and analysis from the 2011 General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and 2016 Forest Conservation Initiative (FCI) General Plan Amendment (GPA) EIR (referred throughout the rest of this section as "prior EIRs") as they apply to the proposed project. Section 1.3, *Project Background*, of this Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) provides a background for both EIRs. The 2011 General Plan EIR analyzed the entirety of the Alpine CPA with the exception of the FCI lands, which were subsequently analyzed under the FCI EIR. The existing conditions outlined in this section are generally consistent with those described in the prior EIRs; however, there are some instances where updates or changes have occurred since the prior EIRs, which have been noted accordingly.

Table 2.14-1 summarizes the impact conclusions identified in this section.

**Table 2.14-1. Utilities and Service Systems Summary of Impacts**

| Issue Number | Issue Area | Prior EIRs Conclusion | Project Direct Impact(s) | Project Cumulative Impact(s) | Level of Significance After Mitigation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| UTIL-1 | Expanded Utility Facilities | Less Than Significant | Potentially Significant | Potentially Significant | Significant and Unavoidable |
| UTIL-2 | Adequate Water Supply | Significant and Unavoidable | Potentially Significant | Potentially Significant | Significant and Unavoidable |
| UTIL-3 | Wastewater Treatment Capacity | Less Than Significant | Potentially Significant | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant |
| UTIL-4 | Landfill Capacity | Significant and Unavoidable | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant |
| UTIL-5 | Solid Waste Regulations | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant | Less Than Significant |

Comments received during the Notice of Preparation (NOP) scoping process included concerns regarding future incompatible development and utility/water supply needs; lowering of the groundwater table from the installation of household wells; the need to bring water and sewage services to East Willows Road; effects of future development on downstream water supply sources such as Loveland Reservoir; and recommendations to discourage the use of septic systems and promote annexation to sanitation districts. These concerns are addressed and summarized in this section. A copy of the NOP and comment letters received in response to the NOP are included in Appendix A of this SEIR.

Specifically, Issues in Section 2.14.3, below, analyze the project's potential to impact infrastructure and treatment capacities for utilities and service systems, and identify existing regulations and proposed policies and measures to reduce impacts to these resources.

## 2.14.1 Existing Conditions

This section discusses the existing utilities and service systems in the Alpine CPA. The utility providers serving the Alpine CPA are listed in Table 2.14-2. The utilities and service systems described in the prior EIRs are the same as the existing conditions evaluated in this SEIR. The discussion of existing conditions below only focuses on the utilities and service systems conditions that have experienced substantial changes since the adoption of the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA.

**Table 2.14-2. Utility Service Providers**

| Utility Service | Provider |
|---|---|
| Wastewater | San Diego County Sanitation District |
| Water | Padre Dam Municipal Water District; South Bay Irrigation District |
| Stormwater | County of San Diego |
| Solid Waste | County of San Diego Franchise Waste Hauler (Allied Waste) |
| Electricity and Natural Gas | San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) |

### *2.14.1.1 Wastewater Services*

The Metro Wastewater Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is a State authorized JPA representing 12 agencies and approximately 800,000 people in the San Diego region. The Metro JPA is a coalition of the municipalities and special districts that share the use of the City of San Diego's wastewater facilities. Its member agencies include the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City, and Poway; the Lemon Grove Sanitation District; the Padre Dam Municipal and Otay Water Districts; and the County of San Diego (on behalf of the Winter Gardens Sewer Maintenance District and the Alpine, Lakeside, and Spring Valley Sanitation Districts). The Metro JPA is a partner with the City of San Diego contributing one-third of the wastewater flows and $75,000,000 (fiscal year 2019) a year to the San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater System.

The Metropolitan Wastewater System, which is owned and operated by the City of San Diego's Public Utilities Department's (PUD) Wastewater Branch, provides regional wastewater treatment and disposal services for the San Diego region. The Metropolitan Wastewater System serves 16 cities and wastewater districts with a service area of approximately 450 square miles and service population of approximately 2.2 million (Metro JPA 2019).

Wastewater districts are generally responsible for providing collection, transmission, and disposal of sewage. Wastewater districts can be classified as dependent sanitation districts or independent sanitation districts. A dependent sanitation district is formed by resolution of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (BOS), while independent sanitation districts have their own independently elected Board of Directors. Unincorporated areas not serviced by wastewater districts typically utilize septic systems for wastewater disposal. The most common type of septic system found in San Diego County consists of a septic tank connected to leach lines.

The Alpine CPA is served by the San Diego County Sanitation District. This district serves a portion of the Alpine community, the remainder of which (approximately 98 percent) utilizes septic systems. Figures

2.14-1a and 1b show the service boundary for this sanitation district in relation to the Alpine CPA. The following describes the sanitation district that serve the Alpine CPA and subareas.

### Alpine and Lakeside Sewer Service Areas – San Diego County Sanitation District

The Alpine Sewer Service Area (SSA), formerly the Alpine Sanitation District, and the Lakeside SSA, formerly the Lakeside Sanitation District, serve the communities of Alpine and Lakeside. Based upon a County BOS action in 2011, both SSAs were officially reorganized and annexed into the Spring Valley Sanitation District, which was then renamed the San Diego County Sanitation District. The District provides sewer service to approximately 36,000 customers in unincorporated areas of the County. The District sanitary sewer system is composed of approximately 432 miles of sewer lines, 8,200 manholes, eight pump stations, several pressurized force mains, and three wastewater treatment plants (DPW 2020). The Alpine and Lakeside SSAs convey all sewer flows into the City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater System. Within the subareas, the San Diego County Sanitation District serves all or a portion of Subareas 1, 2, and 6, and a portion of Subareas 4 and 7.

## *2.14.1.2 Potable Water Systems*

Potable water in the Alpine CPA is provided by both water districts and groundwater. The central-western portion of the community is within the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) service boundary, while the remainder of the community (approximately 81 percent) is entirely dependent on groundwater. Figures 2.14-2a and 2b show the water district boundary in relation to the Alpine CPA. The following sections describe each of these sources of potable water supply.

### Water Districts

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) supplies water to approximately 18 million people in a 5,200-square-mile service area that includes portions of Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties. The MWD provides approximately 71 percent of the total water supply for the entire San Diego County and includes 12 member agencies. As one of the member agencies, the SDCWA is the largest in terms of water deliveries. The SDCWA is a wholesale water provider to 24 member agencies, some of which provide potable water service to the unincorporated County. Only the central-western portion of the Alpine CPA is within the SDCWA service boundary, as shown in Figures 2.14-2a and 2b.

Water service in the central-western portion of the Alpine CPA is provided by Padre Dam Municipal Water District and South Bay Irrigation District through agreements with the SDCWA. However, the South Bay Irrigation District does not provide service to any of the subareas; therefore, it is not discussed further in this section. While the SDCWA does not directly provide water service to the Alpine CPA, it is a wholesale water supplier to water districts that serve the community. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code Part 2.6) requires each urban water supplier that provides water to 3,000 or more customers or provides over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The Urban Water Management Planning Act also requires urban water suppliers to update their UWMPs every 5 years. The water supply and demand projections are provided below for each of these water providers and a description of the changes between the 2010 and 2015 UWMPs is provided in Section 2.14.2, *Regulatory Setting*.

### *San Diego County Water Authority*

The SDCWA's 2015 UWMP includes water use associated with accelerated forecasted growth in residential housing development, which was identified in San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG's) 2050 Regional Growth Forecast and was based on existing general plans of local jurisdictions. Table 2.14-3 shows the SDCWA's updated existing and projected water demand and estimated supply between 2020 and 2040 under normal and dry year weather conditions. The water supply values in Table 2.14-3 account for both SDCWA and member agency supplies, as well as projected supplies from the MWD necessary to meet the projected demand.

**Table 2.14-3. Normal, Single-, and Multiple-Dry Year Water Supply and Demand[1] (2020–2040) (acre-feet per year)**

| | 2020 | 2025 | 2030 | 2035 | 2040 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Normal Year** | | | | | |
| Supply | 587,581 | 648,124 | 676,721 | 694,431 | 718,773 |
| Demand | 587,581 | 648,124 | 676,721 | 694,431 | 718,773 |
| Difference | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Single-Year Dry** | | | | | |
| Supply[2] | 666,684 | 694,147 | 725,006 | 720,083 | 718,863 |
| Demand | 629,198 | 694,147 | 725,006 | 743,990 | 770,765 |
| Difference | +37,486 | 0 | 0 | -23,907 | -51,902 |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (First Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 525,710 | 718,652 | 722,741 | 728,330 | 749,030 |
| Demand | 491,000 | 640,932 | 699,895 | 728,330 | 749,030 |
| Difference | +34,710 | +77,720 | +22,846 | 0 | 0 |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (Second Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 558,634 | 677,395 | 706,894 | 720,132 | 718,564 |
| Demand | 495,910 | 647,342 | 706,894 | 725,613 | 756,521 |
| Difference | +62,724 | +30,053 | 0 | 15,481 | -37,957 |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (Third Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 586,587 | 653,815 | 684,649 | 683,539 | 682,327 |
| Demand | 500,869 | 653,815 | 713,963 | 742,969 | 764,086 |
| Difference | +85,718 | 0 | -29,314 | -59,430 | -81,759 |

Source: SDCWA 2016, Tables 9-1 and 9-7.

[1] The demand accounts for water efficiency savings.

[2] Includes total projected core supplies with utilization of carryover storage supplies.!!

As shown in Table 2.14-3, if the MWD, SDCWA, and member agency supplies are maintained, and water conservation measures are implemented, no shortages are anticipated through 2040 in a normal year. However, the SDCWA would potentially experience water supply shortages in various single-year and multiple-year dry scenarios. In these instances, additional regional shortage management measures, consistent with the SDCWA's *Water Shortage Contingency Plan* (SDCWA 2017), would be taken to address the water supply shortages.

### *Padre Dam Municipal Water District*

Padre Dam Municipal Water District, a member agency of the SDCWA, provides water service within the central-western portion of the Alpine CPA. Within the seven subareas, the Padre Dam Municipal Water District serves Subareas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7, as well as a portion of Subarea 5, as shown in Figures 2.14-2a and 2b. A majority of Subarea 5 is outside of the Padre Dam Municipal Water District service boundary. NOP comments identified the need to bring services to East Willows Road. Service to East Willows Road is not currently provided; however, future service could be provided if the area is annexed into the district.

For the 2015 UWMP Update, Padre Dam Municipal Water District collaborated with the SDCWA and SANDAG and notified the land use agencies within its service area and key stakeholders. Table 2.14-4 shows the Padre Dam Municipal Water District's updated existing and projected water demand and estimated supply between 2020 and 2040 under normal and dry year weather conditions.

**Table 2.14-4. Normal, Single-, and Multiple-Dry Year Water Supply and Demand (2020–2040) (acre-feet per year)**

| | 2020 | 2025 | 2030 | 2035 | 2040[1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Normal Year** | | | | | |
| Supply | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | 16,816 |
| Demand | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | 16,816 |
| Difference | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Single-Year Dry** | | | | | |
| Supply | 13,257 | 16,164 | 16,230 | 16,461 | 16,032 |
| Demand | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | 16,816 |
| Difference | +722 | +115 | 0 | 0 | -784 |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (First Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 13,976 | 16,947 | 16,651 | 16,461 | -- |
| Demand | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | -- |
| Difference | +1,441 | +898 | +421 | 0 | -- |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (Second Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 13,179 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,141 | -- |
| Demand | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | -- |
| Difference | +644 | 0 | 0 | -320 | -- |
| **Multiple-Year Dry (Third Year)** | | | | | |
| Supply | 12,535 | 15,884 | 15,589 | 15,298 | -- |
| Demand | 12,535 | 16,049 | 16,230 | 16,461 | -- |
| Difference | 0 | -165 | -641 | -1,163 | -- |

Source: Padre Dam Municipal Water District 2016, Tables 7-2, 7-3, and 7-8.

[1] The Padre Dam Municipal Water District's UWMP does not contain multiple-year dry projections for 2040.

As shown in Table 2.14-4, future demand would be met by the supply in each 5-year increment through 2040 under normal year conditions. However, insufficient supplies would be available in 2040 under single-year dry conditions, 2035 under multiple-year dry (second year) conditions, and 2025 through 2035 under multiple-year dry (third year) conditions.

### Groundwater-Dependent Users

The majority of the Alpine CPA (approximately 81 percent) is not within the SDCWA service boundary and is therefore entirely dependent on groundwater. Groundwater-dependent users (e.g., residences, commercial uses) are either served by on-site private wells or groundwater provided by a small water system such as a small water company or water district. Within the seven subareas, the majority of Subarea 5 (approximately 94 percent) is groundwater dependent. Future groundwater demand for certain discretionary projects are managed through the County's Groundwater Ordinance, which includes specific requirements such as residential density controls to reduce groundwater impacts (see Section 67.722 of the County's Code of Regulatory Ordinances [Code]). The County's Groundwater Ordinance does not apply to existing groundwater users unless one of the specified discretionary permits is required. A full list of the discretionary permits subject to the Groundwater Ordinance is provided in Section 67.711 of the County's Code, while a list of exempt uses and permits is provided in Section 67.750.

## 2.14.1.3 Stormwater Drainage Facilities

A stormwater conveyance system, as defined by the County of San Diego Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance, means "private and public drainage facilities other than sanitary sewers within the unincorporated areas of the County of San Diego by which urban runoff may be conveyed to receiving waters, and includes, but is not limited to, roads, streets, constructed channels, aqueducts, storm drains, pipes, street gutters, inlets to storm drains or pipes, and catch basins." The stormwater conveyance system is designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from developed areas.

## 2.14.1.4 Solid Waste Facilities

Until 1997, the solid waste management system in San Diego County was serviced by eight landfill facilities. In October 1997, the County sold its active landfills and other solid waste collection assets to a private company, Allied Waste Industries, Inc. Currently, there are seven active landfills in the San Diego region that serve residents, businesses, and military operations in both incorporated and unincorporated areas: Borrego, Miramar, Otay, Ramona, Sycamore, Las Pulgas, and San Onofre. Solid waste is disposed of at the landfill of the hauling contractor's choice. The San Onofre and Las Pulgas landfills are owned and operated by the US Marine Corps and are not available for public disposal, while Miramar Landfill is operated on land leased from the US Navy by the City of San Diego.

The Gregory Canyon Landfill in northern San Diego County was previously partially permitted, and this landfill would have provided a capacity of 600,000 to 1 million tons per year with an estimated life of approximately 30 years. However, the permit for the Gregory Canyon Landfill was rescinded in December 2016 (DPW 2017), and a portion of the land proposed for the landfill was sold in November 2017. As such, it is uncertain whether this landfill will be built, and it is therefore not considered in the analysis below.

Siting of a new solid waste disposal facility, or expansion of an existing solid waste facility, is often a controversial and lengthy process. All potential disposal facilities in the County must be included in a Countywide Siting Element Amendment to the San Diego County Integrated Waste Management Plan. However, discussion of proposed sites in the Siting Element is only one step in the review and approval process. In addition, each proposed facility in the County is considered through the local jurisdictional land use permitting processes. The Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan Five-Year Review Report was most recently published in September 2017 and determined that the County has enough daily permitted disposal capacity until 2059, including the state-mandated 15-year period of 2017 to 2032. The

Five-Year Review Report concluded that an amendment to the Countywide Siting Element is not warranted.

### 2.14.1.5 Electricity and Natural Gas Distribution

The County of San Diego is served by SDG&E, which provides energy service to over 3.4 million customers (i.e., 1.4 million accounts) in the County and portions of southern Orange County. The utility has a diverse power production portfolio, composed of a variety of renewable and non-renewable sources. Energy production typically varies by season and by year. Regional electricity loads also tend to be higher in the summer because the higher summer temperatures drive increased demand for air-conditioning. In contrast, natural gas loads are higher in the winter because the colder temperatures drive increased demand for natural gas heating.

In 2016 (most recent year for which California Renewables Portfolio Standard data are available), more than 43 percent of the electricity SDG&E supplied was from renewable sources, compared to less than 1 percent in 2002 (CPUC 2018).

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) is a program that permits cities, counties, and other authorized entities, called Community Choice Aggregators to purchase and/or generate electricity for residents and businesses located within the boundaries of their jurisdiction. In October 2019, the County BOS approved creating a CCA energy program but voted to wait and see what governing authority to adopt in order to implement it.

### 2.14.1.6 Telecommunications Services

Telecommunications services, including telephone and cellular phone services, cable television, and internet and broadband services in the Alpine CPA, are provided by several privately owned companies.

#### Telephone and Cellular Phone

Local phone service in the Alpine CPA is provided primarily by AT&T, which offers traditional landline (copper wire) service as well as digital telephone service. Digital telephone service is offered by a number of other providers including Cox, Time Warner, and a variety of smaller companies.

AT&T, Sprint Nextel Corporation, T-Mobile, and Verizon Wireless are some of the cellular telephone providers offering service in the San Diego region. Providers use a combination of underground lines and aboveground cellular towers to provide telephone service to the Alpine CPA. Cellular towers are distributed throughout the region.

#### Cable Television and Internet

Cable television and Internet services are offered by many of the same companies that provide cellular phone service in the area and can be provided via a number of different technologies, including mobile (cellular), wireless, wireless local area network, and broadband. Fiber optic cables and copper wires are generally co-located with other utility infrastructure, which is usually installed underground within new development in order to reduce visual and safety hazards.

Broadband refers to a high-speed internet connection that can transport multiple signals and traffic types. According to the Federal Communications Commission (2017), 100 percent of residents in the San Diego region currently have access to broadband via at least one provider.

## 2.14.2 Regulatory Framework

The prior EIRs included a discussion of regulatory framework related to utilities and system services. The regulations described in the prior EIRs are the same as those evaluated in this SEIR, with the exception of Assembly Bill (AB) 1826, AB 341, the Regional Facilities Master Plan, the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, the SDCWA's UWMP, the Drought Management Plan and the Alpine and Lakeside Sewer Service Areas Sewer Master Plan. Summaries of these regulations are provided below, as well as a list of the applicable regulations described in the prior EIRs for reference.

Applicable federal regulations include:

- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 (Clean Water Act).

Applicable state regulations include:

- California Drinking Water Standards
- California Water Code
  - Senate Bill (SB) 610
  - SB 221
- California Code of Regulations Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6)
- California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939)
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Groundwater Management Act (AB 3030)
- Urban Water Management Planning Act (California Water Code Sections 10610–10656)
- Water Conservation Projects Act.

In addition to the above, the following state regulations were either not included in the prior EIRs or have been adopted or updated since their certification.

### *2.14.2.1 Assembly Bill 1826*

In October of 2014, Governor Brown signed AB 1826 into law, requiring businesses to recycle their organic waste depending on the amount of waste they generate per week. Organic waste means food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste. This law also requires local jurisdictions across the state to implement an organic waste recycling program to divert organic waste generated by businesses, including multi-family residential dwellings that consist of five or more units. However, multi-family dwellings are not required to have a food waste diversion program.

### *2.14.2.2 Assembly Bill 341*

To further the goals of AB 939, statewide strategies to achieve a 75 percent solid waste reduction goal by 2020 were established with the adoption of AB 341 in May 2012, the main component of which implemented mandatory commercial recycling for certain businesses and public entities. AB 341 required that commercial enterprises that generate 4 cubic yards or more of solid waste weekly and multi-family dwellings of five units or more arrange for recycling services. According to the San Diego County Five-Year Review Report "Countywide solid waste disposal decreased by 13 percent between 2000 and 2010, and rose by 10 percent between 2010 and 2015" (County DPW 2017).

### 2.14.2.3 Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Reorganization Act of 2000

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code Sections 56000–57550) mandates Local Area Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) to encourage orderly development within their jurisdiction. The Act governs the boundaries of special districts and cities consistent with each agency's principal act. To promote greater efficiency in services for future planning purposes, the Act mandates LAFCOs to conduct Sphere of Influence (SOI) reviews once every 5 years, as necessary. SOIs are used as a planning tool for agencies to conduct service and facility planning for areas it intends to serve in the future. Prior to or in conjunction with SOI reviews, a Municipal Service Review (MSR) must be prepared pursuant to Gov. Code Section 56430. MSRs are conducted to assist in the SOI review process by providing information regarding the ability of agencies to provide public services. LAFCOs have an established process and format for the preparation of MSRs.

### 2.14.2.4 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

As stated in Section 2.14.2.4, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, effective January 1, 2015, requires local public agencies in certain groundwater basins throughout the state to sustainably manage groundwater resources, and authorizes State Water Board intervention in areas where local agencies are unable or unwilling to do so. The long-term planning required by the act is designed to provide a buffer against drought and climate change and contribute to reliable water supplies regardless of weather patterns in the state. The Alpine CPA is located outside of a groundwater basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and is therefore not applicable to the proposed project.

Applicable local regulations include:

- County of San Diego Groundwater Ordinance, County Code Section 67.701 et seq.
- County of San Diego Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance, County Code Section 67.801 et seq.
- County of San Diego Uniform Sewer Ordinance
- County of San Diego Health and Sanitation Ordinance, County of San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances, Title 6, Division 8, Chapter 1, Sections 68.101–68.123
- County of San Diego Fee Ordinances
- County of San Diego BOS Policy F-16, Cleaning and Repair of Sewer Laterals
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-25, Establishment of Assessment Districts to Provide for Public Improvements and Facilities for Sanitary Sewers
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-36, Sewer Extensions and Connections in Areas Not Annexed to a Sanitation District
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-48, Sewer Extensions in Areas Not Annexed to a Sanitation District
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-51, Connection to Districts Interceptor Sewers
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-78, Small Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-84, Project Facility Availability and Commitment for Public Sewer, Water, School, and Fire Services

- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-99, Expenditures and Use of Revenue for Replacement and Expansion of Liquid Waste Facilities
- County of San Diego BOS Policy I-107, Policy on Long-Term Availability of Sewer Services to Certain Portions of East County
- Non-Exclusive Solid Waste Management Agreement
- County of San Diego Integrated Waste Management Plan
- County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health.

In addition to the above, the following local regulations have been adopted or updated since certification of the prior EIRs.

### 2.14.2.5 San Diego County Water Authority Regional Water Facilities Master Plan

The Regional Water Facilities Master Plan evaluates the ability of the SDCWA to continue to meet its mission of a safe and reliable water supply to its member agencies by recommending additional regional facilities and improvements to existing facilities to cost-effectively meet SDCWA's mission through the planning horizon. The SDCWA 2013 Master Plan encompasses a region-wide planning effort incorporating three interrelated components: water demands, water supplies, and facilities. Facility planning begins with estimating future water demands, proceeds to the identification of water supplies and their reliability, and then defines facilities needed to treat and transport the supplies to the points of demand. This planning process is iterative in nature, and computer simulations are employed to model facility alternatives that supplement SDCWA's current water delivery and storage system. The updated Master Plan follows the same master planning principles as the 2002 Plan and defines SDCWA's overall capital improvement process and budget, while maintaining a reliable water supply infrastructure through 2035.

### 2.14.2.6 San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Since the adoption of the General Plan, the County has updated the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan to comply with the California Department of Water Resources, 2012 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Program Guidelines and make the San Diego region eligible for future rounds of grant funding. The plan provides a mechanism for (1) coordinating, refining and integrating existing planning efforts within a comprehensive, regional context; (2) identifying specific regional and watershed-based priorities for implementation projects; and (3) providing funding support for the plans, programs, projects, and priorities of existing agencies and stakeholders.

The 2013 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan includes information from planning documents, as well as information produced from planning studies, workshops, and workgroups that are being conducted to address region-specific issues. The plan allows regional stakeholders to revisit the plan's goals, objectives, and priorities. The goals are as follows:

- Improve the reliability and sustainability of regional water
- Protect and enhance water quality
- Protect and enhance our watersheds and natural resources

- Promote and support sustainable integrated water resource management in order to achieve the goals, the following eleven Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Objectives have been adopted:
    1. Encourage integrated solutions to water management issues and conflicts
    2. Maximize stakeholder and community involvement and stewardship
    3. Effectively obtain, manage, and assess water resources data and information
    4. Further the scientific and technical foundation of water management
    5. Develop and maintain a diverse mix of water resources
    6. Construct, operate, and maintain a reliable infrastructure system
    7. Enhance natural hydrologic processes to reduce the negative effects of hydromodification and flooding
    8. Effectively reduce sources of pollutants and environmental stressors
    9. Protect, restore, and maintain habitat and open space
    10. Optimize water-based recreational opportunities
    11. Effectively address climate change through greenhouse gas reduction, adaptation, or mitigation.

The 2013 plan allows the region to focus on updated priorities and issues, facilitate project integration, forge partnerships with a variety of stakeholders, and move the region forward in implementing high-priority projects.

### 2.14.2.7 San Diego County Water Authority Urban Water Management Plan

The 2015 UWMP (SDCWA 2016) represents the most current available water supply planning projections for the San Diego region, and places more emphasis on conservation, water recycling, and expansion of local supplies through methods such as water desalination. The 2015 UWMP includes the following new sections not previously included in the 2005 UWMP:

- The SDCWA's climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies
- Measures, programs, and policies to achieve per capita water use targets as required by Water Code Section 10608.36 at retail agency level by the SDCWA as a wholesale provider
- A discussion of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
- The SDCWA's Scenario Planning process to deal with future uncertainties in long-range water planning.

### 2.14.2.8 Water Shortage Contingency Plan

The Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP), adopted by the SDCWA's Board in August 2017, is a comprehensive water shortage planning document that outlines the procedures that the SDCWA would take during shortages to minimize impacts on the region. The SDCWA's previous shortage planning document, the Water Shortage and Drought Response Plan, was effectively activated in 2014 and

deactivated in 2016. The current WSCP expands upon the Water Shortage and Drought Response Plan to provide a more comprehensive document and includes updated information, such as a modernized communication strategy. The WSCP incorporates elements not previously included in the Water Shortage and Drought Response Plan, including a new section on catastrophic water shortage planning, guidelines to manage carryover storage, and procedures to perform an annual water supply reliability analysis.

### 2.14.2.9 Alpine and Lakeside Sewer Service Areas Sewer Master Plan

The Sewer Master Plan was a 2011 update to the previously prepared Sewer Master Plan in 2002. The Sewer Master Plan addresses the Alpine and Lakeside SSAs. The Sewer Master Plan evaluates the system capacity and provides a general assessment of the condition of the existing sewer collection system, including its pump stations, in order to develop a comprehensive 10-year Capital Improvement Program).

### 2.14.2.10 County of San Diego General Plan Policies

The General Plan includes goals and policies applicable to utilities and service systems within the Land Use, Housing, and Conservation and Open Space elements.

#### Land Use Element

Goal LU-1 of the Land Use element is a land use plan and development doctrine that sustain the intent and integrity of the Community Development Model and the boundaries between Regional Categories, and this is accomplished through policy LU-1.2, which prohibits leapfrog development inconsistent with the Community Development Model.

Goal LU-6 is for a development-environmental balance and is accomplished by policies LU-6.5 and LU-6.9, which ensure that development minimizes the use of impervious surfaces and incorporates other Low Impact Development techniques as well as a combination of site design, source control, and stormwater best management practices, and require development to conform to the natural topography.

Goal LU-8 is in regard to aquifers and groundwater conservation and is accomplished through policies LU-8.1 and LU-8.2, which require land use densities in groundwater-dependent areas to be consistent with the long-term sustainability of groundwater supplies and require development to identify adequate groundwater resources in groundwater-dependent areas.

Goal LU-9 requires well-defined, well-planned, and well-developed community cores, and this is accomplished by policy LU-9.4, which prioritizes infrastructure improvements and the provision of public facilities.

Goal LU-12 is adequate and sustainable infrastructure, public facilities, and essential services that meet community needs, and is accomplished through policies LU-12.1 and LU-12.2, which require the provision of infrastructure, facilities, and services needed by new development prior to that development, either directly or through fees**,** and require development to mitigate significant impacts to existing service levels of public facilities or services for existing residents and businesses.

Goal LU-13 is adequate water quality, supply and protection and is accomplished by policies LU-13.1 and LU-13.2, which coordinate water infrastructure planning with land use planning to maintain an acceptable availability of a high-quality sustainable water supply and require new development to identify adequate water resources.

Goal LU-14 is adequate wastewater facilities and is accomplished through policies LU-14.1 through LU-14.4, which coordinate with wastewater agencies and districts during the preparation or update of wastewater facility master plans and/or capital improvement plans to provide adequate capacity and ensure consistency with the County's land use plans, require that development provide for the adequate disposal of wastewater concurrent with the development and that the infrastructure is designed and sized appropriately to meet reasonably expected demands, and require wastewater treatment facilities serving more than one private property owner to be operated and maintained by a public agency. In addition, the policies prohibit sewer facilities that would induce unplanned growth.

Goal LU-16 is appropriately sited waste management facilities, and is accomplished through policies LU-16.1 through LU-16.3, which site new solid waste management facilities identified in the San Diego County Integrated Waste Management Plan in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts, prevents groundwater degradation, and complies with applicable local land use policies, as well as avoid encroachment of incompatible land uses upon solid waste facilities and encourage the establishment of additional recycling and resource recovery facilities.

## Housing Element

Housing element Goal H-1 is for a housing stock comprising a variety of housing and tenancy types at a range of prices, which meets the varied needs of existing and future unincorporated County residents, who represent a full spectrum of age, income, and other demographic characteristics. This is accomplished, in relationship to utilities and service systems, through policy H-1.3, which maximizes housing in areas served by transportation networks, within proximity to job centers, and where public services and infrastructure are available.

## Conservation and Open Space Element

Conservation and Open Space Element goal COS-4 is in regard to water management and is a balanced and regionally integrated water management approach to achieve the long-term viability of the County's water quality and supply. This is accomplished through policies COS-4.1 through COS-4.4, which maximize stormwater filtration and/or infiltration in areas that are not subject to high groundwater by maximizing the natural drainage patterns and the retention of natural vegetation and other pervious surfaces**,** require development to reduce the waste of potable water through use of efficient technologies and conservation efforts**,** require efficient irrigation systems, maximize stormwater filtration and/or infiltration in areas that are not subject to high groundwater by maximizing the natural drainage patterns and the retention of natural vegetation and other pervious surfaces, and require land uses with a high potential to contaminate groundwater to take appropriate measures to protect water supply sources.

Goal COS-5 is for the protection and maintenance of water resources and is accomplished through policies COS-5.2 and COS-5.5, which require development to minimize the use of directly connected impervious surfaces and to retain stormwater runoff caused from the development footprint at or near the site of generation, and require development projects to avoid impacts to the water quality in local reservoirs, groundwater resources, and recharge areas; watersheds; and other local water sources.

Goal COS-14 is for sustainable land development and is accomplished through policy COS-14.7, which encourages development projects that use energy recovery, photovoltaic, and wind energy.

Goal COS-15 is for sustainable architecture and buildings and is accomplished through policies COS-15.1 through COS-15.5, which require that new buildings be designed and constructed in accordance with "green building" programs that incorporate techniques and materials that maximize energy efficiency;

promote and develop standards for the retrofit of existing buildings to incorporate architectural features, heating and cooling, water, energy, and other design elements that improve their environmental sustainability and reduce GHG; require all new County facilities and the renovation and expansion of existing County buildings to meet identified "green building" programs; require new development to reduce the energy impacts from new buildings; and encourage energy conservation and efficiency in existing development through energy efficiency audits and adoption of energy saving measures.

Goal COS-17 applies to sustainable solid waste management and is accomplished through policies COS-17.1 through COS-17.8, which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and future landfill capacity needs through reduction, reuse, or recycling of all types of solid waste that is generated; require recycling, reduction and reuse of construction and demolition debris; require landfills to use waste management and disposal techniques; encourage composting throughout the County; require that all new land development projects include space for recycling containers; improve the County's rate of recycling by expanding solid waste recycling programs; and continue programs to educate industry and the public regarding the need and methods for waste reduction, recycling, and reuse.

#### *2.14.2.11 Alpine CPU Policies*

The Alpine CPU includes a description of infrastructure and services in Section 2.6 of the Land Use element. The section describes utilities including water, wastewater, electricity, and gas; however, no goals and policies are applicable to utilities and service systems within the Alpine CPU.

### 2.14.3 Analysis of Project Effects and Determination as to Significance

The County's Guidelines for Determining Significance do not include significance thresholds or guidance for determining significance for impacts on utilities and service systems. Therefore, the impact analysis that follows relies on the thresholds provided in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. Based on guidance provided in Appendix G, the proposed project would result in a significant impact if it would:

- Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.
- (a) Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; or (b) substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits are granted).
- Result in a determination by the wastewater provider which serves or may serve the project area that it has inadequate capacity to service the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.
- Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.
- Not comply with federal, State and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

### 2.14.3.1 Issue 1: Require New or Expanded Utility Facilities

#### Guidelines for the Determination of Significance Analysis

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.

#### Impact Analysis

The prior EIRs determined that future development would result in an increased need for water and wastewater treatment services and require the construction of new and expanded water and wastewater treatment facilities that could result in significant environmental effects. In addition, the prior EIRs determined that future development would increase the area of impermeable surfaces, thereby increasing the amount of stormwater runoff that could exceed the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems and require the construction of new or expanded facilities that could result in significant environmental effects. However, it was determined that the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact on water or wastewater treatment facilities or stormwater drainage systems. The discussion of impacts related to these facilities from implementation of the General Plan and FCI GPA can be found in Sections 2.16 and 2.17, *Utilities and Service Systems*, of the prior EIRs and is incorporated by reference. Impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of mitigation measures and General Plan policies.

The proposed project would re-designate the land use designations within four of seven subareas of the Alpine CPA. Subareas 2, 4, and 6 would result in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the prior EIRs. Under the proposed project, approximately 6,078 housing units could be developed at buildout within the seven subareas, which represents an increase of approximately 2,013 housing units from what could be developed under the current General Plan. To accommodate this additional development, the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities could be required. The following discusses the potential need for each of these facilities, and whether their relocation or construction could result in significant environmental effects.

##### *Water Distribution Facilities*

Future development associated with the proposed project would increase the demand for potable water from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. As discussed in Section 2.15.1.2, *Potable Water Systems,* the majority of the Alpine CPA (approximately 81 percent) is not within the SDCWA service boundary and is therefore entirely dependent on groundwater. Within the Alpine CPU area, the Padre Dam Municipal Water District, which purchases water from the SDCWA, serves Subareas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7, as well as a small portion of Subarea 5. Buildout of the proposed project would result in an additional 2,013 potential housing units within the Padre Dam Municipal Water District service boundary, which would require connections to existing water distribution lines. Subareas 2, 4, and 6 would experience an increase in density, while Subarea 5 would experience a decrease, and therefore would not impact groundwater dependency.

## Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Because potable water is provided by public utility providers, and not the County, any necessary improvements would be outside of the County's authority. Any future water infrastructure projects needed to serve development associated with the proposed project would be subject to environmental review pursuant to CEQA under the responsibility of the applicable utility provider.

## Summary

The proposed project would re-designated existing land uses throughout seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Activities associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded water distribution facilities could result in significant environmental impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. The program-level impacts of expanded infrastructure are addressed in the relevant sections of this SEIR. Environmental review of utility infrastructure projects would be conducted by the utility providers and agencies directly responsible for the approval and construction of new or expanded facilities. Any mitigation measures needed to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of these facilities would be implemented by these utility providers and agencies.

Because the proposed project would allow for a greater number of housing units requiring water service connections compared to the current General Plan, potential significant impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded water distribution facilities would be more severe than those identified in the prior EIRs and would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-1**).

### *Wastewater Facilities*

Future development associated with the proposed project would increase the demand for wastewater treatment from what was anticipated in the prior EIRs. As described in Section 2.15.1.1, *Wastewater Services*, the Alpine CPA is served by the San Diego County Sanitation District. This District is composed of eight unincorporated communities including Alpine and Lakeside. Proposed project changes outside of the service boundaries, such as in portions of Subareas 4 and 7, for this sanitation district, would rely on septic systems for wastewater.

The proposed project would increase the number of potential dwelling units within the District service boundary (Subareas 2 and 6) from what was anticipated in the prior EIRs. This would further increase the demand for wastewater services from the district and would likely require connections from new development to existing wastewater pipes, as well as upsizing of existing wastewater conveyance pipes. In addition, any future development that would occur outside of the District boundaries, such as in Subareas 4 and 7, would rely on septic systems unless substantial infrastructure improvements are completed to provide service connections to these areas and increase the capacity of the sewer pumps that convey wastewater to the Metropolitan Wastewater System. The construction of any new septic systems to service future development would require the installation of septic tanks and leach lines.

## Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Residential land uses with a density of SR-1 or higher would potentially necessitate a need for sewer service, with the area required for septic systems dependent on groundwater depths, soils, topography, and other landscape factors. As such, infrastructure improvements would be required to reach the full development potential in Subarea 4 allowed under the proposed project. To provide sewer service to this

subarea, annexation to the District would be required for any future connections to the district. Like water districts, annexation to any sanitation district would first be subject to the LAFCO annexation process. At this programmatic level of analysis, it is unknown whether future development within Subarea 4 would be annexed to the district.

## Summary

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Activities associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater facilities could result in significant environmental impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. The program-level impacts of expanded infrastructure are addressed in the relevant sections of this SEIR. Environmental review of utility infrastructure projects would be conducted by the utility providers and agencies directly responsible for the approval and construction of new or expanded facilities. Any mitigation measures needed to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of these facilities would be implemented by these utility providers and agencies.

Because the proposed project would allow for a greater number of housing units requiring wastewater services compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, potential significant impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater facilities would be more severe than those identified in the prior EIRs and would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-1**).

### *Stormwater Drainage Facilities*

The Alpine CPA is generally rural in nature and does not contain large areas of impervious surfaces typically found in more urbanized communities. Future development associated with the proposed project would have the potential to alter existing drainages and hydrology or increase the amount of impermeable surfaces within the Alpine CPA, thereby increasing the volume or rate of stormwater runoff. Future development would be required to incorporate such design elements as storm drains, ditches, swales, or other means of conveying runoff. However, any runoff would be required to be treated prior to being discharged from the site in accordance with County WPO and Regional MS4 requirements. In addition, redevelopment of currently developed areas could require the relocation of existing storm drains.

## Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Development projects in the County must comply with the County Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance (WPO) in order to receive project approval. The WPO is the County's implementing ordinance for the applicable stormwater regulations within the County, including the Regional MS4 Permit requirements. This regulation requires development projects to demonstrate that they have provided stormwater facilities sized appropriately to accommodate runoff flows. The WPO also contains discharge prohibitions and requirements that vary depending on the type of land use activity proposed and its location within the County.

## Summary

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated

in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Activities associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded stormwater drainage facilities could result in significant environmental impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. Environmental review of utility infrastructure projects would be conducted by the utility providers and agencies directly responsible for the approval and construction of new or expanded facilities. Any mitigation measures needed to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of these facilities would be implemented by these utility providers and agencies.

Because future development would be intensified compared to the current General Plan, thereby increasing the number of impervious surfaces, potential significant impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded stormwater drainage facilities would be more severe than those identified in the prior EIRs and would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-1**).

### *Electricity and Natural Gas Distribution*

The Alpine CPA is within the service boundary of SDG&E, which provides electricity and natural gas throughout San Diego County. The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA.

### Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Future development associated with the proposed project would require connections to existing electrical and natural gas transmissions lines. It should be noted that, because electricity and natural gas services are provided by public utility providers, and not the County, any necessary improvements would be outside of the County's authority.

### Summary

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Activities associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded electricity and natural gas facilities could result in significant environmental impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. The program-level impacts of expanded infrastructure are addressed in the relevant sections of this SEIR. It should be noted that electricity and gas services are provided by various public and private utility providers/companies, and therefore are outside of the County's authority. As such, environmental review of utility infrastructure projects would be conducted by the utility providers and agencies directly responsible for the approval and construction of new or expanded facilities. Any mitigation measures needed to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of these facilities would be implemented by these utility providers and agencies.

Because the proposed project would allow for a greater number of housing units requiring electricity and natural gas service connections compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, potential significant impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded electrical and natural gas transmission lines would be more severe than those identified in the prior EIRs and would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-1**).

### *Telecommunications Facilities*

The prior EIRs did not analyze potential impacts associated with telecommunication facilities. Telecommunication services are currently provided within the Alpine CPA by various private utility companies. The proposed project would increase density throughout three of seven subareas, resulting in an increase in population that would utilize local cellular towers.

## Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Future development associated with the proposed project would require connections to existing communications infrastructure (i.e., telephone and internet). It should be noted that, because telecommunication services are provided by private utility companies, and not the County, any necessary improvements would be outside of the County's authority.

The General Plan includes several policies within its Land Use Element, Housing Element, and Conservation Element that would reduce the potential for proposed land uses and development associated with the proposed project to result in significant environmental effects associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. These policies are presented in Section 2.14.2.10, above.

In addition, the prior EIRs identified several mitigation measures addressing impacts associated with new or expanded utilities that would be applicable to the proposed project.

## Summary

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Activities associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded telecommunication facilities could result in significant environmental impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. The program-level impacts of expanded infrastructure are addressed in the relevant sections of this SEIR. It should be noted that telecommunications services are provided by various public and private utility providers/companies, and therefore are outside of the County's authority. As such, environmental review of utility infrastructure projects would be conducted by the utility providers and agencies directly responsible for the approval and construction of new or expanded facilities. Any mitigation measures needed to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of these facilities would be implemented by these utility providers and agencies. As discussed above, because the proposed project would allow for a greater number of housing units requiring utility service connections compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, the proposed project would result in new or more severe impacts than those identified in the prior EIRs. The prior EIRs did not analyze potential impacts associated with telecommunication facilities, and potential impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded telecommunications facilities would be considered a new **potentially significant** impact of the proposed project (**Impact-UTIL-1**).

### 2.14.3.2 Issue 2: Lack of Adequate Water Supplies

#### Guidelines for the Determination of Significance Analysis

According to Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would:

- Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; or
- Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits are granted).

#### Impact Analysis

The prior EIRs determined that implementation of the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA could result in future development with inadequate water supplies, and the combined effect of the impacts related to obtaining additional water supplies, the uncertainties inherent in obtaining those supplies, and construction impacts related to extraction, processing, and/or conveyance of additional water supply leads would be potentially significant. In addition, the prior EIRs concluded that the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA would have the potential to result in a cumulative impact on water supplies. Although implementation of General Plan policies and mitigation measures and compliance with applicable regulations would reduce the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA's project-level and cumulative impacts to the extent feasible, impacts on water supplies were concluded to be significant and unavoidable.

Within the Alpine CPA, potable water is primarily obtained by importing water from water districts or pumping water from local groundwater basins. The central-western portion of the Alpine CPA is within the SDCWA service boundary, while the remainder of the Alpine CPA is groundwater dependent. Within the Alpine CPU area, Subareas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 as well as a small portion of Subarea 5 are within the SDCWA service boundary. As shown in Figures 2.14-2a and 2b, a majority of Subarea 5 is outside of the Padre Dam Municipal Water District service boundary.

Although buildout of the proposed project would result in an additional 2,013 potential housing units within the Padre Dam Municipal Water District service boundary, all future development would be required to obtain will serve letters from the water district prior to getting approved. Additionally, future projects that meet the definition of a water demand project, as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15155, would be required to obtain a water supply assessment from the governing body of a public water system (i.e., water district) that demonstrates available water supplies are available.

##### *San Diego County Water Authority Member Agencies*

Future development associated with the proposed project would increase the demand for potable water from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. In terms of accounting for the proposed project, water demand projections in the Padre Dam Municipal Water District's 2015 UWMP were based on SANDAG's Series 13 Forecast, which anticipates future growth through 2050 based on local jurisdictions' current general plans. The proposed project involves a comprehensive update to the current Alpine Community Plan and would re-designate land uses within four of seven subareas throughout the Alpine CPA. As such, the proposed project was not included in the growth assumptions of SANDAG's Series

13 Forecast. Consequently, the proposed project is not currently accounted for in Padre Dam Municipal Water District's water supply and demand projections in its 2015 UWMP for normal, single-year, or multiple-year dry scenarios. Table 2.14-3 identifies Padre Dam Municipal Water District's updated existing and projected water demand and estimated supply between 2020 and 2040 under normal and dry year weather conditions based on the Series 13 Forecast. As shown in Table 2.14-3, future demand would be met by the supply in each 5-year increment through 2040 under normal year conditions. However, insufficient supplies would be available in 2040 under single-year dry conditions, 2035 under multiple-year dry (second year) conditions, and 2025 through 2035 under multiple-year dry (third year) conditions.

## Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Numerous federal, state, and local regulations exist to ensure adequate water supplies are available. These include the following: the California Water Code, which controls almost all considerations of water and its use; SB 610, which requires water supply assessments for large projects within cities and counties; SB 221, which requires proof of sufficient water supply for various projects; the Urban Water Management Planning Act, which requires that water suppliers ensure a reliable water supply; and the Water Conservation Projects Act, which encourages local agencies to implement potential water conservation and reclamation projects.

SB 610 mandates that a city or county request a water supply assessment from a public water purveyor for projects meeting the definition of a water demand project as enumerated in Water Code Section 10912. SB 610 requires that the water purveyor of the public water system prepare the water supply assessment for inclusion in CEQA documentation and the approval process for such projects. SB 221 requires affirmative written verification from the purveyor of the public water system that sufficient water supplies are planned to be available for certain residential subdivisions of property prior to approval of a tentative map. The County also requires that development projects proposing to use imported water provide availability and commitment letters demonstrating sufficient water resources and access to available water facilities. These regulatory requirements, in addition to those described above, would be imposed on all future development associated with the proposed project, as applicable.

## Summary

Because shortages have been identified in Padre Dam Municipal Water District's 2015 UWMP, and buildout of the proposed project would further increase the demand for potable water from the district from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, impacts on water supplies would be more severe than those identified in the prior EIRs and would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-2**).

### *Groundwater-Dependent Users*

The majority of the subareas (i.e., Subareas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7) are entirely within the SDCWA service boundary. However, a majority of Subarea 5 (approximately 94 percent) is outside of the Padre Dam Municipal Water District service boundary and therefore is entirely dependent on groundwater. Groundwater-dependent users (e.g., residences, commercial uses) are either served by on-site private wells or groundwater provided by a small water system such as a small water company or water district. However, no groundwater-dependent water districts serve the Alpine CPA, which means that all development outside of the SDCWA boundary relies on on-site private wells for groundwater.

Under the proposed project, Subareas 2, 4, and 6 would experience an increase in density, while Subarea 5 would experience a decrease in density. As stated above, Subareas 2, 4, and 6 are entirely within the SDCWA service boundary, and therefore the proposed project would not result in depletion of groundwater supplies or necessitate the installation of new groundwater wells.

### Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes

Numerous federal, state, and local regulations exist to ensure that adequate groundwater water supplies are available. These include the County of San Diego Groundwater Ordinance, County Code Section 67.701 et seq., and are identified in Section 2.14.2.4. In addition, the General Plan includes several policies within its Land Use Element and Conservation Element that would reduce the potential for proposed land uses and development associated with the proposed project to result in inadequate water supplies. These policies require land use densities to be consistent with the long-term sustainability of groundwater supplies, development to identify adequate groundwater resources, coordination of water infrastructure planning with land use planning, development to reduce the waste of potable water through use of efficient technologies, and use of native plant species and non-invasive drought tolerant/low water use plants in landscaping. These policies are described in Section 2.14.2, above, and include policies LU-8.1, LU-8.2, LU-13.1, LU-13.2, COS-4.1 through COS-4.4, COS-5.2, and COS-5.5. In addition, the prior EIRs identified several mitigation measures addressing impacts on water supplies that would be applicable to the proposed project, including USS-4.1 through USS-4.7.

### Summary

The proposed project would not increase the number of potential dwelling units in groundwater-dependent areas of the Alpine CPA from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA and would not increase development that could result in the depletion of groundwater supplies or necessitate the installation of new groundwater wells, which could result in environmental impacts. Impacts on groundwater supplies would be **less than significant**.

## *2.14.3.3 Issue 3: Lack of Adequate Wastewater Treatment Capacity*

### Guidelines for the Determination of Significance Analysis

According to Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would result in a determination by the wastewater provider that serves or may serve the project area that it has inadequate capacity to service the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.

### Impact Analysis

The prior EIRs determined that future development would result in increased demand on existing sewer systems due to increased wastewater flows from residential, commercial, and industrial land uses, resulting in a significant impact on wastewater facilities. However, it was determined that the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact on wastewater facilities. Impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of mitigation measures and General Plan policies.

The Alpine CPA is within the regulatory boundaries of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, which regulates wastewater discharge in the majority of the eastern, central, and western unincorporated County. The Alpine CPA is served by the Alpine and Lakeside Sanitation Districts; however, these districts only serve a small portion of the community.

Within the subareas, the San Diego County Sanitation District serves all or a portion of Subareas 1, 2, and 6, and a portion of Subareas 4 and 7. Proposed project changes outside of the service boundaries, such as in portions of Subareas 4 and 7, for this sanitation district would rely on septic systems for wastewater.

The proposed project would increase the number of potential dwelling units within the Sanitation District service boundary (Subareas 2 and 6) from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Under the current General Plan, approximately 4,065 potential housing units could be developed within the seven subareas. Under the proposed project, approximately 6,078 housing units could be developed at buildout within the project area, which represents an increase of approximately 2,013 housing units.

### *Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes*

The proposed project would increase the number of potential dwelling units within the Sanitation District service boundary from what was assumed in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, further increasing the demand for wastewater services from the district. In addition, any future development that would occur outside of the Sanitation District boundaries, such as in Subarea 4, would rely on septic systems unless substantial infrastructure improvements are completed to provide service connections to these areas and increase the capacity of the sewer pumps that convey wastewater to the Metropolitan Wastewater System. However, as described in detail under Issue 1 above, annexation to the Sanitation District would be required prior to completing any future connections to the sanitation district. Annexation to the sanitation district would first be subject to the LAFCO annexation process. At this programmatic level of analysis, it is unknown whether future development within Subarea 4 would be annexed to the sanitation district.

Additionally, the General Plan includes several policies within its Land Use Element and Conservation Element that would reduce the potential for proposed land uses and development associated with the proposed project to exceed wastewater treatment capacity by requiring new infrastructure, facilities, and services prior to development, providing adequate disposal of wastewater concurrent with the development, and prohibiting the extension of sewer systems and services beyond either Village boundaries or extant Urban Limit Lines. These include Policies LU-4.3, LU-9.4, LU-12.1, LU-12.2, and LU-14.1 through LU-14.4, which are presented in Section 2.14.2.10 above. Furthermore, the prior EIRs identified several mitigation measures addressing impacts on wastewater treatment capacity that would be applicable to the proposed project, including USS-1.1 through USS-1.3.

### *Summary*

Because the number of potential housing units would be greater under the proposed project, thereby increasing the amount of wastewater requiring treatment, potential impacts on wastewater treatment capacities would increase relative to those identified in the prior EIRs, and impacts would be significant. As such, the proposed project would cause a more severe significant impact on wastewater treatment capacities than those identified in the prior EIRs and impacts would be **potentially significant** (**Impact-UTIL-3**).

### 2.14.3.4 Issue 4: Lack of Sufficient Landfill Capacity

#### Guidelines for the Determination of Significance Analysis

According to Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

#### Impact Analysis

The prior EIRs determined that development of future land uses as designated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA would have the potential to be served by landfills with insufficient capacity to accommodate the future solid waste disposal needs if additional landfills are not constructed and existing landfills are not expanded, resulting in a significant impact. In addition, the prior EIRs concluded that the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA would have the potential to result in a cumulative impact on solid waste facilities. Although implementation of General Plan policies and mitigation measures would reduce the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA's project-level and cumulative impacts to the extent feasible, impacts on landfill capacity were concluded to be significant and unavoidable.

Buildout of the proposed project would generate an increase in the pounds per day of solid waste generated compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Despite the increase in solid waste generation, permitted capacity of the region's landfills is available through 2059 per the 2018 Integrated Waste Management Plan Five-Year Review Report, which is beyond the 30-year planning horizon for the proposed project.

#### *Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes*

Numerous federal, state, and local regulations exist to ensure adequate solid waste facilities are available. These include the Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) and AB 341, which regulate the management of solid waste within the state; Non-Exclusive Solid Waste Management Agreement, which regulates waste collection in a market driven business; and Integrated Waste Management Plan, which presents strategies to assist in the siting of solid waste disposal facilities.

The 2018 Integrated Waste Management Plan Five-Year Review Report (DPW 2017) determined that Countywide solid waste generation decreased by 13 percent between 2000 and 2010 but increased by 10 percent between 2010 and 2015. Countywide disposal was at its highest in 2005 at 4,037,762 tons and at its lowest in 2012 at 2,714,430 tons. As disposal decreased significantly from 2006 through 2010, so did Countywide per capita disposal rates. As disposal slowly rose in 2013 through 2015, per capita disposal rates rose as well. The purpose of the Five-Year Review Report is to plan for 15 years of Countywide landfill disposal capacity and to determine the feasibility of the region's planning documents. Using estimated remaining capacities provided by landfill operators, the current physical space available in the region's landfills is the equivalent of nearly 120,000,000 tons with the last landfill closure date projected in 2059. While permitted capacity is available through 2059, waste disposal is only projected through the state-mandated 15-year period of 2032. Based on the disposal projections in the Five-Year Review Report, as well as recycling requirements and program requirements, the County has sufficient landfill capacity to accommodate disposal for the next 15 years, and it was determined that no revisions to the Countywide Siting Element of the County's Integrated Waste Management Plan were required.

CalRecycle provides estimates of solid waste generation rates for different types of land uses. These rates estimate the amount of solid waste created by residences or businesses over a specified amount of time.

Waste generation includes all materials discarded, regardless of whether they are later recycled or disposed in a landfill (CalRecycle 2019). The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, generally resulting in an increase in density compared to the current General Plan. The proposed project would allow for up to 6,078 housing units to be developed within the project area, which represents an increase of approximately 2,013 housing units from what could be developed under the current General Plan. This increase in potential housing units would generate solid waste that would need to be disposed of at regional landfills. Table 2.14-5 provides a comparison of the estimated solid waste generation between the current General Plan and the proposed project.

**Table 2.14-5. Estimated Solid Waste Generation**

| Land Use Type | Unit | Waste Generation Rate (lbs/unit/day) | Current General Plan (lbs/day) | Alpine CPU (lbs/day) | Net Change (lbs/day) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Single-Family Residential | Dwelling Unit | 10 | 16,670 | 20,460 | 3,790 |
| Multi-Family Residential | Dwelling Unit | 4 | 9,592 | 16,128 | 6,536 |
| Commercial/Retail | Square Footage | 0.046 | 458,898 | 502,469 | 43,571 |
| Industrial | Square Footage | 0.006 | 4,912 | 4,912 | 0 |
| | | **Total** | **490,072** | **543,969** | **53,897** |

lbs = pound
Source: CalRecycle 2019

Furthermore, the General Plan includes several policies within its Land Use Element that would further reduce the potential for proposed land uses and development associated with the Alpine CPU to generate solid waste in excess of standards or capacity by requiring new infrastructure, facilities, and services prior to development; diversion of solid waste from landfills; siting new solid waste management facilities in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts; and encouraging composting. These include policies LU-12.1 and LU-12.2, which are described above in Section 2.14.3.3, as well as policies LU-16.1 through LU-16.3 and LU-17.1 through LU-17.8 presented in Section 2.14.2.10 above.

The determination from the 2018 Integrated Waste Management Plan Five-Year Report (County DPW 2017) would be considered new information that was not known at the time the prior EIRs were certified. In addition, future development associated with the proposed project would be required to demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, including AB 341 and the County's Integrated Waste Management Plan.

### *Summary*

Sufficient landfill capacity is available to serve the proposed project. In addition, future development associated with the proposed project would be required to demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, including AB 341 and the County's Integrated Waste Management Plan. Accordingly, this impact would be less severe than the impact identified in the prior EIRs and would be **less than significant**.

### 2.14.3.5 Issue 5: Violate Solid Waste Regulations

#### Guidelines for the Determination of Significance Analysis

The proposed project would have a significant impact if it would not comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

#### Impact Analysis

The prior EIRs determined that future development would result in less than significant impacts due to mandatory compliance with federal, state, and local regulations; compliance with existing County regulatory processes; and implementation of the General Plan goals and policies.

While buildout of the proposed project would increase solid waste generation from what was anticipated in the current General Plan, future development would be required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

##### *Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes*

As discussed above under Issue 4, numerous federal, state, and local regulations exist to ensure adequate solid waste facilities are available. These include the Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) and AB 341, which regulate the management of solid waste within the state; the Non-Exclusive Solid Waste Management Agreement, which regulates waste collection in a market driven business; and the Integrated Waste Management Plan, which presents strategies to assist in the siting of solid waste disposal facilities.

##### *Summary*

Compliance with the above regulations is mandatory; therefore, impacts would be similar to those in the prior EIRs, and **less than significant.**

## 2.14.4 Cumulative Impact Analysis

The geographic scope of the cumulative impact analysis for utilities includes the communities surrounding the Alpine CPA, whose population is served by many individual utility providers with specific service areas. These include the adjacent CPAs of Lakeside, Crest-Dehesa, Central Mountain (including the Descanso and Pine Valley Subregions), Jamul-Dulzura, and Mountain Empire, as well as any tribal lands within the Alpine CPA and these communities.

### 2.14.4.1 Issue 1: Require New or Expanded Utility Facilities

Cumulative projected growth within the cumulative study area would result in an increase in development, increasing the demand for water, wastewater treatment, electricity and natural gas, and telecommunications services. An increase in the demand for these services has the potential to require or result in the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects. It should be noted that water, electricity and natural gas, and telecommunications services are provided by various public and private utility providers/companies (e.g., SDG&E, Verizon, Padre Dam Municipal Water District) and therefore are outside of the County's authority. In addition, any future community plan updates for the CPAs within the cumulative study that propose increases in density would have the potential to further increase the demand for utility services from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. The provision of utility infrastructure to meet this demand could cause significant environmental effects on air quality, biological resources,

cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and traffic. Furthermore, cumulative growth and development in tribal lands, which are outside of the County's jurisdiction, would also increase the demand for utility services within the cumulative study area.

This growth would also result in an increase in impervious surfaces from development that would increase stormwater runoff volumes. To effectively manage the increased runoff, the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or the expansion of existing facilities would be required, the construction of which could result in significant environmental effects. Most future water, wastewater treatment, stormwater infrastructure, electricity and natural gas distribution, and telecommunications projects would be required to conduct environmental review pursuant to CEQA. To the extent feasible, significant environmental impacts would be mitigated to below a level of significance. However, any future water distribution, electricity and natural gas distribution, and/or telecommunications projects needed to serve cumulative growth and development would be implemented by the respective utility provider, and not the County. As such, environmental review for these projects would be conducted by the applicable utility provider, and mitigation of any significant environmental impacts would be under their responsibility. In addition, cumulative projects would be required to comply with the same regulations described under Issue 1 in Section 2.14.3.1 above, which would also reduce the potential for significant impacts to occur. However, because it cannot be guaranteed that impacts could be reduced below a level of significance, there is a potential that the relocation or construction of utilities to accommodate future growth and development within the cumulative study area could result in cumulatively significant impacts.

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Future development associated with the proposed project would require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities that could cause significant environmental effects, resulting in a more severe impact. Although implementation of the General Plan policies and prior EIRs mitigation measures would reduce this impact, it cannot be guaranteed that impacts would be reduced below a level of significance because the specific details of future utility infrastructure projects are not currently known, and the relocation or construction of new or expanded utilities is under the purview of utility providers and agencies, not the County. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with new or expanded utilities would be more severe than the contribution identified in the prior EIRs and would be a **potentially significant cumulative impact** (**Impact-C-UTIL-1**).

### 2.14.4.2 Issue 2: Lack of Adequate Water Supplies

Cumulative projected growth within the cumulative study area would result in an increase in development that would increase the demand for potable water supplies. Similar to the proposed project, any future community plan updates for the CPAs within the cumulative study that propose increases in density would have the potential to further increase the demand for potable water from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Furthermore, cumulative growth and development in tribal lands, which are outside of the County's jurisdiction, would also increase the demand for water supplies. Some of these tribal lands would draw groundwater from the same sources as other groundwater users in the Alpine CPA, which could further deplete groundwater supplies in the cumulative study area depending on the extent of the growth in the tribal lands.

Many water districts that would serve cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study area have prepared and adopted UWMPs and/or other planning documents including

supply and demand projections and procurement strategies to ensure a reliable water supply exists to meet the projected demand within the region. The water supply and demand projections in UWMPs are based on SANDAG's growth forecasts, which anticipate future growth based on the adopted land use plans of local jurisdictions. As a result, the UWMPs only account for the land use plans that have been adopted at the time of their preparation. While these plans account for projected growth to the extent feasible, it is difficult to ensure sufficient long-term water supplies are available due to climate change, drought, and other factors, as acknowledged in the UWMPs. In addition, any future community plan updates within the cumulative study area would not have been accounted for in the UWMP in place at the time. Therefore, cumulative projected growth and development would have the potential to increase the demand for potable water in the region in a manner that exceeds projected supplies. On an individual project basis, future cumulative projects that meet the definition of a water demand project, as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15155, would be required to obtain a water supply assessment from the governing body of a public water system (i.e., water district) that demonstrates available water supplies are available. It should be noted, however, that this provision only applies to city and county governments and the projects within their jurisdictions. Therefore, tribal lands are excluded from this requirement. Although laws and regulations such as the California Water Code, SB 610, SB 221, Urban Water Management Planning Act, Water Conservation Projects Act, and County Groundwater Ordinance, are intended to reduce impacts on water supply, and cumulative impacts from future growth and development would be significant due to the uncertainty of long-term water supply availability.

The proposed project would increase density beyond what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, resulting in additional growth and development. Because this growth would not have been accounted for in the current water supply and demand projections of Padre Dam Municipal Water District's 2015 UWMP, which identified shortages under certain long-term scenarios, the proposed project would further strain local water supplies. As such, the proposed project would result in a more severe impact on water supplies. Similar to cumulative projects, future projects associated with the proposed project that meet the definition of a water demand project, as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15155, would be required to obtain a water supply assessment from Padre Dam Municipal Water District that demonstrates adequate water supplies are available. However, because Padre Dam Municipal Water District has potential to experience shortages under long-term scenarios, future development associated with the proposed project, when combined with cumulative growth and development within Padre Dam Municipal Water District's service boundary, could inhibit the agency's ability to meet water demand and further contribute to potential long-term water supply shortages. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to this impact would be a **potentially significant cumulative impact** and would be considered a more severe cumulative impact of the proposed project (**Impact-C-UTIL-2**).

### 2.14.4.3 Issue 3: Lack of Adequate Wastewater Treatment Capacity

Cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study area would increase demand for wastewater facilities, potentially to the point that the wastewater provider has inadequate capacity to serve the projected demand. Therefore, cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study area would likely require new wastewater facilities, the construction of which could have significant environmental impacts. However, development of most new facilities would be subject to CEQA review and would be required to mitigate environmental impacts to below a level of significance, to the extent feasible. Additionally, multiple federal, state, and local regulations pertain to the construction and operation of wastewater facilities, such as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and Uniform Sewer Ordinance. Therefore, cumulative impacts from future growth and development would not be significant.

The Alpine CPA is served by the San Diego County Sanitation District; however, this district only serves a portion of the Alpine CPA. The Sanitation District serves all or a portion of Subareas 1, 2, and 6, and a portion of Subareas 4 and 7. The proposed project would increase the number of potential dwelling units within the Sanitation District service boundary from what was assumed in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, further increasing the demand for wastewater services from the district. In addition, any future development occurring outside of the Sanitation District boundaries, such as in Subarea 4, would rely on septic systems unless substantial infrastructure improvements are completed. However, annexation to the Sanitation District would be required prior to completing any future connections to the sanitation district. Annexation to the sanitation district would first be subject to the LAFCO annexation process. At this programmatic level of analysis, it is unknown whether future development within Subarea 4 would be annexed to the sanitation district. As a result, the proposed project would cause a more severe significant impact on wastewater treatment capacities. However, for the reasons described above, implementation of the General Plan policies and prior EIRs mitigation measures would reduce this impact to **less than significant**. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with wastewater treatment capacity would be similar to those identified in the prior EIRs and **would not be a potentially significant cumulative impact**.

### 2.14.4.4 Issue 4: Lack of Sufficient Landfill Capacity

Cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study area would increase solid waste disposal and management demands that would need to be accommodated by existing landfills in the region. The 2018 Integrated Waste Management Plan Five-Year Report (County DPW 2017) determined that the County has sufficient landfill capacity through 2059, and no revisions to the Countywide Siting Element were necessary. As such, the existing regional landfill facilities have the capacity to accommodate the solid waste disposal needs of future growth and development within the cumulative study area. Therefore, cumulative growth and development would have a less than significant cumulative impact on landfill capacity due to the existing remaining capacity of the active landfills.

The proposed project would allow up to 6,078 housing units to be developed within the subareas, which represents an increase of approximately 2,013 housing units from what could be developed under the current General Plan. This increase in potential housing units would generate solid waste that would need to be disposed of at regional landfills. However, as noted above, permitted capacity of the region's landfills is available through 2059, and recycling requirements and programs would also help reduce solid waste. In addition, future development associated with the proposed project would be required to demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local regulations in regard to recycling and waste diversion. Therefore, this impact would be less severe than the impact identified in the prior EIRs and **would not be a potentially significant cumulative impact**.

### 2.14.4.5 Issue 5: Violate Solid Waste Regulations

Cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study would be required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Future development on tribal lands would be subject only to federal and tribal regulations, unless solid waste was transported off tribal lands, which would then be required to comply with state and local laws and regulations. Therefore, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure that cumulative projected growth and development within the cumulative study area would result in a less than significant cumulative impact.

While buildout of the proposed project would increase total solid waste generation from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, future development would be required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, because compliance with these regulations is mandatory, impacts would be similar to the prior EIRs and **would not be a potentially significant cumulative impact**.

## 2.14.5 Significance of Impacts Prior to Mitigation

The proposed project would result in potentially significant direct and cumulative impacts related to requiring new or expanded utility facilities and water supply resulting in environmental impacts. The proposed project would also result in a potentially significant direct impact related to lack of adequate wastewater treatment capacity.

**Impact UTIL-1: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.** The proposed project would cause more severe potentially significant impacts related to expanded utility facilities compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. This would be considered a significant impact.

**Impact UTIL-2: Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; or (b) substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level.** The proposed project would cause more severe potentially significant impacts related to adequate water supplies compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. This would be considered a significant impact.

**Impact UTIL-3: Result in a determination by the wastewater provider which serves or may serve the project area that it has inadequate capacity to service the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.** The proposed project would cause more severe potentially significant impacts related to wastewater treatment capacity compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. This would be considered a significant impact.

**Impact C-UTIL-1: Result in a Cumulatively Considerable Contribution Associated With the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.** The proposed project would cause more severe potentially significant impacts related to expanded utility facilities compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Therefore, the project's contribution to this impact would be cumulatively considerable.

**Impact C-UTIL-2: Result in a Cumulatively Considerable Contribution Associated With insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; or (b) substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level.** The proposed project would cause more severe potentially significant impacts related to adequate water supplies compared to the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Therefore, the project's contribution to this impact would be cumulatively considerable.

## 2.14.6 Mitigation

### *2.14.6.1 Issue 1: Require New or Expanded Utility Facilities*

As discretionary projects are submitted, CEQA review would be completed, which may require a formal study that would analyze impacts and identify project-specific mitigation measures to reduce impacts. In addition, the following prior EIRs mitigation measures, in combination with the General Plan policies, would help reduce impacts **Impact-UTIL-1** and **Impact-C-UTIL-1**, but not below a level of significance. Therefore, these impacts would be **significant and unavoidable**.

#### 2011 General Plan and FCI EIR Mitigation Measures

The following prior EIRs mitigation measures are being carried forward and shall apply to the proposed project: USS-2.1 through USS-2.3, USS-3.1 through USS-3.5, and USS-8.1 through USS-8.3 (see Appendix B, General Plan EIR Mitigation Measures). Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce the proposed project's impacts.

#### Alpine Community Plan Update Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures have been identified specific to the Alpine CPA.

### *2.14.6.2 Issue 2: Lack of Adequate Water Supplies*

As discretionary projects are submitted, CEQA review would be completed, which may require a formal study that would analyze impacts and identify project-specific mitigation measures to reduce impacts. In addition, the following prior EIRs mitigation measures, in combination with the General Plan policies, would help reduce impacts **Impact-UTIL-2** and **Impact-C-UTIL-2**, but not below a level of significance. Therefore, these impacts would be **significant and unavoidable.** The proposed project would result in a potentially significant impact associated with inadequate water supplies. For the reasons described, and with implementation of the prior EIRs mitigation measures listed below, in combination with the General Plan policies, **Impact-UTIL-2** and **Impact-C-UTIL-2** would be reduced but not below a level of significance. Therefore, these impacts would be **significant and unavoidable**.

#### 2011 General Plan and FCI EIR Mitigation Measures

The following prior EIRs mitigation measures are being carried forward and shall apply to the proposed project: USS-4.1 through USS-4.7 (see Appendix B, General Plan EIR Mitigation Measures). Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce the proposed project's impacts.

#### Alpine Community Plan Update Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures have been identified specific to the Alpine CPA.

### *2.14.6.3 Issue 3: Lack of Adequate Wastewater Treatment Capacity*

As discretionary projects are submitted, CEQA review would be completed, which may require a formal study that would analyze impacts and identify project-specific mitigation measures to reduce impacts. In addition, the following prior EIRs mitigation measures, in combination with the General Plan policies, would reduce impact **Impact-UTIL-3** to **less than significant**.

### 2011 General Plan and FCI EIR Mitigation Measures

The following prior EIRs mitigation measures are being carried forward and shall apply to the proposed project: USS-1.1 through USS-1.3**,** (see Appendix B, General Plan EIR Mitigation Measures). Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce the proposed project's impacts.

### Alpine Community Plan Update Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures have been identified specific to the Alpine CPA.

#### *2.14.6.4 Issue 4: Lack of Sufficient Landfill Capacity*

The proposed project would result in **less than significant** impacts to landfill capacity and therefore no mitigation is proposed.

#### *2.14.6.5 Issue 5: Violate Solid Waste Regulations*

The proposed project would result in **less than significant** impacts in regard to solid waste regulations and therefore no mitigation is proposed.

## 2.14.7 Conclusion

#### *2.14.7.1 Issue 1: Require New or Expanded Utility Facilities*

The proposed project would re-designate existing land uses within four of seven subareas in the Alpine CPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout from what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA. Future development associated with the proposed project would require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, and/or telecommunications facilities that could cause significant environmental effects, resulting in a more severe significant impact (**Impact-UTIL-1**). In addition, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with new or expanded utilities would be more severe than the contribution identified in the prior EIRs and would be cumulatively considerable (**Impact-C-UTIL-1**). Implementation of the General Plan policies would reduce impacts, but not below a level of significance because the relocation or construction of new or expanded utilities would be under the purview of utility providers and/or agencies, and not the County. As a result, it cannot be guaranteed that impacts associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded utilities would be reduced to less than significant. Therefore, after mitigation, **Impact-UTIL-1** and **Impact-C-UTIL-1** would be more severe than the impacts identified in the prior EIRs and would be **significant and unavoidable and cumulatively considerable**.

#### *2.14.7.2 Issue 2: Lack of Adequate Water Supplies*

The proposed project would increase density beyond what was anticipated in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, resulting in an increase in density and potential housing units at buildout. Because this growth would not have been accounted for in the water supply and demand projections of Padre Dam Municipal Water District's 2015 UWMP, which identified shortages under certain long-term scenarios, the proposed project would further strain local water supplies. As such, the proposed project would result in a more severe significant impact on water supplies (**Impact-UTIL-2**). When combined with future growth and development, particularly that which occurs within Padre Dam Municipal Water District's service boundary, the proposed project's contribution to this impact would be cumulatively considerable and

would be considered a more severe significant cumulative impact of the proposed project (**Impact-C-UTIL-2**). Implementation of the General Plan policies and the prior EIRs mitigation measures would reduce the proposed project's impacts on water supplies, but not below a level of significance due to the uncertainty surrounding the availability of long-term water supplies to serve future development associated with the proposed project. Therefore, after mitigation, **Impact-UTIL-2** and **Impact-C-UTIL-2** would be more severe than the impacts identified in the prior EIRs and would be **significant and unavoidable and cumulatively considerable**.

### 2.14.7.3 Issue 3: Lack of Adequate Wastewater Treatment Capacity

The proposed project would increase the number of potential dwelling units within the San Diego County Sanitation District service boundary from what was assumed in the 2011 General Plan and FCI GPA, further increasing the demand for wastewater services from the district. In addition, any future development occurring outside of the Sanitation District boundaries, such as in Subarea 4, would rely on septic systems unless substantial infrastructure improvements are completed. However, annexation to the Sanitation District would be required prior to completing any future connections for Subarea 4 to the sanitation district. Annexation to the sanitation district would first be subject to the LAFCO annexation process. At this programmatic level of analysis, it is unknown whether future development within Subarea 4 would be annexed to the sanitation district. As a result, the proposed project would cause a more severe significant impact on wastewater treatment capacities (**Impact-UTIL-3**). However, for the reasons described above, implementation of the General Plan policies and the prior EIRs mitigation measures would reduce this impact to **less than significant**. In addition, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with wastewater treatment capacity would be similar to the contribution identified in the prior EIRs and **would not be cumulatively considerable**.

### 2.14.7.4 Issue 4: Lack of Sufficient Landfill Capacity

The proposed project would allow for an increase in potential housing units that would generate solid waste needing to be disposed of at regional landfills. However, permitted capacity of the region's landfills is available through 2059. In addition, future development associated with the proposed project would be required to demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local regulations related to recycling and waste diversion. Therefore, this impact would be less severe than the impact identified in the prior EIRs and project impacts would be **less than significant**. Similarly, the proposed project's impacts on landfill capacity **would not be cumulatively considerable**.

### 2.14.7.5 Issue 5: Violate Solid Waste Regulations

The proposed project would allow for an increase in potential housing units that would generate solid waste needing to be disposed of at regional landfills. Future development associated with the proposed project would be required to demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. Therefore, this impact would be less severe than the impact identified in prior EIRs. Project level impacts would be **less than significant**. Similarly, the proposed project's impacts on landfill capacity **would not be cumulatively considerable**.

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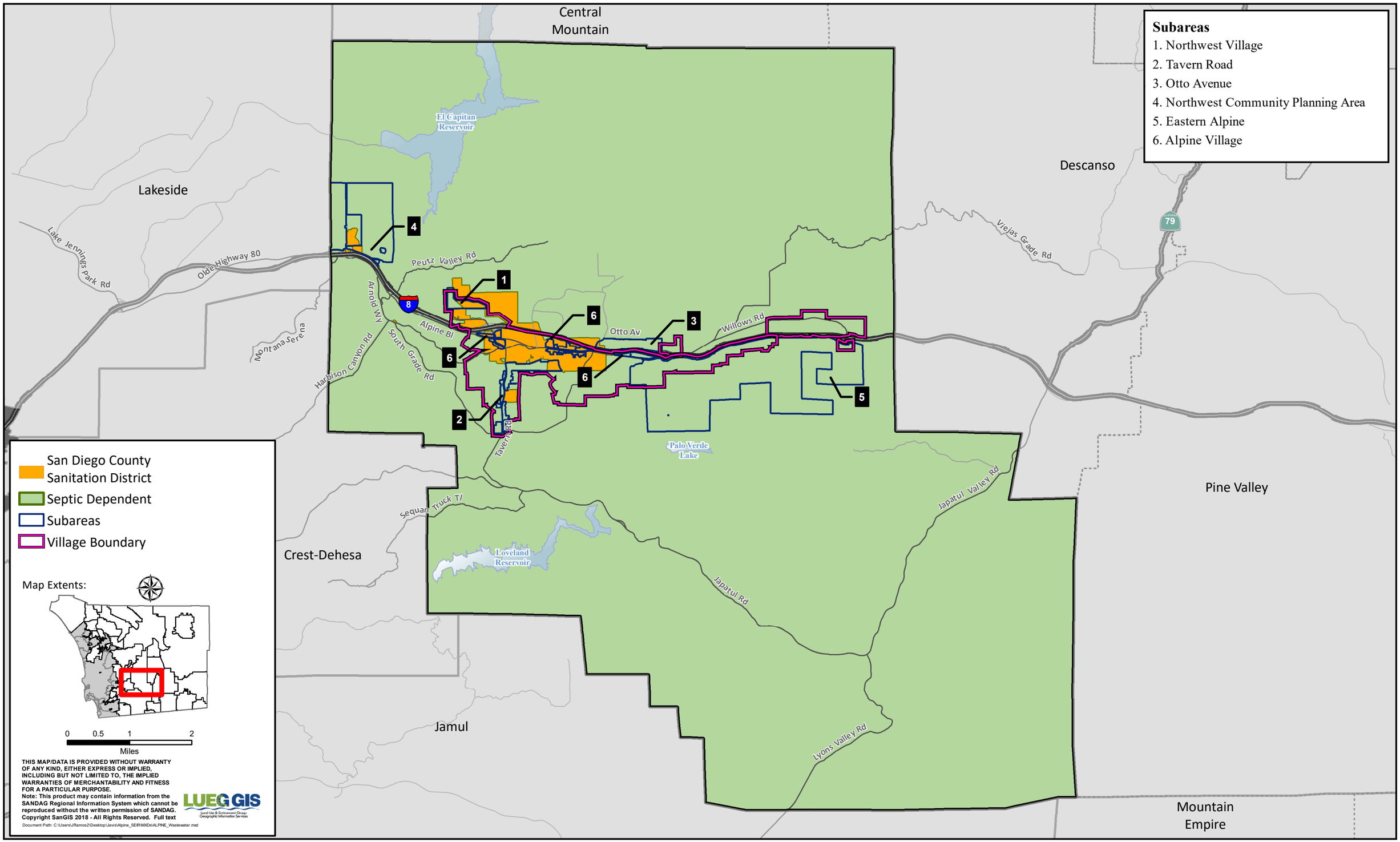
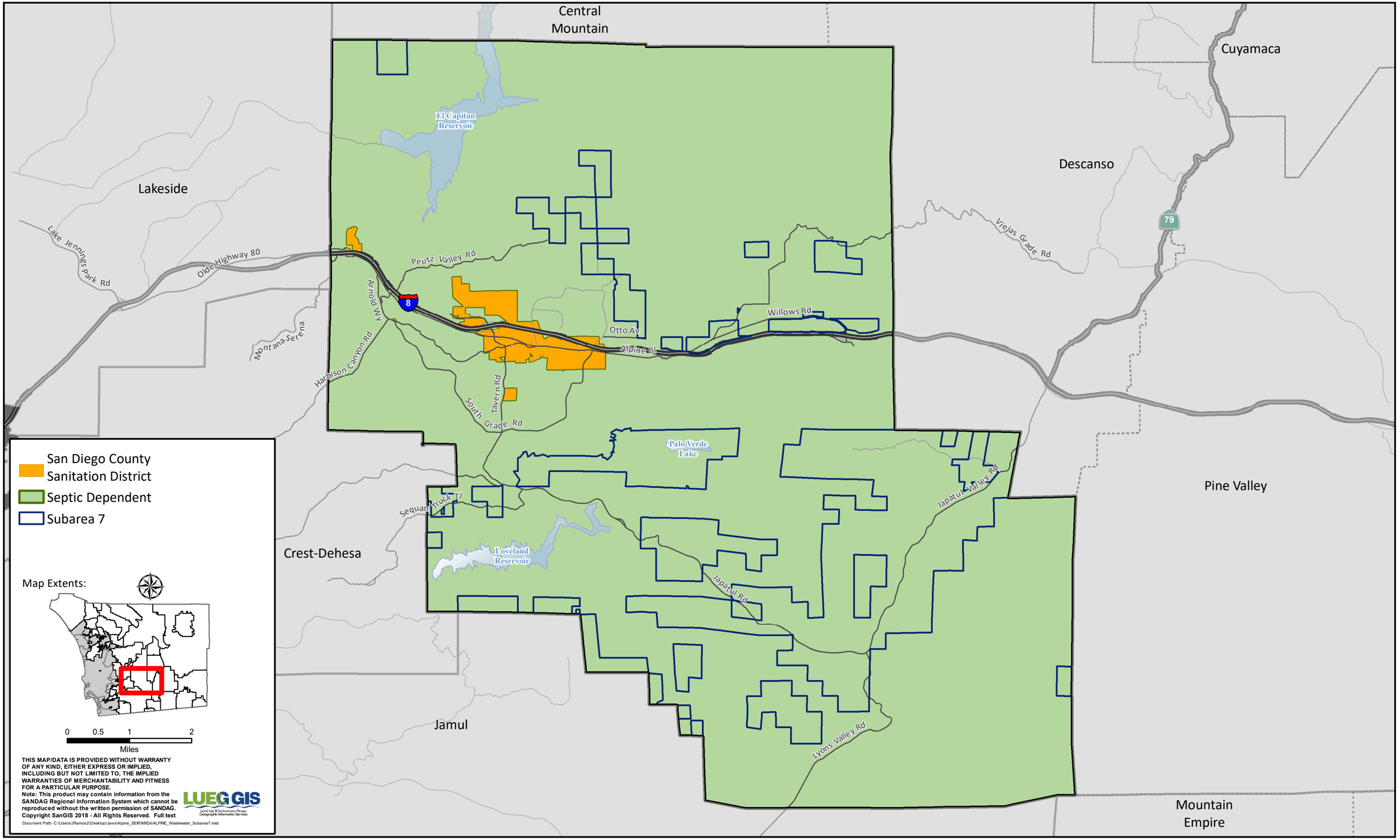


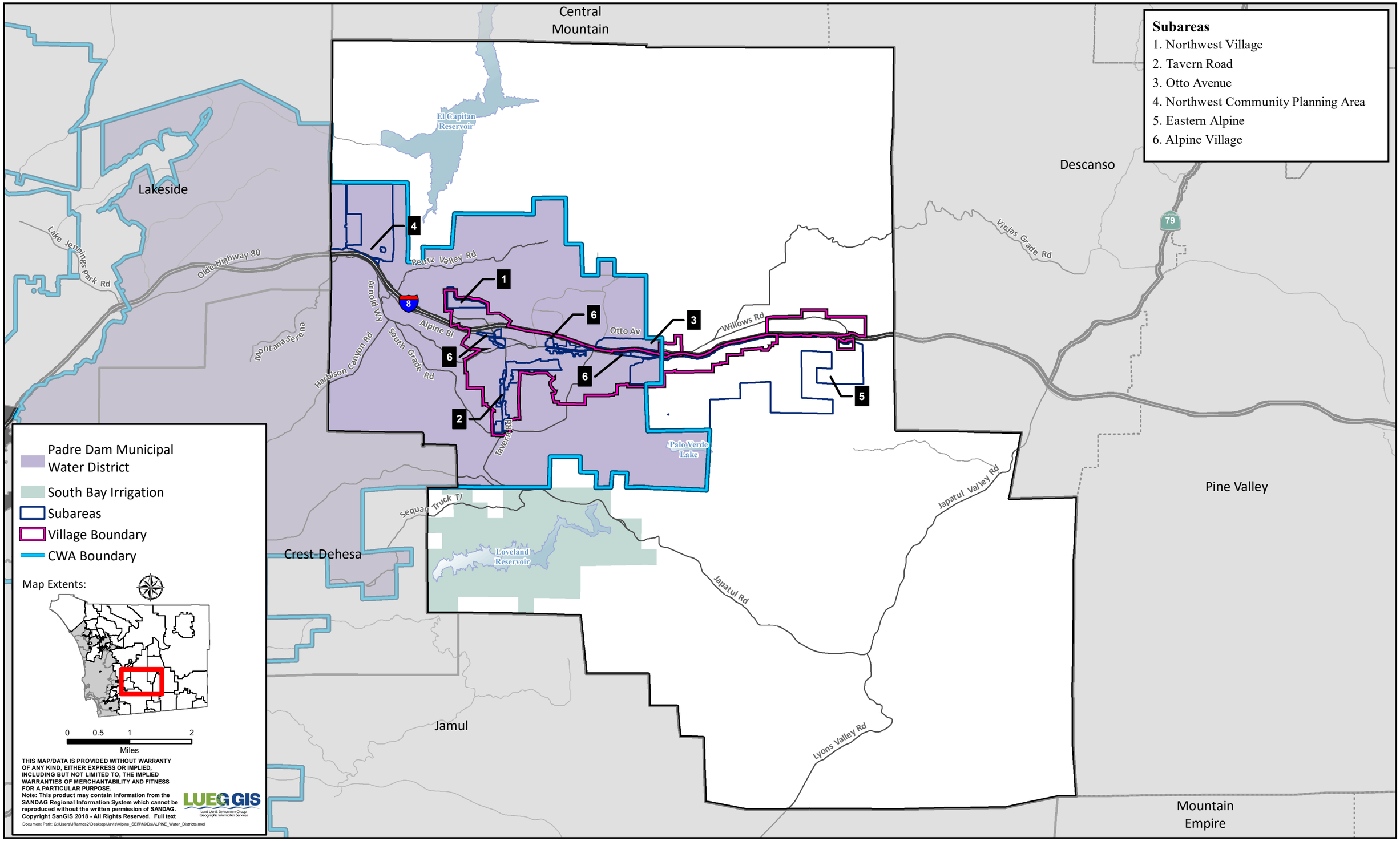

Source: SanGIS, County of San Diego, 2020

**Figure 2.14-1a**
**Sanitation Districts**
**Subareas 1-6**



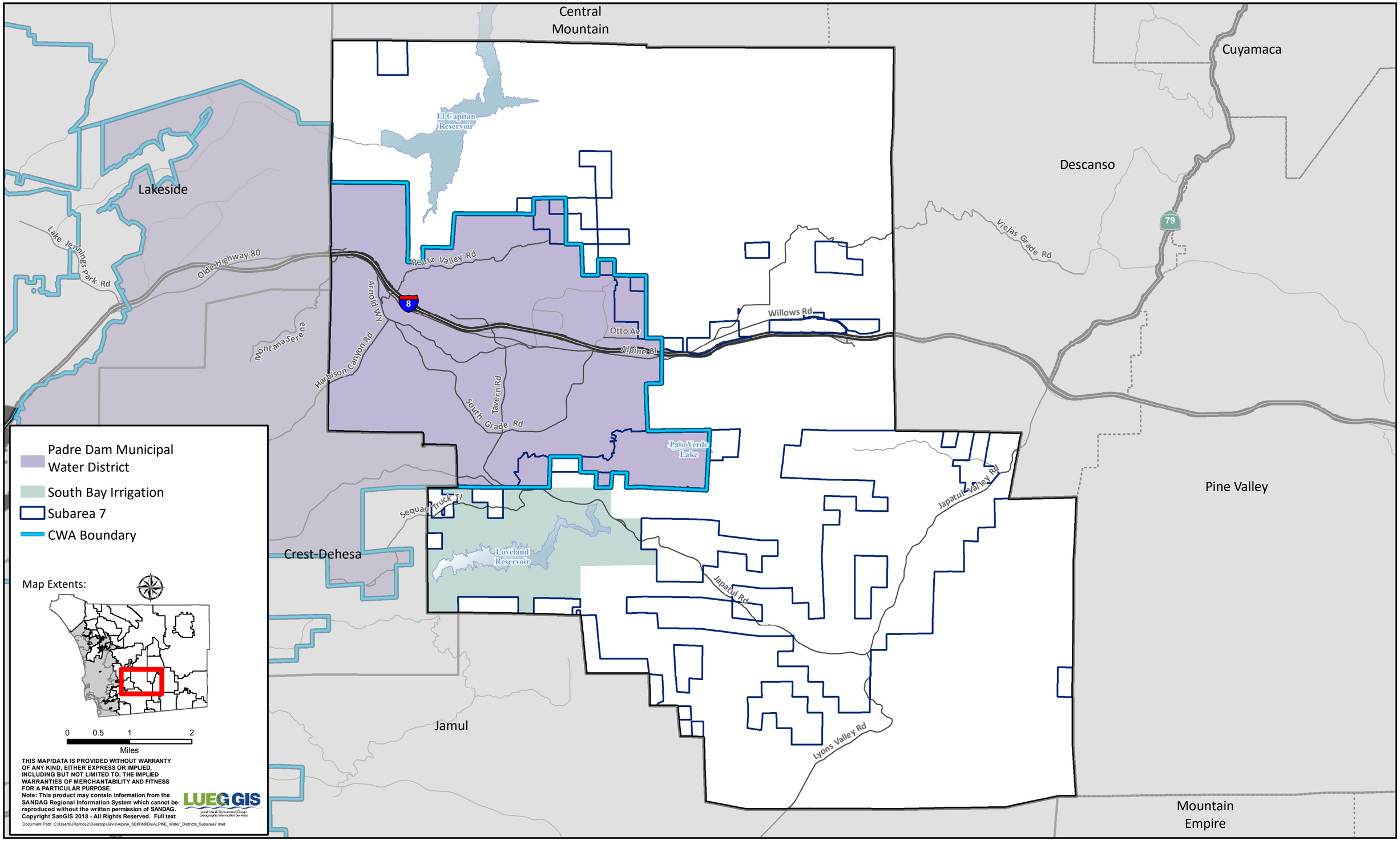

Source: SanGIS, County of San Diego, 2020

**Figure 2.14-1b**
**Sanitation Districts**
**Subarea 7**




Source: SanGIS, County of San Diego, 2019

**Figure 2.14-2a**
**Water Districts**
**Subareas 1-6**




Source: SanGIS, County of San Diego, 2019

**Figure 2.14-2b**
**Water Districts**
**Subarea 7**