

CHAPTER 7

GROWTH INDUCEMENT POTENTIAL

7.1 OVERVIEW OF GROWTH INDUCEMENT EVALUATION

The CEQA *Guidelines* define a growth-inducing impact as follows:¹

[T]he ways in which a proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Included in this are projects [that] would remove obstacles to population growth (a major expansion of a wastewater treatment plant might, for example, allow for more construction in the service areas).... Also discuss the characteristics of some projects, which may encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment, either individually or cumulatively. It must not be assumed that growth in any area is necessarily beneficial, detrimental, or of little significance to the environment.

On the basis of the CEQA definition above, assessing the growth inducement potential of the BMP project involves answering the question, *would construction and/or operation of BMP projects directly or indirectly support more economic or population growth or residential construction?* As discussed later in this section, local and regional planning agencies have identified groundwater basin overdraft and seawater intrusion conditions as constraints to growth in the area, although these agencies also maintain policies to preserve non-urban (agriculture and open space) uses. The intent of the proposed project is to balance the groundwater basin through the provision of water to agricultural uses through year 2040. Insofar as the existing conditions of the groundwater basin are an obstacle to growth, the project would, by definition, induce growth.²

A variety of factors influence business and residential or population growth in the project area, e.g., the general plans and policies of the City of Watsonville and the counties, the availability of sewer service, public schools, and transportation services. The availability of water is one of the primary public services needed to support urban development, and a service capacity deficiency could constrain future development. Conversely, a single factor could serve as an impetus to development by providing the necessary incentive to resolve other constraints.

Growth inducement may constitute an adverse impact if the growth is not consistent with the land use and growth management policies for the affected area. The City and county land use and growth management plans and policies guide land use development patterns and provide for the orderly expansion of urban development supported by adequate urban public services, such as

¹ CEQA *Guidelines* Section 15126.2[d].

² The physical construction and operation of BMP facilities is not expected to generate a substantial number of permanent new jobs in the area (a means of *directly* increasing growth).

sewer service, roadway infrastructure, and solid waste service. A project that would induce “disorderly” growth in conflict with local land use plans could indirectly cause additional adverse environmental impacts to other public services. Thus, it is important to assess the degree to which the growth accommodated by a project would or would not be consistent with applicable land use plans.

The environmental effects of economic or population growth facilitated by a project are referred to herein as the secondary effects of growth. Secondary effects of growth inducement include, but are not limited to, increased traffic, degradation of air quality, loss of biological resources, and increased demand on public services. A project that would induce “disorderly” growth (exceeding projected growth) could indirectly cause additional adverse environmental impacts and other public services impacts not previously envisioned by local jurisdictions (e.g., the City of Watsonville and the counties of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito). Local population forecasts and land use plans (e.g., general plans) provide land use development patterns and growth policies that allow for the orderly expansion of urban development supported by adequate urban public services, such as water supply, roadway infrastructure, sewer service, and solid waste service.

7.2 SETTING

7.2.1 PROJECTED GROWTH IN THE PVWMA SERVICE AREA

REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH PROJECTIONS

The Association of Monterey Bay Governments (AMBAG) prepares and periodically updates population and employment forecasts for Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. Public agencies use the AMBAG forecasts to assist in planning for adequate transportation and other infrastructure (including water and wastewater service), as well as air quality management. AMBAG relies on data from the national census, State Department of Finance, and planning agencies in preparing population and employment forecasts for the counties and the incorporated cities within each county. The *1997 Regional Population and Employment Forecast for Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties Final Report* (AMBAG, 1997) is the agency’s most recent set of projections; no update is expected until at least 2002. The report requests that any documents using AMBAG forecasts include the following statement:

These forecasts, which have been guided by approved general plans, are prepared as planning tools and are not an exact prediction of the course of future events. Experience shows that these forecasts are most reliable at the county level and less so for smaller areas like cities and census tracts. Caution should be exercised in relying on these forecasts for such sub-county level areas.

The Final Report (page 145) contains a set of projections specifically for the PVWMA service area. The report identifies water supply as a constraint to growth in the PVWMA service area. Other constraints to growth identified in the report include: for north Monterey County – septic system capacity, highway capacity, and schools capacity; and for south Santa Cruz County –

schools capacity and landfill capacity. Although the report describes constraints to growth, the baseline population forecasts were not lowered due to the existence of potential resource constraints because “these types of constraints are potentially removable through future policy action” (page 5).

As shown in **Table 7.1**, the AMBAG forecasts for the PVWMA service area indicate that the population could increase from approximately 71,300 (1990) to approximately 98,200 (2020), reflecting an average annualized increase of about one percent per year. Also shown for comparison are the population forecasts for all of Santa Cruz and Monterey counties and the City of Watsonville and Sphere of Influence (SOI). The AMBAG forecasts indicate that population growth within the City of Watsonville/SOI represents approximately 92 percent of total growth projected for the PVWMA service area.³ Part of this growth reflects the inclusion of the town of Freedom in the City’s SOI, which is reflected in the 2000 to 2005 AMBAG forecasts.

TABLE 7.1
AMBAG POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Year	Monterey County	Santa Cruz County (includes Watsonville)	City of Watsonville	PVWMA Service Area
1990 ^a	355,660	229,734	31,099	71,268
1995 ^b	362,874	241,935	33,695	75,747
2000	400,907	257,737	43,620	82,421
2005	435,453	270,060	50,495	87,411
2010	472,562	281,714	51,881	90,926
2015	503,669	292,988	53,816	94,442
2020	536,609	303,646	55,875	98,172

^a 1990 US Census

^b 1995 State Department of Finance, adjusted for April 1, 1995.

SOURCE: 1997 *Regional Population and Employment Forecast for Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties*, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments.

Comparison of AMBAG Projections with 2000 Census Data

There is less than two percent difference between the AMBAG forecasts for year 2000 for Santa Cruz and Monterey counties and the City of Watsonville compared with the US Census results. As **Table 7.1** indicates, the AMBAG year 2000 population projection for Monterey County is 400,907; the population recorded for U. S. Census 2000 was 401,762, a difference of 0.2 percent.

³ Refer to Table 26, page 145 in the *1997 Regional Population and Employment Forecast for Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties Final Report* (AMBAG, 1997).

The AMBAG 2000 population projection for Santa Cruz County is 257,737; the population recorded for U. S. Census 2000 was 255,602, a difference of 0.8 percent. The AMBAG year 2000 population projection for the City of Watsonville and Sphere of Influence is approximately 43,620; the population recorded for U. S. Census 2000 was 44,265, a difference of 1.5 percent.

7.2.2 GROWTH MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY AND POLICIES

As indicated in the preceding section, population forecasts for the region project future urban growth in the PVWMA section area, particularly in and around Watsonville. Determining the specific location and timing of future development through the year 2040, and the extent to which that development would be infill or would result in the conversion of native or agricultural lands, would be speculative. Similarly, determining future growth patterns in the event that none of the Revised BMP alternatives was implemented involves speculation, although current county policies that link development and water supply likely would persist, resulting in less overall growth. For further discussion of this issue, refer to the discussion of the No Project Alternative presented in Chapter 6.

The Counties and the City of Watsonville have jurisdiction over development in the PVWMA service area. The growth management policies of these agencies are summarized below. Refer also to Section 3.1, Regional Land Use and Planning, which identify the goals, policies and objectives that guide land use planning in the PVWMA service area. Refer also to Section 3.4, Vegetation, Fish and Wildlife, for county and City polices protective of those resources.

CITY OF WATSONVILLE

The Watsonville General Plan identifies the preservation of the agricultural base in the Pajaro Valley as important, and addresses the issue of land use balance by recognizing the value of agricultural land and proposing minimal conversion of agricultural lands, high densities on those lands converted, and an urban limit boundary beyond which Watsonville is not proposed to grow, while allowing for an adequate supply of land for affordable housing and the creation of living-wage jobs. Landowners outside the urban limit line are encouraged to maintain agricultural production and the City further encourages retention of agricultural use on those lands beyond the urban limit line by restricting the extension of urban services to those areas.

The Watsonville General Plan allows for an increase of 5,300 housing units over the 1992-2005 planning period for Watsonville and Freedom. The General Plan estimated that about 835 acres of land outside of the (then) existing Sphere of Influence would be needed meet this demand, as well as the additional acreage needed for parkland and commercial/industrial land use. In order to meet the projected need, the General Plan anticipated annexation in order to avoid development on agricultural land.

MONTEREY COUNTY

The 1982 Monterey County General Plan stated as its intent “to maintain and enhance the County's rural character, natural resources, and economic base by providing for adequate residential and industrial growth in areas best suited for development while restricting urban sprawl and indiscriminate development (Monterey County, 1982).” On August 9, 2000 the Monterey County Board of Supervisors passed an interim ordinance adding Chapter 16.75 to the Monterey County Code to limit development and prohibit the approval of any discretionary or ministerial application for any development project located in the North Monterey County Hydrogeologic Study Area that proposes to use water. Minor exceptions to this ordinance are included for remodeling existing residences or commercial or industrial use requiring no more than 0.4 af per year. The ordinance expires eighteen months from August 9, 2000, unless extended by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

The Monterey County Planning Department is currently in the process of developing an updated General Plan (Monterey County 21st Century program/General Plan Update). In 1982, the County General Plan made the preservation of agricultural land a high priority. The priorities for growth in Monterey County are given first to infilling within existing urban areas. The next priority is for development on lands adjacent to existing and densely settled urban areas where necessary services and facilities are available, except where this impacts prime and productive agricultural lands.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

The Policies and Objectives of the General Plan (2.1.8, 2.1.9, 7.18b, and 7.18.2) generally indicate that development should take place where public services are adequate, ensure that the level of development permitted is supportable within the limits of the County's available water supplies, and require the obtainment of written commitments confirming water service availability prior to project approval.

The County establishes growth goals on a year-to-year basis. From 1991 to 1998, the growth goal was 1.0 percent; in 1998 and 1999 it was 0.75 percent; in 2001, it was 0.5 percent. The growth rate is based on population growth, translated into housing units and implemented by limiting the number of new residential building permits. County staff indicate that based on the 2000 Census, the County has met the intent of the voter-mandated Measure J (to limit county growth to a fair share of the State's growth) with an 11.3 percent increase in population versus the State's 13.8 percent increase (Deming, 2001).

SAN BENITO COUNTY

The 1994 San Benito County General Plan includes land use goals and objectives for growth management. In the General Plan, the County identifies the objective of developing a Growth Management Program to help stabilize the rate of population growth in the County. At

publication of this Draft EIR (October 2001), the Growth Management Program was expected to be approved shortly (Goodrich, 2001).

Approximately one year ago, San Benito County adopted a Growth Management Urgency Ordinance limiting growth in all unincorporated areas to one percent per year, or approximately 60 building permits. This Ordinance effectively halted all land subdivisions, except for commercial, industrial, affordable or senior housing uses. The County passed this Ordinance in response to insufficient infrastructure to support growth, especially having to do with wastewater treatment, water quality, and increasing traffic. (Goodrich, 2001)

7.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

IMPACTS

Impact 7.1: Implementation of the BMP Project would reduce groundwater supply reliability as a constraint to growth. The project could accommodate an amount of growth that is consistent with regional growth projections, but that could indirectly result in potentially significant secondary effects of growth. Some of these secondary effects of growth could be significant and unavoidable, while others are significant but mitigable. Significant unavoidable impacts that could occur as a result of planned growth include: loss of agricultural land and open space, increase demand on groundwater resources, and change in visual character.

Implementation of either the BMP 2000 Alternative or the Local Only Alternative would remove an obstacle to growth by increasing the water supply and the reliability of existing groundwater resources in the PVWMA Service area. As part of either the BMP 2000 Alternative or the Local-Only Alternative, PVWMA would develop new surface water supplies and distribute that water to agricultural land that is currently irrigated with groundwater. This would reduce pumping of the groundwater basin and, over time, allow stabilization of the groundwater basin and reduction of the overdraft conditions that allow seawater intrusion. By replacing agricultural pumping with surface water supplies, the project would improve the reliability of the groundwater basin for non-agricultural, urban uses as well. Improving the reliability of the urban water supply would facilitate urban growth.

Under these two project alternatives, the provision of irrigation water to areas served by the proposed Coastal Distribution System and Inland Distribution System would not induce urbanization of lands receiving the water. These lands are in agricultural use and the proposed water supply is expressly intended to support continuation of that agricultural use. Thus, the project, under either alternative, does not have direct growth inducement potential; the project does not provide water supply for municipal and industrial uses that would support growth of residential, commercial or industrial uses. PVWMA's enabling act includes provisions indicating that no water shall be imported for purposes other than agricultural use. The limitation does not apply to lands within the Aromas County Water District.

The BMP 2000 Alternative and the Local-Only Alternative address future water demand for developed uses within the PVWMA Service Area differently. The BMP 2000 Alternative was developed based on projections of existing and future municipal and industrial demand. While the BMP 2000 Alternative only provides water to agricultural uses and does not provide water to municipal and industrial uses, it is PVWMA objective and responsibility to implement a plan that balances the groundwater basin and prevents further overdraft and seawater intrusion in the long-term. Therefore, it is necessary to account for the potential future urban water demands in order to plan long-term groundwater basin management. The future population projections and associated demand projections for PVWMA used to develop the BMP 2000 Alternative are presented in Chapter 4.C, **Table 4.C-1**. These population projections incorporate several of the AMBAG assumptions and through the year 2020 are fairly similar to the AMBAG projections, shown on Table 7.1. By the year 2020 AMBAG projects a population with the PVWMA Service Area of 98,172 people, while the analysis used to develop the BMP 2000 Alternative projects a population of 94,274. The amount of growth accommodated by the BMP 2000 Alternative through the year 2020 is consistent with AMBAG's regional population forecasts for the area, which rely on the general plans and growth management policies of planning areas in the region. Because PVWMA must consider and manage for the long-term health of the groundwater basin resources, it extended a projection of future demand for urban and agricultural uses to the year 2040 in order to develop the BMP 2000 Alternative. The population growth projected over the 20 years between 2020 and 2040 tiers from AMBAG assumptions about the local annual growth rates and yields a potential population increase of 11.5 percent. Thus, while the BMP 2000 Alternative does not require or directly result in increased population growth and urban development, it does accommodate potential growth that might be planned and approved by jurisdictions in the service area through the year 2040.

The Local-Only Alternative does not provide sufficient water to meet existing demand without the fallowing of 2,200 acres of agricultural land and, consequently, would not provide sufficient water to meet future demand without overdraft and seawater intrusion conditions persisting. This would not meet PVWMA objectives and requirements to protect the long-term health of the groundwater resources. PVWMA has no authority to make land use decisions or to approve or deny future urban growth, but it is responsible for protecting and providing adequate groundwater resources within its service area. Consequently, for the Local-Only Alternative this EIR identifies the need for additional fallowing of agricultural land beyond 2,200 acres in order to provide adequately for the long-term demand on the groundwater basin, including the potential future urban demand in the service area. **Impact 5.D.3-1** in Section 5.D.3 addresses this issue. Further reduction of agricultural demand through increased land fallowing would then accommodate the demands of planned urban development without worsening the saltwater intrusion problem in the groundwater basin.

Although the current condition of seawater intrusion has affected groundwater resource reliability and this is noted by AMBAG as a potential constraint to future growth, this condition has not halted development in the area. Under the Local-Only Alternative it is expected that additional future growth would continue, partly as a result of the relief on the groundwater supplies this alternative would provide. Although this alternative as proposed would not fully provide for

future urban development, it would improve the overall reliability of the groundwater supply that could encourage continued planned development. Without additional land fallowing to reduce agricultural demand, the seawater intrusion problem would not be fully controlled under this alternative as increasing urban demand would continue to rely on the groundwater basin. Additional treatment might be needed for potable supplies to address the saline intrusion. Under this alternative, implementation of planned growth might be slowed as groundwater conditions in some areas would continue to have problems and developers seek solutions to provide a reliable, potable water supply.

The land use planning agencies with jurisdiction in the PVWMA service area, the City of Watsonville and the counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito, are responsible for planning and approving future urban development projects. These agencies are obligated under CEQA to evaluate the potential for new development projects to adversely affect to environment, to identify measures to mitigate those impacts, and to notify responsible trustee agencies with jurisdiction over any potentially affected resources. Project developers would be obligated to comply with state and federal laws related to environmental protection, including compliance with the state and federal endangered species acts.

As a water management agency, PVWMA has no authority to make land use decisions or to approve or deny future urban growth, or to impose measures to mitigate the adverse environmental effects of new development projects, unless the agency were called upon to provide water service to that development. PVWMA would be obligated under CEQA to consider the direct and indirect environmental impacts of any proposal to extend water service to new areas.

SECONDARY EFFECTS OF GROWTH

As described above, over 90 percent of the projected increase in population in the PVWMA service area is predicted to occur in City of Watsonville and the City's Sphere of Influence (including Freedom). The following documents were reviewed in order to identify representative significant impacts associated with future growth in the area:⁴

- *Watsonville 2002 General Plan Update and Sphere of Influence Amendment Environmental Impact Report (1993)*
- *Seaview Ranch Project Environmental Impact Report*

A summary of the impacts and measures identified to mitigate these impacts is presented below.

Land Use/Agricultural Resources

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR indicated that development could result in the significant and unavoidable conversion of up to 580 acres of prime agricultural land to urban use. The DEIR indicated that no mitigation was feasible for this potential impact. The Sea View

⁴ Copies of the City of Watsonville general plan and these EIRs are available for review at the City of Watsonville.

Ranch Project DEIR indicates that the project site does not contain prime agricultural land and that the project would not result in a significant loss of agricultural land for the City of Watsonville. However, the project would result in the conversion of approximately 44 acres from open space to urban use. The loss of open space was identified as significant and unavoidable impact and the EIR did not include mitigation measures for this impact.

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR also identified significant but mitigable impacts related to changes in the distribution of some land uses, changes in development patterns, and the potential for incompatible land use development. Mitigation for these impacts was included in the policies and implementation measures of the General Plan Update.

The Sea View Ranch Project EIR also identified significant but mitigable land use impacts related to temporary, construction-related nuisance to adjacent existing residential land use and the compatibility of the proposed residential land use with existing agricultural operations, industrial operations, sloughs (odor and mosquito outbreaks), and airport flight paths. Mitigation for these impacts includes implementation of the City's Grading Ordinance, compliance with the City's Right to Farm ordinance, easements, and notification procedures.

Transportation and Circulation

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update DEIR indicated that traffic generated by General Plan development could degrade traffic operation on several of the City's roadway segments. However, the policies and implementation measures of the General Plan Update include improvements that would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR identified increased traffic effects at intersections and areas of potential safety conflicts as a significant impact that could be reduced to less-than-significant levels through improvement of the affected intersections as part of the project.

Air Quality

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR identified air quality impacts resulting from development construction as a significant impact that could be mitigated to less-than-significant levels by General Plan policies and implementation measures. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR identified short-term construction air quality impacts as a significant impact that would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels, primarily through implementation of standard dust control measures.

Noise

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR identified noise impacts resulting from development construction and potential ambient noise impacts on additional residential and employee populations. The EIR indicated General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project DEIR indicated that some portions of the project site would be exposed to noise levels that could be reduced to less-than-significant levels through project design features. In addition, the EIR identified significant but mitigable construction noise impacts.

Public Services

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR identified potentially significant impacts related to increased demands on police, fire protection, schools, libraries, solid waste services, sewer/wastewater services, and water supply/water quality services. The EIR indicated General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels.

Open Space, Recreation, and Scenic Resources

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR indicated that General Plan development would convert existing agricultural and open space uses, removing the scenic and recreational resources these lands provide. Development could also degrade other existing scenic resources within the city. General Plan development would also result in increased demand for park land and recreation facilities. The DEIR indicated General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels.

The Sea View Ranch Project EIR indicated that the project would result in a significant and unavoidable impact by substantially changing in the visual character of the project area by converting a rural area into an urban use. In addition, the DEIR identified the visibility of the projects graded areas from adjacent land uses to be a significant unavoidable impact. The EIR did not include mitigation measures to reduce these impacts.

The Sea View Ranch Project EIR also indicated that the project would result in a new source of nighttime light in the area that could be reduced to less-than-significant levels through project design features.

Geology and Soils

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR identified potentially significant impacts from the exposure of additional population and new structures to seismic hazards and related soil effects, as well as to existing unstable soil conditions. The EIR indicated that policies and implementation measures included in the General Plan Update would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR identifies impacts to future development from unstable soil conditions, and from seismic hazards and related effects as potentially significant impacts. The EIR includes mitigation measures that would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels through removal of unstable soil, design features that improve soil conditions, and implementation of the recommendations/requirements of geotechnical reports and the Uniform Building Code.

Hydrology, Flooding, and Drainage

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR indicated that development could subject persons and property to potential flooding impacts, increase surface runoff, and require the construction of new or improvements to drainage facilities. The EIR also indicated that General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce impacts to less-than-significant

levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR indicated that construction activities and project operation would result in non-point source pollution to local waterways that could be reduced to less-than-significant levels through conformance with NPDES permit requirements and with the City's Grading Ordinance.

Vegetation and Wildlife

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR indicated that development could significantly impact special-status species, riparian vegetation, historic trees, and wetlands. However, General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR identified significant but mitigable impacts related to construction and project operation effect on nesting raptors, red-legged frogs, tiger salamanders, aquatic habitat, wetlands, upland habitat, migration corridors, and bats. DEIR mitigation measures included construction buffer areas, species management plans, habitat protection measures, and project design features.

Health and Safety

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR indicated that development could expose additional people to potential hazards from the use, storage, and transport of hazardous materials, and from agricultural chemicals that could cause water pollution. The EIR identified General Plan Update policies and implementation measures that would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR identified significant impacts related to existing on-site soil contamination, and to future exposure of a residential population to existing industrial uses and mosquito populations capable of transmitting disease. EIR mitigation measures included excavation of contaminated soils, implementation of proper hazardous materials handling procedures, and management of on-site detention basins.

Cultural Resources

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR identified potentially significant impacts to cultural resources related to ground disturbance from development construction. In addition, the EIR indicated that the intensity of development may allow for potential alterations to the historic character of land uses or structures. The EIR indicated that General Plan Update policies and implementation measures would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. The Sea View Ranch Project EIR indicated that the project had the potential to significantly impact archaeological resources, but that the impact could be reduced to less-than-significant levels through implementation of an archaeological monitoring program during project construction.

Cumulative Impacts

The Sea View Ranch Project EIR indicated that the project would significantly and unavoidably contribute to cumulative traffic, air quality, vegetation and wildlife, loss of open space, visual, and public services impacts. The EIR did not identify any measures would fully reduce cumulative near-term regional air quality, vegetation and wildlife, loss of open space, and visual impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Growth Inducing Impacts

The City of Watsonville General Plan Update EIR growth projections associated with implementation of the General Plan Update and indicated that growth could result in increased density within existing City limits. The EIR determined that the changes in population, housing, and employment represent beneficial social and economic effects that outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects related to growth under the General Plan Update.

The Sea View Ranch Project EIR indicates that some growth would result, but that growth would occur within the City's urban service area, accommodating inevitable regional population growth and the project could reduce growth in out-lying non-urban areas. The projects participation in an associated roadway extension is not expected to result in substantial growth beyond what is already planned.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Measure 7-1: PVWMA does not have the authority to make land use and development decisions. It does not approve growth but does have a responsibility to manage and protect the groundwater resources in the service area. PVWMA does have the ability and responsibility to mitigate the impacts of growth on groundwater resources by implementing management actions that keep the basin in balance and prevent/reduce salt water intrusion. Implementation of the BMP 2000 program will serve to mitigate the secondary effects of planned growth on the groundwater resources. Beyond this, PVWMA does not have the authority or jurisdiction to implement mitigation measure necessary to address the potentially significant secondary effects of planned growth. Authority to implement such measures lies with the land use jurisdictions – City of Watsonville, Monterey County, Santa Cruz County, and San Benito County, which enforce local, state, and federal regulations and mitigation requirements through the development approval and permit process. Through the CEQA process and the development permit process, these local land use agencies impose mitigation requirements on development projects to address the secondary effects of growth and identify measures that must be implemented by other agencies, such as the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Air Quality District, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Fish and Game, and the State Department of Health services, among others. PVWMA finds that mitigation of the secondary effects of growth is primarily within the authority and jurisdiction of other public agencies and looks to those agencies to implement such measures as appropriate and consistent with their authorities.

For the BMP 2000 Alternative Only

See Measure 4.C-1, which deals with processing CEQA and NEPA on any future proposals to extend CVP surface water supply to areas beyond those proposed as part of this alternative.

See Measure 4.C-2, which deals with Endangered Species Act compliance for any future proposals to extend CVP surface water supply to areas beyond those proposed as part of this alternative.

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