

**SECTION 11.0
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS REQUIRED BY CEQA**

11.1 INTRODUCTION

In addition to an examination of project-level impacts, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to evaluate a project's effect in relation to broader changes occurring or potentially occurring in the surrounding environment. This section presents a discussion of CEQA-mandated analysis for irreversible impacts, growth inducement, and cumulative impacts associated with the Project Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA).

11.2 IRREVERSIBLE IMPACTS

11.2.1 Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(c) requires an EIR to discuss a project's irreversible environmental changes associated with use of nonrenewable resources during its initial phases and continued operation. It also requires a discussion of the proposed Project IPA's irreversible changes related to potential environmental accidents.

The establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs) would limit species take and activities in the affected areas and would not directly commit the Department or other agencies to future usage of fossil fuels or other types of nonrenewable resources. No specific development activities are proposed or authorized under the proposed MPAs that would result in the irreversible commitment of resources. Indirect impacts of MPA creation include an increase in fossil-fuel use that would potentially result from the increased activity of Department officers and wardens engaged in regulatory enforcement within the MPAs, and also would potentially result from increased transit times of displaced commercial and recreational fishing vessels.

The creation of MPAs would not directly result in potential environmental accidents. The increased activity of officers and wardens would slightly increase the potential for plane or boating accidents that could release hazardous chemicals into the water. In addition, displacement of fishing effort could result in vessel abandonment by individual fishermen. These indirect impacts have minimal chance of occurrence and do not represent a significant threat to the environment.

11.2.2 Significant and Unavoidable Impacts

No significant unavoidable impacts have been identified for the proposed Project or alternatives 1, 2, or 3.

**SOUTH COAST MARINE PROTECTED AREAS PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

11.3 GROWTH INDUCEMENT

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126(d) requires an EIR to discuss the extent to which a project would directly or indirectly foster economic or population growth or the construction of new housing, including through removal of obstacles to growth.

The proposed Project IPA would not have any direct growth-inducing impacts because no development is proposed. It would not indirectly induce growth because it proposes no extension of infrastructure or other environmental modifications that could foster population or economic growth. The protection of species and habitats proposed by the IPA does not enable or encourage development elsewhere.