1 3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less Than Significant with Mitigation</th>
<th>Less Than Significant Impact</th>
<th>No Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Natural Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Pub. Resources Code, § 12220, subd. (g)), timberland (as defined by Pub. Resources Code, § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Gov. Code, § 51104, subd. (g))?</td>
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<td>d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the State’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

2

3 3.2.1 Environmental Setting

3.2.1.1 City of Oakley/Contra Costa County

As indicated in the City’s General Plan document (2010), agriculture is a fundamental component of the community’s character. Historically, agriculture has been the primary economic activity in and around Oakley. At this time, the community is transitioning to a more urban setting and large-scale agriculture is becoming a less prevalent use.

The southern terminus of the Project corridor within the City in Contra Costa County is located within an area zoned for commercial recreation-aquatic with a commercial...
recreation land use designation. Although agriculture is noted as a consistent use with this zoning and land use designation, no agricultural production is currently present within the Project site, as it is used in support of the Lauritzen Yacht Harbor facility.

3.2.1.2 Sacramento County

The northern landing of the Project corridor is located within the levee at Sherman Island in southern Sacramento County. According to the Sacramento County General Plan, Agricultural Element (2011), the Project site is zoned for recreational purposes (REC) from the San Joaquin River to the Sherman Island East Levee Road. The Sherman Island East Levee Road acts as the zoning boundary between the recreational uses and agricultural uses (AG CROP) to the north. This area also serves as the boundary between prime farmlands and those designated of local importance. Project activities would occur on lands under Williamson Act contract (see Figure 3.2-1).

3.2.2 Regulatory Setting

3.2.2.1 Federal and State

Federal and State laws and regulations pertaining to this issue area and relevant to the Project are identified in Table 3.2-1.

| Table 3.2-1. Laws, Regulations, and Policies (Agriculture and Forest Resources) |
| CA | Williamson Act (Gov. Code, §§ 51200-51207) |
| This Act enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners to restrict specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use, and provides landowners with lower property tax assessments in return. Local government planning departments are responsible for the enrollment of land into Williamson Act contracts. Generally, any commercial agricultural use would be permitted within any agricultural preserve. In addition, local governments may identify compatible uses permitted with a use permit. |

3.2.2.2 Local

Contra Costa County

The Land Use Element of the Contra Costa County General Plan 2005-2020 (Contra Costa County 2010) contains policies related to agricultural land use. During project review, proposed uses on the edges of land use designations must be evaluated to ensure compatibility with adjacent planned uses.

City of Oakley

The City’s 2020 General Plan (2010) identifies the following agricultural resource goals and policies applicable to the Project site:
Figure 3.2-1. Important Farmland Map
Environmental Checklist and Analysis - Agriculture and Forest Resources

- Goal 6.1: Allow agriculture to continue as a viable use of land that reflect the community’s origins and minimizes conflicts between agricultural and urban uses.
- Policy 6.1.1: Participate in regional programs that promote the long-term viability of agricultural operations within the City.
- Policy 6.1.2: Reduce the negative impacts resulting from urban uses and neighboring agricultural uses in close proximity.
- Policy 6.1.3: Encourage the promotion and marketing of locally grown agricultural products.

Sacramento County

Farmland resource protection is addressed in the Sacramento County General Plan (Agricultural Element 2011) by the policies and programs described below and intended to meet the following objectives.

- Protect prime, statewide importance, unique and local importance farmlands, and lands with intensive agricultural investments from urban encroachment.
- Retain agricultural land holdings in units large enough to guarantee future and continued agricultural use.
- Prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, unique farmland and farmland of local importance, and farmlands with intensive agricultural investments protected from encroachment by natural resource preserves without compromising biologic diversity and habitat values.
- Protect farmlands from encroachments by recreational facilities and unlawful activities associated with use of recreational facilities.
- Increase in land under Williamson Act contracts and percentage of contract lands with nonrenewal notices stabilized or reduced.
- Reduce or eliminate groundwater cones of depression in farming areas by encouraging water conservation.
- Control wind erosion resulting from soil disturbance.
- No increase in the level or intensity of flooding of intensively farmed land.

The following policy applies to the proposed Project area:

- Policy AG-1: The County shall protect prime, statewide importance, unique and local importance farmlands located outside of the Urban Service Boundary from urban encroachment.
3.2.3 Impact Analysis

a) **Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Natural Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

b) **Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

a) and b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Project is located primarily offshore. As indicated above, the southern landing of the pipelines is located within an area that is zoned and used in support of commercial recreation. However, the northern landing is located within an area partially zoned in support of agricultural use and within a Williamson Act contract area. As such, preservation of agricultural uses has been prioritized through Project design. All onshore decommissioning would be limited to previously disturbed areas and the northern valve box would be fully removed and backfilled to restore this area to pre-development conditions. Additionally, the pipelines coming from this area leading southward offshore would be abandoned in place from the waterside shoulder cut point to the northern submarine cut point (180 feet south of the shoreline). From this point north, the pipelines would be open cut trenched for full removal within the levee section, as requested by the CVFPB/Reclamation District (RD) 341. Following short-term onshore construction activities required to decommission and remove the northern valve box and pipelines, the land use in this area would return to pre-development conditions and could be used in support of agricultural development instead. No conflicting land uses would be present. No significant impact to farmlands would result.

c) **Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Pub. Resources Code, § 12220, subd. (g)), timberland (as defined by Pub. Resources Code, § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Gov. Code, § 51104, subd. (g))?**

**No Impact.** No forest lands or timberlands are located in the site vicinity; therefore, there would be no impact.

d) **Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

**No Impact.** No forest lands or timberlands are located in the site vicinity; therefore, there would be no impact.

e) **Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**
1. No Impact. The Project would not alter the existing environment such that farmland or forest land would be converted to non-agricultural or non-forest uses.

3.2.4 Mitigation Summary

The Project would not result in significant impacts to agricultural resources; therefore, no mitigation is required.