### 3.2 Agricultural and Forestry Resources

This section describes the regulatory and environmental setting for agricultural and forestry resources in the program and project areas. It also describes impacts on these resources that could result from implementation of the program and the two individual projects. Mitigation measures are prescribed where feasible and appropriate.

### 3.2.1 Existing Conditions

### **Regulatory Setting**

#### **Federal**

There are no relevant federal regulations for agricultural and forestry resources.

#### State

#### **Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program**

The California Department of Conservation's (DOC's) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), administered by the Division of Land Resource Conservation, is responsible for mapping and monitoring Important Farmlands for most of the state's agricultural areas. The FMMP updates its farmland maps every 2 years based on information from local agencies. FMMP maps show five categories of agricultural lands and three categories of nonagricultural lands, described in the following sections.

#### **Agricultural Lands**

Following are descriptions of the farmland mapping categories used by the FMMP. The minimum mapping unit for all agricultural land categories is 10 acres, except for Grazing Land where the minimum mapping unit is 40 acres.

Note that Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland are the most suitable for agriculture and are considered especially important agricultural resources. They are often referred to collectively as *important farmland*. Grazing Land may also qualify as important farmland where grazing is a key component of the local economy.

- Prime Farmland is defined by the state as farmland with the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term agricultural production. This land has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields. Prime Farmland must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the 4 years prior to the mapping date.
- Farmland of Statewide Importance is defined as "irrigated land similar to Prime Farmland that has a good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of agricultural crops." However, this land has minor shortcomings, such as steeper slopes or less ability to store soil moisture than Prime Farmland. In order for land to be designated as Farmland of Statewide Importance, it must have been used for production of irrigated crops at some time during the 4 years prior to the mapping date.

- Unique Farmland is considered to consist of lower-quality soils but nonetheless is used for
  production of the state's leading agricultural crops. Unique Farmland is usually irrigated, but
  may include nonirrigated orchards or vineyards in some climatic zones. To qualify for this
  designation, land must have been used for crops at some time during the 4 years prior to the
  mapping date.
- Farmland of Local Importance is land identified as important to the local agricultural economy by each county's board of supervisors and a local advisory committee.
- Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock. This
  category was developed in cooperation with the California Cattlemen's Association, the
  University of California Cooperative Extension, and other groups interested in the extent of
  grazing activities.

#### **Nonagricultural Lands**

Following are descriptions of the nonagricultural land mapping categories used by the FMMP. Mapping units for nonagricultural lands vary, as described below.

- Urban and Built-Up Lands consist of land occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 structure to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. This type of land is used for residential, industrial, commercial, construction, institutional, and public administration purposes; railroad and other transportation yards; cemeteries; airports; golf courses; sanitary landfills; sewage treatment facilities; water control structures; and other developed purposes.
- Other Land is land not included in any other mapping category. Examples include low-density rural developments and brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing. This category also includes vacant and nonagricultural land surrounded on all sides by urban development; confined livestock, poultry, or aquaculture facilities; strip mines; borrow pits; and water bodies smaller than 40 acres.
- Water includes perennial water bodies with an extent of at least 40 acres.

#### California Land Conservation Act (Williamson Act)

The Williamson Act is one of the state's primary mechanisms for conserving farmland. It enables counties and cities to designate agricultural preserves (Williamson Act lands) and to offer preferential taxation to private agricultural landowners based on the income-producing value of their property in agricultural use, rather than on the property's assessed market value. In return for the preferential tax rate, the landowner is required to sign a contract with the county or city agreeing not to develop the land for a minimum 10-year period. Contracts are automatically renewed annually unless a party to the contract files for nonrenewal or petitions for cancellation. If the landowner chooses not to renew the contract, it expires at the end of its duration. Under certain circumstances, a county or city may approve a request for cancellation of a Williamson Act contract. Cancellation requires private landowners to pay back taxes and cancellation fees.

Each city and county has the discretion to determine which land uses are compatible with Williamson Act contracts within their jurisdiction, provided these uses are not prohibited under the Act.

#### **California Public Resources Code**

PRC Section 12220(g) defines "Forest land" as "land that can support 10% native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits." PRC Section 4526 defines "Timberland" as "land, other than land owned by the federal government...which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of a commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees..."

#### Local

#### **Alameda County**

#### East County Area Plan

The Land Use Element (Alameda County 2000) contains goals, policies, and programs related to Sensitive Lands and Regionally Significant Open Space, including Agriculture. The following goals, policies, and programs are applicable to the program.

#### Goal: To protect regionally significant open space and agriculture land from development.

**Policy 52:** The County shall preserve open space areas for the protection of public health and safety, provision of recreational opportunities, production of natural resources (e.g., agriculture, windpower, and mineral extraction), protection of sensitive viewsheds (see definition in Table 1 [of East County Area Plan]), preservation of biological resources, and the physical separation between neighboring communities (see Figure 4 [of East County Area Plan]).

#### Goal: To maximize long-term productivity of East County's agricultural resources.

**Policy 71:** The County shall conserve prime soils (Class I and Class II, as defined by the USDA Soil Conservation Service Land Capability Classification) and Farmland of Statewide Importance and Unique Farmland (as defined by the California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program) outside the Urban Growth Boundary.

**Policy 76:** The County shall work with San Joaquin, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties to ensure that any development adjacent to Alameda County agricultural land mitigates impacts on agricultural land including air quality, water quality, and incompatibilities with agricultural uses. In particular, measures to mitigate growth-inducing impacts of development on agricultural land in Alameda County shall be addressed through cooperative efforts among the counties. The County shall ensure that land uses within Alameda County adjacent to San Joaquin, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties are compatible with adjacent agricultural uses in these other counties.

#### Program 40:

\*Program 40: The Zoning Ordinance shall have an "A-160" (Agriculture—160-acre minimum parcel size) District and an "A-320" (Agriculture—320-acre minimum parcel size) District. The "A-160" (Agriculture—160-acre minimum parcel size) District shall cover the following area: the Wind Resource Area (see Figure 4 - Open Space Diagram [of East County Area Plan]), except lands easterly of the California Aqueduct, and lands to the south of Tesla Road that are within one mile of Tesla Road between the San Joaquin County boundary and the South Livermore Valley Plan. The "A-320" (Agriculture—320-acre minimum parcel size) District shall cover lands located generally to the south of the following boundary: parallel to and one mile south of Tesla Road from the San Joaquin County boundary to the South Livermore Valley Plan Area; the southern boundary of the South Livermore Valley Plan Area; parallel to and one mile south of Vallecitos Road from the South Livermore Valley Plan Area to the intersection of the one mile line with the northern boundary of San Francisco Water Department lands surrounding San

Antonio Reservoir; the northern boundary of the San Francisco Water Department lands to the north/south section line directly west of San Antonio Reservoir; a line following the north/south section line to its intersection with Calaveras Road; and the northern boundary of the East Bay Regional Park District property located between Calaveras Road and the western boundary of the East County planning area. The Zoning Ordinance shall include "grandfather clauses" to recognize the rights of property owners. Lands rezoned to "A-160" and "A-320" shall maintain the designations shown on the East County Area Plan Land Use Diagram.

#### **Zoning Ordinance (Alameda County Code, Title 17)**

The program area is zoned A (Agricultural District). This zoning district protects existing agricultural uses and encourages a wide range of agricultural uses in nonurban areas. Certain nonagricultural uses, including privately-owned wind-electric generators, are considered conditional uses and are permitted in an A district if approved by the board of zoning adjustments.

#### Right to Farm

Alameda County's "Right-to-Farm" ordinance is set forth in Chapter 6.28 of the Municipal Code. This ordinance is designed to promote public health, safety and welfare, and to support and encourage continued agricultural operations in the county. A Right-to-Farm ordinance protects farmland by requiring disclosure to purchasers and users of property next to or near agricultural operations of the inherent potential problems associated with living near actively farmed land.

#### **Environmental Setting**

The environmental setting for agriculture comprises the location of agricultural lands, the type of crops, the DOC farmland classifications, and lands designated under the Williamson Act in the program area.

#### **State Farmland Classifications**

According to the California Department of Conservation Alameda Important Farmland 2010 Map, the majority of the program area (approximately 41,837 acres) is designated as Grazing Land and is primarily used for cattle grazing. Table 3.2-1 presents a summary of agricultural acreage found in the program area. As shown in Figure 3.2-1, a very small amount of Prime Farmland is present in the northeast corner of the program area.

Table 3.2-1. FMMP Acreage in the Program Area

FMMP Land Cover	Acres		
Urban and Built-up Land	829.04		
Grazing Land	41,837.07		
Prime Farmland	24.21		
Farmland of Statewide Importance	0.36		
Water	163.11		
Other Land	503.80		
Total	42,257.59		
Source: California Department of Conservation 2010.			

#### **Farmland Conversion**

The FMMP also produces a report every 2 years on the amount of land converted from agricultural to nonagricultural use. Table 3.2-2 summarizes recent changes to FMMP-classified agricultural land within Alameda County. The County experienced a net loss of 342 acres of agricultural land between 2008 and 2010. The most significant loss was in Grazing Land.

Table 3.2-2. Alameda County Farmland Conversions 2008–2010

	Total Acres Inventoried		2008–2010 Acreage Changes		
Land Use Category	2008	2010	Acres Lost	Acres Gained	Net Change
Prime Farmland	3,958	3,953	92	87	-5
Farmland of Statewide Importance	1,290	1,230	97	37	-60
Unique Farmland	2,441	2,383	122	64	-58
Grazing Land	244,252	244,033	641	422	-219
Agricultural Land Subtotal	251,941	251,599	952	610	-342
Source: California Department of Cons	servation 2010				

#### Williamson Act Lands

Approximately 135,031 acres of County farmland were enrolled in Williamson Act contracts in 2009 (California Department of Conservation 2010). Figure 3.2-2 shows the Williamson Act parcels in the program area. Approximately 31,420 acres of Williamson Act contracts lie within the program area. All the Williamson Act contracted land in the program area is Non-Prime Farmland.

#### **Crops and Livestock**

The top five agricultural products in 2011 in terms of value were wine grapes, ornamental trees and shrubs, cattle and calves, range pasture, and hay (Alameda County Community Development Agency 2012). The primary crop in the program area is pasture and range, which is primarily used for cattle grazing. Table 3.2-3 presents the extent of agricultural products reported for Alameda County in 2011.

Table 3.2-3. Alameda County Crops in 2011

Crop/Item	Harvested Acres/Units	Economic Value
Field Crops		
Hay, alfalfa	704	\$715,000
Hay, other	4771	\$1,115,000
Range pasture	182,000	\$2,766,000
Miscellaneous (e.g., corn, silage, barley, oats, wheat, irrigated pasture)	973	\$715,000
Nursery Products		
Ornamental trees and shrubs	158	\$10,865,000
Miscellaneous	68	\$1,282,000
Fruit and Nut Crops		
Grapes, red	1988	\$9,157,000
Grapes, white	658	\$2,759,000
Miscellaneous (e.g., olives, walnuts, pistachios, strawberries)	321	\$127,000
Vegetable Crops		
Miscellaneous vegetables (e.g., broccoli, cabbage, corn, fava beans, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash)	82	\$785,000
Livestock and Poultry		
Cattle and calves	13,794 head	\$10,329,000
Miscellaneous poultry and livestock products (includes rabbits, sheep, wool, lambs, hogs, beans, and apiary products)	N/A	\$565,000
Source: Alameda County Community Development Agency 2012.		

#### **Forestry Resources**

The Altamont Hills, including the program area, are dominated by grassland and not likely to support 10% native tree cover under natural conditions because the soils, in combination with annual rainfall and other climatic conditions, are not conducive to the specified distribution of oak or other tree species. There are no forestry resources in the program area.

### 3.2.2 Environmental Impacts

This section describes the impact analysis relating to agricultural resources for the program and the two individual projects. It describes the methods used to determine the impacts of the projects and program and lists the thresholds used to conclude whether an impact would be significant. If applicable, measures to mitigate (i.e., avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate, or compensate for) significant impacts accompany each impact discussion.

#### **Methods for Analysis**

Identifying the impacts on the program area's agricultural resources involved a review of the Alameda County Zoning Map and zoning ordinance and the Alameda County Important Farmland 2010 map.

### **Determination of Significance**

In accordance with Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, program Alternative 1, program Alternative 2, the Golden Hills project, or the Patterson Pass project would be considered to have a significant effect if it would result in any of the conditions listed below.

- Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the FMMP of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use.
- Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract.
- Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land (as defined in PRC Section 12220[g]), timberland (as defined by PRC Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104[g]).
- Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.
- Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to nonforest use.

### **Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

Impact AG-1a-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use—program Alternative 1: 417 MW (less than significant with mitigation)

As shown above in Figure 3.2-1 and Table 3.2-1, nearly all the land within the program area is classified as Grazing Land. There are 24.21 acres of Prime Farmland in the northeast portion of the program area, and 0.36 acre of Farmland of Statewide Importance on the eastern edge of the program area (Figure 3.2-1).

Some land would be used temporarily for meteorological tower installation, which could require a small concrete pad for each tower. In addition, land would be used temporarily for a main construction staging area. Some existing roads would be widened and some new service roads would be developed. Land would also be used to construct foundations for the new wind turbines. Exact locations of meteorological towers, construction staging areas, and roads are not known at this time. One substation per project is expected to be required as part of the program. These substations may be newly constructed or existing, and existing substations may need to be reconstructed or expanded. Existing substations may be replaced in the same general locations.

The land used temporarily for construction purposes would be reclaimed. Once the meteorological towers have collected adequate information, they would be removed and the sites would be reclaimed. The construction staging area would be reclaimed, and after construction new or widened roads that are not wanted by landowners would also be reclaimed. The wind companies

will be required to remove all facilities and restore properties to pre-installation conditions once the windfarm is decommissioned.

If installation of new turbines or associated facilities results in the permanent conversion of Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural uses, then there would be a potentially significant impact on agricultural resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AG-1 would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level.

#### Mitigation Measure AG-1: Avoid conversion of Prime Farmland

Project proponents will not place wind turbines or other related facilities/infrastructure in locations that would result in the permanent conversion of land that is Prime Farmland or Farmland of State Importance.

# Impact AG-1a-2: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use—program Alternative 2: 450 MW (less than significant with mitigation)

As shown above in Figure 3.2-1 and Table 3.2-1, nearly all the land within the program area is classified as Grazing Land. There are 24.21 acres of Prime Farmland in the northeast portion of the program area, and 0.36 acre of Farmland of Statewide Importance on the eastern edge of the program area (Figure 3.2-1).

Some land would be used temporarily for meteorological tower installation, which could require a small concrete pad for each tower. In addition, land would be used temporarily for a main construction staging area. Some existing roads would be widened and some new service roads would be developed. Land would also be used to construct foundations for the new wind turbines. Exact locations of meteorological towers, construction staging areas, and roads are not known at this time. One substation per project is expected to be required as part of the program. These substations may be newly constructed or existing, and existing substations may need to be reconstructed or expanded. Existing substations may be replaced in the same general locations.

The land used temporarily for construction purposes would be reclaimed. Once the meteorological towers have collected adequate information, they would be removed and the sites would be reclaimed. The construction staging area would be reclaimed, and after construction new or widened roads that are not wanted by landowners would also be reclaimed. The wind companies will be required to remove all facilities and restore properties to pre-installation conditions once the windfarm is decommissioned.

If installation of new turbines or associated facilities results in the permanent conversion of Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural uses, then there would be a potentially significant impact on agricultural resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AG-1 would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level.

#### Mitigation Measure AG-1: Avoid conversion of Prime Farmland

# Impact AG-1b: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use—Golden Hills Project (no impact)

The Golden Hills project site is shown on Figure 3.2-1. As stated above and shown on Figure 3.2-1, the only Prime Farmland is 24.21 acres in the northeast corner of the program area, outside of the

Golden Hills project site. There is no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance in the Golden Hills project area. Because the proposed project would not permanently convert any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-1c: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use—Patterson Pass Project (no impact)

The Patterson Pass Project is located in the southeastern portion of the program area. As stated above, the only Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance is in the northeast corner of the program area. None of the farmland within the Patterson Pass project area is classified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Most of the project area is classified as Grazing Land under the FMMP. Existing conditions include active, ongoing agricultural use. Because the project would not permanently convert any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-2a-1: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract—program Alternative 1: 417 MW (no impact)

Wind turbines are a conditionally permitted use in the agricultural zone applied to the program area. As shown in Figure 3.2-2, all of the Williamson Act land within the project area is Non-Prime Farmland. Wind turbines are a compatible use, allowed under the Williamson Act contracts for grazing land covering the program area. The replacement of wind turbine towers on land currently under Williamson Act contract would not remove the land from Williamson Act contract status. There would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-2a-2: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract—program Alternative 2: 450 MW (no impact)

Wind turbines are a conditionally permitted use in the agricultural zone applied to the program area. As shown in Figure 3.2-2, all of the Williamson Act land within the project area is Non-Prime Farmland. Wind turbines are a compatible use, allowed under the Williamson Act contracts for grazing land covering the program area. The replacement of wind turbine towers on land currently under Williamson Act contract would not remove the land from Williamson Act contract status. There would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-2b: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract—Golden Hills Project (no impact)

Wind turbines are a conditionally permitted use in the agricultural zone applied to the project area. Wind turbines are a compatible use, allowed under the Williamson Act contracts covering the project area. The replacement of wind turbine towers on land currently under Williamson Act contract would not remove the land from Williamson Act contract status. There would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-2c: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract—Patterson Pass Project (no impact)

Wind turbines are a conditionally permitted use in the agricultural zone applied to the project area. Wind turbines are a compatible use, allowed under the Williamson Act contracts covering the

project area. The replacement of wind turbine towers on land currently under Williamson Act contract would not remove the land from Williamson Act contract status. There would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-3a-1: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production—program Alternative 1: 417 MW (no impact)

There is no forest land in the program area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-3a-2: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production—program Alternative 2: 450 MW (no impact)

There is no forest land in the program area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-3b: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production—Golden Hills Project (no impact)

There is no forest land in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-3c: Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production—Patterson Pass Project (no impact)

There is no forest land in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-4a-1: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—program Alternative 1: 417 MW (no impact)

There is no forest land in the program area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-4a-2: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—program Alternative 2: 450 MW (no impact)

There is no forest land in the program area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-4b: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—Golden Hills Project (no impact)

There is no forest land in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

# Impact AG-4c: Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—Patterson Pass Project (no impact)

There is no forest land in the project area. Therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-5a-1: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—program Alternative 1: 417 MW (less than significant with mitigation)

As stated above, there is a very small amount of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance in the program area. Mitigation Measure AG-1 would ensure that no Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance would be directly converted to nonagricultural use. Since Mitigation Measure AG-1 would ensure that no windfarm activities would take place in areas classified as Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, no indirect conversion would occur. In addition, as none of the land within the program area meets the definition of forest land, the proposed program would not result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use and no impact would occur. No additional mitigation is required.

#### Mitigation Measure AG-1: Avoid conversion of Prime Farmland

Impact AG-5a-2: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—program Alternative 2: 450 MW (less than significant with mitigation)

As stated above, there is a very small amount of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance in the program area. Mitigation Measure AG-1 would ensure that no Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance would be directly converted to nonagricultural use. Since Mitigation Measure AG-1 would ensure that no windfarm activities would take place in areas classified as Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, no indirect conversion would occur. In addition, as none of the land within the program area meets the definition of forest land, the proposed program would not result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use and no impact would occur. No additional mitigation is required.

#### Mitigation Measure AG-1: Avoid conversion of Prime Farmland

Impact AG-5b: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—Golden Hills Project (no impact)

As stated above, no Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance is located within the Golden Hills project site boundaries. Similarly as none of the land within the project area meets the definition of forest land, the proposed project would not result in conversion of forest land to nonforest use and no impact would occur. No mitigation is required.

Impact AG-5c: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use—Patterson Pass Project (no impact)

As stated above, no Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance is located within the Patterson Pass project site boundaries. Similarly as none of the land within the project area meets the definition of forest land, the proposed project would not result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use and no impact would occur. No mitigation is required.

### 3.2.3 References Cited

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