Appendix D. Biological Resources Report

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Soledad Recycled Water Conveyance Project
Biological Resources Report

November 2024

Prepared for

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1. INTRODUCTION

Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. (DD&A) was contracted by Carollo Engineers, Inc. ("Carollo") to prepare this Biological Resources Report for the City of Soledad ("City") Recycled Water Conveyance Project ("Project"), located within the City and surrounding lands of unincorporated Monterey County ("County"), California (**Figures 1** and **2**). The Project is intended to provide Title 22 recycled water from the City's Water Reclamation Facility ("WRF") to 20 schools and parks throughout the City and is part of a larger multi-phase City water conveyance project (**Figure 2**). To satisfy the reporting criteria of the County and other regulatory agencies, Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. ("DD&A") completed a biological evaluation of the project area to determine if sensitive biological resources are present or have the potential to occur within and in the vicinity of the area.

The Project would disturb a total of approximately 189,320 square feet (4.35 acres) of previously developed or disturbed land; however, portions of the project (e.g., lateral connections, which would be unique to each park and school) have yet to be designed. Therefore, this report analyzes a larger Evaluation Area that includes all areas that could potentially be impacted by the Project (**Figure 2**). The Evaluation Area for this report includes:

- a 20 ft buffer around the new transmission pipeline locations,
- the staging area,
- new pump station, and
- a 50 ft buffer (approximately 2.7 additional acres total) at the terminal end of each new transmission line to account for any possible locations for supply line connections.

This report describes the existing biological resources within the Evaluation Area, including any special-status species or sensitive habitats which occur or have the potential to occur in the area. This report also assesses the potential impacts to biological resources that may result from the Project, and recommends appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, if necessary, to reduce those impacts to a less than significant level in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

1.1 Project Description

The Project consists of installing and operating the infrastructure necessary to convey Title 22 recycled water from the City's WRF to up to 20 parks and schools throughout the City. The Project includes construction of a booster pump facility at the existing WRF, a transmission main pipeline connecting the WRF to the existing transmission pipeline along Front Street, and distribution systems from existing transmission lines to schools and parks throughout the City (**Figure 2**)

No increases in impervious surfaces are anticipated as a result of the Project. All surface conditions would be restored to pre-Project conditions following the completion of construction. Staging areas for the Project would be located at the existing WRF located on Morisoli Road. During construction, the Project area would be generally accessed by Morisoli Road, HWY 101 and SR 146, as well as local roadways where needed. Key components of the Project are described in further detail below:

- Recycled water pump station at the City's WRF.

- Approximately 3,800 feet of 12-inch diameter recycled water transmission pipeline from the WRF to Front Street. The pipeline diameter may be upsized to approximately 16 inches in diameter during final design.
- Approximately 22,700 feet of recycled water distribution pipelines ranging from 4 to 8 inches in diameter.
- Conversion or replacement of existing on-site irrigation systems to meet recycled water standards.

Recycled Water Pump Station

The pump station would be located at the City's WRF, as shown in **Figure 2**. The pump station would draw recycled water from existing WRF facilities to supply the recycled water to the City's parks and schools. The new pump station is proposed at the southeast corner of the sludge drying pond area west of the flocculation tanks. The pump station includes a below-ground wet well structure with vertical turbine pumps. The wet well feed pipe crosses several existing utilities and penetrates through two earthen berms. The discharge header penetrates one earthen berm, extends north at the access road, and continues toward a connection to the existing 12-inch recycled water transmission main.

Recycled Water Transmission Pipeline - WRF to Front Street

The existing transmission pipeline is composed of 8-inch and 12-inch diameter pipes, as shown in **Figure 2**. The existing 8-inch transmission pipeline from the WRF to Front Street, which runs through farmland, is undersized. A new 12-inch pipeline would be constructed parallel to the existing 8-inch pipeline as part of the Project. This would be tied into the existing 12-inch transmission pipeline at the WRF on the south end and the existing 12-inch transmission pipeline on the north end before the railroad crossing. Additional easements may be required for the transmission pipeline through farmland.

Recycled Water Distribution Pipelines

The distribution system would be divided into two pipeline systems – to the northern and southern parts of the City. At the intersection of San Vicente Road and Front Street, the existing transmission main bifurcates with a pipeline continuing east along Front Street until it intersects West Street and terminates. At this location the distribution pipeline would connect to the existing transmission main to serve the City's parks and schools located in the southern half of the City. The second segment of the existing transmission pipeline continues north along San Vicente Road then east and along Gabilan Drive until it intersects West Street and terminates. At this point, the distribution pipeline would tie into the existing transmission main to serve the City parks and schools located in the northern half of the City.

Soledad Recycled Water Conveyance Project Vicinity	Date 8/29/2024 Scale 1 IN =8 MI	**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.** Planning and Environmental Consulting	Figure 1

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Soledad Recycled Water Conveyance Project Location	Date 8/29/2024 Scale 1 IN =1,200 FT	**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.** Planning and Environmental Consulting	Figure 2

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2. METHODS

2.1 Personnel and Survey Dates

DD&A Senior Environmental Scientist Matthew Johnson conducted surveys of the Evaluation Area on August 22, 2024. The surveys consisted of walking the Evaluation Area to identify general and sensitive habitat types and conducting a reconnaissance-level habitat survey to identify suitable habitat for or presence of any special-status plant or wildlife species. Data collected during the surveys were used to assess the environmental conditions of the Evaluation Area and its surroundings, evaluate environmental constraints at the site and within the local vicinity, and provide a basis for recommendations to minimize and avoid impacts.

2.2 Data Sources

Prior to the survey, DD&A conducted a desktop literature review to determine the occurrence or potential for occurrence of sensitive biological resources within the Evaluation Area. The primary literature and data sources reviewed are as follows:

- Current agency status information from the Service and CDFW for species listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and those considered CDFW "species of special concern," including:
  - CNDDB occurrences reports from the Gonzales, Mount Johnson, Bickmore Canyon, Palo Escrito, Soledad, North Chalone Peak, Sycamore Flat, Paraiso Springs, and Greenfield, Quadrangles (CDFW, 2024a; **Appendix A**); and
  - Service IPaC Resource List (Service, 2024a; **Appendix B**).
- The CNPS *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (CNPS, 2024);
- The National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper (Service, 2024b), and
- The National Hydrographic Dataset (U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], 2024).

From these resources, a list of special-status plant and wildlife species known or with the potential to occur within or adjacent to the Evaluation Area was created (**Appendix C**). This list presents these species along with their legal status, habitat requirements, and a brief statement of their likelihood of occurring in the area.

2.2.1 Botany

Vegetation types identified in *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al., 2009) were utilized to determine if vegetation types identified as sensitive on CDFW's *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW, 2024b) are present within the Evaluation Area. Information regarding the distribution and habitats of local and state vascular plants was also reviewed (Howitt and Howell, 1964 and 1973; Munz and Keck, 1973; Baldwin et al., 2012; Matthews and Mitchell, 2015; Jepson Flora Project, 2024). Plants observed within the Evaluation Area were identified to species or intraspecific taxon when possible given the timing of the survey effort using keys and descriptions in *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Edition 2* (Baldwin et al., 2012) and *The Plants of Monterey County an Illustrated Field Key* (Matthews and Mitchell, 2015). Scientific nomenclature for plant species identified within this document follows

Baldwin, et. Al, (2012); common names follow Matthews and Mitchell (2015). A full botanical inventory was not recorded for the Evaluation Area but the dominant species within each habitat were noted. Dominant plant species are those which are more numerous than their competitors in an ecological community or make up more of the biomass; generally, the species that are most abundant. Most ecological communities are defined by their dominant species.

2.2.2 Wildlife

The following literature and data sources were reviewed to determine potential presence of special-status wildlife within the Evaluation Area: CDFW reports on special-status wildlife (Remsen, 1978; Williams, 1986; Thelander, 1994;) and California Wildlife Habitat Relationships Program species-habitat models (Zeiner et al., 1990).

2.3 Definitions

2.3.1 Special-Status Species

Special-status species are those plants and animals that have been formally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened or are candidates for such listing under the ESA or CESA. Listed species are afforded legal protection under the ESA and CESA. Species that meet the definition of rare or endangered under the CEQA Section 15380 are also considered special-status species. Animals on the CDFW's list of "species of special concern" (most of which are species whose breeding populations in California may face extirpation if current population trends continue) meet this definition and are typically provided management consideration through the CEQA process, although they are not legally protected under the ESA or CESA. Additionally, the CDFW also includes some animal species that are not assigned any of the other status designations on their "Special Animals" list; however, these species have no legal or protection status.

Plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act (CNPPA) or included in CNPS California Rare Plant Ranks (CRPR) 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B are also treated as special-status species as they meet the definitions of Sections 2062 and 2067 of the CESA and in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15380. In general, the CDFW requires that plant species on CRPR 1A (Plants presumed extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere), CRPR 1B (Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere), CRPR 2A (Plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere); and CRPR 2B (Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere) of the CNPS *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (CNPS, 2024) be fully considered during the preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA. CRPR 3 (plants about which more information is needed) and CRPR 4 species (plants of limited distribution) may, but generally do not, meet the definitions of Sections 2062 and 2067 of the CESA, and are not typically considered in environmental documents relating to CEQA. While other species (i.e., CRPR 3 or 4 species) are sometimes found in database searches or within the literature, these were not included within the analysis as they did not meet the definitions of Section 2062 and 2067 of the CESA.

Raptors (e.g., eagles, hawks, and owls) and their nests are protected in California under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5. Section 3503.5 states that it is "unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." In addition, fully protected species under

the Fish and Game Code Section 3511 (birds), Section 4700 (mammals), Section 5515 (fish), and Section 5050 (reptiles and amphibians) are also considered special-status animal species. Species with no formal special-status designation but thought by experts to be rare or in serious decline may also be considered special-status animal species in some cases, depending on project-specific analysis and relevant, localized conservation needs or precedence.

2.3.2 Sensitive Habitats

Sensitive habitats include riparian corridors, wetlands, habitats for legally protected species, areas of high biological diversity, areas supporting rare or special-status wildlife habitat, and unusual or regionally restricted vegetation types. Vegetation types considered sensitive include those listed on CDFW's *California Natural Communities List* (i.e., those habitats that are rare or endangered within the borders of California) (CDFW, 2024), those that are occupied by species listed under the ESA or are critical habitat in accordance with the ESA, and those that are defined as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas under the California Coastal Act. Specific habitats may also be identified as sensitive in city or county general plans or ordinances. Sensitive habitats are regulated under federal regulations (such as the Clean Water Act and Executive Order 11990 – Protection of Wetlands), state regulations (such as CEQA and the CDFW Streambed Alteration Program), or local ordinances or policies (such as city or county tree ordinances and general plan policies).

2.4 Regulatory Setting

2.4.1 Federal Regulations

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The MBTA of 1918 prohibits killing, possessing, or trading migratory birds except in accordance with regulation prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. Most actions that result in permanent or temporary possession of a protected species constitute violations of the MBTA. The Service is responsible for overseeing compliance with the MBTA and implements Conventions (treaties) between the United States and four countries—Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Russia—for the protection of migratory birds. The Service maintains a list of migratory bird species that are protected under the MBTA.

2.4.2 State Regulations

California Native Plant Protection Act

The CNPPA of 1977 directed CDFW to carry out the legislature's intent to "preserve, protect and enhance rare and Endangered plants in the State." The CNPPA prohibits importing rare and Endangered plants into California, taking rare and Endangered plants, and selling rare and Endangered plants. The CESA and CNPPA authorized the Fish and Game Commission to designate endangered, threatened, and rare species and to regulate the taking of these species (§2050-2098, Fish and Game Code). Plants listed as rare under the CNPPA are not protected under CESA; however, these plants may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research.

California Fish and Game Code

Birds. Section 3503 of the Fish and Game Code states that it is "unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Section 3503.5 prohibits the killing, possession, or destruction of any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey). Section 3511 prohibits take or possession of fully protected birds. Section 3513 prohibits the take or possession of any migratory nongame birds designated under the federal MBTA. Section 3800 prohibits the take of nongame birds.

Fully Protected Species. The classification of fully protected was the state's initial effort in the 1960's to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish (§5515), mammals (§4700), amphibians and reptiles (§5050), and birds (§3511). Most fully protected species have also been listed as threatened or endangered species under the more recent endangered species laws and regulations. Fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research, relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock, and for certain renewable energy and infrastructure projects.

Species of Special Concern. As noted above, the CDFW also maintains a list of wildlife "species of special concern." Although these species have no legal status, the CDFW recommends considering these species during analysis of Project impacts to protect declining populations and avoid the need to list them as endangered in the future.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Habitats

Approximately 23.4 acres of the Evaluation Area are developed consisting of paved roads, graded dirt lots, or landscaped properties (locations for new transmission and service lines throughout the City, and the WRF new pump station and staging ground) and approximately 3.6 acres of the Evaluation Area is ruderal or agricultural habitat (the segments of the Evaluation Area along Morisoli Road) which consist of actively cultivated agricultural fields (**Figures 3 & 4**). Access to the agricultural easement and WRF was limited during the August 22, 2024 biological survey. Most of the land surrounding the Evaluation Area is developed with single-family residences with the schools and city parks to be serviced by the new pipelines spread throughout. Due to the disturbed (mowed, sprayed, landscaped) nature of the Evaluation Area, no vegetation associations identified in *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al., 2009) are present, and these areas are not considered sensitive by any regulatory agency. A description of each community is provided below.

3.1.1 Ruderal

Ruderal areas are those areas which have been developed or have been subject to historic and ongoing disturbance by human activities and are devoid of vegetation or dominated by non-native and/or invasive weed species. Within the Evaluation Area, ruderal land consisted primarily of mowed or graded dirt roads and access areas within the WRF. Ruderal habitat within the excavated drainage ponds (**Figure 3**) was dominated by invasive annuals and contained no emergent or riparian vegetation.

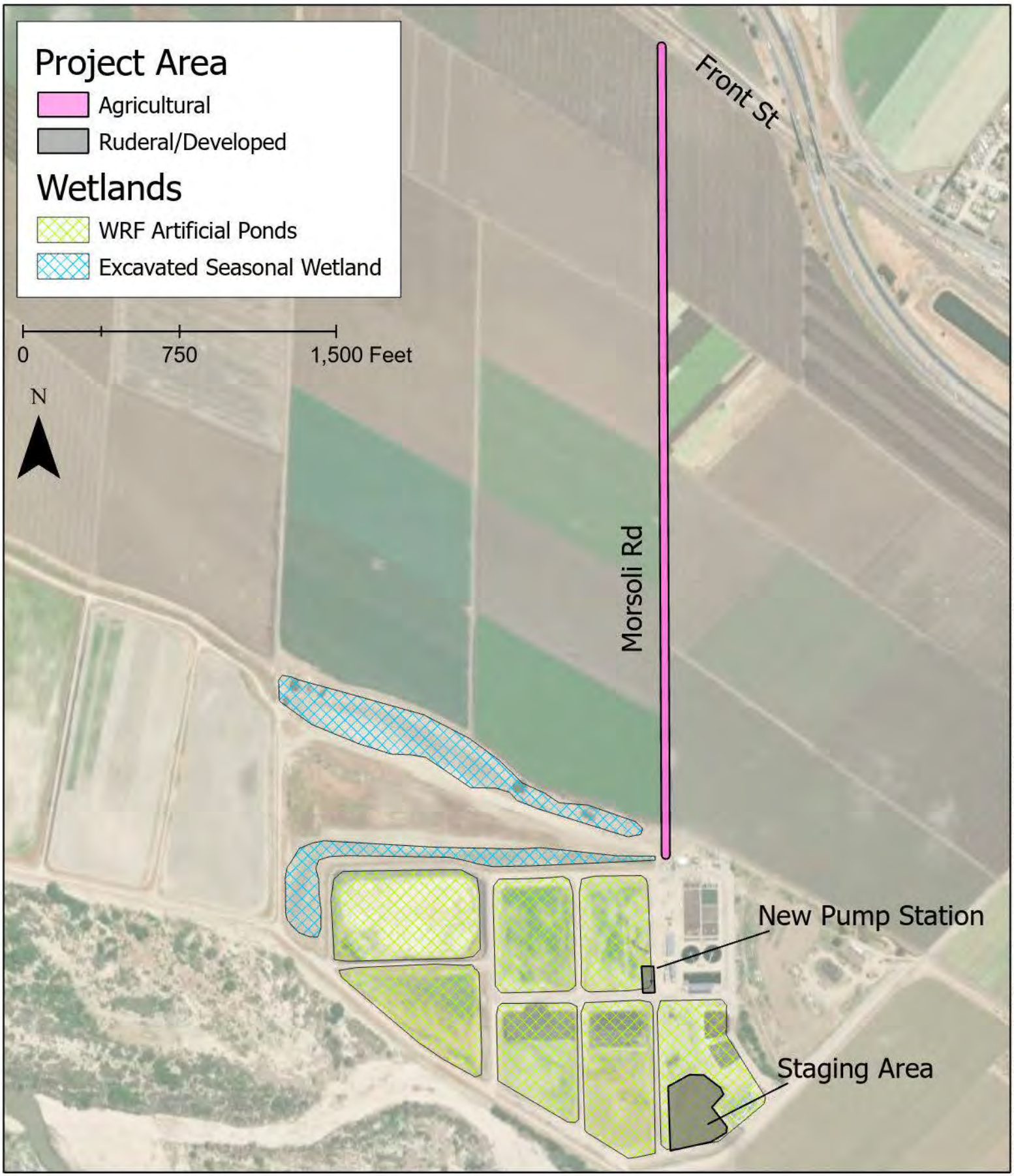
Ruderal areas are considered to have low biological value as they are generally denuded of vegetation or are dominated by non-native plant species and consist of relatively low-quality habitat from a wildlife perspective. However, some common wildlife species that do well in urbanized areas, including European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), and rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), may be found foraging within these areas.

3.1.2 Agricultural

Approximately 1.8 acres of the survey area are active agricultural consisting of the current location of the service pipeline connecting the WRF to the City (**Figure 3**). This area is continuously managed and cultivated for food crops, and is likely subject to frequent soil tilling, weeding, and treatment with insecticides and herbicides. As such, it provides poor habitat for most plant and wildlife species of concern; however, some special-status plants, including Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *congdonii*), have been known to occur in ditches and unmaintained edges of agricultural fields and roadways.

3.1.3 Developed

As identified above, developed areas within the Evaluation Area consist of paved roads, dirt roads, landscaped parks, and the WRF (**Figure 3 and 4**). Developed areas are considered to have low biological value as they are generally denuded of vegetation and consist of relatively low-quality habitat from a wildlife perspective. However, the common wildlife species identified above for ruderal communities may be found foraging within these areas. Landscaped plants within the park of the Evaluation Area lack the continuous flowers necessary to support insect species of concern, however they may provide nesting habitat for raptor and other avian species.



Soledad Recycled Water Conveyance Habitat Map - Agricultural	Date 11/15/2024 Scale 1 IN =600 FT	**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.** Planning and Environmental Consulting	Figure 3

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Soledad Recycled Water Conveyance Habitat Map - Developed	Date 9/12/2024 Scale 1 IN =1,000 FT	**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.** Planning and Environmental Consulting	Figure 4

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3.2 Sensitive Habitats

A historic seasonal wetland feature is present approximately 20 ft south of the survey area located at the intersection of Gabilan Drive and Toledo St (**Figure 4**). The location is identified as a seasonal wetland feature on the Service's National Wetlands Mapper, but it is noted as "excavated by humans" (Service, 2024b). The site also contains multiple drainage culverts and is unlikely to contain water outside of active rain storm events. Additionally, several excavated drainage ponds are located adjacent to the survey area as well as within the proposed location of the new storage reservoir and pump station at the WRF (**Figure 3**). These locations are identified by the Service as temporary wetlands that are artificially filled by pumps. This habitat is not suitable breeding habitat for any wildlife species of concern.

No emergent hydrophytic vegetation or other wetland indicators were observed within any of these locations during the August 22, 2024 biological survey. None of the ponds show up in the USGS Hydrographic Dataset (USGS, 2024) nor do they meet the definition of waters of the U.S. as identified in CFR 328.3(a)(8), and, therefore, are not subject to the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers under the Clean Water Act.

3.3 Special-Status Species

Published occurrence data within the Project area and surrounding USGS quadrangles were evaluated to compile a table of special-status species known to occur in the vicinity of the Evaluation Area (see *Section 2. Methods*). Each of these species was evaluated for their likelihood to occur within and immediately adjacent to the Evaluation Area. No special-status plant species were observed within the Evaluation Area during biological surveys; however, based on the species-specific reasons presented in **Appendix C**, Congdon's tarplant may occur within the survey area. Two special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within the Evaluation Area: Salinas pocket mouse (*Perognathus inornatus psammophilus*), San Joaquin whipsnake (*Masticophis flagellum ruddocki*) and white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*). In addition to the white-tailed kite, raptors and other nesting birds have the potential to occur in the area. These species are discussed below. All other species are assumed unlikely to occur or have a low potential to occur based on the species-specific reasons presented in **Appendix C**, are therefore unlikely to be impacted by the Project, and are not discussed further.

Congdon's Tarplant

Congdon's tarplant is an annual herb in the Asteraceae family that has a variable blooming period from May through November. It is found in valley and foothill grassland on heavy clay, saline or alkaline soils in low-lying disturbed areas that collect water. It is often found in disturbed areas with non-native annuals and grassland species, as well as ditches and vegetated spaces alongside roads and farmland. No individuals of this species were observed during the August 22, 2024 survey; however, the majority of the survey area that would be the most likely to have suitable habitat for Congdon's tarplant was inaccessible for the survey, therefore its presence within the Evaluation Area cannot be entirely ruled out.

Salinas Pocket Mouse

Salinas pocket mouse is a CDFW Species of Concern. This sub-species of the San Joaquin pocket mouse (*Perognathus inornatus*) is found within chaparral, shrubland, blue oak woodland, and annual grassland

habitats of the Salinas Valley. They are most abundant in uncultivated areas and often live in areas with sandy washes and finely textured soils. They are nocturnal, foraging in the night and spending most of the day in their burrows, which are typically dug at the base of shrubs. *(*Hafner et al., 1998*)* Burrows are additionally utilized for hibernating, which occurs 2-3 times a year, and rearing young during the breeding season (March – July). Within the Evaluation Area, Salinas pocket mouse are the most likely to occur within the agricultural easement along Morisoli Road and near the new service line hookups at Toledo Park *(***Figure 4***)*. The nearest CNDDB occurrence of the species is from 2006 located 1.6 km north of the Evaluation Area. Therefore, Salinas pocket mouse has a moderate potential to be found within the Evaluation Area.

San Joaquin Whipsnake

The San Joaquin whipsnake is a CDFW species of special concern. Whipsnakes seek cover in rodent burrows, bushes, trees, and rock piles. This species hibernates in soil or sand approximately 0.3 m below the surface, sometimes at the bases of plants. Little is known about nest sites. In desert regions, whipsnakes may be attracted to water to drink or ambush prey. Open terrestrial habitats are preferred, but whipsnakes will occasionally climb trees and bushes to bask, seek prey, or take cover. Diet consists of rodents, lizards and their eggs, snakes (including rattlesnakes), birds and their eggs, young turtles, insects, and carrion. Whipsnakes, a diurnal species, search actively for prey, with their heads elevated. This species inserts its head in burrows or climbs trees, using both vision and olfaction to detect prey (Stebbins 1985). Mating occurs in April and May, eggs are laid in June and July, and the first young appear in late August to early September.

The CNDDB reports 3 occurrences of San Joaquin whipsnake within the quadrangles evaluated. The nearest occurrence is 9.8 km miles from the survey area from 1987. Habitat quality for San Joaquin whipsnake within the survey area is relatively low. The entire site is ruderal, agriculture, or developed habitat that does not provide appropriate cover or habitat conditions for San Joaquin whipsnake; however, the staging area is approximately 100 m from the Salinas River floodplain and may provide dispersal habitat for San Joaquin whipsnake (**Figure 3**).

White-Tailed Kite

White-tailed kite is a California fully-protected species and is protected by the MBTA and Fish and Game code. This raptor species is a common to uncommon, year-long resident in coastal and valley lowlands. WTK generally utilizes herbaceous lowlands with variable tree growth and an associated high population density of voles (*Microtus californicus*). Nests are made of loosely piled sticks and twigs and lined with grass, straw, or rootlets. Nests are generally placed near the top of dense oak (*Quercus* sp.), willow, or other tree stands (usually 6-20 meters above ground) and are often located near an open foraging area. Breeding occurs from February to October with peak activity occurring from May to August. This species preys predominantly on voles and other small mammals, but also takes birds, insects, reptiles, and amphibians. Foraging occurs in undisturbed open grasslands, meadows, farmlands, and emergent wetlands. Suitable nesting habitat is present within the trees directly adjacent to the Evaluation Area. Suitable hunting and foraging habitat are not present within the site; however, the nearby agricultural lands, vacant lots, and parks may provide suitable foraging habitat for this species. Man-made structures have been observed being utilized for nesting white-tailed kite as well. The Evaluation Area is within the known breeding range of

the white-tailed kite and the CNDDB reports 6 occurrences of the species within the quadrangles reviewed. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is from 2006 located approximately 9.3 km northeast from the Evaluation Area. Therefore, WTK has moderate potential to nest directly adjacent to the Evaluation Area.

Protected Avian Species

Raptors and other nesting birds are protected under the California Fish and Game Code and the MBTA. While the life histories of these species vary, overlapping nesting and foraging similarities allow for their concurrent discussion. Most raptors are breeding residents throughout most of the wooded portions of the state. Stands of live oak, riparian deciduous, or other forest habitats, as well as open grasslands, are used most frequently for nesting. Smaller avian species may also nest in scrub habitats and urban areas. Breeding occurs February through September, with peak activity May through July. Various raptors and avian species, such as red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica)*, dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and sparrows (*Zonotrichia* sp.), have the potential to nest within the trees present within and directly adjacent to the Evaluation Area.

4. IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

The following section describes potential impacts that may result from the Project. For the purposes of this analysis, an impact is significant and requires mitigation if it would result in any of the following:

a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or the Service;
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or the Service;
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling hydrological interruption, or other means;
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites;
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; or
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Criteria "b" and "c" were not evaluated for impacts to sensitive habitats or impacts to protected wetlands because these resources are not present within the Evaluation Area. Criterion "e" was not evaluated for conflicts with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance because the project will not require tree removal. Criterion "f" was not evaluated for conflicts with an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan, because the Evaluation Area is not located within any such plan area.

Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or the Service.

Congdon's tarplant has the potential to occur within suitable habitat within the Evaluation Area. (**Appendix C**). Excavation and trenching activities associated with the Project along Morisoli Road and within the WRF and Toledo Park may result in damage or loss of any individuals growing within the Evaluation Area at the time of construction. This is a potentially significant impact that can be minimized to less-than-significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-1** and **BIO-2**.

Salinas pocket mouse, a CDFW species of special concern, has the potential to occur within or adjacent to the Evaluation Area. Shrubs within the parks that will receive new service lines and updated irrigation may be utilized by burrowing Salinas pocket mouse. Direct impacts such as excavation and shrub removal, as well as indirect impacts from construction activities (e.g., noise, vibrations) could result in injury, den abandonment, and/or mortality of Salinas pocket mouse if burrowing within or directly adjacent to the

Evaluation Area during construction activities. This is a potentially significant impact that can be minimized to less-than-significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-1**.

San Joaquin whipsnake have the potential to occur adjacent to the Evaluation Area. Construction activities associated with the staging area could result in direct mortality of this species if they were to disperse from the adjacent habitat. This would be a potentially significant impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-1** and **BIO-3**.

The Project is not expected to result in tree removal or direct impacts to raptors or other nesting birds, including WTK. However, it is possible that the final Project design may require tree removal. In addition, indirect impacts from construction activities (e.g., noise, vibrations) could result in injury, nest abandonment, and/or mortality of raptors and other nesting birds, if nesting within or directly adjacent to the Evaluation Area during construction activities. This is a potentially significant impact that can be minimized to less-than-significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-1** and **BIO-4**.

> ***Mitigation Measure BIO-1:*** A qualified biologist will conduct an Employee Education Program for the construction crew prior to any construction activities. The qualified biologist will meet with the construction crew at the onset of construction at the Evaluation Area to educate the construction crew on the following: 1) the appropriate access route(s) in and out of the construction area and review Project boundaries; 2) how a biological monitor will examine the area and agree upon a method which will ensure the safety of the monitor during such activities, 3) the identification of special status species that may be present; 4) the specific mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the construction effort; 5) the general provisions and protections afforded; and 6) the proper procedures if a special status species is encountered within the Evaluation Area to avoid impacts.
>
> ***Mitigation Measure BIO-2:*** A qualified biologist will conduct protocol-level surveys for Congdon's tarplant within the Project boundaries within the WRF and agricultural/ruderal habitat prior to construction. Protocol-level surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist at the appropriate time of year for species with the potential to occur within the site. A report describing the results of the surveys shall be provided to the project proponents prior to any ground disturbing activities. The report shall include but is not limited to 1) a description of the species observed, if any; 2) map of the location, if observed; and 3) recommended avoidance and minimization measures, if applicable.
>
> ***Mitigation Measure BIO-3:*** Prior to construction activities in the staging area, a qualified biologist will conduct a clearance survey in suitable habitat within the Survey Area for San Joaquin whipsnake. If San Joaquin whipsnake is observed during construction, measures will be taken to avoid the individual(s) and the species will be allowed to leave on its own volition or will be relocated outside of the survey area by the qualified biologist.
>
> ***Mitigation Measure BIO-4:*** Project activities that may affect protected nesting avian species (e.g., tree removal, noise, vibrations) shall be scheduled after September 15 and before February 1 to avoid the avian breeding and nesting season. Alternatively, a qualified biologist shall be retained by the Project applicant to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors and other protected

avian species within 300 feet of proposed Project activities if work occurs between February 1 and September 15. Pre-construction surveys shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of Project activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through September). Because some bird species nest early in spring and others nest later in summer, and because some species breed multiple times in a season, surveys for nesting birds may be required to continue during Project activities to address new arrivals. If Project activities are halted for more than 14 days during the avian nesting season, additional surveys shall be conducted. The necessity and timing of these continued surveys shall be determined by the qualified biologist.

If raptors or other protected avian species nests are identified during the pre-construction surveys, the qualified biologist shall notify the Project applicant and an appropriate no-disturbance buffer shall be imposed within which no disturbance should take place (generally 300 feet in all directions for raptors; other avian species may have species-specific requirements) until the young of the year have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival, as determined by a qualified biologist.

Impact BIO-2: Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites.

The Evaluation Area lies within an existing residential community and active agricultural land and is not located within a migratory wildlife corridor. The Project consists of the replacement of existing infrastructure and alterations to already developed land and would not result in the construction of any new development or impervious surfaces. Therefore, the proposed Project would not interfere with the movement of any native resident or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites. This impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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APPENDIX A

California Natural Diversity Database Report

Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: Quad IS (Gonzales (3612154) OR Mount Johnson (3612153) OR Bickmore Canyon (3612152) OR Palo Escrito Peak (3612144) OR Soledad (3612143) OR North Chalone Peak (3612142) OR Sycamore Flat (3612134) OR Paraiso Springs (3612133) OR Greenfield (3612132))
 AND Taxonomic Group IS (Dune OR Scrub OR Herbaceous OR Marsh OR Riparian OR Woodland OR Forest OR Alpine OR Inland Waters OR Marine OR Estuarine OR Riverine OR Palustrine OR Fish OR Amphibians OR Reptiles OR Birds OR Mammals OR Mollusks OR Arachnids OR Crustaceans OR Insects OR Ferns OR Gymnosperms OR Monocots OR Dicots OR Lichens OR Bryophytes)

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Abies bracteata bristlecone fir	PGPIN01030	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	1B.3
Accipiter cooperii Cooper's hawk	ABNKC12040	None	None	G5	S4	WL
Accipiter striatus sharp-shinned hawk	ABNKC12020	None	None	G5	S4	WL
Actinemys marmorata northwestern pond turtle	ARAAD02031	Proposed Threatened	None	G2	SNR	SSC
Actinemys pallida southwestern pond turtle	ARAAD02032	Proposed Threatened	None	G2G3	SNR	SSC
Agelaius tricolor tricolored blackbird	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G1G2	S2	SSC
Ambystoma californiense pop. 1 California tiger salamander - central California DPS	AAAAA01181	Threatened	Threatened	G2G3T3	S3	WL
Anniella pulchra Northern California legless lizard	ARACC01020	None	None	G3	S2S3	SSC
Antrozous pallidus pallid bat	AMACC10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
Aquila chrysaetos golden eagle	ABNKC22010	None	None	G5	S3	FP
Arctostaphylos gabilanensis Gabilan Mountains manzanita	PDERI042X0	None	None	G1	S1	1B.2
Ardea herodias great blue heron	ABNGA04010	None	None	G5	S4	
Asio otus long-eared owl	ABNSB13010	None	None	G5	S3?	SSC
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S2	SSC
Bombus caliginosus obscure bumble bee	IIHYM24380	None	None	G2G3	S1S2	

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Bombus crotchii Crotch's bumble bee	IIHYM24480	None	Candidate Endangered	G2	S2	
Bombus occidentalis western bumble bee	IIHYM24252	None	Candidate Endangered	G3	S1	
Caulanthus lemmonii Lemmon's jewelflower	PDBRA0M0E0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
Centromadia parryi ssp. congdonii Congdon's tarplant	PDAST4R0P1	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
Chorizanthe pungens var. pungens Monterey spineflower	PDPGN040M2	Threatened	None	G2T2	S2	1B.2
Clarkia jolonensis Jolon clarkia	PDONA050L0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	AMACC08010	None	None	G4	S2	SSC
Delphinium californicum ssp. interius Hospital Canyon larkspur	PDRAN0B0A2	None	None	G3T3	S3	1B.2
Dipodomys venustus elephantinus big-eared kangaroo rat	AMAFD03041	None	None	G4T2	S3	
Elanus leucurus white-tailed kite	ABNKC06010	None	None	G5	S3S4	FP
Eriogonum heermannii var. occidentale western Heermann's buckwheat	PDPGN082P6	None	None	G5T2	S2	1B.2
Eriogonum nortonii Pinnacles buckwheat	PDPGN08470	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3
Eumops perotis californicus western mastiff bat	AMACD02011	None	None	G4G5T4	S3S4	SSC
Falco mexicanus prairie falcon	ABNKD06090	None	None	G5	S4	WL
Falco peregrinus anatum American peregrine falcon	ABNKD06071	Delisted	Delisted	G4T4	S3S4	
Gymnogyps californianus California condor	ABNKA03010	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S2	FP
Idiostatus kathleenae Pinnacles shieldback katydid	IIORT31020	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
Juncus luciensis Santa Lucia dwarf rush	PMJUN013J0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
Lasiurus cinereus hoary bat	AMACC05032	None	None	G3G4	S4	
Lasiurus frantzii western red bat	AMACC05080	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
Lavinia exilicauda harengus Monterey hitch	AFCJB19013	None	None	G4T3	S3	SSC

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Layia heterotricha pale-yellow layia	PDAST5N070	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
Malacothamnus aboriginum Indian Valley bushmallow	PDMAL0Q020	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
Malacothamnus davidsonii Davidson's bushmallow	PDMAL0Q040	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea Carmel Valley malacothrix	PDAST660C2	None	None	G5T2	S2	1B.2
Masticophis flagellum ruddocki San Joaquin coachwhip	ARADB21021	None	None	G5T2T3	S3	SSC
Myotis ciliolabrum western small-footed myotis	AMACC01230	None	None	G5	S3	
Myotis evotis long-eared myotis	AMACC01070	None	None	G5	S3	
Myotis thysanodes fringed myotis	AMACC01090	None	None	G4	S3	
Myotis yumanensis Yuma myotis	AMACC01020	None	None	G5	S4	
Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. radians shining navarretia	PDPLM0C0J2	None	None	G4T2T3	S2S3	1B.2
Nemacladus secundiflorus var. robbinsii Robbins' nemacladus	PDCAM0F0B2	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.2
North Central Coast Drainage Sacramento Sucker/Roach River North Central Coast Drainage Sacramento Sucker/Roach River	CARA2623CA	None	None	GNR	SNR	
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 9 steelhead - south-central California coast DPS	AFCHA0209H	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	SSC
Optioservus canus Pinnacles optioservus riffle beetle	IICOL5E020	None	None	G2	S1	
Perognathus inornatus psammophilus Salinas pocket mouse	AMAFD01062	None	None	G2G3T2?	S1	SSC
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
Plagiobothrys uncinatus hooked popcornflower	PDBOR0V170	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
Rana boylii pop. 4 foothill yellow-legged frog - central coast DPS	AAABH01054	Threatened	Endangered	G3T2	S2	
Rana boylii pop. 6 foothill yellow-legged frog - south coast DPS	AAABH01056	Endangered	Endangered	G3T1	S1	
Rana draytonii California red-legged frog	AAABH01022	Threatened	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
Riparia riparia bank swallow	ABPAU08010	None	Threatened	G5	S3	

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Senecio aphanactis chaparral ragwort	PDAST8H060	None	None	G3	S2	2B.2
Spea hammondii western spadefoot	AAABF02020	Proposed Threatened	None	G2G3	S3S4	SSC
Taricha torosa Coast Range newt	AAAAF02032	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
Taxidea taxus American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
Texosporium sancti-jacobi woven-spored lichen	NLTEST7980	None	None	G3	S2	3
Valley Oak Woodland Valley Oak Woodland	CTT71130CA	None	None	G3	S2.1	
Vireo bellii pusillus least Bell's vireo	ABPBW01114	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S3	
Vulpes macrotis mutica San Joaquin kit fox	AMAJA03041	Endangered	Threatened	G4T2	S3	

Record Count: 65

APPENDIX B

IPaC Resource List

IPaC **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly a ected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of e ects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-speci c (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-speci c (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS o ce(s) with jurisdiction in the de ned project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Monterey County, California

Local office

Ventura Fish And Wildlife O ce

(805) 644-1766
(805) 644-3958
FW8VenturaSection7@FWS.Gov

2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003-7726

https://www.fws.gov/Ventura

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of in uence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly a ected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a sh population even if that sh does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water ow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential e ects to species, additional site-speci c and project-speci c information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local o ce and a species list which ful lls this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an o cial species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local eld o ce directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an o cial species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species[1] and their critical habitats are managed by the Ecological Services Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the sheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries[2]).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact NOAA Fisheries for species under their jurisdiction.

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1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the listing status page for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an o ce of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially a ected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
San Joaquin Kit Fox Vulpes macrotis mutica Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
California Condor Gymnogyps californianus There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	Endangered
Least Bell's Vireo Vireo bellii pusillus Wherever found There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945	Endangered
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Northwestern Pond Turtle Actinemys marmorata Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1111	Proposed Threatened

Southwestern Pond Turtle Actinemys pallida — Proposed Threatened
Wherever found
No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4768

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS

California Red-legged Frog Rana draytonii — Threatened
Wherever found
There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891

California Tiger Salamander Ambystoma californiense — Threatened
There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076

Western Spadefoot Spea hammondii — Proposed Threatened
Wherever found
No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5425

Insects

NAME	STATUS

Monarch Butter y Danaus plexippus — Candidate
Wherever found
No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp Branchinecta lynchi — Threatened
Wherever found
There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Marsh Sandwort Arenaria paludicola Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2229	Endangered
Monterey Spine ower Chorizanthe pungens var. pungens Wherever found There is **nal** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/396	Threatened

Critical habitats

Potential e ects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have e ects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[1] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats[3], should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Speci cally, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds

- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/ les/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

There are likely bald eagles present in your project area. For additional information on bald eagles, refer to Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in o shore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in o shore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", speci cally the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey

e ort (see below) can be used to establish a level of con dence in the presence score. One can have higher con dence in the presence score if the corresponding survey e ort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

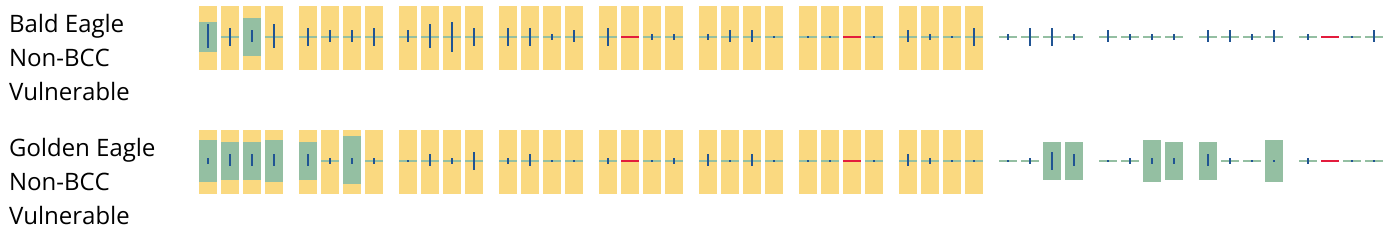
Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey e ort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas o the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my speci ed location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and ltered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identi ed as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my speci ed location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and ltered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identi ed as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to o shore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field O ce if you have questions.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats[3] should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Speci cally, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/ les/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may nd in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur o the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found below.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in o shore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

Belding's Savannah Sparrow Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi — Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8

Bullock's Oriole Icterus bullockii — Breeds Mar 21 to Jul 25

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

California Gull Larus californicus — Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

California Thrasher Toxostoma redivivum — Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Common Yellowthroat Geothlypis trichas sinuosa — Breeds May 20 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2084

Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos — Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in o shore areas from certain types of development or activities.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680

Lawrence's Gold nch Spinus lawrencei — Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464

Northern Harrier Circus hudsonius — Breeds Apr 1 to Sep 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8350

Nuttall's Woodpecker Dryobates nuttallii — Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 20
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9410

Oak Titmouse Baeolophus inornatus — Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 15
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656

Santa Barbara Song Sparrow Melospiza melodia graminea — Breeds Mar 1 to Sep 5
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5513

Tricolored Blackbird Agelaius tricolor — Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910

Western Screech-owl Megascops kennicottii cardonensis — Breeds Mar 1 to Jun 30
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

Wrentit Chamaea fasciata — Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Yellow-billed Magpie Pica nuttalli — Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9726

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", speci cally the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey e ort (see below) can be used to establish a level of con dence in the presence score. One can have higher con dence in the presence score if the corresponding survey e ort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (▪)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

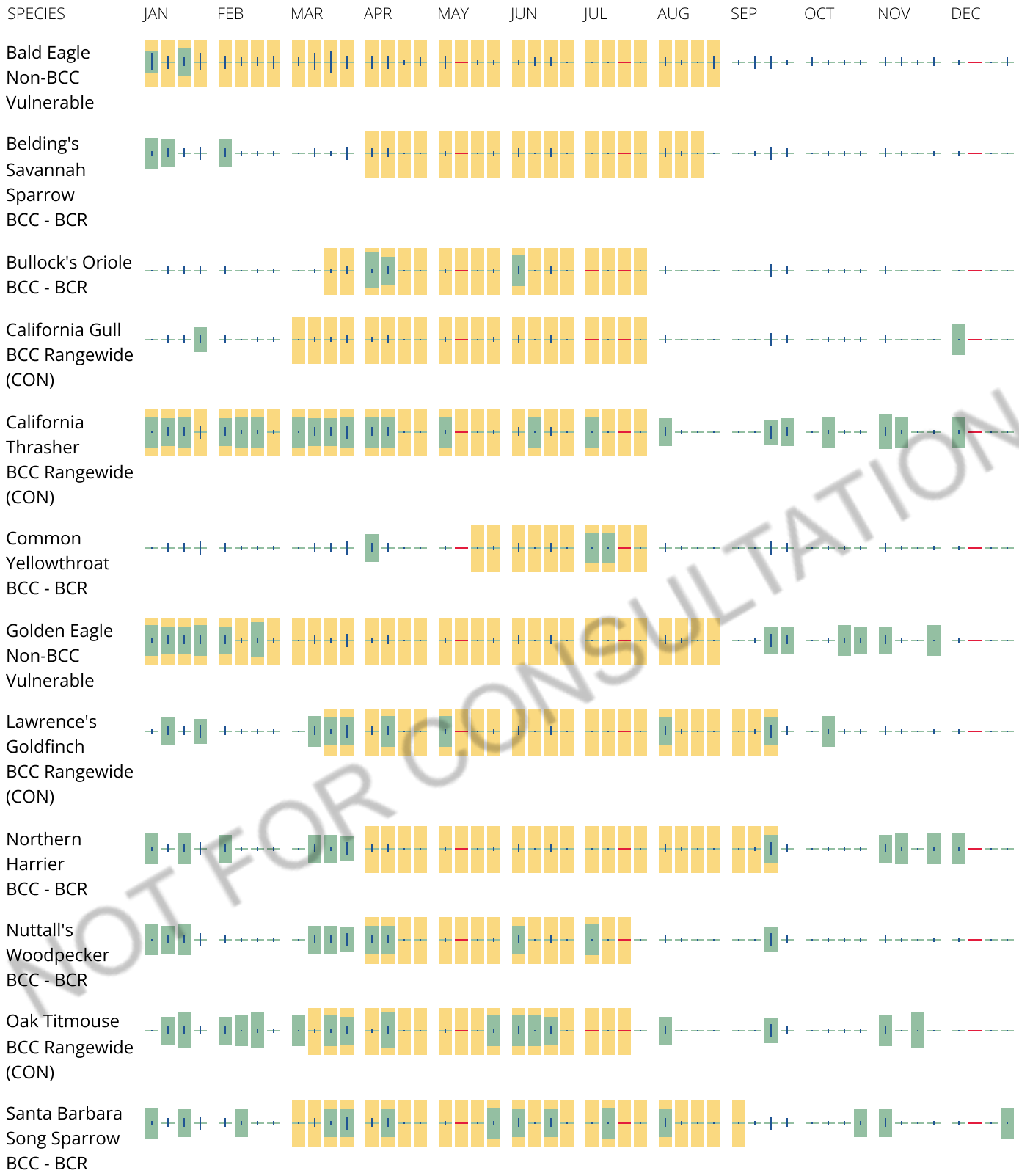
Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

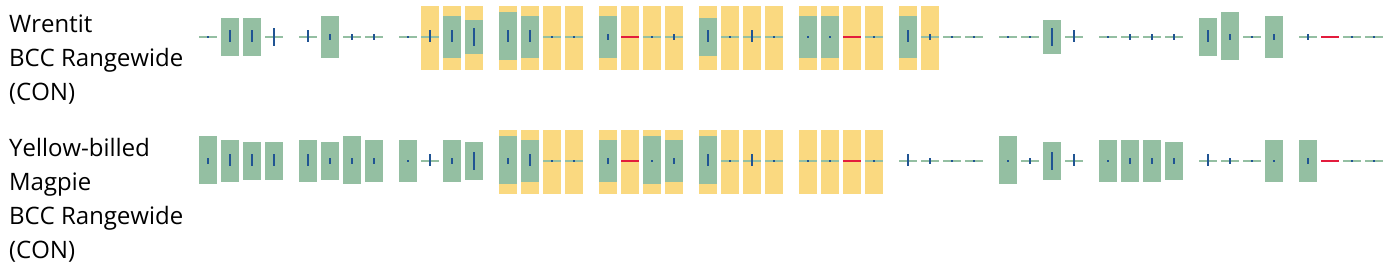
To see a bar's survey e ort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas o the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

▪ probability of presence ▪ breeding season | survey e ort – no data





Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my speci ed location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and ltered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identi ed as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to o shore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my speci ed location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). This data is derived from a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the pro les provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe speci ed. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Paci c Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the Eagle Act requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in o shore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. o shore energy development or longline shing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, e orts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially a ected by o shore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area o the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also o ers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results les underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the Diving Bird Study and the nanotag studies or contact Caleb Spiegel or Pam Loring.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my speci ed location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of

presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey e ort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey e ort is the key component. If the survey e ort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey e ort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to con rm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be con rmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no sh hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the NWI map to view wetlands at this location.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identi ed based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classi cation established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth veri cation work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or eld work. There may be occasional di erences in polygon boundaries or classi cations between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuber cid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may de ne and describe wetlands in a di erent manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to de ne the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modi cations within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning speci ed agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may a ect such activities.

APPENDIX C

Special-Status Species Table

Special-Status Species Database

(*Gonzales, Mount Johnson, Bickmmore Canyon, Palo Escrito Peak, Soledad, North Chalone Peak, Sycamore Flat, Paraiso Springs, Greenfield Quadrangles*)

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
MAMMALS			
Antrozous pallidus Pallid bat	-- / CSC / --	Occurs in a wide variety of habitats including grasslands, shrublands, arid desert areas, oak savanna, coastal forested areas, and coniferous forests of the mountain regions of California. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Day roosts include caves, crevices, mines, and occasionally hollow trees and buildings. Seems to prefer rocky outcrops, cliffs, and crevices with access to open habitats for foraging. Similar structures are used for night roosting and will also use more open sites such as eaves, awnings, and open areas under bridges for feeding roosts.	**Low** No suitable roost habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. CNDDB reports 2 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 5 km south from the Evaluation Area from 1936.
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	-- / CSC / --	Found primarily in rural settings from inland deserts to coastal redwoods, oak woodland of the inner Coast Ranges and Sierra foothills, and low to mid-elevation mixed coniferous-deciduous forests. Typically roost during the day in limestone caves, lava tubes, and mines, but can roost in buildings that offer suitable conditions. Night roosts are in more open settings and include bridges, rock crevices, and trees.	**Low** No suitable roost habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. CNDDB reports 2 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 500 m south from the Evaluation Area from 1937.
Eumops perotis californicus Western mastiff bat	-- / CSC / --	Many open habitats including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grassland, and chaparral. Roost in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels.	**Low** No suitable roost habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 4 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 2.5 km northeast of the Evaluation Area from 1938.
Lasiurus frantzii Western red bat	-- / CSC / --	Roosting habitat includes trees and sometimes shrubs in forests and woodlands from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. Roost sites are often in edge habitats adjacent to streams, fields, or urban areas. Feeds over a wide variety of habitats, including grasslands, shrublands, open woodlands and forests, and croplands.	**Low** No suitable roost habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 1 occurrence from 2002 located 13 km northeast from the Evaluation Area.
Perognathus inornatus psammophilus Salinas pocket mouse	-- / CSC / --	Typically found in grasslands and blue oak savanna, needs friable soils.	**Moderate** Suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 2 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 1.5 km north from the Evaluation Area.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Taxidea taxus American badger	-- / CSC / --	Dry, open grasslands, fields, pastures savannas, and mountain meadows near timberline are preferred. The principal requirements seem to be sufficient food, friable soils, and relatively open, uncultivated grounds.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 2 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 1 km north from the Evaluation Area.
Vulpes macrotis mutica San Joaquin Kit fox	FE / ST / --	Open, level areas with loose-textured soils supporting scattered, shrubby vegetation with little human disturbance. Live in annual grasslands or grassy open stages dominated by scattered brush, shrubs, and scrub.	**Low** The survey area is within the known range of this species. Marginally suitable dispersal habitat may be present within the WRF and staging area; however, most documented occurrences within the quadrangles evaluated are from between 1972 and 1975 and are located within the foothills east of the Salinas River, including the two occurrences within 5km of the survey area.
BIRDS			
Agelaius tricolor Tricolored blackbird (nesting colony)	-- / ST / --	Nest in colonies in dense riparian vegetation, along rivers, lagoons, lakes, and ponds. Forages over grassland or aquatic habitats.	**Low** No suitable nesting habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports only one occurrence within the reviewed quadrangles, located 400 m east of the Evaluation Area.
Aquila chrysaetos Golden eagle (nesting & wintering)	-- / CFP / --	Use rolling foot-hills, mountain terrain, wide arid plateaus deeply cut by streams and canyons, open mountain slopes, cliffs, and rocky outcrops. Nest in secluded cliffs with overhanging ledges as well as large trees.	**Low** No suitable nesting habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 5 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 4 km east of the Evaluation Area.
Asio otus Long-eared owl (nesting)	-- / CSC / --	Frequents dense, riparian and live oak thickets near meadow edges, and nearby woodland and forest habitats. Also found in dense conifer stands at higher elevations.	**Unlikely** No suitable nesting habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 8 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closes located 11 km northeast of the Evaluation Area.
Athene cunicularia Burrowing owl (burrow sites & some wintering sites)	-- / CSC / --	Year round resident of open, dry grassland and desert habitats, and in grass, forb and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats. Frequent open grasslands and shrublands with perches and burrows. Use rodent burrows (often California ground squirrel) for roosting and nesting cover. Pipes, culverts, and nest boxes may be substituted for burrows in areas where burrows are not available.	**Not Present** No suitable nesting or foraging habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 4 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 480 m northeast of the Evaluation Area.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis Western yellow-billed cuckoo	FT / SE / --	Inhabits extensive deciduous riparian thickets or forests with dense, low-level or understory foliage, slow-moving watercourses, backwaters, or seeps. Willow almost always a dominant component of the vegetation.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. No occurrences were of this species were recorded for the reviewed quadrangles in the CNDDB.
Elanus leucurus White-tailed kite	-- / CFP / --	Open groves, river valleys, marshes, and grasslands. Prefer such area with low roosts (fences etc.). Nest in shrubs and trees adjacent to grasslands.	**Moderate** Suitable nesting habitat may be present within several of the parks and schools within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 6 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 9.3 km northeast from the Evaluation Area.
Gymnogyps californianus California condor	FE / SE / --	Roosting sites in isolated rocky cliffs, rugged chaparral, and pine covered mountains 2000-6000 feet above sea level. Foraging area removed from nesting/roosting site (includes rangeland and coastal area - up to 19 mile commute one way). Nest sites in cliffs, crevices, potholes.	**Unlikely** No nesting habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports one occurrence within the reviewed quadrangles within Pinnacles National Park east of the project site.
Riparia riparia Bank swallow (nesting)	-- / ST / --	Nest colonially in sand banks. Found near water; fields, marshes, streams, and lakes.	**Unlikely** No suitable nesting habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports two occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located approximately 6 km south from the Evaluation Area.
Vireo bellii pusillus Least Bell's vireo (nesting)	FE / SE / --	Riparian areas and drainages. Breed in willow riparian forest supporting a dense, shrubby understory. Oak woodland with a willow riparian understory is also used in some areas, and individuals sometimes enter adjacent chaparral, coastal sage scrub, or desert scrub habitats to forage.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports one occurrence within the reviewed quadrangles located 15 km east of the Evaluation Area.
REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS			
Actinemys marmorata Northwestern pond turtle	FC / CSC / --	Associated with permanent or nearly permanent water in a wide variety of habitats including streams, lakes, ponds, irrigation ditches, etc. Require basking sites such as partially submerged logs, rocks, mats of vegetation, or open banks. The range for this species is from Washington south to approximately Castroville, the foothills of the Salinas Valley from Salinas to Soledad, and into the central valley and eastern foothills to Lancaster, California.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports two occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 16 km northeast of the Evaluation Area.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Actinemys pallida Southwestern pond turtle	FC / CSC / --	Associated with permanent or nearly permanent water in a wide variety of habitats including streams, lakes, ponds, irrigation ditches, etc. Require basking sites such as partially submerged logs, rocks, mats of vegetation, or open banks. The range for this species is along the coast from Castroville to Baja California in Mexico, including the Salinas Valley to Soledad, the foothills west of the Central Valley to Lancaster, and the southern California mountain ranges.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports two occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 15.4 km south of the Evaluation Area.
Ambystoma californiense California tiger salamander	FT / ST / --	Annual grassland and grassy understory of valley-foothill hardwood habitats in central and northern California. Need underground refuges and vernal pools or other seasonal water sources.	**Low** No suitable breeding habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports a breeding location 1.4 km north of the Evaluation Area, which is within the known dispersal distance of the species; however, the land between the breeding location and evaluation area is developed and therefore unlikely to allow for dispersal.
Anniella pulchra Northern California legless lizard	-- / CSC /--	Requires moist, warm habitats with loose soil for burrowing and prostrate plant cover, often forages in leaf litter at plant bases; may be found on beaches, sandy washes, and in woodland, chaparral, and riparian areas.	**Low** Suitable habitat may be present in the Salinas River floodplain adjacent to the project staging area; however no suitable dispersal habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 16 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 9.5 km east from the Evaluation Area.
Masticophis flagellum ruddocki San Joaquin whipsnake	-- / CSC / --	Variety of habitats-deserts, scrub land, juniper-grassland, woodland, thorn forest, and farmland. Generally avoids dense vegetation. Ranges from Arbuckle in the Sacramento southward to the Grapevine in the Kern County portion of the San Joaquin Valley and westward into the inner South Coast Ranges. An isolated population also occurs in the Sutter Buttes.	**Moderate** Marginally suitable dispersal habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The Salinas River floodplain is adjacent to the Evaluation Area and provides high quality habitat. The CNDDB reports 7 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 9.8 km south from the Evaluation Area.
Phrynosoma blainvillii Coast horned lizard	-- / CSC / --	Associated with open patches of sandy soils in washes, chaparral, scrub, and grasslands.	**Low** Marginally suitable habitat may be present in the Salinas River floodplain adjacent to the project staging area; however no suitable dispersal habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 5 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 4.5 km east from the Evaluation Area.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Rana boylii Foothill yellow-legged frog	FE / SE / --	Partly-shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats, including hardwood, pine, and riparian forests, scrub, chaparral, and wet meadows. Rarely encountered far from permanent water.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 68 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 12 km east of the Evaluation Area.
Rana draytonii California red-legged frog	FT / CSC / --	Lowlands and foothills in or near permanent or late-season sources of deep water with dense, shrubby, or emergent riparian vegetation. During late summer or fall adults are known to utilize a variety of upland habitats with leaf litter or mammal burrows.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 8 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located 14.5 km east of the Evaluation Area.
Spea hammondii Western spadefoot	FT / CSC / --	Grasslands with shallow temporary pools are optimal habitats for the western spadefoot. Occur primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley and foothill woodlands. Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg laying.	**Low** No suitable breeding habitat is present within the Evaluation Area, and dispersal from nearby breeding areas is heavily restricted by active agricultural fields and urban development. The CNDDB reports 8 occurrences within the reviewed quadrangles, with the closest located about 2 km south from the Evaluation Area.
Taricha torosa torosa Coast Range newt	--/ CSC / --	Occurs mainly in valley-foothill hardwood, valley-foothill hardwood-conifer, coastal scrub, and mixed chaparral but is known to occur in grasslands and mixed conifer types. Seek cover under rocks and logs, in mammal burrows, rock fissures, or man-made structures such as wells. Breed in intermittent ponds, streams, lakes, and reservoirs.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The CNDDB reports 1 occurrence within the reviewed quadrangles, located 17 km west from the Evaluation Area.
FISH			
Lavinia exilicauda harengus Monterey hitch (Pajaro/Salinas hitch)	-- / CSC / --	Found only within the Pajaro and Salinas River systems. Can occupy a wide variety of habitats, however, they are most abundant in lowland areas with large pools or small reservoirs that mimic such conditions. May be found in brackish water conditions within the Salinas River lagoon during the early summer months when the sandbar forms at the mouth of the river.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is located within the Evaluation Area.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus Steelhead (south/central California coast DPS)	FT / -- / --	Cold headwaters, creeks, and small to large rivers and lakes; anadromous in coastal streams. Found in streams and rivers from the Pajaro River in Santa Cruz County to (but not including) the Santa Maria River in San Luis Obispo County.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is located within the Evaluation Area.
INVERTEBRATES			

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Bombus crotchii Crotch bumble bee	-- / SC / --	Occurs in open grassland and scrub at relatively warm and dry sites. Requires plants that bloom and provide adequate nectar and pollen throughout the colony's life cycle, which is from early February to late October. Generally nests underground, often in abandoned mammal burrows. Within California this species is known to occur in the Mediterranean, Pacific Coast, Western Desert, as well as Great Valley and adjacent foothill regions.	**Unlikely** The Evaluation Area is within the historic range of this species; however, it is outside of the currently known range as shown on CDFW's Biogeographic Information and Observation System. The majority of the Evaluation Area is developed and/or subject to frequent human disturbance that precludes vegetation. Park and school properties within the Evaluation Area are dominated by large expanses of turf bordered by scattered trees. The very limited number of flowering plants that may occur within the Evaluation Area are unlikely to provide sufficient nectar/pollen resources for this species.
Bombus occidentalis Western bumble bee	-- / SC / --	Occurs in open grassy areas, urban parks, urban gardens, chaparral, and meadows. Requires plants that bloom and provide adequate nectar and pollen throughout the colony's life cycle, which is from early February to late November. Generally nests underground, often in abandoned mammal burrows. Populations are currently largely restricted to high elevation sites in the Sierra Nevada; however, the historic range includes the northern California coast.	**Unlikely** The Evaluation Area is within the historic range of this species; however, it is outside of the currently known range as shown on CDFW's Biogeographic Information and Observation System. The majority of the Evaluation Area is developed and/or subject to frequent human disturbance that precludes vegetation. Park and school properties within the Evaluation Area are dominated by large expanses of turf bordered by scattered trees. The very limited number of flowering plants that may occur within the Evaluation Area are unlikely to provide sufficient nectar/pollen resources for this species.
Branchinecta lynchi Vernal pool fairy shrimp	FE / -- / --	Associated with vernal pool/grasslands from near Red Bluff (Shasta County), through the central valley, and into the South Coast Mountains Region. Require ephemeral pools with no flow.	**Not Present** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area.
PLANTS			
Abies bracteata Bristlecone fir	-- / -- / 1B	Endemic to Santa Lucia Mountains. Broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, and lower montane coniferous forest on rocky soils at elevations of 183-1600 meters. Evergreen tree in the Pinaceae family.	**Not Present** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known range of this species.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Arctostaphylos gabilanensis Gabilan Mountains manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Endemic to chaparral and chaparral/pine cismontane woodland habitats of the Gabilan Mountains of California, along the borders of San Benito and Monterey counties at elevations of 300-700 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms in January.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Caulanthus lemmonii Lemmon's jewel flower	-- / -- / 1B	Open, grassy areas on hillside slopes and in fields, canyons, and arroyos. Soils include alkaline soils, shaley clay, sandstone talus, and decomposed serpentine. Predominantly found within valley and foothill grassland and occasionally in pinyon and juniper woodland at elevations of 80 - 12200 meters. Annual herb in the Brassicaceae family; blooms March-May.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is 14 km southeast from the Evaluation Area.
Centromadia parryi ssp. *congdonii* Congdon's tarplant	-- / -- / 1B	Valley and foothill grassland on heavy clay, saline, or alkaline soils at elevations of 0-230 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms May-November.	**Moderate** Suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located about 6 km northwest from the Evaluation Area along Highway 101.
Chorizanthe pungens var. *pungens* Monterey spineflower	FT / -- / 1B	Maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland on sandy soils at elevations of 3-450 meters. Annual herb in the Polygonaceae family; blooms April-July.	**Unlikely** Suitable habitat may be present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located 800 m south from the Evaluation Area.
Clarkia jolonensis Jolon clarkia	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodland, chaparral, riparian woodland, and coastal scrub at elevations of 20-660 meters. Annual herb in the Onagraceae family; blooms April-June.	**Low** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located 2 km east from the Evaluation Area.
Delphinium californicum ssp. interius Hospital Canyon California larkspur	-- / -- / 1B	Openings in chaparral, coastal scrub, and mesic areas of cismontane woodland at elevations of 230-1095 meters. Perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae family; blooms April-June.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Eriogonum heermannii var. occidentale Western Heermann's buckwheat	-- / -- / 1B	Often serpentinite; usually roadsides or alluvium floodplains, rarely clay or shale slopes. Cismontane woodland (openings). 102-986 meters, blooms July-October.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Eriogonum nortonii Pinnacles buckwheat	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral and valley and foothill grassland on sandy soils, often on recent burns, at elevations of 300-975 meters. Annual herb in the Polygonaceae family; blooms May-September.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Juncus luciensis Santa Lucia dwarf rush	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, Great Basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows, seeps, and vernal pools at elevations of 300-2040 meters. Annual herb in the Juncaceae family; blooms April-July.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.

Species	Status (USFWS/ CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within Project Vicinity
Layia heterotricha Pale-yellow layia	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodlands, coastal scrub, pinyon and juniper woodlands, and valley and foothill grasslands on alkaline or clay soils at elevations of 300-1705 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family blooms March-June.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Malacothamnus aboriginum Indian Valley bush-mallow	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral and cismontane woodland on rocky or granitic soils, often in burned areas, at elevations of 150-1700. Deciduous shrub in the Malvaceae family; blooms April-October.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Malacothamnus davidsonii Davidson's bush-mallow	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, coastal scrub, riparian woodland; 185-855 meters. Deciduous shrub. Blooms: June-January.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Malacothrix saxatilis var. *arachnoidea* Carmel Valley malacothrix	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral and coastal scrub on rocky soils at elevations of 25-1036 meters. Perennial rhizomatous herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms June-December.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located 20 km southwest from the Evaluation Area.
Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. *radians* Shining navarretia	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools at elevations of 76-1000 meters. Annual herb in the Polemoniaceae family; blooms April-July.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located 20 km northeast from the Evaluation Area.
Nemacladus secundiflorus var. robbinsii Robbins' nemacladus	-- / -- / 1B	Openings in chaparral and valley and foothill grasslands at elevations of 350-1700 meters. Annual herb in the Campanulaceae family; blooms April- June.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Plagiobothrys uncinatus Hooked popcorn-flower	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, cismontane woodlands, and valley and foothill grasslands on sandy soils at elevations of 300-760 meters. Annual herb in the Boraginaceae family; blooms April-May.	**Unlikely** Evaluation Area is located outside of the known elevation range of this species.
Senecio aphanactis Chaparral ragwort	-- / -- / 2B	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub, sometimes on alkaline soils, at elevations of 15-800 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms January-April.	**Unlikely** No suitable habitat is present within the Evaluation Area. The nearest CNDDB occurrence is located 10 km east from the Evaluation Area.

STATUS DEFINITIONS

Federal

FE = listed as Endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act
FT = listed as Threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act
FC = Candidate for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act
-- = no listing

State

SE = listed as Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act
ST = listed as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act
SR = listed as Rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act
SC = Candidate for listing under the California Endangered Species Act
CSC = California Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern
CFP = California Fully Protected Animal
WL = CDFW Watch List
CNDDB = This designation is being assigned to animal species with no other status designation defined in this table. These animal species are included in the Department's CNDDB "Special Animals" list (2018), which includes all taxa the CNDDB is interested in tracking, regardless of their legal or protection status. This list is also referred to as the list of "species at risk" or "special-status species." The Department considers the taxa on this list to be those of the greatest conservation need.
-- = no listing

California Native Plant Society

1B = California Rare Plant Rank 1B species; rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
2B = California Rare Plant Rank 2B species; rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
3 = California Rare Plant Rank 3species; CNPS review list
4 = California Rare Plant Rank 4 Limited distribution (CNPS Watch List)
-- = no listing

POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

Present = known occurrence of species within the site and presence of suitable habitat conditions; or observed during field surveys
High = known occurrence of species in the immediate vicinity; presence of suitable habitat conditions
Moderate = known occurrence of species in the vicinity; presence of suitable habitat conditions within the site
Low = species known to occur in the vicinity; presence of marginal habitat conditions
Unlikely = species not known to occur in the vicinity; no suitable habitat conditions
Not Present = species was not observed during surveys; or site lacks specialize habitat features to support the species

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