

**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
INITIAL STUDY  
AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM  
FOR  
CHANGE IN COVER MATERIALS FOR THE FINAL CLOSURE OF THE  
BIG BEAR SANITARY LANDFILL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
FINAL CLOSURE AND POSTCLOSURE MAINTENANCE PLAN**



*Submitted To:*

**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
LAND USE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ADVANCE PLANNING DIVISION  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Bernardino, California 92415-0182**

*Prepared By:*

**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
222 West Hospitality Lane, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
San Bernardino, California 92415-0017**



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**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
INITIAL STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

This Initial Study has been prepared pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15063.

**I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Big Bear Sanitary Landfill (BBSL)	USGS Quad: Onyx Peak
Change in Cover Materials (type/source/location) for Final Closure in Accordance with Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan	T, R, Section T2N, R3E, Sec. 30, 31; Thomas Bros.: Page 4662, G-6 Planning Area: Big Bear

San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division

**INTRODUCTION**

This Initial Study has been prepared to meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with a change in cover materials, including type, source and location, for final closure of the Big Bear Sanitary Landfill (BBSL) in accordance with the Final Closure and Postclosure Maintenance Plan (FCPCMP).

**SITE LOCATION, BACKGROUND, AND SURROUNDING USES**

The BBSL is a Class III landfill located in an unincorporated area in the County of San Bernardino, approximately 8.5 miles northeast of the City of Big Bear Lake, approximately 1.5 miles north of Baldwin Lake and State Highway 18. Figure 1 shows the regional and site location of the BBSL. Access to the landfill is provided from State Highway 18 via Holcomb Valley Road, a two-lane paved road. The landfill occupies approximately 79 acres, of which approximately 36 acres have been utilized for waste disposal, and is owned and operated by the County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD). Figure 2 shows the BBSL site layout.

The BBSL began operation in 1949 as a burn site and developed over time into two separate disposal areas. As show on Figure 3, the BBSL consists of two separate waste management units known as the “upper level” and “lower level”. The lower area consists of a 10-acre disposal footprint that began as a cut-and-cover landfill in 1972. Landfill operations at the lower site were discontinued in 1987 and final closure was completed in 1989 under Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) Order No. 91-015, in accordance with Title 23 CCR, Article 8, Chapter 15, Division 3.

The upper level of the landfill, to be closed under this project, has a footprint of approximately 26 acres. It reached capacity and its use was discontinued on December 15, 2001 as part of the restructuring and consolidation of the County’s solid waste system under the County’s Partnership

Strategy Implementation Plan (PSIP). The PSIP provides a regional approach to solid waste management and calls for the transfer of waste from smaller rural landfills to larger facilities. A solid waste transfer station was constructed on the BBSL property to meet the disposal needs of the businesses and residents of the communities historically served by the BBSL. The 5.7 acre transfer station, which began operation on December 17, 2001, accepts waste from local businesses, residents, and commercial haulers. The waste is transported from the transfer station to the Barstow Sanitary Landfill for ultimate disposal. The transfer station is designed to handle a maximum permitted throughput of 400 tons of residential and commercial refuse and recyclables daily. The waste surge staging area is capable of storing 1,500 cubic yards (cy) of waste (approximately two days worth of waste). Waste is typically removed on a daily (operating day) basis using transfer trailers.

The BBSL is surrounded by national forest land in an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County. There are no residential or commercial land uses within the immediate vicinity of the BBSL.

An Initial Study prepared in November 2004 (Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for Big Bear Lake Nutrient/Sediment Remediation Project and Big Bear Sanitary Landfill Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan – “2004 Initial Study”) assessed final closure and postclosure maintenance of the landfill. Materials for closure were removed from Big Bear Lake, dried, and transported to the BBSL to be used for implementation of the Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan (FCPCMP). Unfortunately, these materials may be unsuitable for use as final cover. The current Initial Study will assess the potential environmental impacts associated with obtaining closure materials from the Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill (MVSL), including transportation to the BBSL.

## **FINAL CLOSURE PLAN**

The components and systems required for closure of the landfill include the final grading plan, final cover and vegetative layer, surface water drainage, erosion control, groundwater monitoring and landfill gas (LFG) monitoring systems, and site security. All of these activities were addressed in the 2004 Initial Study referenced above. The change being addressed in this Initial Study is for the type, source and location of material to be used for final cover. Some of the closure materials may now be imported from the MVSL<sup>1</sup> and be transported approximately 57.5 miles to the BBSL (115 miles round-trip). Testing has shown that the proposed cover material contains soil acceptable for use in a final cover. It is anticipated that up to approximately 100,000 cy of material will be needed. The trucks to be used for transport can carry up to 14 cy of material which will result in approximately 7200 truck trips. Forty-four truck trips will occur per day (22 round trip), transporting a total of approximately 308 cy, over a total of approximately 328 days. Transportation days/hours will be limited to “site activity” days/hours allowed under the current Solid Waste Facility Permits for each site. The FCPCMP was previously approved by the LEA,

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<sup>1</sup> Potential environmental impacts associated with the removal of cover materials from the MVSL are not being evaluated in this document as they have been addressed in previous environmental documents for the MVSL and the proposed activities fall within all currently permitted parameters. Loading on-site will occur utilizing previously evaluated equipment, and a maximum of 44 (22 round trip) daily truck trips onto the property which is well below the previously analyzed and currently permitted daily vehicle limits.

CalRecycle and RWQCB. If implemented, the proposed change in cover material source, type, and location being addressed in this Initial Study will require an amendment to the approved FCPCMP with approval required by the regulatory agencies referenced above.

## **POSTCLOSURE MAINTENANCE PLAN**

Upon completion of closure construction, SWMD will implement the Postclosure Maintenance Plan at the BBSL and will continue to maintain the landfill for at least 30 years after final closure. Postclosure maintenance and monitoring includes maintenance of the final cover, site security, and monitoring and maintenance of the components of the groundwater monitoring system and the LFG monitoring system.

Per Title 27, the postclosure maintenance period will conclude when the LEA, CalRecycle, and RWQCB are satisfied that the site poses no threat to public health and safety or the environment. During the postclosure period, maintenance will be performed in accordance with the applicable regulatory standards presented in Title 27 CCR. The Postclosure Maintenance Plan was previously approved by all applicable agencies.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The closure of the BBSL and the Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan was addressed in the following documents:

- 2004 – Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for Big Bear Lake Nutrient/Sediment Remediation Project and Big Bear Sanitary Landfill Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan
- 2001 – Negative Declaration for the Conditional Use Permit to establish a solid waste transfer facility in an 11,880 s.f. structure on 5.7 acres of 79 acres

Environmental documents for these projects are incorporated by reference as allowed under CEQA Guidelines. Copies of the documents are available for review at the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department, Advance Planning Division, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, San Bernardino, California (2001 document), Big Bear Municipal Water District, 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, California (2004 document) and County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division, 222 West Hospitality Lane, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Bernardino, California (both documents).

## **RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL CLOSURE/POSTCLOSURE MAINTENANCE PLAN**

The following agencies are responsible for review and/or approval of the Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan and any subsequent amendments:

- California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) – ensure the FCPCMP elements conform to the requirements of Title 27 CCR.

- San Bernardino County Division of Environmental Health, LEA – as the lead enforcement agency for the CalRecycle, reviews FCPCMP for compliance with Title 27 CCR and CEQA.
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Colorado River Basin Region – review of FCPCMP for consistency with the appropriate section of Title 27 CCR pertaining to the protection of water quality and conformance with selected landfill closure construction standards.
- San Bernardino County Land Use Services Division, Advance Planning – responsible for final review and approval of environmental document(s).
- San Bernardino County SWMD - responsible for preparation of the draft environmental document, and FCPCMP amendment application package.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

**The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources              | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality          | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Planning     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services               | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |   |

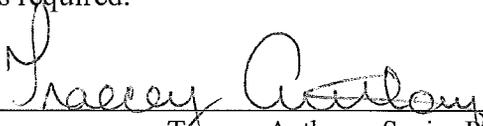
**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached

sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
 Signature Tracey Anthony, Senior Planner  
 (Prepared by) Solid Waste Management Division

2-10-10  
 Date

  
 Signature Carrie Hyke, AICP, Principal Planner  
 (For Land Use Services Director)

2-10-2010  
 Date

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime view in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check \_\_ if project is located within the viewshed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

a-d) The BBSL project area and vicinity does not include, and is not visible from, a scenic vista, scenic highway, or scenic resource of significance as designated in the San Bernardino County General Plan. Since the site has been disturbed by landfill activities for the past 50 years, proposed final closure activities will not significantly alter the existing visual characteristics of the site. The existing visual environment of the project site is comprised of the landfill surface, access roads, transfer station operation structures and surfaces, and the main access via Holcolmb Valley Road. Land surrounding the site is primarily vacant public land consisting of mature trees and open space. The nearest residences are located approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the site in the City of Big Bear Lake and 2.0 miles southeast along Baldwin Lake Road. Therefore, final landfill closure activities will not result in any impacts to scenic resources or substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings and no impacts will occur. The closure activities described in this document will be conducted during daylight hours and will not require additional lighting; therefore, no light source or glare impacts will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES:

- |  |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 Resources Agency, to a non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could individually or cumulatively result in loss conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION (check  if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

a-c) The BBSL is not located on land considered Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance as defined by the California Resources Agency. The landfill site does not contain soils that have been designated as prime or unique agricultural soils and agricultural activities have not historically occurred on site. Native soil at the site is shallow and comprised of weathered granitic material. The site has been disturbed by landfill activities for the last 50 years. Upon application of the final cover, the end use for the landfill will be non-irrigated vegetated open space and the site is not intended for agricultural use. The landfill and final closure activities are located on land zoned for institutional (public facility) uses. Therefore, closure activities will not conflict with existing agricultural use zones or lands subject to the Williamson Act. No impacts to agricultural resources or Williamson Act lands will result from final closure activities.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

- |   |                          |                          |                                     |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (discuss conformity with the South Coast Air Quality Management Plan, if applicable):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

Project Impacts

a) The BBSL is located within the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) and the MVSL is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The Air Quality Management Districts are required, pursuant to the Clean Air Act, to reduce emissions of criteria pollutants for which the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) is in non-attainment (i.e., ozone and PM<sub>10</sub>). The portion of the project for obtaining the closure materials from the MVSL is subject to the SCAQMD’s Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and the BBSL site is subject to the MDAQMD’s Air Quality Attainment Plan (AQAP). The air quality plans contain comprehensive lists of pollution control strategies directed at reducing emissions and achieving ambient air quality standards. These strategies are developed, in part, based on regional population, housing, and employment projects prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG).

CEQA requires that projects be consistent with the applicable air quality plan. A consistency determination plays an essential role in local agency project review by linking local planning and individual projects to the air quality plans in the following ways. It fulfills the CEQA goal of fully informing local agency decision-makers of the environmental costs of the project under consideration at a stage early enough to ensure that air quality concerns are fully addressed. It also provides the local agency with ongoing information assuring local decision makers that they are making real contributions to clean air goals contained in the air quality plans. Only new or amended General Plan elements, Specific Plans, and regionally significant projects need to undergo a consistency review. Therefore, since the project is consistent with the General Plan (discussed in Section IX, Land Use Planning) the project would be considered consistent with the AQMP.

- b) The SCAQMD has promulgated daily emission thresholds for construction and operational activities. The MDAQMD recommends the use of the SCAQMD thresholds for CEQA evaluation, which have been established at a level that either promotes or maintains regional attainment of the relevant ambient air quality standards. A project is deemed to have a significant impact on regional air quality if emissions of criteria pollutants (specified in pounds of pollutant emitted per day) related to either project construction or operation exceed the significance thresholds summarized in the table below.

<u>Air Contaminant</u>	<u>Construction (Pounds per Day)</u>	<u>Post-Construction Operations Pounds per Day)</u>
Carbon Monoxide	550	550
Nitrogen Oxides	100	55
Reactive Organic Compounds	75	55
Particulate Matter	150	150
Sulfur Oxides	150	150

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District CEQA Air Quality Handbook, November 1993.

The 2004 Initial Study analyzed potential air quality impacts related to the closure construction and postclosure maintenance of the landfill. It was determined that landfill closure would result in short-term (construction) activities associated with transporting final cover material to the BBSL site, capping the landfill with a final cover system, installation of surface water drainage and erosion control, and installation of a groundwater monitoring and landfill gas monitoring system. An analysis was conducted based on acceptance of a maximum of 2,500 cy per day of material and found that emissions were below significance thresholds resulting in a less than significant impact to regional air quality.

Obtaining the new materials from the MVSL will require approximately 100,000 cy of material, which will require approximately 7200 truck trips (25,000 lb. trucks) transporting approximately 14 cy of material per trip. Each trip will be approximately 115 miles round trip, with approximately 110.5 miles occurring within the SCAQMD and approximately 4.5 miles occurring in the MDAQMD, with no more than 44 truck trips (22 round trip) occurring per day. Analysis for the 2004 Initial Study utilized the URBEMIS model to calculate emissions. Because the current activities require material transportation only, SCAQMD worksheets were utilized to calculate the emissions data for this activity. Although the BBSL site is located within the MDAQMD, SCAQMD standards were applied for that portion of transportation because they are more stringent. The table below shows that emissions are anticipated to fall below significance thresholds, resulting in a less than significant impact to regional air quality. Also, all construction activities at the BBSL will comply with MDAQMD Rule 403 regarding the control of fugitive dust and other specified dust control measures. Compliance with these regulations will further ensure that the short-term air quality impacts of the proposed project due to closure construction will be less than significant.

**Emissions  
(Pounds per Day)**

Source	ROG	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Loader*	---	---	---	---	---
Haul Truck <sup>1</sup>	7.7	96.7	30.2	8.9	8.0
<b>Totals (lbs/day)</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
<b>Significant</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>

\* Loader included within approved landfill activities

<sup>1</sup> SCAQMD Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy-Duty Diesel Truck, 2010 standards.

Long-term emissions sources associated with the postclosure maintenance of the landfill were evaluated in the 2004 Initial Study and fell below significance thresholds, resulting in a less than significant impact to regional air quality.

- c) As discussed above, the project locations are located within two distinct air basins and are subject to different air quality plans. The air quality plans contain comprehensive lists of pollution control strategies directed at reducing emissions and achieving ambient air quality standards within the corresponding air basin.

The regional emissions calculated for the transportation from the MVSL to BBSL site and site activities are presented in the tables above and are less than the applicable SCAQMD thresholds. These thresholds are designed to assist AQMDs attain the applicable State and national ambient air quality standards within their basin. These standards apply to both primary (criteria and precursor) and secondary pollutants (ozone). Although the project sites are located in regions that are in non-attainment for ozone and PM<sub>10</sub>, the emissions associated with the project will not be cumulatively considerable as the emissions would fall below the SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds for each basin. Therefore, cumulative air quality impacts will be less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) No sensitive receptors are located within the vicinity of the MVSL or BBSL. As such, there are no impacts anticipated for the MVSL portion of the project. All closure construction activities occurring at the BBSL were previously analyzed in the 2004 Initial Study and will comply with MDAQMD Rule 403 regarding the control of fugitive dust and other specified dust control measures. As such, impacts will be less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.
- e) Landfills are potential sources of odiferous emissions of gas mixtures generated from the natural decomposition of organic wastes and vapors from volatile compounds found in the waste known as landfill gases (LFG). Title 27 CCR, Section 20925 requires that subsurface gas monitoring wells (probes) be installed as part of closure around the perimeter of the landfill within the property limits but outside the limits of refuse with a spacing of approximately 1,000 feet. This portion of the project was analyzed in the 2004 Initial Study and no environmental impacts were identified. Additionally, a 4-foot thick layer of final cover is being placed (also previously analyzed) which will eliminate any potential for odor to occur. Therefore, no objectionable odors and anticipated and no mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay \_\_\_ or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database \_\_\_):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a/d) Landfill activities over the past 50 years have stripped the upper level footprint of all native vegetation. A biological resources survey referenced in the 2004 Initial Study found no significant biological resources (wildlife or plant species) located at or near the landfill site. The survey did not identify any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or Special Status species that occur in San Bernardino County as identified within the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) on the project site. No native resident or migratory wildlife corridors exist within the BBSL. Therefore, this project will not have any impact on any existing biological resources or habitat.
- b) Land located within the BBSL is not identified as being riparian habitat identified in any local or regional plans, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as habitat suitable for any sensitive natural communities. The project site does not contain any Alkali Wet Meadow, Pebble Plain or Limestone substrate areas. Therefore, this project will not result in an impact to riparian habitat.
- c) The BBSL does not contain any federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Furthermore, no wetlands surround the project site. Therefore, this project will not impact any protected wetlands and no impacts will occur.
- e/f) The project site does not contain any trees and therefore will not be in conflict with any tree preservation policy or ordinance. The project site also is not included within any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. Final vegetative cover of the project site will include plant species selected to fulfill two important functions: erosion control and moisture control through evapotranspiration. Plants selected for the cover must exhibit suitable erosion control characteristics such as spreading roots, fast growth, adequate soil coverage, and long-lasting/self-propagating reproduction patterns. The plant palette will be incorporated into a revegetation plan. The revegetation of the landfill will not introduce exotic plant species and will not create any barrier to replenishment or migration of existing species occurring in the area. No impacts to biological resources or habitat conservation plans will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change to a significant historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?

- b) Cause a substantial adverse change to significant archeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?
- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?
- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

SUBSTANTIATION (check if the project is located in the Cultural \_\_ or Paleontologic \_\_ Resources overlays or cite results of cultural resource review):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a-d) Cultural resource records and files were reviewed for the 2004 Initial Study and the BBSL was surveyed for archaeological and historical resources. The records search did not identify any historic properties or prehistoric cultural remains within the project site. There are no current locations of archaeological or historical significance within the project vicinity. Additionally, the site is not considered a State-registered Historic Landmark. Placement of the materials will be limited to the landfill surface, which has operated as a sanitary landfill for over 50 years and is underlain by waste. No archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources are anticipated to be encountered during closure activities.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist of the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?
  - ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1 B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check  if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

a/c/d) Based on the San Bernardino County General Plan, the nearest active faults are the North Frontal Fault zone and the San Andreas Fault. The San Andreas Fault (San Bernardino Segment) is located approximately 8.5 miles south of the BBSL. The North Frontal Fault is located approximately 3 miles north of the BBSL. Each of these faults is capable of producing MCE 7.7 and 8.0 earthquakes, respectively. A Final EIR for the City of Big Bear Lake General Plan (referenced for the 2004 Initial Study) concluded that it is likely that the area may experience strong seismic ground-shaking from seismic disturbances from both faults. However, according to the State of California Department of Conservation website ([www.consrv.ca.gov/CGS/rghm/ap/affected.htm](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/CGS/rghm/ap/affected.htm)) the project site is not in an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Area.

Three principal settlement mechanisms that occur at typical municipal waste landfills can be described as: 1) consolidation-induced settlement resulting from the loss of fluids from the refuse prism; 2) shrinkage-related settlement occurring as a result of biochemical decomposition such as fermentation and decay; and 3) compaction-related settlement resulting from the reorientation of solids into a denser configuration. In addition to these settlement characteristics, dynamic settlement can occur during and shortly after earthquake events when soil and/or refuse particles may densify as a result of ground shaking. The landfill had been in operation for over 50 years. Therefore, a significant amount of settlement has already occurred. Based on the proposed final grades, the existing topography and the estimated landfill bottom, the estimated depth of refuse ranges from 110 to 210 feet. The settlement potential may range from six to 40 feet depending on the depth of refuse and settlement percentage (previously approved 2001 Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan).

The proposed final cover will be constructed from soils obtained from the MVSL. The material has been tested for slope stability and the analysis concluded that both cover and waste fill slopes are adequate and no surficial instability due to weather conditions is anticipated. Seismic-induced permanent displacements are estimated to be in the range of six to 12 inches for both cover and refuse fill slopes (previously approved 2001 Final Closure/Postclosure Maintenance Plan). Displacements of this magnitude are not considered to adversely impact the stability of the proposed cover, but may require post earthquake inspection and maintenance. The previously approved Postclosure Maintenance Plan includes provisions for proper maintenance to ensure final cover integrity and effectiveness by providing quarterly site inspections to visually observe evidence of erosion, settlement or subsidence, leachate seeps, condition of drainage facilities, etc. The analysis concluded that the proposed final cover has adequate safety for both static (weather) and seismic conditions and will not create any additional hazards relating to seismic activity. Final closure of the landfill does not include habitable structures of any type. Additionally, Title 27 CCR requires that Class III landfills be designed for the maximum probable earthquake.

The FCPCMP includes an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) which includes emergency response procedures following an earthquake. These measures include:

- Employees driving in the field during an earthquake should stop their vehicle and get out, if it can be done in a safe manner.
- After the earthquake has subsided, site personnel shall report to the site entrance gate for a roll call. An inspection of the site shall then be made and a report given to the Site Safety Officer (SSO).
- Cracks observed in the final cover after an earthquake should be inspected with a combustible gas analyzer. The location of venting and the gas concentrations would be determined and reported to the SSO. Excavation and refill of the smaller surface cracks can be completed immediately. More extensive corrective actions would be directed and authorized by the Site Engineer.

Settlement monuments would be installed to determine the actual final cover settlement that occurs. Postclosure maintenance activities include surveying the site subsequent to any seismic disturbance. Because the project site is vacant, any differential settlement of the landfill would not create unstable earth conditions to which any property or persons would be exposed. Since the analysis of the proposed final cover concluded that the material would not be impacted by both static (weather) and seismic conditions, in addition to the measure identified in the ERP, no geologic impacts with respect to seismic disturbances is expected to occur.

Liquefaction occurs when ground shaking from an earthquake causes the sediment layer saturated with groundwater to lose strength and take on the characteristics of fluids. Groundwater beneath the site is restricted to fractures within the bedrock. Depth to groundwater ranges from 50 to 237 feet below ground surface. The groundwater flows both in northeasterly direction towards Cactus Flats and in a southerly direction toward Baldwin Lake. The unimpeded surface drainage at the site reduces the potential for liquefaction and, therefore, is not an issue of concern for the project site. Further, the BBSL site is not considered to contain native (underlying) soils that are considered expansive or unstable, or that could become unstable as a result of the proposed project.

- b) Closure activities include grading and placement of a final cover designed to meet the thickness and quality of cover material requirements of Title 27 CCR. The proposed final cover design consists of a 4-foot-thick compacted cover overlying a 6- to 18-inch-thick foundation layer which, in turn, overlies the waste. The purpose of the final cover is to provide long-term minimization of surface water intrusion and to reduce the potential for odors and gas emissions. The cover must also provide a base for vegetation that would reduce drainage velocities and thus minimize erosion and abrasion of the final cover. The final closure design for the landfill includes fill area grading and vegetation control features that will reduce the potential for soil erosion due to wind. During the postclosure maintenance period, the final vegetative layer and the final cover will be inspected quarterly for erosion to ensure integrity of the completed final cover, thus reducing potential impacts of wind erosion to the final cover to a less than significant level.

Title 27 CCR requires an analysis of erosion to predict the amount of soil loss in tons/acre/year. The soil loss analysis performed as part of the previously approved Final Closure Plan found that potential soil loss is minimal due to the incorporation of erosion control features including landfill grading, vegetation, and surface water drainage channels which all contribute to controlling erosion from wind and water. Final closure of the landfill will include a compacted final cover, an erosion control surface of native vegetation, and a drainage system installed to contribute to controlling soil erosion. The average soil loss over the landfill was calculated at 1.7 tons/acre/year, which is below the 2 tons/acre/year allowed by the CalRecycle. Over the 30-year postclosure maintenance period, the average soil loss over the entire site will be approximately 0.3 inches. The 30-year soil loss represents less than one percent of the total final cover thickness. Therefore, surface erosion impacts will be less than significant.

Postclosure maintenance will ensure final cover integrity. Any repair of fill materials will be performed in 6- to 8-inch layers consistent with procedures utilized during the final cover placement. The previously approved FCPMP includes recommended methods of repair for the following four modes of final cover distress:

- Penetration into or through the final cover associated with any installation or maintenance of gas system components.
- Settlement related sags and drainage interruptions which interfere with the controlled flow and discharge of surface waters from the closed landfill surface.
- Surface erosion as a result of intense rains.
- Vertical and near vertical cracking of final cover soils as a result of landfill settlement.

Cover repair activities outlined in the previously approved FCPMP will reduce any erosion or structural effects that may occur during the postclosure maintenance period. BMPs will be implemented that will serve to minimize erosion during repair activities. The area will be revegetated after repair activities are completed.

- e) The contractor will provide portable on-site toilets during closure construction at the BBSL. The portable toilets will be removed from the site on a regular basis for servicing at an off-site location. No additional septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems are proposed or required as part of the project. Upon completion of final closure activities, the BBSL will return to its current form and will not contain any structures capable of containing septic or wastewater facilities. No impacts will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

- |  |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment, based on any applicable threshold of significance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- (a) In September 2006 Governor Schwarzenegger signed the Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill 32), which was created to address the Global Warming situation in California. The Act requires that the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. This is part of a larger plan in which California hopes to reduce its emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This reduction will be accomplished through an enforceable statewide cap on GHG emissions that will be phased in starting in 2012 and regulated by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). With this Act in place, CARB is in charge of setting specific standards for different source emissions, as well as monitoring whether they are being met.

The table below evaluates greenhouse gases for this project. The total MTCO<sub>2e</sub> is well below the interim SCAQMD threshold and, as such, the greenhouse gases generated from this project will have no significant impact on the environment.

<b>Greenhouse Gases</b>			
<b>Source</b>	<b>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>1</sup></b>	<b>CH<sub>4</sub><sup>1</sup></b>	<b>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>3</sup></b>
Loader	---	---	---
Haul Truck	10,654.4	0.36	1.40
<b>Totals (lbs/day)</b>	<b>10,654.4</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>1.40</b>
MTCO <sub>2e</sub>	4.8	.00016	.00063
<b>Total MTCO<sub>2e</sub></b>	<b>4.8</b>		
Threshold	10,000 <sup>2</sup>		
<b>Significant</b>	<b>N/A</b>		

<sup>1</sup> SCAQMD Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy-Duty Diesel Truck, 2010 standards.

<sup>2</sup> Interim SCAQMD thresholds, 10,000 MTCO<sub>2e</sub>/year

<sup>3</sup> California Climate Action Registry General Reporting Protocol, Jan 2009, Table C.4 2005-present; Table A9-8-C SCAQMD Handbook

- b) On the date San Bernardino County adopted its General Plan in 2007, the California Attorney General filed suit challenging the adequacy of the General Plan Environmental Impact Report, alleging that it did not comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in its analysis of several things, including greenhouse gas emissions. The County and Attorney General settled the matter when the County agreed to prepare a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan (GHG Plan). The GHG Plan is currently under preparation with an anticipated completion date of February 2010. Therefore, the proposed project will not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires, including where wild lands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wild lands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a) Hazardous or flammable substances that may be used during closure activities at the BBSL include vehicle fuels and oils in the operation of vehicles transporting materials from the MVSL and vehicle fuels and oils in the operation of equipment for closure activities at the BBSL. Construction vehicles on site may require routine or emergency maintenance that could result in the release of oil, diesel fuel, transmission fluid, or other materials. However, the materials used will not be used in quantities or stored in a manner that poses a significant hazard to the public.

The BBSL is a closed Class III landfill. No hazardous, explosive, or toxic substances are known to have been disposed of at the landfill. However, certain household wastes that contain hazardous constituents may have been disposed of at the landfill. Final closure will include the relocation of approximately 10,000 cy of existing waste to accommodate the construction of a 4- to 10-foot-high, 240-linear-foot retaining wall along the east boundary of the BBSL. The waste will be spread across the existing landfill deck prior to placement of the final cover. Although this will lead to exposed waste for a short-term duration of time, no residential receptors are located within the vicinity of the BBSL and only authorized personnel will have access to the area. Should any potentially hazardous materials be encountered during the relocation of this waste, the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) included as part of the previously approved FCPCMP includes site evacuation and emergency response procedures should an imminent threat to public health arise. The ERP includes the following measures:

- Upon encountering an unauthorized release of a hazardous material, the supervisor or lead person would evacuate the landfill area, transfer station area, and scale house, if necessary, and immediately contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Agency.

Because waste is estimated to be at a depth of four feet to 210 feet above surface grade, minimal grading activities associated with final cover placement will not have the potential to disturb hazardous materials that may have been disposed of at the landfill. The application of final cover and foundation material will eliminate the possible exposure or disruption of any

- possible hazardous constituents located within the project site. Following ERP procedures immediately after any future event involving hazardous materials during both the final closure and postclosure maintenance periods will adequately address any potential impacts associated with the proposed project. No hazardous material impacts are expected to occur.
- b) Landfills are potential sources of emissions of gas mixtures generated from the natural decomposition of organic wastes and vapors from volatile compounds found in the waste, known as Landfill Gases (LFG). Concerns associated with LFG involve odors, combustion/explosion hazards, and possible toxic effects. Title 27 CCR, Section 20925 requires that subsurface gas monitoring wells (probes) be installed as part of closure around the perimeter of the landfill within the property limits but outside the limits of refuse with a spacing of approximately 1,000 feet. The existing subsurface LFG monitoring system consists of two probes, which will be decommissioned as part of closure. Five new LFG probes are proposed at closure to provide the required monitoring coverage for LFG migration. On-site monitoring of LFG migration, groundwater quality, drainage structures, and integrity of the final cover will continue through the postclosure maintenance plan for a period of at least 30 years to ensure public health and safety. Therefore, the project will not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions associated with project implementation.
  - c) The BBSL is not located within one-quarter mile of any existing or proposed school facilities. No potential hazardous material impacts to schools will occur.
  - d) Landfills are considered hazardous materials sites due to potential sources of emissions of gas mixtures generated from the natural decomposition of organic wastes and vapors from volatile compounds found in the waste. The BBSL is a closed Class III landfill. No hazardous, explosive or toxic substances are known to have been disposed of at the landfill. However, certain household wastes that contain hazardous constituents may have been disposed of at the landfill. The BBSL is included on the list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 in the San Bernardino County General Plan. However, because the project will not introduce any persons or sensitive receptors to waste, and will result in the permanent closure of the landfill, impacts associated with the site designation as a hazardous materials site is considered less than significant.
  - (e/f) The BBSL is not located within close proximity of an airport or private airstrip. The nearest airport is the Big Bear City Airport located over four miles south of the site. No impacts to airport resources will occur.
  - g) An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) has been prepared to accommodate potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during the postclosure maintenance period and identifies the initial actions to be taken for each situation, including exposure to a hazardous material. The ERP is intended to address contingency situations that are reasonable and foreseeable as required by 27 CCR. The ERP addresses emergency response procedures for potential hazardous material situations that may occur at the landfill, including:

- Upon encountering an unauthorized release of a hazardous material, the supervisor or lead person would evacuate the landfill area, transfer station area, and scale house, if necessary, and immediately contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Agency.

Following ERP procedures immediately after any future event involving hazardous materials during both the final closure and postclosure maintenance periods will adequately address any potential impacts associated with the proposed project. No impacts to emergency response or emergency evacuations plans will occur.

- h) The BBSL is located in Fire Safety Review Area 1 (FR-1) as designated in the San Bernardino County General Plan indicating an area where wildland fires and other natural fire hazards are considered high and may affect nearby areas. Forest land surrounding the BBSL site is designated as FR-1 land. The County has established requirements for land uses in an FR-1 area to reduce the exposure and risk from nearby wildfires or structure fires.

The nearest fire station is located on Big Bear Boulevard (Highway 18) between Pinon and Saw Mill Creek just southwest of Baldwin Lake, approximately seven miles southwest of the landfill site, and would be the first to respond in the event of an emergency. The transfer station located within the BBSL includes an 80,000-gallon fire suppression and wash-down water storage tank, fire extinguishers located at the tipping floor, and hoses which would be available during any fire event happening within the site (2001 Initial Study). Should a nearby fire threaten the BBSL or should an on-site fire occur, the ERP addresses emergency response procedures from potential fire situations that may occur at the landfill, including:

- Contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Agency, even if on-site capabilities are deemed adequate to extinguish fires or control future explosions. On-site landfill and/or transfer station personnel would be instructed to follow the Fire Agency's directions and give their full cooperation.
- In the event of an off-site fire near the landfill, such as a brush fire, the site operator would lend its personnel and equipment, if available, to the Fire Agency to fight the fire.

Final closure activities will not result in an increased exposure of people or property to potential fire hazards. Postclosure maintenance activities include the monitoring of LFG migration, groundwater quality, drainage structures, and integrity of the final cover. These activities are not considered to increase the potential for fire hazard within the project site. Compliance with the sites ERP procedures during both the final closure and postclosure maintenance periods will adequately address any potential impacts associated with wildland fires.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a) In 1995, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) was notified of evidence of a potential contaminated release to groundwater at the BBSL. A Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) was prepared containing a work plan for an evaluation monitoring program (EMP). In response, the RWQCB issued Cleaup and Abatement Order (CAO) 95-124 and subsequently revised it to CAO 97-13, which amended the completion schedule for the EMP, engineering feasibility study (EFS), and corrective action plan (CAP). The EMP and EFS concluded that the landfill posed a low threat to groundwater and additional evaluation and implementation of the CAP was not warranted. In a letter dated November 5, 1999, the SWMD requested that the CAO be modified to reflect the BBSL's closure schedule based on the assumption that the final cover would be a "presumptive remedy" for groundwater impacts at the site.

The existing groundwater monitoring system includes a series of both downgradient and upgradient wells. These wells are monitored in accordance with Waste Discharge Report (WDR) No. 96-046 and CAO 97-131. In accordance with WDR No. 96-046, groundwater samples have been collected and reported quarterly for the past 10 years. After 50 quarterly monitoring events, no volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have been measured at or above an existing State or Federal maximum contaminant level (MCL). Since the current system meets these requirements of 27 CCR, no additional detection monitoring points are planned to be installed. The proposed final cover designed to be installed at the site will lessen the potential for future groundwater degradation. The permanent drainage control facilities on the landfill are designed to convey the peak discharge from the 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event. Runoff from the landfill will be collected by benches and intercepted by concrete downdrains, strategically placed to quickly remove surface water away from the

waste prism. Continued groundwater monitoring as part of the EMP will provide the necessary data required by the RWQCB CAO. The proposed project will, therefore, not contribute further to the existing groundwater quality impact currently regulated through the CAO.

- b) The project site is not located above a groundwater basin, nor is a landfill considered a spreading ground for groundwater discharge. No wetlands exist within close proximity of the BBSL making the potential for groundwater to exist in proximity to the surface of the site remote. The final cover is a “presumptive remedy” for groundwater impacts at the site and will ensure that percolation through the waste prisms will not occur. Final closure of the landfill will not result in an increase of the impervious area which could result in a reduction in groundwater recharge. Therefore, no impacts to groundwater resources will occur.
  
- c/d/e) The BBSL is located in a mountainous region along the northwestern flank of Nelson Ridge, approximately 4.5 miles northeast of Big Bear Lake. The site is located within the Johnson Hydrologic Unit, which is under the jurisdiction of the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board. Elevations range from approximately 6,900 feet in the southern part of the site, where the closed upper level of the landfill is located, to approximately 6,500 feet in the northern part, where the closed lower level of the landfill is located. The topographic gradient flattens out considerably northeast of the site to a valley known as Cactus Flats, with an approximate elevation of 6,000 feet. Approximately 1.5 miles south of the site is Baldwin Lake at an elevation of 6,715 feet. Groundwater beneath the site is restricted to fractures within the bedrock. Depth to groundwater ranges from 50 to 237 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flows both in a northeasterly direction towards Cactus Flats and in a southerly direction toward Baldwin Lake.

The function of the drainage control system as designed in the previously approved Final Closure Plan is to collect and convey stormwater in a controlled manner so as to minimize erosion and inhibit the infiltration of stormwater into the refuse prism. The final drainage control system will promote lateral runoff of surface water and minimize the effects of settlement. Perimeter maintenance and deck access roads will be used to maintain the final cover and environmental control system throughout the postclosure maintenance period. A comprehensive drainage design for the ultimate configuration of the landfill was prepared as part of the previously approved FCPCMP. The design includes minimizing runoff from elevated portions of the landfill; providing an adequate surface runoff collection system to minimize on-site erosion; connecting the on-site system to natural drainage patterns and identifying remedial measures to be implemented if erosion were to occur on landfill slopes during severe precipitation events.

The permanent drainage control facilities on the landfill have been designed to convey the peak discharge from the 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event. Runoff from the landfill will be collected by benches and intercepted by concrete downdrains which will be strategically placed to remove surface water away from the waste prism. The downdrains are directed to discharge water to perimeter channels with splash walls. Perimeter drainage channels will be constructed at locations along the side of the landfill and access roads to the landfill. The perimeter channels will convey the runoff towards the natural drainage channels located at the

north and south of the site, incorporating the natural drainage of the site. The previously approved plan was reviewed by the County Flood Control District and the RWQCB to ensure that final closure will not exceed the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. No significant impacts from surface drainage and stormwater runoff will occur with the proposed closure activities and postclosure site maintenance. Final closure of the BBSL will not exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems and will not cause a new source of polluted runoff. No drainage or runoff impacts will occur.

- f) Postclosure maintenance activities include the monitoring of landfill gas migration, groundwater quality, drainage structures, and integrity of the final cover. As part of the requirements for a General Industrial Permit, a SWPPP and Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) were prepared for the landfill in compliance with the NPDES Permit requirements in January of 1994. These reports include specific requirements for inspection, sampling, observations and reporting as required by General Industrial Activities Stormwater Discharge Permit Number 6B 36S005257 for the BBSL. These activities will continue throughout the postclosure maintenance period, resulting in less than significant stormwater impacts to water quality.
  
- g/h/i) The BBSL is not located within a Flood Plain Safety Overlay District or a Dam Inundation Overlay as identified in the San Bernardino County General Plan. The site is an existing landfill facility situated in a saddle where Nelson Ridge joins Gold Mountain in the northeastern portion of the Big Bear Basin. The site is located on the axis of a surface drainage divide. Surface runoff along the northeastern portion of Nelson Ridge flows towards Cactus Flats. Surface water runoff along the southwestern portion of the ridge flows towards Baldwin Lake. Final landfill closure activities do not include the construction of any habitable living spaces or structures that could be impacted by or impede any potential floodwater flows. Therefore, final closure of the BBSL will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. No flood hazards impacts will occur.
  
- j) Given the distance and elevation of the BBSL to Big Bear Lake, Baker Lake, or Baldwin Lake, and the absence of any nearby dams or reservoirs, no potential seiche impact to the site exists. Given the distance of the project site to the Pacific Ocean, the BBSL is not located within an area that could be impacted by a tsunami. The project site is not located within a Flood Plain Safety Overlay District or within a Dam Inundation Overlay District as identified in the San Bernardino County General Plan, which would indicate areas subject to possible mudflow impacts.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community's conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a) The BBSL has been in existence for over 50 years and is surrounded by U.S. Forest Service lands. The nearest residential developments are located approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the site in the City of Big Bear Lake and 2 miles to the southeast, along Baldwin Lake Road. Closure of the landfill and postclosure maintenance will not alter existing land use patterns or physically divide an existing community. Therefore, implementation of the previously approved FCPCMP will not physically divide any established communities.
- b) The BBSL has been used as a sanitary landfill for over 50 years and is designated as a solid waste site in the San Bernardino County General Plan. The project is the final closure of the BBSL and does not propose any new development in the project area. The end use for the site is to be non-irrigated open space, which is in compliance with the existing General Plan land use designation. The site is surrounded by National Forest land in an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County. The County General Plan identifies the surrounding area as Resource Conservation (RC) in the Bear Valley Planning Area. Closure of the landfill will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project.

- c) The project area is not included within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impacts to habitat conservation or natural community conservations plans will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

- |   |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in the loss of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION (check \_\_ if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a-b) The project area is not designated or located within a Mineral Resources Zone (MRZ) as identified by the State Mining and Geology Board (San Bernardino County General Plan). Therefore, no impacts to mineral resources will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XII. NOISE – Would the project result in:

- |   |                          |                          |                                     |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundbourne vibration or groundbourne noise levels?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

SUBSTANTIATION (check if the project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District \_\_\_\_ or is subject to severe noise levels according to the General Plan Noise Element \_\_):

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

Project Impacts:

a/b/d) The landfill is located in a relatively low background noise setting and is not within a noise hazard overlay district. The surrounding area is essentially undeveloped with the nearest residences approximately 2.5 miles from the site. The landfill is no longer in use so it does not contribute any noise. The existing transfer station, located on the landfill site, adds to the background noise levels during the day, but does not generate noise during the evening or nighttime hours as operation activities are limited to daytime hours only. The landfill is operated in compliance with County noise standards contained in the San Bernardino County General Plan.

Construction activities associated with closure will include vehicles and equipment similar to those already approved for use on the site. Once the landfill is closed, postclosure activities will be limited to inspection and maintenance of the final cover, drainage facilities, and other monitoring systems on site. These activities will not result in significantly increased on site noise levels. Final closure activities at the BBSL will increase noise levels on the site due to the temporary use of construction but because there are no sensitive receptors or residential housing located within its vicinity, potential noise impacts are considered less than significant.

- c) Upon final closure of the landfill, postclosure maintenance activities will not introduce any new permanent sources of noise. No permanent noise impacts will occur as a result of final closure/postclosure activities at the BBSL.
- e-f) The BBSL is not located within close proximity to an airport or private airstrip. The nearest airport is the Big Bear City Airport located over four miles south of the BBSL site. No impacts to airport safety will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:

- |   |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a-c) The BBSL site has been used as a landfill for over 50 years. Final closure of the landfill will not cause the removal or displacement of any existing housing units. Final closure will not generate any permanent employment and will not result in any permanent relocation of workers to the area. Landfill closure staffing will be short-term and construction workers will not be expected to relocate to the area. Therefore, the project will not introduce permanent residents to the area or create demand for additional housing. Additionally, the project will have no direct or indirect potential to affect existing housing or alter the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the population existing in the area. The project will be adequately served by existing infrastructure and will not require an extension of infrastructure. No direct or indirect impact on population growth will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

i) Fire protection, including medical aid?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

Fire Protection: The BBSL is located in Fire Safety Review Area 1 (FR-1) as designated in the San Bernardino County General Plan indicating an area where wildland fires and other natural fire hazards are considered high and may affect nearby areas. Forest land surrounding the BBSL site is designated as FR-1 land. The County has established requirements for land uses in an FR-1 area to reduce the exposure and risk from nearby wildfires or structure fires.

The nearest fire station is located on Big Bear Boulevard (Highway 18) between Pinon and Saw Mill Creek just southwest of Baldwin Lake, approximately seven miles southwest of the landfill site, and would be the first to respond in the event of an emergency. The transfer station located within the BBSL includes an 80,000-gallon fire suppression and wash-down water storage tank, fire extinguishers located at the tipping floor, and hoses which would be available during any fire event happening within the site (2001 Initial Study). Should a nearby fire threaten the BBSL or should an on-site fire occur, the ERP addresses emergency response procedures from potential fire situations that may occur at the landfill, including:

- Contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Agency, even if on-site capabilities area deemed adequate to extinguish fires or control future explosions. On-site landfill and/or transfer station personnel would be instructed to follow the Fire Agency’s directions and give their full cooperation.
- In the event of an off-site fire near the landfill, such as a brush fire, the site operator would lend its personnel and equipment, if available, to the Fire Agency to fight the fire.

Because the BBSL contains fire suppression equipment and emergency response procedures, final closure activities will not result in a direct need for new or expanded facilities. Postclosure maintenance activities will include the monitoring of landfill gas migration, groundwater quality, drainage structures, and integrity of the final cover. These activities are not considered to increase the potential fire hazard within the project site. Compliance with the site’s ERP procedures during both the final closure and postclosure maintenance periods will adequately address any potential impacts associated with wildland fires.

Police Protection: The project site is a closed landfill which does not require a significant level of police protection. Security fencing and gates currently surround the project site and quarterly inspections and maintenance of this security feature is part of the previously approved postclosure maintenance plan. Therefore, the final closure and postclosure maintenance activities are not expected to result in an increase in existing demands on police services or existing facilities.

Schools: The project is for final closure of the BBSL. No land development is proposed for the site upon final closure of the landfill. The proposed project will not generate new job opportunities or induce population to the Big Bear area. Therefore, the closure of the landfill will have no adverse impact on local schools or result in the direct need for new or expanded facilities.

Parks: There are no recreational facilities located within or adjacent to the BBSL. The closure of the landfill will not affect the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities. No impacts to existing recreational facilities in the area will occur and final closure of the BBSL will not result in the need for new or expanded recreational facilities serving the.

Other Public Facilities: The closure of the BBSL will not affect any other public facilities and there are no other public facilities located in the immediate area of the site. The transfer station is located within the BBSL site as a means to continue providing waste removal services to residents. Therefore, no impacts to other public facilities are anticipated.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XV. RECREATION

- |  |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) 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"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

a-b) There are no existing or proposed recreational facilities located within the BBSL project site. Therefore, the closure and postclosure maintenance of the landfill will not affect the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities. No impacts will occur.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:</b>				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

- a/b) The trip from the MVSL to transport materials to the BBSL will occur via State Highway 210, to Highway 330, to Highway 18 (See Figure 3). 2008 CalTrans data was reviewed to obtain information about average daily trips (ADT), as well as peak hour trips, along the proposed route. Highway 210 (San Bernardino, Junction Route 18 North), 114,000 adt/9700 peak; Highway 330 (Junction Route 30) 11,600 adt/1400 peak and (Running Springs, Junction Route 18) 12,700 adt/1500 peak; Highway 18 (Junction Route 330 South) 6900 adt/1000 peak, and (Baldwin Lake Road) 2450 adt/230 peak.

The project requires approximately 100,000 cubic yards (cy) of material. The material will be hauled in trucks with an estimated capacity of approximately 14 cy per load and no more than 44 daily truck trips (22 round trips at 115 miles/57.5 miles each way). Assuming a 10-hour work day, this will result in approximately 4.4 two-way truck trips per hour. In order to convert truck trips into car trips, a passenger car equivalent (PCE) factor is used. This conversion is done to account for the length and relative speed of trucks in comparison to cars. Assuming a factor of 3 (one truck equals three cars), the hauling will result in 13.2 trips per hour, which will have little effect on existing traffic numbers. Therefore, no impacts to traffic load, capacity, or level of service will occur.

- c) The nearest airport to the BBSL is the Big Bear City Airport located over four miles south of the site. The project will not result in any long-term changes in land use (e.g., new residential uses or structures that would interfere with navigable aids) and no impacts to airport resources will occur. The closure and postclosure activities associated with the proposed project will not result in additional exposure of persons to aviation hazards, nor

will the resulting closed landfill impact nearby air transportation facilities or flight paths. Therefore, no impacts to aviation operations will occur.

- d) The project will not result in any changes to roadway design nor will it result in a significant increase in truck traffic along the roadways due to the hauling of material. Although there will be a slight increase in truck traffic, the project will not substantially increase hazards due to an incompatible use since trucks have historically been used on these roads when the landfill was operational and trucks currently use the roads to access the transfer station located on the site.
- e) The project will not change or modify any existing emergency access routes and therefore, no impacts to emergency access will occur.
- f) Final closure of the landfill will have no impact on existing BBSL on-site parking capacity. Existing parking available within the transfer station will accommodate any short-term increase of on-site parking demand during the closure process. During implementation, equipment will be parked in a staging area located within the upper level of the landfill. Upon final closure completion, the number of employees presently working at the landfill transfer station will be unaltered. No new demand for parking will occur.
- g) The project will not impact any existing bus routes or bicycle paths in the vicinity of the BBSL. No impacts are expected to alternative transportation policies or facilities as a result of the proposed project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the project:</b>				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

The full range of closure activities for the BBSL was previously addressed in the 2004 Initial Study. This document addresses a change in the material type, source, and location for final closure and the delivery of this material to the site.

a/b/d/e) The contractor will provide portable toilets on-site for wastewater generation during construction. The portable toilets will be removed from the site on a regular basis for servicing at an off-site location. The amount of wastewater generated by workers during closure will be minimal and volumes associated with landfill closure will not adversely affect the treatment plant that would receive the wastewater. Because of minimal wastewater volumes associated with landfill closure, the wastewater would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Once project implementation is completed, there will be no substantial wastewater generation during postclosure maintenance activities. Therefore, no permanent increase in capacity of any wastewater treatment plan is anticipated due to final closure and no impact to wastewater will occur.

The project will require water for dust control and soil compaction during closure activities. Irrigation water demand is considered to be short-term use required for implementation activities and plant establishment. Irrigation water will be supplied via existing potable and non-potable water lines within the BBSL. Because water usage required for final closure activities will be short-term, the proposed project will have a less than significant impact on

groundwater resources and will not result in a change to surface area where groundwater can recharge. After activities associated with final closure are complete, the demand for water will cease. Both the final and postclosure maintenance activities will require minimal water and will not require or result in the construction of new water facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Furthermore, existing water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlement and resources should contain sufficient resources to supply water. No impacts will occur.

- c) On-site stormwater drainage is discussed in Section VIII, Hydrology, of this document. A comprehensive drainage design for the final closure of the landfill was prepared as part of the previously approved FCPCMP. The design includes minimizing runoff from elevated portions of the landfill; providing an adequate surface runoff collection system to minimize on-site erosion; connecting the on-site system to natural drainage patterns; and identifying remedial measures to be implemented if erosion occurs on landfill slopes during severe precipitation events. Therefore, no impacts regarding stormwater drainag will occur.
  
- f/g) The Partnership for Countywide Integrated Waste Management Strategy (Strategic Plan) was developed by the County, cities, Solid Waste Advisory Task Force and other interested parties as a long-range plan to consolidate the County’s sanitary landfill system into a streamlined, cost-efficient integrated solid waste system. The Strategic Plan was adopted by the County Board of Supervisors in June 1995. The plan for consolidation was built upon a regional concept; key landfills are expanded to serve as regional landfills and provide long-range capacity for the region. The closure of the BBSL is consistent with the Strategic Plan. The upper level of the BBSL was officially closed on December 15, 2001. A transfer station currently operates within the BBSL to accommodate the disposal needs of the communities that were previously served by the BBSL. No impacts to federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste will occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory?
 

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)
- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

- a-c) The BBSL occupies approximately 79 acres which, for the most part, have been fully disturbed by previous landfill operations. Most of the habitat surrounding the existing landfill has received varying levels of disturbance and has been heavily impacted. There are no potential individual impacts that will result in a cumulative impact, nor are there any environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings. The proposed project will not cause a significant adverse impact on the environment. The contractor’s work plan will include dust and erosion control, safety measures, and stormwater control measures. Truck trips resulting from the hauling of cover soil from the MVSL are well within the road capacity along the route. No project-specific mitigation is required for this change in the source of cover soil.

