

4.0 BASIS OF CUMULATIVE ANALYSIS

4.1 CEQA REQUIREMENTS

Section 15355 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, as amended, provides the following definition of cumulative impacts: “Cumulative impacts refer to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable, or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.” The State *CEQA Guidelines* §15130 requires that an EIR include a discussion of cumulative impacts when a project’s incremental effect is cumulatively considerable. “Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past, current, and the reasonably foreseeable projects (State *CEQA Guidelines* §15065(a)(3)).

A lead agency need not consider every incremental effect as “cumulatively considerable,” but does need to briefly describe the basis for concluding that the incremental effect is not a cumulatively considerable contribution to a cumulatively significant impact. “The discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great [a level of] detail as is provided for the effects attributable to the project alone. The discussion should be guided by standards of practicality and reasonableness, and should focus on the cumulative impact to which the identified other projects contribute rather than the attributes of other projects which do not contribute to the cumulative impact.” (State *CEQA Guidelines* §15130(b)).

4.2 CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

Per State *CEQA Guidelines* §15130(b), the following elements are necessary in an adequate discussion of significant cumulative impacts:

- (1) *Either:*
 - (a) *A list of relevant past, present and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the Agency, or*
 - (b) *A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document or in a prior adopted or certified environmental document that described or evaluated regional or area-wide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact; and*
- (2) *A summary of the expected environmental effects to be produced by those projects with specific reference to additional information stating where that information is available; and*
- (3) *A reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects. An EIR shall examine reasonable, feasible options for mitigation or avoidance of the project’s contribution to any significant cumulative effects.*

Analysis of cumulative impacts requires estimation in many cases, because specific quantification of impacts is not always possible, due to variations in the status and timing of projects and environmental conditions that may exist when cumulative projects are developed. CEQA notes that the discussions of cumulative impacts should be guided by standards of practicality and reasonableness (State *CEQA Guidelines* §15130 (b)). As such, this analysis addresses impacts that might compound or interrelate with those of the proposed project.

4.3 CUMULATIVE SETTING

Cumulative impact discussions for each environmental topic area are provided at the end of each technical analysis contained within Section 5.0, under *Cumulative Setting, Impact and Mitigation Measures*. As previously stated, and as set forth in the State *CEQA Guidelines*, related projects consist of “closely related past, present, and reasonable foreseeable probable future projects that would likely result in similar impacts and are located in the same geographic area” (CCR, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15355). It should be noted that the projects accounted for in the Draft EIR are based on the data available at the time of the County’s release of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) in February 2016.

Related projects and other possible development in the area determined as having a direct potential to interact with the proposed project (to the extent that a significant cumulative effect may occur) are identified in Table 4-1, CUMULATIVE PROJECTS CONSIDERED, below.

**Table 4-1
 CUMULATIVE PROJECTS CONSIDERED**

Agency	Application No.	Project Name	Number of Units
Shasta County	TR 1945	Stillwater Meadows	11
Shasta County	TR 1901/1977	Stillwater Ranch	35
Shasta County	TR 1999	Tudor Oaks Acres	9
Shasta County	TR 1992	Silver Bridge Highlands	10
City of Redding	S.10.05	Tuscany Villas Subdivision	52
City of Redding	S.04.05	The Reserve I Subdivision	114
City of Redding	S.17.04	The Reserve II & III Subdivision	224
City of Redding	S.03.09	Seven Bridges Subdivision	127
City of Redding	UP 07.04	Mobile Home Park (Off Redwood Boulevard)	90
City of Redding	S.07.07	Lakeridge Oaks Subdivision	79
City of Redding	S.24.05	Bottlebrush Subdivision	28
City of Redding	S.18.05	Highland Park (Mission De Oro Drive)	12
City of Redding	S.23.05	Tower Ridge Townhomes	13
City of Redding	S.03.08	Shearing Subdivision	8
City of Redding	S.07.05	Currier Corner Subdivision	5
City of Redding	S.35.14	Hope Lane Subdivision	26
City of Redding	S.15.05	Russell Subdivision (near the north end of Hope Lane)	5
City of Redding	S.02.97	North View Subdivision	55
City of Redding	S.14.06	Tierra Knolls Subdivision	93
City of Redding	S.11.06	Palisades Heights Subdivision	10
City of Redding	PD-2015-00304	Bethel Church Collyer Drive Campus	NA

Notes: Cumulative projects developed based on an approximate 5-mile radius from the proposed project site.

Although a list-type approach works well for some environmental issue areas, it may not be the most appropriate approach to analyze the project’s potential cumulative impacts for each resource area. For some resources the cumulative analysis is based on projected growth within the project area or region; for others,

a localized impact evaluation may be more appropriate (i.e., geology and soils, hydrology, hazards and hazardous materials, noise).

For Section 5.3, AIR QUALITY, Section 5.4, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES, Section 5.16, TRAFFIC AND CIRCULATION, Section 5.17, UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS, and Section 5.18, ENERGY CONSUMPTION, the cumulative impact analysis uses a larger geographic area including the Northern Sacramento Valley Air Basin, Shasta County *General Plan* area, and the area under jurisdiction of Bella Vista Water District (BVWD). For these specific resources, additional cumulative information on geographic area is provided within the noted EIR resource chapter.