SECTION I

COMMENT SUMMARIES AND RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

COMMENT SUMMARIES AND RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

Comment Number: 1-1
Commentor Name: CA DEPT. OF FISH & GAME
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Since any of the alternatives being discussed in the program Draft EIR will result in significant impacts to the environment, a focused EIR will have to be prepared upon selection of the preferred alternative. We wish to be consulted early in the scoping of the focused EIR and to remain involved throughout the CEQA process.

Response:

A program EIR may be used as environmental documentation for later, or "subsequent" activities in accord with the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15168 (c). New environmental documentation is not required if the approving agency finds that no new effects could occur, and no new mitigation measures are required. The primary purpose of a program EIR is to enable an early and exhaustive consideration of alternatives, to cause a reduction in paperwork, and to avoid duplicative reconsideration of policy considerations.

Comment Number: 2-1
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor comments that EIR should give more emphasis to proposed project.

Response:

The EIR intentionally examines broad ranges of water supply options and water distribution alternatives so that the decision makers can compare the relative strengths and weaknesses of all combinations within the continuum. The proposed project is identified in the Executive Summary, Chapter II, Chapter IV, and Chapter V, and is evaluated at sufficient detail to be in compliance with CEQA.

Comment Number: 2-2
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV A
Page: IV-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that final EIR project the population corresponding to land use growth.

Response:

Section G of Chapter V in the final EIR has been revised to include estimates of population growth associated with potential housing stock growth.

Comment Number: 2-3
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the base map (Figure I-1) be replaced with one that fully depicts the District area.

Response:

The final EIR includes a revised map that depicts the boundaries of the entire District.

Comment Number: 2-4
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: II C
Page: II-27

Summary of Comment:

Commentor notes that base map omits the northern boundary of the District.

Response:

The final EIR includes a revised map that depicts the boundaries of the entire District.

Comment Number: 2-5
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: III B
Page: III-5

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that description of AMBAG be amended in the final EIR.

Response:

The description of AMBAG has been revised in the final EIR as requested.

Comment Number: 2-6
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: III C
Page: III-9

Summary of Comment:

Clarification is needed on the intermittent nature of Carmel River flow. Also, the authors should clarify that the Lagoon retains water year round.

Response:

Chapter III has been revised to reflect that portions of the river are intermittent and that the Lagoon retains water year round.

Comment Number: 2-7
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Additional information on the analysis of the Seaside Coastal Groundwater Basin needs to be presented to support conclusions and mitigation measures in the document.

Response:

The MPWMD has undertaken a number of investigations of the Seaside Coastal Subbasin in order to provide information to facilitate managing this resource. The results of the most recent investigation are documented in a comprehensive report prepared by the consulting firm of Staal, Gardner & Dunne, Inc. (1987). Additional information pertinent to conclusions and proposed mitigation measures is included in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 2-8
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-15

Summary of Comment:

All mitigation measures for each alternative are the same, and only address the Seaside Coastal Subbasin. Why are no mitigation measures proposed for the Carmel Valley Aquifer?

Response:

The mitigation measures for the Seaside Coastal Subbasin for each Supply Option are the same because the identified impacts, as analyzed from the CVSIM results, are similar for each Option.

The potential impacts on the Carmel Valley Aquifer would be from seawater intrusion and the effect of excessive drawdown on non-Cal-Am groundwater users.

A portion of the groundwater storage in Carmel Valley Aquifer Subbasin AQ4 is designated for environmental protection (i.e., prevention of seawater intrusion and Lagoon impacts), and this limitation is included in each of the CVSIM simulations. Staal, Gardner, and Dunne (1989) concluded, however, that increased groundwater extraction from Subbasin AQ4 would not induce seawater intrusion.

Supply Options II and II could potentially affect non Cal-Am users, particularly in Subbasins AQ3 and AQ4. Mitigations that would reduce these impacts on non Cal-Am groundwater users are described in Sections C and D of Chapter IV. It is unknown whether these impacts would still be considered significant after implementation of these mitigation measures.

Comment Number: 2-9
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-15

Summary of Comment:

How will the impact to the Seaside Coastal Subbasin be mitigated, who will be responsible for implementation, and how much will it cost?

Response:

The MPWMD monitors municipal production from the Seaside Coastal Subbasin through the MPWMD Water Supply Strategy and Budget Program. Starting July 1989, targets for Cal-Am production from each source reservoir (including the Seaside Coastal Subbasin) are set on a quarterly basis and actual production is tracked on a monthly basis. Costs for administration of this program are paid through the MPWMD's general fund. Costs are anticipated to predominantly consist of paid staff time and administrative services.

Comment Number: 2-10
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-53

Summary of Comment:

The commentor questions who will be responsible for implementing the four mitigation measures identified on Page IV-53, and how much will they cost.

Response:

In addition to those already being implemented, four mitigation measures have been identified in the EIR which could reduce the impacts of Supply Option I (current Cal-Am production). These include: 1) a program to rescue juveniles from drying reaches upstream of the Narrows and to transplant them into the reach between Robles Del Rio and San Clemente Dam; 2) partial reconstruction of the fish ladder at San Clemente Dam and a change in the operation of the spill gates; 3) additional modifications to the downstream end of the spillway at Los Padres Dam; and 4) drilling of new wells in Subbasin AQ4 to increase Cal-Am production capacity and eliminate pumping (except for maintenance) from AQ2, except during years when accumulated runoff is less than 12.5 percent of normal.

It has not been determined regarding who would be responsible for implementing these mitigation measures. The District, Cal-Am, and the Carmel River Steelhead Association would negotiate an agreement which stipulates how the measures would be funded and who would be responsible for each one. Approval from the California Department of Fish and Game would be needed for the rescue program, holding facilities, and any modifications to fish facilities and operations at Los Padres and San Clemente Dams.

A rough estimate of the costs for each mitigation measure are:

MITIGATION MEASURE:	CAPITAL COST:	ANNUAL COST:
1. Rescue Program:		
Rescue & Transplant Only	$0	$11,000
Rescue, Transplant, & Hold up to 7 months	$750,000 (?)	$33,600
2. Reconstruct San Clemente fish ladder and modify operation at Dam	$250,000	$20,000
3. Modify Los Padres Spillway	$90,000	$0
4. Drill new wells and pump from subbasin #4, in lieu of pumping subbasin #2	$480,000	$20,000
TOTALS	**$1,570,000**	**$51,000-$73,600**

Comment Number: 2-11
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-56

Summary of Comment:

In regard to the State's salmon and steelhead policy which emphasizes the maintenance of steelhead populations with natural reproduction, the commentor questions which water supply option would meet the State's policies for the Carmel River steelhead fishery?

Response:

In responding to this question, it is important to distinguish between the steelhead population and steelhead recreational fishery in the Carmel River. The steelhead population comprises individual fish including adults, eggs, fry, and juveniles. The recreational fishery is the sport of taking adult steelhead from the Carmel River during the winter months.

The State does not have a specific policy for the Carmel River, but manages the steelhead population with a general Salmon and Steelhead Policy, and the Salmon, Steelhead Trout and Anadromous Fisheries Act of 1988 which are applied to all salmon and steelhead streams along the coast of California (see attached excerpts).

Part of the State's management policy is to allow a limited harvest of adult steelhead. The sport harvest of steelhead is controlled by the California Fish and Game Commission which sets angling regulations based on recommendations from the California Department of Fish and Game and evidence received during public hearings which are held every two years. In the Carmel River, the steelhead season extends from November 16 to February 28, but only on opening and closing days, weekend days, Wednesdays, and Holidays AND only when flows at the USGS gauge, near Carmel, exceed 200 cfs. These regulations were formulated to protect adult steelhead which migrate upstream during low flow periods and to allow a limited harvest of adults following early winter storms.

If the mitigation measures identified in the EIR were implemented and were successful, then Water Supply Options I, IV, and V would meet the State's policies for managing steelhead. Options II and III are counter to the State's Policies as stated in the Salmon and Steelhead Policy and in the Anadromous Fisheries Program Act of 1988. Options II and III interfere with the State's ability to significantly increase the natural production of steelhead trout by the year 2000, further diminish existing steelhead habitat without offsetting the impacts of lost habitat, and reduce the State's ability to adequately maintain the breeding stock of Carmel River steelhead and provide for the natural rearing of young steelhead to migratory size.

CHAPTER 8. SALMON, STEELHEAD TROUT, AND ANADROMOUS FISHERIES PROGRAM ACT

Chapter 8 was added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.

ARTICLE 1. CITATION AND LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

Article 1 was added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.

§ 6900. Chapter cite

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

Historical Note

1988 Legislation

Section 1 of Stats.1988, c. 1545, provides:

"The Legislature finds that the Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout, reestablished by Resolution Chapter 141 of the Statutes of 1983, has conducted a thorough inquiry into the decline of the naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout resources of the state and has presented to the public its findings and recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to protect and increase those resources. As a result of the advisory committee's inquiry, findings, and recommendations, the Legislature has recommended the establishment of a salmon, steelhead trout, and anadromous fisheries program set forth in Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 6900) of Part 1 of Division 6 of the Fish and Game Code."

§ 6901. Legislative findings

The Legislature, for purposes of this chapter, finds as follows:

(a) According to the department, the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout in California has declined to approximately 1,000,000 adult chinook or king salmon, 100,000 coho or silver salmon, and 150,000 steelhead trout.

(b) The naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout resources of the state have declined dramatically within the past four decades, primarily as a result of lost stream habitat on many streams in the state.

(c) Much of the loss of salmon and steelhead trout and anadromous fish in the state has occurred in the central valley.

(d) Protection of, and an increase in, the naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout resources of the state would provide a valuable public resource to the residents, a large statewide economic benefit, and would, in addition, provide employment opportunities not otherwise available to the citizens of this state, particularly in rural areas of present underemployment.

(e) Proper salmon and steelhead trout resource management requires maintaining adequate levels of natural, as compared to hatchery, spawning and rearing.

(f) Reliance upon hatchery production of salmon and steelhead trout in California is at or near the maximum percentage that it should occupy in the mix of natural and artificial hatchery production in the state. Hatchery production may be an appropriate means of protecting and increasing salmon and steelhead in specific situations; however, when both are feasible alternatives, preference shall be given to natural production.

(g) The protection of, and increase in, the naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout of the state must be accomplished primarily through the improvement of stream habitat.

(h) Funds provided by the Legislature since 1978 to further the protection and increase of the fisheries of the state have been administered by the Department of Fish and Game in a successful

program of contracts with local government and nonprofit agencies and private groups in ways that have attracted substantial citizen effort.

(i) The department's contract program has demonstrated that California has a large and enthusiastic corps of citizens that are eager to further the restoration of the stream and fishery resources of this state and that are willing to provide significant amounts of time and labor to that purpose.

(j) There is need for a comprehensive salmon, steelhead trout, and anadromous fisheries plan, program, and state government organization to guide the state's efforts to protect and increase the naturally spawning salmon, steelhead trout, and anadromous fishery resources of the state.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6902. Legislature declarations

The Legislature, for purposes of this chapter, declares as follows:

(a) It is the policy of the state to significantly increase the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout by the end of this century. The department shall develop a plan and a program that strives to double the current natural production of salmon and steelhead trout resources.

(b) It is the policy of the state to recognize and encourage the participation of the public in privately and publicly funded mitigation, restoration, and enhancement programs in order to protect and increase naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout resources.

(c) It is the policy of the state that existing natural salmon and steelhead trout habitat shall not be diminished further without offsetting the impacts of the lost habitat.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS

Section
6910. Construction of chapter governed by definitions.
6911. Production.
6912. Program.

Article 2 was added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.

§ 6910. Construction of chapter governed by definitions

Unless the context clearly requires a different meaning, the definitions in this article govern the construction of this chapter.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6911. Production

"Production" means the survival of fish to adulthood as measured by the abundance of the recreational and commercial catch together with the return of fish to the state's spawning streams.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6912. Program

"Program" means the program for protecting and increasing the naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout of the state provided for in Article 3 (commencing with Section 6920).

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

ARTICLE 3. SALMON, STEELHEAD TROUT, AND ANADROMOUS FISHERIES PROGRAM

Section
6920. Preparation and maintenance of program; consultation with public agencies affecting program; measures to achieve policies.
6921. Identification of measures to increase fish production.
6922. Elements of program.
6923. Measures ineligible for funding.
6924. Report to legislature and advisory committee.

Article 8 was added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.

§ 6920. Preparation and maintenance of program; consultation with public agencies affecting program; measures to achieve policies

(a) The department shall, with the advice of the Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout and the Commercial Salmon Trollers Advisory Committee, prepare and maintain a detailed and comprehensive program for the protection and increase of salmon, steelhead trout, and anadromous fisheries.

(b) The department shall consult with every public agency whose policies or decisions may affect the goals of this program to determine if there are feasible means for those public agencies to help the department achieve the goals of this program.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6921. Identification of measures to increase fish production

The program shall identify the measures the department will carry out to achieve the policies set forth in Section 6902.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6922. Elements of program

The program shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following elements:

(a) Identification of streams where the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout can be increased primarily through the improvement of stream and streambank conditions without effect on land ownership, land use practices, or changes in streamflow operations.

(b) Identification of streams where the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout can be increased only through the improvement of land use practices or changes in streamflow operations.

(c) Identification of streams where the protection of, and increase in, salmon and steelhead trout resources require, as a result of significant prior loss of stream habitat, the construction of artificial propagation facilities.

(d) A program element for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

(e) Recommendations for an organizational structure, staffing, budgeting, long-term sources of funding, changes in state statutes and regulations and federal and local government policy and such other administrative and legislative actions as the department finds to be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

(f) Identification of measures to protect and increase the production of other anadromous fisheries consistent with policies set forth in Section 6902.

(g) Identification of alternatives to, or mitigation of, manmade factors which cause the loss of juvenile and adult fish in California's stream system.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6923. Measures ineligible for funding

Measures which are the responsibility of other agencies or persons, such as the repair or replacement of dysfunctional fish screens, are not eligible for funding under the program.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

§ 6924. Report to legislature and advisory committee

The department shall determine the initial elements of the program and transmit a report describing those elements to the Legislature and the Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout within six months of the effective date of this chapter.

(Added by Stats.1988, c. 1545, § 2, eff. Sept. 30, 1988.)

STEELHEAD AND SALMON

It is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission:

I. To maintain an adequate breeding stock, suitable spawning areas, and provide for the natural rearing of the young to migratory size. Hatchery production shall be limited to areas where it is necessary to supplement natural production in coastal streams.

II. That resident fish will not be planted or developed in coastal steelhead and salmon streams, except after prior Commission approval (a) where the stream is no longer adaptable to anadromous runs, or (b) during the mid-summer period in those individual streams considered on a water-by-water basis where there is a high demand for angling recreation and such planting or development has been determined by the Department not to be detrimental to the anadromous species.

III. That salmon and steelhead may be rescued whenever the water supply in a stream is inadequate to maintain fish life.

STEELHEAD RAINBOW TROUT

It is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission that:

I. The steelhead rainbow trout in California is recognized as a valuable resource with strict environmental requirements and a limited range.

Steelhead waters include all streams or stream sections accessible to steelhead along the California coast and in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River drainage above the Delta, and such other waters as the Commission may designate.

II. The greatest fishery value of this resource is its potential to provide recreational angling for sea-run fish. Management shall be directed toward providing such angling and maintaining a vigorous, healthy resource. Angling for juvenile steelhead will be restricted to the extent necessary to insure optimum spawning stock and angling opportunity for sea-run fish.

III. Resident fish will not be planted or developed in steelhead waters. Resident fish will not be planted or developed in drainages of steelhead waters, where, in the opinion of the Department, such planting or development will interfere with steelhead populations. Programs on threatened or endangered species, within the species natural range, are excepted.

IV. California's steelhead resources are largely dependent upon the quality and quantity of habitat. Because of damage and threats to this restricted habitat, emphasis shall be placed on management programs to inventory and protect and, wherever possible, restore or improve the habitat of natural steelhead stocks.

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V. The Department shall seek prevention or alleviation of those aspects of projects, developments or activities which would or do exert adverse impact on steelhead habitat or steelhead populations. All available steps will be taken to prevent loss of habitat, and the Department shall oppose any development or project which will result in irreplaceable losses of fish.

VI. The Department shall develop and implement plans and programs to improve the protection of steelhead habitat including, but not limited to, assessment of habitat status and adverse impacts, land use planning, acquisition of interests in streams threatened with adverse developments, and research on effects on habitat changes caused by activities such as overgrazing, gravel extraction, logging, road construction, urbanization and water development.

VII. The Department shall develop and implement programs to measure and, where appropriate, increase steelhead population size and angler use and success, consistent with the objectives of providing quality angling and maintaining a healthy resource.

VIII. Artificial propagation of steelhead, except for mitigation, shall be for the purpose of improving angling for sea-run fish, and should include strains or varieties of steelhead which have the greatest potential to contribute to recreational angling. Artificial production of rearing and stocking programs shall be managed so as to produce minimal interference with natural salmonid stocks, and such programs shall be periodically reviewed to assess their effects on these stocks.

IX. Juvenile steelhead rescue shall be limited to instances where habitat conditions are temporarily inadequate to maintain fish life and when suitable rearing areas are available with the capacity to rear rescued fish to smolts without impairment of other steelhead populations. Rescue should be undertaken only in special circumstances involving large numbers or steelhead of special significance.

X. The following streams or stream sections are deleted from the steelhead waters described in item I of this policy.

Big Lagoon	Humboldt County
Stone Lagoon	Humboldt County
Arroyo Seco Creek	Monterey County
Nacimiento River	San Luis Obispo County
North Fork Battle Creek	Shasta County, upstream from Manton
Cow Creek	Shasta County, upstream from Fern Road and Ingot
Middle Fork Cottonwood Creek	Shasta County, upstream from Platina
Antelope Creek	Tehama County, upstream from Ponderosa Way

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Comment Number: 2-12
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that a complete traffic study for the region be completed.

Response:

The requested study is not feasible for this EIR. Such a study is underway by AMBAG and should be available by 1990. The final EIR more fully describes the setting, assumptions, and methodology used in the EIR traffic analysis.

Comment Number: 2-13
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the trip generation rates used in the final EIR should be checked for consistency with rates used in the area. Impacts on local streets are ignored.

Response:

The Monterey County Transportation Study Group (MCTS) was contacted for recommended trip generation rates. A MCTS representative acknowledged that ITE trip generation rates used in the EIR were correct (Lopez pers. comm.).

The EIR traffic analysis did not examine trip distribution and traffic assignments and therefore did not examine the impacts on local arterial streets. A complete traffic study for the region is currently underway by AMBAG and should be available in 1990.

Comment Number: 2-14
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR comment on the feasibility and timing of the proposed traffic mitigation measures.

Response:

Cost estimates and funding sources are not available for the mitigation measures listed in the EIR. In addition, the MPWMD does not have the authority to implement these improvements. As a result, MPWMD would not be able to carry out the required monitoring and mitigation pursuant to AB 3180. Because of these circumstances, the proposed mitigation measures are speculative at best. Furthermore, without an in-depth traffic analysis, it is uncertain whether these traffic improvements would reduce the impacts of the supply options on traffic to less-than-significant levels.

Comment Number: 2-15
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR compare phasing of the preferred alternative with the implementation of proposed traffic mitigation measures.

Response:

The MPWMD has adopted allocations for each jurisdiction as a planning tool so that land use decisions can be made by the land use planning bodies. The MPWMD has not restricted the timing for the dedication of water to growth. Therefore, the Allocation Program has no phasing per se. The MPWMD could phase the release of water by selecting a smaller water supply option. The environmental impacts of a range of water supply options, including traffic impacts, are evaluated in Chapter IV of the EIR. This EIR is programmatic. Therefore, the environmental documents for those developments will be required to address their specific traffic impacts, including phasing, as developers that use any new water seek permits.

Comment Number: 2-16
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV R
Page: IV-102

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR include AMBAG and MBUAPCD determinations as to the consistency of the various water supply options with the Air Quality Management Plan.

Response:

The growth projections used in the final EIR are consistent with AMBAG growth projections. The final EIR will be submitted to AMBAG for their determination of consistency with the *1989 Air Quality Management Plan*.

Comment Number: 2-17
Commentor Name: AMBAG
Chapter: IV R
Page: IV-102

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the traffic volumes stated in the text (page IV-102) do not agree with those stated on page IV-80.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The error has been corrected in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 3-1
Commentor Name: MBUAPCD
Chapter: III G
Page: III-49

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that additional data be added to the final EIR regarding air quality.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to include information on current air quality measurements.

Comment Number: 3-2
Commentor Name: MBUAPCD
Chapter: III G
Page: III-50

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that existing air quality status for the basin be updated.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 3-3
Commentor Name: MBUAPCD
Chapter: IV R
Page: IV-102

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR be revised to document growth and emission assumptions and to determine consistency with the 1989 Air Quality Management Plan.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 4A-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

The commentor requests that the EIR be rewritten in a less technical style.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. The complex nature of the Allocation Program requires a complex document. The authors have, nonetheless, made every effort in the final EIR to ensure its readability. The authors have also provided a glossary to define terms to help the lay reader.

Comment Number: 4A-2
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: I C
Page: I-3

Summary of Comment:

The Draft EIR fails to properly account for the impacts of the proposed Carmel Sanitary District/Pebble Beach Community Services District Wastewater Reclamation Project. Since this reclamation project will potentially free up a substantial potable water supply relative to the total District water resource, the impact of this project should be referenced in the allocation program.

Response:

Environmental impacts of the proposed Carmel Sanitary District/Pebble Beach Community Services District Wastewater Reclamation Project are discussed in that Project EIR. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research advised that CSD was the lead agency, and MPWMD a responsible agency, in the implementation of the reclamation project as stated in David Nunenkamp's letter of July 18, 1988. The reclamation project is functionally one project, with multiple governmental agencies having jurisdiction over various or discrete aspects of the project. The "lead agency" concept under CEQA was specifically designed and intended to streamline and reduce the amount of paperwork involved with the CEQA process by providing for one EIR where multiple agencies are involved with the approval of a single "project."

At such time as MPWMD may consider proceeding with the reclamation project and selecting a fiscal sponsor, the decision before MPWMD will have potential environmental impacts that MPWMD, in its role as a responsible agency, will need to consider in compliance with CEQA.

The reclamation project as proposed, and as analyzed in the Wastewater Reclamation Project EIR, includes a private financing scheme whereby the Pebble Beach Company would guarantee financing for the project, and in return would receive dedicated water entitlements of up to 380 acre-feet for the planned development of its land in Del Monte Forest. The remaining 420 acre-feet of potable water released by the reclamation project would be subject to future allocation by MPWMD in a manner to be decided later by MPWMD. The secondary or "growth inducing" impacts that may be associated with this financing scheme are discussed in the Final Wastewater Reclamation Project EIR. Assuming that Pebble Beach Company is the principal fiscal sponsor in roughly the manner described in the Final Wastewater Reclamation Project EIR, the Final Wastewater Reclamation Project EIR is designed to alert MPWMD to the potential growth impacts associated with selecting Pebble Beach Company as the principal fiscal sponsor.

At such time as MPWMD entertains a decision to proceed with the reclamation project and selects a fiscal sponsor, that decision has potential environmental impacts that must be evaluated under CEQA. MPWMD as a responsible agency under CEQA may use, and indeed is expected to use, the CSD Final Wastewater Reclamation Project EIR.

With respect to allocation of the 420 acre-feet of potable water that would be released and not dedicated to a fiscal sponsor under the reclamation project as proposed, no decision has been proposed or will be made by MPWMD at the time that MPWMD makes its decision on whether to proceed with the reclamation project. This allocation decision would be made at some time in the future. MPWMD will conduct an environmental review in compliance with CEQA, apart from the reclamation project EIR, in an appropriate manner as a prerequisite to any decision on the eventual use of any freed-up potable water from the reclamation project.

Comment Number: 4A-3
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR describe the rationale or philosophy behind each allocation alternative.

Response:

Section C in Chapter II of the final EIR includes an expanded discussion of the rationale for each alternative.

Comment Number: 4A-4
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Shouldn't Alternative IV require that water only be used for developing vacant lots? The EIR should discuss whether there is a legal obligation to serve lots once created. Does the District comment on proposed subdivisions? How do the policies or requirements of the California Coastal Commission affect the water allocation process? Will the Commission require preferential treatment for existing vacant lots?

Response:

The MPWMD Board has consistently avoided interference with the land use planning authority of each of the member jurisdictions. The Water Allocation Program provides discrete quantities of water, but defers to the local jurisdiction the policy decision as to when, where, and how that water may best serve the public's interest.

The response to comment 21-15 addresses the Allocation Program's impact on property rights of the owners of vacant land.

With respect to California Coastal Commission policy, the Water Allocation Program is an indirect result of the Coastal Act of 1976. That Act required each county and city along the coast to resolve "issues of greater than local significance." For the Monterey Peninsula one of these issues of greater than local significance was water supply -- more precisely, the lack of water supply to meet the projected land use buildout of the area. A complicating factor in this problem was the existence of several land use planning agencies -- six cities and Monterey County. All competed for this inadequate resource in a classic illustration of a common pool resource.

To resolve this situation, the Coastal Commission approached the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District in August 1978 with a grant to develop projections of demand and recommendations on the division of unused water capacity among the cities and the county. The cities and the county each supported MPWMD involvement in the issue. The cities and the county were unable to exercise land use authority and to take over permit processing from the

Coastal Commission without the development of "Local Coastal Programs" (LCP). The Coastal Commission had made it clear that no LCP would be certified until the water problem was resolved. Further, the Coastal Commission threatened to do the study itself if it was not done locally by an independent third party. With this threat in mind, the cities and the county requested that MPWMD undertake the allocation plan study. The District Board voted five to two with both county and the city representatives voting to authorize involvement in the allocation of water supply among the cities and county.

A Draft Report (Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, "Report to the Coastal Commission," January 1979) presented projections generated by the cities along with a proposed water allocation as a means of reserving a "fair share" of the water supply for each jurisdiction. The Final Report, together with comments on the Draft, received by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District in March 1979 was used as the basis for the first District allocation plan intended to achieve the management of the limited pool resource, and to improve land use and other planning decisions by relating these decisions to their impact upon water use.

Comment Number: 4A-5
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that final EIR omit the quantification of growth related to Distribution Alternative I.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 4A-6
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: I D/II E
Page: I-6/II-29

Summary of Comment:

The text explaining the legal background behind the City's lawsuit with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District misstates the facts regarding Carmel-by-the-Sea's increased allocation. Similarly, facts about the experience of Carmel-by-the-Sea in 1986 appearing on page VI-6 are also inaccurate. Both of these should be corrected.

Response:

The referenced sections have been revised in the final EIR, to correct any factual misstatements respecting the actions filed by the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea in *Carmel-by-the-Sea* v. *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District* (M17824 and M18217).

Comment Number: 4A-7
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-5

Summary of Comment:

Water Supply Option IV (17,500 acre-feet) reflects a production level that will sustain a viable steelhead fishery in the Carmel River and restore much of the riparian vegetation and riverbank stability within the watershed. The EIR states on page II-5, that this level of production would require a collection and transportation program to move juvenile steelhead past areas of low flow on a routine basis. What is the cost of this program? The EIR should also include an even lower water supply option.

Response:

The collection and transportation program to move juvenile steelhead past areas of low flow is already being implemented as part of a cooperative effort by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, the Carmel River Steelhead Association, and the California-American Water Company. The final EIR includes analysis of an additional water supply option with a production level of 16,700 acre feet.

Comment Number: 4A-8
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

The final EIR should describe in more detail the total water resource system managed by the MPWMD, and the potential water extraction by groundwater users from each of the aquifers within the system.

Response:

Section C in Chapter III ("Natural Environmental Setting") has been revised to expand the description of the Monterey Peninsula Water Resource System. An explanation of all known groundwater extractions from each of the aquifer subunits is included. The upper limit of groundwater extraction is the usable storage in the aquifers. CVSIM was not run assuming that the annual water demand was this upper limit. CVSIM was also not run to determine the maximum production without inducing long-term impacts. Without the results of such modeling studies, it is difficult to estimate the potential groundwater extraction.

Comment Number: 4A-9
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

The final EIR should provide additional information on the current status of, and future potential for, seawater intrusion into the Carmel Valley Aquifer and Seaside Coastal Subbasin.

Response:

Sections III C in Chapter III ("Natural Environmental Setting") and Section B in Chapter IV ("Surface and Groundwater Resources") have been expanded to more comprehensively address seawater intrusion potential as it relates to the supply options considered in the EIR. The discussion includes information from the hydrogeologic investigation in the coastal portion of the Carmel Valley Aquifer that was completed in May 1989.

Comment Number: 4A-10
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-69

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the EIR preview future rationing mechanisms.

Response:

Since each drought situation is unique, each rationing program must also be unique. The District Board has determined that the 1989 rationing program will end at the termination of the current drought.

Comment Number: 4A-11
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the road projects proposed as mitigations to growth impacts cannot be implemented by the MPWMD. Commentor requests discussion of the feasibility of implementing these solutions.

Response:

The authors acknowledge that traffic mitigations cannot be implemented by the MPWMD. The Draft EIR presented impacts with and without mitigation. The "Traffic" section of the final EIR comments on the feasibility issue.

Comment Number: 4A-12
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the "Traffic" section graphically display changes in anticipated levels of service and that the text further describe increased in-commuter traffic resulting from increased jobs on the Monterey Peninsula.

Response:

The level of service changes are sufficiently depicted in tabular form. The final EIR text has been expanded to address in-commuting from non-Cal-Am areas.

Comment Number: 4A-13
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the impacts of water conservation be evaluated in the final EIR.

Response:

The final EIR includes a new water supply option (16,700 acre-feet) based on the assumption that nine percent conservation savings will be realized.

Comment Number: 4A-14
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate changes to the allocation that would result if the proposed CSD/PBCSD Wastewater Reclamation Project is implemented.

Response:

The primary premise of the Allocation Program EIR is that no new water supply projects are available. As such, the EIR examines a "no project" scenario in terms of new water supply. The impacts associated with new water supply projects will be evaluated in subsequent environmental documents.

Comment Number: 4A-15
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-8

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR comment on the difficulty and importance of the intensification factor.

Response:

Appendix B in the final EIR consists of a sensitivity analysis which evaluates how jurisdictional water allotments change based on alternative intensification assumptions.

Comment Number: 4A-16
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: VII
Page: VII-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Chapter VII be rewritten as a summary of issues.

Response:

The EIR contains a lengthy Executive Summary which summarizes issues. Chapter VII complies with CEQA requirements.

Comment Number: 4B-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-2

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR summarize potential water supply projects.

Response:

The Allocation Program EIR is intended to evaluate water management options given existing facilities. Separate environmental documentation will be prepared for new water supply projects. The EIR already discusses the process for revision to the allocation as a result of new water (Section C of Chapter VI).

Comment Number: 4B-2
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that mapping of Carmel Lagoon Wetlands include wetland soil types.

Response:

The purpose of the EIR is to disclose impacts associated with the MPWMD's water allocation program. Those impacts have been defined and associated mitigation measures proposed. It is beyond the scope of the EIR to delineate hydric soils in the Lagoon. The Monterey County Soil Survey has mapped the Lagoon area soils as Alviso silty clay loam. The Alviso soil series is listed as a hydric soil on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's hydric soil list, developed by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils. Mitigation measures for the Lagoon, as discussed in Chapter IV of the final EIR, incorporate a determination of hydric soils during the wetland delineation process.

Comment Number: 4B-3
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-11

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests a fuller explanation of why Water Supply Option IV, that has lower production than 1987 levels, does not have a positive impact on wildlife.

Response:

The authors believed that the minimum system production of 16,700 acre-feet per year would have a significant adverse environmental impact on vegetation, and therefore, wildlife. Even though production for Water Supply Option IV is an improvement over current conditions, its effect is still adverse in absolute terms. The text of the Executive Summary and Chapter IV have been revised as described.

Comment Number: 4B-4
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-11 & IV-53

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests a clarification regarding the reach of the Carmel River from which juvenile steelhead would be rescued.

Response:

Juvenile steelhead would be rescued in the reach of the Carmel River upstream from the Narrows. The text of the Executive Summary and Chapter IV have been edited as described.

Comment Number: 4B-5
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-13

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests clarification regarding: a) the potential for septic system contamination of the Carmel Valley, b) existing nitrate loadings in Carmel Valley groundwater, c) the reversibility of nitrate contamination, d) the source of the data, and e) the agreement between James M. Montgomery Engineers' report (1982) and other sources.

Response:

According to the James M. Montgomery Engineers' report (*Carmel Valley Wastewater Study* - February, 1982), buildout to the 1980 master plan densities could result in nitrate concentrations within acceptable standards except for subareas adjacent to Carmel Valley Village and Schulte Road. Full development in these areas could be facilitated if centralized sewage treatment was developed. Existing nitrate loadings range from 0-40 ppm. Nitrate density can be decreased if sufficient low-value water dilutes the concentration area. The Montgomery report was reviewed by Monterey County in 1987 for the Carmel Valley Village area, and was found to be consistent with other reports.

Comment Number: 4B-6
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-13

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests an estimate of how much construction work that does not intensify water demand would still be available to the industry if the District selects a water supply option that does not allow for new connection.

Response:

Much of the construction activity within the Cal-Am service area is unrelated to projects that intensify the need for water. A number of projects fit into this category, including the construction of garages and sheds, replacement housing, residential and commercial remodeling work, private and public roadways, some public structures, wells, and fences. Projecting the future level of construction activity generated by these types of projects is difficult; however, these projects are largely unrelated to overall residential and commercial growth within the service area. As shown in Table III-22, these "other" projects, which do not necessarily intensify water demand, annually accounted for approximately $33.9 million, or 33 percent of total construction value, within the Cal-Am service area from 1980 to 1986. This level of construction activity could be expected in the future regardless of the water supply option selected by the District. In addition, a projected $96.5 million in future residential construction would occur in areas within District boundaries supported by non-Cal-Am water.

Comment Number: 4B-7
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-15

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that tables 4 and 5 be amended to differentiate significant adverse impacts from potentially significant adverse impacts.

Response:

Tables 4 and 5 already provide this differentiation through the use of the symbols "P" and "S".

Comment Number: 4B-8
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-17

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the first two sentences on page 17 are unclear.

Response:

The two sentences have been rewritten in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 4B-9
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: I B
Page: I-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR not refer to conservation and reclamation as the development of new water supplies.

Response:

This section of the final EIR has been clarified to note that conservation and reclamation free eisting production for alternative purposes.

Comment Number: 4B-10
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-7

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the Draft EIR incorrectly states that Alternative I includes a base allocation.

Response:

Commentor is correct. However, this alternative has not been quantified in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 4B-11
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-8

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the sensitivity of allocation results to changes in the intensification assumption.

Response:

The final EIR includes a sensitivity analysis (Appendix B) which examines how alternative intensification assumptions affect allocation results.

Comment Number: 4B-12
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-9

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that text incorrectly describes buildout projects as the basis for growth.

Response:

Commentor is correct. This error has been corrected in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 4B-13
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II C
Page: II-24

Summary of Comment:

The EIR summarizes the effect of the various alternatives on each of the jurisdictions subject to the Allocation Program, but should be rewritten because it treats each jurisdiction on a different basis and tends to obscure the impacts of each allocation alternative. Also, the court settlement of the law suit between Carmel-by-the-Sea and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District resulted in an increase in the City's allocation of 100 acre-feet until the EIR is certified and a new allocation is adopted. On this basis, the City would lose water from its current allotment under each of the proposed distribution alternatives.

Response:

The effects of each distribution alternative will differ for each jurisdiction because the allocation program provides discrete quantities of water for each jurisdiction to apply in accord with its own land use policies and priorities. The EIR analyzes each jurisdiction's present water use and land use plans, and describes the consequences of those various plans upon each distribution alternative. This method results in a more precise analysis than that contemplated by the commentor.

The commentor is correct in the observation that the settlement of the legal action *Carmel-by-the-Sea* v. *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District* (M17824 and M18217) caused an interim and temporary increase in Carmel-by-the-Sea's allocation by 100 acre-feet per year. This interim allocation is noted in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 4B-14
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II E
Page: II-32

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR further describe the mechanisms whereby the MPWMD could treat water saved through conservation.

Response:

Chapters II and IV review the processes whereby conserved water would either be reallocated or preserved.

Comment Number: 4B-15
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: III C
Page: III-9

Summary of Comment:

The characterization of the Carmel River Lagoon in Chapter III should be expanded in terms of seasonal patterns, rate of siltation, and long-term impacts.

Response:

Section C in Chapter III ("Natural Environmental Setting") has been revised to include additional information about the Lagoon as it pertains to this project.

Comment Number: 4B-16
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: III C
Page: III-12

Summary of Comment:

The presentation of long-term effects on the Carmel River riparian vegetation in Chapter III could be enhanced by inclusion of historical photographs, and additional discussion regarding the likely fate of riparian vegetation if no additional water was extracted from the aquifer system.

Response:

Historical photographs of the Carmel River riparian corridor do exist and can be seen in previously published references:

- Groeneveld, D.P. and T.E. Griepentrog, 1985 and
- Kondolf, G.M and R.R. Curry.

See the Bibliography in the final EIR for complete reference citations.

Historic photographs of the Carmel River are available and may be viewed at the Bancroft Library, Slevin Collection, U.C. Berkeley, Berkeley, California; Pat Hathaway Photograph Collection, Monterey, California; and various federal agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

This section in the EIR has been expanded to include a discussion of the likely causes for the observed changes and the likely fate of riparian vegetation in the event of no additional water extraction from the aquifer system.

Comment Number: 4B-17
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: III F
Page: III-31

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR expand on the history of the 1981 allocation.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 4B-18
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-12

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that sentence be rewritten to correct non sequitur.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 4B-19
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-65

Summary of Comment:

In the discussion of the rationing program necessary under each of the alternatives, the EIR should discuss potential incentives or alternatives to the rationing program that would encourage each jurisdiction to live within the limited available water supply. Presently, the rationing program has been designed to treat each water customer as an individual. Another approach to rationing water is to consider each jurisdiction as a rationing unit.

Response:

A public utility is required by law to serve its existing consumers equally. A proper distinction can only be made between classes of water users on constitutionally reasonable grounds. For water users who share a common source of supply, the District cannot discriminate based upon location of use or between new and old customers.

Comment Number: 4B-20
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR describe the necessary level of water consumption cutback through the summer of 1989 for each water supply option.

Response:

The District's computer model has not been programmed to evaluate the 1989 drought. The final EIR does display cutbacks for all water supply options for the modeled history.

Comment Number: 4B-21
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR describe the means by which water supply levels lower than the current production level could be achieved.

Response:

The final EIR comments on existing and potential conservation programs that could reduce consumption. The final EIR also evaluates a new water supply option (16,700 acre-feet per year) with production lower than the lowest supply option evaluated in the Draft EIR.

Comment Number: 4C-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF CARMEL
Chapter: VII
Page: VII-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Chapter VII be expanded to evaluate "Short-Term v. Long-Term Impacts" and "Significant Adverse Impacts" in more detail.

Response:

Chapter VII responds adequately to the topical questions specified in CEQA.

Comment Number: 5-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the impacts associated with growth made possible under Water Supply Option IV as a result of conservation.

Response:

The final EIR includes an analysis of growth resulting from a nine percent reduction in demand associated with conservation.

Comment Number: 5-2
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR analyze the impacts of the District's acceptable risk policy.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to discuss the implications of the current policy on drought management. The final EIR also examines a new base production level (16,700 acre-feet) to evaluate the impacts of applying conservation savings to a "drought reserve."

Comment Number: 5-3
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the MPWMD delay consideration of allocation until the issues of water supply are properly addressed in the final EIR.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 5-4
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR address the buildability of vacant lots, the projected consumption per vacant lot, and the amount of water that could be allocated to Monterey County.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to clarify the assumptions used in calculating water projections for vacant lots of record. Comment regarding the amount of water that could be allocated to Monterey County is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 5-5
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor interprets the EIR to say that the imposition of a moratorium will not occur because there will be a new dam. Commentor then requests that the final EIR discuss the timing for a new dam, the timing for jurisdictions running out of water, and the impacts of an extended moratorium.

Response:

It is not true, as the commentor assumes, that the District will impose a moratorium if water use exceeds supply. If there is a supply shortfall, the first approach will be to impose rationing. The timing of a new dam is speculative and is not a subject of this EIR. The timing of jurisdictions running out of water is a function of land use approvals and the selected water supply option. The final EIR has been revised to discuss moratorium impacts.

Comment Number: 5-6
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the rationing program used to project impacts and requests that the final EIR evaluate drought-related impacts as a function of community hardships.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to reflect a more pessimistic rationing pattern and to evaluate drought-related impacts as a function of hardships.

Comment Number: 5-7
Commentor Name: CITY OF MONTEREY
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that MPWMD address water supply issues relating to existing storage, seawater intrusion, moratoriums, and cooperation with other agencies.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 6-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the impacts of growth made possible as a result of conservation.

Response:

See response to Comment 5-1.

Comment Number: 6-2
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-4

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that implementation of Water Supply Option IV be described in the final EIR. Commentor questions the continued setting of new hookups.

Response:

The final EIR describes the mechanisms proposed by the MPWMD to implement Water Supply Option IV. Comment regarding the setting of new hookups is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 6-3
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR delete quantification of Water Distribution Alternative I in the final EIR.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 6-4
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Distribution Alternative V be deleted from the final EIR.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. Retention of this alternative in the final EIR does not obligate MPWMD to select it as the chosen allocation formula.

Comment Number: 6-5
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-4

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR discuss conservation/reclamation in more detail and that new water supply projects be evaluated.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to include the analysis of a fifth water supply option that assumes a conservation reduction of nine percent from the current production level. The EIR does not, however, evaluate the impacts of new water supply projects, including reclamation. The fundamental premise of this EIR is that it is an evaluation of impacts given current facilities. Separate environmental review will be done for new water supply projects.

Comment Number: 6-6
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: ES
Page: ES

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that narrative and tables be reconciled to be consistent.

Response:

The Executive Summary and Chapter IV have been revised such that narrative and tables are consistent.

Comment Number: 6-7
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: ES
Page: ES

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that narrative and tables incorporate consideration of the interrelationships between the various impact categories.

Response:

Chapter IV recognizes that there are interrelationships among various impact categories (e.g., wildlife and vegetation, vegetation and recreation). These interrelationships are, however, too complex to depict table form.

Comment Number: 6-8
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV
Page: all

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the environmental impacts associated with Water Supply Option IV be further discussed.

Response:

The EIR provides an analysis of the absolute impacts associated with Water Supply Option IV.

Comment Number: 6-9
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV L
Page: IV-89

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the consistency of growth facilitated by each water supply option with the air quality management plan.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to evaluate the consistency of the growth potential estimates assumed in the final EIR with the growth forecasts used in the 1989 Air Quality Management Plan.

Comment Number: 6-10
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV R
Page: IV-102

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the relevant Air Quality Management Plan is the 1989 Plan, not the 1982 Plan.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The final EIR references the 1989 plan.

Comment Number: 6-11
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV K
Page: IV-85

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the impacts of Water Supply Option IV on regional sewage capacity.

Response:

The impacts on the regional treatment facility of Water Supply Option IV and the new Water Supply Option V have been included in the final EIR text. Due to expected increases in wastewater generation from non-Cal-Am growth, sufficient quantities of wastewater will be generated to keep the treatment plant and sewer lines operating.

Comment Number: 6-12
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the feasibility of traffic mitigation measures and revise the reference to Holman Highway.

Response:

The feasibility of proposed traffic mitigation measures is discussed in Section I in Chapter IV of the final EIR ("Traffic") and in the response to Comment 2-14. References to Holman Highway have been changed as requested.

Comment Number: 6-13
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: IV Q
Page: IV-100

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR include a cost-effectiveness analysis of each supply option and further evaluate the fiscal impacts to local jurisdictions of each water supply option.

Response:

According to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15131, "economic or social information may be included in an EIR or may be presented in whatever form the agency desires." This section of the CEQA Guidelines provides for the inclusion of economic information, such as a cost-effectiveness or fiscal analysis of a project, at the discretion of the responsible agency. The District has included an evaluation of the general fiscal effects of the proposed project (see

Chapters IV and V in the final EIR), in an effort to provide additional discretionary information concerning the economic and social effects of the proposed project. The fiscal analysis included in the final EIR is necessarily limited in scope and detail by the programmatic nature of the proposed project, which cannot provide the detailed information required to conduct a specific, quantitative fiscal analysis of impacts for each jurisdiction. Given the nonspecific nature of the water supply options, and the programmatic nature of the proposed project, only general statements can be made regarding the districtwide fiscal effects of the various water supply and distribution options.

Comment Number: 6-14
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR expand the description of each water distribution alternative to explain the rationale for each.

Response:

Section C in Chapter II of the final EIR has been revised to include an expanded discussion of the rationale for each distribution alternative as requested.

Comment Number: 6-15
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that all District uses be metered, including private wells.

Response:

Sales and/or production is metered for all customers served by water systems in the District. The production from private wells is reported annually to the MPWMD, based on water meter readings, power meter reading correlation, or estimation based on land use.

Comment Number: 6-16
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the basis for computing water distribution alternatives. Commentor suggests that residential allotments be based on a per capita projection sufficient to sustain a comfortable lifestyle.

Response:

The formulas in the EIR are based on total current consumption in each jurisdiction and projected water use needed to satisfy growth in each jurisdiction. Residential growth related water use is calculated as a function of the projected number of dwelling units times the average historical use per dwelling unit. This method is one of many conceivable approaches to calculating demand. Although no one method is better than any other, the method used is objective and rational.

Comment Number: 6-17
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that geographic areas within Monterey County be identified as distinct identities.

Response:

The District's Allocation Program allots waters to each jurisdiction but leaves to each jurisdiction determinations concerning where and how water is to be used. Accordingly, the EIR does not break out geographical areas in either the cities or the unincorporated area.

Comment Number: 6-18
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR explain the basis for consumption per vacant lot and the distinction between planned uses and deliverable supply.

Response:

The final EIR explains the basis for assumptions concerning per-vacant-lot consumption. The final EIR also addresses the issue of deliverable supply in Section H of Chapter IV ("Drought Impacts"). Projections of future consumption corresponding to full buildout of general plans are portrayed in Chapter V to demonstrate how development potential under various water supply options compare with full buildout potential.

Comment Number: 6-19
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR provide a table comparing the various water distribution alternatives to the current allocation.

Response:

The EIR portrays both the total allotment and the "net new water" for each water distribution alternative. Table II-15 compares net new water available under Distribution Alternatives III, IV, V, and VI with the current allocation formula (Distribution Alternative II).

Comment Number: 6-20
Commentor Name: CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Chapter: Appendix B
Page: Appendix B

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests a wording change in Appendix B.

Response:

Appendix B has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 7-1
Commentor Name: SAND CITY
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the impacts associated with growth made possible as a result of conservation.

Response:

See response to Comment 5-1.

Comment Number: 7-2
Commentor Name: SAND CITY
Chapter: IV
Page: All

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the environmental impacts associated with Water Supply Option IV have been mitigated by the MPWMD.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 7-3
Commentor Name: SAND CITY
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the quantification of growth impacts for Water Distribution Alternative I be deleted from the final EIR.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 7-4
Commentor Name: SAND CITY
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR consider private well production in Sand City and that the distribution alternatives consider private well production in Sand City.

Response:

The final EIR has been expanded to evaluate private well production. The distribution alternatives, in accordance with EIP Associates' *Estimates of Housing and Employment at Buildout within the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District*, (1988) assume that current private well production in Sand City will be annexed to Cal-Am.

Comment Number: 7-5
Commentor Name: SAND CITY
Chapter: II D
Page: II-27

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR further define the actions proposed by the MPWMD when a jurisdiction has exceeded its allotment.

Response:

Chapter VI reviews monitoring and compliance issues so the Board can select concepts. Details of implementing enforcement options will be debated by the Board when a concept is selected.

Comment Number: 8-1
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV O
Page: IV-97

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the reduction in available supply under Water Supply Options I and IV could result in lost tourism and reduced aesthetic value.

Response:

A reduction in available water supply could reduce water available for hotel use. These reductions can be offset through conservation measures applied at the hotels and throughout the Cal-Am service area. Under Water Supply Options I, IV, and V, water reduction could reduce the available water for irrigation of open space, landscape, and lawns, thus creating the "brown lawn effect." The brown lawn effect would reduce the aesthetic value of the area. Tourists are attracted to aesthetically-pleasing environments (including urban environments). If the aesthetics of an area are reduced, tourism in the area could be reduced as well.

Comment Number: 8-2
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that Water Supply Options I and IV may cause incommuting. Commentor believes that the traffic associated with incommuting would result in significant adverse impacts.

Response:

Commentor is correct to the extent that jobs will be generated by the project, but housing for workers will not be increased. Comment on significance is acknowledged.

Comment Number: 8-3
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV R
Page: IV-102

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests the implications of incommuting be factored into the air quality analysis.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to reflect growth in non-Cal-Am areas that would lead to incommuting. Commuting to the Peninsula would have air quality impacts and is discussed in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 8-4
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-34

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses the belief that the significant adverse impacts of Options II and III on fisheries can be mitigated. Commentor questions the reliability of the method used to predict impacts.

Response:

Comment regarding mitigation is acknowledged. The method used in the fishery analysis has been relied upon by the State Water Resources Control Board. The California Department of Fish and Game did not object to the methodology in their comments on the Draft EIR.

Comment Number: 8-5
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV Q
Page: IV-100

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the fiscal impacts identified for the water supply options are not based on sufficient facts and analysis.

Response:

Comment noted. As discussed in the response to Comment 6-13, the nonspecific nature of the water supply options and the programmatic nature of the water supply options necessarily limit the statements that can be made regarding the districtwide fiscal effects of the water supply and distribution options. The fiscal effects identified in the EIR may indeed by based on less-than--perfect information. The commentor should note that State CEQA Guidelines Section 15131(a) states that, "economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment." For purposes of CEQA, the fiscal effects discussed in the EIR are considered less than significant, even though the effects may be adverse. In addition, the CEQA Guidelines provide for the inclusion of the fiscal effects of a project at the discretion of the responsible agency. The District provided the fiscal information included in Chapter IV and V of the EIR in an effort to provide additional discretionary information concerning the economic and social effects of the proposed project.

Comment Number: 8-6
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR clarify the assumptions upon which vacant lot consumption is projected.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 8-7
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that consumption per capita will increase as a result of socioeconomic influences.

Response:

The EIR assumes increased per-meter consumption through the use of an "intensification" factor. The final EIR includes a sensitivity analysis (Appendix B) to evaluate how changes to this factor affect allocations.

Comment Number: 8-8
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the District should establish an allocation such that each jurisdiction would be allotted water as a function of a district-wide per capita standard.

Response:

Current and historical per capita consumption varies among jurisdictions as a function of lot size, climate, land use, soil type, etc. Any allocation based on regional averages would over allocate water to low consumption per capita areas, and under allocate water to high consumption per capita areas.

Comment Number: 8-9
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: VI C
Page: VI-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that water saved by conservation should be treated differently than water saved through reclamation or new supply. Commentor objects to MPWMD interference with local land use authority.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 8-10
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses concern over the accuracy of the CVSIM model, and the margin of error in the streamflow data used as input to the model.

Response:

It must be recognized that quantitative assessment of model accuracy is difficult with any model, and can be carried out in a number of different ways. One way would be through analysis of the accuracy of the input data. This is not a very practical method for a model like CVSIM that has a very large number of input data types, ranging from hydrological parameters to system definition parameters. For some of these inputs the precise information needed for assessing accuracy is not in existence. Examples would include estimates of reservoir leakage, or synthetically generated streamflows for tributaries with a very limited amount of measured flow data.

In a complex and nonlinear model like the CVSIM, the errors in the different input data are not additive, and therefore, the knowledge of margin of error for each individual input type is not strictly needed in order to assess the overall model accuracy. A more practical approach is to compare simulated results against field measured data. Such an analysis was carried out by the District in 1986 as part of the CVSIM calibration effort. The analysis was based on comparing simulated results against the observed streamflow and groundwater at two surface control points (Robles Del Rio and Carmel River near Carmel), and for two Carmel Valley Aquifer Subunits (AQ3 and AQ4). The surface control points were chosen because they correspond to the location of the USGS streamflow gauging sites. The two groundwater subunits were chosen because adequate information in respect to water table elevation was available. These analyses were carried out for two historical periods: 1976-1978 and 1984-1985.

The results are summarized in Table 1 below, and presented graphically in Figure 1 through Figure 4. The good correspondence that has been achieved between the simulated and observed data is not surprising. The model includes a variety of internal checks such as daily,

monthly and annual mass balances for individual units within the Cal-Am system. In addition, throughout the development and application of the model, the District has retained the services of a recognized expert in the computer modeling field, whose primary role was Quality Assurance and quality assurance and control for work done by the District staff.

It should be noted that the District intends to carry out sensitivity analysis on some of the inputs, and assess the impact of changes in their input values on the four criteria adopted by the Board of Directors for the purpose of screening project alternatives (1977 firm yield, the maximum monthly shortfall, number of months of rationing, and measurable river flow year-round). The expected error for these four criteria will be most likely resemble values shown in Table 1 for Aquifer Subunits 3 and 4 (i.e., in the range of a few percent). This prediction stems form the fact that the relatively larger errors for surface flows reflect peak flows in wet years. These peak flows have negligible impact on water yield in 1977.

TABLE 1

	Mean Standard Estimation Error	Percentage Error
Robles Del Rio	369 AF	9.6%
Carmel near Carmel	1,055 AF	25.8%
Aquifer Subunit #3	377 AF	2.1%
Aquifer Subunit #4	253 AF	1.9%

Comment Number: 8-11
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: III B
Page: III-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate production by private wells.

Response:

Section III B-6 and Table III-1 in the final EIR have been revised as requested. CVSIM accounts for private well production. The final EIR recommends water meter installation for large private wells.

Comment Number: 8-12
Commentor Name: CITY OF SEASIDE
Chapter: VII
Page: VII-1

Summary of Comment:

Under what circumstances can findings of overriding consideration be considered, and what factors are to be considered in making these findings?

Response:

Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines clarifies the District's responsibilities regarding findings to support a statement of overriding consideration. This provides that no public agency shall approve or carry out a project for which an EIR has been completed which identifies one or more significant environmental effects of the project unless the public agency makes one or more written findings for each of those significant effects, accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale for each finding. An acceptable finding would be that specific economic, social, or other considerations make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the final EIR. The findings are required to be supported by substantial evidence in the record.

The statement of overriding considerations is further discussed in Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines which requires the District to balance the benefits of a proposed project against its unavoidable environmental risks in determining whether to approve the project. If the benefits of a proposal project outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects, the adverse environmental effects may be considered "acceptable".

Where the decision of the public agency allows the occurrence of significant effects which are identified in the final EIR but are not at least substantially mitigated, the agency shall state in writing the specific reasons to support its action based on the final EIR and/or other information in the record.

Comment Number: 9-1
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: ES
Page: ES

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests a synopsis that describes a valid and equitable allocation program.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. The Executive Summary is intended to be a synopsis of the EIR. The document is intended to be a decision making tool by examining a wide range of alternative allocations. The document does not recommend one solution as the most valid or equitable.

FIGURE 1

CARMEL RIVER AT ROBLES DEL RIO

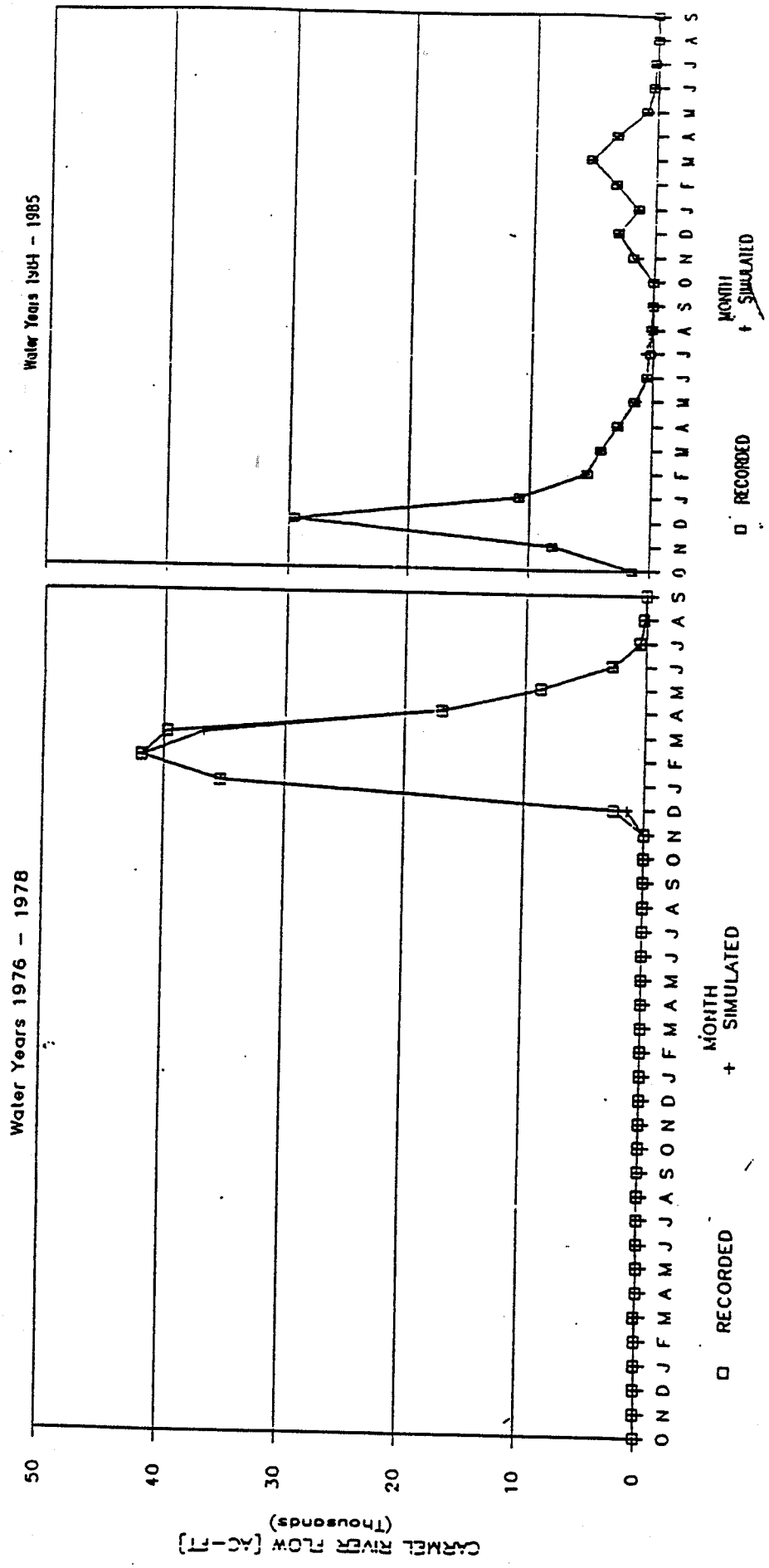


FIGURE 2

CARMEL RIVER NEAR CARMEL

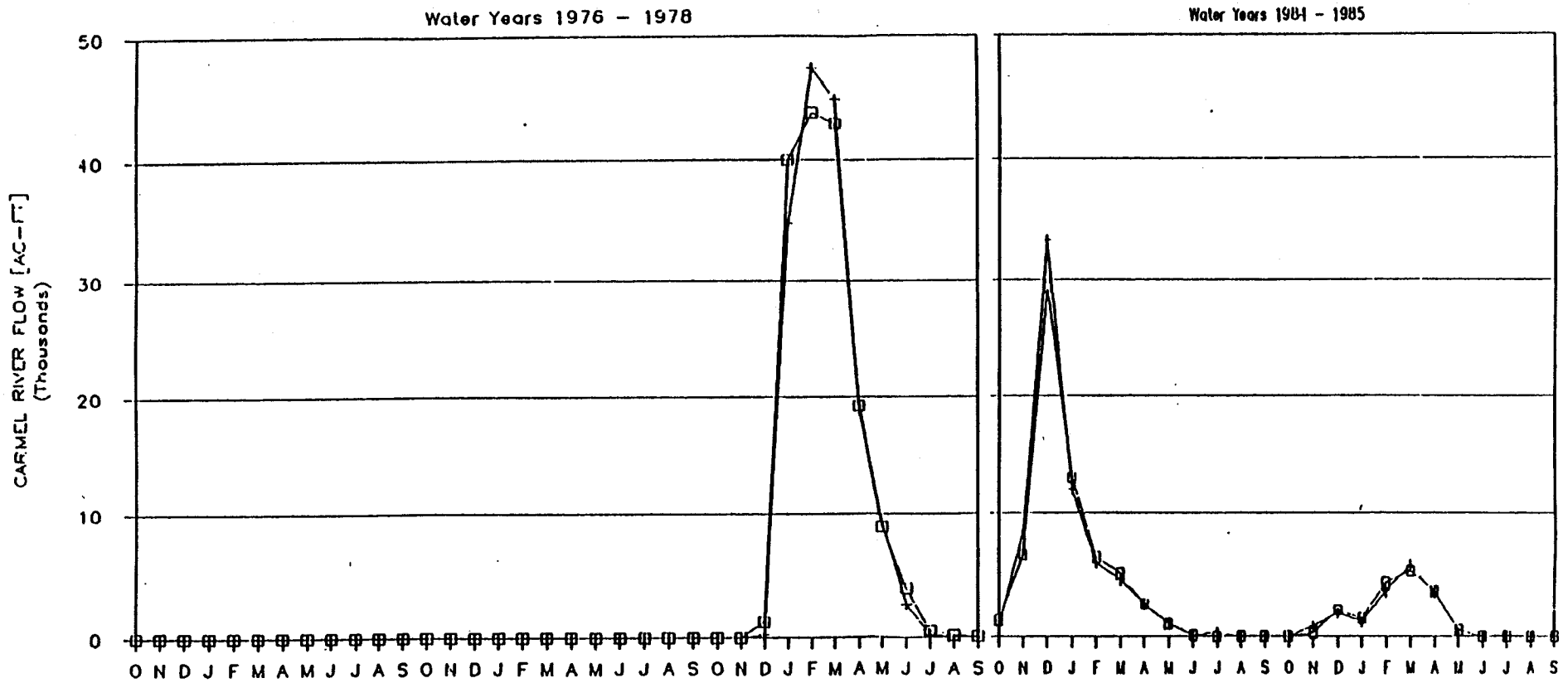
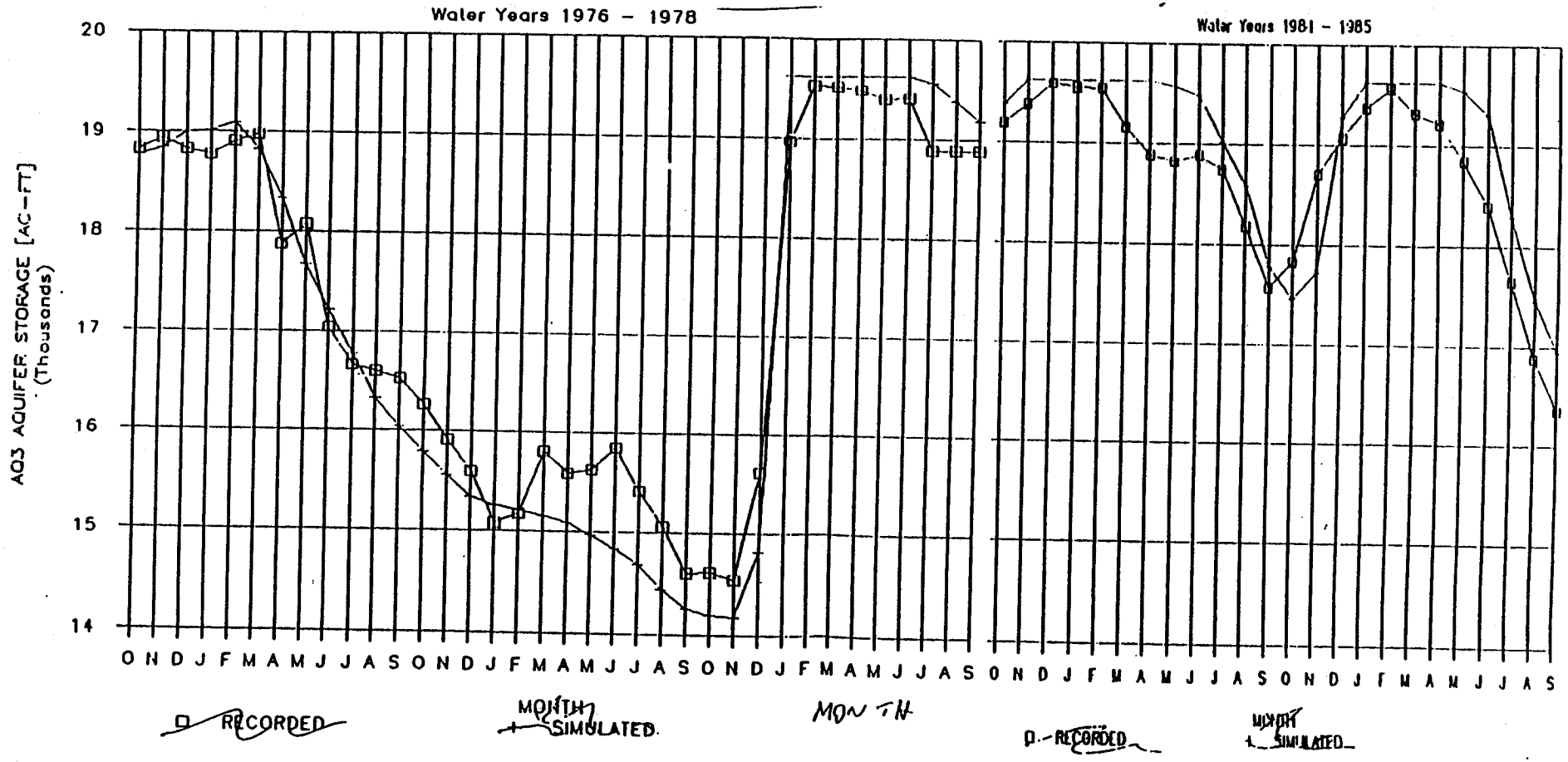


FIGURE 3

CARMEL VALLEY AQUIFER SUBUNIT 3



Legend :

□ Recorded

\+ Simulated

Comment Number: 9-2
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV K
Page: IV-87

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests the final EIR evaluate water quality impacts related to water supply options

Response:

Although this project does not directly discharge pollutants to receiving waters, it does influence streamflow and groundwater storage that may dilute pollutants. Water quality impacts of the various water supply options are qualitatively discussed in Section B.3 of Chapter IV.

Comment Number: 9-3
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests the final EIR clarify the difference between production and metered sales.

Response:

The final EIR clarifies the treatment of system losses. Production data is used to evaluate water supply impacts. Metered sales data is used to compute allocations. Although this dual approach is confusing, it is necessary to accurately relate impacts and to compute allocations.

Comment Number: 9-4
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Mitigation measures for the Seaside Coastal Subbasin may not be adequate to address prolonged dry periods such as the 1947 - 1951 period. Also, cumulative effects to the Carmel Valley Aquifer from cited mitigations for the Seaside Coastal Subbasin should be addressed.

Response:

The analysis of both the Seaside Coastal Subbasin and Carmel Valley Aquifer are based on the output from the computer model CVSIM. CVSIM uses the synthetically generated period flows for the period 1902 - 1987. Therefore, the 1947 - 1951 drought is addressed in the analysis. The 1947 - 1951 period, although classified as a dry period, contains several years with reconstructed annual Carmel River flows sufficient enough to refill the Carmel Valley Aquifer, therefore reducing the cumulative effect to this aquifer system.

Comment Number: 9-5
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV C
Page: IV-16

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that impacts on riparian vegetation are significant at all water supply levels, and suggests that additional mitigation measures be developed.

Response:

Commentor's observation is correct as was stated in the Draft EIR. The final EIR has identified six mitigation measures for riparian vegetation impacts and a corresponding monitoring program to ensure the implementation of those measures.

Comment Number: 9-6
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV D
Page: IV-32

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests clarification of the statement " a mitigation for impacts of water dependent species due to an increase is to maintain the hydrologic regime."

Response:

This statement has been revised in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 9-7
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-34

Summary of Comment:

It appears Supply Option I mitigation measures would "only possibly" result in a viable steelhead run. The EIR should address the implications of not meeting the State's steelhead policy.

Response:

As an independent special district, any policy adopted by a state department at the most constitutes a non-binding reference point, not a mandatory rule or regulation which would control local decisionmaking on the Allocation Program. Such policies, nonetheless, have great bearing on any project or activity which requires state agency approval or interaction. A description of the State's steelhead policy is provided in the response to Comment 2-11.

Comment Number: 9-8
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the feasibility of traffic mitigations be evaluated in the final EIR.

Response:

The feasibility of proposed traffic mitigation measures is discussed in Section I in Chapter IV section of the final EIR ("traffic") and in the response to Comment 2-14.

Comment Number: 9-9
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR break out remodels from new construction in projecting employment impacts and expand the description of the methodology used to project impacts.

Response:

Construction value and employment generated by remodels was included in construction activity under the heading of "other construction" in Table III-22 of the final EIR. The compiled construction data did not allow for a specific analysis of the employment effects of residential and commercial remodeling work. The methodology used to determine construction-related impacts, provided direct value and employment changes within the Cal-Am service area only, which, for the purposes of this analysis, was considered the same as the District area, referred to in Table III-22. As mentioned in the response to Comment 9-9, new employment may be generated in areas outside the Cal-Am service area as residential and commercial construction projects are forced to nearby areas that have no construction restrictions. For purposes of clarification, the "local areas" mentioned in the "Construction Industry" section of Chapter IV includes an undefined area within and around the Cal-Am service area in which the indirect effects of direct employment changes would be realized.

Comment Number: 9-10
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the rationing and moratorium programs related to each of the water supply options be specified in the final EIR.

Response:

Although the District has developed general guidelines for when rationing should be imposed, the Board has not established a description of the rationing or moratorium programs that should be imposed. Instead, the Board has determined that a specific rationing/moratorium program should be developed at the time of the drought to respond to the specific circumstances of that drought.

Comment Number: 9-11
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: II B
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR describe and evaluate the impacts of the CSD/PBCSD Wastewater Reclamation Project.

Response:

One fundamental concept of this EIR is to evaluate production impacts with no new facilities. Separate environmental review will be conducted on any water supply project, including the CSD/PBCSD Wastewater Reclamation Project. The development of new water supplies has been suggested as a possible mitigation measure for reducing environmental and drought impacts.

Comment Number: 9-12
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: VI
Page: VI-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the final EIR should detail a complete enforcement and compliance program.

Response:

The author believes that inclusion of such detail is not appropriate in an EIR.

Comment Number: 9-13
Commentor Name: MONTEREY COUNTY
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

The Draft EIR contains instances where monitoring is identified as a mitigation to identified impacts. Monitoring cannot be considered as a mitigation. However, recent legislation, (AB 3180) requires the District to adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project that were adopted or made a condition of project approval in order to mitigate or avoid significant affects on the environment. The final EIR should contain a program in compliance with this legislation.

Response:

Monitoring can be identified as a mitigation measure when the information gained can be used to identify impacts. The mitigation measure has been written in a manner such that if potentially significant impacts are identified, measures can be implemented to reduce those impacts. The California Public Resources Code was amended in 1988 by Assembly Bill 3180 to include Section 21081.6. This section provides:

> *When making the findings required by subdivision (a) of Section 21081 or when adopting a negative declaration pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 21081, the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project which it has adopted or made a condition of project approval in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The reporting or monitoring program shall be designed to ensure compliance during project implementation. For those changes which have been required or incorporated into the project at the request of an agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by the project, that agency shall, if so requested by the lead or responsible agency, prepare and submit a proposed reporting or monitoring program.*

The final EIR complies with this and all other requirements of the CEQA.

Comment Number: 10-1
Commentor Name: C R S A
Chapter: III B
Page: III-4

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR discuss the potential jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board in relation to the Carmel Valley Aquifer.

Response:

Although the final EIR expands the description of the SWRCB's powers, it is uncertain as to whether or not groundwater in Carmel Valley is subject to appropriation. See response to Comment 15-1.

Comment Number: 11A-1
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate the impacts associated with growth made possible under Water Supply Option IV as a result of conservation.

Response:

See response to Comment 5-1.

Comment Number: 11A-2
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the final EIR review the desirability of placing water meters on all private wells in Carmel Valley producing over 50 acre-feet per year.

Response:

The final EIR recommends that large private wells be metered as a mitigation measure.

Comment Number: 11B-1
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-17

Summary of Comment:

Environmental impacts, such as increased housing, employment, and tourism are listed as "Beneficial Impacts." Under the California Environmental Quality Act, "economic or social impacts are not to be treated as effects on the environment." Economic advantages are not to be confused with environmental impacts. They do not benefit the environment.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to discuss the magnitude and significance of social and economic "effects," but these are not treated as significant impacts (positive or negative) for CEQA purposes.

Comment Number: 11B-2
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

The final EIR should provide an evaluation of groundwater users other than Cal-Am production.

Response:

Section C in Chapter III of the final EIR ("Natural Environmental Setting") has been revised to include an analysis of all known groundwater extractions from each of the aquifer subunits. Future extractions by non-Cal-Am systems and wells from these sources are held constant for the EIR analysis, based on assumed conservation.

Comment Number: 11B-3
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR discuss the method proposed by the District to distribute water where overall consumption is greater than available supply.

Response:

The final EIR discusses this concern, but does not propose allotments by jurisdiction on the theory that no water intensification should be permitted until overall consumption is less than available supply.

Comment Number: 11B-4
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor states that the difference between Water Distribution Alternative IV and V is not clear.

Response:

The differences between these two alternatives are explained in detail in Section C of Chapter II. The precise formula and calculation of the two alternatives is depicted in Table II-10 and II-11, respectively.

Comment Number: 11B-5
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II C
Page: II-7

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the reference to Alternative I under base allocations is incorrect.

Response:

Commentor is correct. This mistake has been corrected in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 11B-6
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II D
Page: II-29

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the grace amount concept.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 11B-7
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II D
Page: II-31

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the proposed policy for water supplies "freed-up" by conservation.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 11B-8
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II E
Page: II-32

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that annexation of non Cal-Am systems to Cal-Am does not create "new potable water."

Response:

The EIR evaluates impacts related to alternative production levels regardless of the system consuming the supply. Annexation can be evaluated in the context of the amount of water that will be produced from the particular resource in question.

Comment Number: 11B-9
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: III B
Page: III-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Table III-1 be expanded in the final EIR to include private well production.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 11B-10
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: III C
Page: III-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the source of Carmel Valley usable storage estimates.

Response:

Chapter III has been modified to reflect an estimate of 28,500 acre-feet. The impacts of additional extraction on the Carmel River and Carmel Valley are discussed in Chapter IV.

Comment Number: 11B-11
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: III C
Page: III-17

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the 1987/88 Spanish Bay Golf Course consumption was 391 acre-feet, not 127 acre-feet.

Response:

The projected long-term average consumption for Spanish Bay Golf Course is expected to be 127 acre-feet per year. The 1987/88 consumption included water for short-term dunes stabilization and new turf development.

Comment Number: 11B-12
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-4

Summary of Comment:

In Table IV-2, the August figure of 16 percent at the Narrows for Water Supply Option II appears to be too low and should be checked.

Response:

This table and the supporting data from the CVSIM simulation runs have been revised and corrected in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 11B-13
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-10

Summary of Comment:

Regarding Tables IV-7 and IV-8, Frequency of Drawdown and Difference in Frequency of Drawdown for Carmel Valley Aquifer Subbasin AQ3: This is a confusing way to present CVSIM output that might be improved by presenting "Frequency of Drawdown More Than Specified Levels," and preferably in graphical form.

Response:

The analysis of aquifer drawdown described in the comment was developed to supplement the vegetation analysis that used a shortened historic flows record. The revised vegetation analysis in the final EIR uses the full 86-year historic record in the aquifer drawdown model. The analysis described in the comment has been deleted from the final EIR.

Comment Number: 11B-14
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-13

Summary of Comment:

Commentor disagrees with the opinion in the Draft EIR that groundwater changes will not cause permanent damage.

Response:

Data presented by Staal, Gardner, and Dunne (1987 and 1989) suggest that seawater intrusion is not currently a problem in the aquifers. Data are not available to conclude that aquifer compaction will result from the current or expanded pumping volume.

Comment Number: 11B-15
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-17

Summary of Comment:

One of the simplifying assumptions that underestimates drawdown magnitude for the analysis of riparian vegetation impacts is the omission of approximately 2,000 acre-feet per year of non-Cal-Am groundwater production from the Carmel Valley Aquifer.

Response:

The analysis of impacts on riparian vegetation from the operation of Cal-Am and non-Cal-Am wells has been incorporated into the analysis in the final EIR. Also, see response to Comment 21-8.

Comment Number: 11B-16
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-14

Summary of Comment:

Regarding Table IV-14, the impact distances from all wells in Subbasin AQ3 should include all non-Cal-Am wells which pump over 10 acre-feet per year.

Response:

See response to Comments 11B-15 and 21-8. Additional drawdown analysis has been performed for the revised CVSIM simulation runs. This analysis is discussed in the final EIR, and includes consideration of non-Cal-Am wells that produce water from the Carmel Valley Aquifer.

Comment Number: 11B-17
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-60

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that continuing mitigation measures must be successful for Water Supply Option IV to preserve the steelhead fishery in the Carmel River.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 11B-18
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor asks why the frequency of rationing is greater at 17,500 acre-feet of production than at 18,400 acre-feet.

Response:

Based on new computer runs for CVSIM, the final EIR shows the month of shortfall figure for 17,500 acre-feet is less than for 18,400 acre-feet.

Comment Number: 11B-19
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-75

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses the belief that growth should be governed by the availability of long-term water supply.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 11B-20
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-75

Summary of Comment:

Commentor comments that the frequency and magnitude of rationing increases with increased water supply production.

Response:

The significance of an impact is not judged by its magnitude relative to some other option, but by its absolute impact.

Comment Number: 11B-21
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-107

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR comment on the likelihood of traffic infrastructure funding.

Response:

The feasibility of proposed traffic mitigation measures is discussed in Section I in Chapter IV of the final EIR ("Traffic") and in the response to Comment 2-14.

Comment Number: 11B-22
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: V M
Page: V-42

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to designation of economic growth as beneficial.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to eliminate the characterization of impacts as "beneficial."

Comment Number: 11B-23
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: VI B
Page: VI-7

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the grace amount concept and sees it as an invasion of drought reserve.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 11B-24
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR add an additional water distribution alternative that would limit new connections to lots of record, low income housing, and remodels that do not increase existing use of water.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to include an analysis of an additional distribution alternative (Alternative VI) that is based on a jurisdiction's current consumption level plus water for vacant lots of record, low and moderate income housing, and public projects.

Comment Number: 11B-25
Commentor Name: C V P O A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the analysis of Water Supply Options II and III is superfluous.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 12A-1
Commentor Name: FOREST COMMITTEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that MPWMD Board impose an immediate moratorium on the setting of additional water meters.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 12B-1
Commentor Name: FOREST COMMITTEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor is concerned about the impacts related to using freed-up water resulting from reclamation for new growth.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 13-1
Commentor Name: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the MPWMD Board select Water Supply Option IV.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 14-1
Commentor Name: M B A I A
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the economic impact analysis evaluate the multiplier effect of direct construction expenditures and employment.

Response:

The multiplier effects of direct construction employment changes are estimated in Section N of Chapter IV ("Construction Industry"). As discussed in Chapter IV, the spending of construction and construction-related companies and employees indirectly generates an estimated 1.1 job per each construction job. This employment multiplier was used to calculate the indirect employment changes associated with the direct construction employment changes generated by the water supply options.

Comment Number: 14-2
Commentor Name: M B A I A
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor disagrees with the contention in the EIR that the construction industry is mobile.

Response:

Comment noted. Changes have been made in the final EIR to reflect this comment. While construction workers may be relatively mobile and may be able to adjust to construction activity shifting within and around the Cal-Am service area, contractors and other construction-related businesses may not be able to adapt easily to geographical shifts in construction activity.

Comment Number: 14-3
Commentor Name: M B A I A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses concern that range of error in calculation of available supply may invalidate analysis.

Response:

See response to Comment 8-10.

Comment Number: 14-4
Commentor Name: M B A I A
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to a water permit moratorium.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 15-1
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: III B
Page: III-3

Summary of Comment:

The Draft EIR fails to discuss the "underflow" issue and the probability that Cal-Am and Water West will need to obtain permits from the SWRCB for their wells in Carmel Valley. Such permits may impact the financing of mitigation programs and set independent limits on well production levels.

Response:

The commentor refers to a possible resolution to the present controversy respecting the "character" of groundwater resources of the Carmel Valley, and presumes that those resources shall no longer be treated as percolating groundwater, but instead as waters flowing through a "known and definite channel." A resolution to this controversy does not appear likely, and the assertion of regulatory authority by the SWRCB would most probably prompt lengthy litigation. Comment in the EIR on the consequences of such regulation would be speculative, and would likely overstate the probability of the near-term resolution to the underflow controversy.

Comment Number: 15-2
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV C
Page: IV-30

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR address replumbing of the upper Carmel Valley as a hydrology mitigation.

Response:

The final EIR identifies modification of Cal-Am's upper Carmel Valley pumping and delivery system as a possible mitigation measure.

Comment Number: 15-3
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: ES
Page: ES

Summary of Comment:

The EIR improperly treats economic and social effects of the project as environmental effects. Information that would be more relevant to determining whether overriding considerations justify selecting a water supply option other than the least environmentally damaging alternative should at least be grouped separately and be so identified in the EIR.

Response:

It is correct that the economic or social effects of a project are not to be treated as significant effects on the environment. However, Section 15131 of the CEQA Guidelines clarifies that economic or social information may be included in the EIR in whatever form the lead agency desires. Further, economic or social factors are required to be considered along with environmental factors in deciding whether changes in a project are feasible to reduce or avoid significant effects on the environment. If social or economic factors are not contained in the EIR, the agency is required to add that information to the record in some other manner

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Comment Number: 15-4
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the environmental impacts of the compliance mechanisms be evaluated in the final EIR.

Response:

The final EIR evaluates the growth consequences related to selection of compliance mechanisms. These growth levels are referenced to the impacts evaluated in Chapter IV and V.

Comment Number: 15-5
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor feels conservation will occur whether or not water freed-up is dedicated to growth.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 15-6
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: VII
Page: VII-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that Chapter VII is inadequate.

Response:

Chapter VII satisfies CEQA requirements.

Comment Number: 15-7
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: II A
Page: II-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor feels that the EIR fails to distinguish the proposed project from the alternatives and that the proposed water distribution alternative would be a change from the status quo.

Response:

The proposed project is identified in the Executive Summary, Chapter II, Chapter IV, and Chapter V. Water Distribution Alternative II is identical to the current allocation at Water Supply Option II.

It should be noted that the EIR examines a range of water supply options and a range of water distribution alternatives so that the decisionmakers can compare impacts.

Comment Number: 15-8
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-9

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the text describe the individual(s) whose water rights may be permanently extinguished.

Response:

Section C 3 of Chapter VI has been revised to include an example of such a situation.

Comment Number: 15-9
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that dedication of conservation savings to drought reserve be listed as a mitigation measure for groundwater pumping.

Response:

The list of mitigation measures in the Executive Summary and Chapter IV has been revised to reflect this request.

Comment Number: 15-10
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: II D
Page: II-34

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate discontinuance of limits on Cal-Am production.

Response:

The "no project" has been defined as no allocation, but continued limit on maximum system production. The EIR assumes that the MPWMD would continue to limit total production even if allotments for jurisdiction were abandoned. Any proposal to remove the systemwide limit would require separate environmental review.

Comment Number: 15-11
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: III C
Page: III-9

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the Carmel River Lagoon is not intermittent and the mouth of the river is bulldozed.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The final EIR has been revised accordingly.

Comment Number: 15-12
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: III F
Page: III-29

Summary of Comment:

Commentor indicates that water use trends could be better understood if additional analysis is conducted on subsets.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. No response is necessary.

Comment Number: 15-13
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the treatment of economic and social impacts in the Draft EIR.

Response:

See response to Comment 15-3.

Comment Number: 15-14
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-39

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that some habitat remains at Robles, at flows less than one cfs, and that flow at Robles is influenced by diversions.

Response:

Comment is correct. The final EIR has been revised accordingly.

Comment Number: 15-15
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV E
Page: IV-39

Summary of Comment:

Commentor proposes an alternative method to evaluate juvenile steelhead stranding impacts.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; however, data for an alternative method of evaluation is not available nor obtainable this year.

Comment Number: 15-16
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the steps in Figure IV-4 reflect the peculiarities of the historical record and no predictable thresholds.

Response:

Comment is correct. The final EIR has been revised to note this observation.

Comment Number: 15-17
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV F
Page: IV-61

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR address instream play by small children as a recreational use.

Response:

The final EIR addresses impacts related to water-dependent recreation, which includes instream play by small children.

Comment Number: 15-18
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that drought recurrence interval is speculative, and that the 1987-89 drought changes the data base.

Response:

The final EIR notes that the 1987-89 drought may affect the data base.

Comment Number: 15-19
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: IV L
Page: IV-90

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that an evaluation of rationing hardships is omitted from Section IV L.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The final EIR has been revised to include this evaluation.

Comment Number: 15-20
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: VI C
Page: VI-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that jurisdictional drought reserves do not help the jurisdiction during rationing, and suggests that a districtwide reserve is desirable.

Response:

Jurisdictional reserves assist each agency during dry periods by avoiding situations where dry weather increases in demand temporarily exceed that jurisdiction's allotment. Commentor is correct that the reserve is meaningless during rationing. The final EIR evaluates a scenario in which the District retains all conservation savings (i.e., Water Supply Option V).

Comment Number: 15-21
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: APPENDIX A
Page: APPENDIX A

Summary of Comment:

The discussion of CVSIM in Appendix A should be expanded, particularly regarding the assumed subsurface inflow into the Carmel Valley Aquifer. Additional data that has become available since the original calibration should be analyzed to assess the validity of this assumption.

Response:

The validity and accuracy of assumptions in the CVSIM model, as with any hydrologic model, are largely dependent on the availability of observed data upon which to base the assumptions. In the case of Carmel Valley Aquifer subsurface inflow, a direct estimate based on observed data is not possible; this flow rate was, therefore, estimated indirectly during calibration using observed riverflow and groundwater level records. The discussion of CVSIM calibration in Appendix A has been expanded to more clearly explain the approach used and the limitations imposed by the available data.

The original calibration, performed in March of 1987, focused on two dry periods for which data were available: the 1976-77 period, and the 1984-85 period. Since the original calibration, additional riverflow and groundwater data have been collected. The more recent dry period beginning in 1987 may provide better information to refine the subsurface inflow assumption (as well as other assumptions) in the model. An improved estimate of subsurface inflow from adjacent bedrock strata may be obtained from calibration of the numerical groundwater model of the Carmel Valley Aquifer. Conversion and calibration of this model is presently planned for completion by early 1990. This analysis should provide information to strengthen the subsurface inflow assumption in CVSIM.

Also, additional work on calibration of the CVSIM model is planned for sometime in 1990, when data from this most recent dry period can be assembled and analyzed.

Comment Number: 15-22
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: APPENDIX A
Page: APPENDIX A

Summary of Comment:

Appendix A should indicate the surface diversion from San Clemente Dam that was modeled, and the final EIR should include an analysis of the change from the recently reduced target surface diversion from 35 percent to 29 percent of the total Cal-Am system production.

Response:

New CVSIM model runs for the water supply options were generated for the final EIR. These simulation runs incorporate the recent revision in the annual surface diversion target from 35 percent to 29 percent of the total Cal-Am system production.

Comment Number: 15-23
Commentor Name: SIERRA CLUB
Chapter: APPENDIX A
Page: APPENDIX A

Summary of Comment:

The drought probability analysis for the Monterey Peninsula Water Resource System should be considered using a Markov-type model to expand the current 86 year record into a longer sequence with the same statistical parameters.

Response:

This question relates to two different statistical topics: (1) frequency analysis, and (2) successive autocorrelation. Frequency analysis looks at the distribution of a data set independently of time, and assumes that individual data points are independent. The District used probability analysis for the evaluation of recurrence intervals of annual droughts. The District tested two distributions: The Log-Pearson Type III and Log-Gumball.

The second topic in this question refers to "persistence" or successive autocorrelation among sequential data points. This topic is usually analyzed by time-series analysis techniques such as Markov chains, ARIMA modeling, or others. The available data indicates that, for the Carmel River system, dry periods indeed tend to occur as multiple year events, which suggests that autocorrelation exists between dry years. The published literature, however, indicates that the various analytical techniques were not very successful in analyzing droughts, because of the difficulty of distinguishing, with any statistical significance, the autocorrelations of dry years followed by dry years from wet years followed by wet years. Evaluation of only dry years is possible; this, however, leads to an artificial data set and distorted results.

Comment Number: 16-1
Commentor Name: PAUL BEEMER
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor notes that the exact storage of groundwater basins is uncertain and argues that exact allocation is spurious.

Response:

The MPWMD acknowledges that the magnitude of groundwater storage is uncertain. Nevertheless, the estimates provided are the best available. If an allocation is to be maintained, the District must rely on the best available data.

Comment Number: 16-2
Commentor Name: PAUL BEEMER
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Given that the supply options analyzed in the EIR would at times require a high volume of groundwater pumpage over extended periods, what is the basis for knowing how much water the aquifer could produce over such periods?

Response:

As is correctly pointed out in this comment, the quantity of water available from the groundwater system is limited by the production capacity of existing wells, rather than the total water available in the aquifer. As groundwater storage capacity declines, pumping capacity also declines due to the increased pumping lift required and other well system losses. In order to take this into consideration, a relationship between well pumping capacity and aquifer storage capacity was developed for each aquifer subunit, based upon the theoretical well pumping curves for the Cal-Am wells. These relationships have been incorporated into the CVSIM model and an explanation of the development of these relationships is contained in MPWMD Technical Memorandum 86-06. Because these relationships are based on theoretical well pumping curves, there is no certainty that the assigned curves will reflect actual conditions that would occur in the aquifers. However, with the limited availability of empirical data on decline in groundwater production as groundwater storage declines, it was felt that the theoretical relationships would be adequate for model simulation purposes.

Comment Number: 17-1
Commentor Name: DON BOSTON
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the "Fiscal Impacts" section of Chapter IV recognize interaction with the recreational and aesthetic amenities of the community.

Response:

See response to Comment 6-13.

Comment Number: 17-2
Commentor Name: DON BOSTON
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR expand the analysis of fiscal impacts related to a moratorium.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 17-3
Commentor Name: DON BOSTON
Chapter: IV O
Page: IV-96

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that estimates of tourism expenditures be updated.

Response:

The estimate of tourism expenditures in Table III-23 is the most recent information available according to the AMBAG (Williams pers. comm.) and the California Department of Commerce, Office of Economic Research (Netherton pers. comm.).

Comment Number: 18-1
Commentor Name: HELAINE CLARK
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the MPWMD Board select Water Supply Option IV, impose a moratorium on the setting of new meters, and publicly fund the CSD/PBCSD Wastewater Reclamation Project.

Response:

Comments are acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 19-1
Commentor Name: DAN FLETCHER
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses his belief that Water Supply Options I and IV would have significant adverse impacts on housing costs and availability. Commentor questions assumptions concerning the mobility of construction labor.

Response:

Comment regarding housing impacts is acknowledged. The final EIR includes additional discussion regarding construction mobility.

Comment Number: 20-1
Commentor Name: KEN GREENWOOD
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor urges MPWMD to select Water Supply Option IV.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 21-1
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that page 3 fails to adequately distinguish between Alternative III and V.

Response:

The description of the various water distribution alternatives in Chapter II has been expanded in the final EIR to clarify the differences between Alternatives III and V.

Comment Number: 21-2
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-5

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the term "system losses" be replaced with the term "unmetered uses."

Response:

All references to "system losses" in the Draft EIR have been changed to "system losses and unmetered consumption" in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 21-3
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-13

Summary of Comment:

Commentor notes that growth impacts are not mentioned in connection with housing.

Response:

The Executive Summary has been revised in the final EIR to note that Water Supply Options II and III provide water for new housing.

Comment Number: 21-4
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: ES/VII
Page: ES-21/VII-2

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Section F-3 of the Executive Summary and Chapter VII of the final EIR explicitly state the magnitude of land use growth possible under the various water supply options.

Response:

Detailed calculations of potential development under the various supply/distribution/baseline assumptions have been included as appendices. This information is summarized in Chapters IV and V but has not been included in the Executive Summary.

Comment Number: 21-5
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: I A
Page: I-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the Draft EIR reference to "all water systems" is incorrect.

Response:

The author disagrees with the commentor. The sentence is correct as printed in the Draft EIR. The description of systems other than Cal-Am in Chapter III has been expanded in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 21-6
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that a new water distribution alternative be added to the final EIR which limits the issuance of permits to prescribed types of uses.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to include an analysis of an additional distribution alternative (Distribution Alternative VI) that is based on a jurisdiction's current consumption plus water for vacant lots of record, low- and moderate-income housing, and public projects.

Comment Number: 21-7
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-17

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the percentage of Carmel Valley groundwater pumping by Cal-Am is incorrect.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The correct percentage has been included in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 21-8
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV C
Page: IV-19

Summary of Comment:

(1) The impact analysis for riparian vegetation in Carmel Valley focuses on median years, but maximum impact to the vegetation occurs during the driest years.

(2) Mitigation measures designed to protect fishery habitat in the upper aquifer (above the Narrows) actually increases the riparian vegetation impacts in the lower aquifer; this needs to be discussed in the final EIR.

(3) It should be made clear in the final EIR that the 17,500 acre-feet per year supply option is the least damaging alternative considered, but this option still has significant adverse environmental impacts.

(4) The impacts to nonriparian vegetation on the Carmel Valley floor also need to be discussed in the final EIR.

Response:

(1) The intent of the analysis of riparian vegetation impacts was to compare the relative differences in impacts during a typical dry cycle from differing Cal-Am system productions for each of the water supply options. This method does not include consideration of worst case conditions resulting from more extreme dry periods. This section has been revised in the final EIR to incorporate a discussion of impacts resulting from more extreme dry periods.

This comment could not be addressed by reinterpreting and extrapolating the results of the aquifer drawdown simulations used in the Draft EIR. The following developments for the final EIR have produced a more refined approach to estimating riparian impacts and modified than the results used in the Draft EIR.:

- The Draft EIR used the modeling results from water supply options of 17,500, 18,000, 20,000, and 20,500 acre-feet to estimate the impacts to riparian vegetation. The final EIR considers five supply options and all modeling is based on these options.

- The methodology regarding the aquifer drawdown model has been refined and improved since the Draft EIR analysis.

- An inventory of riparian vegetation resources along the Carmel Valley aquifer enables an estimation of the acreage of vegetation impacted. The Draft EIR analysis only looked at the length of channel impacted and ignored the nonuniform distribution of riparian vegetation along the river.

- CVSIM modeling for the final EIR was based on an 86-year period whereas portions of the Draft EIR were based on analysis of a 28-year period.

(2) The effect of reduced municipal pumping in the upper aquifer upon riparian vegetation in the lower aquifer is discussed in the final EIR.

(3) The final EIR includes the analysis of a fifth water supply option (16,700 acre-feet). This supply option is now considered the least environmentally damaging of those analyzed in the EIR, and the final EIR acknowledges any significantly adverse environmental impacts anticipated to result from this level of production.

(4) The Draft EIR focuses on the naturally occurring vegetation communities. The discussion focuses on riparian vegetation because it was considered to be one of the most sensitive natural habitat areas affected by the water allocation program. A plant water stress model was used to determine impacts to native riparian woody species and may not be applicable to introduced species, such as eucalyptus. The authors agree that ornamental vegetation not receiving adequate irrigation water may be subject to water stress due to groundwater drawdown.

Comment Number: 21-9
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV C
Page: IV-25

Summary of Comment:

Commentor notes that the Carmel River Lagoon environment is deteriorating under existing conditions, and objects to the Draft EIR statement that selection of Water Supply Option I would have no impacts.

Response:

The Lagoon environment has undergone changes due to natural and human-caused factors over the last 100 years. The degree to which the Lagoon has deteriorated as a result of groundwater pumping is difficult to assess. The discussion of the Lagoon environment has been expanded in the final EIR. The final EIR still notes that the rate of deterioration will not be exacerbated by Water Supply Option I.

Comment Number: 21-10
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that the rationing program rules used in the computer simulation model do not mimic the rationing practices of the District during the 1987-89 drought.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The computer model has been revised for the final EIR to be more pessimistic; (i.e., rationing will be initiated earlier and more heavily). Appendix A of the final EIR also discusses the sensitivity of the results to the model assumptions.

Comment Number: 21-11
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR quantify the economic costs of rationing on the residents as well as businesses.

Response:

Section 15131 of the State CEQA Guidelines states that "economic or social information may be included in an EIR or may be presented in whatever form the agency desires." No precise data is available to readily quantify the economic costs of water supply options for the general residents of the Cal-Am service area. The economic data presented in the EIR, including fiscal effects and effects on the construction industry, are deemed to be relevant to the public-at-large, as well as to the affected industries and jurisdictions.

Comment Number: 21-12
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-72

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses the opinion that statements on the average number of months of rationing under each option are confusing and unnecessary.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 21-13
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-74

Summary of Comment:

Commentor observes that rationing frequency and magnitude can double or triple as a function of the water supply option chosen.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The final EIR has been revised to note this impact. However, the authors note that the significance of an impact is not judged by its magnitude relative to some other option, but by its absolute impact.

Comment Number: 21-14
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-93

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the validity of using 1980 through 1986 permits as the basis for projection of construction value, and observes that remodels should be broken out from new building.

Response:

The 1980 through 1986 permit record was used as the best available data. Summaries of total building value indicate that 1987 was an average year, 1988 was a below average year, and that 1989 was an above average year. Data was not available to break-out remodels from new construction.

Comment Number: 21-15
Commentor Name: DICK HEUER
Chapter: IV N
Page: IV-94

Summary of Comment:

The assumption that construction could continue at present levels for 4 to 6 years is true if nothing is done to protect the ability to build on lots of record. The figure assumes that jurisdictions will allow water demand to build up to the absolute limit of the allocation, then impose a moratorium and prevent building on lots or record. Most jurisdictions have, however, set aside water for lots of record. To the extent that they save water for lots of record, jurisdictions are creating their own self-imposed allocation limit, and they will reach this limit in a year or two, not 4 to 6 years.

How the allocation system might affect property rights of owners of lots of record is an important legal and political question that should be addressed in this EIR. What if jurisdictions do NOT set aside water for lots of record? Are they vulnerable to lawsuits for inverse condemnation if they exhaust their allocation and cannot permit construction on a lot of record? If so, this should be discussed in the EIR to help make jurisdictions aware of it.

Response:

The California Appellate Court, in *Swanson* v. *Marin Municipal Water District* (1976), heard a potential water user's argument that he had a constitutional right to be treated the same as existing water consumers. In response to that argument the court said:

> *[I]t is evident that a potential water user does not possess any absolute right to be afforded water service and that the Constitution does not require that he be treated in the same manner as established users of the water system.*
>
> *Its [a water company] power to supply water is, of course, limited by the amount of its supply, and when the demands of its consumers upon it have reached this*

limit, it has no right to take on new consumers to the necessary injury of those it has.

The court also said, without discussion, that Swanson made no valid argument for inverse condemnation. The following conclusions can be based upon the court's holding in *Swanson* v. *Marin Municipal Water District*:

- An individual does not have an absolute right to water service but denial of service must not be arbitrary or capricious.
- A potential user is not entitled to treatment similar to actual users and may be denied water service.
- A water utility may distinguish and discriminate between classes of potential water users, provided the distinction is based on reasonable grounds.
- A water service moratorium is not to be used as a guise for implementing a no-growth policy, but may be implemented even though the effect is to prohibit growth.

The California Appellate Court revisited these issues in the case of *Hollister Park Investment Co.* v. *Goleta County Water District* (1978), where by resolution and ordinances, the District Board determined that it would approve no new water service connection pending evaluation and planning for supplemental water sources. The investment company could not get a new water connection was unable to develop the land, and lost it in a foreclosure sale. The company claimed inverse condemnation, alleging that it had a constitutional right to a reasonable level of utility service. It also alleged that the District holds all its water in trust for the benefit of all present and future district inhabitants and that the company was arbitrarily denied water.

The court rejected the landowner's arguments, concluding that potential water users may be denied service connections and need not be given the same access to water as are current customers. Further, damage to landowners from a water connection moratorium is not compensable under inverse condemnation law.

Comment Number: 22-1
Commentor Name: HITOSHI KONO
Chapter: IV S
Page: IV-105

Summary of Comment:

Commentor argues that Water Supply Options I and IV should be identified as causing a significant adverse impact on employment and housing.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 23A-1
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: APP A/IV A
Page: APP A/IV-1

Summary of Comment:

An error analysis of all input values used in the CVSIM simulation runs needs to be performed and the inherent range of error for all the model input and output values needs to be presented in the document.

Response:

The need for a discussion of potential errors regarding the use of CVSIM is appropriate, as a number of decisions and assumptions relating to input data had to be made, and many were based on limited data. The development of an accurate error analysis for this type of work is difficult though, because the assignment of percentage errors and ranges of errors for the input values inherently assumes that the actual values are already known, which is not the case for much of the data used for the development of the CVSIM runs. A realistic and meaningful error analysis can be accomplished, however, by examining the probabilistic ranges of errors based on our present knowledge of the individual data bases that were used, and on the work of other investigators. An expanded discussion of these possible errors, as they relate to CVSIM input and output values, is presented in Appendix A in the final EIR.

Comment Number: 23B-1
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the document be revised to provide better internal cross-referencing of terms and sources.

Response:

Terms are defined in the Glossary and reference sources are cited.

Comment Number: 23B-2
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor disagrees with the definition of least environmentally damaging alternative.

Response:

In the final EIR, a water supply level of 16,700 acre-feet, instead of 17,500 acre-feet, is characterized as the least environmentally damaging option considered in the EIR.

Comment Number: 23B-3
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that additional usable Carmel Valley groundwater could be accessed if new wells were drilled or if a salt water recharge barrier were constructed.

Response:

The fundamental premise of this EIR is that impacts will be evaluated given existing facilities. Subsequent environmental analysis will be conducted for new water supply facilities when they are proposed.

Comment Number: 23B-4
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

The simulation model omitted terminal storage and thus was overly pessimistic.

Response:

It is not clear what is meant by "terminal storage," but if it refers to reservoirs used for regulating daily variations in municipal system demands (i.e., Forest Lake), then the overall results should not be significantly affected as this storage is only a small portion of the total usable storage of the water supply system.

Comment Number: 23B-5
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that economic costs of rationing be quantified in the final EIR.

Response:

See response to Comment 21-11.

Comment Number: 23B-6
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the impacts of a moratorium be more fully described.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 23B-7
Commentor Name: EDWIN LEE
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses the opinion that the EIR's conclusions concerning the impacts of groundwater pumping on the Lagoon were questionable.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 24-1
Commentor Name: TOM MAY
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that information on the timing, cost, and yield of a Presidio Hill Pond Project be added to the final EIR.

Response:

The EIR analyzes the impacts of various water supply options and distribution alternatives assuming no new water supply facilities. The environmental effects of new water supply facilities would be evaluated in project specific EIRs.

Comment Number: 24-2
Commentor Name: TOM MAY
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the summary of the District's purpose be broadened to reflect the foresight of the legislature.

Response:

The summary of the District's purpose has been broadened in the final EIR to include statutory language concerning "integrated management" and "storm and wastewater" as requested.

Comment Number: 24-3
Commentor Name: TOM MAY
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the authority and motive of the author in summarizing the District's purpose.

Response:

The summary of the District's purpose has been broadened in the final EIR to include statutory language concerning "integrated management" and "storm and wastewater."

Comment Number: 24-4
Commentor Name: TOM MAY
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the authority and motive of the author in omitting non-Cal-Am water from analysis in the EIR.

Response:

The final EIR evaluates the impacts of water produced by non-Cal-Am systems and private wells along with water produced by the Cal-Am system.

Comment Number: 24-5
Commentor Name: TOM MAY
Chapter: VIII
Page: VIII-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR evaluate water supply delivered by sources other than Cal-Am.

Response:

See response to Comment 24-4.

Comment Number: 25-1
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR more fully describe and evaluate the criterion for drought protection.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 25-2
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV H
Page: IV-67

Summary of Comment:

Commentor expresses the opinion that the drought protection criteria are cavalier and arbitrarily chosen.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response in necessary.

Comment Number: 25-3
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: APPENDIX A
Page: APPENDIX A

Summary of Comment:

(1) The accuracy and reliability of the CVSIM model in terms of the use of reconstructed flows needs to be stated.

(2) What is the significance of representing flows less than one cubic foot per second (cfs) at the Narrows in Figure IV-4?

(3) What is the relationship of this figure to Table IV-2 on page IV-4?

Response:

(1) This comment regarding error analysis of CVSIM input data is well-taken and an expanded discussion of the possible errors associated with the CVSIM model runs has been included in the final EIR.

(2) One cfs was chosen as a cutoff value to comparatively represent how habitat in the river reach above the Narrows is diminished as a function of municipal supply production. The precise level of flow at the Narrows that would result in loss of habitat between the Narrows and Robles del Rio is not known; however, it was felt that this could be adequately represented by a cutoff of simulated mean monthly flows of less than one cfs for purposes of comparison. The actual flow at the Narrows that would be equivalent to the loss of habitat in the reach above may be somewhat variable within a range of several cfs and would be dependent on the level of groundwater storage in this area of the aquifer and the amount of inflow to this reach of the river from above Robles del Rio.

(3) Table IV-2 and Figure IV-4 were developed using the same simulations of flows from CVSIM, but the percentages are not directly comparable. Table IV-2 indicates how frequently the mean monthly flows at the Narrows would exceed zero for all months in the reconstructed record. Figure IV-4 illustrates the percent of years during which mean monthly flows at the Narrows during the summer declined to less than one cfs.

Comment Number: 25-4
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV I
Page: IV-78

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that changes to the water allocation will result in unforeseen changes to other variables such as traffic that are not driven by land use growth. Commentor further observes that demands on infrastructure will continue even during a moratorium.

Response:

Commentor is correct. The EIR attempts to address these issues by incorporating the concept of intensification. The final EIR expands the analysis of intensification in Appendix B.

Comment Number: 25-5
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV C
Page: IV-16

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions whether analysis has been done on the stresses to nonriparian vegetation during droughts.

Response:

Such an analysis has not been done nor would such impacts be directly related to production.

Comment Number: 25-6
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-4

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the relationship between Table IV-2 and Figure IV-4 be explained.

Response:

Figure IV-4 illustrates the percent of years in the simulated 87-year record when habitat was reduced to zero between the Narrows and Robles del Rio. Table IV-2 illustrates the chance of flows exceeding zero cfs per month for various points on the river at select levels of production. (See also response to Comment 25-3.)

Comment Number: 25-7
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-4

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the significance of one cfs in Figure IV-4 be explained.

Response:

See response to Comment 25-3.

Comment Number: 25-8
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: I D
Page: I-5

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the purpose of the EIR be expanded to relate the decisions that need to be made.

Response:

The authors feel that the discussion of the purpose of the EIR adequately explains how it is to be used by the District.

Comment Number: 25-9
Commentor Name: ALAN WILLIAMS
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR include a sensitivity analysis on how altering a base decision may affect a decision document item.

Response:

The MPWMD acknowledges that the assumptions used in the model may affect the performance of the alternative water supply options. The "management" assumptions used derive from the Board's adopted management protocols.

Comment Number: 26-1
Commentor Name: JOHN WILLIAMS
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions the count of vacant lots of record.

Response:

The listings of vacant lots of record were provided by each city and the County.

Comment Number: 26-2
Commentor Name: JOHN WILLIAMS
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the appropriate "no project" alternative would be no Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Response:

The MPWMD was created by the legislature to manage and develop water supplies in the Monterey Peninsula area. Although the legislature could disband the District, this EIR assumes its existence. This EIR further assumes that a total system capacity limit would be in effect, even if the District had no program for allocation of water among jurisdictions.

Comment Number: 26-3
Commentor Name: JOHN WILLIAMS
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR compare the existing allocation with the proposed allocation.

Response:

The Draft EIR presents both allocations and compares the growth results/environmental impacts of each. The final EIR has been clarified to indicate that Option II/Alternative II is the existing allocation, and that Option II/Alternative III is the proposed allocation. In addition, Table II-15 compares net new water available under Distribution Alternatives III, IV, V, and VI with the current allocation formula (Distribution Alternative II).

Comment Number: 27-1
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR desegregate drinking water from irrigation water, and potable water from sewage and runoff supply.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. The EIR analyzes various water supply options and distribution alternatives under the District's Allocation Program. Although runoff can commingle with potable supply prior to capture, the EIR focuses on those

resources that can be delivered with existing facilities. Sewage flows are not available for delivery to potable water customers without additional treatment and distribution facilities.

Comment Number: 27-2
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-1

Summary of Comment:

Commentor argues that the EIR establishes a priority for environmental values to the detriment of human values.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged. One intent of the EIR is to provide information to evaluate the trade-offs between environmental values and human values.

Comment Number: 27-3
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR add another water supply option based on cost effectiveness and include an evaluation of water pricing.

Response:

CEQA does not require the evaluation of alternatives based on community economics. Pricing is one of several mechanisms that influence water consumption, but rate structuring is constitutionally reserved to the California Public Utilities Commission.

Comment Number: 27-4
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor comments that the water distribution alternatives are more complicated than necessary.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 27-5
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor asks why the Defense Language Institute, the U.S. Navy, and Fort Ord do not have separate allocations.

Response:

Fort Ord has its own water system and is not served by Cal-Am. The Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Language Institute are served by Cal-Am, but be within the City of Monterey. Water for these facilities is included in the allocation for the City of Monterey.

Comment Number: 27-6
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that separate geographic segments of Monterey County receive separate allocations.

Response:

See response to Comment 6-17.

Comment Number: 27-7
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the Pebble Beach area receive a separate allocation since it is in the process of incorporating.

Response:

See response to Comment 6-17. (Note: The MPWMD will negotiate a transfer of allotment from the County to Pebble Beach if incorporation occurs.)

Comment Number: 27-8
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor questions methodology for projecting future golf course employment in Table III.

Response:

Appendix E portrays housing and employment potential given the water made available under those combinations of water supply option and distribution alternative being analyzed in this EIR. In each combination, the number of golf course employees is calculated based on the average number of employees per golf course on the Monterey Peninsula.

Comment Number: 27-9
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: II C
Page: II-6

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR clarify the conservation activities expected to achieve water savings.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised as requested.

Comment Number: 27-10
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-10

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the emphasis on Carmel Valley in regards to environmental impacts of water supply development.

Response:

The Executive Summary and Chapter IV discuss the direct environmental impacts of the various water supply options. Since Carmel Valley and Seaside are the production sources, these areas are directly affected. Secondary impacts resulting from the land use growth supported by increased production are discussed in Chapter V.

Comment Number: 27-11
Commentor Name: WILLIAM WOODWORTH
Chapter: ES
Page: ES-15

Summary of Comment:

Commentor suggests that the values assigned in Tables 4 and 5 are biased and overly weighted to environmental values. Commentor suggests a numerical weighing system with a cumulative score for each option.

Response:

The values assigned represent the opinion of the author based on the evidence presented in the document. The EIR addresses the topics prescribed by CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The impact designations are those prescribed by CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Comment Number: 28-1
Commentor Name: CAL-AM
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to any decrease in the magnitude of water supply allocated to the jurisdictions.

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is required.

Comment Number: 28-2
Commentor Name: CAL-AM
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that the final EIR be updated to include the findings of the 1989 Staal, Gardner & Dunne report on groundwater capacity in the lower Carmel Valley. Commentor further believes that additional production could be achieved by adding additional wells or developing recharge facilities.

Response:

The final EIR has been revised to include updated information from the study cited. The comment regarding yield is contrary to the fundamental premise of this document that impacts be evaluated assuming no new facilities.

Comment Number: 28-3
Commentor Name: CAL-AM
Chapter: II B
Page: II-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor requests that Cal-Am production potential of Water West and Rancho Fiesta systems be evaluated in the final EIR.

Response:

The EIR evaluates impacts of production from sources regardless of the system.

Comment Number: 28-4
Commentor Name: CAL-AM
Chapter: IV B
Page: IV-3

Summary of Comment:

Commentor believes that the EIR fails to evaluate the 2,000 acre-foot drought reserve not allocated by the MPWMD.

Response:

Author disagrees with Commentor's assertion. The EIR evaluates the impacts of production based on a calibrated model that supersedes the limited determination of yield offered by the PUC in Decision 89195.

Comment Number: 28-5
Commentor Name: CAL-AM
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

Commentor objects to the District's *Allocation Program*

Response:

Comment is acknowledged; no response is necessary.

Comment Number: 29-1
Commentor Name: MPWMD POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

The Committee recommended that the final EIR evaluate all four supply options included in the Draft EIR with the provision that conservation be evaluated.

Response:

See response to Comment 4A-13.

Comment Number: 29-2
Commentor Name: MPWMD POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

The Committee recommends that potential growth under Distribution Alternative I not be quantified since potential uses of the water are unknown.

Response:

See response to Comment 4A-5.

Comment Number: 29-3
Commentor Name: MPWMD POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Chapter: 0
Page: 0

Summary of Comment:

The Committee recommended more analysis of the grace provision, including possible modifications.

Response:

The authors feel that the Draft EIR's analysis of the grace provision is adequate and does not need to be expanded.