

1 **3.3.14 Recreation**

XIV. 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2 **3.3.14.1 Environmental Setting**

3 **Onshore.** The northernmost location of the Project area is approximately 3.2 km (2 mi)
 4 offshore (west) of the Montaña de Oro State Park at the proposed location of OBS-1.
 5 Montaña de Oro State Park encompasses over 32 km² (8,000 acres) of land and
 6 provides facilities and amenities that include: fishing, horseback trails, guided tours, bike
 7 trails, campsites, exhibits and programs, hiking trails, nature trails, wildlife viewing,
 8 surfing, picnic areas, and trailer accommodations. The onshore portion of the Project is
 9 within DCPD property with no public access and no public recreational facilities. The
 10 public can use the Point Buchon and Pecho Coast Trails that extend from the north and
 11 south, respectively, toward the DCPD property. These are managed access programs
 12 administered by PG&E. Public access to the ocean waters of the Project area may be
 13 gained from the two primary regional harbors: Morro Bay and Port San Luis.

14 **Offshore.** Recreational fishing, including commercial passenger fishing vessels from
 15 Morro Bay and Port San Luis, occurs in the Project area. Please refer to Section 3.3.15,
 16 Commercial and Recreational Fisheries, for additional information regarding
 17 recreational fishing in the Project area. Other offshore recreation within the regional
 18 project area may also include surfing, boating, kayaking, and other water sports. The
 19 marine waters also provide opportunities for wildlife watching.

20 **3.3.14.2 Regulatory Setting**

21 **Federal.** No federal regulations pertain to recreational resources relevant to this Project.
 22 **State.** The following policies from the **California Coastal Act** pertain to the Project.
 23 Section 30220 of the Act is pertinent to recreation, stating:

24 *“Coastal areas suited for water-oriented recreational activities that cannot readily*
 25 *be provided at inland water areas shall be protected for such uses.”*

26 Section 30221 states, in part, that new development shall:

27 *“Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational*
 28 *use and development unless present and foreseeable future demand for public*

1 *or commercial recreational activities that could be accommodated on the*
2 *property is already adequately provided for in the area.”*

3 Section 30223 states, in part, that new development shall:

4 *“Upland areas necessary to support coastal recreational uses shall be reserved*
5 *for such uses, where feasible.”*

6 Section 30234 states, in part, that for new development:

7 *“Facilities serving the commercial fishing and recreational boating industries shall*
8 *be protected and, where feasible, upgraded. Existing commercial fishing and*
9 *recreational boating harbor space shall not be reduced unless the demand for*
10 *those facilities no longer exists or adequate substitute space has been provided.*
11 *Proposed recreational boating facilities shall, where feasible, be designed and*
12 *located in such a fashion as not to interfere with the needs of the commercial*
13 *fishing industry.”*

14 **Local.** The San Luis Obispo County Local Coastal Plan (1988) contains several policies
15 related to parks and recreation. However, because of limited onshore Project activities,
16 all of which are within DCPD property or within an existing berth location at Morro Bay
17 Harbor, there are no policies that would pertain to Project-related activities.

18 3.3.14.3 Impact Analysis

19 **a) *Would the Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional***
20 ***parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical***
21 ***deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?***

22 See response below.

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

26 Onshore activities would occur within DCPD property or onboard the *MV Michael Uhl*
27 while it is moored at its established berth within Morro Bay Harbor. Installation, recovery
28 and operation of the proposed OBS units would not result in an increase in Project area
29 population or a demand for onshore recreation facilities. Therefore, the Project would
30 not result in deterioration of existing recreation facilities or require the construction of
31 new facilities.

32 Coastal Act policies that pertain to recreation facilities and opportunities require the
33 protection of water-oriented recreation activities, protection of oceanfront and upland
34 areas suitable for recreation use, and the protection of recreation boating facilities. The
35 Project would be consistent with these requirements in regard to onshore facilities
36 because the Project would not result in impacts to existing recreation facilities or require
37 the development of new facilities. As described in Section 3.3.15, Commercial and
38 Recreational Fisheries, the Project would not result in significant impacts to recreational

1 fishing, and as a result, would be consistent with Coastal Act policies related to offshore
2 recreation resources and opportunities. Additional policy consistency analysis related to
3 recreation opportunities is provided in Section 3.3.9, Land Use and Planning.

4 3.3.14.4 Mitigation and Residual Impacts

5 **Mitigation.** The Project would not result in significant recreation impacts. Therefore, no
6 mitigation measures are required.

7 **Residual Impacts.** The Project would not result in impacts related to recreation facilities
8 or opportunities. No mitigation is required and no residual impacts would occur.