

4.13 INDIRECT EFFECTS

The CEQ Regulations for Implementing NEPA (Section 1508.8) define indirect effects as impacts that are caused by an action that is later in time or farther removed in distance, but is a reasonably foreseeable result of the proposed project. For purposes of the analysis of indirect effects, the affected environment is categorized as a sub-set of the Klamath Region. The Klamath Region is defined as including all of northwestern California (Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties) and southwestern Oregon (Curry, Jackson, and Josephine counties).

- 1) The Core Area: Reasonably foreseeable and locatable indirect growth effects are most likely within the so-called “Core Area.” The Core Area is defined as Crescent City and environs within a 20-minute drive of the Martin Ranch and Enderts Beach sites.
- 2) The Outer Area: Effects on the regional environment that may occur immediately or manifest themselves later in time or farther removed in distance are possible. In order to analyze regional indirect effects it is necessary to define an “Outer Area.” The Outer Area is defined as the regional environment more than a 20-minute drive from Crescent City, including distant parts of Del Norte and Humboldt counties, including the Redwood National and State Parks and Six Rivers National Forest; and counties in southern Oregon (Curry, Jackson, and Josephine).

Unlike some of the population centers in southern Oregon (Brookings, Cave Junction, Grants Pass, and Medford) that are linked to the Crescent City area by major highways (Highway 101 and Highway 199), the population centers of Siskiyou and Trinity counties (Etna, Yreka and Weaverville) are too far removed in distance and by rugged terrain to feel the indirect effects of the proposed action.

4.13.1 ALTERNATIVE A – PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE: CASINO, HOTEL, CONFERENCE CENTER, AND PARKING FACILITY

LAND RESOURCES

The Preferred Alternative would have no impacts caused by an action that is later in time or farther removed in distance on topography, soils, faults, or mineral resources. While the project would require rock aggregate, directly impacting local quarries, there are adequate deposits of rock aggregate in the region to provide building materials for other regional construction projects.

No indirect effects on land resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

WATER RESOURCES

Indirect effects on water resources would include long-term changes on the hydrology of the small watershed that drains the west side of Rellim Ridge (**Section 3.0, Figure 3-3**). However, the small area of the watershed to be developed (9.3 acres), and the unsuitability of other areas in the watershed for development (steep, forested slopes), or flat marsh (Crescent City Marsh including the State Game Refuge), and parcel ownership (Save-the-Redwoods League and State of California) make it unlikely that land development would occur there in the foreseeable future.

Indirect impacts would be less than significant. No mitigation is required.

AIR QUALITY

Indirect effects on air quality from additional use of Redwood National and State Park roads by resort and casino patrons would increase emissions in these parks, but the impacts are less than significant. No mitigation is required.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Most of the region consists of abundant tracts of federally owned wildlife habitat. Due to the vast areas of wildlife habitat available in the region, it is unlikely that the project's indirect, positive effect on the local economy would lead to build-out of privately owned land in the area; therefore, wildlife would have adequate habitat for the maintenance of viable populations for the foreseeable future. Effects to the Crescent City Marsh, specifically the western lily and tidewater goby, are discussed in **Section 4.5**. Indirect effects on biological resources are less than significant. No mitigation is required.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No indirect effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur. No mitigation is required.

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The indirect effects on the local and regional economy from the Proposed Action are wide-ranging, and largely beneficial (McCann *et al.*, 2004; **Appendix O**). Developing the casino resort will have an indirect but positive effect on complementary services in the Crescent City region. Nearby businesses such as stores, hotels, and restaurants stand to benefit from increased traffic moving through the area. Increased sales tax revenues are possible as a result of increasing numbers of tourists on the North Coast.

Application of the regional economic model predicts positive indirect impacts on both measurements of economic activity: total output and value added. With the onset of construction in 2005 the total impacts are at an increase in \$96 million in output and \$39 million in value added, and about 430 jobs are added, a portion of which is an indirect and positive impact to the

community and region as a whole. At the onset of casino operations in 2006 at the new site, total output increases by \$24 million with value added increasing by \$10 million. Total output and value added increase to \$29 million and \$12 million, respectively, by 2010. Net job growth is 200 jobs in 2006, increasing to 210 by 2010.

The casino resort is expected to induce \$6.7 to \$7.7 million in added tourism-related lodging demand beyond what is captured at the resort's hotel, thus indirectly leveling the economic "playing field" within the Core Area. This translates into an added demand of 245 to 280 rooms in the Core Area.

When taking into account that Del Norte is one of the poorest counties in California (57th out of 58), the indirect impacts of the Action Alternative on socioeconomic conditions are significant and beneficial (McCann *et al.*, 2004; **Appendix O**). No mitigation is required.

RESOURCE USE PATTERNS

No indirect effects on land use, agriculture, and transportation networks are anticipated. The proposed development is not in the coastal zone and is not subject to regulation by the CZMA and CCC. No indirect effects on resource use patterns are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Operation of the casino, hotel, and conference center would have an indirect impact by reducing the number of hook-ups available to the City of Crescent City Wastewater Treatment Plant, and on the capacity of City of Crescent City and/or BOVCSD potable water distribution lines.

Solid waste would be transported to the Dry Creek regional landfill in White City, Jackson County, Oregon. Development of the resort would pose a less than significant, indirect impact on landfill capacity in Jackson County, Oregon, for which no mitigation is required.

Less than significant indirect effects on public schools, recreation, electricity, natural gas, telecommunications, law enforcement, crime, fire protection, and emergency medical service are anticipated since most of the potential employees of the project already live in the area, and are unemployed. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

4.13.2 ALTERNATIVE B – GOLF COURSE, HOTEL, CONFERENCE CENTER, AND PARKING FACILITY (NON-GAMING ALTERNATIVE)

LAND RESOURCES

Alternative B would have no impacts that are caused by an action that is later in time or farther removed in distance on topography, soils, faults, or mineral resources. No indirect effects on land resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

WATER RESOURCES

Alternative B would add a golf course to the project area resulting in more than 100 acres of grading, which would indirectly affect the hydrology of the entire watershed. In addition, supplemental water would be needed for maintenance of the facility to be supplied either by groundwater wells or by importation of recycled water. However, with the implementation of golf course Best Management Practices, significant indirect effects on water resources would not occur and no mitigation is required.

AIR QUALITY

Indirect effects on air quality from additional use of Redwood National and State Park roads by resort and casino patrons would increase emissions in these parks, but the impacts are less than significant. No mitigation is required.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Most of the region consists of abundant tracts of federally owned wildlife habitat. Due to the vast areas of wildlife habitat available in the region, it is unlikely that the project's indirect, positive effect on the local economy would lead to build-out of privately owned land in the area; therefore, wildlife would have adequate habitat for the maintenance of viable populations for the foreseeable future. No mitigation is required. Effects to the Crescent City Marsh, specifically the western lily and tidewater goby, are discussed in **Section 4.5**.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No indirect effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur. No mitigation is required.

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The beneficial indirect effects on the local and regional economy from Alternative B are greater than those of Alternative A. Construction would create \$110 million in increased total output with \$44 million in value added.

When taking into account that Del Norte is one of the poorest counties in California (57th out of 58), the indirect impacts of Alternative B on socioeconomic conditions are significant and beneficial (McCann *et al.*, 2004; **Appendix O**). No mitigation is required.

RESOURCE USE PATTERNS

No indirect effects on resource use patterns are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The indirect effects on public services from Alternative B are the same as those of Alternative A. No indirect effects on public services are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

4.13.3 ALTERNATIVE C – CASINO, HOTEL, CONFERENCE CENTER, GOLF COURSE, AND PARKING FACILITY

LAND RESOURCES

Alternative C would have no impacts that are caused by an action that is later in time or farther removed in distance on topography, soils, faults, or mineral resources. No indirect effects on land resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

WATER RESOURCES

Alternative C would add a golf course to the project area resulting in more than 100 acres of grading, which would indirectly affect the hydrology of the entire watershed. In addition, supplemental water would be needed for maintenance of the facility to be supplied either by groundwater wells or by importation of recycled water. However, with the implementation of golf course Best Management Practices, the significant indirect effects on water resources would not occur and no mitigation is required.

AIR QUALITY

Indirect effects on air quality from additional use of Redwood National and State Park roads by resort and casino patrons would increase emissions in these parks, but the impacts are less than significant. No mitigation is required.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The indirect effects of the project on biological resources are the same as those of Alternative B. These are potentially significant indirect impacts. Mitigation is discussed in **Section 5.0**.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No indirect effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur. No mitigation is required.

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The indirect effects on the local and regional economy from Alternative C are the same as those of Alternative B. No mitigation is required.

RESOURCE USE PATTERNS

The indirect effects on land use, agriculture, and transportation networks from Alternative C are the same as those of Alternative B. No indirect effects on resource use patterns are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The indirect effects on public services from Alternative C are the same as those of Alternative B. No indirect effects on public services are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

4.13.4 ALTERNATIVE D – ENDERTS BEACH DEVELOPMENT

LAND RESOURCES

Alternative D would have no impacts that are caused by an action that is later in time or farther removed in distance on topography, soils, faults, or mineral resources. No indirect effects on land resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur and no mitigation is required.

WATER RESOURCES

No significant indirect effects on water resources are anticipated. No mitigation is required.

AIR QUALITY

Indirect effects on air quality from additional use of Redwood National and State Park roads by resort and casino patrons would increase emissions in these parks, but the impacts are less than significant. No mitigation is required.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Development at Enderts Beach could trigger additional development along the Crescent City coastal strip, which could have a significant indirect impact on special-status species and wetlands. However, each development proposal within the Coastal Zone would be subject to provisions of the CZMA and LCP of the Del Norte County General Plan. No mitigation is required.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No indirect effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Indirect impacts would not occur. No mitigation is required.

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The indirect effects on the local and regional economy from Alternative D are the same as those of Alternative A.

RESOURCE USE PATTERNS

Development of infrastructure at Enderts Beach would trigger additional development along the Crescent City coastal strip, which would have a significant indirect impact on land use and resource patterns. However, each development proposal within the Coastal Zone would be subject of provisions of the CZMA and LCP of the Del Norte County General Plan. No mitigation is required.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Indirect impacts may arise from the installation of infrastructure at Enderts Beach, an area of the coast where there presently is little infrastructure. Development of infrastructure would trigger additional development along the Crescent City coastal strip, which would have a significant indirect impact on land use and resource patterns, specifically special status species and wetlands. No mitigation is required.

Indirect impacts include further development along Highway 101 made possible by the installation of a wastewater line from the site to the Crescent City wastewater treatment plant. Installation of this line could interfere with groundwater movements between the Pacific Ocean and Crescent City Marsh. No mitigation is required.

4.13.5 ALTERNATIVE E – NO ACTION

No change in existing land uses would occur under the No Action Alternative. No indirect effects have been identified.