



***NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF  
DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT***

**Project Title:** Amendment to the Sonoma Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan.

**Project Applicant:** Sonoma County Waste Management Agency

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA) will be the lead agency under the California Environmental Protection Act (CEQA) and will prepare a Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report (SPEIR) for the Amendment to the Sonoma Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CoIWMP). The amendment includes modifications to the CoIWMP Household Hazardous Waste Element and the Siting Element. The modification to the Household Hazardous Waste Element would allow for the development of additional household hazardous waste collection facilities in addition to the one presently at the Central Disposal site. The modification to the Siting Element would allow for additional solid waste disposal strategies, including out-of-County disposal with waste transported by truck and/or rail, and divestiture of the County Disposal System to a private owner. An Initial Study that contains a more detailed description of the Amendment to the CoIWMP and summarizes the probable environmental effects that would be associated with it is contained in the attached materials.

If you are a responsible agency, we need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. Your agency will need to use the SPEIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP.

Due to the time limits mandated by State Law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. Please send all written comments faxed or postmarked no later than May 26, 2008, to Patrick Carter, Sonoma County Waste Management Agency, 2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Comments may also be faxed to (707) 565-3701, attention Patrick Carter.

**Public Scoping Meeting:** The SCWMA will hold a public scoping meeting from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on May 5, 2008. This meeting will allow an opportunity for the public to express views regarding the scope of the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR. The comments will be considered by the SCWMA during the preparation of the EIR. The meeting will be held at the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department Main Conference Room (2796 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403).

Date: April 24, 2008

Attachments: Initial Study

[Redacted Signature]  
Susan Klassen, Interim Executive Director  
Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
Telephone (707) 565-2231



# ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

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## Initial Study

<b>Project Title:</b>	Amendment to the Sonoma Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan
<b>Lead Agency Name and Address:</b>	Sonoma County Waste Management Agency
<b>Contact Person and Phone Number:</b>	Patrick Carter, Waste Management Specialist (707) 566-3701
<b>Project Location:</b>	Sonoma County
<b>Project Sponsor's Name and Address:</b>	Sonoma County Waste Management Agency 2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

## Introduction

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA) intends to amend the Sonoma Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CoIWMP) to include the modifications identified below. This Initial Study identifies impacts and environmental issues related to the Amendment to the CoIWMP, which will be addressed in a Supplemental Program Environment Impact Report (2008 SPEIR). Per California Environmental Protection Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15163 (a)(2) and (b), preparation of a supplement to an EIR is allowed when only minor additions or changes would be necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation and it only needs to contain the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the revised project. The environmental issue areas that would not require major revisions to the previous Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report (2003 SPEIR) due to the lack of significant new environmental effects or would not increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; and/or where there is no “new information of substantial importance,” as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3), will not be analyzed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## Project Background and Setting

In 1994, the County of Sonoma (CS) and the incorporated cities and towns within the County adopted the first CoIWMP, which was approved by the California Integrated Waste Management

Board (CIWMB) in 1996. The CoIWMP is the principal planning document for solid waste management in Sonoma County as required by the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (also known as Assembly Bill (AB) 939). It identifies goals and objectives of the County and the incorporated cities in the County with respect to solid waste reduction, recycling diversion, and disposal. Concurrent with the preparation of the CoIWMP, all incorporated Sonoma County cities and the County entered into a Joint Powers Agreement which formed the SCWMA to deal with household hazardous waste, yard and wood waste, and public education. In 1996, the Joint Powers Agreement was amended to establish the SCWMA as the sole public planning agency for solid waste management in Sonoma County.

The SCWMA completed a Program Environmental Impact Report (1996 PEIR) for the CEQA review of the 1996 CoIWMP (SCWMA, 1996), which is a compilation of solid waste planning documents, including: (1) Source Reduction and Recycling Elements (SRRE); (2) Household Hazardous Waste Elements (HHWE); (3) Non-disposal Facility Elements (NDFE) for each jurisdiction; (4) a Countywide Siting Element; and (5) a Summary Plan that describes all of the elements. In 2003, the SCWMA prepared a Supplemental PEIR (2003 SPEIR) for updates it proposed to the CoIWMP (SCWMA, 2003a). The 2003 CoIWMP was adopted and certified by the SCWMA in October 2003 (SCWMA, 2003b). Many of the potential impacts of the proposed COIWMP amendments would be reduced or eliminated by the mitigation measures adopted in the 2003 CoIWMP. All the mitigation measures adopted for the 2003 CoIWMP are reproduced in this Initial Study at the end of each of the resource topic analyses.<sup>1</sup>

In the summer of 2003, the CS confirmed the presence of trace amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the underdrain system at the East Canyon Expansion of the Central Disposal Site near Petaluma. The source of contamination was traced back to a liner installation method of the underdrain system. The CS immediately worked to retrofit the liner, which was completed in September, 2004. On-going water quality sampling has shown significant reductions in detected VOC levels in the underdrain.

As a result of the underdrain contamination, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) adopted corrective action Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) that prohibit planned landfill expansion phases within the East Canyon Expansion until the CS can show that the underdrain is free of contamination for a period of time. Because Sonoma County has no other solid waste disposal facilities, it had to change its management of the incoming waste stream. In April 2005, the CS made temporary changes to operations at its Central Disposal Site and four transfer stations, which required a revision to the Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) for the Central Disposal Site and amendments to the Report of Facility Information (RFI) for each of the transfer stations. The changes allowed for the temporary conversion of the Central Disposal Site to a transfer station and allowed refuse collected at the other transfer stations to be hauled to out-of-County permitted landfills.

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<sup>1</sup> The 2003 SPEIR is available on-line at [http://www.recyclenow.org/Final\\_Supp\\_EIR\\_CoIWMP.pdf](http://www.recyclenow.org/Final_Supp_EIR_CoIWMP.pdf)

In response to the limited permitted landfill capacity, the CS contracted out-of-County truck haul and refuse disposal services from three separate companies for a five-year period beginning September 1, 2005. The suspension of refuse disposal at the Central Disposal Site and the resulting out-of-County truck hauling of refuse is inconsistent with the existing Siting Element of the CoIWMP, which describes a system in which refuse is disposed of at County-owned facilities within Sonoma County. Sonoma County's out-hauling of refuse by truck during an interim period beginning 2005 is permissible through California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) categorical exemptions for the Annapolis, Guerneville, Healdsburg, and Sonoma transfer stations and through an addendum to the Sonoma County Central Disposal Site Improvement Program Final Environmental Impact Report.

The currently proposed amendments include changes to the CoIWMP Siting Element that would allow for alternative strategies for disposal of solid waste, which would be adopted at the end of the interim period. This SPEIR (2008 SPEIR) will analyze the potential impacts associated with the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP.

Another objective in amending the CoIWMP is to eliminate the restriction in the current Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE), which identifies only one permanent Household Hazardous Waste collection facility in the County. The Amendment to the CoIWMP would allow for the development of other permanent Household Hazardous Waste collection facilities in the County.

## **Project Description**

Following are descriptions of the proposed amendments to the CoIWMP HHWE and the Siting Element, with a discussion of the changes that may occur as a result of the proposed amendments.

## **Summary of Amendments to the Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE)**

The HHWE identifies the quantities of household hazardous waste generated in the County and specifies the means to safely collect, recycle, treat and dispose of hazardous waste generated by Sonoma County households. The HHWE describes refuse collection services, including special one-day events, drop-off sites, and mobile collection. The HHWE also describes exchange, reuse, and recycling alternatives for waste oil, paint, batteries, and other household hazardous waste and solid waste facility load checking programs.

The HHWE currently depicts a single permanent household hazardous waste collection facility at the Central Disposal Site. This limitation hinders the ability of SCWMA to establish additional permanent facilities at other locations within the County. The flexibility to create additional collection facilities could improve the efficiency of collection. Therefore, revisions would be made to the HHWE that would allow for the potential for additional permanent household

hazardous waste collection facilities to be established in the County. Currently, there are no proposed sites selected for additional household hazardous waste collection facilities.

## Summary of Amendments to the Siting Element

The CoIWMP Siting Element provides an integrated strategy to ensure long-term disposal capacity in the County. CIWMB regulations require the SCWMA to demonstrate its ability to provide permitted disposal capacity for Sonoma County. The 1996 Siting Element describes six options for expansion of the Central Disposal Site landfill. In 2003, the Siting Element was revised to meet the disposal capacity needs with: 1) creation of additional landfill capacity at the Central Disposal Site; 2) construction of new facilities for materials recovery, organic processing, composting, and reduction of the volume of landfill disposal waste; and 3) siting and permitting of a new landfill that would provide additional disposal capacity, and would be able to accept both mixed solid waste and waste that has been processed to produce energy.

Revisions are proposed for the Siting Element to reflect that all landfilling of solid waste at the Central Disposal Site has been suspended and that no waste is currently disposed of within Sonoma County. The CS is considering divestiture of the Central Disposal Site to a private operator who may resume in-County disposal; additionally, potential sites for disposal may exist within Sonoma County and the SCWMA supports efforts to identify potential in-County disposal sites. Therefore, the Siting Element criteria for establishing new or expanding existing solid waste facilities would be revised to be applicable to a public or private entity that wishes to create a new, or expand an existing, landfill in the future. Following are descriptions of the proposed strategies for disposal of solid waste.

### Strategies for Disposing Solid Waste

The amended Siting Element would include a short term disposal strategy and a medium term disposal strategy. The short term disposal strategy is to continue the out-of-County disposal contracts that are currently in place, which would ensure sufficient disposal capacity until 2010, when the contracts are scheduled to expire. The medium term (years 2010 through 2022) disposal strategy would consider the following three options:

- Out-of-County disposal with waste transport by truck;
- Out-of-County disposal with waste transport by rail; and
- Divestiture of the County Disposal System to a private owner who may resume operation and possibly pursue expansion.

#### ***Waste Transported by Truck Haul***

The CS currently owns and operates five transfer stations located near Annapolis, Guerneville, Healdsburg, Petaluma, and Sonoma. Each of the transfer stations is setup for transfer of solid waste to trucks to transport the waste to out-of-County disposal sites. This option would require no additional site acquisition. The cost effectiveness of truck hauling declines rapidly as distance from Sonoma County increases, so it would be desirable for the CS to secure contracts with

landfill owners in or close to the Bay Area. A recent analysis conducted by Brown, Vence, & Associates, Inc., indicates that there is adequate landfill capacity in the Bay Area to support Sonoma County's disposal needs for the next 15 years (BVA, 2004). The following is a non-exclusive list of disposal sites currently used to dispose solid waste generated in Sonoma County that would likely be candidates for medium term waste transport by truck disposal sites:

- Redwood Sanitary Landfill in Novato;
- Potrero Hills Landfill in Suisun City;
- Keller Canyon Landfill in Pittsburg;
- Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill in Livermore;
- Hay Road Landfill in Vacaville;
- Yolo County Central Landfill in Davis; and
- Clover Flat Landfill in Calistoga.

### ***Waste Transported by Rail Haul***

Hauling waste by rail (WBR) would increase accessibility to a larger number of disposal sites than truck hauling; however, significant capital investment would be required for WBR. Therefore, a long-term commitment to WBR in the form of a 20- to 25-year contract with the North Coast Rail Authority (NCRA) and the destination landfill facilities would be necessary. The NCRA represents rail activities for the counties of Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Marin. CS recently contracted for a feasibility review of using rail haul to transfer solid waste out of Sonoma County (BVA, 2005). The findings of the review indicate that with necessary infrastructure improvements, WBR would be feasible and should be considered as a long-term refuse haul option for Sonoma County. The infrastructure requirement for development of an out-of-County WBR would generally include the following five components:

- Transfer Station to collect, recover divertible materials, and load residual waste into intermodal containers or consolidate for loading gondola cars.
- Local Rail Yard to load intermodal containers or gondola cars on spur track.
- Rail Haul for transporting containers or gondola cars over rail lines to the remote rail yard.
- Remote Rail Yard to off-load the containers or material in gondola cars to the landfill or transfer vehicles for haul to the landfill.
- Landfill for disposal of residual solid waste.

The 2008 SPEIR may also consider and discuss other WBR management technologies that could implement the desired goal of hauling waste out of Sonoma County by rail.

### ***Divestiture of County Disposal System***

The CS is considering a process in which a private organization may assume ownership of the CS Disposal System, either in part or in whole. A private owner may pursue actions which would allow for waste to again be deposited at the Central Disposal Site. Should landfilling operations resume at the Central Disposal Site under new ownership, currently permitted areas may not require additional CEQA analysis or documentation. However, any potential future landfilling operations at the Central Disposal Site would be subject to all applicable CEQA County Use Permit requirements.

## Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The proposed project could potentially affect the environmental factor(s) checked below in ways that are substantially different than those analyzed in prior CEQA documents for the CoIWMP. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental factor.

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

### DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial study, the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency has determined that:

- ☐ No substantial changes are proposed in the project and there are no substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Also, there is no "new information of substantial importance" as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, the previously adopted ND or previously certified EIR is adequate.
- ☐ Substantial changes are proposed in the project or there are substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous Negative Declaration due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Or, there is "new information of substantial importance," as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). However all new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in severity of previously identified significant effects are clearly avoidable through the incorporation of mitigation measures agreed to by the project applicant. Therefore, a Subsequent ND is required.
- ☒ Substantial changes are proposed in the Amendment to the CoIWMP or there are substantial changes in the circumstances under which it would be undertaken that would require major revisions to the previous Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report (SPEIR) due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; and/or there is "new information of substantial importance," as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, a new SPEIR is required.

Signature   
  
 Printed Name

Date 4/24/08

# Environmental Checklist

Each of the resource areas has a series of questions related to various environmental impacts that may be associated with the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. Issues related to the questions that are answered “yes” will be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR and ones that are answered “no” will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## 1. Aesthetics

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects to aesthetic resources? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<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 corridor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Aesthetics Summary:* The proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP does not contain substantial changes not previously analyzed for Items 1a, 1b, and 1d. Although the 2003 SPEIR identified potential significant impacts related to litter along truck route roadways, this issue (Item 1c) will need to be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR because the total mileage of hauled waste under the proposed amendment was not previously analyzed and amendments include a transport by rail option, which would require a rail yard. The 2003 SPEIR visual resources mitigation measures are included at the end of this aesthetics section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) Construction of visible facilities, such as a rail yard or a new permanent household hazardous waste collection facility could result in a significant visual impact. The magnitude of the impact would be related to the specific location and relative topography of the site, and to the availability of or the ability to create buffers to screen the facility. Potential significant and unavoidable program level impacts associated with the visual effects of new facilities due to the construction of non-disposal and landfill facilities were identified in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impacts 14-1 and 14-3). Therefore, no further analysis is needed until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) See a), above.

- c) The proposed waste transported by truck and/or rail options could degrade the existing visual character or quality through the inadvertent generation of litter along transportation routes. The 2003 SPEIR identified program level significant impacts related to litter along truck route roadways (Impacts 14-2 and 14-4); however, the proposed waste transported by truck haul option may substantially increase the severity of this previously identified impact by increasing the total truck haul mileage required to haul the waste out of County. In addition, the waste by rail option was not address in the 2003 SPEIR. Therefore, further analysis related to the potential for litter generation along transportation routes will be analyzed in the 2008 SPEIR.
- d) Construction of visible facilities that may require nighttime lighting, such as a rail yard or a new permanent household hazardous waste collection facility, could result in a significant visual impact. Potential significant and unavoidable program level impacts associated with the effects of nighttime lighting were identified in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impacts 14-1 and 14-3). Therefore, no further analysis is needed until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 14-1***

- (a) To the extent possible, new facilities shall not be located within Designated Scenic Resource Areas as designated in the adopted 1989 Sonoma County General Plan (as amended), unless the facilities are not visible from public roads.
- (b) A landscaping plan for each facility, if required by local regulations, shall include visual mitigation measures, such as earthen berms, tree screening, and other landscaping elements along the perimeter of the site in order to screen the proposed facility from public view. Earthen berms and tree screening would be especially important along nearby roadways or other visual corridors.
- (c) Existing trees shall be retained to the extent feasible as a visual screen.
- (d) New or expanded facility buildings shall be located away from site borders (to the extent feasible) and shall maximize the use of any natural shielding provided by the topographical relief of site's existing landforms.
- (e) Consistent with any required local design review recommendations, facility support buildings and site plans be designed and constructed with appropriate materials, exterior colors, and architectural details compatible with the natural landscape and surrounding development in the project vicinity.
- (f) Disturbed areas that are not directly a part of the project shall be revegetated immediately following construction.

- (g) Project lighting equipment shall be of low-profile design, unobtrusive, and consistent with adjacent land uses.

***Mitigation Measure 14-2***

On-site Mitigation:

- (a) Litter shall be controlled by a litter abatement program.
- (b) Litter fences shall be established around new or expanded non-disposal facilities, as necessary to prevent litter blowing onto off-site areas.
- (c) Litter along on-site roads shall be collected and removed routinely.

Off-site Mitigation:

- (d) Litter shall be controlled on nearby roads providing access to new or expanded non-disposal facilities with a litter abatement program.
- (e) Open cargo areas of vehicles (e.g., pick-ups, trucks, trailers, etc.) hauling waste shall be covered. This requirement will be enforced with financial penalties levied at the time of delivery to County Non-Disposal Sites and by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) in the areas near disposal sites.
- (f) A litter abatement program shall be implemented to reduce litter accumulation resulting from the activities of commercial haulers. The program could include but not be limited to: 1) education of commercial haulers; and 2) requirements for thorough cleaning of debris boxes, covering emptied containers or other similar measures to reduce litter created upon existing non-disposal facilities.
- (g) The litter abatement program shall consider limiting non-disposal facility operations to commercial or private (general public) haulers, including the co-location of disposal and non-disposal facilities to reduce roadside litter.

***Mitigation Measure 14-3.*** Same as Mitigation Measures 14-1 (a), (b), (c), and (g). In addition, the following Mitigation Measures are added:

- (d) New or expanded landfills shall utilize site buffer areas (to the extent feasible) and shall maximize the use of any natural shielding provided by the relief of site landforms.
- (e) Consistent with any required local design review recommendations, construct new and expanded landfills and facility support buildings with appropriate materials, exterior colors, and architectural details compatible with the natural landscape and surrounding development in the project vicinity.

- (f) Disturbed areas that are not directly a part of the project shall be revegetated as soon as practicable.
- (h) Exterior security lighting plans shall be prepared for all new facilities. Designs shall be consistent with County design standards, including exterior lighting that does not glare onto adjacent parcels, and includes motion sensors to minimize light and glare impacts on surrounding land uses.
- (i) Visual analysis of the Central Landfill expansion or a new landfill shall include photo simulation, three dimensional terrain modeling or similar methods to evaluate change in visual character as seen from nearby public roads.

***Mitigation Measure 14-4.*** Same as Mitigation Measures 14-2 (a), (c), (d) and (e). In addition, the following Mitigation Measures are added:

On-site Mitigation:

- (b) Litter fences shall be established around active landfill areas to prevent litter from blowing onto off-site areas.

Off-site Mitigation:

- (d) Litter shall be controlled with a litter abatement program on nearby roads which provide access to new or expanded disposal facilities.
- (f) Roadsides adjacent to landfill sites shall be cleaned each day the landfill is open. Signs will be posted on roadways adjacent to the landfill site that will give a phone number that people may call to report vehicles that are seen littering on the way to or from the landfill. The County or its designee will, to the extent feasible, identify offending haulers and request that corrective action be taken.
- (g) A litter abatement program will be implemented to reduce litter accumulation resulting from the activities of commercial refuse haulers. The program could include, but not be limited to, 1) education of commercial refuse haulers, and 2) requirements for thorough cleaning of debris boxes, covering emptied containers or other similar measures to reduce litter created upon exiting the Central Disposal Site or any new landfill.

## 2. Agricultural Resources

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. **Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects to agricultural resources? Would the changes:**

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

*Agricultural Resources Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects as it relates to agricultural resources. No new mitigation measures for agricultural resources are required; however, agricultural resources mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the ColWMP. The 2003 SPEIR agricultural resources mitigation measures are included at the end of this agricultural resources section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) Sonoma County has strong regulatory policies that restrict converting agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses. Locating a proposed facility, such as a household hazardous waste collection facility, a local rail yard, or a privately owned landfill on agricultural lands could be inconsistent with adopted plans and policies. Program level significant and unavoidable impacts associated with the loss of agricultural production due to the construction of non-disposal and landfill facilities were disclosed in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impacts 6-2 and 6-3(b)). Therefore, no further analysis is needed until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) The 2003 SPEIR addressed the potential for the conversion of agricultural lands under the Williamson Act to be used for siting of non-disposal and landfill facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 6-2 and 6-3(b)). Program level impacts related to the conversion of prime farmland, unique farmland, farmland of statewide importance, conflicts with existing zoning for agricultural use, a Williamson Act contract, and other changes to the

environment that would result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses were determined to be potentially significant and unavoidable in the 2003 SPEIR. Therefore, no further analysis is needed until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

- c) See b), above.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 6-1***

- (a) All new facilities shall be designed and constructed to conform with the site development standards contained in the latest edition of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). Prior to construction activities, the applicant shall submit building plans to the local jurisdiction's building department indicating compliance with the UBC.
- (b) All new facilities shall meet the requirements of the County or cities' standards pertaining to site design, grading, and erosion control.
- (c) Vegetation on soils exposed during construction shall be reestablished as soon as practical. Mulch or other temporary cover shall be used in the interim where erosion potential exists.
- (d) Employ Best Management Practices as required under the NPDES Permit for Construction grading.
- (e) To the extent feasible, confine grading, excavation, and other earthwork to the dry seasons. When this is not feasible, erosion and sediment transport control facilities should be in place prior to the onset of the first major winter storms. If wind erosion has the potential to occur during summer months, erosion control methods, such as watering graded areas, shall be implemented.
- (f) Prepare and implement detailed erosion and sedimentation control plan(s), which should be submitted for review and approval by RWQCB. The specific language of such plans varies, but the concept to be adhered to include the following:
  - 1. To avoid discharge to natural waterways, sediment should be trapped before leaving the construction site through the use of rip-rap, hay bales, fencing, or sediment ponds.
  - 2. Areas of surface disturbance should be minimized.
  - 3. Disturbed areas should be stabilized through vegetative or mechanical methods. When construction is complete, all disturbed areas should be regarded and revegetated. Topsoil should be stockpiled and used for the revegetation of disturbed areas.

**Mitigation Measure 6-2.** To the extent feasible, all new facilities and expansion of existing facilities shall comply with the General Plan objectives and avoid siting on agricultural lands as defined in the General Plan.

**Mitigation Measure 6-3(a).** Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans shall be prepared and revised as needed for all facilities at the Central Disposal Site or other new landfills. Plans shall be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board and at a minimum shall include:

- (a) A description of the critical features of the erosion control system, including sediment ponds and drainage ways, along with a description and schedule for routine maintenance of these features.
- (b) A construction schedule for components of the erosion control system.
- (c) A requirement to vegetate side slopes and waste-fill slopes. Temporary and permanent vegetative cover shall be established as soon as possible on side slopes and waste-fill slopes. To protect the slopes prior to vegetation establishment, a mulch, consisting of straw or wood fiber shall be applied at the time of seeding. A tackifier shall be applied with the mulch as needed to prevent loss of the mulch due to wind or water movement. Sample specifications for revegetating disturbed areas shall be included, with a description of the types of areas to be revegetated, the equipment and procedures to be used, and the dates for the seeding. For areas where an erosion potential exists, but it is not practical to establish vegetation, specifications for placing mulch or temporary covers shall be included.
- (d) Specifications for construction features to reduce erosion. These shall include benches on slopes to intercept sheet flow and shorten drainage paths, protective linings (e.g., riprap, concrete, grass, erosion control mats) on interim and final drainage ways, and energy dissipaters at inlets and outlets of sediment ponds and at outlets of culverts.
- (e) Best Management Practices for construction and operation of the landfill and other facilities. This includes miscellaneous grading and removal of cover soil from all facilities.
- (f) Specifications for watering roads, borrow areas, and construction areas to control wind erosion.
- (g) An inspection and/or maintenance schedule for critical parts of the sediment control system, including sediment ponds and drainage ways.
- (h) A schedule for winterizing that will ensure that critical work is done prior to October 15th each year.

**Mitigation Measure 6-3(b).** Although solid waste facilities would be subject to the Exclusionary and Comparative Criteria in the 2003 CoIWMP Siting Element, there are no mitigation measures for the loss of important agricultural lands or for the change in character of the lands.

### 3. 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. **Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects on air quality? Would the changes:**

<b>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

**Air Quality Summary:** The proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP does not contain substantial changes not previously analyzed for Item 3e. Although the 2003 SPEIR identified potential significant impacts related to truck hauling emissions, this issue will need to be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR because the total mileage of hauled waste under the proposed Amendment has not been previously analyzed. The 2008 SPEIR will also address the potential for additional emissions under with the waste by rail option as well as the potential for the proposed amendments to conflict with the strategies outlined in the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy. The 2003 SPEIR air quality mitigation measures are included at the end of this air quality section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) Air quality in Sonoma County is divided into two jurisdictions, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (NSCAPCD). The BAAQMD is non-attainment of federal and State ozone standards and State PM10 standards, and the NSCAPCD is non-attainment of State ozone standards. Subsequent to the release of the 2003 SPEIR, the BAAQMD has adopted the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy designed to help the region attain the State

one-hour ozone standard. The 2008 SPEIR will address the potential that the Amendment to the ColWMP would not conform to the plan.

- b, c) Exhaust emissions associated with proposed out-of-County refuse truck hauling and/or waste by rail hauling could significantly contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. The 2003 SPEIR identified program level significant impacts related to diesel emissions from trucks (2003 SPEIR Impacts 10-1 and 10-4(b)); however, the proposed waste transported by truck haul option may substantially increase the severity of this previously identified impact by increasing the total truck haul mileage required to haul the waste out of the County. In addition, the waste transported by rail option was not address in the 2003 SPEIR. Therefore, further analysis related to truck and rail emissions will be presented in the 2008 SPEIR to determine the potential for air quality standards to be exceeded, or contribute to a cumulative increase in ozone precursors or particulate matter. In addition, pursuant to statewide planning efforts, including those associated with Assembly Bill 32, the 2008 SPEIR will include estimates of greenhouse gas emissions, a determination of the significance of the greenhouse gas emissions, and identification of mitigation measures that could reduce greenhouse gas emissions of the project.
- d) Exhaust emissions of toxic air contaminants (TAC) would result from the operation of diesel equipment. Such emissions could have an adverse effect on sensitive receptors. The 2003 SPEIR identified program level significant unavoidable impacts related to diesel TAC emissions from trucks (2003 SPEIR Impacts 10-1 and 10-4(b)); however, the waste transported by rail option was not address in the 2003 SPEIR. Therefore, the 2008 SPEIR will address the potential for new rail yards to expose people to significant concentrations of diesel particulate emissions and/or other pollutants. Additional analysis could also be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- e) Odors are a typical impact of solid waste facilities. Program level significant and unavoidable impacts associated with non-disposal facilities and landfill odors were identified in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impacts 10-3). Therefore, no further analysis is needed until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

***Mitigation Measure 10-1(a).*** The County and cities shall consider air emissions when purchasing new equipment and when entering into agreements with solid waste operators. Cleaner vehicles shall be weighted more favorably than less clean vehicles.

### ***Mitigation Measure 10-1(b) (Construction)***

1. New facilities shall be sited to maximize separation between haul routes/facilities and sensitive receptors to the extent practical.

2. New facilities shall encourage the use of low emissions vehicles that control diesel particulates with engine filters or by using low emissions fuels such as compressed natural gas.
3. The contractor shall reduce NO<sub>x</sub>, ROG, and CO emissions by complying with the construction vehicle air pollutant control strategies developed by the BAAQMD and the NSCAPCD. The project sponsor shall include in construction contracts the following requirements:
  - (a) Construction equipment operators shall shut off equipment when not in use to avoid unnecessary idling. As a general rule, vehicle idling should be kept below 10 minutes.
  - (b) The contractor's construction equipment shall be properly maintained and in good operating condition.
  - (c) The contractor shall utilize new technologies to control ozone precursor emissions as they become available and feasible.
  - (d) The contractor shall substitute gasoline-powered for diesel-powered equipment where feasible.
4. Asphalt paving materials shall conform to the most recent guidelines by the air district having jurisdiction.

***Mitigation Measure 10-1(c)***

1. Contracts for operation of facilities described in the 2003 CoIWMP shall require contractors to limit idling time of diesel equipment to 10 minutes when practical. Contracts shall also require that equipment be serviced at regular intervals to keep engines operating with parameters that will prevent excessive emissions.
2. Contracts for operation of facilities described in the 2003 CoIWMP shall include incentives for using electric motors instead of internal combustion engines in stationary equipment.
3. Alternate technology, such as fuel cell or cleaner burning engines, shall be considered for any electricity generation plant implemented by programs in the 2003 CoIWMP.

***Mitigation Measure 10-1(d).*** If emissions of criteria pollutants are produced by selected technology for processing of organic waste at the Resource Management Facility (RMF), the facility will be equipped with a means to collect or treat emissions which may include air control and emission filters to comply with air quality standards.

**Mitigation Measure 10-2.** The contractor shall reduce particulate emissions by complying with the dust control strategies developed by the NSCAPCD and the BAAQMD. The project sponsor shall include in construction contracts the following requirements:

1. The contractor shall water in late morning and at the end of the day all earth surfaces during clearing, grading, earthmoving, and other site preparation activities.
2. The contractor shall use tarpaulins or other effective covers for haul trucks that travel on public streets and roads.
3. The contractor shall water increase the watering frequency for exposed and erodible soil surfaces whenever winds exceed 15 mph.
4. The contractor shall water exposed soil surfaces, including cover stockpiles, roadways, and parking and staging areas, to minimize dust and soil erosion.
5. The contractor shall sweep streets adjacent to the new and expanded non-disposal facilities at the end of each day.
6. The contractor shall control construction, operation, and site maintenance vehicle speed to 15 mph on unpaved roads.

**Mitigation Measure 10-3**

- (a) Control of odors shall be implemented through the use of Best Management Practices utilized with Sonoma County such as the avoidance of compost disturbance in afternoon hours, regulating moisture content, and turning compost windrows.
- (b) If odor persists as a problem, compost piles or windrows shall be covered with soil or finished compost to reduce emissions of odors.
- (c) The landfill will be covered at the end of every day with plastic, soil or other appropriate material.
- (d) Any cracks in the landfill surface will be repaired as soon as practical.
- (e) Acidity levels in leachate ponds will be monitored and pH adjusted as necessary to reduce odor problems.
- (f) When new compost facilities are proposed, consideration will be given to operations that are conducted inside buildings using air filtration systems to prevent release of odors.

**Mitigation Measure 10-4(a).** Same as Mitigation Measures 10-1 (a), (b), and (c) and 10-2.

**Mitigation Measure 10-4(b).** Same as Mitigation Measures 10-1 (a), (b), and (c). In addition, the following mitigation measure is added:

To prevent excessive emissions of ROG, future landfill gas collection systems shall be designed to minimize the amount of uncontrolled gas emissions. To ensure that the latest information and technology is considered in the design, the project sponsor will have a qualified consultant prepare recommendations that would include the appropriate collection technology. These recommendations shall be submitted to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for approval prior to the issuance of an Authority to Construct.

**Mitigation Measure 10-5.** Same as Mitigation Measure 10-2. In addition, the following mitigation measures are added:

- (a) Blasting operations for landfill construction shall be restricted as follows to control dust emissions:
  - 1. To the extent possible, remove all loose dirt and overburden material from blasting areas prior to drilling blast holes.
  - 2. Spray water over blast areas prior to blasting.
  - 3. No loading of explosives in blast holes or blasts will be conducted when wind speed on site exceeds 15 mph.
- (b) Any rock crusher used for landfill construction shall be equipped with a spray mister, or incorporate some other equally effective measure to control dust.

**Mitigation Measure 10-6.** Same as Mitigation Measure 10-1 (a), (b), and (c). In addition, the following mitigation measures is added:

- (a) To prevent excessive NO<sub>x</sub> emissions: 1) Blasting for landfill construction shall be done with water resistant explosives in the wet areas of bore holes. Non-water resistant explosives may be used above the wet areas of bore holes, provided the bore holes is sealed above the wet area so that the non-water resistant explosive remains above the wet area. 2) Blended ammonium nitrate/fuel oil blasting agents shall contain at least 5.7% fuel oil by weight.

## 4. Biological Resources

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects to biological resources? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Biological Resources Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to biological resources. No new mitigation measures for biological resources are required; however, biological resources mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR biological resources mitigation measures are included at the end of this biological resources section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) The 2003 SPEIR adequately addressed program-level impacts (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2) on special status species resulting from construction of new and expanded non-disposal facilities and landfills, such as those that could result due to the implementation of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP.

However, subsequent to the 2003 SPER, the April 2006 California red-legged frog final critical habitat ruling amended the geographic range for which this species is listed to reflect the entire range of the subspecies, including Sonoma County (Fed. Reg., Vol. 71, No. 71, April 13, 2006). In addition, on March 19, 2003, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) published a notice in the Federal Register listing the Sonoma County Population of the California tiger salamander as endangered. On August 4, 2004, the USFWS reduced the Sonoma County Population listed status to threatened (Fed. Reg., Vol. 69, No 149, 2004) and on December 14, 2005, the USFWS determined that proposed critical habitat in Sonoma County was excluded based on interim conservation strategies and measures being implemented by local governing agencies with land use authority over the area (Fed. Reg., Vol. 70, No. 239, 2005).

When site-specific projects are proposed, wildlife and plant surveys may be required to determine whether listed species or their critical habitats are present. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

- b) The 2003 SPEIR adequately addressed impacts on riparian areas resulting from construction of new and expanded non-disposal facilities and landfills (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2). If new site-specific projects under the amended CoIWMP are proposed, surveys may be required to determine whether there would be effects on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- c) The 2003 SPEIR adequately addressed impacts on wetlands (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2) resulting from construction of new and expanded non-disposal facilities and landfills, such as those that could be developed under the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. When site-specific projects are proposed, wetland delineations may be required to determine whether wetland habitats are present. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- d) The 2003 SPEIR addressed impacts of potential CoIWMP facilities on wildlife and their habitat (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2). When site-specific projects are proposed, appropriate analysis of wildlife corridors would be required to determine whether listed species or their critical habitats are present. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- e) The 2003 SPEIR addressed impacts of CoIWMP facilities on wildlife and their habitat (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2). When site-specific projects are proposed, an analysis of any potential changed conditions relating to any new local policies protecting trees and riparian areas will be conducted. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- f) The 2003 SPEIR addressed impacts of CoIWMP facilities on wildlife and their habitat (2003 SPEIR Impacts 12-1 and 12-2). However, subsequent to the release of the 2003

SPEIR, the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy has been adopted by local agencies in Sonoma County to protect listed species such as the California tiger salamander. The strategy seeks to create a long-term program to mitigate potential adverse effects on listed species due to future development on the Santa Rosa Plain. Mitigation ratios for California tiger salamander, wetlands, and listed plants are detailed in the strategy. For example, the SCWMA would be required to provide two acres of California tiger salamander conservation mitigation for each one acre of land developed within 1.3 miles of a designated breeding site. This mitigation approach would be considered during any site selection process that would be conducted under the amended CoIWMP. When site-specific projects are proposed, a detailed analysis of all applicable habitat conservation plans, including the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy, will be conducted. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 12-1***

- (a) When new non-disposal and landfill facilities are proposed, the specific biotic studies shall be performed to identify biotic resources on the sites. To the extent practical, the new facilities shall be constructed to avoid these resources. Where avoidance is not practical, the project sponsor shall consult with the appropriate State or Federal resource agencies to determine appropriate mitigation for any loss of or change to the biotic resources. The project sponsor shall acquire all necessary permits from these agencies. Compliance with permit conditions shall be a condition of approval of the project.
- (b) Riparian areas shall be avoided where possible in siting new facilities. If avoidance is not possible, compensation for loss of riparian vegetation shall be made by planting and otherwise enhancing a comparable area of streambank in the general vicinity where habitat quality can be improved. Planting plans shall be reviewed by a qualified biologist and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Game and other agencies, if needed, for review and comment prior to implementation. Revegetation areas shall be managed to permanently protect the riparian vegetation.
- (c) Before construction during the active nesting period between March 1 and September 1, a qualified biologist shall determine the locations of any active raptor nests that could be affected. If any active nests are found, removal of the trees containing the nests shall be delayed until a qualified wildlife biologist has determined that the young birds are able to leave the nest and forage on their own. A qualified wildlife biologist shall be consulted to determine what activities must be avoided in the vicinity of the nests while the nests are active, and those recommendations shall be followed during construction.

**Mitigation Measure 12-2**

- (a) No solid waste disposal facility shall be built or expanded within a wetland unless it can be demonstrated that the landfill will not contribute to or cause significant degradation of wetlands or violations of the Clean Water Act or State water quality standards, jeopardize endangered or threatened species, violate any toxic effluent standard, or violate any requirement of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act. There must also be no practicable alternative to the proposed location which does not involve wetlands (Title 40, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1, Part 258, Subpart B [40 CFR 258]).
- (b) Same as Mitigation Measure 12-1 (a).
- (c) Riparian areas will be avoided where possible in siting new facilities. If avoidance is not possible, compensation for loss of riparian vegetation shall be made by planting and otherwise enhancing a comparable area of streambank in the general vicinity where habitat quality can be improved. Planting plans shall be reviewed by a qualified biologist and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Game and other agencies, if needed, for review and comment prior to implementation. Revegetation areas shall be managed to permanently protect the riparian vegetation.
- (d) Before construction during the active nesting period between March 1 and September 1, the Integrated Waste Division of the Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works shall determine the locations of any active raptor nests that could be affected. If any active nests are found, removal of the trees containing the nests shall be delayed until a qualified wildlife biologist has determined that the young birds are able to leave the nest and forage on their own. A qualified wildlife biologist shall be consulted to determine what activities must be avoided in the vicinity of the nests while the nests are active, and those recommendations shall be followed during construction.

**5. Cultural Resources**

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects to cultural resources? Would the changes:

<b>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Cultural Resources Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to cultural resources. No new mitigation measures for cultural resources are required; however, cultural resources mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR cultural resources mitigation measures are included at the end of this cultural resources section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a, b, d) Activities associated with the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP could involve significant impacts to archaeological resources or historic buildings. The 2003 SPEIR identified significant impacts on cultural resources (2003 SPEIR Impacts 13-1 and 13-2) that were mitigated to less than significant with mitigation measures. However, that analysis was based on thresholds established by 1998 revisions to the CEQA Guidelines. When site-specific projects are proposed, appropriate cultural resources surveys would be done to determine whether resources are present and how the projects would affect them. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- c) Siting of new CoIWMP facilities under the amendment could involve significant impacts to paleontological resources. The 2003 SPEIR identified significant impacts on paleontological resources (2003 SPEIR Impacts 13-1 and 13-2) that were mitigated to less than significant with mitigation measures. When site-specific projects are proposed, appropriate paleontological resources analyses would be conducted to determine whether resources are present and how the projects would affect them. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR

### *Mitigation Measure 13-1*

- (a) Intensive on-site cultural and paleontological resources surveys shall be conducted by a qualified archeologist and paleontologist prior to construction in any areas of a site to be used for solid waste non-disposal facilities that are designed as sensitive in a city or County planning document. In addition, the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) will be consulted to determine if previously recorded archaeological sites exist on or in the vicinity of the project site. The purpose of this survey will be to precisely locate and map significant cultural and paleontological resources. The services of the archaeologist and paleontologist shall be retained by the project sponsor.
- (b) If, in the process of the cultural resource surveys, significant archaeological sources are found to exist on the site, the project sponsor shall consider changing the facility layout to avoid such resources. If it is not possible to make this change, however, formal

archaeological data collection work on the significant resources will be completed. This shall include a complete surface collection of cultural material and, at a minimum, excavation of a sample subsurface cultural material sufficient to evaluate the extent, depth, and make-up of the site component (i.e., archaeological testing). The overall objectives of such data collection work shall be to explicitly identify those research questions for which the site contains relevant information, with the research questions representing those presently expressed by the body of professional archaeologists in the region. If the results of the archaeological testing indicate that additional mitigative data recovery work is justified or warranted, it will be completed prior to the construction of the facility.

- (c) If paleontological resources cannot be avoided by changing the site layout, a program of data collection and recovery shall be implemented.
- (d) Archaeological and paleontological monitors shall be present during studies, site construction and development activities in areas of high cultural and paleontological resource sensitivity when recommended by a site-specific study for a project under the CoIWMP or the 2003 CoIWMP, or when a designated Native American Tribal representative requests to monitor projects. These monitors shall be retained by the project sponsor. In the event that human remains are unearthed during construction, state law requires that the County Coroner be notified to investigate the nature and circumstances of the discovery. At the time of discovery, work in the immediate vicinity would cease until the Coroner permits work to proceed. If the remains were determined to be prehistoric, the find would be treated as an archaeological site and the mitigation measure described above would apply.
- (e) In the event that unanticipated cultural or paleontological resources are encountered during project construction, all earthmoving activity shall cease until the project sponsor retains the services of a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist. The archaeologist or paleontologist shall examine the finding, assess their significance, and offer recommendations for procedures deemed appropriate to either further investigate or mitigate adverse impacts to those cultural or paleontological archaeological resources that have been encountered. These additional measures shall be implemented.

**Mitigation Measure 13-2.** Same as Mitigation Measure 13-1 (a) through (e).

**Mitigation Measure 13-3**

- (a) Intensive on-site historical resources surveys shall be conducted by a qualified architectural historian prior to construction where structures over 45 years old or sites known to have historical significance could be affected by proposed facilities. The purpose of the survey shall be to determine the historical significance of the resources and whether the proposed project would affect those structures that are found to have

historical significance. The services of the architectural historian shall be retained by the project sponsor.

- (b) If, in the process of the historical resource surveys, significant resources are found to exist on the site, the project sponsor shall consider changing the facility layout to avoid such resources. If it is not possible to make this change, however, mitigation work in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties which address preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of historic resources shall be completed for the historical resource.

## 6. Geology, Soils, and Seismicity

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects on geology, soils, or seismicity? Would the changes:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Yes	No
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 for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Geology, Soils and Seismicity Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve "new information of

substantial importance,” as it relates to geology, soils, and seismicity. No new mitigation measures for geology, soils, and seismicity are required; however, geology, soils, and seismicity mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR geology, soils, and seismicity mitigation measures are included at the end of this section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a.i, ii, iii) The 2003 SPEIR addressed potential impacts to new and expanded non-disposal facilities from fault rupture and other seismic activities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 5-1 through 5-4). No further analysis of the seismic hazards is required until site-specific projects under the amended CoIWMP are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- a.iv) The 2003 SPEIR addressed potential impacts associated with slope failure hazards (2003 SPEIR Impact 5-5). No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) Siting of new facilities could result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil. The 2003 SPEIR addressed the need for erosion control measures to be applied during construction and operation of new or expanded facilities. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- c) See a) ii, iii, iv above.
- d) The 2003 SPEIR addressed seismic impacts and soil erosion during construction and operation of new or expanded facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 6-1 and 6-3(a)) and disclosed less than significant impacts related to expansive soils. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- e) Siting a new local rail yard, landfill, or a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility outside urban service boundaries would be expected to include the construction of a septic system for wastewater disposal. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 5-1***

- (a) Non-disposal facilities shall be built a sufficient distance from earthquake fault zones as restricted by state and federal regulatory requirements.

- (b) Where proposed development may be exposed to significant risks of damage from geologic hazards, a geologic report (prepared by a California Registered Geologist) shall be prepared which evaluates the hazards and shall identify measures which can be implemented to reduce the risks to acceptable levels. Such measures will be implemented.
- (c) All grading and building construction for new or expanded non-disposal facilities shall conform with geologic and seismic standards contained in the latest edition of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). Prior to construction activities, the applicant shall submit building plans to the local jurisdiction's building department indicating compliance with the UBC.
- (d) All new or expanded disposal facilities shall meet the requirements of the County or Cities' general site design standards. The proposed new non-disposal facilities shall comply with the County or Cities' policies and standards pertaining to geologic hazards.

***Mitigation Measure 5-2***

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measures 5-1(b) and 5-1(d).
- (b) All new or expanded non-disposal facilities that are susceptible to seismic ground failure shall include project designs for building and road foundations to withstand potential liquefaction impacts.

***Mitigation Measure 5-3***

- (a) New or expanded disposal facilities shall be built a sufficient distance from earthquake fault zones or as restricted by state and federal regulatory requirements.
- (b) Where proposed development may be exposed to significant risks of damage from geologic hazards, a geologic report (prepared by a California Registered Geologist) shall be prepared which evaluates the hazards and shall identify measures which can be implemented to reduce the risks to acceptable levels. Such measures will be implemented.
- (c) All grading and building construction for new or expanded disposal facilities shall conform with geologic and seismic standards contained in the latest edition of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). Prior to construction activities, the applicant shall submit building plans to the local jurisdictions' building department indicating compliance with the UBC.
- (d) All new or expanded disposal facilities shall meet the requirements of the County or cities' general site design standards. The proposed new and expanded disposal facilities shall comply with the County or cities policies and standards pertaining to geologic hazards.

- (e) In accordance with state and federal regulations, restrict the development of landfills in geologically unstable areas.
- (f) In accordance with state and federal regulations, restrict the development of landfills in seismic impact zones unless containment structures are engineered and constructed to preclude failure during rapid geologic change.

**Mitigation Measure 5-4**

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measures 5-3 (a through f).
- (b) All new or expanded disposal facilities that are susceptible to seismic ground failure shall include project designs for building and road foundations to withstand potential liquefaction impacts.

**Mitigation Measure 5-5.** The grading plan for the West Expansion area at the Central Disposal Site and the future landfill will incorporate design features and grading procedures to prevent slope failures. These include maximum fill slopes as determined suitable by a registered engineering geologist. The embankments of new sedimentation basins and landfill slopes will be constructed so that the factor of safety is greater than 1.5.

**Mitigation Measure 5-6.** Final landfill grades will be constructed in accordance with Section 20650 of Title 27 of the CCR which requires that “Covered surfaces of the disposal area shall be graded to promote lateral runoff of precipitation and to prevent ponding. Grades shall be established of sufficient slopes to account for future settlement of the fill surface.” Grades will be of sufficient slopes to allow for future settlement of the final cover and to avoid ponding and infiltration of stormwater. The landfill gas collection system will use flexible pipe and be designed to accommodate settlement of the refuse.

## 7. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects related to hazards or hazardous materials? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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 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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Hazards and Hazardous Materials Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to hazards and hazardous materials. No new mitigation measures for hazards and hazardous materials are required; however, hazards and hazardous materials mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR hazards and hazardous materials mitigation measures are included at the end of this section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) Although there are many safeguards incorporated into design of solid waste facilities, there is always the potential for health hazards to occur due to the collection and transportation of household hazardous materials. The 2003 SPEIR addressed potential impacts related to injury and illness associated with non-disposal facilities such as new household hazardous waste (e.g., motor oil, paint, etc.) collection facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 8-1, 8-3, 8-4) that could occur as a result of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) There would be a potential for health hazards to occur due to accidental releases and hazardous conditions at non-disposal and landfill facilities. The 2003 SPEIR addressed potential impacts related to accidental releases, exposure to disease carrying vectors, and

general public safety associated with non-disposal and landfill facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 8-5 through 8-7) that could occur as a result of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

- c) Depending on the locations selected for new facilities under the amended CoIWMP (e.g., household hazardous materials collection facilities, rail yards, etc.), hazardous materials could be handled within a quarter-mile of a school. This issue was addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 8-12). No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- d) Siting of new facilities could affect State-designated sites containing hazardous materials contamination. This issue was addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 8-10). No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- e, f) Implementation of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP could result in aviation safety hazards if new private landfill facilities that attract birds are sited in close vicinity to an active airport or airstrip. No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- g) Emergency response plans for the area could be impaired by the Amendment to the CoIWMP if access routes become blocked as a result of the amendments. This issue was addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 8-11). No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- h) New facilities could be proposed in areas that are subject to a high danger from wildland fires. This issue was addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 8-13). Additional analyses would be conducted at the time site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR. It should be noted that any new facility construction in Sonoma County would be required to comply with Sonoma County fire safety standards.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 8-1***

- (a) Curbside recycling operations shall be established so that no direct worker contact with the materials occurs. Automated can pick-up, commingled collection, and/or separate materials bins could meet this objective.

- (b) Workers shall be supplied with appropriate safety gear which provide the maximum protection available while still affording sufficient manual dexterity from accomplishing their sorting tasks.
- (c) All workers shall have current vaccinations against diseases such as tetanus, polio, or other diseases which could be spread through direct contact with solid waste.
- (d) Workers shall be trained to spot hypodermic needles during sorting, extract them from the sorting line, and deposit them in a plastic sharps disposal container kept at each sorting station.
- (e) Sharps containers filled at the non-disposal facility and landfill, as well as containers encountered in curbside materials during sorting operations, shall be properly disposed of with a licensed medical waste hauler.
- (f) New and expanded non-disposal facilities and solid waste disposal facilities shall develop and implement an Illness and Injury Prevention Plan to address the potential for injury and illness among facility employees.
- (g) A map showing the locations of local emergency services and appropriate telephone numbers shall be posted at all non-disposal facilities and landfills in a conspicuous (e.g., near the telephone) by either the program operations manager or the safety inspector.

#### ***Mitigation Measure 8-2***

- (a) Backyard composting training for the general public shall address the potential health effects associated with composting. Training will describe how proper moisture content will reduce dust generation and maximize microbial action and how sufficient oxygen content is critical to maintaining microbial action, regulating temperature, and reducing odors and pathogens. Persons with weakened immune systems or persons with allergies, asthma, or other respiratory problems shall be discouraged from participating in backyard composting. Backyard composters shall also be encouraged to thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water after each contact with backyard compost piles.
- (b) Composting operations at new or expanded composting facility(ies) shall include the following procedures:
  - 1. Proper moisture content shall be maintained in compost piles or windows.
  - 2. Proper temperatures and oxygen content shall be maintained in compost piles/windows through aeration and compost turning or agitation. Operating procedures shall require that the compost pile be heated to approximately 132-140° to ensure that all pathogens have been eliminated.

3. Loading and compost turning equipment shall have enclosed, ventilated cabs and the ventilation systems shall be maintained regularly, or individual respiratory protection (dust masks) will be utilized.
4. Employees shall be encouraged to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, particularly prior to lunch and other breaks, and at the end of the work day.
5. Composting facility operators shall inform compost workers about the possibility for development of pulmonary hypersensitivity. Workers shall be encouraged to report unusual health problems to their supervisors and physicians.
6. New and expanded non-disposal facilities shall develop and implement an Illness and Injury Prevention Plan to address the potential for injury and illness among facility employees.

***Mitigation Measure 8-3***

- (a) A HHW Facility Operations Plan shall be developed for each permanent HHW facility. This plan shall include procedures for waste acceptance and screening, waste management practices, stormwater management, worker health and safety, and emergency prevention, precaution and response.
- (b) An emergency response plan shall be developed for each collection site in order to plan actions to be taken in the event of a spill incident. The emergency response and evacuation plan shall be developed by the collection site operator in coordination with the appropriate local agencies prior to the operation of the collection site.
- (c) A safety inspector shall be assigned by the HHW program operations manager to oversee field activities, spot potential risks, and ensure conformance with regulations.
- (d) Employee safety meetings shall be conducted, as necessary, by the program safety inspector.
- (e) All vehicles shall be inspected, as necessary, for safety violations by the program safety inspector and facility employees.
- (f) An on-site eye wash and shower station shall be provided at all mobile and stationary HHW collection sites.
- (g) A map showing the locations of local emergency services and appropriate telephone numbers shall be posted at all mobile and stationary HHW collection sites in a conspicuous (e.g., near the telephone) by either the program operations manager or the safety inspector.

- (h) A training program for facility personnel in CPR and first aid shall be provided by the program safety inspector. In addition, first aid materials shall be maintained in good condition.
- (i) A drainage containment and collection system shall be set up around the HHW collection and storage facilities to prevent discharge of spilled materials to soil or groundwater. All spilled materials shall be collected and treated separately to prevent the spread of any hazardous constituents.
- (j) Any risk posed by unauthorized access to any non-disposal site shall be mitigated by posting warning signs, fencing, patrol personnel, or the disabling of equipment when not in use. Daily inspections would be the responsibility of the facility operations manager.
- (k) A Load Checking Program shall be updated and implemented to ensure the proper disposal of hazardous wastes illegally disposed with solid waste accepted at non-disposal facilities and the landfill. Any hazardous wastes found while conducting the Load Checking Program shall be disposed of according to applicable state and federal regulations.

***Mitigation Measure 8-4***

- (a) Prior to permitting, develop and implement (in consultation with the Fire Marshal) a Fire Prevention Program for each facility, as necessary. This program shall entail both structural fire suppression mechanisms, such as an automatic, sprinkler system and fire retardant building materials in the design of the structure, as well as procedural programs for minimizing/extinguishing fire hazards.
- (b) Develop an Emergency Response and Evacuation Plan for each new or expanded facility in accordance with relevant county and city emergency response and evacuation plans, and follow in the event of a fire, earthquake, hazardous materials spill or other emergency. Each emergency response and evaluation plan shall be developed by the facility operator in coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services, the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Environmental Health Department, and the appropriate Fire Protection District.
- (c) All potentially disastrous events shall be reported by the project sponsor to the County Office of Emergency Services so that County emergency services such as traffic control, fire and medical equipment, and evacuation notification can be available as needed.
- (d) Facility workers shall be provided and required to use safety glasses, safety shoes, coveralls, gloves, noise reducers for ears, or other safety equipment appropriate to the hazard of the job. An emergency eye bath and emergency showers shall be installed in the facility by the project sponsor.

- (e) A map showing the locations of local emergency services and appropriate telephone numbers shall be posted at all non-disposal facilities and landfills in a conspicuous place by either the program operations manager or the safety inspector.
- (f) New and expanded non-disposal facilities and solid waste disposal facilities shall develop and implement an Illness and Injury Prevention plan to address the potential for injury and illness among facility employees.

**Mitigation Measure 8-5.** Same as Mitigation Measures 8-4 (a) through (e). In addition, the following mitigation measures have been added:

- (a) Consider reducing operating hours at new or expanded non-disposal facilities in order to reduce the accumulation of combustible solid waste for transfer and storage.
- (b) A map showing the locations of local emergency services and appropriate telephone numbers shall be posted at all non-disposal facilities and landfills in a conspicuous place (e.g., near the telephone) by either the program operations manager or the safety inspector.
- (c) Develop an Emergency Response and Evacuation Plan for each new or expanded facility in accordance with relevant county or city emergency response and evacuation plans, and follow it in the event of fire, earthquake, hazardous materials spill or other emergency. Each emergency response and evacuation plan shall be developed by the facility operator in coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services, the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Environmental Health Department, and the appropriate Fire Protection District.

**Mitigation Measure 8-6**

- (a) Rodent traps shall be placed strategically around the public drop-off areas and recycling areas, as required. This measure shall be monitored by the facility operations manager.
- (b) Landscape materials shall exclude plants, such as ivy, which may provide hidden nesting areas for rodents.
- (c) Standing water and moist areas shall be controlled to prevent mosquito breeding. This shall be monitored by the facility operations manager.

**Mitigation Measure 8-7.** Mitigation measures will result from the site specific CEQA review process, and will include the general following mitigation measures:

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measures 8-3 (b), (d), (e), (g), (h), and (j) and Mitigation Measures 8-4 (c) and (d).
- (b) Employees shall be encouraged to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, particularly prior to lunch and other breaks, and at the end of the work day.

- (c) Standing water and moist areas shall be controlled to prevent mosquito breeding. This shall be monitored by the facility operations manager.
- (d) New and expanded non-disposal facilities and solid waste disposal facilities shall develop and implement an Illness and Injury Prevention Plan to address the potential for injury and illness among facility employees.

**Mitigation Measure 8-8.** If hazardous materials are used at the Resource Management Facility (RMF), the following mitigations will be implemented:

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measures 8-3 (b) though (d) and (f) through (j).
- (b) New and expanded non-disposal facilities and solid waste disposal facilities shall develop and implement an Illness and injury Prevention Plan to address the potential for injury and illness among facility employees.

**Mitigation Measure 8-9**

- (a) Blasting at the Central Disposal Site shall be conducted in accordance with the recommendations of the study conducted by Geotek in 1998, and any further site specific blasting study conducted by a licensed blasting engineer. At a minimum, mitigation shall include:
  1. All blasts will be designed to minimize peak particle velocity at the nearest off-site structures.
  2. Measures will be taken to control air blast (overpressure), including stemming explosive charges with clean crushed stone, ensuring the minimum distance between bore holes and the rock face, keeping drilling logs to describe ground conditions, adjusting blast design to isolate explosive charges from weak areas, avoiding blasting during heavy cloud over or windy conditions and monitoring overpressure at or near nearby residences.
- (b) If blasting is necessary at a new solid waste disposal site, a site-specific blasting study to establish procedures to minimize peak particle velocities and overpressure will be conducted.

**Mitigation Measure 8-10.** In the event that a facility is located on a designated contaminated site, a study will be done to ensure that proper handling and disposal methods will be used to minimize environmental impacts. The study shall include a search of records of hazardous materials presence, a field assessment of conditions on the site to determine whether visual evidence of hazardous materials is present, and a plan to treat and/or clean up the site in accordance with regulations of the Regional Water Quality Control Board and Sonoma County Environmental Health if hazardous materials are present. Site specific analysis would be done at the time facility locations are proposed.

**Mitigation Measure 8-11.** Update the existing or develop an Emergency Response and Evacuation Plan for each new or expanded facility in accordance with relevant county or city emergency response plans, and follow it in the event of a fire, earthquake, hazardous materials spill or other emergency. Each emergency response plan shall be developed by the facility operator in coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services, the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Environmental Health Department, and the appropriate Fire Protection District.

**Mitigation Measure 8-12**

- (a) Safety measures shall be implemented, including, at a minimum, emergency response procedures, safety inspections, safety training, restriction of unauthorized access to areas where hazardous materials are stored, and timely containment and cleanup of spills.
- (b) All potentially disastrous events shall be reported by the project sponsor to the County Office of Emergency Services so that County emergency services such as traffic control, fire and medical equipment, and evacuation notification can be available as needed.

**Mitigation Measure 8-13**

- (a) Future non-disposal and disposal facilities located in Sonoma County shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in conformance with the requirements of the Fire Marshall's Vegetation Management Plan and Fire Safe Standards.
- (b) Develop an Emergency Response and Evaluation Plan for each new or expanded facility in accordance with relevant county or city emergency response and evacuation plans, and follow it in the event of a fire, earthquake, hazardous materials spill or other emergency. Each emergency response and evacuation plan shall be developed by the facility operator in coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services, the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Environmental Health Department, and the appropriate Fire Protection District.
- (c) All potentially disastrous events shall be reported by the project sponsor to the County Office of Emergency Services to that County emergency services such as traffic control, fire and medical equipment, and evacuation notification can be available as needed.

## 8. Hydrology and Water Quality

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the ColWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects on hydrology or water quality? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of a site or area through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or by other means, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of a site or area through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or, by other means, substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 authoritative flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Hydrology and Water Quality Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to hydrology and water quality. No new mitigation measures for hydrology and water quality are required; however, hydrology and water quality mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR hydrology and water quality mitigation measures are included at the end of this section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) The Amendment to the CoIWMP could include the expansion or construction of a waste disposal facility by a private operator, which could result in the production of leachate.

- Potential water quality impacts related to leachate contamination of groundwater or surface water were addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 7-5). Additional analysis would need to be conducted if a specific landfill project is proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) The Amendment to the CoIWMP could include a private expansion of the Central Disposal Site or development of a new private landfill facility that would require the use or removal of groundwater. Significant and unavoidable impacts to groundwater supply were disclosed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 7-9). This issue will not be addressed in the 2008 SPEIR. Additional analysis would need to be conducted if a specific landfill project is proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
  - c, d) Construction of a new facility under the amendments to the CoIWMP could change the flow of a stream channel, affect surface runoff, and change infiltration rates and drainage patterns, which could cause erosion. Stormwater runoff in excess of the capacity of stormwater drainage systems could be generated by the construction of these facilities. The 2003 SPEIR addressed effects of program facilities on drainage patterns (2003 SPEIR Impact 7-8). Further analysis would be required when site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
  - e, f) Construction of a new facility under the amendments to the CoIWMP could contribute to surface runoff or otherwise degrade water quality. Stormwater runoff in excess of the capacity of stormwater drainage systems could be generated by the construction of proposed facilities. The 2003 SPEIR addressed effects of proposed facilities on runoff patterns (2003 SPEIR Impact 7-8). Further analysis would be required when site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
  - g, h) Construction of a new facility under the Amendment to the CoIWMP could be impacted by or contribute to local flooding. Further analysis would be required when site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
  - i) It is not expected that any facility that would be construction under the amended CoIWMP would be located within areas exposed to potential flooding from failure of a dam or levee. Further analysis would be required when site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
  - j) It is not expected that any facility that would be constructed under the amended CoIWMP would be exposed to seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. Further analysis would be required when site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 7-1***

- (a) Stormwater runoff from the waste handling areas shall be treated on site or routed to the sanitary sewer for treatment prior to discharge.
- (b) To the extent feasible, materials handling and storage areas shall be covered to prevent contact with stormwaters.
- (c) All exterior drainage from each site shall be managed in accordance with the requirements of federal NPDES, state, and local regulations.

### ***Mitigation Measure 7-2***

- (a) To the extent feasible, new facilities shall be located outside of areas at high risk for flooding.
- (b) The design of new facilities shall, to the extent feasible, minimize the amount of impermeable surface and incorporate methods to lessen surface runoff from the site.

### ***Mitigation Measure 7-3***

- (a) Employ Best Management Practices as required under the NPDES Permit for Construction grading.
- (b) To the extent feasible, confine grading, excavation, and other earthwork to the dry seasons. When this is not feasible, erosion and sediment transport control facilities should be in place prior to the onset of the first major winter storms. If wind erosion has the potential to occur during summer months, erosion control methods, such as watering graded areas, shall be implemented.
- (c) Prepare and implement detailed erosion and sedimentation control plan(s), which should be submitted for review and approval by the RWQCB. The specific language of such plans varies, but the concepts to be adhered to include the following:
  - 1. To avoid discharge to natural waterways, sediment should be trapped before leaving the construction site through the use of rip-rap, hay bales, fencing, or sediment ponds.
  - 2. Areas of surface disturbance should be minimized.
  - 3. Disturbed areas should be stabilized through vegetative or mechanical methods. When construction is complete, all disturbed areas should be regarded and revegetated. Topsoil should be stockpiled and use for the revegetation of disturbed areas.

- (d) All new facilities shall be designed and constructed to conform with the site development standards contained in the latest edition of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). Prior to construction activities, the applicant shall submit building plans to the local jurisdiction's building department indicating compliance with the UBC.
- (e) All new facilities shall meet the requirements of the County and cities' standards pertaining to the site design, grading, and erosion control.
- (f) Vegetation on soils exposed during construction shall be reestablished as soon as practical. Mulch or other temporary cover shall be used in the interim where erosion potential exists.
- (g) Treat wastewater generated during construction prior to discharge. At a minimum, the wastewater should be treated by sedimentation to remove suspended particles from the water. Sedimentation ponds would need to be maintained regularly. Precipitation agents, such as alum, may be introduced to speed the action of settling suspended particles. Alternatively, either gravity or pressure filtration could be use if sufficient space for sedimentation facilities is unavailable.
- (h) Prepare and implement a Spill Prevention Control/Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan prior to the start of construction. The SPCC Plan should cover actions needed to minimize the potential for accidental spillage of construction-related contaminants such as fuel, oil, or other chemicals. Such contaminants should not be drained onto the soil; rather, they should be confined to sealed containers and removed to proper disposal sites. Refueling should be conducted in a location where spills could be contained.

***Mitigation Measure 7-4***

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measure 7-1(a), 7-1(b), and 7-1(c).
- (b) Construct a separate spill control facility around and under the waste intake, storage, and loading areas to provide for containment of any hazardous spills that might occur in the vicinity.

***Mitigation Measure 7-5***

- (a) Cover material (soil) shall be placed over waste materials at the end of each day to prevent water from ponding on the landfill.
- (b) A low-permeability final landfill cover, as required by CCR, Title 23, Chapter 15, shall be placed over the landfill during closure.
- (c) The volume of fluid that enters the landfill shall be minimized by prohibiting the disposal of liquid waste.

- (d) The landfill shall be designed with an adequate drainage and collection system to prevent to the extent possible the migration of leachate off-site.
- (e) Landfills shall be located where site characteristics provide adequate separation between solid waste and ground and surface waters and where soil characteristics, distance from waste to groundwater, and other factors will ensure no impairment of beneficial uses of surface or ground water beneath or adjacent to a landfill (California Water Regulations, Chapter 15, Article 3, Section 2533).
- (f) Current industry standards for leachate management shall be implemented (e.g., storing leachate in lined on-site ponds where it can evaporate naturally) or, if storage is impossible, transporting leachate to the nearest wastewater treatment plant capable of treating the leachate and not exceeding effluent discharge limits.
- (g) Leachate and wastewater collection and disposal systems shall be designed with enough capacity to accommodate the amount of leachate predicted to be generated during the wettest year of record.
- (h) Construction of all new landfill cells will comply with the requirements of Title 27 for liner impermeability.
- (i) A landfill leachate and wastewater management program will be implement which will include monitoring leachate levels and wastewater and emptying ponds as necessary to ensure adequate storage capacity.
- (j) Investigate and consider methods for treatment of leachate and wastewater on-site and disposal by irrigation at any expanded or new landfill site.
- (k) All exterior drainage from each landfill site shall be managed in accordance with the requirements of federal NPDES, state, and local regulations.

***Mitigation Measure 7-6***

- (a) To the extent feasible, the working face of the landfill shall be covered with soil or other approved alternate cover material to prevent contact with stormwaters.
- (b) All exterior drainage from each site shall be managed in accordance with the requirements of federal NPDES, state, and local regulations.

***Mitigation Measure 7-7.*** Same as Mitigation Measures 7-3 (a) through (f) and (h). In addition, the following mitigation measure is added:

Treat wastewater generated during construction prior to discharge. At a minimum, the wastewater should be treated by sedimentation to remove suspended particles from the water. Sedimentation ponds would need to be maintained regularly.

**Mitigation Measure 7-8**

- (a) Mitigation implemented to control erosion during operation of the landfill shall be similar to that implemented during construction (see Mitigation Measure 7-7 above).
- (b) Permanent drainage ditches shall be constructed around the landfill perimeter to convey runoff water from the project site. These permanent drainage ditches shall be lined with native grass, concrete, corrugated metal, or other material that will limit water infiltration and soil erosion. Temporary and permanent berms, collection ditches, benches, and stormwater downdrains shall be constructed to convey water runoff from the landfill surface and down slopes.
- (c) On- or off-site detention ponds shall be constructed and maintained and site runoff shall be collected and sedimentation completed in the ponds prior to discharge to surface waters. The ponds shall be adequately designed so that no net increase over existing conditions in stormwater flows from the project site are expected to result from a 100-year flood event.
- (d) Prior to the rainy season, drainage facilities shall be inspected and, if necessary, cleared of debris.
- (e) Drainage facilities shall be inspected after the first significant rain of the season to ensure that the system is functioning.
- (f) Runoff from areas upgradient of the landfill shall be routed around the landfill.
- (g) Landfills shall not be developed within a 100-year floodplain (40 CFR 258).

**Mitigation Measure 7-9**

- (a) New waste management facilities will use water conservation techniques such as reclaimed water use and water recycling where feasible.
- (b) If anaerobic digestion is used to process organics, a complete site specific groundwater study or groundwater availability determination to demonstrate that water use levels will not deplete groundwater supplies for surrounding properties.

**Mitigation Measure 7-10.** Spill prevention and cleanup plans will be required in all construction contracts. Any contracts which involve blasting will require that explosives spilled during the loading of the blasting holes be cleaned up prior to detonating the explosives.

**Mitigation Measure 7-11.** If blasting will be done near an existing landfill, a qualified blasting specialist will design the blasting program to ensure that peak particle velocities resulting from blasts will be lower than the amount that could damage the landfill liner or leachate collection system.

**Mitigation Measure 7-12.** When feasible, large non-disposal facilities (i.e., composting facilities) shall provide permeable surfaces and retention basins to aid in the recharge of groundwater in accordance with the water quality standards of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

## 9. Land Use and Land Use Planning

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects on land use or land use planning? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Physically divide an established community?	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

*Land Use and Land Use Planning Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to land use and land use planning. No new mitigation measures for land use and land use planning are required; however, land use and land use planning mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR land use and land use planning mitigation measures are included at the end of this section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) It is not expected that any facility under the proposed CoIWMP amendments would be located in a way that would physically divide or disrupt an established community. The 2003 SPEIR addressed compatibility issues associated with siting new or expanded solid waste non-disposal and landfill facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 4-1 through 4-3). No further analysis is required until site specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) The 2003 SPEIR addressed compatibility issues associated with siting new or expanded solid waste non-disposal and landfill facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 4-1 through 4-3). The 2003 SPEIR disclosed significant and unavoidable impacts related to conflicts between residential uses and potential landfill odors. Site specific analysis would be

required when specific sites are identified. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

- c) The 2003 SPEIR addressed impacts of facilities on wildlife and their habitat. There are no Sonoma County habitat conservation plans or community conservation plans. For discussion relative to State level conservation plans, see 4 f), above. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR

**Mitigation Measure 4-1.** In siting new or expanded solid waste non-disposal facilities, examine land uses surrounding potential sites and take possible land use conflicts into account into making siting determinations. In addition, require each new or expanded facility to incorporate design and operation measures to minimize land use conflicts.

**Mitigation Measure 4-1.** Same as Mitigation Measure 4-1.

**Mitigation Measure 4-3.** There are no mitigation measures for the loss of important resource lands or for the change in character of the lands.

## 10. Mineral Resources

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects on mineral resources? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

**Mineral Resources Summary:** There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to mineral resources. No new mitigation measures for mineral resources are required; however a mineral resources mitigation measure identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR mineral resources mitigation measure is included at the end of this section. The mitigation measure number is linked to the specific impact identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a, b) Impacts to mineral resources at non-disposal facilities and landfills were addressed in the 2003 SPEIR and were found to be less than significant. A new rail yard, landfill, or a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility would not be sited where mineral resources have been identified by the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan (as amended) and the Aggregate Resource Management (ARM) Plan. Because of the relatively small areas that would be required for potential new facilities described in the Amendment to the CoIWMP, the potential loss of availability of a mineral resource would not be significant. Therefore, this issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

### Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR

**Mitigation Measure 4-4.** Geologic studies of future landfill expansion and new landfill sites will address the possibility that mineral resources could be located under sites of new facilities. To the extent practical, mineral recovery efforts will be incorporated into the construction of the Central Landfill expansion or new landfills.

## 11. Noise

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects related to noise? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Result in 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Noise Summary:* The proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP does not contain substantial changes not previously analyzed for Items 11e and 11f. Although the 2003 SPEIR identified potential significant impacts related to onsite and offsite sources, this issue will need to be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR because the total truck trips under the proposed waste transported by truck option have not been previously analyzed. The 2008 SPEIR will also address the potential for increased noise under the waste by rail option. The 2003 SPEIR noise mitigation measures are included at the end of this noise section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) A new rail yard, landfill, or permanent household hazardous waste collection facility could increase local noise levels in the vicinity of the sites. In addition, mobile sources associated with proposed out-of-County refuse truck hauling and/or waste by rail hauling could generate noise levels in excess of County and/or local standards. The Sonoma County General Plan has policies that establish standards for noise levels at sensitive receptor locations. The 2003 SPEIR addressed on-site (stationary sources) and off-site (automobile and truck traffic) noise sources at potential CoIWMP non-disposal and landfill facilities (2003 SPEIR Impacts 11-1 through 11-6); however, it did not address the waste by rail option. The 2008 SPEIR will address new information regarding the potential for proposed facilities to increase ambient noise, including potential on-site and off-site noise related to disposing waste by rail. Additional analysis may be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- b) Most facilities and activities that would result due to implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP would not result in excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. However, waste by rail has the potential to increase vibration along the railroad. The 2008 SPEIR will address program level vibration or groundborne noise impacts related to the waste by rail option; however, additional analysis would be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- c, d) The construction and operational activities that would result under the Amendment to the CoIWMP could increase local noise levels. The 2003 SPEIR addressed potential noise level increase from construction, operation, and traffic from solid waste non-disposal facilities. The 2008 SPEIR will address new information regarding the potential for proposed facilities to increase ambient noise, including potential on-site and off-site noise related to the waste by rail option. Additional analysis would be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- e, f) Implementation of any of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP options would not likely expose people to significant excessive aircraft noise impacts. This issue was addressed and disclosed as less than significant in the 2003 SPEIR because solid waste facilities are not noise sensitive land uses that would be easily disturbed by airport noise. This issue will not be further addressed in the 2008 SPEIR; however, additional analysis may be required when site specific projects are proposed.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

### ***Mitigation Measure 11-1***

- (a) Construction activities shall be limited to the hours between 7AM to 7PM to the extent practical.
- (b) Construction equipment shall be properly outfitted and maintained with noise reduction devices to minimize construction-generated noise. Wherever possible, noise-generated construction equipment shall be shielded from nearby residences by noise-attenuating walls, berms, or enclosures.
- (c) The contractor shall attempt to locate stationary noise sources as far away as possible from noise-sensitive land uses.

### ***Mitigation Measure 11-2***

- (a) Where feasible, collection activities associated with these facilities shall be conducted during hours of the day which are not noise sensitive for nearby residents and other adjacent land uses. The activities shall be commissioned to occur during normal work hours of the day to provide relative quiet during the more sensitive evening and early morning periods.
- (b) The County and cities shall include noise as an evaluation criterion when purchasing new waste/recyclables transportation vehicles, and will purchase the quietest vehicles available when reasonably possible. If the County does not make direct purchases of such vehicles, they will require their licensed/franchised haulers, via their licensed/franchised agreement, to include noise as an evaluation criterion in their purchase of vehicles.
- (c) A site-specific noise evaluation shall be conducted as part of the siting study for new and expanded non-disposal facilities to identify potential noise problem areas prior to site selection. The noise evaluation shall consider the location of sensitive receptors and evaluate sound barriers or other means to reduce noise exposure. The evaluation shall also consider operational changes such as restricting hours of operation.

### ***Mitigation Measure 11-3***

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measure 11-2 (b) and (c).
- (b) The noise evaluation described in Mitigation Measure 11-2 (c) shall consider the location of sensitive receptors and locate equipment and operations to minimize the noise exposure to the extent practical. The evaluation should consider enclosures for noise equipment or sound barriers to shield off-site receptors from noise.

### ***Mitigation Measure 11-4.*** Same as Mitigation Measure 11-1.

**Mitigation Measure 11-5.** Same as Mitigation Measure 11-2 (a) and (b).

**Mitigation Measure 11-6**

- (a) Same as Mitigation Measure 11-2 (b). In addition, the following mitigation measure is added:
- (b) During project analysis, sound levels for landfill and quarry equipment will be analyzed to determine whether standards would be exceeded. If it is determined that noise standards would be exceeded at the property line of any residential use, the project shall include, to the extent practical, sound barriers, special mufflers on equipment, or other means to reduce the noise levels at the property line. A berm or other noise barrier shall be used to break the line of sight between noisy equipment, such as rock hammers and rock crushers, and the property line prior to operation of the equipment.

## 12. Population and Housing

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or “new information of substantial importance” that may cause one or more effects on population and housing? Would the changes:

<b>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Population and Housing Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve “new information of substantial importance,” as it relates to population and housing. No new mitigation measures for population and housing are required.

- a) Implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP could involve construction of roads to access a new rail yard, landfill, or a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility, or result in upgrades to railroad facilities associated with the waste by rail option. However, it is unlikely that these infrastructure improvements would induce population growth. This issue was disclosed as a less than significant impact in the 2003 SPEIR and will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

- b, c) Zoning and siting criteria would prohibit construction of new facilities that would require the displacement of substantial numbers of houses necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

### 13. Public Services

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects on public services? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the 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 following public services:		
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

*Public Services Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve "new information of substantial importance," as it relates to public services. No new mitigation measures for public services are required; however public services mitigation measures identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR public services mitigation measures are included at the end of this section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) Siting of new facilities that could result under the Amendment to the CoIWMP would require the provision of fire protection at the new sites, which could involve significant environmental impacts and affect existing uses if fire protection services do not have adequate facilities, equipment, or staffing to support the new facilities. The 2003 PEIR disclosed impacts to fire services that were reduced to less than significant levels with mitigation. Additional analysis will be conducted when site-specific projects are proposed. It is not expected that any facility or activity that would result under

implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP would cause an increased need for police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities. Impacts to public services will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR

### Mitigation Measure 15-1

- (a) For each facility and for the applicable CoIWMP programs, a Fire Prevention Program shall be developed and implemented (in consultation with the Fire Marshall). This program shall entail both structural fire suppression mechanisms in the design of the facilities, such as fire sprinkler systems in facility buildings, as well as procedural programs for minimizing fire hazards.
- (b) For each facility that handles hazardous materials and for the applicable CoIWMP programs, a Hazardous Materials Inventory and Emergency Response Plan shall be prepared and implemented (in consultation with the appropriate local agency).
- (c) Private project sponsors shall pay development impact fees to cover the cost of additional fire protection services, if necessary.

**Mitigation Measure 15-2.** Same as Mitigation Measures 15-1 (a) and (c).

## 14. Recreation

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects on recreation? Would the changes:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

**Recreation Summary:** There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve "new information of substantial importance," as it relates to recreation. No new mitigation measures for recreation are required.

- a, b) Implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP would have no effect on recreation. This issue will not be addressed in the 2008 SPEIR.

## 15. Transportation and Traffic

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects related to transportation or traffic:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., conflict with policies promoting bus turnouts, bicycle racks, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

*Transportation and Traffic Summary:* The proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP does not contain substantial changes not previously analyzed for Items 15(c), 15(d), 15(f) and 15(g). The 2008 SPEIR will address issues related to traffic congestion associated with implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP options because the total truck trips under the proposed waste transported by truck option has not been previously analyzed. The 2008 SPEIR will also address the potential for increased traffic and rail congestion under the waste by rail option. The 2003 SPEIR transportation and traffic mitigation measures are included at the end of this traffic section. The numbering of the mitigation measures is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a) The 2003 SPEIR addressed program level road congestion impacts associated with the operations of new or expanded non-disposal and landfill facilities. The 2003 SPEIR disclosed significant and unavoidable impacts related to new landfill operations (2003 SPEIR Impacts 9-2 and 9-3). However, the 2008 SPEIR will analyze any changed

conditions and/or updated information relating to potential roadway traffic congestion issues that would be associated with implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP. The Amendment to the CoIWMP could also result in increased railroad traffic associated with the proposed waste by rail option. Therefore, the 2008 SPEIR will also analyze program level impacts associated with railroad traffic issues. Additional analysis would be required when site specific projects are proposed.

- b) As described above, the 2003 SPEIR addressed program level road congestion impacts associated with the operations of new or expanded non-disposal and landfill facilities. The 2008 SPEIR will analyze any changed conditions and/or updated information relating to potential roadway traffic congestion issues that would be associated with the Amendment to the CoIWMP. Subsequent analyses would be conducted when site-specific projects are proposed.
- c) None of the facilities or activities that would result due to the implementation of the amended CoIWMP would affect air traffic patterns. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- d) New facilities and changed operations under the amended CoIWMP could generate a large volume of local traffic, which could cause safety problems at its driveway entrance, access roads, and/or on minor streets that serve the facilities. This issue was addressed in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 9-5) and found to be less than significant with incorporation of mitigation measures. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR; however, further analysis would be conducted when site-specific projects are proposed.
- e) Inadequate emergency access impacts would result if access routes become blocked as a result of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP. This issue was addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 8-11). No further analysis is required until site-specific projects are proposed. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- f) Amendments to the CoIWMP could affect existing parking or create a need for new parking for employees and customers. This issue was addressed in the 2003 SPEIR and found to be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR; however, further analysis would be conducted when site-specific projects are proposed.
- g) None of the facilities or activities that would result due to the implementation of the Amendment to the CoIWMP would affect alternative transportation programs. Implementation of the waste by rail option would likely have a beneficial impact on the potential for rail transportation in the North Bay because of railroad upgrades that would likely be required for the option. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR

### *Mitigation Measure 9-1*

- (a) To the extent feasible, new non-disposal facilities shall not be located in areas with significant road congestion, as designed in the cities' and County General Plan.
- (b) To the extent feasible, new non-disposal facilities shall be located near other commercial facilities to allow for the combination of activities in one trip and reduce over trip generation.
- (c) Traffic Management Plans (TMP) shall be developed for each of the new and expanded non-disposal facilities, as required. These plans shall schedule truck trips so that roadway segments with the potential to be significantly impacted are avoided during peak hours. In addition, these plans shall detail the hours of operation and other restrictions on truck trips for each of the facilities and shall include plans for employee car pooling and bus transportation, where appropriate and feasible. The plans shall be updated periodically in response to changing traffic conditions and improvements to the highway system. The TMP shall include a site-specific traffic evaluation conducted as part of the siting study for a new non-disposal facility to identify potential traffic problem areas prior to site selection. The traffic evaluation shall consider limiting non-disposal facility operations to either commercial or private (general public) haulers, as well as co-locating of disposal and non-disposal facilities to reduce haul trips.
- (d) Countywide Traffic Mitigation fees shall be paid for new facilities implemented in accordance with the 2003 CoIWMP to help mitigate off-site cumulative traffic impacts.

### *Mitigation Measure 9-2*

- (a) The siting study for a new landfill shall consider the adequacy and operation of the local roads and intersections as part of the comparative criteria.
- (b) A site-specific traffic evaluation shall be conducted as part of the siting study to identify potential traffic problem areas prior to site selection and to identify road or intersection improvements and/or changes needed to accommodate landfill traffic.
- (c) Countywide traffic mitigation fees shall be paid for new facilities implemented in accordance with the 2003 CoIWMP to help mitigate off-site cumulative traffic impacts.

**Mitigation Measure 9-3.** Traffic analysis shall be conducted at the time a site-specific environmental analysis of a quarry project is undertaken. If rock extraction traffic would cause significant congestion at the Stony Point/Roblar or Stony Point/West Railroad intersections, the following mitigation measures shall be considered:

- (a) Trucks hauling rock from the landfill quarry shall be restricted so that they do not add traffic to the congested intersections during peak traffic hours. Restrictions could include

alternative hours of operation or alternative haul routes. This restrictions shall remain in effect until these intersection are signalized.

- (b) The quarry operator shall pay a traffic mitigation fee to provide a fair-share contribution toward the cost of signalizing the intersections.

**Mitigation Measure 9-4.** If significant traffic impacts to the Stony/Roblar and Stony Point Road/West Railroad Avenue intersections continue beyond 2015, mitigation measures such as the following shall be implemented:

- (a) The Integrated Waste Division will consider restricting truck traffic that is subject to County control so that trucks do not travel through the Stony Point/Roblar and/or the Stony Point Road/West Railroad intersections during peak traffic hours. This shall apply only to new truck trips associated with projects pursuant to the 2003 CoIWMP, and not existing traffic using the Central Disposal Site. The restriction shall apply to trucks subject to County control, such as those making deliveries for cover soil and liner materials, and trucks associated with construction at the site. This measure shall remain in effect until a traffic signal has been installed at these intersections.
- (b) Prior to construction of projects at the Central Disposal Site pursuant to the 2003 CoIWMP, the Integrated Waste Division shall pay a traffic mitigation fee that includes a fair share contribution toward the installation of signals at the Stony Point/Roblar and Stony Point/ West Railroad intersections.
- (c) Consider restricting hours of operation so that traffic is not added to the congested intersections during peak traffic hours. This restriction would remain in effect until these intersections are signalized.
- (d) Consider restricting traffic the use of the site to commercial operators only, thereby reducing the number of vehicles using the Stony Point/Roblar and Stony Point/West Railroad intersection.

**Mitigation Measure 9-5.** Prior to the commencement of hauling, the quarry operator and the Integrated Waste Division shall implement a truck driver education program which familiarizes rock and commercial refuse haulers with speed limit zones, school bus stops, areas of low sight distance on the haul route, permit limits on trucking, weight and load height limits, circulation routes through the landfill to minimize interference, and other measures which will reduce public conflicts. The Integrated Waste Division shall maintain a record of the drivers receiving the orientation.

**Mitigation Measure 9-6**

- (a) Driveways and access roads for the new landfill and non-disposal facilities shall be designed to the AASHTO standards to ensure safety hazards are minimized. These

standards include driveway width, acceleration-deceleration lanes, and turning radius requirements.

- (b) Prior to operation, minor roads that would be used as haul routes shall be examined for existing safety problems and corrections shall be made as necessary to accommodate traffic from new facilities.
- (c) Design access roads for new facilities to accommodate emergency vehicles in accordance with County Fire Safe Standards.

## 16. Utilities and Service Systems

Since the previous SPEIR was certified, are there any changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP, changes in circumstances under which the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would be undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects related to utilities or service systems:

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

*Utilities and Service Systems Summary:* There are no substantial changes in the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP that may cause one or more new significant effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects; and/or involve "new information of substantial importance," as it relates to utilities and service systems. No new mitigation measures for utilities and service systems are required; however a utilities and service systems mitigation measure that is identified in the 2003 SPEIR would be applied where appropriate to activities that would occur under the proposed 2008 Amendment to the CoIWMP. The 2003 SPEIR utilities and

service systems mitigation measure is included at the end of this section. The mitigation measure number is linked to the specific impacts identified in the 2003 SPEIR (SCWMA, 2003a).

- a, b) Potential impacts caused by non-disposal and landfill facilities associated with wastewater treatment capacity and requirements were addressed in the 2003 PEIR and were found to be less than significant with mitigation (2003 PEIR Impact 15-4). Any facility proposed under the Amendments to the CoIWMP that would involve discharge to wastewater facilities would comply with the permitting provisions of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board. This issue will not be addressed in the 2008 SPEIR; however, additional analysis will be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- c) Development of facilities that could result under the Amendment to the CoIWMP may require the construction of new stormwater facilities. The 2003 PEIR determined that program level impacts associated with stormwater facilities would be less than significant. This issue will not be addressed in the 2008 SPEIR; however, site specific analysis of storm water discharge would be required when site specific projects are proposed.
- d) The Amendment to the CoIWMP could include a private expansion of the Central Disposal Site or development of a new private landfill facility that would require the use or removal of groundwater. Significant and unavoidable impacts to groundwater supply were disclosed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR (2003 SPEIR Impact 7-9). This issue will not be addressed in the 2008 SPEIR. Additional analysis would need to be conducted if a specific landfill project is proposed.
- e) See 16 a) and b), above.
- f) The proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP Siting Element options would provide landfill capacity to meet the needs of Sonoma County residents. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- g) Programs described in the 2008 CoIWMP would comply with federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste because the purpose of updating the CoIWMP is to ensure compliance with all solid waste laws. This issue will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.

## **Applicable Mitigation Measures Required by the 2003 SPEIR**

***Mitigation Measure 15-4.*** Any projects which involve discharge to waterways or stormwater runoff shall comply with the permitting provisions of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board.

## 17. Mandatory Findings of Significance

Would the project:

<u>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a) 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 the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have impacts that would be 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.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

- a) Implementation of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP would not be expected to result in degradation of the quality of the environment, including biological and cultural resources. Impacts on the environment, including biological and cultural resources, were adequately addressed on a program level in the 2003 SPEIR and would also be addressed when site specific projects are proposed. These issues will not be addressed further in the 2008 SPEIR.
- b) Implementation of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP could result in significant cumulative impacts related to air quality, noise, and transportation. These issues will be fully addressed in the 2008 SPEIR on a program level and would also be addressed when site specific projects are proposed.
- c) Implementation of the proposed Amendment to the CoIWMP could result in significant impacts to human health related to air quality and noise. These issues will be fully addressed in the 2008 SPEIR and would also be addressed when site specific projects are proposed.

### References

- Brown, Vence, & Associates, Inc. (BVA, 2004). *Reassessment of the Long-Term Solid Waste Strategy Management Plan*, Prepared for Sonoma County, 2004.
- BVA, 2005. Letter Report to Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works. Subject: Review of Rail Haul – Revised Draft. September 12, 2005.

Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA), 1996. *Final Program Environmental Impact Report for the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan*. 1996.

SCWMA, 2003a. *Final Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2003 Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan*. October, 2003. Available on-line at [http://www.recyclenow.org/Final\\_Supp\\_EIR\\_CoIWMP.pdf](http://www.recyclenow.org/Final_Supp_EIR_CoIWMP.pdf)

SCWMA, 2003b. *Sonoma Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan*.