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3.15 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

3.15.1 Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 (EO 12898), *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, was issued on February 11, 1994. This EO requires each Federal agency to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States (U.S.) and its territories and possessions. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have emphasized the importance of incorporating environmental justice review in the analyses conducted by Federal agencies under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and of developing protective measures that avoid disproportionate environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. Objectives of this EO as it pertains to this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) include development of Federal agency implementation strategies and identification of minority and low-income populations where proposed Federal actions have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects.

3.15.2 Protection of Children

The President issued Executive Order 13045 (EO 13045), *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, in 1997. This order requires that each Federal agency “(a) shall make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children; and (b) shall ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks.”

3.15.3 Affected Environment

3.15.3.1 SOCAL Operating Areas

The Southern California (SOCAL) EIS/OEIS Operating Areas (OPAREAs) consist of open water; therefore, no human populations exist.

3.15.3.2 San Clemente Island

Military support facilities on San Clemente Island (SCI) are staffed by visiting civilian and Navy personnel on assignments who are not recorded as residents during census counts. Therefore, there are no data pertinent to ethnicity or income for persons working on the islands. Except for summer camping visits to SCI by Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups, there are no children on SCI. Visits by the scouts are controlled, and their activities are supervised by authorized adult leaders at all times.

3.15.4 Environmental Consequences

3.15.4.1 Approach to Analysis

Environmental factors related to Environmental Justice or Protection of Children would be identified and assessed for disproportionate effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or populations of children.

3.15.4.2 No Action Alternative

3.15.4.2.1 SOCAL Operating Areas

As noted in Section 3.15.3.1, no human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs. Therefore, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative, nor

would implementation of the Proposed Action have the potential for causing environmental health risks or safety risks to children.

3.15.4.2.2 San Clemente Island

As noted in Section 3.15.3.2, the only residents on SCI are temporary military and contractor personnel. The small number of potentially affected individuals, their temporary residential status, and their direct or indirect employment by the Federal government make it unlikely they would be considered low-income or otherwise disproportionately susceptible to adverse socioeconomic or environmental impacts. Therefore, there would be little or no harmful effect associated with the No Action Alternative.

As visits by scouts to SCI are controlled, scheduled, and sited to avoid military training activities, ongoing military activities would not affect transient populations of children on the island. In addition, no public health or safety impacts have been identified with regard to ongoing operations at SCI. Therefore, there would be no impact related to protection of children under the No Action Alternative.

3.15.4.3 Alternative 1

3.15.4.3.1 SOCAL Operating Areas

As noted previously, no human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs. Therefore, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations would occur with implementation of Alternative 1; nor would implementation of the proposed action have the potential for causing environmental health risks or safety risks to children.

3.15.4.3.2 San Clemente Island

As noted under the No Action Alternative, the small number of potentially affected individuals, their temporary residential status, and their direct or indirect employment by the Federal government make it unlikely they would be low-income or otherwise disproportionately susceptible to adverse socioeconomic or environmental impacts. Therefore, no harmful effects relevant to EO 12898 through implementation of Alternative 1 are present.

As visits by scouts to SCI would be controlled and scheduled/sited to avoid military training activities, proposed activities would not affect transient populations of children on the island. In addition, no public health or safety impacts have been identified with regard to ongoing operations at SCI. Therefore, no potential impacts related to EO 13045 by implementing Alternative 1 would be found.

3.15.4.4 Alternative 2

3.15.4.4.1 SOCAL Operating Areas

As noted previously, no human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs. Therefore, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations would occur with implementation of Alternative 2, nor would implementation of the proposed action have the potential for causing environmental health risks or safety risks to children.

3.15.4.4.2 San Clemente Island

As noted under the No Action Alternative, the small number of potentially affected individuals, their temporary residential status, and their direct or indirect employment by the Federal government make it unlikely they would be low-income or otherwise disproportionately susceptible to adverse socioeconomic or environmental impacts. Therefore, no effects associated with EO 12898 from the implementation of Alternative 2 would have an adverse effect.

As visits by scouts to SCI would be controlled and scheduled/sited to avoid military training activities, proposed activities would not affect transient populations of children on the island. In addition, no public health or safety impacts have been identified with regard to ongoing operations at SCI. Therefore, potential impacts related to EO 13045 under Alternative 2 would be minimized.

3.15.5 Mitigation Measures

Due to the absence of impacts related to Environmental Justice or Protection of Children, no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.15.6 Unavoidable Adverse Environment Effects

No unavoidable adverse environmental effects were identified.

3.15.7 Summary of Effects by Alternative

Table 3.15-1 summarizes the Environmental Justice (EO 12898) and Protection of Children (EO 13045) effects of the No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2.

Table 3.15-1: Summary of EO 12898 and EO 13045 Effects

Alternative	NEPA (On-Land and U.S. Territorial Waters)	EO 12114 (Non-U.S. Territorial Waters)
No Action Alternative	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs. Therefore, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations would occur. The only residents on SCI are temporary military and contractor personnel. Their direct or indirect employment by the Federal government makes it unlikely they would be considered low-income or otherwise disproportionately susceptible to adverse socioeconomic or environmental impacts. Therefore, there would be little or no harmful effect. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs. Therefore, no disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks need to be addressed. As visits by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to SCI would be controlled, and scheduled/sited to avoid military training activities, proposed activities would not affect transient populations of children on the island. 	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs outside of territorial waters. Therefore, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations would occur. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No human populations exist in the SOCAL OPAREAs outside of territorial waters. Therefore, no disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks need to be addressed.
Alternative 1	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. 	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative.
Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative)	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. 	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative. <p>Protection of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts would be the same as under the No Action Alternative.
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None necessary.