

1. CEQA Preparation/Review

When reviewing or preparing a CEQA clearance for a project, municipal personnel comply with the following requirements:

- i. The CEQA checklist should contain questions that address storm water pollution mitigation issues associated with the project. Mitigation measures¹ for the subject project will be required if any of the response is other than “no” contained in the **biological resources** or the **hydrology/water quality** sections of the CEQA checklist. The type of appropriate mitigation measure will depend the concentration of a pollutant or volume of runoff that is expected to be produced from the completed project and the expected environmental impact it will have on a biological resource, hydrology, or water quality. Examples of pollution impacts on a **biological resource** include, but are not limited to chlorine or other chemical substance that has the capability to impair aquatic habitats or wildlife; and sediment to a water body in concentrations that could be block sunlight and threaten existing vegetation on which aquatic life depends. Examples of pollutant impacts on water quality include the discharge of metals, nutrients, bacteria, trash, ammonia, or other chemical constituent into a water body that has been identified as a “stressor pollutant” of the 303(d) list contained in the regional basin plan. Examples of runoff volume impacts on hydrology include, but are not limited to the destruction of wildlife and fresh water habitats and stream bank erosion.

- ii. Include an evaluation of project impacts on any environmentally sensitive area using ESA maps.²

¹Structural or non-structural BMPs are in effect mitigation measures when used within the context of a CEQA clearance. Structural BMPs include constructed or mechanical devices including but not limited to concrete swales, covered loading docks and hazardous materials storage areas, canopies over fuel pumps, infiltration devices (detention/retention basins, french drains, vegetative filters, etc.), and mechanical treatment controls such as vortex separation systems, catch basin inserts, and oil/water separators. Non-structural controls include good housekeeping, no discharge/dumping signage, and spill prevention and control plans.

²ESA means an area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which would be easily disturbed or degraded

Evaluate proposed mitigation measures for adequacy. If municipal personnel are responsible for evaluating a CEQA project for mitigation measure assignment or are responsible for proposing mitigation measures, care should be taken to select the most effective BMP(s) to mitigate the expected pollutant to a significant or less than significant impact.

by human activities and developments (California Public Resources Code § 30107.5). Areas subject to storm water mitigation requirements are: areas designated as Significant Ecological Areas by the County of Los Angeles (*Los Angeles County Significant Areas Study, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (1976)* and amendments); an area designated as a Significant Natural Area by the California Department of Fish and Game's Significant Natural Areas Program, provided that area has been field verified by the Department of Fish and Game; an area listed in the Basin Plan as supporting the "Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE)" beneficial use; and an area identified by a Permittee as environmentally sensitive.