

4.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

Issues & Supporting Information Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the Project:				
a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.14.1 Environmental Setting

This section focuses on fire and police protection because the Project would not result in population growth or otherwise affect schools, parks, or other public facilities.

4.14.1.1 Fire Protection

The Old River site is under the jurisdiction of the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District. The nearest fire station to the site is Station Number 58, located in Discovery Bay. However, the Marine Fire and Rescue Division operate out of two other stations, one on Bethel Island and the other in Knightsen. Twelve firefighters are assigned to these two stations and staff the 33-foot Fire Rescue Boat. In addition to the Fire Rescue Boat, the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District operates both Type I and Type III Fire Engines. Response time for a fire emergency is 6 minutes in most areas protected by the District (East Contra Costa Fire Protection District 2008). San Joaquin County also maintains a fire department in Isleton, located about 12 miles north of Connection Slough staffed by one career professional and 27 volunteers. Multiple stations also are located in Stockton.

4.14.1.2 Police Protection

The Project sites are under the jurisdiction of both the San Joaquin County and Contra Costa County Sheriff's Departments. The San Joaquin Sheriff Department Boating Safety Unit is the nearest unit that would respond to an emergency at the Project sites. This six-person unit is responsible for surveying over 700 miles of rivers and waterway in the Delta and is stationed at West Buckley Cove in Stockton, approximately 9 miles east of the Connection Slough site (actual miles traveled would be greater due to turns in river channels). Regular patrol units of the San Joaquin Sheriff Department operate out of the main station in French Camp (about 16 miles east of Connection Slough) and consist of 124 deputies divided between 8 patrol teams which patrol the county 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (San Joaquin County Sheriff 2008). The Contra Costa County Sheriff Department Marine Patrol is responsible for patrolling over 200 miles of

linear coastline from Richmond to Discovery Bay. The nearest Marine Patrol station to the Project is the Delta Station located in Oakley, approximately 7 miles northwest of the Old River site (Contra Costa County 2008).

4.14.2 Regulatory Setting

No federal or state regulations are applicable to police or fire protection in the Project area. Both Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties establish appropriate service ratios.

4.14.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

4.14.3.1 No Project

The No Project alternative would have no impacts on public services because no development would occur.

4.14.3.2 2-Gates Project

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

Less than Significant. The Project could result in increased demand for fire and police services during construction and operations in the event of accidents requiring emergency response. Such a demand is typical of all construction activities and would be within the capabilities of the local and regional emergency response providers. Operation of the gates does not pose a particular risk, and no increased staffing of police or fire departments would be required. As discussed in Section 2, the marine patrols would be granted 24-hour access through the gates, and it would not be necessary to construct new facilities as a result of the Project.

4.14.3.3 Cumulative Impacts

The Project would potentially result in a minor increase in the demand for police and fire protection services during the brief construction periods that would occur each year, but this minor, short-term potential increase would not require increased public services or new facilities and would not be cumulatively considerable (significant) in combination with the impacts of other projects in the area.