

1 **3.14 RECREATION**

<b>RECREATION</b>	<b>Potentially Significant Impact</b>	<b>Less Than Significant with Mitigation</b>	<b>Less Than Significant Impact</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 **3.14.1 Environmental Setting**

3 The Project site is located along the southeast shore of the Carquinez Strait near the  
 4 town of Port Costa, Contra Costa County. The Carquinez Strait is used for industrial  
 5 transport access, as well as recreational uses including bird watching, boating, and  
 6 sailing. The Strait also supports sport fishing, commercial fishing, and shellfish  
 7 harvesting.

8 West and northwest of the Project site is the Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline, a  
 9 1,415-acre park managed by the EBRPD, which is used primarily by hikers and bird  
 10 watchers. The Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline also contains a portion of the Bay  
 11 Trail, a planned recreational corridor that will encircle San Francisco and San Pablo  
 12 Bays with a continuous 500-mile network of hiking and bicycling trails. The EBRPD  
 13 owns the former TXI property, which may be used for temporary Project parking and  
 14 staging, but no public trails or other recreation facilities currently exist on that property.

15 The San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program was established by the California  
 16 State Legislature in 1997 to address the resource and recreational goals of the San  
 17 Francisco Bay area in a coordinated, comprehensive, and effective way. The  
 18 conservancy declares that the nine counties that bound San Francisco Bay make up a  
 19 region with unique natural resource and outdoor recreation needs. The conservancy  
 20 may undertake projects and award grants to help preserve open space, promote the  
 21 use of habitat restoration projects for environmental education, protect and restore fish  
 22 and wildlife habitat, provide public access to open space areas, and restore urban  
 23 waterfronts in the nine Bay Area counties

1 **3.14.2 Regulatory Setting**

2 Federal and State laws and regulations pertaining to this issue area and relevant to the  
3 Project are identified in Table 1-2. Local goals, policies, and/or regulations applicable to  
4 this issue area are listed below.

5 Contra Costa County. Measure C (passed in 1990) established a 65/35 Land  
6 Preservation Standard to limit urban development to no more than 35 percent of the  
7 land in Contra Costa County. At least 65 percent of all land in the County is required to  
8 be preserved for agriculture, open space, wetlands, parks and other non-urban uses  
9 (see the Land Use Element of the Contra Costa County General Plan 2005-2020 for  
10 more information).

11 **3.14.3 Impact Analysis**

12 ***a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional***  
13 ***parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration***  
14 ***of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?***

15 **No Impact.** The Project involves the removal of a non-operational MOT and would not  
16 result in increased use or visitation to existing neighborhood or regional recreational  
17 facilities. Therefore, no substantial physical deterioration of recreational facilities would  
18 occur due to the Project.

19 ***b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or***  
20 ***expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on***  
21 ***the environment?***

22 **Less than Significant Impact.** The Project activities would occur within the Carquinez  
23 Strait, which is used for several recreational uses including bird watching, boating, and  
24 sailing. The Strait also provides views from hiking and bicycling trails along the EBRPD  
25 Carquinez Shoreline Park. Although the Project would temporarily occupy 8.89 acres of  
26 the Bay, there is ample area within the Strait to accommodate existing recreational uses  
27 with little or no conflict between uses.

28 **3.14.4 Mitigation Summary**

29 The Project would not result in significant recreational impacts; therefore, no mitigation  
30 is required.