

## **3A.12 PARKS AND RECREATION - LAND**

The two local roadway connections from the Folsom Heights property off-site into El Dorado Hills would not generate direct increases in population that could result in additional demand for parkland facilities in El Dorado County. Therefore, the “Affected Environment” does not contain a discussion of conditions in El Dorado County related to parks and recreation.

### **3A.12.1 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

#### **REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

##### **Folsom Lake**

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (SRA), located approximately 5 miles north of the SPA, serves the greater Sacramento area for recreation in the form of camping, hiking, biking, boating, and other outdoor recreation activities. The lake also hosts bass fishing tournaments that frequently draw fishermen from throughout the state. California State Parks manages the Folsom Lake SRA, which includes Folsom Lake and the surrounding facilities. The lake features approximately 75 miles of shoreline and 80 miles of trails that provide opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, nature studies, camping, and picnicking. There are seven major recreation areas with facilities located around the lake. The Folsom Lake SRA, including Folsom Lake, is one of the most heavily used recreational facilities in the California State Park system, with 2 to 3 million visitor days per year. Approximately 75% of the annual visitations to the Folsom Lake SRA occur during the spring and summer, and many (85%) of the Folsom Lake SRA activities are water dependent.

The Lake Natoma sub-unit of the Folsom Lake SRA is located adjacent to the City of Folsom, between Hazel Avenue and Folsom Dam, upstream from the Sacramento County-operated portion of the American River Parkway. The area encompasses approximately 500 surface acres of water and 1,600 acres of land. Most of the land immediately adjacent to Lake Natoma is Federally owned land administered by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). This land is managed by California State Parks as part of the Folsom Lake SRA through an agreement with Reclamation. In addition to Federal land, California State Parks has acquired fee title to additional lands around Lake Natoma that are also part of Folsom Lake SRA and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park (SHP). Folsom Powerhouse SHP is a small unit (35 acres) located on the south side of Lake Natoma, adjacent to historic downtown Folsom. Both Folsom Lake SRA and the Folsom Powerhouse SHP are administered and managed by the Gold Fields District of California State Parks.

The state facilities are managed to meet the recreational needs of the larger statewide population, and thus tend to be oriented more to the traveling public than are the adjacent County and City-operated facilities, which serve the needs of the regional and local population of the Sacramento area and City of Folsom residents.

##### **Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta**

The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta (Delta) includes portions of the cities of Sacramento and Stockton as well as several smaller cities and towns. The Delta encompasses 738,000 acres of land in portions of six counties and has nearly 1,000 miles of navigable channels. As such, recreation opportunities are generally water-oriented, consisting primarily of boating and fishing. Other common activities include waterskiing, wakeboarding, sailing, operating personal watercraft (e.g., jet skis), house boating, kayaking, swimming, boat camping, and windsurfing. Land-based recreational activities in the Delta include hunting, camping, picnicking, walking, bicycling, viewing and photographing wildlife, sightseeing, and attending festivals and special events (Delta Protection Commission [DPC] 2002). Access to the Delta is available via several locations along the Sacramento River from downtown Sacramento to Freeport (approximately 20 miles southwest of the SPA), as well as numerous locations farther south (California Department of Water Resources [DWR] 1995).

## **Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area**

The Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA), located on White Rock Road approximately 2 miles west of the SPA, offers off-highway vehicle enthusiasts 836 acres of varying terrain and trails for motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and four-wheel-drive vehicles. The SVRA includes the Hangtown MX Track, which hosts the annual national outdoor MX (motocross) championship; the Quarter Midget Track, which is used by the American Quarter Midget Association for both practice and competitive events; and a 4x4 vehicle area, motorcycle/all-terrain vehicle (ATV) area, several practice tracks, a go-kart track, and several staging areas that include picnic facilities. The Prairie City SVRA is operated by the Off-Highway Vehicle Division of California State Parks and is open year-round (California State Parks 2004).

## **LOCAL ENVIRONMENT**

### **County of Sacramento**

Park planning in Sacramento County is an interagency and interjurisdictional process. At the broadest level, the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks, Recreation and Open Space (DPROS) manages the regional park system. Local parks (mini, neighborhood, and community parks) are planned and operated primarily by the 18 parks and recreation districts located throughout the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County. Sacramento County defines four basic types of parks as follows:

- ▶ **Mini Parks** (1.5–4 acres): Publicly owned sites generally serving a radius within 1/3 mile and within easy walking distance for a parent with tot or an elderly person. Good visual access from surrounding homes and streets is essential. Mini parks typically provide playgrounds and picnic facilities.
- ▶ **Neighborhood Parks** (5–10 acres): Often adjacent to school sites, are publicly-owned sites intended to serve the needs of a radius within 2/3 mile, usually the residential neighborhood in which they are located. They should be within walking distance of the residents they serve, without access barriers, such as a major street or canal. Neighborhood parks typically provide playgrounds, playfields, and court game areas.
- ▶ **Community Parks** (20–60 acres): Larger, publicly-owned sites that serve a larger area and population than neighborhood parks. They should be served by a major thoroughfare and be within bicycling distance of the people they serve. Community parks typically provide specialized functions such as swimming pools, tennis courts, sports complexes, and community buildings in addition to basic neighborhood park facilities.
- ▶ **Regional Parks** (75+ acres): Typically provide a specialized recreation function, or preserve natural, cultural, historical, or archaeological features of Countywide significance. They are usually greater than 75 acres in size, with a large service area and population, extending beyond the County boundary.

### ***Department of Regional Parks, Recreation, and Open Space***

Sacramento County DPROS was established in 1959 with acquisition of land now known as the American River Parkway. Since that time, the County has expanded its total parklands to more than 11,000 acres, including the American River Parkway, Dry Creek Parkway, Mather Regional Park, Discovery Park, Elk Grove Regional Park, the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, and other historic and natural sites. In addition to traditional regional park activities, DPROS also oversees four regional golf facilities.

### ***American River Parkway***

On January 19, 1981, approximately 23 miles of the American River, from the confluence with the Sacramento River to Nimbus Dam, was designated a National Wild and Scenic River by the National Park Service (NPS) (NPS 2005). Nimbus Dam is located approximately 4 miles west of the SPA. This stretch of river, managed by DPROS, flows through the City of Sacramento and is the most heavily used Wild and Scenic River in California.

The American River Parkway (Parkway) is a river corridor/open space greenbelt that extends along the American River from the confluence with the Sacramento River to Nimbus Dam. The Parkway's trail system, which has been designated a "National Recreation Trail," includes the 32-mile-long multiuse (pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle) Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail, which parallels the American River from Folsom to downtown Sacramento.

The Parkway is one of the most valuable recreation/open space assets in the region. There are several points of entry to this recreation area near the SPA. The closest access point for the section of Parkway between Nimbus Dam and the Sacramento River is located off of Hazel Avenue at the Fish Hatchery below the dam. Hazel Avenue also provides access to the Parkway above Nimbus Dam, which is within the Natoma sub-unit of the Folsom Lake SRA, described above. There are many access points in the City of Folsom to the Folsom Lake SRA.

## City of Folsom

The City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Department provides and maintains a full range of recreational activities and park facilities for the City of Folsom. Per the City of Folsom General Plan Parks and Recreation Element (1993 Update), the City has categorized parks in terms of their function and sizes into the following categories:

- ▶ **Mini Parks** (1 to 2 acres): Specialized facilities that usually serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. Mini parks may feature children's play areas, quiet game areas, landscaping and some sports activities such as multiuse courts if space allows. Ideal in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouses, or elderly housing. May be used to enhance beauty of the City.
- ▶ **Neighborhood Parks** (10 to 20 acres): A recreation area which provides for indoor and outdoor programs and activities. Neighborhood recreation parks should serve one neighborhood and be centralized within that neighborhood, a park which can be walked to by children. Where possible, they should be located next to schools to avoid duplication and achieve joint use advantages. Neighborhood recreation parks should primarily serve the needs of the neighborhood residents.
- ▶ **School/Parks** (10 to 20 acres): A neighborhood park located adjacent to a school. (See "Neighborhood Park" above.)
- ▶ **Schools** (10 to 20 acres): School playing fields and facilities can be shared with the City Parks and Recreation program to maximize facilities use. Conversely, parks and other recreation facilities can be shared with schools to enhance school facilities and reduce the need for duplicate facilities and programs.
- ▶ **Special Use Areas** (undetermined acreage): Within the City there are special use areas which do not fit easily in the other categories.
- ▶ **Community Parks** (20 to 60 acres): A recreation area which provides recreational opportunities for several neighborhoods. Community parks should avoid duplication of facilities already provided in neighborhood recreation parks, and where suitable, be located adjacent to a secondary school. It should include such facilities as an aquatic center, provision for evening recreation, indoor facilities, amphitheater, specialized athletic fields, tennis, handball, basketball courts, large and small picnic areas, and barbecue facilities, convenient parking, tot play apparatus and restrooms.
- ▶ **Regional Parks** (200+ acres): A recreation area that provides some remoteness from the urban setting or has features of regional significance including opportunities not possible in other parks within the City park system. This type of park serves a population within a large region, usually those within an hour's travel time. A regional park may be the joint effort of more than one governmental agency. It should be developed to preserve existing natural areas, areas of great scenic beauty, or areas of historical interest. A regional park

could include facilities such as arboretums, camping areas, boating and fishing facilities, bicycling, equestrian and hiking trails, and other special-use facilities.

- ▶ **Open Space/Natural Areas/Parkways** (undetermined acreage): Natural habitat areas, stream courses, utility easements, or other corridors designated in the Open Space and Conservation Element and/or Circulation Element for purpose of preservation of natural features or circulation. Open space is clearly distinguished from park acreage and shall not be calculated or credited as parkland acreage. Parkways shall be preserved in their natural state with a network of trails for walking, cycling, and horseback riding. Parkways are classified as open space for the preservation of natural resources and shall not be credited as parkland acreage.

A complete listing of existing Folsom Parks and Recreation Department parks with total acreage and developed acreage of parkland is provided in Table 3A.12-1, below. The locations of all existing City facilities are shown in Exhibit 3A.12-1. A total of 385.35 acres of parkland are currently located within the City of Folsom, including 260.96 acres of developed parkland and 124.39 acres of undeveloped parkland (City of Folsom 2008). Developed public recreation facilities within the City of Folsom include an aquatic center with 3 pools, 14 little league fields, 8 youth softball fields, 3 adult baseball fields, 5 adult softball fields, 11 youth soccer fields, 19 adult (12 and up) soccer fields, 1 youth football field, 16 outdoor basketball courts, and 19 tennis courts. The closest existing City park facilities to the SPA are Amos P. Catlin Park, Livermore Community Park, John Kemp Community Park, and Handy Family Park, all located north of U.S. Highway 50 (U.S. 50) and north of Iron Point Road.

The 2008 population of the City of Folsom was 72,590 residents (California Department of Finance 2008). Therefore, the City's parkland acreage to population ratio is currently 5.3 acres per 1,000, which is slightly above the City's park acreage standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents (City of Folsom General Plan Parks and Recreation Element, Goals and Policies, 1993 Update). It should be noted that, as required by the City, this parkland acreage does not take into account the open space and bike trails that are within the City Parks and Recreation Department's responsibility.

## **3A.12.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

### **FEDERAL PLANS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND LAWS**

#### **National Recreation and Park Association**

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends that communities have a park system that includes 5–10 acres of developed parklands for every 1,000 residents. Although the amount of parkland varies from community to community and is not regulated by law, many communities have used the NRPA recommendation to develop a standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents for traditional service/passive park acreage, with an additional 5 acres allocated for special-use facilities and open space (i.e., nontraditional parklands), for a total standard of 10 acres per 1,000 residents.

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (42 United States Code [USC] 12181) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in public accommodation and state and local government services. Under the ADA, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board issues guidelines to ensure that facilities, public sidewalks, and street crossings are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Typical ADA improvements include creating parking spaces for handicapped users, restroom modifications, door hardware requirements, and lighting upgrades. Play areas, meeting rooms, park restrooms, and other buildings and park structures must comply with ADA requirements. Park facilities under the Proposed Project or any of the action alternatives would be required to be ADA compliant.

### Schools

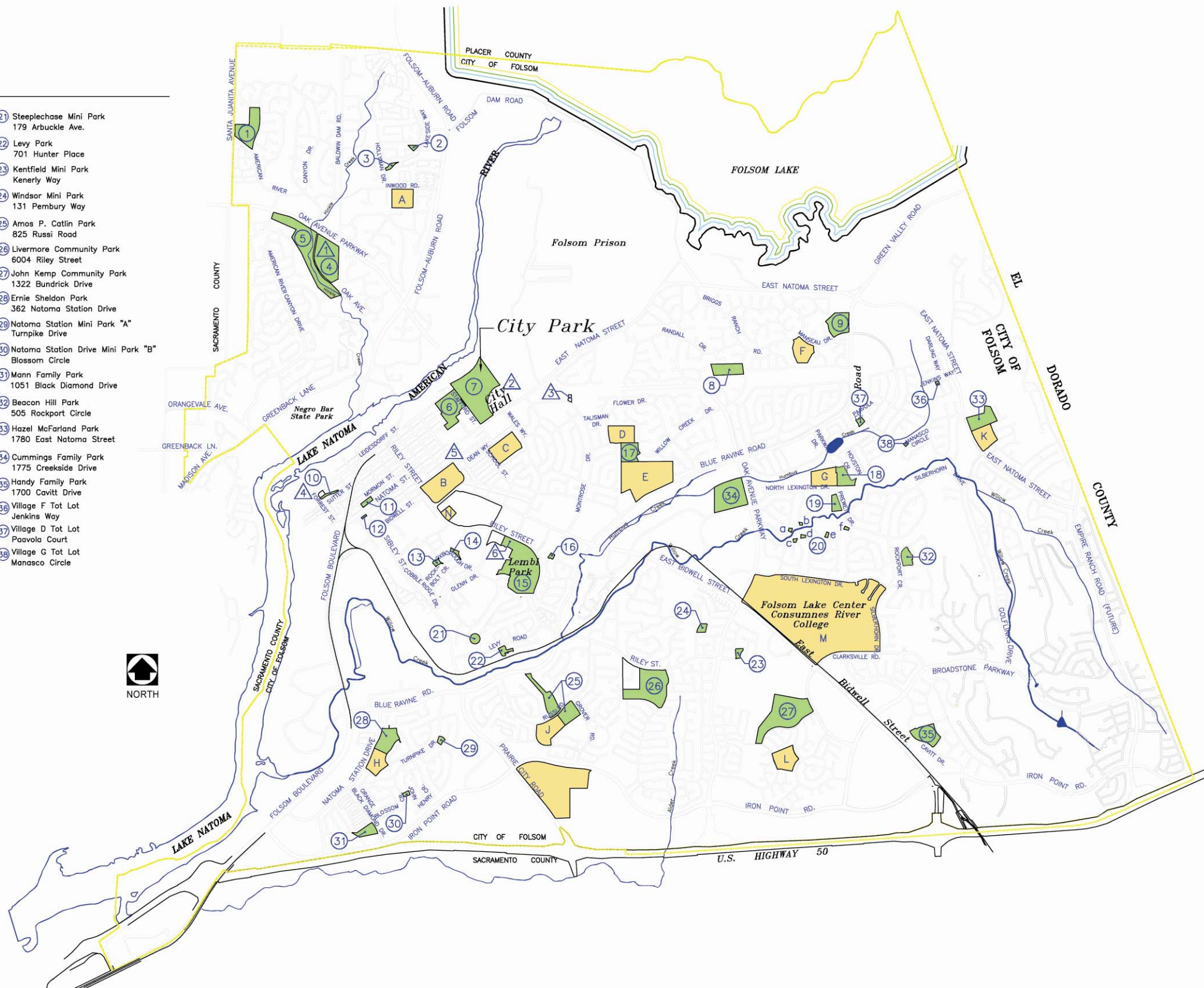
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A Carl Sundahl Elementary<br>9932 Inwood Road    | H Natoma Station Elementary<br>500 Turnpike          |
| B Sutter Middle School<br>715 Riley Street       | I Folsom High School<br>1655 Iron Point Road         |
| C Theodore Judah Elementary<br>101 Dean Way      | J Sandra Gallardo Elementary<br>755 Russi Road       |
| D Blanche Sprentz Elementary<br>249 Flower Drive | K Empire Oaks Elementary<br>1830 Bonhill Drive       |
| E Folsom Middle School<br>500 Blue Ravine Road   | L Gold Ridge Elementary<br>735 Halidon Way           |
| F Folsom Hills Elementary<br>106 Manseau Drive   | M Folsom Lake College Center<br>100 Clarksville Road |
| G Oak Chan Elementary<br>101 Prewett Drive       | N Folsom Lake High School<br>955 Riley Street        |

### Recreational Facilities

- ▲ Folsom Rotary Clubhouse  
7150 Baldwin Dam Road
- ▲ Folsom City Hall/Parks and Recreation Department  
50 Natoma Street  
Folsom Community Center  
52 Natoma Street
- ▲ R.G. Smith Clubhouse  
225 Marchant
- ▲ Folsom Veterans Hall  
1300 Forrest Street
- ▲ Folsom Library  
300 Persifer Street
- ▲ Folsom Aquatic Center  
1200 Riley Street

### Parks

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ① Bud and Artie Davies Park<br>290 American River Canyon Drive | ②① Steeplechase Mini Park<br>179 Arbuckle Ave.          |
| ② Hannaford Family Park<br>119 Lakeside Way                    | ②② Levy Park<br>701 Hunter Place                        |
| ③ Egluff Family Park<br>114 Hollyann Drive                     | ②③ Kentfield Mini Park<br>Kenerly Way                   |
| ④ Lew Howard Park<br>7100 Baldwin Dam Road                     | ②④ Windsor Mini Park<br>131 Pembury Way                 |
| ⑤ Hinkle Creek Nature Area<br>7100 Baldwin Dam Road            | ②⑤ Amos P. Catlin Park<br>825 Russi Road                |
| ⑥ Rodeo Park<br>Stafford Street (end)                          | ②⑥ Livermore Community Park<br>6004 Riley Street        |
| ⑦ Folsom City Lions Park/Zoo<br>403 Stafford Street            | ②⑦ John Kemp Community Park<br>1322 Bundrick Drive      |
| ⑧ BT Collins Park<br>828 Willow Creek Drive                    | ②⑧ Ernie Sheldon Park<br>362 Natoma Station Drive       |
| ⑨ Elvie Perazzo Briggs Park<br>125 Manseau Drive               | ②⑨ Natoma Station Mini Park "A"<br>Turnpike Drive       |
| ⑩ The Preserve Mini Park<br>1200 Sutter Street                 | ③⑩ Natoma Station Drive Mini Park "B"<br>Blossom Circle |
| ⑪ Granite Mini Park<br>1005 Mormon Street                      | ③① Mann Family Park<br>1051 Black Diamond Drive         |
| ⑫ Garden Club Mini Park<br>1105 Natoma Street                  | ③② Beacon Hill Park<br>505 Rockport Circle              |
| ⑬ Cobble Hills Ridge Park<br>124 Rockbolt Circle               | ③③ Hazel McFarland Park<br>1780 East Natoma Street      |
| ⑭ Reflections Mini Park<br>111 Oxborough Drive                 | ③④ Cummings Family Park<br>1775 Creekside Drive         |
| ⑮ Lembi Community Park<br>1302 Riley Street                    | ③⑤ Handy Family Park<br>1700 Cavitt Drive               |
| ⑯ The Shores Mini Park<br>Hazelmere Drive                      | ③⑥ Village F Tot Lot<br>Jenkins Way                     |
| ⑰ Ed Mitchell Park<br>306 Willow Creek South                   | ③⑦ Village D Tot Lot<br>Paavola Court                   |
| ⑱ Philip C. Cohn Park<br>100 Prewett Drive                     | ③⑧ Village G Tot Lot<br>Manasco Circle                  |
| ⑲ Folsom Kids Play Park<br>201 Prewett Drive                   |   |
| ⑳-A Keller Mini Park<br>179 Keller Circle                      |   |
| ⑳-B Chadwick Mini Park<br>179 Chadwick Way                     |   |
| ⑳-C Thorndike Mini Park<br>157 Thorndike Way                   |   |
| ⑳-D Wellfleet Mini Park<br>219 Wellfleet Circle                |   |
| ⑳-E Cambridge Place Mini Park<br>197 Wellfleet Circle          |   |
| ⑳-F Prewett Mini Park<br>Kilsby Way                            |   |



G 07110105.02 038

Source: City of Folsom 2009

## Locations of Existing City of Folsom Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Schools

Exhibit 3A.12-1



**Table 3A.12-1  
Existing City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Facility Name	Location	Parklands Total/Developed <sup>1</sup>
<b>Parks</b>		
Bud and Artie Davies Park	290 American River Canyon Drive	13.85 acres/8.91 acres developed
Hannaford Family Park	119 Lakeside Way	1.0 acre developed
Egloff Family Park	114 Hollyann Drive	1.0 acre developed
Lew Howard Park	7100 Baldwin Dam Road	19.55 acres/4.99 acres developed
Hinkle Creek Nature Area	7100 Baldwin Dam Road	44.0 acres undeveloped
Rodeo Park	Stafford Street (end)	14.92 acres/4.99 acres developed
Folsom City Lions Park/Zoo	403 Stafford Street	41.1 acres/32.35 acres developed
BT Collins Park	828 Willow Creek Drive	8.0 acres/4.0 acres developed
Elvie Perazzo Briggs Park	125 Manseau Drive	10.0 acres developed
The Preserve Mini Park	1200 Sutter Street	0.7 acre
Granite Mini Park	1005 Mormon Street	1.0 acre developed
Garden Club Mini Park	1105 Natoma Street	0.5 acre developed
Cobble Hills Ridge Park	124 Rockbolt Circle	1.0 acre
Reflections Mini Park	111 Oxborough Drive	1.0 acre
Lembi Community Park/ Folsom Aquatic Center	1302 Riley Street/ 1200 Riley Street	40.15 acres/38.65 acres developed
The Shores Mini Park	Hazelmere Drive	0.7 acre
Ed Mitchell Park	306 Willow Creek South	8.0 acres developed
Philip C. Cohn Park	100 Prewett Drive	6.0 acres developed
Folsom Kids Play Park	201 Prewett Drive	2.0 acres developed
Keller Mini Park	179 Keller Circle	0.2 acre developed
Chadwick Mini Park	179 Chadwick Way	0.2 acre developed
Thorndike Mini Park	157 Thorndike Way	0.2 acre developed
Wellfleet Mini Park	219 Wellfleet Circle	0.2 acre developed
Cambridge Place Mini Park	197 Wellfleet Circle	0.2 acre developed
Prewett Mini Park	Kilsby Way	0.2 acre developed
Steeplechase Mini Park	179 Arbuckle Avenue	0.5 acre developed
Levy Park	701 Hunter Place	1.74 acre developed
Kentfield Mini Park	Kenerly Way	1.0 acre developed
Windsor Mini Park	131 Pembury Way	1.0 acre developed
Amos P. Catlin Park	825 Russi Road	16.4 acres/7.2 developed
Livermore Community Park	6004 Riley Street	26.79 acres/22.79 developed
John Kemp Community Park/ Sports Complex	1322 Bundrick Drive/ 66 Clarksville Road	30.0 acres developed
Ernie Sheldon Park	362 Natoma Station Drive	9.36 acres developed
Natoma Station Mini Park "A"	Turnpike Drive	1.0 acre developed
Natoma Station Mini Park "B"	Blossom Circle	0.6 acre developed

**Table 3A.12-1  
Existing City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Facility Name	Location	Parklands Total/Developed <sup>1</sup>
Mann Family Park	1051 Black Diamond Drive	4.25 acres developed
Beacon Hill Park	505 Rockport Circle	3.95 acres developed
Hazel McFarland Park	1780 East Natoma Street	11.0 acres/9.5 developed
Cummings Family Park	1775 Creekside Drive	10.86 acres developed
Handy Family Park	1700 Cavitt Drive	9.7 acres developed
Village F Tot Lot	Jenkins Way	0.3 acre developed
Village D Tot Lot	Paavola Court	1.0 acre developed
Village G Tot Lot	Manasco Circle	0.3 acre developed
Willow Hill Reservoir Community Park (not shown on map)	Iron Point Road near Prairie City Road	30.5 acres/1.5 acres developed
<b>Recreational Facilities</b>		
Folsom Rotary Clubhouse	7150 Baldwin Dam Road	See Lew Howard Park
Folsom City Hall/Parks and Recreation Department	50 Natoma Street	NA
Folsom Community Center/ Seniors and Arts Center	52 Natoma Street/ 48 Natoma Street	4.3 acres developed
R. G. Smith Clubhouse	225 Marchant	0.5 acres developed
Folsom Veterans Hall	1300 Forrest Street	NA
Folsom Library	300 Persifer Street	NA
Note: NA = not available		
<sup>1</sup> Parkland acreages from City of Folsom Department of Parks and Recreation Park Inventory Summary from the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update May 16, 2008		
Source: City of Folsom 2009a; compiled by AECOM in 2009.		

## STATE PLANS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND LAWS

### Quimby Act

The Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477) was established by the California Legislature in 1965 to preserve open space and parkland in rapidly urbanizing areas of the state. The Quimby Act allows cities and counties to establish requirements for new development to dedicate land for parks, pay an in-lieu fee, or perform a combination of the two.

The Quimby Act provides two standards for the dedication of land for use as parkland. If the existing area of parkland in a community is greater than 3 acres per 1,000 residents, then the community may require dedication based on a standard of up to 5 acres per 1,000 persons residing in the subdivision. If the existing amount of parkland in a community is less than 3 acres per 1,000 residents, then the community may require dedication based on a standard of only 3 acres per 1,000 persons residing in the subdivision. The Quimby Act requires a city or county to adopt standards for recreational facilities in its general plan if it is to adopt a parkland dedication or fee ordinance. See “Regional and Local Plans, Policies, Regulation, and Laws,” below, for City of Folsom standards for recreational facilities.



It should be noted that the Quimby Act applies only to the acquisition of new parkland; it does not apply to the physical development of new park facilities or associated operations and maintenance costs. Therefore, the Quimby Act effectively preserves open space needed to develop park and recreation facilities, but it does not ensure the development of the land or the provision of park and recreation services to residents. In addition, the Quimby Act applies only to residential subdivisions. Nonresidential projects could contribute to the demand for park and recreation facilities without providing land or funding for such facilities. Quimby Act fees are collected by the local agency (park district, city, or county) in which the new residential development is located.

## **Folsom Lake State Recreational Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan**

The current Folsom Lake State Recreation Area General Plan was adopted by the State of California in 1979. California State Parks and Reclamation are currently developing a new combined General Plan/Resource Management Plan for both the Folsom Powerhouse SHP and Folsom Lake SRA, including the Lake Natoma sub-unit. The summary of management direction provided below is derived from the direction that will be part of the new General Plan/Resource Management Plan (Sacramento County 2008).

Thirty-four management zones have been tentatively established in the new General Plan/Resource Management Plan, including twelve management zones at Lake Natoma. The management zones reflect the consideration of a number of factors, including existing and potential type and intensity of land use and visitor experience, existing and potential resource values, and the practicalities of day-to-day management and operations. The zones generally represent areas of the park that share common physical and use characteristics and should be managed as identifiable components or sub-areas.

The management zones are further used to designate each area of the park with one of four broad land use designations: recreation, conservation, preservation, and administration. The intent of the land use designations is to reflect the varying physical, social, and management attributes throughout the park and to provide a framework for making future management decisions.

The new General Plan/Resource Management Plan for Folsom Lake SRA and Folsom Powerhouse SHP is intended to provide an extensive array of management direction for the full range of resources and uses within these two park units in the form of goals and guidelines which apply to both units in their entirety. This includes direction for the protection and management of natural and cultural resources, the management of recreation and facilities, interpretation, and many other areas regarding visitor services and park operations.

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND LAWS**

### **Sacramento County General Plan**

There are no goals and policies of the Sacramento County General Plan (1998) that are applicable to the Proposed Project or the alternatives under consideration.

### **El Dorado County General Plan**

There are no goals and policies of the El Dorado County General Plan (2004) that are applicable to the Proposed Project or the alternatives under consideration.

### **City of Folsom General Plan**

The following goals and policies of the City of Folsom General Plan (1993) are applicable to the Proposed Project and the other four action alternatives under consideration. There are no City of Folsom goals and policies that are applicable to the No Project Alternative since the site would remain under Sacramento County's jurisdiction under the No Project Alternative.

**Park and Recreation Element**

**GOAL 35.** To achieve and maintain quality parks, which provide optimum satisfaction to the leisure and recreation needs of the citizens.

- ▶ **Policy 35.12.** The following standards are the minimum acceptable standards for parks, open space and recreation facilities in the City of Folsom:

Parkland Acreage Standard: Five acres per thousand population (5 acres per 1,000 persons)  
 Space Standards: [See Table 3A.12-2, below.]

**GOAL 36.** To acquire and improve land and facilities for recreational use in pace with local needs.

**GOAL 37.** To achieve and maintain quality recreation activities which provide optimum satisfaction to leisure and recreation needs of the citizens.

**GOAL 38.** To involve and inform the residents, merchants and visitors of the need for public participation in planning, development and maintenance of recreation facilities.

**GOAL 39.** To effectively use the resources of the City of Folsom and other governmental entities (such as school districts, county, state and Federal agencies) to accomplish coordinated, effective planning of recreation and leisure activities.

The City of Folsom’s General Plan park standards and classification of neighborhood, community, and regional parks are provided in Table 3A.12-2.

**City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

The City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan) is an implementation tool that identifies Folsom’s diverse recreational facilities and activities and establishes policies for acquisition, development, administration, and use of Folsom’s parks and recreation resources. In 1989, the City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed as part of the City of Folsom General Plan. The Master Plan document included recommendations that reflected the park and recreation needs in the City.

<b>Table 3A.12-2 City of Folsom Park Acreage Standards</b>				
<b>Park Category</b>	<b>Desirable Size (acres)</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Standard (acres per 1,000 residents)</b>
Mini Park	1–2 acres	1,000–2,000	Less than ¼-mile radius	0.5 to 1 acre
Neighborhood Park	15 acres	2,000–5,000	¼- to ½-mile radius	2.5 to 3.5 acres
Community Park	45 acres	12,000–25,000	Several neighborhoods 1 to 2 miles	2.5 to 3.5 acres
Special Use Recreation Area/ Natural Area/ Wildlife Area/ Parkway	Variable depending on desired size	Within community 25,000–50,000	Not defined	Variable
Regional Park	200+ acres	Contiguous to or encompassing natural resources	Several communities within one-hour driving time radius	5 to 10 acres
Source: City of Folsom 1993				

The most recent update of the Master Plan was completed and adopted by the City Council in 1996. The goals and policies contained in the General Plan Park and Recreation Element are contained in the Master Plan. The 1996 update identified recreational elements (program) for all undeveloped parks. A “Needs Assessment Survey” was completed and used to facilitate the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update. The 1996 Master Plan was revisited and modified through the adoption of the 2002 Implementation Plan Update. That update reevaluated the status of park development, the estimated cost of developing the remaining parks, and made recommendations on the prioritization of undeveloped parks. The City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of another update; however, it is anticipated that there will be no goal or objective changes proposed in the update. The Parks and Recreation Commission and staff will examine programmatic changes related to the existing service levels, and projected needs based on these existing services and development revenues for build-out of the existing City, similar to the 2002 Implementation Plan Update (Simpson, pers. comm., 2009). The update will review the status of remaining park development, program needs, and funding.

### **American River Parkway Plan**

The American River Parkway is an open space greenbelt, which extends approximately 29 miles from Folsom Dam to the American River’s confluence with the Sacramento River and includes a 32-mile multiuse trail. The Parkway comprises several distinct sections, each having individual features and falling under the jurisdiction of different agencies and management plans. The 23-mile section of Parkway between Nimbus Dam and the American River confluence with the Sacramento River is the lower American River (LAR) and is classified as a “Recreation” river within the State and Federal Wild and Scenic River Systems (Sacramento County 2008). The Parkway is managed by Sacramento County DRPROS, which oversees implementation of the American River Parkway Plan (Parkway Plan). The purpose of the Parkway Plan is to provide a guide to land use decisions affecting the Parkway; specifically, addressing its preservation, use, development, and administration. The current Parkway Plan was adopted in 1985; however, an update to the 1985 Parkway Plan—the American River Parkway Plan 2008—has been completed and adopted at the local level by Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento, and endorsed by the City of Rancho Cordova. Finalization of the Parkway Plan is pending State legislative action (Moffitt, pers. comm., 2009).

The goals of the Parkway Plan (2008) are:

- ▶ To provide, protect, and enhance for public use a continuous open space greenbelt along the American River extending from Sacramento to Folsom Dam.
- ▶ To provide appropriate access and facilities so that present and future generations can enjoy the amenities and resources of the Parkway which enhance the enjoyment of leisure activities.
- ▶ To preserve, protect, interpret, and improve the natural, archaeological, historical, and recreational resources of the Parkway, including an adequate flow of high quality water, anadromous and resident fishes, migratory and resident wildlife, and diverse natural vegetation.
- ▶ To mitigate adverse effects of activities and facilities adjacent to the Parkway.
- ▶ To provide public safety and protection within and adjacent to the Parkway.

The guiding concept policies focus on balanced management, recreation appropriate to the Parkway, resource protection, and land use and cooperation among the jurisdictions and agencies that have regulatory responsibilities within the Parkway.

## 3A.12.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

### THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for determining the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the environmental checklist in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. These thresholds also encompass the factors taken into account under NEPA to determine the significance of an action in terms of its context and the intensity of its impacts. The Proposed Project or alternatives under consideration were determined to result in a significant impact related to parks and recreation if they would do any of the following:

- ▶ include new recreational facilities, or require the construction or expansion of existing recreational facilities that might have a substantial adverse physical effect on the environment; or
- ▶ increase demand on existing neighborhood and community parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

### ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

The evaluation of recreational resources is based on a comparison between existing and planned future recreational facilities and the policies of the City of Folsom General Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Because the SPA would be annexed into the City of Folsom as part of the project, the demand for recreational resources was estimated based on the City of Folsom's adopted park acreage standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. However, under the No Project Alternative, the SPA would not be annexed into the City and would remain in Sacramento County as agricultural land, which does not require development of parks or recreational facilities. The number of residents generated by the project was estimated based on per-dwelling-unit population generation factors (see Table 3A.13-3 in Section 3A.13, "Population, Employment, and Housing - Land"). Parklands (mini, neighborhood, and community parks) identified in the City of Folsom Parks and Recreation Master Plan and those proposed for the project are the focus of this analysis. Open Space and Public/Quasi-Public land uses (including schools, open space, preservation areas, and bicycle trails) are not considered part of this analysis because the City does not consider these uses as meeting parkland dedication requirements; therefore, these uses were not included in the project's total parkland acreage.

The El Dorado County General Plan Parks and Recreation policies (July 2004) are not used to analyze the project's impacts on recreation facilities because the only elements that would be located in El Dorado County are two local roadway connections (under the Proposed Project Alternative only) that would connect to existing roads within a residential subdivision in El Dorado Hills. These off-site roadway improvements would not involve construction of new housing or development of new employment opportunities in El Dorado County beyond temporary construction jobs. Therefore, these roadway connections would not generate direct increases in population that would result in additional demand for parkland facilities in El Dorado County or cause deterioration of existing facilities. With the exception of the No Project Alternative, all project (action) alternatives would include community parks, which would provide communitywide recreational opportunities serving multiple neighborhoods, and neighborhood parks, which would range in size from 3–10 acres and would be linked to neighborhoods and services by trails and bicycle facilities. The neighborhood parks would be located adjacent to proposed school sites to provide joint-use opportunities. Small local parks would also be provided within residential areas. These local (mini) parks would be between 1 and 3 acres in size and would serve the recreational needs of the immediate residential area.

With the exception of the No Project Alternative, all project alternatives would include the development of bicycle and pedestrian trails, including Class I paved off-street bike paths, Class II bicycle lanes, and 12-foot-wide multi-use trails. However, because these uses are not considered by the City as meeting parkland dedication requirements, they were not included in the project's total parkland acreage evaluated herein.

**Table 3A.12-3  
Project Parkland Acreage Calculations**

Alternative	Projected Population <sup>1</sup>	Parkland Requirement (5 acres per 1,000 residents) <sup>2</sup>	Total Proposed Parkland (acres)	Total Surplus (+) or Deficit (-) of Parkland Acreage Compared with Requirement
No Project <sup>3</sup>	128	0.6	0	-0.6
Proposed Project	24,335	121.7	121.7	0
Resource Impact Minimization	19,584	97.9	105.7	+7.8
Centralized Development	20,689	103.4	118.7	+15.3
Reduced Hillside Development	28,084	140.4	170.9	+30.5
No USACE Permit	15,808	79.0	84.8	+5.8

Notes:  
<sup>1</sup> See Table 3A.13-3 of this EIR/EIS for details on the projected population of each project alternative.  
<sup>2</sup> City of Folsom General Plan Parks and Recreation Element, Goals and Policies, 1993 Update.  
<sup>3</sup> Under the No Project Alternative, the SPA would not be annexed into the City of Folsom and would remain in Sacramento County. Therefore, the parkland requirement would be a minimum of 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.  
Source: Data compiled by AECOM in 2010

This analysis does not address various public and commercial recreational and entertainment facilities, such as community centers, movie theaters, or gymnasiums, which can be expected to be developed as part of the project but which have not been specifically identified at this time. Open space areas do not qualify as park space under the City’s standards, and a comparison with open space requirements is also not part of this analysis. Compliance with Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) requirements for the annexation of the SPA into the City of Folsom, including open space requirements, is addressed in Section 3A.10, “Land Use Planning and Agricultural Resources - Land,” of this EIR/EIS.

Table 3A.12-3 presents the estimated population, the total parkland acreage proposed, and comparison to the City of Folsom’s park acreage standard for the Proposed Project and each of the four action alternatives. The No Project Alternative is compared to the Sacramento County park acreage standard. As explained in Section 3A.13 “Population, Employment, and Housing - Land” of this EIR/EIS, the population projections for each project alternative were calculated by multiplying the number of proposed housing units by the City of Folsom persons per dwelling unit factor. Single-family dwelling units were assumed to generate 2.92 persons per dwelling unit. Multifamily and mixed use dwelling units were assumed to generate 1.94 persons per dwelling unit. The population estimate has been rounded (either up or down) to create a whole number estimate for each land use category. The total proposed parkland acres are based on the land use plans for the action alternatives, which are contained in Chapter 2, “Alternatives.”

## IMPACT ANALYSIS

Impacts that would occur under each alternative development scenario are identified as follows: NP (No Project), NCP (No USACE Permit), PP (Proposed Project/Action), RIM (Resource Impact Minimization), CD (Centralized Development), and RHD (Reduced Hillside Development). The impacts for each alternative are compared relative to the PP at the end of each impact conclusion (i.e., similar, greater, lesser).

**IMPACT 3A.12-1** Sufficiency of Proposed Parkland to Meet Increased Demand and Potential Increased Use and Deterioration of Existing Facilities. *Residential development proposed for the SPA would require 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents to meet the adopted City of Folsom standards. Increased population could increase the demand on existing neighborhood and community parks such that the physical deterioration of the existing facilities could occur or be accelerated.*

## On-Site Elements

### NP

---

The SPA is currently zoned AG-80, which allows for the construction of one dwelling unit per 80 acres. The SPA encompasses approximately 3,500 acres; therefore a total of 44 dwelling units could be constructed under the No Project Alternative. Based on the average household size factor for a single-family residence, 44 additional dwelling units would result in 128 new residents. No off-site water facilities would be constructed.

Under the No Project Alternative, the SPA would not be annexed into the City of Folsom and would remain in Sacramento County. Potential construction of individual rural residences on 80-acre parcels under the existing agricultural land use and zoning would not require any tentative maps, subdivision maps, or other approvals other than individual building permits. Agricultural land uses do not have a requirement for provision of park land. Although the new residents generated under this alternative would increase the demand on existing neighborhood and community parks, the contribution of these residents to increased use of existing off-site neighborhood or community parks would be minimal because of the limited increased in population. Therefore, this **indirect** impact is considered **less than significant**. No **direct** impacts would occur. *[Lesser]*

### NCP

---

As shown in Table 3A.12-3 above, the No USACE Permit Alternative would generate 15,808 new residents in the City of Folsom at buildout. This alternative would include 84.8 acres of community, neighborhood, and local parks for active recreation, which in comparison with the parkland requirement of 79 acres would result in a surplus of 5.8 acres of parkland. This would result in over 5 acres of developed parks per 1,000 residents at buildout. Because the No USACE Permit Alternative would provide sufficient park facilities to meet the demand generated by the projected population at buildout, this **direct** impact would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing parks and is considered **less than significant**. The indirect impacts from development of parklands on all other topical areas are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-2 and throughout the resource sections in Chapter 3 of this EIR/EIS. Because implementation of the Proposed Project Alternative would meet the City's parkland requirements, deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks would not occur or be accelerated from increased demand, and there would be **no indirect** impacts. *[Similar]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

### PP

---

As shown in Table 3A.12-3 above, the Proposed Project Alternative would generate 24,335 new residents in the City of Folsom at buildout. The Proposed Project Alternative would include 118.4 acres of community and neighborhood parks and an additional 3.5 acres of local parks, for a total of 121.7 acres of developed parks for active recreation, which meets the City's requirement of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Because the Proposed Project Alternative would provide sufficient park facilities to meet the demand generated by the projected population at buildout, this **direct** impact would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing parks and is considered **less than significant**. The indirect impacts from development of parklands on all other resource areas are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-2 and throughout the topical sections in Chapter 3 of this EIR/EIS. Because implementation of the Proposed Project Alternative would meet the City's parkland requirements,

deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks would not occur or be accelerated from increased demand, and there would be **no indirect** impacts.

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

## RIM

---

As shown in Table 3A.12-3 above, the Resource Impact Minimization Alternative would generate 19,584 new residents in the City of Folsom at buildout. This alternative would include 105.7 acres of community, neighborhood, and local parks for active recreation, which in comparison with the parkland requirement of 97.9 acres, would result in a surplus of parkland. Because the Resource Impact Minimization alternative would result in over 5.0 acres of developed parks per 1,000 residents at buildout and would provide sufficient park facilities to meet the demand generated by the projected population at buildout, this **direct** impact would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing parks and is considered **less than significant**. The indirect impacts from development of parklands on all other resource areas are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-2 and throughout the topical sections in Chapter 3 of this EIR/EIS. Because implementation of the Proposed Project Alternative would meet the City's parkland requirements, deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks would not occur or be accelerated from increased demand, and there would be **no indirect** impacts. *[Similar]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

## CD

---

As shown in Table 3A.12-3 above, the Centralized Development Alternative would generate 20,689 new residents in the City of Folsom at buildout. This alternative would include 113.5 acres of community and neighborhood parks and 5.2 acres of local parks for active recreation. This would result in a total of 118.7 acres of parkland, which would meet the City's requirement of 5 acres of developed parks per 1,000 residents. Because the Centralized Development Alternative would provide sufficient park facilities to meet the demand generated by the projected population at buildout, this **direct** impact would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing parks and is considered **less than significant**. The indirect impacts from development of parklands on all other topical areas are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-2 and throughout the resource sections in Chapter 3 of this EIR/EIS. Because implementation of the Proposed Project Alternative would meet the City's parkland requirements, deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks would not occur or be accelerated from increased demand, and there would be **no indirect** impacts. *[Similar]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

## RHD

---

As shown in Table 3A.12-3 above, the Reduced Hillside Development Alternative would generate 28,084 new residents in the City of Folsom at buildout. This alternative would include 158.6 acres of community and neighborhood and 12.3 acres of local parks for active recreation. This would result in a total of 170.9 acres of parkland, which would meet the City's requirement of 5 acres of developed parks per 1,000 residents. Because the Reduced Hillside Density Alternative would provide sufficient park facilities to meet the demand generated by the projected population at buildout, this **direct** impact would not result in a substantial increase in the use of existing parks and is considered **less than significant**. The indirect impacts from development of parklands on all other topical areas are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-2 and throughout the resource sections in Chapter 3 of this EIR/EIS. Because implementation of the Proposed Project Alternative would meet the City's parkland requirements, deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks would not occur or be accelerated from increased demand, and there would be **no indirect** impacts. *[Similar]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

## Off-Site Elements

The off-site elements of the Proposed Project Alternative are related to the provision of utilities and infrastructure to the SPA and roadway improvements, and would not involve construction of new housing or development of new employment opportunities in Sacramento or El Dorado Counties beyond temporary construction jobs. Therefore, there would be no direct increases in population that would result in additional demand for parkland facilities. No parkland facilities would be constructed in relation to off-site elements, nor would any be required. Therefore, off-site elements would result in **no direct** or **indirect** impact to parkland facilities. *[Lesser]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

**IMPACT 3A.12-2** Increased Use and Potential Physical Deterioration of Existing Off-Site Local or Regional Park Facilities. *Project implementation would result in a large number of new residents, which would increase the use and could cause the potential physical deterioration of existing off-site local and regional park facilities.*

## On-Site Elements

NP

---

The 128 new residents that could be generated by ongoing development under the AG-80 zoning would be expected to use existing off-site recreational opportunities and facilities such as those at Folsom Lake SRA, Folsom Powerhouse SHP, and the American River Parkway, including bicycle trails, campgrounds, boat launch facilities, and sports parks. However, the contribution of these residents to increased use of existing off-site local or regional parks would be minimal due to the limited increase in population, as compared with the expected service populations and service areas of these facilities as presented in Table 3A.12-1. No off-site water facilities would be constructed. Additionally, although it cannot be fully ascertained with any degree of certainty exactly how many residents and with what frequency they would choose to use off-site recreational facilities, for purpose of this analysis, it is assumed that revenues from use charges and admission fees of these off-site facilities would increase along with increased usage, thus supporting increased maintenance. This **indirect** impact is considered **less than significant**. **Direct** impacts are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-1. *[Lesser]*

NCP, PP, RIM, CD, RHD

---

As presented in Table 3A.14-3 of this EIR/EIS, at full project buildout, the No USACE Permit Alternative would result in an estimated 15,808 new residents; the Proposed Project Alternative would result in an estimated 24,335 new residents in the City of Folsom; the Resource Impact Minimization Alternative would result in an estimated 19,584 new residents; the Centralized Development Alternative would result in an estimated 20,689 new residents; and the Reduced Hillside Development Alternative would result in an estimated 28,084 new residents. Any of these project alternatives would represent a substantial population increase. In addition to the on-site facilities, the new residents would also be expected to use existing off-site recreational facilities such as those at Folsom Lake SRA, Folsom Powerhouse SHP, and the American River Parkway, including bicycle trails, campgrounds, boat launch facilities, and sports parks. Although it cannot be fully ascertained with any degree of certainty exactly how many residents and with what frequency they would choose to use off-site recreational facilities, for purpose of this analysis, it is assumed that revenues from use charges and admission fees of these off-site facilities would increase along with increased usage, thus supporting increased maintenance. This **indirect** impact is considered **less than significant**. **Direct** impacts are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-1 *[Similar]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.



## Off-Site Elements

The off-site elements of the Proposed Project Alternative are related to the provision of utilities and infrastructure to the SPA and roadway improvements, and would not involve construction of new housing or development of new employment opportunities in Sacramento or El Dorado Counties beyond temporary construction jobs. Therefore, there would be no direct increases in population from construction of these facilities that would result in increased use of existing off-site recreational facilities such as those at Folsom Lake SRA, Folsom Powerhouse SHP, and the American River Parkway, including bicycle trails, campgrounds, boat launch facilities, and sports parks. Therefore, construction of the off-site elements would result in **no indirect** impact to off-site parkland facilities. **Direct** impacts are analyzed in Impact 3A.12-1. *[Lesser]*

Mitigation Measure: No mitigation measures are required.

### 3A.12.4 RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

Impacts associated with parks and recreation are considered less than significant. Therefore, there would be no residual significant impacts as a result of project implementation.

This page intentionally left blank.