

1 **3.15 RECREATION**

RECREATION	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 **3.15.1 Environmental Setting**

3 Recreational use of the San Joaquin River is primarily recreational boating and fishing.
 4 There is no public access to the River across the Project site. In addition, public use of
 5 the shoreline on both the east and west sides of the Plant site is prohibited to protect
 6 endangered species at the Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge. There is no
 7 permitted public use of West Island directly north of the wharf across the River.

8 There is public recreation in the River near the wharf because there are no marked
 9 travel lands for recreational boating. Fishing boats or small motor-boats are seen along
 10 the River 800 to 1,000 feet north of the wharf. The members of the public boating,
 11 kayaking, fishing, etc. may even come to the wharf. The Antioch Dunes (see Figure 2.2-
 12 2) may also be an attraction for the public because it is closed from uplands.

13 **3.15.2 Regulatory Setting**

14 There are no Federal or State laws or regulations pertaining to the issue of recreation.
 15 The Project site is within an area of Contra Costa County that was annexed by the city
 16 of Antioch in 2013; therefore, the pertinent local goals, policies, and/or regulations
 17 applicable to this issue area lie with the City.

18 City of Antioch General Plan Section 8, Recreation and Open Space Element, includes
 19 the following potentially relevant policies:

20 *General Goal:*

21 *Objectives and Policies of the Antioch General Plan Resource Management Element*
 22 *is to conserve and enhance the unique natural beauty of Antioch’s physical setting,*
 23 *and control the expansion of urban development by protecting open space where it*
 24 *is important to preserve natural environmental processes and areas of cultural and*

1 *historical value. Open space provides a variety of community benefits, including*
2 *recreation use, visual enjoyment, protection of habitat areas, and hazard protection.*
3 *In Antioch, this means protecting the San Joaquin and natural creeks, as well as*
4 *their adjoining natural beaches and shorelines. It also means opening up views of*
5 *the River, and preserving views of Mt. Diablo and its foothills to protect the beauty of*
6 *the physical setting of the City.*

7 *Specific Policies:*

8 *d. Secure and develop a shoreline park along the San Joaquin River consisting of*
9 *recreational trails, viewing areas, and natural habitat protection so as to ensure*
10 *availability of the waterfront in the City for public enjoyment.*

11 **3.15.3 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 facility would occur or be accelerated?***

15 **No Impact.** The Project would not result in any increased use or visitation to existing
16 neighborhood or regional recreational facilities. There would be no physical
17 deterioration of recreational facilities or reduction in opportunities for recreational use of
18 the San Joaquin River at this location that would occur as a result of the Project. There
19 would be no change in recreation access or use restrictions in the Project area following
20 Project implementation. Project construction activities would be limited to an 8 week
21 period, during which public access would not be available in the immediate vicinity of
22 the wharf.

23 ***(b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or***
24 ***expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect***
25 ***on the environment?***

26 **Less than Significant Impact.** Although the Project would temporarily occupy
27 approximately 1.4 acres of the River surrounding the Project site, it would not include
28 any recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational
29 facilities. There is sufficient area within the River span at the Project location to
30 accommodate existing recreational uses of the waterway during and after the
31 construction period with little or no conflict between use of the wharf and use of the
32 River for recreational purposes.

33 Because of the distance of the Project from the shipping lanes and normal recreational
34 boating routes, Project-related activities are not anticipated to interfere with any other
35 shipping or boating activities. There might be a slight possibility that it might interfere

1 with access, interruptions to use of kayaks, fishing boats, etc.; however, as described in
2 Section 2.4.1.1, Construction Area and Access, large warning signs readable at several
3 hundred feet will be posted at the wharf and around the construction-related equipment
4 in the water before starting work to keep the public safe.

5 **3.15.4 Mitigation Summary**

6 The Project would not result in significant impacts to Recreation; therefore, no mitigation
7 is required.