

APPENDIX A

INITIAL STUDY / NOTICE OF PREPARATION

APPENDIX A.1

INITIAL STUDY



Initial Study

Ethanac Logistics Center

PLN22-05326, PLN22-05327, PLN22-05328, PLN22-00030

Prepared for the Lead Agency:



September 2023



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INITIAL STUDY

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September 22, 2023

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ACRONYMS LIST

| <u>Acronym</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
|-----------------------|--|
| AB 52 | Assembly Bill 52 |
| ADA | American Disabilities Act |
| AICUZ | Air Installation Compatible Use Zone Study |
| ALUC | Airport Land Use Commission |
| APN | Assessor Parcel Number |
| APZ | Accident Potential Zone |
| ASTM | ASTM International Standard |
| AQMP | Air Quality Management Plan |
| Basin | South Coast Air Basin |
| BMP | Best Management Practice |
| CARB | California Air Resources Board |
| CCR | California Code of Regulations |
| CDFW | California Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| CEQA | California Environmental Quality Act |
| CHSC | California Health and Safety Code |
| City | City of Perris |
| CMP | Congestion Management Program |
| CNEL | Community Noise Equivalent Level |
| CNDDB | California Natural Diversity Database |
| CO | Carbon Monoxide |
| CREC | Controlled Recognized Environmental Conditions |
| CZ | Change of Zone |
| DIF | Development Impact Fees |
| DOT | United States Department of Transportation Office of Hazards and Materials Safety |
| DPR | Development Plan Review |
| DTSC | Department Toxic Substances Control |
| EIR | Environmental Impact Report |
| EMWD | Eastern Municipal Water District |
| EPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| ESA | Environmental Site Assessment |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| FIRM | Flood Insurance Rate Map |
| FMMP | Farmland Mapping Management Program |
| FT | feet |

| <u>Acronym</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
|-----------------------|---|
| GHG | Greenhouse Gas |
| GMZ | Groundwater management zone |
| GP | City of Perris Comprehensive General Plan 2030 |
| GPA | General Plan Amendment |
| HREC | Historical Recognized Environmental Conditions |
| IPA LUCP | Inland Port Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan |
| I-215 | Interstate 215 |
| IS | Initial Study |
| LI | Light Industrial |
| LST | Localized Significance Threshold |
| MARB/IPA | March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport |
| MDP | Master Drainage Plan |
| MRZ | Mineral Resources Zone |
| MSHCP | Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan |
| NAHC | Native American Heritage Commission |
| NCCP | Natural Communities Conservation Plan |
| ND | Negative Declaration |
| NO ₂ | Nitrogen Dioxide |
| NO _x | Nitrogen Oxides |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| PM-2.5 | Particulate Matter Less Than 2.5 Microns in Diameter |
| PM-10 | Particulate Matter Less Than 10 Microns in Diameter |
| PRC | Public Resource Code |
| PVC | Perris Valley Channel |
| PVRWRF | Perris Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility |
| RCA | Regional Conservation Authority |
| RCFD | Riverside County Fire Department |
| REC | Recognized Environmental Conditions |
| ROW | Right-of-way |
| RTP/SCS | Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy |
| RWQCB | Regional Water Quality Control Board |
| SF | Square Feet |
| SCAG | Southern California Association of Governments |
| SCAQMD | South Coast Air Quality Management District |
| SKR HCP | Stephen's Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan |
| SR | State Route |

| <u>Acronym</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
|-----------------------|--|
| SRA | State Responsibility Area |
| SWPPP | Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan |
| SWRCB | State Water Resources Control Board |
| TDS | Total dissolved solids |
| TPM | Tentative Parcel Map |
| USFWS | United States Fish and Wildlife Service |
| UWMP | Urban Water Management Plan |
| VMT | Vehicle Miles Traveled |
| WRC RCA | Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority |
| WQCO | Water Quality Control Plan |
| WQMP | Water Quality Management Plan |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and Scope

This Initial Study (IS) has been prepared in accordance with the following:

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.); and
- Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (State CEQA Guidelines) (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 et seq.).

Pursuant to CEQA, this IS has been prepared to analyze the potential for significant impacts on the environment resulting from implementation of the proposed Ethanac Logistics Center (proposed Project), described in greater detail in Section 3.0 – Project Description below.

If an IS prepared for a proposed project determines that no significant effects on the environment would occur or that potentially significant impacts can be reduced to less than significant levels with implementation of specified mitigation measures, the Lead Agency shall prepare a Negative Declaration (ND) or a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15070–15075. An ND or MND is a statement by the Lead Agency attesting that a project would produce less than significant impacts or that potentially significant impacts can be reduced to less than significant levels with mitigation. If the IS determines that significant effects may occur, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) shall be prepared. This further environmental review (i.e., the EIR) is required to address the potentially significant environmental effects of the project and to provide mitigation where necessary and feasible.

Pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, the City of Perris is the Lead Agency and is charged with the responsibility of deciding whether or not to approve the proposed Project. This Initial Study has evaluated each of the issue areas contained in the checklist provided in Section 6.0 – Environmental Checklist of this document. The objective of this environmental document is to inform City of Perris decision makers, representatives of other affected/responsible agencies, and other interested parties of the potential environmental effects that may be associated with implementation of the proposed Project.

1.2 Document Organization

This Initial Study includes the following:

Section 1.0 – Introduction. Provides information about CEQA and its requirements for environmental review. It further explains an Initial Study was prepared to evaluate the proposed Project’s potential impact to the physical environment to determine if an EIR is required.

Section 2.0 – Project Summary. Provides summary of Project Information.

Section 3.0 – Environmental Setting. Provides information about the Project’s Location.

Section 4.0 – Project Description. Provides a description of the proposed Project’s physical features and characteristics.

Section 5.0 – Environmental Analysis and Determination. Provides a summary of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the Proposed Project.

Section 6.0 – Environmental Checklist. Includes the Environmental Checklist Form (Form) from Appendix G of the 2023 State CEQA Guidelines. This section includes a series of questions about the

project for each of the listed environmental topics. The Form evaluates the proposed Project's potential to result in significant adverse effects to the physical environment, identifies any mitigation measures that may reduce impacts to less than significant, and identifies if an EIR is required, and if an EIR is required, what environmental topics need to be analyzed.

Section 7.0 – References. Identifies the references used in preparation of this Initial Study.

1.3 Initial Study Summary of Findings

As identified through the analysis presented in this IS, with incorporation of applicable mitigation measures and General Plan policies, the proposed Project would have no impacts or less than significant impacts related to aesthetic resources, agriculture and forestry resources, biological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, and wildfire. Further analysis for the following environmental topics is required in a forthcoming Draft EIR due to the potential for significant impacts:

- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geological Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

1.4 Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following reports and/or studies are applicable to development of the Project site and are hereby incorporated by reference:

- *Perris Comprehensive General Plan 2030*, City of Perris, originally approved on April 26, 2005 (GP). (Available at <https://www.cityofperris.org/departments/development-services/general-plan>)
- *Perris General Plan 2030 Draft Environmental Impact Report*, SCH No. 2004031135, certified April 26, 2005 (GP DEIR). (Available at <https://www.cityofperris.org/home/showpublisheddocument/451/637203139698630000>)

These reports/studies are also available for review at:

Public Service Counter
City of Perris Planning Division
135 N. D Street
Perris, California 92570
(951) 943-5003
Hours: Monday – Thursday: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

1.5 Contact Person

The Lead Agency for the proposed Project is the City of Perris. Any questions about the preparation of the IS, its assumptions, or its conclusions should be referred to the following:

Nathan Perez, Senior Planner
City of Perris Planning Division
135 N. D Street Perris, California 92570
(951)943-5003 / nperez@cityofperris.org

2.0 PROJECT SUMMARY

| | |
|--|---|
| Project Title | Ethanac Logistics Center Case No.'s: PLN22-05326, PLN22-05327, PLN22-05328, PLN22-00030 |
| Lead Agency | City of Perris 101 N. D Street Perris, California 92570 |
| Lead Agency Contact | Nathan Perez, Senior Planner City of Perris, Planning Division 135 N. D Street Perris, California 92570 (951)943-5003 / nperez@cityofperris.org |
| Project Location | The proposed development area is comprised of both onsite and offsite areas totaling approximately 32 gross acres. The Project site encompasses approximately 20 on-site gross acres located at the northeastern corner of Trumble Road and Ethanac Road in the City of Perris, Riverside County, California. The proposed Project site consists of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 329-240-016 through -020 and -023 through -027. The proposed development area also includes an additional approximately 12 gross acres of offsite improvement areas located within the rights-of-way of Sherman Road, Trumble Road, Ethanac Road, and Illinois Avenue. The Project site is located within Section 10, Township 5 South, Range 3 West, of the San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. Maps are reflected in Figure 1, Regional Map and Figure 2, Aerial Site Boundary, Figure 3, USGS Topographic Map , respectively. |
| Project Sponsor's Name and Address | Hillwood 901 Via Piemonte, Ste 175 Ontario, CA 91764 |
| General Plan and Zoning Designation | The Project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community as reflected in Figure 6, Existing General Plan Land Use Designation and Figure 7, Existing Zoning Designation , respectively. |
| Airport Compatibility Zone | The Project site is located approximately 2.2 miles to the southwest of the Perris Valley Airport and is located outside of the Perris Valley Airport Influence Area. However, the Project site is located within the March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Land Use Plan Compatibility Plan Zone D – Flight Corridor Buffer as reflected in Figure 8, March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Compatibility Zones . |
| Project Description | The Ethanac Logistics Center (proposed Project) would involve a change of the General Plan Land Use designation for the Project site from Community Commercial to Light Industrial (LI), a change of zoning from Commercial Community to LI, and the consolidation of ten existing parcels into one parcel in order to develop the approximately 20-gross-acre site with one 412,348-square-foot warehouse building including infrastructure, appurtenances, associated parking areas and associated approximately 12 gross acres of potential offsite areas supporting improvements as reflected in Figure 9, Proposed General Plan Amendment, Figure 10, Change of Zone, Figure 11, Tentative Parcel Map 38600 , and Figure 12, Development Plan Review . |

| | |
|---|--|
| Surrounding Land Uses and Setting | <p>North: Industrial uses and vacant land East: City of Menifee and legal non-conforming residential uses South: City of Menifee, legal non-conforming residential, and industrial uses West: Vacant</p> |
| Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City of Menifee ▪ Eastern Municipal Water District ▪ Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District ▪ Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission ▪ Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board ▪ South Coast Air Quality Management District |

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1 Project Location

The proposed development area is comprised of both onsite and offsite areas totaling approximately 32 gross acres. The Project site encompasses approximately 20 gross acres located at the northeast corner of Trumble Road and Ethanac Road, in the City of Perris (City), Riverside County as reflected in **Figure 1, Regional Map** and **Figure 2, Aerial Site Boundary**. The proposed Project site consists of Assessor’s Parcel Numbers (APNs) 329-240-016 through -020 and -023 through -027. The proposed development area also includes an additional approximately 12 gross acres of offsite improvement areas located within the rights-of-way of Sherman Road, Trumble Road, Ethanac Road, and Illinois Avenue, also identified in **Figure 2**. The Project site is located within Section 10, Township 5 South, Range 3 West, of the San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian as reflected in **Figure 3, USGS Topographic Map**.

The City of Perris is divided into ten planning areas. The Project site is located within the southeast portion of the City; specifically Planning Area 9. The Project site’s southern and eastern borders lie adjacent to the City of Menifee, so roadway improvements along these frontages may slightly encroach into the City of Menifee. Additionally, drainage improvements are necessary just north of the site to connect to existing facilities. These improvements may also encroach into the City of Menifee.

3.2 Existing Setting

The Project area is relatively flat, sloping in a southeasterly direction with elevations ranging from 1,427 to 1,433 feet above mean sea level. The Project site is unimproved, vacant, and generally flat; dominated by fallow field. A chain link fence is located along the northern boundary of the site. Historically, the site has been used for agricultural purposes. Views of the Project site in its existing condition are provided in **Figure 4, Project Site Photographs 1-3** and **Figure 5, Project Site Photographs 4-5**.

The Project site is located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Mead Valley Area Plan. The Project site is not located within an MSHCP Criteria Cell, Cell Group, or Linkage Area. The Project site contains disturbed vegetation that receives frequent weed abatement (i.e., chain flail mowing, disking).

3.3 Existing General Plan Land Use and Zoning Designation

The Project site has a General Plan land use designation of Community Commercial and a Zoning designation of Commercial Community as reflected in **Figure 6, Existing General Plan Land Use Designation** and **Figure 7, Existing Zoning Designation**.

3.4 Surrounding Land Uses

The area to the east and south of the Project site is located within the City of Menifee. The area surrounding the Project site is dominated by vacant land, as well as existing industrial and residential uses as shown on **Figure 2** above, and as described in **Table A, Surrounding Land Uses**, below.

Table A, Surrounding Land Uses

| Location | Existing Land Usage | General Plan Land Use Designation | Zoning Designation |
|---------------------|---|--|--|
| Project Site | Unimproved and Vacant | Community Commercial | Commercial Community |
| North | Industrial uses and vacant land | Commercial Retail (CR); Light Industrial (LI) | Commercial Retail (CR); Light Industrial (LI) |
| East | City of Menifee Legal non-conforming residential uses | Business Park (BP) | Business Park (BP) |
| South | City of Menifee Legal non-conforming residential and industrial uses | Commercial Retail (CR); Business Park (BP) | Commercial Retail (CR); Business Park (BP) |
| West | Vacant land | Community Commercial | Commercial Community |

3.5 Airport Land Use

The Project site is located approximately 2.2 miles to the southwest of the Perris Valley Airport and is located outside of the Perris Valley Airport Influence Area. However, the Project is located within the March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Land Use Plan Compatibility Plan Zone D – Flight Corridor Buffer as reflected in **Figure 8, March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Compatibility Zones**.

3.6 Vehicular Circulation and Site Access

Regional access to the Project site is provided via Interstate 215 (I-215) located approximately one-quarter mile west of the Project site and State Route 74 (SR-74) east of the site. Existing roadways surrounding the Project site include Trumble Road, Sherman Road, and Ethanac Road. Primary access to the Project site is provided from Trumble Road to the west and Ethanac Road to the south. The City of Perris General Plan– Circulation Element describes the roadway designations and current conditions as described below.

- Trumble Road is a north-south two-lane undivided roadway designated for 78 feet of right-of-way (ROW) and is classified by the City of Perris General Plan Circulation Element as a Major Collector. Trumble Road is currently a paved two-lane roadway with no sidewalks or curbs and gutters and has not been improved to its ultimate buildout condition.
- Sherman Road is a north-south two-lane roadway designated for 60 feet of ROW and is classified by the City of Perris General Plan Circulation Element as a Local roadway. Sherman Road is currently a paved two-lane roadway with no sidewalks or curbs and gutters and has not been improved to its ultimate buildout condition.

- Ethanac Road is an east-west two-lane undivided roadway designated for 184 feet of ROW and is classified by the City of Perris General Plan Circulation Element as an Expressway. Ethanac Road is currently a paved two-lane roadway and does not contain sidewalks, curbs and gutters, or traffic light signals. It has not been improved to its ultimate buildout condition. Ethanac Road is also a designated truck route that provides direct access to I-215.
- Illinois Avenue is an east-west two-lane roadway with striped center lane, curb and gutter and streetlights on both sides of the roadway, and sidewalk with landscaped area on the northern side of the roadway and a portion of the southern side of the roadway. Illinois Avenue is not classified as a General Plan roadway.

The Project would include improvements to roadways along Project site frontage (Sherman Road, Ethanac Road and Trumble Road) as well as offsite areas along Trumble Road (north of the Project site to Illinois Avenue) and Illinois Avenue (from Trumble Road and potentially up to I-215), and potential improvements to the intersection of Trumble Road and Ethanac Road. The Project site is adjacent to the City of Menifee. The centerlines of Sherman Road and Ethanac Road delineates the boundaries between the City of Perris and City of Menifee, with the City of Menifee limits located east of the centerline of Sherman Road and south of the General Plan centerline of Ethanac Road. The centerline of Trumble Road, north of the Project site delineates the boundaries between the City of Perris and City of Menifee; with Perris limits located west of the centerline and Menifee limits located east of the centerline. The City of Menifee General Plan Circulation Element describes these roadways as follows:

- Trumble Road is a north-south roadway designated for 74 feet of ROW and classified by the City of Menifee General Plan as a Collector.
- Sherman Road is a north-south roadway designated for 118 feet of ROW classified by the City of Menifee General Plan as a Major roadway.
- Ethanac Road is an east-west roadway designated for 184 feet to 220 feet of ROW and is classified by the City of Menifee General Plan as an Expressway.

3.7 Public Transit

The City of Perris is currently served by the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA). However, the Project site is not currently served by any designated RTA route. Metrolink provides heavy-rail, regional transit service to the counties of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Ventura, San Diego, and Riverside. The closest Metrolink stations are the Perris South and Perris Downtown stations; approximately 1.5 miles and 3 miles northwest of the site, respectively.

4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 Land Use Applications

The proposed Project includes the following entitlement applications for consideration by the City of Perris:

- General Plan Amendment (GPA) Case No. PLN22-05326: Proposed to amend the City of Perris General Plan land use designation and redesignate the approximately 20-gross-acre site from Community Commercial to Light Industrial as per **Figure 9, Proposed General Plan Amendment.**
- Change of Zone (CZ) Case No. PLN22-05327: Proposed to rezone the approximately 20-gross-acre site from Commercial Community to Light Industrial as per **Figure 10, Proposed Change of Zone.**

- Tentative Parcel Map No. 38600 (TPM) Case No. PLN22-05328: Proposed to consolidate the existing ten (10) parcels at the Project site into one parcel and to dedicate portions of Tumble Road, Sherman Road, and Ethanac Road ROW as per **Figure 11, Tentative Parcel Map 38600**.
- Development Plan Review (DPR) Case No. PLN22-00030: Proposed to develop an approximately 20-gross-acre site with a 412,348-square-foot building consisting of a high-cube speculative warehouse for distribution uses as per **Figure 12, Development Plan Review**. It is anticipated that 50,000 square feet of the building could be utilized for cold-refrigerated storage and 15,000 square feet would be utilized for supporting office uses. In addition to the approximately 20 gross acre site, approximately 12 additional gross acres of offsite improvements are included.

4.2 Proposed Project

The Ethanac Logistics Center (proposed Project) includes all onsite and offsite improvements and involves the merging of ten parcels at the Project site to create one approximately 20-gross-acre parcel for the construction and operation of a 412,348-square-foot warehouse building including infrastructure, appurtenances, associated parking areas, and associated offsite supporting improvements. The building is proposed to accommodate high-cube warehouse distribution uses, anticipating that 50,000 square feet could be utilized for cold-refrigerated storage and 15,000 square feet for supporting office uses. The building would include some solar panels on the rooftop, 32 dock doors on the east side, and 29 dock doors on the west side. The proposed Project would be constructed as a speculative or “spec” building; that is, there is not a specific tenant identified at this time. It is anticipated that the building could operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The warehouse is not anticipated to include e-commerce.

As shown on **Figure 13, Building Elevations**, the design of the building is modern industrial and includes concrete tilt-up wall construction with board-formed cement veneer and standard window glazing. The building height would not exceed the City’s maximum standard of 50 feet. Consistent with the Perris Municipal Code, Chapter 19.44 Industrial Zones, the proposed site plan includes outdoor employee amenities. Two outdoor patio areas are proposed: one patio area adjacent to the southwestern office and another patio area near the southeastern office area. Future tenants would be required to provide an indoor employee amenity area.

Project Site Access

The Project site’s automobile entrance would be separate from the truck entrance. Automobile vehicles would access the Project site via two driveways along Ethanac Road. Trucks would access the site via two separate driveways along Trumble Road. Emergency access would also be available from Trumble Road. No access is proposed to be offered from Sherman Road.

Parking

The automobile parking area would be physically separated from the trucks’ path of travel by the building and an 8-foot-high manually operated metal gate containing view obscuring mesh and a Knox-pad for emergency vehicle access. The Project would provide a total of 106 passenger vehicle parking stalls, consisting of 76 standard stalls, 5 American Disabilities Act-compliant (ADA) stalls, and 25 Electric Vehicle (EV)/EV Capable) stalls. Passenger vehicle parking would be provided in the south and southeast corner of the building near the office areas. The Project would also include 157 trailer parking stalls. Bike racks would also be provided at the Project site for employee use, per City standards.

Pedestrian Circulation

Pedestrian paths of travel would be provided between passenger vehicle parking areas and the office areas away from the trucks' path of travel. The Project would also provide curbs and sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian access even though the site is not adjacent to any existing or planned area-wide open space, trails, parks, or other community amenities. Sidewalks would be installed along Ethanac Road, Trumble Road, and Sherman Road along the Project site's frontage. Class II Bike lanes would be provided along Ethanac Road along the Project's frontage.

Screening and Landscaping

The Project is proposed to be consistent with City standards and provide 14-foot-high screen walls and perimeter landscaping along the Project site's frontage. **Figure 14, Screening Details, Figure 15, Elevation Details, and Figure 16, Line of Sight** provides the typical elevations of the proposed screen walls, gates, trash enclosures, and views. The proposed landscaping consists of drought-tolerant and climate appropriate trees, shrubs and ground cover that include native species and would meet or exceed standards set forth in the Perris General Plan as reflected on **Figure 17, Conceptual Landscape Plan**. The landscape plan is designed to provide visual appeal and screen the views of the passenger vehicle parking lots from public rights-of-way as reflected in **Figure 18, View of Project Site**.

All roof mounted materials would be set back and fully screened from public view behind a parapet. Trash enclosures would be approximately 8 feet in height and utilize concrete tilt-up panels consistent with the proposed buildings.

Eastern Project Boundary

The Project boundary along Sherman Road includes a proposed 6-foot-high wall that would be sited atop an 8-foot-high retained berm to screen both the view of the truck parking areas and loading bays. A 47.8-foot-wide landscape area would further buffer and screen the Project site from Sherman Road. An additional 4 feet of landscape and 6-foot-wide sidewalk would be provided within the ROW along Sherman Road. The perimeter landscaping would include screening trees. The Project would also include roadway improvements to the centerline of Sherman Road.

Western Project Boundary

The Project boundary along Trumble Road includes a proposed 6-foot-high wall that would be sited atop an 8-foot-high retained berm to screen both the view of the truck parking areas and loading bays. A 56.3-foot-wide landscape area would further buffer and screen the Project site from Trumble Road. An additional 5 feet of landscape and 6-foot-wide sidewalk would be provided within the ROW along Trumble Road. Perimeter landscaping would include screening trees. The Project would also include roadway improvements along Trumble Road.

Northern Project Boundary

Along the northeastern-most boundary of the Project site, adjacent to the existing properties, the Project would provide a retaining screen wall ranging from 0.5 feet to 3.5 feet in height. A retaining wall ranging from 3 feet to 8 feet in height would be provided along the northwestern parking areas. The Project would also include roadway improvements north of the Project site to Illinois Avenue and Illinois Avenue west to Interstate 215.

Southern Project Boundary

Improvements along Ethanac Road would include a 25-foot-wide parkway with 8-foot-wide sidewalk. Perimeter landscaping would include screening trees. The Project would provide a 14-foot-high retaining wall along the southwestern parking area adjacent to the existing property located at the southwest corner of Ethanac and Trumble Roads. A landscape buffer would also be provided between the proposed building and the existing property's eastern boundary. The Project would also include roadway improvements just south of the centerline of Ethanac Road.

Lighting

Project lighting will include security lights along the buildings and wall and pole-mounted lights in the parking areas as reflected in **Figure 19, Proposed Lighting**. All Project-related lighting shall be required to conform to the Perris Municipal Code.

4.3 Infrastructure Improvements

Existing and proposed infrastructure is reflected in **Figure 20, Existing and Proposed Utilities**.

4.3.1 Water

Domestic water services in the Project vicinity are provided by the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD). There are existing water lines near the Project site: 12-inch diameter waterline in Trumble Road; 20-inch diameter waterline and 18-inch brackish waterline in Ethanac Road; 8-inch diameter waterline, 18-inch brackish waterline, brackish water blowoff valve, and fire hydrant in Sherman Road; as well as a 12-inch waterline in Sherman south of Ethanac Road. There is also an existing 8-inch water line in Illinois Avenue. The Project would connect to the 12-inch waterline in Trumble Road. The Project would also provide a diesel-powered fire flow pump that would be used for fire flow demands. The fire flow pump would only be used during fire emergencies and routine testing and would not be part of the Project's normal daily operations. No offsite water line improvements are proposed.

4.3.2 Recycled Water

Recycled water services in the Project vicinity are also provided by the EMWD. There are no existing recycled water lines adjacent to the Project site. The closest recycled water lines are within Case Road, west of I-215 and within McLaughlin Road, south of the Project site over half a mile away. The sizing of those recycled water lines do not account for irrigation demands from this proposed Project and the EMWD will not require extension of those lines. There are nearby projects in development that may result in construction of recycled water facilities closer to the Project site. The Project would include recycled water irrigation facilities that would connect to future recycled water facilities. In the meantime, irrigation lines within the Project site would connect to the existing 12-inch waterline in Trumble Road.

4.3.3 Sewer

Sewer (wastewater) collection and treatment services in the Project vicinity are also provided by the EMWD. There is an existing 15-inch sewer line in Ethanac Road, an existing 10-inch sewer line in Trumble Road, and an existing 8-inch sewer line in Sherman Road (south of Ethanac Road). The Project would connect to the existing 15-inch sewer line in Ethanac Road. No offsite sewer line improvements are proposed.

4.3.4 Storm Drain

The Project site is located within the Romoland Master Drainage Plan watershed area. There are no existing storm drain facilities adjacent to the Project site but the Project site is naturally tributary to the Romoland Master Drainage Plan (MDP) Line A-11 facility.

Onsite runoff would be conveyed throughout the site via proposed curb and gutters and captured by a network of drainage inlets that convey captured flows towards underground storage chambers before being pumped to a proposed biotreatment device for water quality treatment. Treated stormwater would then gravity flow to a proposed storm drain line in Trumble Road, that connects to City of Perris Line A (City Line A) in Illinois Avenue. City Line A connects to MDP Line A-11 which ultimately connects to MDP Line A.

Offsite flows tributary to the Project site, from east of Sherman Road, would be collected via proposed catch basins in Sherman Road and conveyed via storm drain to an underground storage chamber system on the west side of the Project site. Flows would then be pumped out of the storage system and confluence with the onsite flows in the proposed storm drain line in Trumble Road and continue from there, as described above.

The Project applicant would construct offsite drainage facilities traveling north of the Project site in Trumble Road to Illinois Avenue to connect to the existing Line A-11 (an existing 36-inch to 48-inch reinforced concrete pipe).

Hence, the Project applicant would construct onsite drainage improvements as well as offsite drainage improvements in Trumble Road north of the Project site to Illinois Avenue and along Illinois Avenue from Trumble Avenue to I-215 in order to connect to MDP Line A-11 and ultimately MDP Line A. The Project would be generally consistent with the Romoland MDP since flows will ultimately drain to MDP facility Line A. It is anticipated that construction of any off-site drainage facilities would occur within roadway ROW.

4.3.5 Utilities

Future development of the proposed Project site would require utility services provided by the purveyors identified in **Table B, Utility Purveyors**.

Table B, Utility Purveyors

| Services Provided | Purveyor |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Water/Recycled Water | EMWD |
| Sewer | EMWD |
| Telephone | Verizon/Frontier |
| Electricity | Southern California Edison |
| Natural gas | Southern California Gas Company |
| Solid Waste Disposal | CR&R Disposal |
| Cable Television/Internet | Frontier Communications |

There are existing utilities in the surrounding and offsite roadways as follows:

- Ethanac Road – There are two existing power poles located along Ethanac Road that would be undergrounded as part of roadway improvements. Ethanac Road includes existing 2-inch and 6-

inch gas lines. There are also existing overhead utility and power poles along the south side of the roadway but these would remain in place since this is not along the Project frontage,

- Sherman Road – There is an existing telephone and 2-inch gas line in Sherman Road as well as an existing overhead utility along the eastern side of the roadway.
- Trumble Road – Trumble Road includes an existing 2-inch gas line, telephone, and electricity.
- Illinois Avenue – There is an existing 2-inch gas line in Illinois Avenue.

4.4 Offsite Improvements

Offsite improvements are associated with storm drain facilities and roadway improvements as reflected in **Figure 2**, above. Drainage improvements would require an extension of City Line A, located along the west side of Trumble Road. Drainage improvements would extend from the Project site north in Trumble Road to Illinois Avenue and then west to I-215 in order to connect to existing MDP Line A-11 and ultimately MDP Line A, as discussed in Section 4.3.4 above. Construction of this line and repaving of Trumble Road would require an encroachment permit from the City of Menifee since improvements may extend slightly beyond the centerline and for construction traffic control. The Project may also be required to improve the intersection of Ethanac and Trumble Roads along frontage of the not-a-part parcel identified on the Development Plan. These improvements would also require an encroachment permit from the City of Perris for construction traffic control and potential encroachment over the roadway centerline.

4.5 Construction and Site Preparation

Project site construction would involve grading and earthwork within the site boundaries to accommodate the proposed warehouse structure, infrastructure, appurtenances, and associated parking areas as reflected in **Figure 21, Proposed Grading Plan**. The proposed warehouse building includes concrete tilt-up wall construction. Nighttime pouring of concrete is anticipated during summer months. The Project site grading would provide 15,600 cubic yards (CY) of cut and 66,100 CY of fill; hence would require 50,500 CY of soil import. Construction of offsite infrastructure such as storm drain facilities are also anticipated.

Prior to grading operations, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the statewide general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for stormwater discharge from construction sites. The SWPPP will include Project-specific best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion and sedimentation and is subject to review and comment by the City Public Works Department. BMPs may include, but not be limited to, soil stabilization controls, perimeter silt fences, placement of hay bales, and use of sediment basins. All erosion and sediment controls will be in accordance with the currently adopted state general permit. The developer and construction contractor would be responsible for implementing the BMPs in accordance with the SWPPP.

Project construction would not be phased and is anticipated to begin in Fall 2024. Construction is anticipated to be completed in 2025. This construction schedule represents a “worst-case” analysis. The duration of construction activity (and associated equipment) represents a reasonable approximation of the expected construction activities as required per the State CEQA Guidelines.

4.6 Airport Land Use Consistency Determination

The Project site is located within Zone D of the March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (MARB/IPA ALUCP). As such, the Project has been reviewed by the Riverside County

Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) to ensure compatibility with the MARB/IPA ALUCP. The ALUC determined via a public hearing June 8, 2023, that the Project is consistent with the MARB/IPA ALUCP. Due to a site plan change which placed the basin underground to provide more truck trailer parking subsequent to the June 2023 hearing, the site plan was reviewed again by ALUC staff pursuant to Policy 1.5.2(d) of the Countywide Policies of the 2004 Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and was determined by the ALUC Director to be consistent on August 22, 2023.

4.7 Sustainability Features

The Project would meet or exceed all applicable standards under California's Green Building Code (CalGreen) and the Building Energy Efficiency Standards contained in Title 24. The Project shall implement concepts of efficient design and material use that are consistent with LEED Certification Levels. This would be accomplished by incorporating, at a minimum, the following sustainability features or other features that are equally efficient:

Energy Efficiency

- Design building shells and components, such as windows, roof systems and electrical systems to meet California Title 24 Standards for nonresidential buildings.
- Design buildings to achieve U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) features for potential certification. This includes design considerations related to the building envelope, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, and power systems. Additionally, architectural expressions, such as roofs and windows in the buildings will relate to conserving energy.
- Install energy efficient light-emitting diodes (LED) lighting on the site. Provide skylights for natural daylight to reduce the lighting load, therefore saving energy. Lighting will incorporate motion sensors that turn them off when not in use.
- Meet City minimum landscape requirements and provide adequate landscape shade for the site to reduce energy use.
- Install light-colored roofing materials over office area spaces and light-colored paving materials.
- For future office space, install energy efficient HVAC systems (seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) 13), appliances and equipment, and control systems that are Energy Star® rated.
- For future office improvement, refrigerants and HVAC equipment will be selected to minimize or eliminate the emission of compounds that contribute to ozone depletion and global climate change. Ventilation and HVAC systems will be designed to meet or exceed the minimum outdoor air ventilation rates described in the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standards and/or per California Title 24 requirements.
- Incorporate Energy Star ® rated space heating and cooling equipment, light fixtures, appliances, or other applicable electrical equipment.

Water Conservation and Efficiency

- Surface parking lots will be landscaped in accordance with City standards to reduce heat island effect.
- Install water-efficient irrigation systems and devices, such as soil moisture-based irrigation controls and sensors for landscaping according to the California Department of Water

Resources Model Efficient Landscape Ordinance and Chapter 19.70 (Landscaping) of the Perris Municipal Code.

- Design buildings to be water-efficient. Install water-efficient fixtures in accordance with Section 5.303 of the California Green Building Standards Code Part 11.
- Restrict watering methods (e.g., prohibit systems that apply water to non-vegetated surfaces) and control runoff in accordance with City Standards.
- Provide education about water conservation and available programs and incentives to the building operators to distribute to employees.

Solid Waste Measures

- Recycle and/or salvage for reuse a minimum of 65 percent of the nonhazardous construction and demolition waste in accordance with Section 5.408.1 of the California Green Building Standards Code Part 11.
- Provide storage areas for recyclables and green waste and adequate recycling containers located in readily accessible areas in accordance with Section 5.410.1 of the California Green Building Standards Code Part 11.
- The property operator will provide readily available information provided by the City for employee education about reducing waste and available recycling services.

Transportation and Motor Vehicles

- Limit idling time for commercial vehicles to no more than five minutes per Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 2485.
- Provide electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and facilitate EV charging in accordance with Section 5.106.5.3, Electric Vehicle Charging Requirements, of the California Green Building Standards Code Part 11. Accordingly, the Project will provide 25 EV-capable parking spaces and at least 6 of these spaces will be equipped with EV charging stations at Project opening.
- Signage shall be posted onsite directing truck drivers to use existing City truck routes on Ethanac Road.
- Provide Class II bike lanes on Ethanac Road, within the Project's frontage, per the City's Active Transportation Plan.
- Provide adequate bicycle parking near building entrances to promote cyclist safety, security, and convenience in compliance with Section 5.106.4 of the California Green Building Standards Code Part 11 and standard City code requirements.

Onsite Equipment and Loading Docks

- The Project owner will inform building operators of existing requirements to turn off equipment, including heavy-duty equipment, motor vehicles, and portable equipment, when not in use for more than 5 minutes. Truck idling shall not exceed 5 minutes in time. All facilities will post signs (both interior and exterior facing signs, including signs directed at all dock and delivery areas) requiring that trucks shall not be left idling for more than 5 minutes pursuant to Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 2485, which limits idle times to not more than five minutes and to report violations to the California Air Resources Board, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, and the building manager.

- Service equipment (i.e., yard trucks and forklifts) used within the site shall be electric or powered by other alternative fuels.

Construction

- Require Construction Equipment to Turn Off When Not in Use per Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 2449.
- Use regionally produced and/or manufactured building materials, where feasible, for Project construction.

Use “green” building materials where feasible, such as those materials that are resource efficient and recycled and manufactured in an environmentally friendly way.

4.8 Discretionary Actions and Approvals

The following approvals and permits are required from the City of Perris to implement the proposed Project:

- **Certification of an EIR** with the determination that the EIR has been prepared in compliance with the requirements of CEQA;
- **General Plan Amendment (GPA)**, Case No. PLN22-05326, to amend the City of Perris General Plan and redesignate the approximately 20-acre site from Community Commercial to Light Industrial (LI).
- **Change of Zone (CZ)**, Case No. PLN22-05327, to rezone the approximately 20-acre site from Commercial Community Commercial to Light Industrial (LI).
- **Tentative Parcel Map (TPM)** No. 38600, Case No. PLN22-05328, to consolidate the existing ten (10) parcels at the Project site into one parcel and to dedicate portions of Tumble Road, Sherman Road, and Ethanac Road ROW; and
- **Development Plan Review (DPR)**: PLN22-00030, to develop an approximately 20-gross-acre site with a 412,348-square-foot building consisting of a high-cube speculative warehouse for distribution uses. It is anticipated that 50,000 square feet of the building could be utilized for cold-refrigerated storage and 15,000 square feet would be utilized for supporting office uses. In addition to the approximately 20-gross-acre site, approximately 12 additional gross acres of offsite improvements are included.

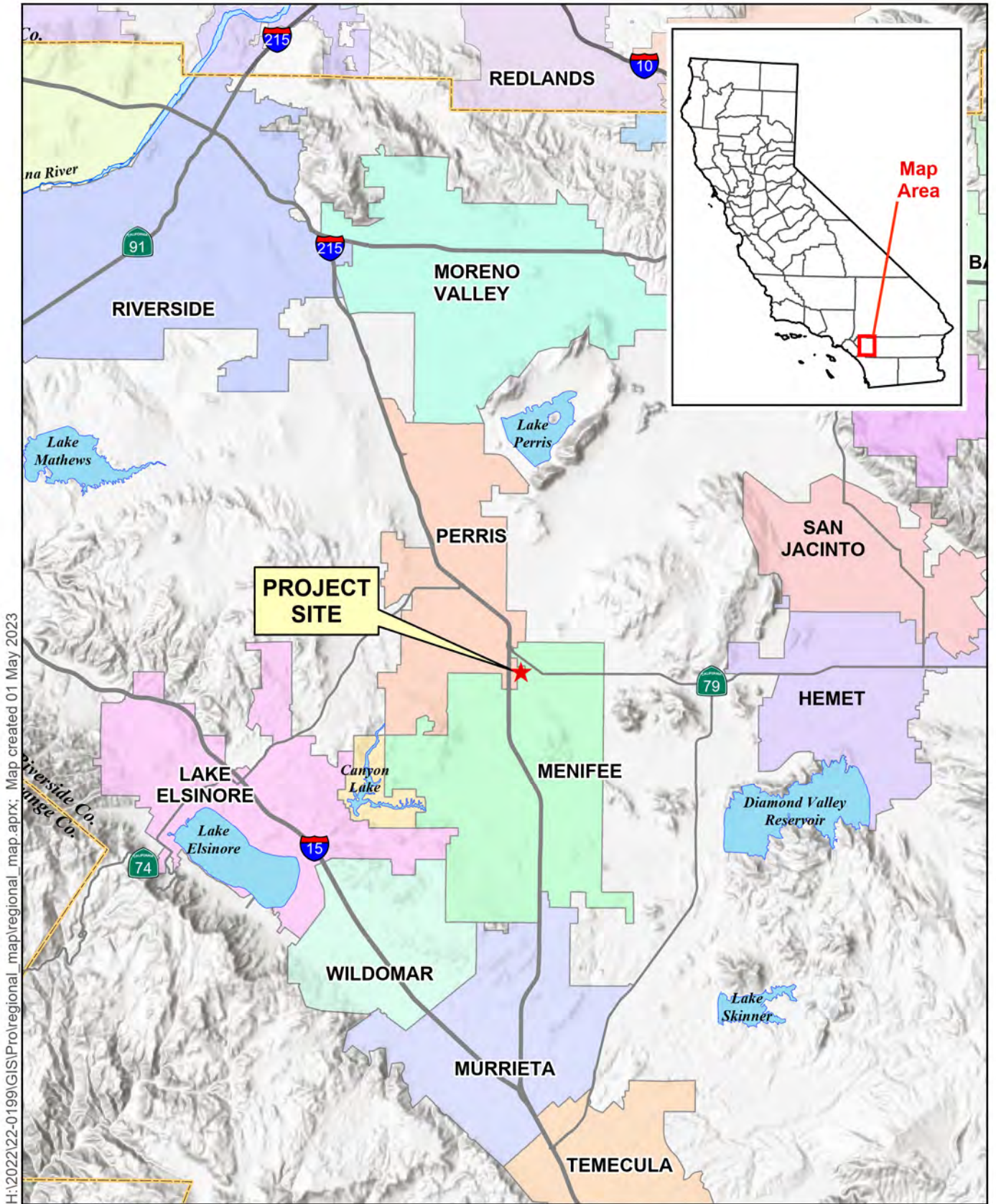
Other non-discretionary actions anticipated to be taken by the City at the staff level as part of the proposed Project include:

- Review and approval of all infrastructure plans, including street and utility improvements pursuant to the conditions of approval;
- Review all onsite and offsite plans, including grading and onsite and offsite utilities; and
- Approval of a preliminary Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) to mitigate post-construction runoff flows.

Approvals and permits that may be required by other agencies include:

- Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission – Consistency Determination with March Air Reserve Base Comprehensive Land Use Plan;

- Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) – A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to ensure that construction site drainage velocities are equal to or less than the pre-construction conditions and downstream water quality is not worsened;
- South Coast Air Quality Management District – Approval of permits to install and operate a diesel-powered fire water pump backup generator and compliance with the Indirect Source Rule (Rule 2305) for warehouse owners and operators;
- Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) – Approval of water and sewer improvement plans;
- Permits or associated approval by other utility agencies, as necessary, for installation of new utility infrastructure or connections to existing facilities;
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFCWCD) – Encroachment permits and approval of construction of the Romoland MDP storm drain line; and
- City of Menifee – Encroachment permits and approval of construction related to roadway improvements along Sherman Road and Ethanac Road, as well as connection to the Romoland MDP storm drain line for a portion of Trumble Road north of the Project site to Illinois Avenue.



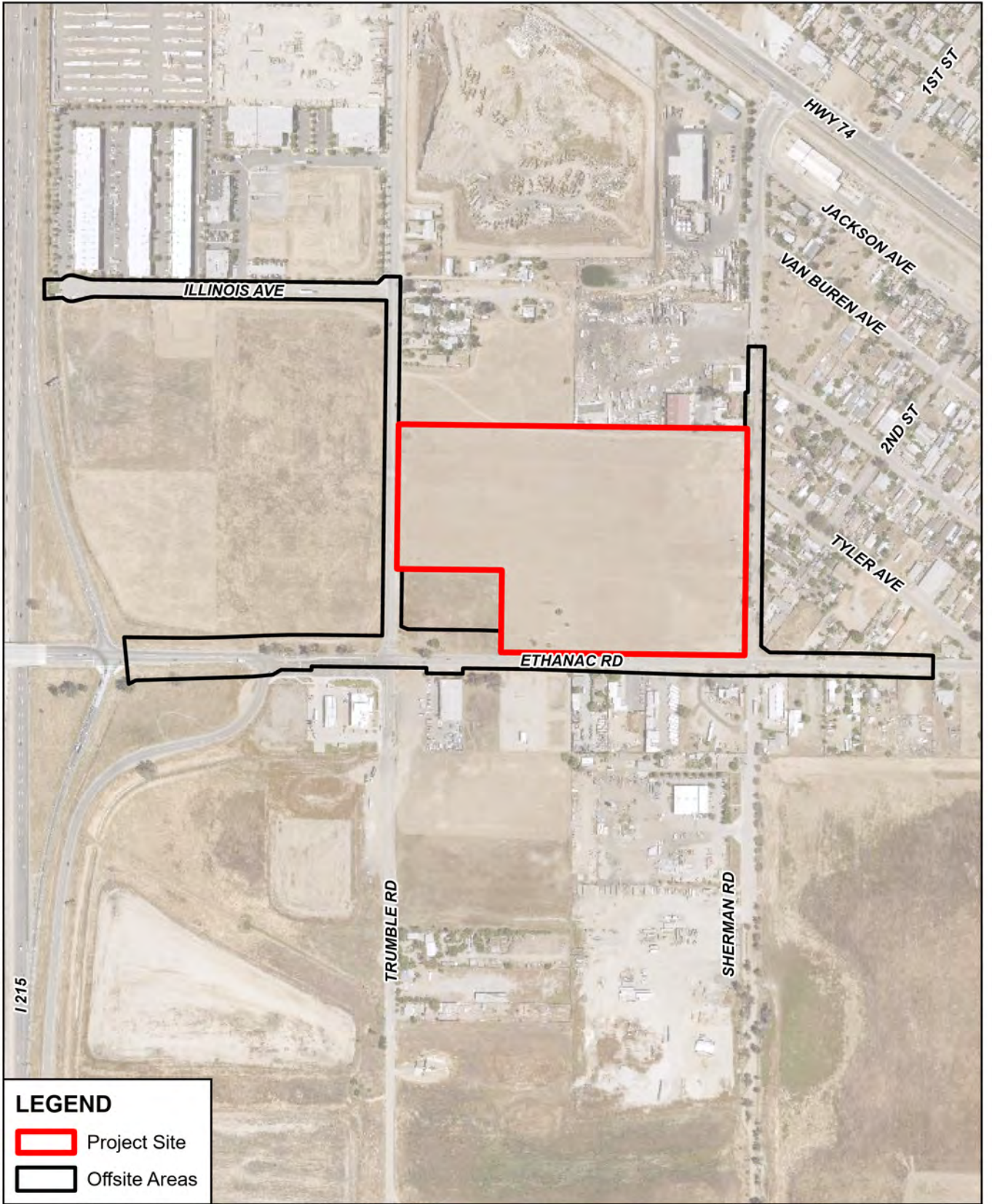
Source: Riverside County GIS, 2020

Figure 1 - Regional Map

Ethanac Logistics Center



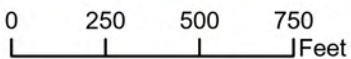
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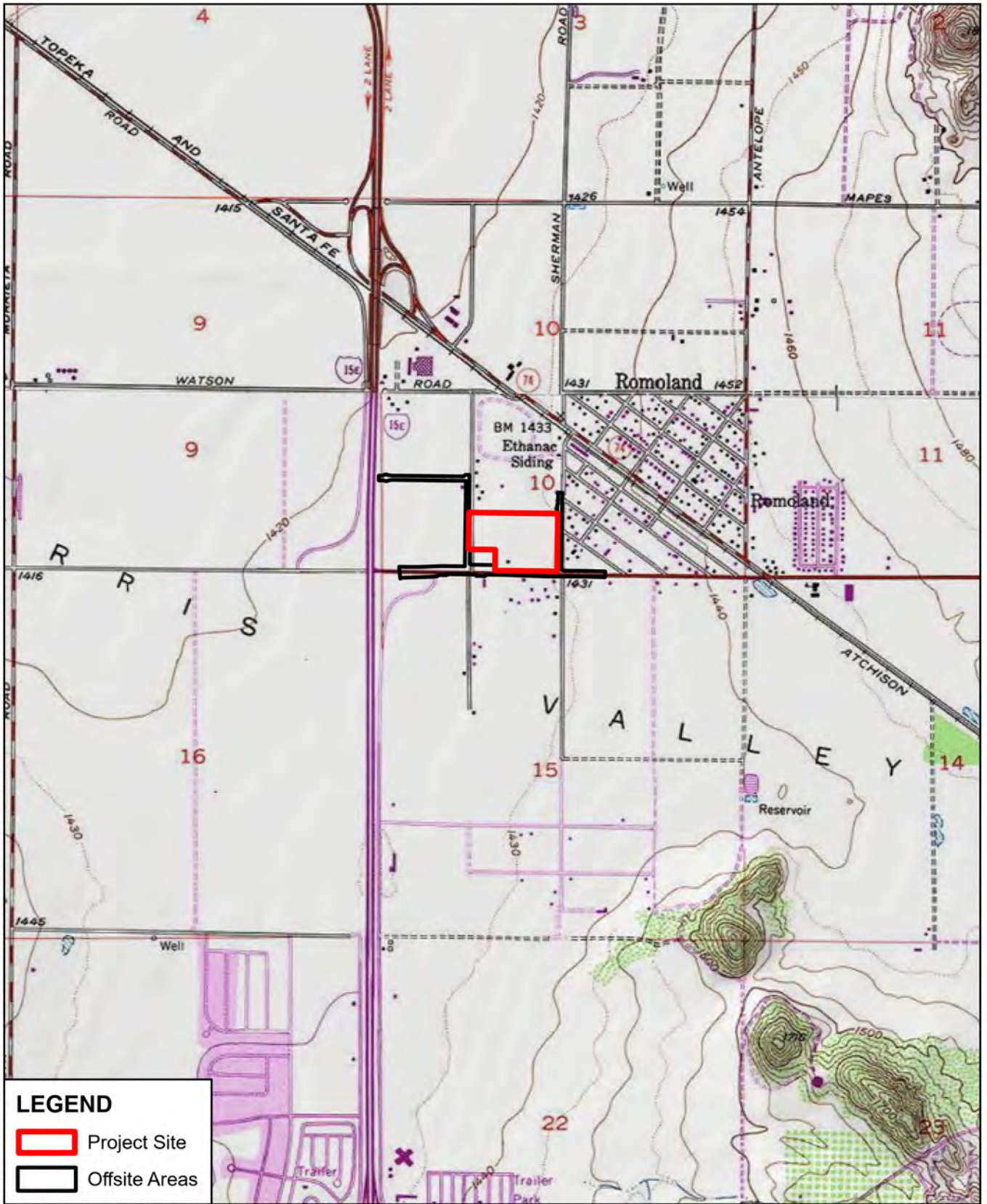
Sources: Riverside Co. 2020.

Figure 2 - Aerial Site Boundary

Ethanac Logistics Center

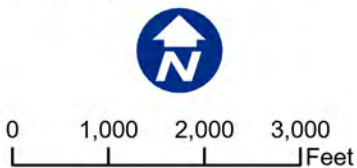


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Sources: ESRI/USGS 7.5min Quads:
ROMOLAND

Figure 3 - USGS Topographic Map
Ethanac Logistics Center



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Source: Riverside Co. 2020; ECorp (site images), 2021.

Figure 4 - Project Site Photographs 1-3

Ethanac Logistics Center



0 300 600 900 Feet

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Source: Riverside Co. 2020; ECorp (site images), 2021.

Figure 5 - Project Site Photographs 4-5

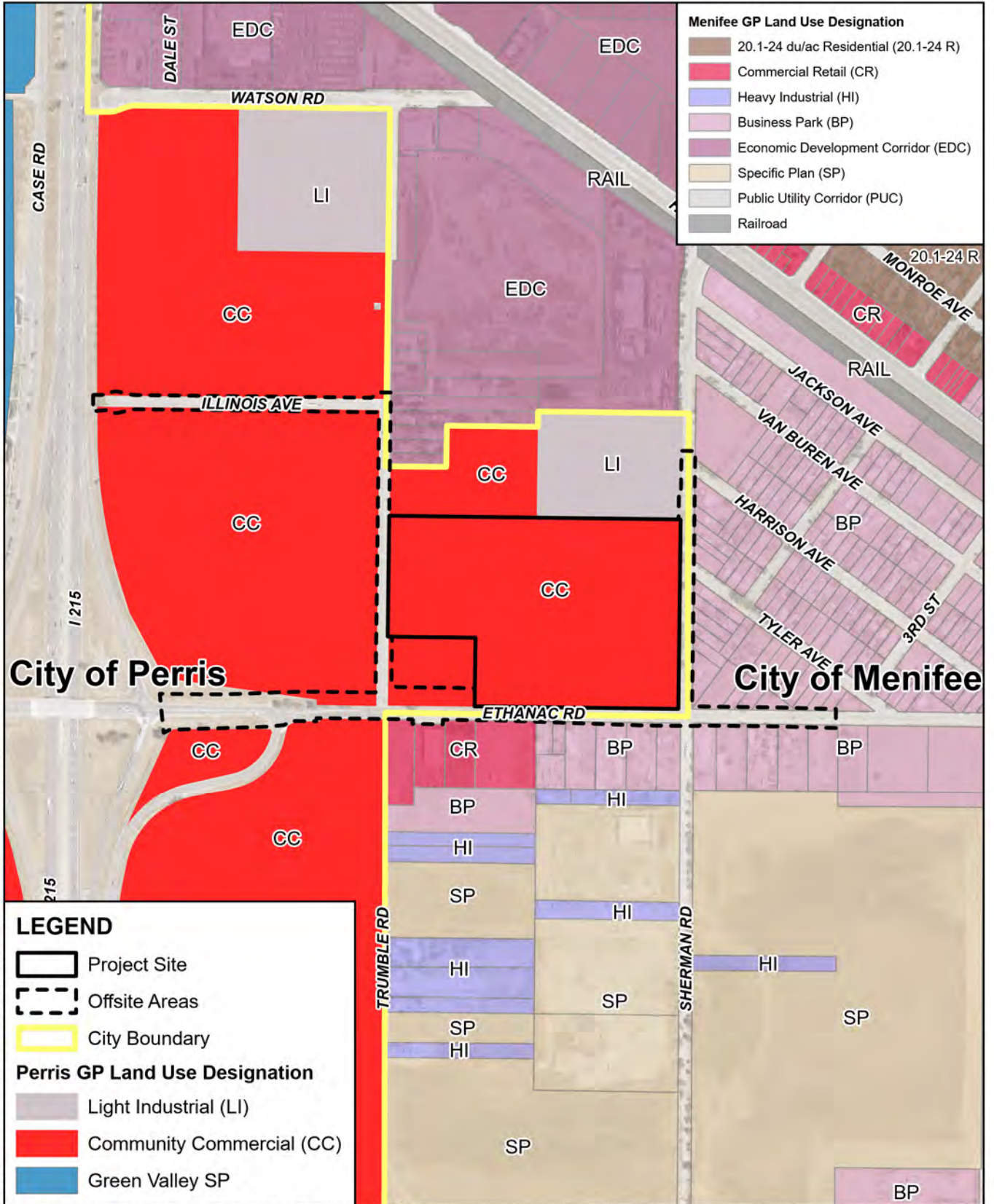
Ethanac Logistics Center



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Sources: City of Perris General Plan Land Use, 2018;
 City of Menifee GPLU, Dec. 2021;
 Riverside County, 2020.

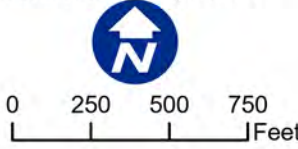
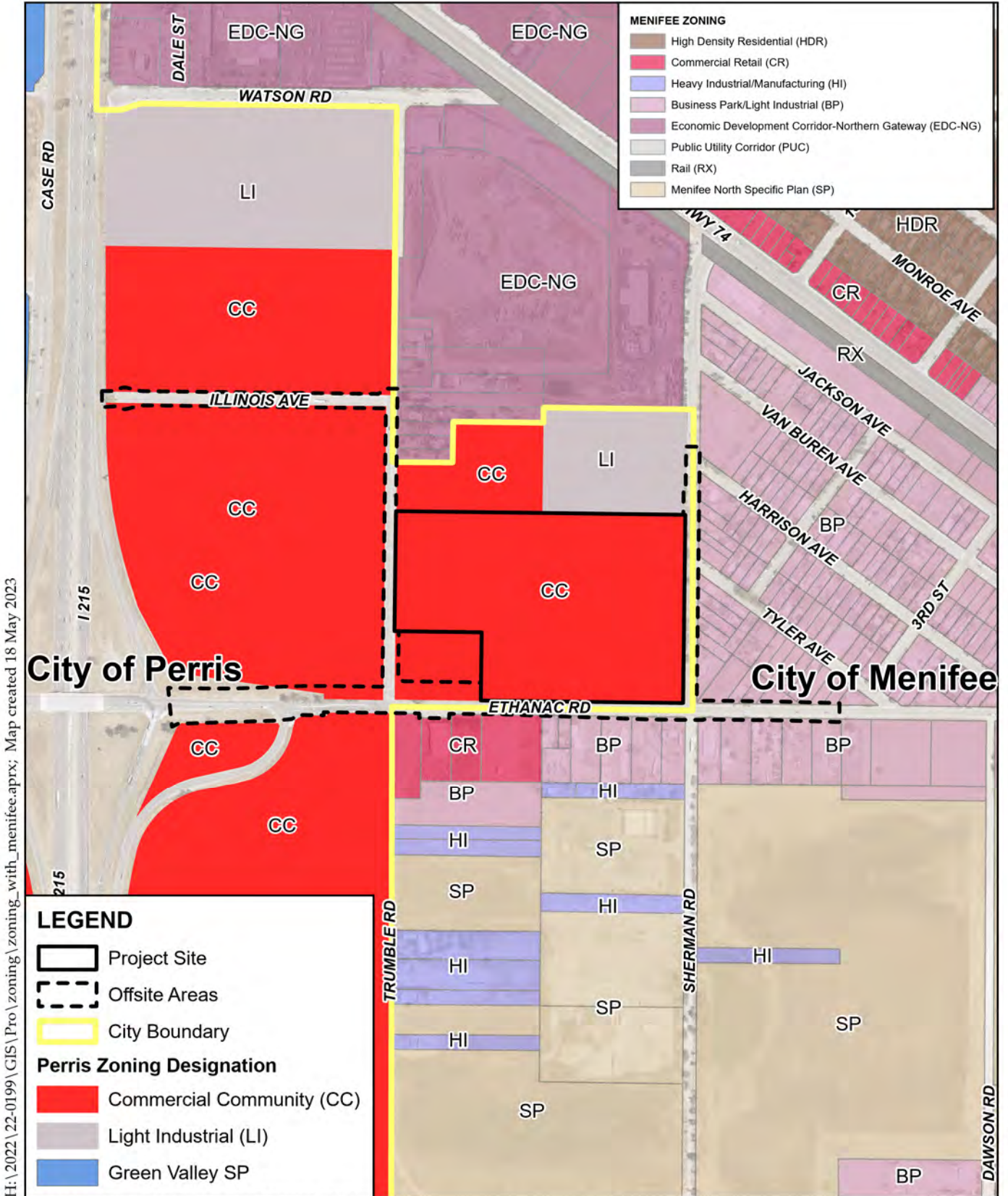


Figure 6 - Existing General Plan Land Use Designation

Ethanac Logistics Center

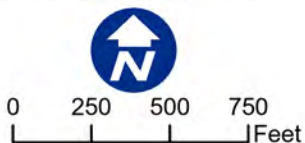




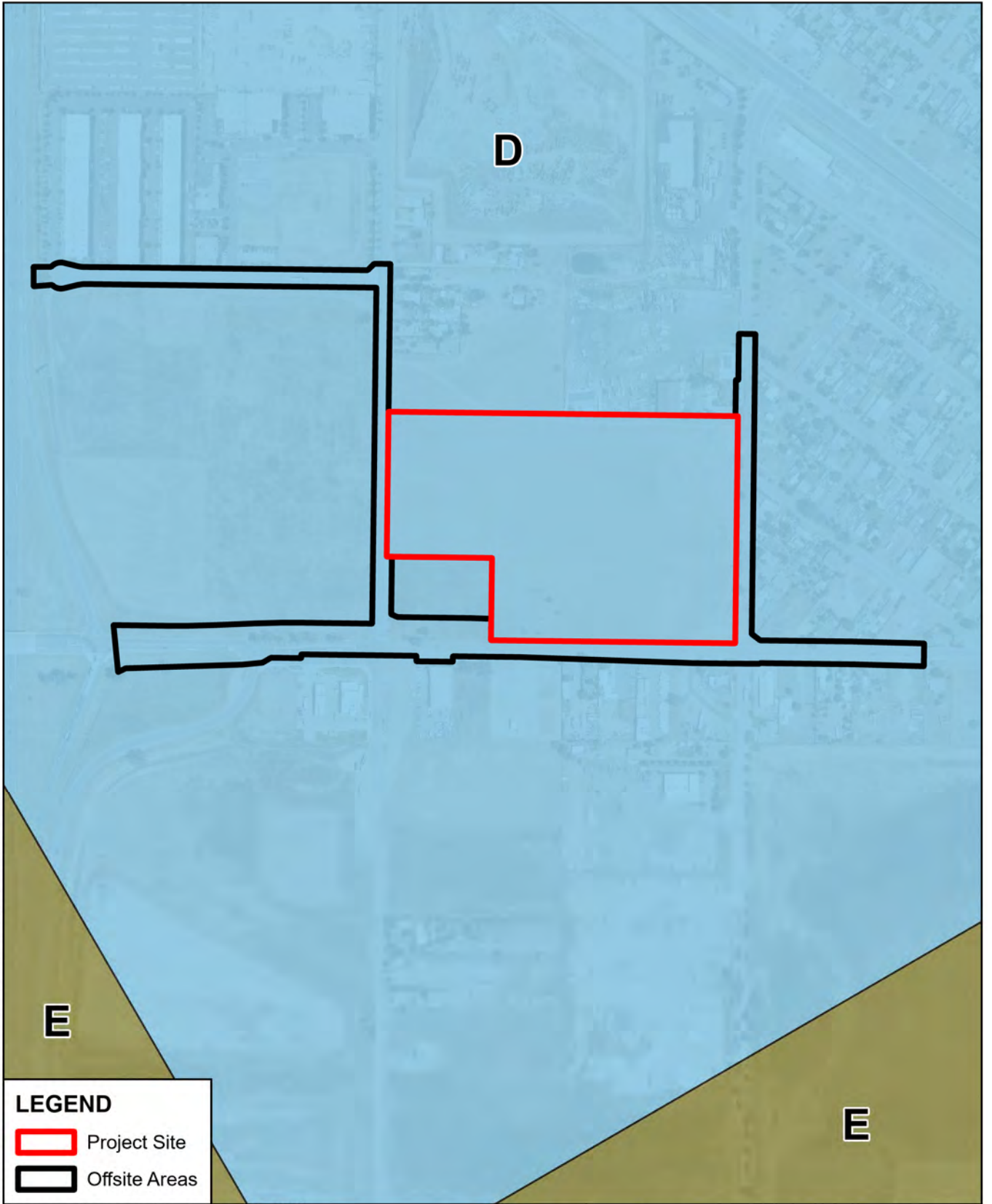
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Sources: City of Perris Zoning Designations, 2018;
 City of Menifee Zoning Map, Feb. 2022;
 Riverside County, 2020.

Figure 7 - Existing Zoning Designation
 Ethanac Logistics Center



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LEGEND

- Project Site
- Offsite Areas

Sources: Riverside Co. (imagery), 2020;
March Air Reserve Base Compatibility Zones, 2022.

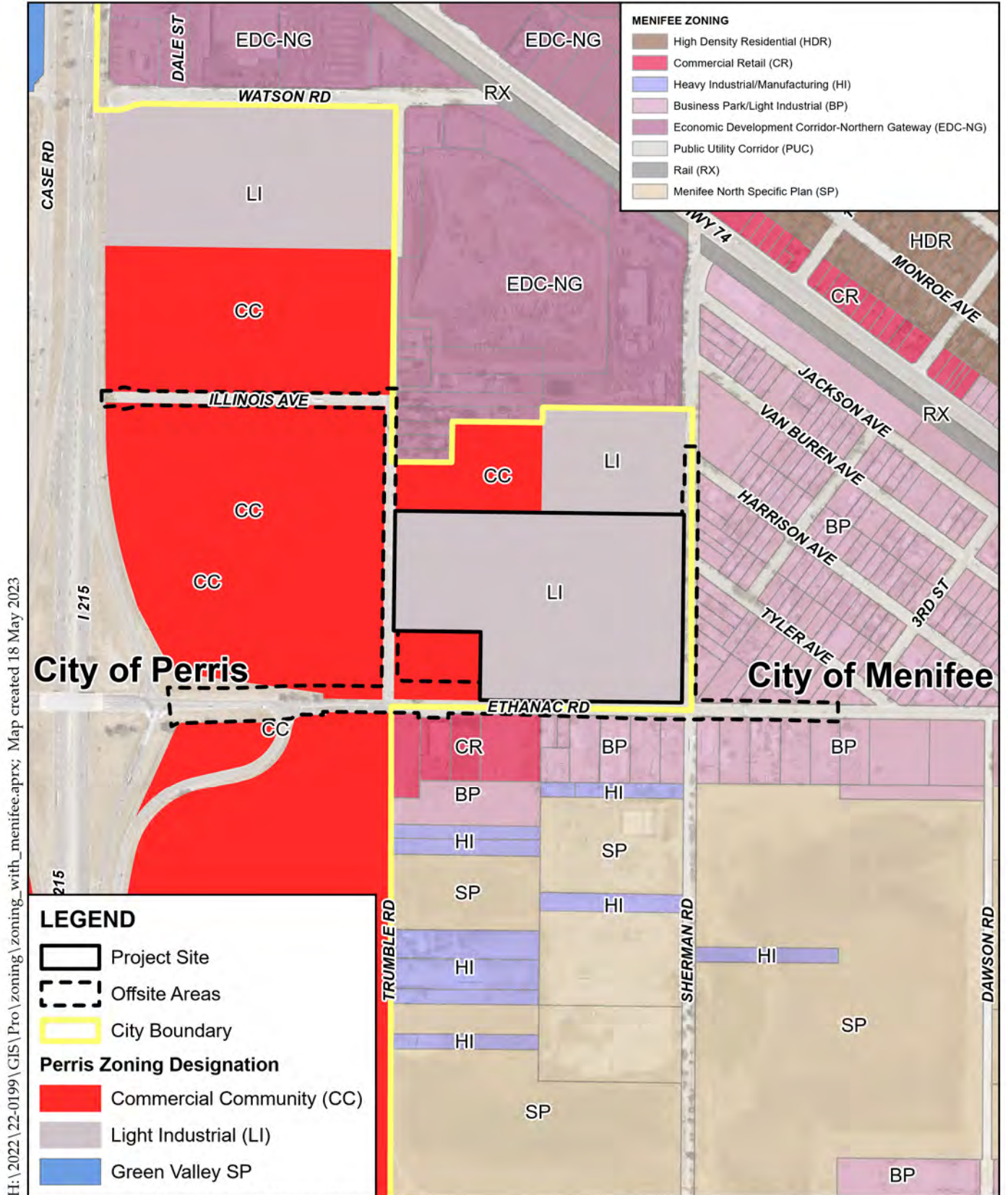


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Feet

**Figure 8 - March Air Reserve Base Airport
Land Use Compatibility Zones**

Ethanac Logistics Center

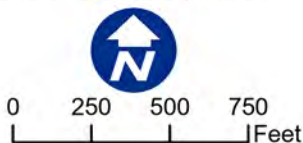




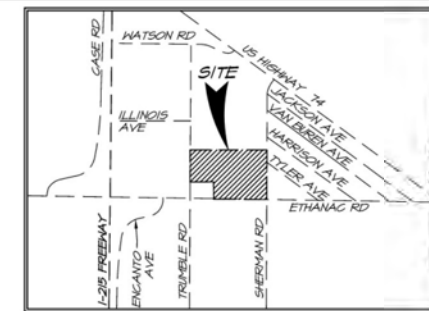
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Sources: City of Perris Zoning Designations, 2018;
 City of Menifee Zoning Map, Feb. 2022;
 Riverside County, 2020.

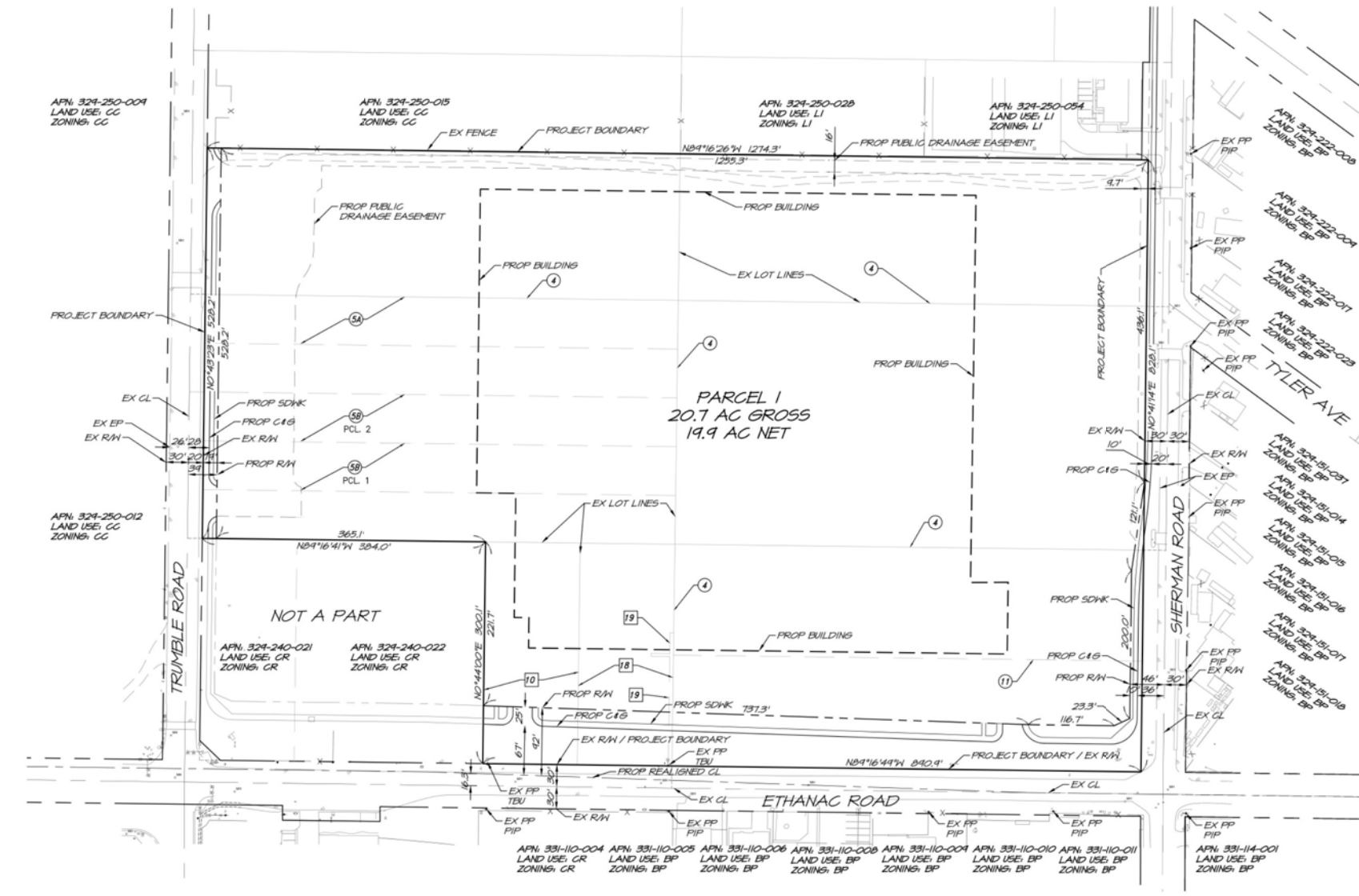
Figure 10 - Proposed Change of Zone
 Ethanac Logistics Center



IN THE CITY OF PERRIS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP NO. 38600
 LOCATED IN SECTION 11, T. 4S., R. 4W., S.B.M.



VICINITY MAP



OWNER/APPLICANT

HILLWOOD
 101 VIA PIEMONTE STE. 175
 ONTARIO CA, 91764
 CONTACT: JOHN GRACE
 EMAIL: JOHN@GRACEHILLWOOD.COM
 PHONE: (909) 256-5424

PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES
 3700 MCGRAY STREET
 RIVERSIDE, CA 92506
 CONTACT: RICHARD BELMUEZ
 PHONE: (951) 686-1070
 FAX: (951) 700-1256

SOILS ENGINEER

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GEOTECHNICAL
 22805 E. SAVI RANCH PARKWAY STE. E
 TORBA LINDA, CA 92687
 CONTACT: ROBERT TRAZZO
 PHONE: (714) 685-1115
 FAX: (714) 685-1118

ENGINEER

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES
 3700 MCGRAY STREET
 RIVERSIDE, CA 92506
 CONTACT: SARAH KOWALSKI
 PHONE: (951) 686-1070
 FAX: (951) 700-1256

TOPOGRAPHY SOURCE

TOPOGRAPHY: FLOWN BY INLAND
 AERIAL SURVEYS, INC. ON 02/15/2022

ARCHITECT

HFA ARCHITECTURE
 10891 BARDSEEN AVE, STE 100
 IRVINE, CA 92612
 CONTACT: INKON KIM
 PHONE: (949) 263-1710
 EMAIL: JAINEMH@HFAARCH.COM

APN

324-240-016 THRU -020, -023,
 THRU -027

LAND USE

EXISTING LAND USE: VACANT
 EXISTING GENERAL PLAN LAND USE:
 COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY (CC)
 EXISTING ZONING: LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI)
 PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN LAND USE:
 COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY (CC)
 PROPOSED ZONING: LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI)

ACREAGE

GROSS 21.6 AC
 NET 19.9 AC
 R/W 1.7 AC

PROJECT DATA

| | |
|--|------------|
| BUILDING AREA | 10,000 SF |
| OFFICE - FIRST FLOOR | 3,000 SF |
| OFFICE - SECOND FLOOR | 3,000 SF |
| WAREHOUSE | 3,973 SF |
| TOTAL BUILDING FOOTPRINT | 10,973 SF |
| TOTAL FLOOR AREA | 21,946 SF |
| AUTO PARKING REQUIRED | |
| OFFICE | N/A |
| (1 STALL/300 SF IF LESS THAN 108 GFA) | |
| WAREHOUSE | |
| 1/300 SF @ 1/300 STALLS + 1 STALL/3,000 SF | 105 STALLS |
| TOTAL | 105 STALLS |
| AUTO PARKING PROVIDED | |
| STANDARD (8' x 14') | 83 STALLS |
| ADA STANDARD (8' x 14') | 3 STALLS |
| ADA VAN ACCESSIBLE (12' x 14') | 2 STALLS |
| EV STANDARD (8' x 14') | 1 STALLS |
| EV ADA STANDARD (8' x 14') | 1 STALLS |
| EV ADA VAN ACCESSIBLE (12' x 14') | 1 STALLS |
| CLEAN AIR/AN/200/2EV (8' x 14') | 5 STALLS |
| TOTAL | 106 STALLS |
| TRAILER PARKING REQUIRED | |
| 1/5,000 SF | 82 STALLS |
| TRAILER PARKING PROVIDED | |
| TYPICAL TRAILER (10' x 35') | 112 STALLS |

LEGEND

- EXISTING CENTER LINE
- EXISTING EASEMENT
- EXISTING EDGE OF PAVEMENT
- EXISTING FENCE
- EXISTING LOT LINE
- PROJECT BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED BUILDING OUTLINE
- PROPOSED CENTER LINE
- PROPOSED CURB

ABBREVIATIONS

- CL CENTER LINE
- C&G CURB AND GUTTER
- EP EDGE OF PAVEMENT
- EX EXISTING
- FP POWER POLE
- PROP PROPOSED
- PIP PROTECT IN PLACE
- R/W RIGHT-OF-WAY
- SH SIDEWALK
- TR TO BE REMOVED
- TBU TO BE UNDERGROUNDED

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. ALL PARCELS WITHIN PROJECT BOUNDARY TO BE COMBINED VIA PARCEL MAP
2. THOMAS BROS. MAP BOOK PAGE: 838, GRID: G1 AND D1
3. PROJECT IS NOT WITHIN A SPECIFIC PLAN
4. PROJECT LIES WITHIN THE CITY OF PERRIS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA
5. PROJECT LIES WITHIN CFD NO. 1
6. EASEMENTS OF RECORD ARE PLOTTED HEREIN
7. PROJECT IS WITHIN EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
8. THERE ARE NO EXISTING WELLS ON THE PROPERTY
9. ALL SLOPES ARE 2:1 RATIO, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
10. LAND IS NOT WITHIN A SPECIAL STUDIES ZONE
11. LAND HAS LOW POTENTIAL FOR LIQUEFACTION PER SOCAL GEO REPORT DATED 02/23/2022
12. STRUCTURES AND/OR DWELLINGS DO NOT EXIST ON SITE
13. THE PROJECT WILL COMPLY WITH NPDES REQUIREMENTS AS REQUIRED BY NPDES SUPPLEMENT 'A'
14. FLOOD ZONE X AREA OF LOW FLOODING PER FEMA PANEL 06065G206CH
15. PROJECT LIES WITHIN AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY ZONE D
16. ARCHITECTURAL SITE PLAN PROVIDED BY HFA ARCHITECTURE ON 04/12/23

EASEMENT NOTES

SEE SHEET 2

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

SEE SHEET 2

SHEET INDEX

SHEET 1: TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP
 SHEET 2: SECTIONS AND LEGAL



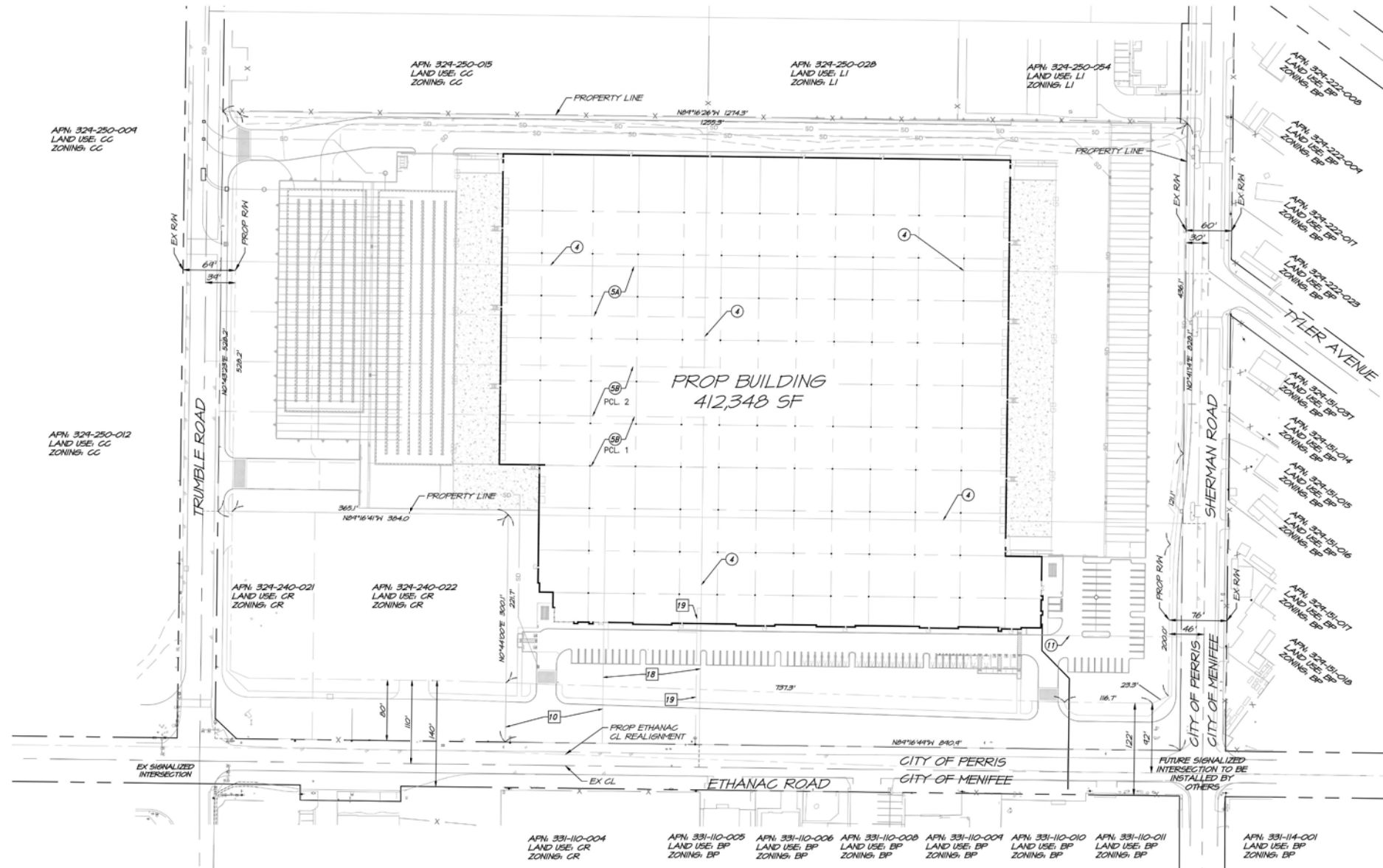
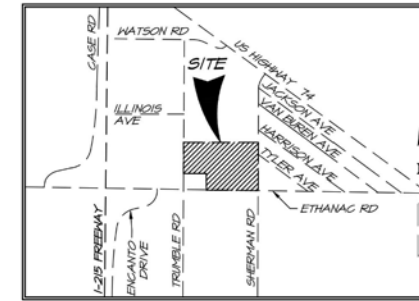
H:\2022\22-0199\GIS\Pro\tent_parcel_map.aprx Map created 25 Apr 2023

Source: Ethanac Commerce Center Title Sheet, April 14, 2023.

Figure 11 - Tentative Parcel Map No. 38600
 Ethanac Logistics Center



IN THE CITY OF PERRIS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW NO. 22-00030
 LOCATED IN SECTION 10 SW, T. 5S, R. 3W, S.B.M.



| | |
|--|---|
| OWNER/APPLICANT HILLWOOD INVESTMENT PROPERTIES 401 VIA PIEMONTE STE. 175 ONTARIO CA, 91764 CONTACT: JOHN GRACE EMAIL: JOHN.GRACE@HILLWOOD.COM PHONE: (714) 888-1115 FAX: (714) 888-5424 | PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES 3700 MCCRAY STREET RIVERSIDE, CA 92506 CONTACT: RICHARD BELMUEZ PHONE: (951) 686-1070 FAX: (951) 788-1256 |
| SOILS ENGINEER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GEOTECHNICAL 22085 E. SAVI RANCH PARKWAY, SUITE E YORBA LINDA, CA 92687 CONTACT: ROBERT TRAZO PHONE: (714) 888-1115 FAX: (714) 888-1118 | ENGINEER ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES 3700 MCCRAY STREET RIVERSIDE, CA 92506 CONTACT: SARAH KOHALSKI PHONE: (951) 686-1070 FAX: (951) 788-1256 |
| APN 324-240-016 THRU -020, -023, THRU -027 | ARCHITECT HPA ARCHITECTS 18831 BARDEEN AVE, STE 100 IRVINE, CA 92612 CONTACT: INKON KIM PHONE: (949) 863-1170 EMAIL: INKON@HPARCH.COM |
| ACREAGE GROSS 21.6 AC NET 14.9 AC R/W 1.7 AC | TOPOGRAPHY SOURCE TOPOGRAPHY PLOTTED BY: ISLAND AERIAL SURVEYS INC. ON 02/15/2022 |
| LAND USE EXISTING LAND USE: VACANT EXISTING GENERAL PLAN LAND USE: COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY (CC) EXISTING ZONING: COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY (CC) PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN LAND USE: LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LU) PROPOSED ZONING: LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LU) | |
| PROJECT DATA | |
| BUILDING AREA | |
| OFFICE - FIRST FLOOR | 10,000 SF |
| OFFICE - SECOND FLOOR | 5,000 SF |
| WAREHOUSE | 347,348 SF |
| TOTAL BUILDING FOOTPRINT | 407,348 SF |
| TOTAL FLOOR AREA | 412,348 SF |
| AUTO PARKING REQUIRED | |
| OFFICE: | |
| (1 STALL/2,000 SF IF LESS THAN 10% GFA) | N/A |
| WAREHOUSE: | |
| 40K SF @ (30 STALLS + 1 STALL/5,000 SF) | 105 STALLS |
| TOTAL | 105 STALLS |
| AUTO PARKING PROVIDED | |
| STANDARD (9' x 19') | 76 STALLS |
| ADA STANDARD (9' x 19') | 3 STALLS |
| ADA VAN (12' x 19') | 2 STALLS |
| EV ADA STANDARD (9' x 19') | 1 STALL |
| EV ADA VAN (12' x 19') | 1 STALL |
| EV AMBULATORY (10' x 19') | 1 STALL |
| EV CS STANDARD (9' x 19') | 3 STALLS |
| EV GALPABLE (9' x 19') | 14 STALLS |
| TOTAL | 106 STALLS |
| TRAILER PARKING REQUIRED | |
| 1/1,000 SF | 82 STALLS |
| TRAILER PARKING PROVIDED | |
| TYPICAL TRAILER (10' x 35') | 157 STALLS |
| EARTHWORK ESTIMATE | |
| CUT: | 15,800 CY |
| FILL: | 66,100 CY |
| NET: | 50,300 CY (FILL) |
| SHEET INDEX | |
| SHEET 1 - TITLE SHEET | |
| SHEET 2 - STREET AND GRADING SECTIONS | |
| SHEET 3 - CONCEPTUAL GRADING | |
| SHEETS 4-5 - CONCEPTUAL UTILITIES | |

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ALL PARCELS WITHIN PROJECT BOUNDARY TO BE COMBINED VIA PARCEL MAP
- THOMAS BROS. MAP BOOK PAGES: B30, GRID: C1 AND D1
- PROJECT IS NOT WITHIN A SPECIFIC PLAN
- PROJECT LIES WITHIN THE CITY OF PERRIS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA
- PROJECT LIES WITHIN CFD NO. 1
- EASEMENTS OF RECORD ARE PLOTTED HEREIN
- PROJECT IS WITHIN EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
- THERE ARE NO EXISTING WELLS ON THE PROPERTY
- ALL SLOPES ARE 2:1 RATIO, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
- LAND IS NOT WITHIN A SPECIAL STUDIES ZONE
- LAND HAS LOW POTENTIAL FOR LIQUEFACTION PER SOCAL GEO REPORT DATED 02/23/2022
- SUB-SURFACE SEPTIC DISPOSAL IS NOT INTENDED ON SITE
- STRUCTURES AND/OR DWELLINGS DO NOT EXIST ON SITE
- THE PROJECT WILL COMPLY WITH NPDES REQUIREMENTS AS REQUIRED BY NPDES SUPPLEMENT "A"
- FLOOD ZONE X, AREA OF LOW FLOODINGS PER FEMA PANEL 06065G2060H
- PROJECT LIES WITHIN AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY ZONE D
- ARCHITECTURAL SITE PLAN PROVIDED BY HPA ARCHITECTURE ON 04/12/23

UTILITY PROVIDERS

- WATER:** EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
PHONE: (951) 685-7434
- SEWER:** EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
PHONE: (951) 685-7434
- GAS:** SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
PHONE: (909) 307-1070
- ELECTRIC:** SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
PHONE: 1 (800) 655-4555
- TELEPHONE:** CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS (SPECTRUM)
PHONE: (951) 406-1666
- CABLE T.V.:** FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS
PHONE: (910) 264-5100
- SCHOOL DISTRICT(S):** ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT (TK-8)
PHONE: (951) 426-4244
PERRIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (4-12)
PHONE: (951) 443-6364

EASEMENT NOTES

SEE SHEET 2

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

SEE SHEET 2



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Source: Development Plan Review, sheet 1, Sep. 1, 2023.

Figure 12 - Development Plan Review
 Ethanac Logistics Center

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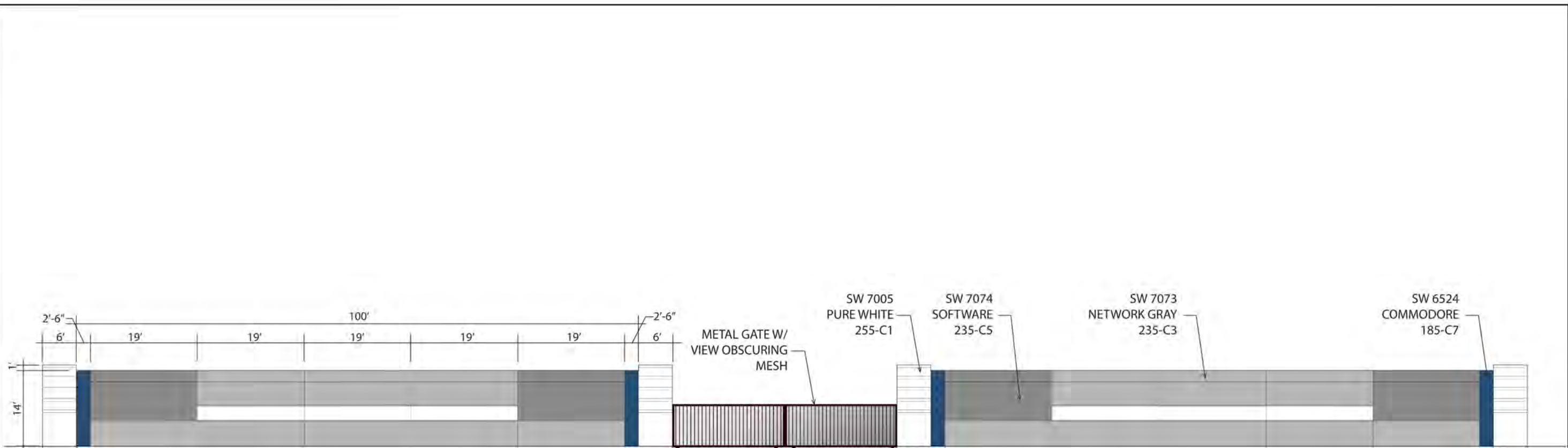
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Source: HPA Architecture and Hillwood, Sep. 7, 2023.

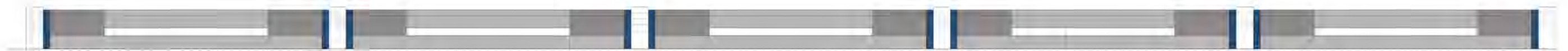
Figure 13 - Building Elevations
Ethanac Logistics Center

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Screenwall Details



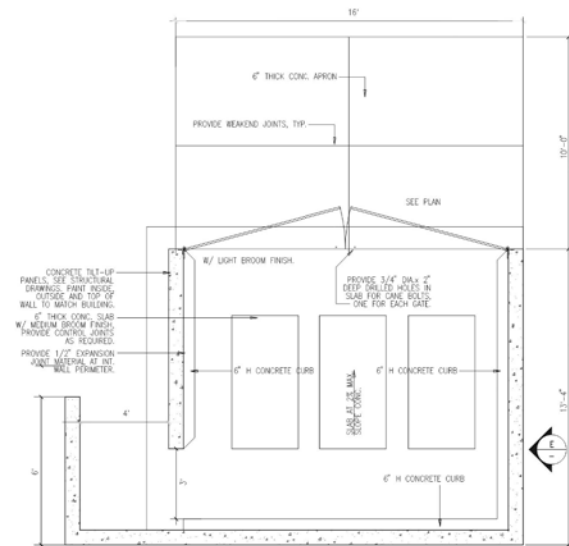
Screenwall Elevation

H:\2022\22-0199\GIS\Proscreening\screening.aprx Map created 07 Sep 2023

Source: HPA Architecture and Hillwood, Sep. 7, 2023.

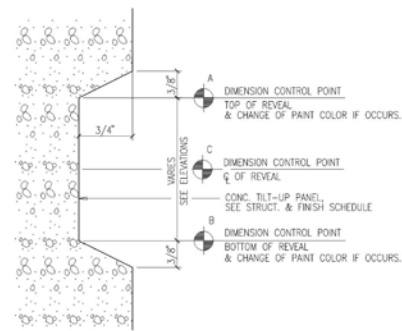
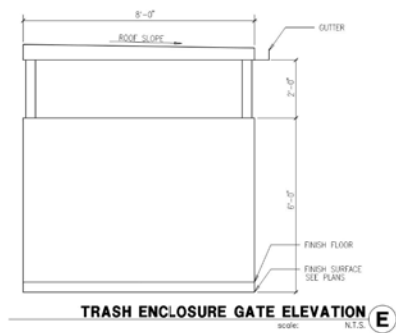
Figure 14 - Screening Details
Ethanac Logistics Center

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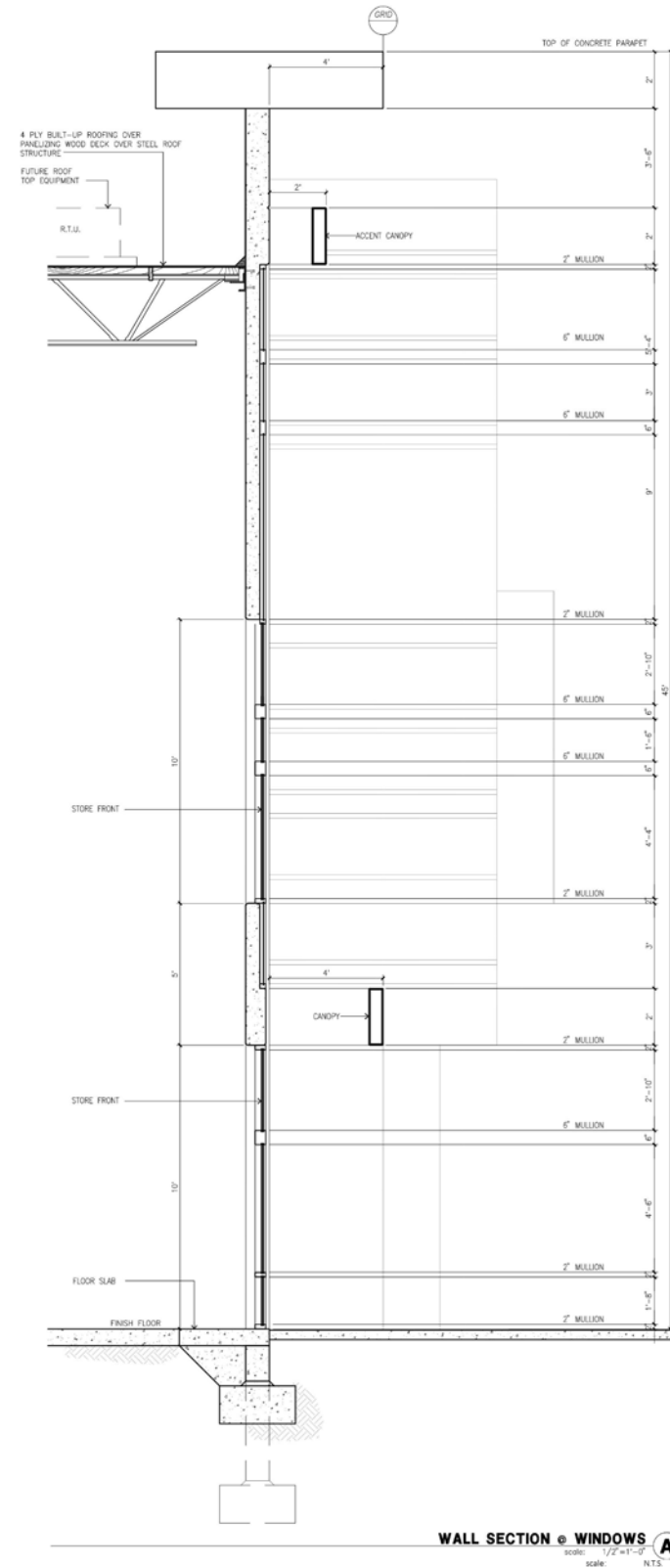
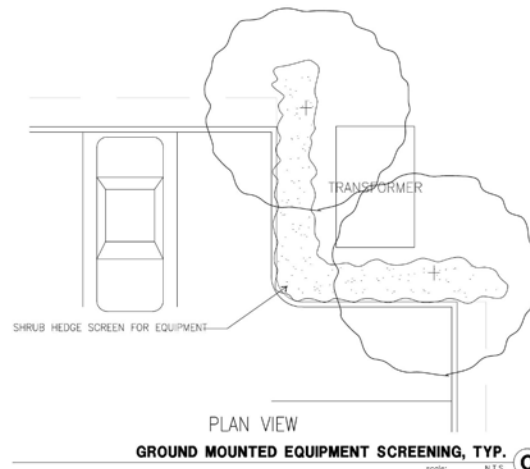
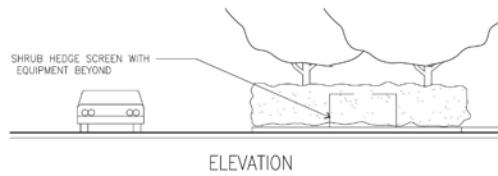
NOTES:
 1. SEE SITE PLAN FOR LOCATIONS.
 2. SEE STRUCTURAL DRAWING FOR STEEL REINFORCING.
 3. SACK AND PATCH ALL PANEL LIFT POINTS ON OR WALL AND PAINT TO MATCH.

TRASH ENCLOSURE PLAN D
 scale: N.T.S.



NOTES:
 1. DIMENSION CONTROL POINTS AT REVEALS AND EDGE OF CONCRETE OPENINGS WHERE OCCUR. SEE WALL SECTIONS.
 2. PAINT COLOR CHANGES TO ALWAYS OCCUR AT CONTROL POINT "A" OR "B"

TYP. CONCRETE REVEAL B
 scale: N.T.S.



WALL SECTION @ WINDOWS A
 scale: 1/2" = 1'-0"
 N.T.S.

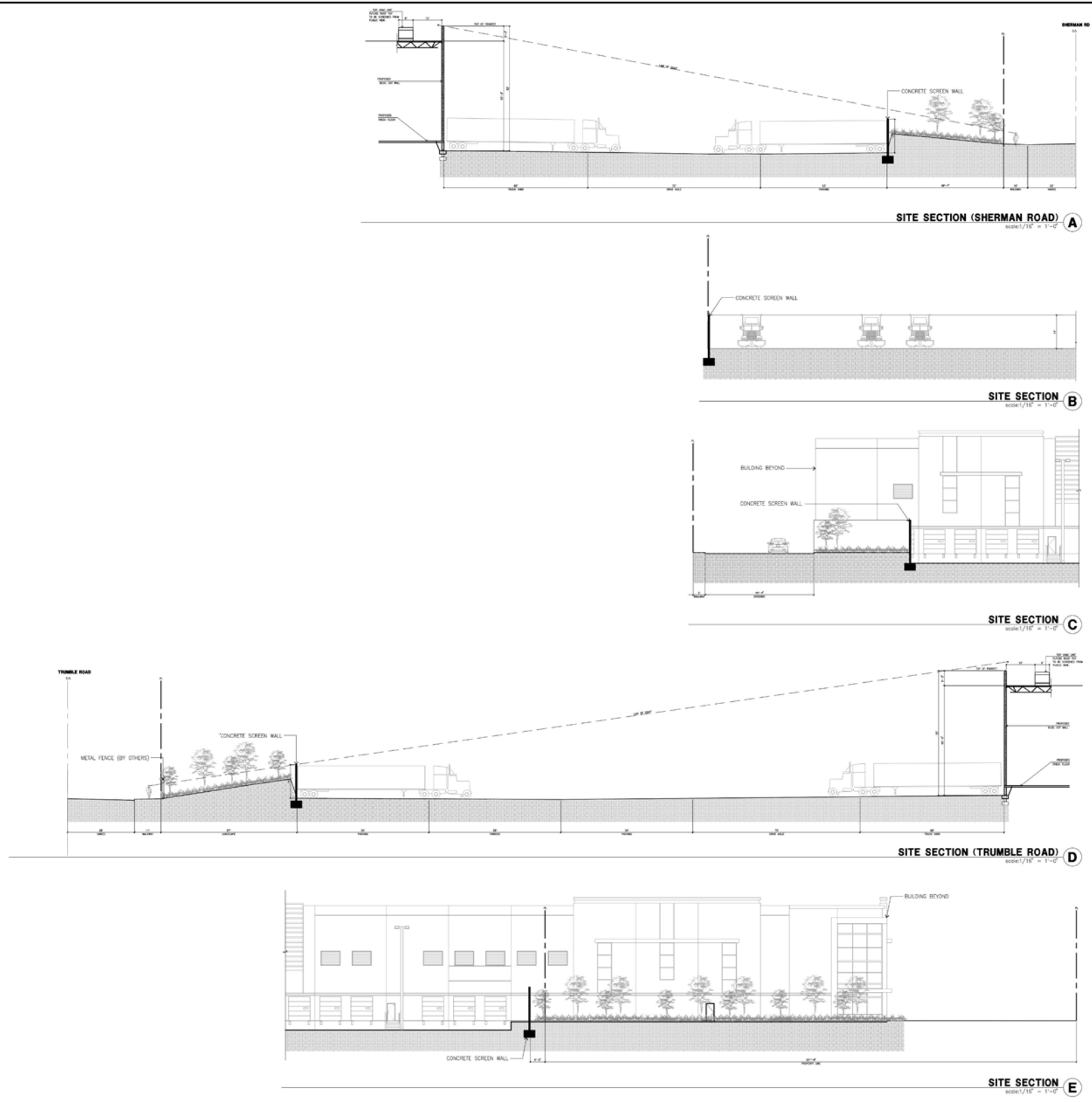
Source: HPA Architecture, DAB-A4.1, July 20, 2023.

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Figure 15 - Elevation Details
Ethanac Logistics Center



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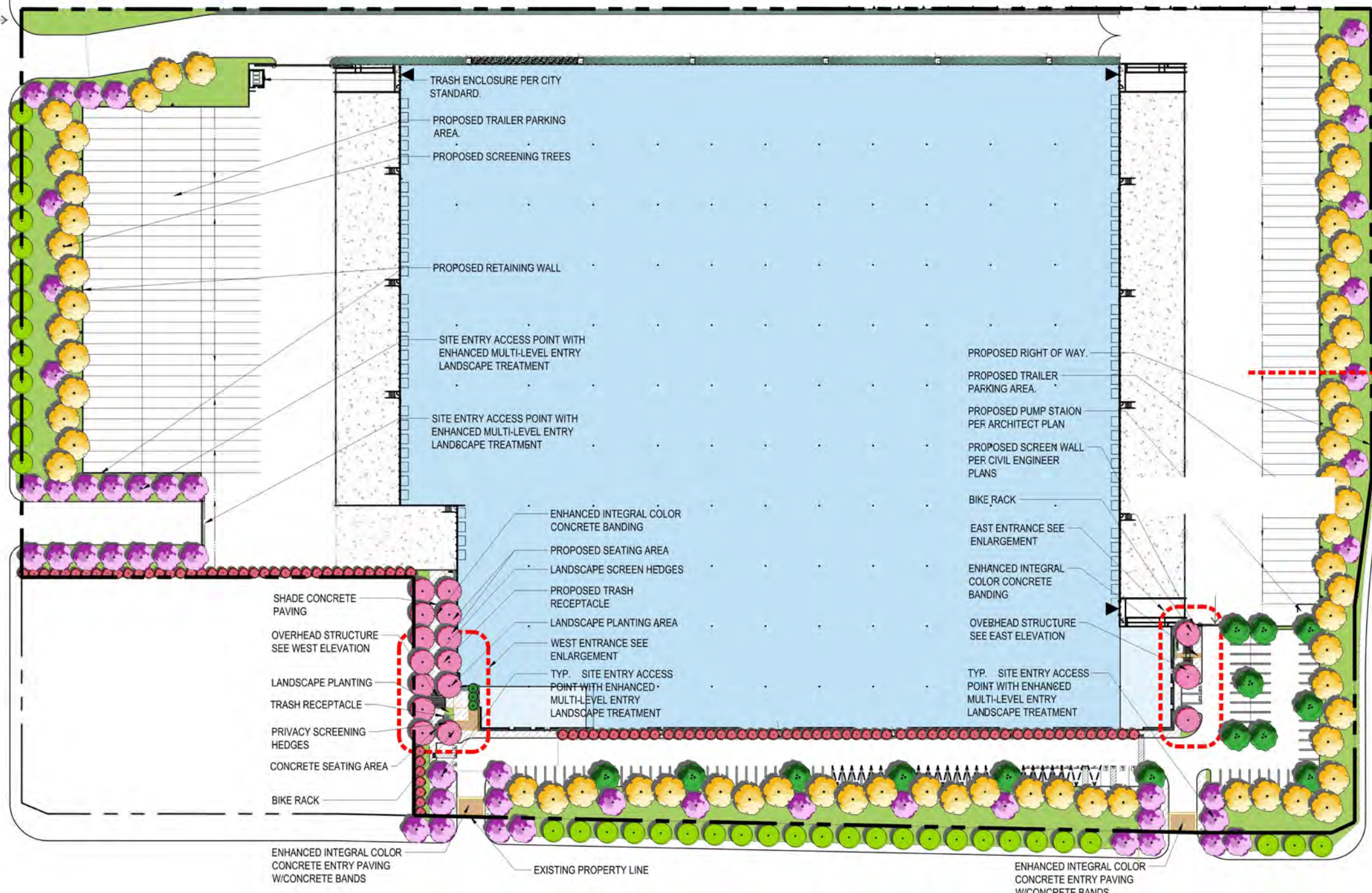
Source: HPA Architecture, DAB-A4.2, July 20, 2023.

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Figure 16 - Line of Sight
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ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER
329-240-016 to 20,29 to 27

ACREAGE:
NET SITE AREA: 19.85 ACRES

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW FOR A WAREHOUSE FACILITY CONSISTING OF 1 BUILDING TOTALING 412,372 SQUARE FEET ON 19.85± NET ACRES.

OWNER/APPLICANT:
HILLWOOD INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
ATTN: JOHN GRACE
JOHN.GRACE@HILLWOOD.COM
301 VIA REMONTE SITE 175
ONTARIO, CA 91764
PHONE: (951) 256-5624

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES
ATTN: RITZ HULTON
RITZ.HULTON@WEBBASSOCIATES.COM
3088 MCGRAY STREET
IRVINE, CA 92614
TEL: (949) 886-9170
FAX: (949) 798-1328

CIVIL ENGINEER:
ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES
ATTN: SHAM HODALAK
SHAM.HODALAK@WEBBASSOCIATES.COM
3088 MCGRAY STREET
IRVINE, CA 92614
TEL: (949) 886-9170
FAX: (949) 798-1328

ARCHITECT:
HFA ARCHITECTURE
ATTN: ANTHONY
ANTHONY@HFAARCHITECT.COM
10881 SANDHORN AVENUE, SUITE 100
IRVINE, CA 92618
TEL: (949) 802-2118

LANDSCAPE AREA TABULATION

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACREAGE | |
| TOTAL NET SITE AREA: | 864,675 SQ. FT. (19.9 AC) |
| BUILDING AREA WAREHOUSE: | 412,348 SQ. FT. |
| ON-SITE LANDSCAPE AREA: | 129,809 SQ. FT. (15%) |
| OFF-SITE LANDSCAPE PROVIDED: | 17,797 SQ. FT. |
| TOTAL LANDSCAPE AREA: | 147,606 SQ. FT. |

CONCEPT PLANT SCHEDULE

| | |
|--|------------|
| ACCENT PARKING LOT TREE CHALCOPHYS LINDARIS / DESERT WILLOW GEVERA PARVIFLORA / AUSTRALIAN WILLOW | 14 |
| PARKING LOT SHADE TREE PLATANUS X ACERIFOLIA BLOODGOOD / BLOODGOOD LONDON PLANE TREE ULMUS PARVIFLORA / LACEBARK ELM | 16 |
| BUILDING TREE LAURUS NOBILIS / SPICE BAY QUERCUS PALUSTRIS PRIMOBIEN / GREEN PILLAR PIN OAK | 100 |
| ACCENT TREES COPROSA CANADENSIS / EASTERN REDWOOD MULTI-TRUNK GEVERA PARVIFLORA / AUSTRALIAN WILLOW | 43 |
| STREET TREES OLEA EUROPAEA 'SMAN HILL' / SMAN HILL OLIVE | 34 |
| VERTICAL TREE CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS / ITALIAN CYPRESS HYMENOPHYLLUM PLAVUM / BANGS TAMARISK | 1 |
| SHADE TREES ROELREUTERA BIPINNATA / CHINESE FLAME TREE MULTI-TRUNK RHUS LANCEA / AFRICAN BIAMBI | 18 |
| FOUNDATION PLANTING | 11,284 SF |
| ON-SITE PLANTING | 109,997 SF |
| OFF-SITE PLANTING | 17,120 SF |

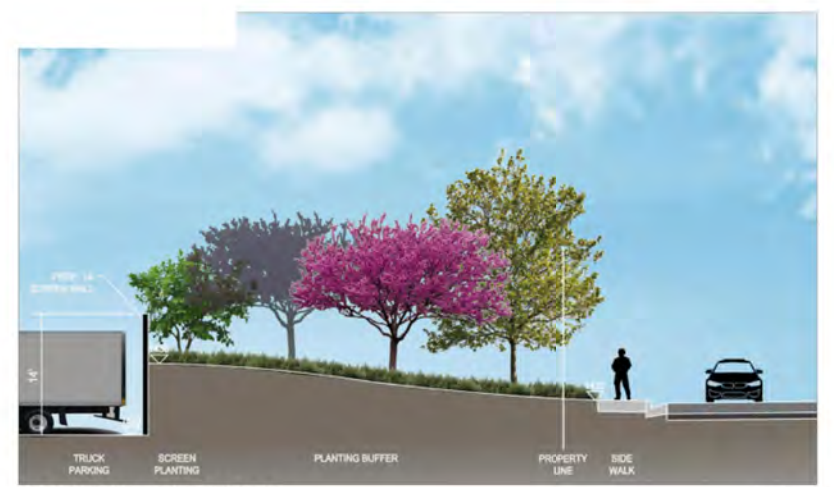
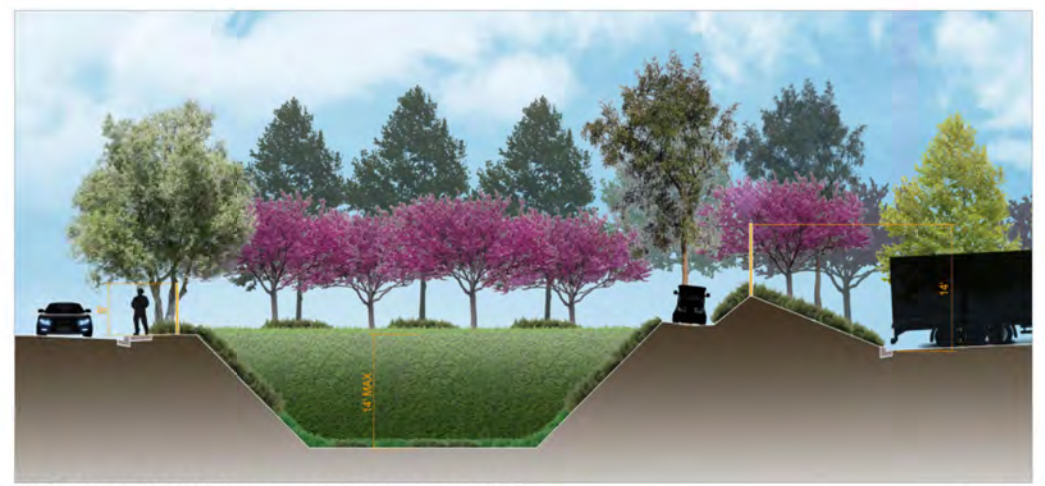
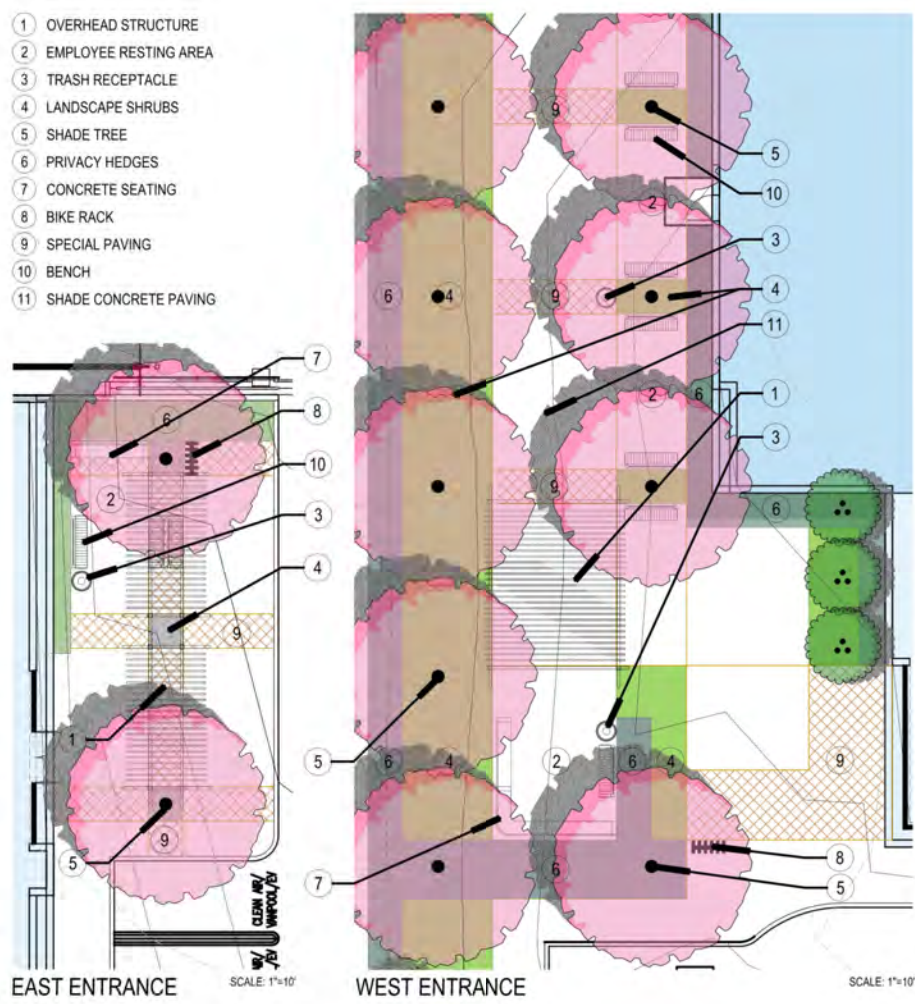
Source: Albert A. Webb Associates, Sep 6, 2023.

Figure 17 - Conceptual Landscape
Ethanac Logistics Center

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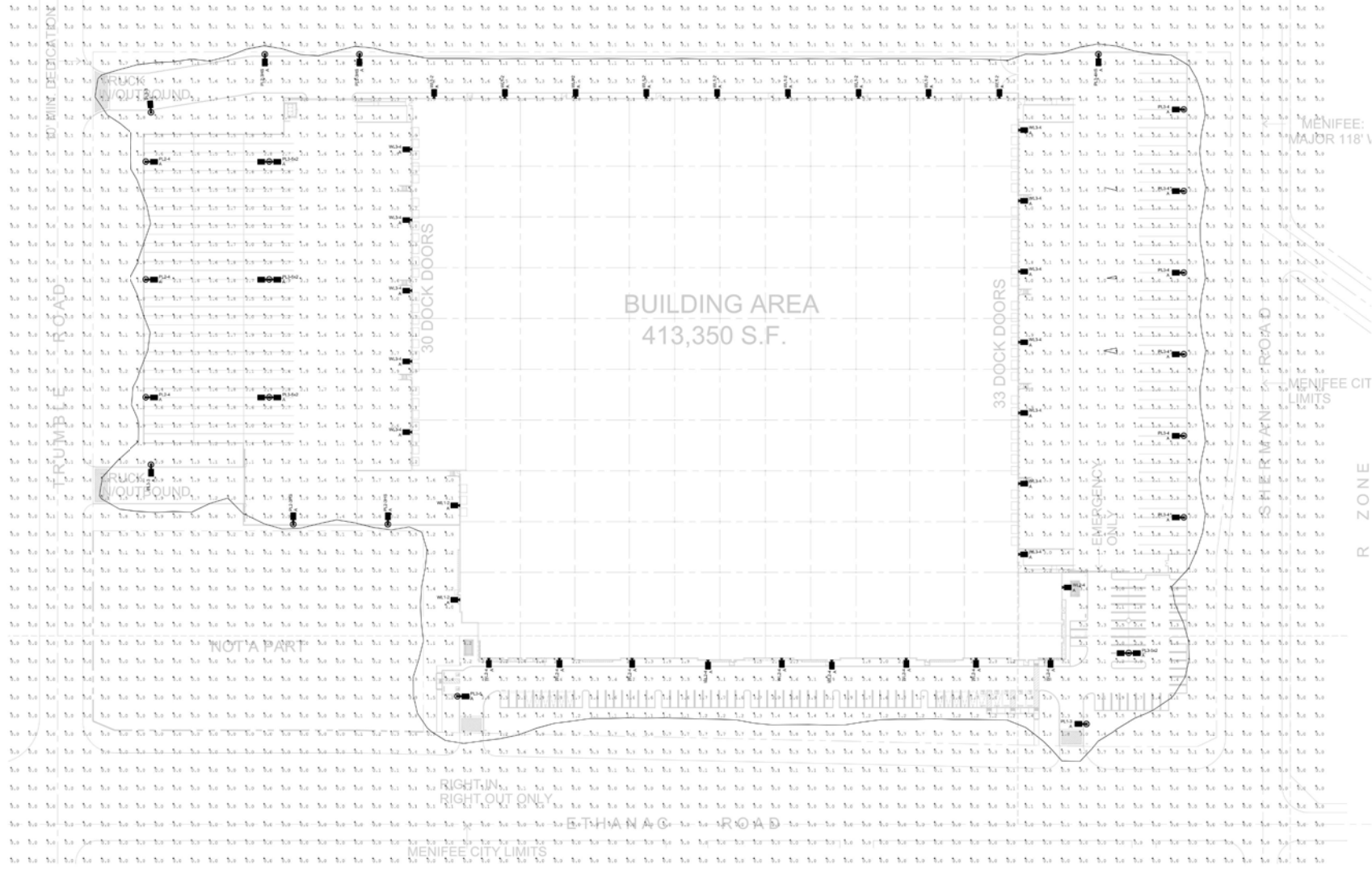
Source: Albert A. Webb Associates, April 17, 2023.

Figure 18 - Views of Project Site
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BUILDING AREA
413,350 S.F.

SITE LIGHTING PLAN
(SCALE: 1"=40')

NONRESIDENTIAL MANDATORY MEASURES

TABLE 1.16.1.1 IN
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BACKLIT, UPLIGHT AND GLARE (MVA) RATINGS*

| ALLOWABLE RATING | Lighting Zone L12 | | Lighting Zone L13 | | Lighting Zone L14 | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Lighting Zone L12 | Lighting Zone L13 | Lighting Zone L12 | Lighting Zone L13 | Lighting Zone L12 | Lighting Zone L14 |
| Maximum Allowable Backlight Rating (B) | | | | | | |
| 1. Commercial greater than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | No Limit | No Limit | No Limit | No Limit | No Limit |
| 2. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | B2 | B2 | B4 | B4 | B4 |
| 3. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | B2 | B2 | B2 | B2 | B2 |
| 4. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | B2 | B2 | B2 | B2 | B2 |
| Maximum Allowable Uplight Rating (U) | | | | | | |
| 1. For area lighting | N/A | L3 | L3 | L3 | L3 | L3 |
| 2. For all other outdoor lighting, including decorative luminaires | N/A | L3 | L2 | L3 | L4 | L4 |
| Maximum Allowable Glare Rating (G) | | | | | | |
| 1. Commercial greater than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | G4 | G2 | G3 | G4 | G4 |
| 2. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | G4 | G3 | G3 | G3 | G3 |
| 3. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | G4 | G4 | G3 | G3 | G3 |
| 4. Commercial less than 2,000 sq ft (500 sq m) property line | N/A | G4 | G4 | G4 | G3 | G3 |

CAL GREEN BUG TABLE

SITE LIGHTING STATISTICS

| Calculation Summary | Quantity | Watts | Volts | Amperes | Phase | Notes |
|---------------------|----------|-------|-------|---------|---------|-------|
| Backlight | 1 | 100 | 120 | 0.83 | 1-Phase | |
| Uplight | 1 | 100 | 120 | 0.83 | 1-Phase | |
| Glare | 1 | 100 | 120 | 0.83 | 1-Phase | |

NOTE: ALL EXTERIOR LIGHTS TO BE 3000K COLOR TEMP

FIXTURE LEGEND

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | BUS RATING | COMPLIES WITH CAL GREEN'S YES |
|--------|---|------------|-------------------------------|
| ● | TYPE 1 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E2-U0-G2 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 3 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E1-U0-G2 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 4 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E2-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 3 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E3-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 4 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E3-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 5 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E5-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 6 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF ON 2" SQUARE STEEL POLE ON 2" HIGH CONC. BASE IN AUTO PARKING & 4" HIGH CONC. BASE IN TRUCK YARD AND NO UPLIGHT | E6-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 1 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF AT 32' AFF | E2-U0-G1 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 4 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF AT 32' AFF | E2-U0-G3 | YES |
| ● | TYPE 4 RECESSED 4" DIA. LED OUT-OFF AT 32' AFF | E3-U0-G3 | YES |

* - SEE ARCHITECTURAL PLANS FOR ACTUAL POLE BASE HEIGHTS

Source: Gregg Electric Inc., Jan 9, 2023.

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Figure 19 - Proposed Lighting
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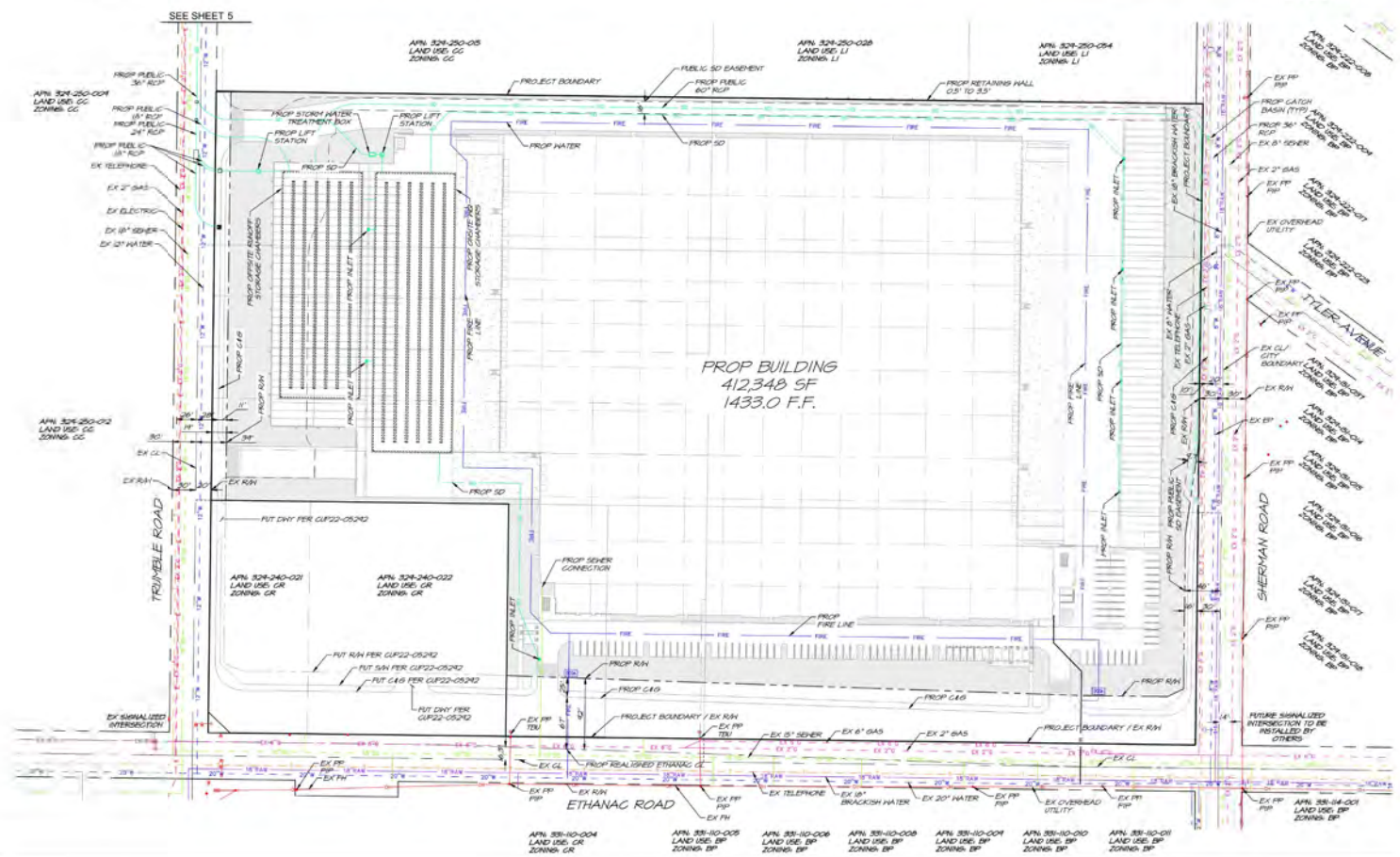


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- LEGEND**
- 18"RAW — EXISTING 18" BRACKISH WATER
 - EX — EXISTING BRACKISH WATER BLOW OFF VALVE
 - E — EXISTING ELECTRIC
 - FH — EXISTING FIRE HYDRANT
 - EX 2" G — EXISTING 2" GAS
 - EX 3" G — EXISTING 3" GAS
 - EX 6" G — EXISTING 6" GAS
 - OH — EXISTING OVERHEAD UTILITY
 - S6" — EXISTING 6" SEWER
 - S8" — EXISTING 8" SEWER
 - S15" — EXISTING 15" SEWER
 - S18" — EXISTING 18" SEWER
 - SM — EXISTING SEWER MANHOLE
 - SD36" — EXISTING 36" STORM DRAIN
 - SD48" — EXISTING 48" STORM DRAIN
 - TEL — EXISTING TELEPHONE
 - 8"W — EXISTING 8" WATER
 - 12"W — EXISTING 12" WATER
 - 20"W — EXISTING 20" WATER
 - — PROJECT BOUNDARY
 - — RIGHT-OF-WAY (EXISTING/PROPOSED)
 - W — PROPOSED WATER
 - FIRE — PROPOSED FIRE LINE
 - S — PROPOSED SEWER
 - SD — PROPOSED STORM DRAIN

- ABBREVIATIONS**
- CL — CENTER LINE
 - C&G — CURB AND GUTTER
 - EX — EXISTING
 - PP — POWER POLE
 - PROP — PROPOSED
 - PIP — PROTECT IN PLACE
 - RCB — REINFORCED CONCRETE BOX
 - RCP — REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE
 - R/W — RIGHT-OF-WAY
 - SD — STORM DRAIN
 - TBU — TO BE UNDERGROUNDED
 - TYP — TYPICAL



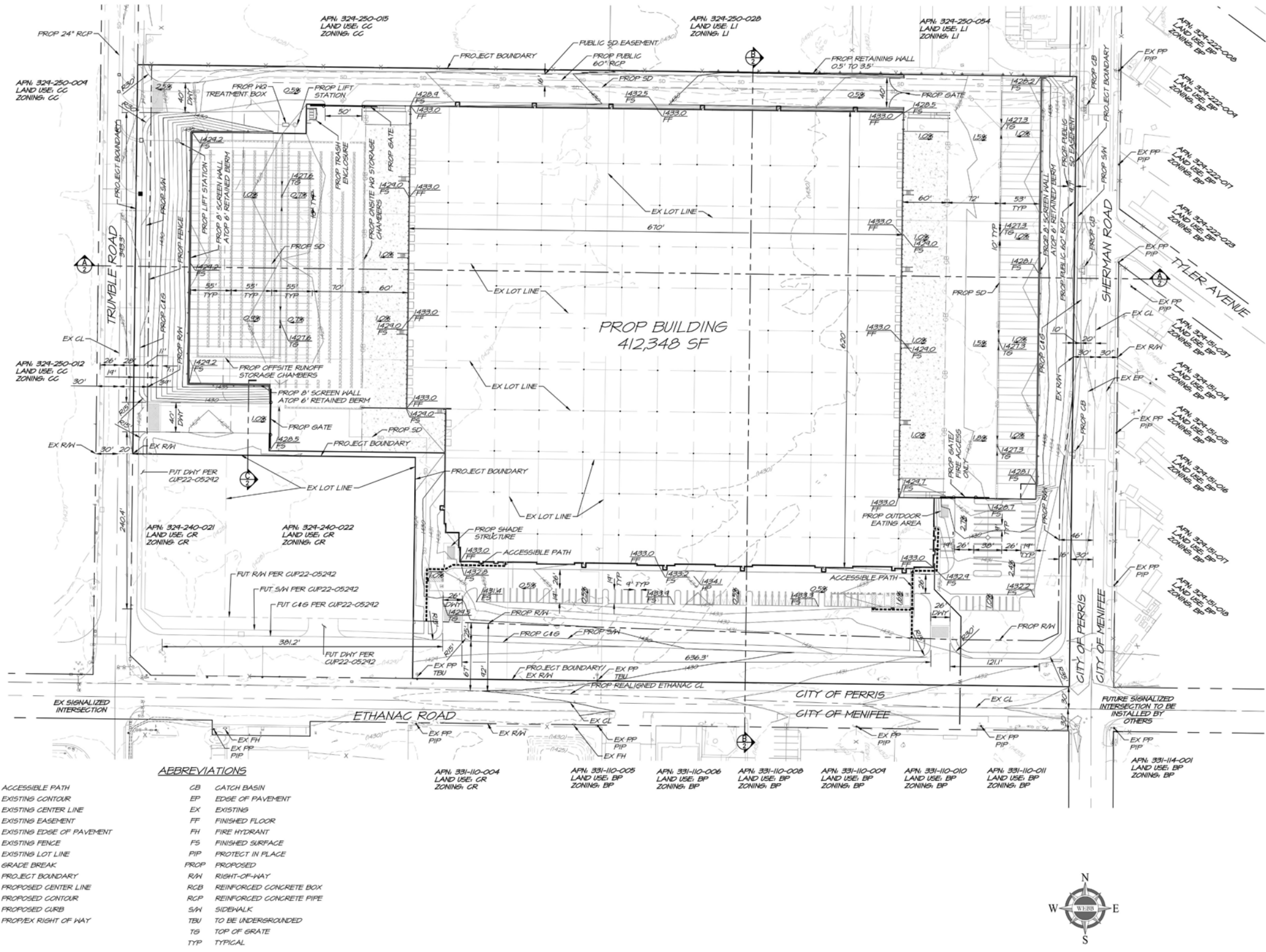
Source: Development Plan Review sheets 4-5, Sep 1, 2023.

Figure 20 - Existing and Proposed Utilities
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LEGEND

- ACCESSIBLE PATH
- (430) EXISTING CONTOUR
- EXISTING CENTER LINE
- EXISTING EASEMENT
- EXISTING EDGE OF PAVEMENT
- X EXISTING FENCE
- EXISTING LOT LINE
- GB GRADE BREAK
- PROJECT BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED CENTER LINE
- 1430 PROPOSED CONTOUR
- PROPOSED CURB
- PROPEX RIGHT OF WAY

ABBREVIATIONS

- GB GATCH BASIN
- EP EDGE OF PAVEMENT
- EX EXISTING
- FF FINISHED FLOOR
- FH FIRE HYDRANT
- FS FINISHED SURFACE
- PIP PROTECT IN PLACE
- PROP PROPOSED
- R/W RIGHT-OF-WAY
- RCB REINFORCED CONCRETE BOX
- RCP REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE
- S/W SIDEWALK
- TBU TO BE UNDERGROUNDED
- TG TOP OF GRATE
- TYP TYPICAL

- APN 331-110-004 LAND USE: CR ZONING: CR
- APN 331-110-005 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-110-006 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-110-008 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-110-009 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-110-010 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-110-011 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP
- APN 331-114-001 LAND USE: BP ZONING: BP

Source: Development Plan Review sheet 3, Sep 1, 2023.

Figure 21 - Grading Plan
Ethanac Logistics Center

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5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATION

In accordance with CEQA, this Initial Study has been prepared to analyze and determine any potential significant impacts upon the environment that would result from construction and implementation of the proposed Project. In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, this Initial Study is a preliminary analysis prepared by the Lead Agency in consultation with other jurisdictional agencies, to determine whether a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report is required for the Proposed Project. The purpose of this Initial Study is to inform the decision-makers, affected agencies, and the public of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the Proposed Project.

5.1 Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question.

- 1) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including offsite as well as onsite, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 2) A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from “Earlier Analysis,” as described in (5) below, may be cross referenced).
- 5) Earlier analysis may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Guidelines Section 15063 (c)(3)(d). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - (a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - (b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - (c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site specific conditions for the project.

- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The analysis of each issue should identify:
 - (a) the significance criteria or threshold used to evaluate each question; and
 - (b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

5.2 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

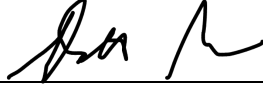
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emission | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

5.3 Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION would be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there would not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION would be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Signature of Lead Agency Representative

Nathan Perez, Senior Planner

Printed Name

9/7/23

Date

City of Perris

Agency

6.0 INITIAL STUDY

This section provides evidence to substantiate the conclusions in the Environmental Checklist.

| 6.1 Aesthetic Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project: | | | | |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: CAL-A, DOF-A, DOF-B GE, GP DEIR, MC, USCB

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Less than significant impact.** Scenic vistas are defined as the view of an area that is visually or aesthetically pleasing. Development projects may potentially impact scenic vistas in two ways: 1) directly diminishing the scenic quality of the vista, or 2) by blocking the view corridors or “vistas” of scenic resources. The City is located on a flat broad basin. Virtually all building construction consistent with land use development standards will obstruct views of the foothills from at least some vantage points (GP DEIR, p. VI-2). However, the east-west and north-south oriented roadway network and streetscapes frame and preserve scenic vistas from public rights of way to the distant horizons and foothills. View corridors extend for miles along current and planned roadways and preserve scenic vistas from the broad basin to the surrounding foothills. (GP DEIR, p. VI-2).

As shown in **Figure 2** above, the proposed Project site is currently vacant and undeveloped. The Project site itself is not a scenic vista, nor does it currently block or diminish a scenic vista. Furthermore, as discussed above, the surrounding roadway network has been established and therefore is preserving the view corridors. Thus, the implementation of the Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- b) **No impact.** The Project site is not located within view of a State Scenic Highway. The closest eligible highway is State Route (SR) 74 which is located approximately 0.7 mile east of the Project site (CAL-A, GE). Once SR-74 reaches the San Jacinto Mountains, SR-74 becomes an officially designated State Scenic Highway in conjunction with SR-243; however, this segment of

SR-74 and SR-243 is located approximately 22 miles southeast of the Project site. Since the Project site is not located within view of a State Scenic Highway, implementation of the Project would not substantially damage scenic resources within a State Scenic Highway. Thus, implementation of the Project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c) **Less than significant impact.** CEQA Section 21071(a) defines an incorporated city as being an urbanized area if it meets either of the following criteria:
- Has a population of at least 100,000 persons; or
 - Has a population of less than 100,000 persons if the population of that city and not more than two contiguous incorporated cities combined equals at least 100,000 persons.

In 2021, the City's population was approximately 79,835 residents. (DOF-A). The adjoining City of Menifee has an estimated population of 106,401 (DOF-B). Between the two cities, the population is over 100,000 so the Project site is considered to be within an urbanized area.

Visual character is the point of reference to assess whether a given project would appear compatible with the established features of the existing setting or would contrast noticeably and unfavorably with them. Photographs presented in **Figures 4 and 5**, depict the visual character of the Project site, which is vacant and relatively flat with limited vegetation. The surrounding area is comprised of vacant land, industrial uses, and legal, yet non-conforming residential uses. Construction of the Project will result in short-term impacts to the existing visual character of the site and quality of the area. Construction activities will require the use of equipment and storage of materials within the Project site. However, construction activities are temporary in nature and would not result in any permanent visual impacts. Implementation of the Project would result in a permanent change in the visual character of the site from its current undeveloped condition to a developed industrial warehouse use.

However, as shown in **Figure 13**, which provides conceptual building elevations, the proposed building has been designed to include scale, massing, building relief; architectural elevations and details; roofs and parapets; and color and materials. Development of the Project would involve the construction of a single industrial building with a maximum height not to exceed 50 feet. The building has been designed with multiple areas of geometric form to provide variation in building plane and form. Visual relief from massive building form would be achieved through fenestration, incorporation of windows, and/or through variations in height and rooflines as well as the use of parapets. These various architectural elements would effectively avoid monotony and repetition in building elevations.

Roof equipment would be mounted behind parapets and trash enclosures will be designed with concrete tilt-up walls consistent with the proposed building. The Project would be consistent with City standards and provide 14-foot-high screen walls along the Project site's eastern and western boundaries. Additionally, as reflected in **Figure 14**, 6-foot-high screen walls atop an 8-foot-high retained berm would be provided along the eastern and western Project boundaries. Further, the Project would provide a retaining wall ranging from 0.5 feet to 3.5 feet in height along the northeastern perimeter where the site is adjacent to existing structures. A retaining wall ranging from 3 feet to 8 feet in height along the northwestern parking areas, and a 14-foot-

high retaining wall along the southwestern parking area adjacent to the existing property located on the southwest corner of Ethanac and Trumble Roads.

Landscape buffers would be provided along the western, eastern, and southern boundaries of the site as well as around screen walls. Access points would provide enhanced landscape treatments. As shown in **Figure 17**, landscaping would be installed around the perimeter of the site to provide a visual buffer along the public roadways to help visually screen views of proposed building and parking areas and include the use of screening trees. As reflected in the line-of sight in **Figure 16** and views of Project site in **Figure 18**, through a combination of screen walls and landscape, auto and truck parking, loading bays, and the building would not be visible from the surrounding adjacent streets.

Further, the Project includes a General Plan Amendment and Change of Zone to change the land use and zoning designation from Community Commercial to LI and Commercial Community to LI, respectively. As such, the Project would be required to comply with LI zoning standards for industrial buildings, including but not limited to, Municipal Code, Title 19, Chapter 19.44.

The Project would change the visual character of the Project site by adding structures but the Project has been designed to ensure aesthetic cohesiveness and superior architectural design to improve the visual character of the area. The Project would be visually consistent with existing industrial development in the vicinity of the Project site. Thus, while the Project is in an urbanized area it will not conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- d) **Less than significant with mitigation incorporated.** During Project construction, nighttime lighting may be used within the construction staging areas to provide security for construction equipment. Due to the distance between the construction area and the adjacent existing residences and motorists on adjacent roadways, such security lights may result in glare to residents and motorists. However, this potential impact would be reduced to a less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measure **MM AES-1**.

MM AES-1: Prior to issuance of grading permits, the Project developer shall provide evidence to the City of Perris that any temporary nighttime lighting installed for security purposes shall be downward facing and hooded or shielded to prevent security light spillage by one foot candle to surrounding properties outside of the staging area or direct broadcast of security light into the sky.

When completed and operational, the proposed Project would add additional exterior building lights and exterior lighting for safety and security purposes within parking lots, along pathways and on buildings. Additionally, the proposed Project site is located within Zone B of Riverside County Ordinance 655 (County of Riverside Ord. 655), or within a 45-mile radius of the Mt. Palomar Observatory requiring low pressure sodium lights under 4050 lumens. All light sources would be shielded so that the light is directed away from streets and adjoining properties as required by City of Perris Municipal Code Section 19.020.110. Because the Project site is located within Zone B of the Mt. Palomar Observatory, the Project would be required to comply with County of Riverside Ord. 655.

Glare is primarily a daytime occurrence caused by the reflection of sunlight or artificial light by highly polished surfaces such as window glass or reflective materials. Daytime glare is common in urban areas and is typically associated with buildings with exterior facades largely or entirely

comprised of highly reflective glass or windshields of parked cars. Glare-sensitive uses include residences, hotels, transportation corridors and aircraft landing corridors. The Project site does have some sensitive residential receptors in the vicinity of the site but glare would be addressed through standard conditions of approval, plan check, permit procedures and design guidelines such as installation of window tinting or other measures that would reduce glare.

Thus, with implementation of mitigation measure **MM AES-1**, the Project would not create new sources of light or glare that will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

References: FMMP, GE, GP CE, GP DEIR

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **No impact.** The Project site is identified as Farmland of Local Importance, Other Land, and Urban and Built-up Land by the Farmland Mapping Management Program of the California Department of Conservation (FMMP). Thus, the Project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) to non-agricultural use. Furthermore, the surrounding areas do not support Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- b) **No impact.** The City’s 1991 General Plan eliminated the agricultural land use designation from within City boundaries. Therefore, there are no agricultural zones identified by the City and the proposed Project site is not covered under a Williamson Act Contract (GP DEIR, p. VI-3). The Project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community. The Project applicant proposes to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI. Thus, the Project would not create a conflict with existing agricultural zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c) **No impact.** The Project site has a General Plan land use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community. The Project applicant proposes to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI. There is no existing or proposed zoning of forest land, timberland, or Timberland Production Zones within the City and there is no commercial forestry or timber production industry within the City (GP CE, pp. 3-4). Implementation of the proposed Project would not impact forestland or timberland as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526 or a Timberland Production Zone as defined by Government Code section 51104(g). Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- d) **No impact.** There is no land zoned forest land within the City. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Project would not impact land zoned for forest land and would not result in the conversion of forest land to non-forest uses. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- e) **No impact.** The Project site is currently vacant and no agricultural production occurs at the site or in the immediate Project site vicinity (GE). Thus, the Project would not result in changes in the existing environment that could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use. Therefore, **no impacts** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.3 Air Quality | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: CARB-A, CARB-B, GE, GP DEIR, SCAQMD-A, SCAQMD-B, SCAQMD-C, SCAQMD-D

Explanation of Checklist Answers

a) **Potentially significant impact.** The City of Perris is located within the South Coast Air Basin (“the Basin”), which is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). (GP DEIR, p. IV-19.) In order to reduce emissions, the SCAQMD adopted the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which establishes a program of rules and regulations directed at reducing air pollutant emissions and achieving state and federal air quality standards. The 2022 AQMP is a regional and multi-agency effort including the SCAQMD, the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (SCAQMD-A).

The 2022 AQMP pollutant control strategies are based on the latest scientific and technical information and planning assumptions, including the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020-2045 RTP/SCS), updated emission inventory methodologies for various source categories, and SCAG’s latest growth forecasts. SCAG’s latest growth forecasts were defined in consultation with local governments and with reference to local general plans. Land use data is compiled from the City’s General Plan. If a project demonstrates compliance with local land use plans and/or population projections from the 2020-2045 RTP/SCS, which would have been taken into account by the SCAQMD, then the project would be consistent with the 2022 AQMP. (SCAQMD-C).

The Project site has a City of Perris General Plan land use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community. The Project applicant proposes to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI to allow for Light Industrial (LI) land uses, such as the proposed warehouse. Due to the change of land use, the Project may be inconsistent with regional air pollutant projections. Thus, the Project may conflict with or obstruct implementation of the 2022 AQMP. Therefore, the Project

may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- b) **Potentially significant impact.** The portion of the Air Basin within which the proposed Project site is located is designated as a non-attainment area for particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM-10) under state standards, and for ozone and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM-2.5) under both state and federal standards (CARB-A).

Air quality impacts can be described in short-term and long-term perspectives. Short-term impacts occur during site preparation and Project construction, whereas long-term impacts are associated with Project operation. The Project's short-term and long-term emissions will be evaluated using the latest industry standard air quality modeling software and analyzed for compliance with SCAQMD regional significance thresholds. The SCAQMD considers the thresholds for project-specific impacts and cumulative impacts to be the same (SCAQMD-C). Hence, projects that exceed project-specific significance thresholds are considered by the SCAQMD to be cumulatively considerable.

The proposed Project includes a change of zone and a GPA to allow for Light Industrial (LI) land uses, which would allow for industrial uses onsite. Due to the change of land use, the Project may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- c) **Potentially significant impact.** Sensitive receptors include residential uses, school playgrounds, childcare facilities, athletic facilities, hospitals, retirement homes, and convalescent homes. (CARB-B, p. 2-1). Development of the Project site may have the potential to expose nearby sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Air Quality impacts to sensitive receptors can be analyzed via a Localized Significance Thresholds (LST) analysis. LSTs are applicable to nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM-10), as well as particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM-2.5) and represent the maximum emissions from a project that are not expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the most stringent applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard on sensitive receptors (SCAQMD-D, pp. 1-1, 1-2). In addition, the proposed warehouse use would be a source of diesel particulate emissions which have the potential to increase the risk of cancer for sensitive receptors. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant impact**. Topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- d) **Less than significant impact.** The human nose is the best means of determining the strength of an odor; however, not all people are equally sensitive, and they do not always agree about the severity of an odor once it is detected. Therefore, precise documentation of the strength and nature of an odor is generally unavailable.

It is anticipated that the major potential sources of odor from the proposed Project would occur during construction, particularly from construction equipment exhaust. However, this impact would be limited to the immediate vicinity of the proposed Project site and short-term. The area immediately surrounding the proposed Project site is dominated by industrial land uses, vacant land, and legal non-confirming residential uses (GE).

The CARB developed an Air Quality and Land Use Handbook to outline common sources of odor complaints. The sources of odors include sewage treatment plants, landfills, recycling

facilities, and petroleum refineries (CARB-B). Odor impacts during Project operation will be minimal because the warehouse uses proposed on the Project site are not included on CARB's list of facilities that are known to be prone to generate odors. Potential sources of operational odors generated by the Project would include disposal of miscellaneous refuse. Consistent with City requirements, all Project generated refuse is required to be stored in covered containers and removed at regular intervals in compliance with solid waste regulations, thereby precluding substantial generation of odors due to temporary holding of refuse onsite. Moreover, construction-source odor emissions would be temporary, short-term, and intermittent in nature and would not result in persistent impacts that would affect substantial numbers of people. Thus, the Project would not result in other emissions such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Therefore, impacts are **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.4 Biological Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 wildlife nursery sites? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: ECORP, GP CE, NWI, ORD 1123, Project Description, RCA, RCHCA

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Less than significant with mitigation incorporated.** The proposed Project site is located within the area subject to the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). Pursuant to the MSHCP, development projects within the planning area are required to prepare a biological resources assessment to analyze the biological resources within the project area. A biological resources assessment includes a reconnaissance-level survey and a literature review of public databases including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), the California Native Plant Society’s Electronic Rare Plant Inventory, range maps for special-status species, and other documentation pertinent to the project site and the region.

A *Biological Technical Report and MSHCP Consistency Analysis* was prepared by Ecorp Consulting Inc. dated September 2023 (ECORP) and is included as Appendix A to this Initial Study. The study was conducted utilizing a larger offsite footprint so it provides for a more conservative analysis of potential project impacts. The offsite footprint was subsequently reduced so as to not include areas south of Ethanac Road along Sherman or Trumble Roads as per **Figure 2** above. Hence, some of the information or potential impacts reflected in the study are no longer applicable and are not discussed below. The Project site is located within the planning area for the MSHCP but is not located within any Conservation Areas. The site was reviewed for any focused survey requirements. While the Project site is located outside survey areas for amphibians, small mammals, Delhi-sands, flower-loving fly and other criteria, the Project site is located within a MSHCP-designated survey area for Western Burrowing Owl (BUOW). (ECORP, pp. 28, 31).

A literature review and biological reconnaissance surveys were conducted on November 9, 2022 and January 17, 2023, covering both the Project site and offsite improvement alignment plus a 500-foot buffer. The surveys were conducted to identify any potential biological resources that could be affected by the proposed Project, pursuant to the terms of CEQA and for the purposes of identifying any biological constraints that would affect the proposed site plan for the Project. The surveys were conducted in accordance with the Western Riverside County MSHCP. The MSHCP provides information on plant and wildlife species of concern to the County of Riverside and outlines goals for their conservation. Information on the MSHCP can be found at www.rctlma.org (Riverside County Land Management Agency [RCTLMA] 2022). The Project would be subject to county, state, and federal regulations regarding compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), California ESA, Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and California Fish and Game Code. (ECORP, p.1).

The Project site is currently vacant, disturbed, undeveloped and devoid of any trees. The vegetation observed is composed of mostly nonnative forbs and grasses. Scattered trash and evidence of off-highway vehicle use was also observed on the site. Additionally, most of the site showed evidence of mechanical disturbance and based on aerial imagery, it appears to have been regularly disturbed over the last 20 years, likely associated with annual weed. The Project site is bounded by an open lot with a similar vegetative composition of disturbed nonnative grasslands to the west, Sherman Road and residential developments to the east, commercial development to the north, and Ethanac Road and commercial developments to the south. Nonnative plant species present in this community included primarily nonnative grasses and weedy species such as Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), cheeseweed (*Malva parviflora*), pigweed amaranth (*Amaranthus albus*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), wild oat (*Avena* sp.), bromegrass (*Bromus diandrus*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*). Native species present in this community at the time of the survey included telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), and jimson weed (*Datura wrightii*). In addition, scattered trees were observed within the Project Footprint such as gum trees (*Eucalyptus* sp.), juniper (*Platyclusus* sp.), olive tree (*Olea europaea*), mule fat, and tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). The urban/developed classification includes areas where anthropogenic disturbance has resulted in permanent impacts such as roads, buildings, and other development. Urban/developed areas have little to no vegetation. Urban/developed is not a vegetation classification, but rather a land cover type and is not typically restricted to a known elevation. The urban/developed land cover

constitutes primarily the roads along Trumble Road, Illinois Avenue, Ethanac Road, and Sherman Road. (ECORP, pp. 14, 17-18).

The literature review and database searches identified 43 special-status plant species. Of these 43 special-status plants, two were found to have a moderate potential to occur within the overall study area due to the presence of marginally suitable habitat and records within 5 miles: smooth tarplant and Parry's spineflower. These plant species are MSHCP covered species so additional surveys are not required.

A total of six species had a low potential to occur onsite and 35 plant species were presumed absent. One special status species, paniculate tarplant, was observed within the 500-foot buffer. However, this species has a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 4.2 (limited distribution in California) and does not have the same protections as plant species with a rank of 1B. As such, impacts to this species are not considered significant. The site is highly disturbed and no additional sensitive plant species were observed during the biological surveys. No impacts to special-status plant or narrow endemic plant species are expected to occur as a result of the Proposed Project. (ECORP, p. 25).

Of the 56 special-status wildlife species identified in the literature search, one bird species was present during the biological reconnaissance survey: California horned lark (Watch List species). Marginally suitable habitat for this sensitive bird species including the herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses occurs within the Project footprint. Additionally, the large gum trees and other ornamental trees located within the offsite impact areas may provide nesting habitat for nesting birds and raptors. Potential nesting habitat for migratory birds and raptors protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) code was present within and adjacent to the Project footprint in some of the larger trees and shrubs. Additionally, the open areas and ground could be suitable for some ground nesting species (e.g., mourning dove, killdeer). Raptors typically breed between February and August, and songbirds and other passerines generally nest between March and August. There is potential for nesting to occur within the study area due to the presence of suitable nesting habitat. If construction occurs during the nesting season (generally between February 1 and September 15 although the nesting season may be extended due to weather and drought conditions) implementation of mitigation measure **MM BIO-1** would ensure that no nesting birds, regardless of their listing status, would be significantly impacted through compliance with CDFG Code Section 3503 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. (ECORP, pp. 24-25).

MM BIO-1: Preconstruction Survey for Nesting Birds. In order to avoid violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513, site preparation activities (ground disturbance, construction activities, staging equipment, and/or removal of trees and vegetation) for the Project shall be avoided, to the greatest extent possible, during the nesting season of potentially occurring native and migratory bird species.

If site-preparation activities are proposed during the nesting/breeding season, the Project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-activity field survey prior to the issuance of grading permits for the Project to determine if

active nests of species protected by the MBTA or the California Fish and Game Code are present in the construction zone. The nest surveys shall include the Project site and adjacent areas where Project activities have the potential to cause nest failure. The survey results shall be provided to the City's Planning Division. The Project proponent shall adhere to the following:

1. The Project proponent shall designate a biologist (Designated Biologist) experienced in: identifying local and migratory bird species of special concern; conducting bird surveys using appropriate survey methodology; nesting surveying techniques, recognizing breeding and nesting behaviors, locating nests and breeding territories, and identifying nesting stages and nest success; determining/establishing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures; and monitoring the efficacy of implemented avoidance and minimization measures.
2. Pre-activity field surveys shall be conducted at the appropriate time of day/night, during appropriate weather conditions, no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of Project development activities. Surveys shall encompass all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. Survey duration shall take into consideration the size of the project site; density, and complexity of the habitat; number of survey participants; survey techniques employed; and shall be sufficient to ensure the data collected is complete and accurate.

If no nesting birds are observed during the survey, site preparation and construction activities may begin conducted during the nesting/breeding season. However, if active nests (including nesting raptors) are located then avoidance or minimization measures shall be undertaken in consultation with the City of Perris and the CDFW. Measures shall include immediate establishment of an appropriate buffer zone to be established by a qualified biologist, and approved by the City of Perris, based on their best professional judgement and experience. The buffer around the nest shall be delineated and flagged, and no construction activity shall occur within the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines nesting species have fledged and the nest is no longer active or the nest has failed. The biologist shall monitor the nest at the onset of Project activities, and at the onset of any changes in such Project activities (e.g., increase in number or type of equipment, change in equipment usage, etc.) to determine the efficacy of the buffer. If the biologist determines that such Project activities may be causing an adverse reaction, the biologist shall adjust the buffer accordingly or implement alternative avoidance and minimization measures, such as redirecting or rescheduling construction or erecting sound barriers. All work within these buffers will be halted until the nesting effort is finished (i.e., the juveniles are surviving independent from the nest). The onsite biologist shall review and verify compliance with these nesting avoidance buffers and shall verify the nesting effort has finished. Work can resume within these avoidance areas when no other active nests are found. Upon completion of the survey and nesting bird

monitoring, a report shall be prepared and submitted to City of Perris Planning Division for mitigation monitoring compliance record keeping.

A total of seven wildlife species were determined to have moderate potential to occur within the study area: BUOW, loggerhead shrike, California glossy snake, red-diamond rattlesnake, ferruginous hawk, San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, and Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR). Six of these species are covered by the MSHCP and, other than SKR, which is federally listed (Threatened), none of the other species are listed under the federal or California Endangered Species Acts. These wildlife species are covered under the MSHCP and considered adequately conserved; no additional surveys or mitigation are required. Although potential impacts to SKR are covered by the MSHCP and SKR HCP, impacts to SKR habitat within the SKR HCP area would require mitigation fee payment. California glossy snake is not covered under the MSHCP. This species, if present, could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and indirect impacts from noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to Project activities. However, this species is only expected to occur in very low densities and Project-related impacts would not be expected to contribute to the overall decline of populations for these species due to the lack of high-quality habitat within the study area, the site's history of anthropogenic disturbances, and the presence of urban development adjacent to the Project site. Hence, impacts to California glossy snake would not be considered significant under CEQA and additional surveys and mitigation are not necessary. (ECORP, pp. 25-26).

A total of seven wildlife species have a low potential to occur onsite. Five of the seven species are covered under the MSHCP and considered adequately conserved and will not require additional surveys or mitigation. The remaining two species include Crotch bumble bee and Jacumba pocket mouse. These species, if present, could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and indirect impacts from construction noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to the development of the Project site. However, due to the lack of suitable habitat within the impact area, the site's long history of anthropogenic disturbances, and the presence of urban development immediately adjacent to the study area, these species, if present in the impact area, are only expected to occur in very low densities and Project-related impacts would not be expected to contribute to the overall decline of populations for these species; therefore, impacts to these species would not be considered significant and additional surveys and mitigation are not necessary. (ECORP, pp. 26-27).

The Project site is located within the MSHCP Burrowing Owl (BUOW, *Athene cunicularia*) Survey Area and is subject to the MSHCP burrowing owl survey requirements. A BUOW habitat assessment concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey to determine the presence of suitable habitat. Biologists walked the study area which included a 500-foot buffer to identify the presence of owl habitat, scanning for suitable habitat using binoculars in areas that were inaccessible by foot. A focused burrow survey was conducted where suitable burrows were documented within the study area and in some areas of the 500-foot buffer, where accessible. This is a requirement under Part 2A of the WR-MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions Protocol-level BUOW surveys were conducted during the breeding season (March 1 through August 31) as required under Part 2B of the WR-MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions and consisted of four separate surveys conducted throughout the Project footprint, and within the 500-foot buffer where accessible. The surveys were conducted on four separate days in March, April, and May 2023 by qualified biologists. The biologists walked pedestrian transects spaced

20 to 30 meters apart across the entire study area where access was permissible. In areas that were inaccessible, binoculars were used to scan for the presence of BUOW. Additionally, all the encountered burrows were marked during the surveys. Burrows, rocky areas, or manufactured materials within the BUOW study area were visually inspected for potential BUOW occupation. All burrows encountered were inspected for presence or sign of BUOW (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, and/or prey remains) and classified according to the guidelines in the CDFG Staff Report. Data collected for each burrow included the condition and size of the burrow, number of entrances, presence of BUOW sign near the burrow, and location. The biologists used GPS to mark the location. Burrows were individually numbered and classified into two categories based on definitions found in the CDFG Staff Report: occupied burrow or potential burrow. Burrows classified as occupied showed signs (e.g., whitewash, feathers, pellets, and/or bones of prey outside the burrow), indicating BUOW presence and/or use at some point in time. Potential burrows were defined as burrows that are large enough for a BUOW but do not show sign of use by the species. Data was recorded on survey sheets and photographs were taken. Although potentially suitable habitat was present in the study area, no BUOW or occupied burrows (e.g., burrows containing whitewash, pellets, feathers, bones of prey items) were observed during the protocol-level focused surveys for BUOW. Implementation of mitigation measures **MM BIO-2** and **MM BIO-3** would reduce any potential impacts to BUOW. (ECORP, pp. 12, 31).

MM BIO-2: Preconstruction Surveys for Western Burrowing Owl. The Project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction survey for resident burrowing owls within 30 days prior to commencement of initial ground-disturbing activities (e.g., vegetation clearing, clearing, and grubbing, grading, tree removal, site watering, equipment staging) at the Project site. The survey shall include the Project site and all suitable burrowing owl habitat within a 500-foot buffer. The results of the survey shall be submitted to the City of Perris Planning Division prior to obtaining a grading permit. In addition, a pre-construction survey for resident burrowing owls shall also be conducted within three days prior to commencement. If burrowing owls are observed during the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) nesting bird survey (mitigation measure MM BIO-1, to be conducted within three days of ground disturbance or vegetation clearance, the observation shall be reported to the CDFW and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). If ground disturbing activities in these areas are delayed or suspended for more than 30 days after the pre-construction survey, the area shall be resurveyed for owls. The pre-construction survey and any relocation activity will be conducted in accordance with the current Burrowing Owl Instruction for the Western Riverside MSHCP.

If burrowing owl are not detected during the pre-construction survey, no further mitigation is required.

If burrowing owl are detected, the CDFW shall be sent written notification within three days of detection of burrowing owls.

If active nests are identified during the pre-construction survey, the Project applicant shall not commence activities until no sign is present that the burrows

are being used by adult or juvenile owls or following CDFW approval of a Burrowing Owl Plan as described below.

If owl presence is difficult to determine, a qualified biologist shall monitor the burrows with motion-activated trail cameras for at least 24 hours to evaluate burrow occupancy.

The qualified biologist and Project applicant shall coordinate with the City of Perris Planning Division, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the CDFW to develop a Burrowing Owl Plan to be approved by the City in consultation with the CDFW and the USFWS prior to commencing project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall be prepared in accordance with guidelines in the CDFW Staff Report on Burrowing Owl (March 2012) and MSHCP. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, minimization, relocation, and monitoring as applicable. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites and details on proposed buffers if avoiding the burrowing owls and/or information on the adjacent or nearby suitable habitat available to owls for relocation. If no suitable habitat is available nearby for relocation, details regarding the creation and funding of artificial burrows (numbers, location, and type of burrows) and management activities for relocated owls may also be required in the Burrowing Owl Plan. The permittee shall implement the Burrowing Owl Plan following CDFW and USFWS review and concurrence. A final letter report shall be prepared by the qualified biologist documenting the results of the Burrowing Owl Plan. The letter shall be submitted to CDFW prior to the start of project activities. The onsite qualified biologist will verify the nesting effort has finished according to methods identified in the Burrowing Owl Plan. When the biologist determines that burrowing owls are no longer occupying the Project site per the criteria in the Burrowing Owl Plan, Project activities may begin.

MM BIO-3: If burrowing owl are discovered to occupy the Project Site after Project activities have started, then construction activities shall be halted immediately. The Project proponent shall notify the CDFW and the USFWS within 48 hours of detection. A Burrowing Owl Plan, as detailed in mitigation measure MM BIO-1, shall be implemented. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall be submitted to the CDFW for review and approval within two weeks of detection and no Project activity shall continue within 1,000 feet of the burrowing owls until the CDFW approves the Burrowing Owl Plan. The Project proponent shall be responsible for implementing appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures, including burrow avoidance, passive or active relocation, or other appropriate mitigation measures as identified in the Burrowing Owl Plan.

Hence, the Project site is vacant and disturbed, while offsite areas are largely developed/disturbed. Thus, with implementation of mitigation measures **MM BIO-1**, **MM BIO-2**, and **MM BIO-3**, compliance with the MSHCP and payment of SKR fees, the Project would not result in substantial adverse effects, 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 the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- b) **No impact.** As previously stated in *Threshold 6.4.a* above, the Project site and offsite impact areas are disturbed and vacant or disturbed and developed and do not include any riparian/riverine habitat. Thus, the Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- c) **No impact.** As previously stated in *Threshold 6.4.a* above, the Project footprint has been modified so does not include any protected wetlands or jurisdictional features. Thus, the Project would not 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. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- d) **Less than significant impact.** As previously stated in *Threshold 6.4(a)* above, the Project site is highly disturbed. While the study area likely provides wildlife movement opportunities due to its open and unimpeded land, the Project site's value as a corridor is lessened by the fact that it borders residential development to the north and south and is disturbed due to anthropogenic factors. No migratory wildlife corridors or native wildlife nursery sites were identified within the study area. (ECORP, p. 27). Thus, the Project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish, wildlife species, established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Therefore, **less than significant impacts** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- e) **Less than significant impact.** The City of Perris has adopted an ordinance (Ordinance No. 1123) to establish a local development mitigation fee for funding the preservation of natural ecosystems in accordance with the MSHCP (ORD 1123) and has also adopted the following General Plan policies for the protection of biological resources (GP CE, pp. 46-47):

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Goal II | Preservation of areas with significant biotic communities. |
| Policy II.A | Comply with state and federal regulations to ensure protection and preservation of significant biological resources. |
| Measure II.A.2 | Public and private projects, located in areas with potential for moderate or high plant and wildlife sensitivity, require biological surveys as part of the development review process. |
| Measure II.A.3 | Public and private projects that are also subject to federal or State approval with respect to impacts to Water of the U.S. and/or Streambeds require evidence of completion of the applicable federal permit process prior to the issuance of a grading permit. |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Goal III | Implementation of the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). |
| Policy III.A | Review all public and private development and construction projects and any other land use plans or activities within the MSHCP area, in accordance with the conservation criteria procedures and mitigation requirements set forth in the MSHCP. |

However, as previously stated in *Threshold 6.4(a)* above, the Project site does not contain sensitive biological resources since the Project site is highly disturbed. Further, the Project applicant would be required to pay the applicable MSHCP fees pursuant to Ordinance No. 1123. Thus, the Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Therefore, **less than significant impacts** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- f) **Less than significant with mitigation incorporated.** The MSHCP requires project consistency with Sections 6.1.1 (Property Owner Initiated Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy), 6.1.2 (Protection of Species within Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools), 6.1.3 (Protection of Narrow Endemic Plant Species), 6.1.4 (Urban Wildlands Interface), 6.3.2 (Additional Survey Needs and Procedures), 6.4 (Fuels Management), Appendix C (Standard Best Management Practices), and 7.5.3 (Construction Guidelines). As a Permittee to the MSHCP, the City is required to ensure that all projects are consistent with these Sections of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.1

The Project site is not located within a MSHCP Criteria Cell as identified under Section 6.1.1, *Property Owner Initiated Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy (HANS)*. Further, the Project footprint does not fall within, nor is it adjacent to, Public Quasi-Public (PQP) or other MSHCP Conserved Lands (COR PQP). (ECORP, p. 28). Thus, the proposed Project is consistent with Section 6.1.1 of the MSHCP.

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.2

Section 6.1.2, *Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas, and Vernal Pools*, of the MSHCP requires that projects develop avoidance alternatives, if feasible, that would allow for full or partial avoidance of riparian/riverine areas. Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP defines Riparian/Riverine areas as “lands which contain Habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to, or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with freshwater flow during all or a portion of the year.” The proposed Project footprint is highly disturbed and does not support riparian, riverine, fairy shrimp and vernal pool habitats and no species associated with these habitat types are present on the site. As such, no focused surveys are required nor is a MSHCP Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP) report. Thus, the proposed Project is consistent with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP. (ECORP, pp. 31-32).

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.3

Section 6.1.3, *Protection of Narrow Endemic Plant Species*, of the MSHCP requires that within identified Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Areas (NEPSSA), site-specific focused surveys for Narrow Endemic Plants Species will be required for all public and private projects where

appropriate soils and habitat are present. The Project site does not occur within an MSHCP predetermined Survey Area for narrow endemic plant species and is therefore not required to survey for any narrow endemic plants. Thus, the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP. (ECORP, p. 30).

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.1.4

Section 6.1.4, *Guidelines Pertaining to the Urban/Wildlife Interface*, outlines the minimization of indirect effects associated with locating development in proximity to a MSHCP Conservation Area. The Project site is not located adjacent to an existing or proposed MSHCP Conservation Area. Thus, the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP. (ECORP, p. 30).

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.3.2

Section 6.3.2, *Additional Survey Needs and Procedures*, requires additional surveys for certain species if a project is located within criteria areas shown on *Figure 6-2 (Criteria Area Species Survey Area)*, *Figure 6-3 (Amphibian Species Survey Areas with Critical Area)*, *Figure 6-4 (Burrowing Owl Survey Areas with Criteria Area)* and *Figure 6-5 (Mammal Species Survey Areas with Criteria Area)* of the MSHCP. The Project site does not occur within the Amphibian Species Survey Area, Mammal Species Survey Area, Narrow Endemic Plant Survey Area, Criteria Area Species, or Invertebrate Survey Area. However, the Project site does require a focused Western Burrowing Owl survey, which was conducted as discussed in *Threshold 6.4.a*, above. With implementation of mitigation measures **MM BIO-2** and **MM BIO-3**, impacts to BUOW are less than significant. Thus, focused surveys were conducted as required so the Project is consistent with Section 6.3.2 of the MSHCP. (ECORP, p. 31).

Consistency with MSHCP Section 6.4

Section 6.4, *Fuels Management*, of the MSHCP provides guidelines to address brush management activities around new development within, or adjacent to, MSHCP Conservation Areas. The Project Site is not located adjacent to an existing or proposed MSHCP Conservation Area so this section is not applicable to the proposed Project (ECORP, p. 28). Therefore, the Project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.4.

MSHCP Appendix C and Section 7.5.3

The MSHCP's Appendix C, *Standard Best Management Practices* and Section 7.5.3, *Construction Guidelines*, lists standard best management practices and guidelines to be implemented during project construction that will minimize potential impacts to sensitive habitats in the vicinity of a project. The guidelines relate to water pollution and erosion control, equipment storage, fueling, and staging, dust control, exotic plant control and timing of construction. Implementation of mitigation measure **MM BIO-1** would address potential construction impacts to nesting birds and mitigation measures **MM BIO-2** and **MM BIO-3** for BUOW. Further, Sherman Road is a publicly maintained MSHCP cover road. Safety improvements to publicly maintained existing roadways and necessary operation and maintenance activities conducted for safety purposes within Public/Quasi-Public Lands are Covered Activities. Covered maintenance activities include signage, traffic control devices, guardrails and fences, pavement repairs, accident response, tree trimming, natural disaster damage/restoration of emergency access, storm drainage, weed control, grading shoulders (up to 12 feet), grading existing dirt roadways, dust stabilization, culverts/drop structures, curbs/gutters/sidewalks, roadway widening, berms, roadway resurfacing, ditch clearing, landscape maintenance, bridge maintenance, and roadway reconstruction. Guidelines are

provided in Section 7.3.5 of the MSHCP, which would minimize and avoid impacts to sensitive species and habitats occurring adjacent to the existing roadway. The best management practices in Appendix C of the MSHCP would be applied as appropriate. Thus, with mitigation and compliance with Appendix C of the MSHCP, the proposed Project is consistent with Appendix C and Section 7.5.3 of the MSHCP.

Hence, with implementation of mitigation measures **MM BIO-1**, **MM BIO-2**, and **MM BIO-3**, the proposed Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, **less than significant impacts** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.5 Cultural Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: GP CE, Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** The City’s GP identified approximately ten (10) historic archaeological sites which occur within the City and ninety-eight (98) historic sites which occur within City limits (GP CE, p. 19). Furthermore, the GP defines areas that might hold more cultural resources sites than other areas (GP CE, p. 20). The proposed Project site is located within an area of low-density, with a probability of one (1) or fewer sites per quarter mile (GP CE, Exhibit CN-6). Nonetheless, between the late 1940s and late 1990s, residences and farm structures were developed along the southern property boundary adjoining Ethanac Road. The southern portion of the Project site now contains a 50-square-foot concrete pad in the approximate location of a former residence. In addition, a potential abandoned 12-inch-diameter well was observed in the southeast corner of the Project site. A site-specific cultural resources assessment will be prepared for the Project to identify any potentially historical resources pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15064.5. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- b) **Potentially significant impact.** As discussed in *Threshold 6.5(a)*, the proposed Project site is located in an area with a generally low-density probability for cultural resources, including archaeological resources. Nonetheless, since the Project site is currently vacant and undeveloped then there is the potential for archaeological resources to be discovered during construction activities. Accordingly, a site-specific cultural resources survey will be conducted at the Project site to identify any archeological resources that may potentially be impacted by development. Causing a change in the significance of an archaeological resource may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- c) **Potentially significant impact.** No known cemeteries are located within the Project site. However, construction activities may have the potential to uncover human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. As such, the potential exists for previously unknown human remains to be discovered at the site during project construction activities. Disturbing previously undiscovered human remains may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.6 Energy | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** Implementation of the Project would require energy consumption during both construction and operation activities. Since the Project site is currently vacant, implementation of the Project would increase the amount of energy consumed within the Project site. To determine the severity of Project-related impacts regarding wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction or operation, additional analysis is required. Thus, the Project may result in a **potentially significant impact** due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- b) **Potentially significant impact.** Implementation of the Project would result in development of a vacant site. As such, the amount of energy consumed within the Project site would increase. To determine the severity of Project-related impacts regarding energy, additional analysis is required to determine whether the Project would conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.7 Geology and Soils | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: | | | | |
| i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) Landslides? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: DOC, GE, GP CE, GP SE, GP DEIR, SCG-A, SCG-B

Explanation of Checklist Answers

a.i) **No impact.** A *Geotechnical Investigation Report* was prepared by Southern California Geotechnical (SCG) in February 2022 (SCG-A) as well as a *Limited Geotechnical Investigation*

prepared by SCG dated May 1, 2023, for the offsite footprint related to storm drain and roadway improvements (SCG-B); both of which are included as Appendix B to this IS. The Project site is not located within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (SCG-A, p. 9). While seismic activity is known to exist throughout Southern California, there are no known faults running through or near the Project site that would result in substantial effects. The Project site is located approximately 23.8 miles west of the San Jacinto Fault Zone and approximately 11.17 miles east of the Elsinore Fault Zone (DOC; GE). The possibility of significant fault ruptures at the Project site is considered to be low because no evidence of faulting is visible (SCG-A, p. 9). Further, the Project's design will be consistent with the recommended seismic parameters included in the *Geotechnical Investigation Report* and meet or exceed the seismic standards in the current California Building Code (CBC). Thus, the Project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of known earthquake fault. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- a.ii) **Less than significant impact.** Although there are no faults identified within the City limits, there are several active faults within the Southern California region that may contribute to ground shaking at the Project site, including: San Andreas, San Jacinto, Cucamonga, and Elsinore Faults (GP DEIR, p. VI-10). Since ground shaking and earthquake activity is typical of the Southern California area, the proposed Project would be required to be designed consistent with current California Building Codes, requiring structures to be designed to meet or exceed the seismic safety standards set forth therein (SCG-A, p. 10). Thus, the Project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. Therefore, impacts are **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- a.iii) **Less than significant impact.** Liquefaction occurs when intense vibrations from an earthquake cause saturated soil to lose stability and act more like a liquid than a soil (GP SE, p. 29). There are multiple areas within the City susceptible to liquefaction. However, the proposed Project site is not located within a moderate, high, or very high liquefaction susceptibility area (GP SE, p. 28). Additionally, Riverside County identifies the Project site as having low liquefaction susceptibility (SCG, p. 10). Furthermore, the subsurface exploration conducted as part of the *Geotechnical Investigation* determined that subsurface conditions encountered at the boring locations were not considered to be conducive to liquefaction (SCG-A, p. 10). Specifically, the subsurface conditions consist of moderate to high strength alluvial soils underlain by bedrock, with no evidence of a long-term groundwater table within the depths explored by the boring.

A *Limited Geotechnical Investigation* was also prepared by SCG dated May 1, 2023, related to the offsite footprint for storm drain and roadway improvements (SCG-B) also included in Appendix B of this IS. Subsurface exploration conducted for this Project consisted of seven borings (identified as Boring Nos. B-1 through B-7) advanced to depths of approximately 5 to 20 feet below the existing site grades. Boring's B-1 through B-3 were performed within Illinois Avenue, as part of the storm drain improvements, while boring's B-4 through B-7 were performed in the proposed street widening areas, adjacent to Ethanac Road and Sherman Road. (SCG-B, p 2).

Asphalt concrete (AC) pavements were encountered at the ground surface at borings B-1 through B-3, which were drilled within Illinois Avenue. At these locations, the pavement sections consist of approximately 5 to 7.5 inches of AC, underlain by approximately 4 to 8 inches of

aggregate base. Artificial fill soils were also encountered at the ground surface at most of the boring locations, extending to depths of approximately 2.5 to 5.5 feet below the existing site grades. The fill soils consist of loose to medium dense silty fine sands and clayey fine sands, with varying medium sand and clay content, and fine sandy clays. The fill soils possess a disturbed and mottled appearance, resulting in their classification of artificial fill. Native alluvium was encountered beneath the artificial fill soils or at the ground surface at all the boring locations, extending to at least the maximum depth explored of approximately 20 feet. The older alluvium generally consists of medium dense to very dense silty sands, clayey sands, and fine sandy silts with varying medium to coarse sand, and very stiff to hard fine sandy clays. (SCG-B, p. 3).

Free water was not encountered during the drilling of any of the borings. Based on the lack of water within the borings and the moisture contents of the recovered soil samples, the static groundwater table is considered to have existed at a depth in excess of approximately 20 feet at the time of the subsurface exploration. The nearest monitoring well is located directly south of Illinois Avenue where water level readings indicate a high groundwater level of approximately 95 feet below the ground surface in September 1995. (SCG-B, p. 3).

Hence, liquefaction is not considered to be a design concern for this Project (SCG-A, p. 11). Thus, the Project will not directly, or indirectly, cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Therefore, impacts are **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- a.iv) **No Impact.** The City is located on a flat broad basin. The City's western and southern areas contain steep slopes (30 percent gradient or higher) and are identified as areas susceptible to landslides (GP SE, p. 30). The Project site is located within the southeastern portion of the City, which is relatively flat (GP SE, p. 31). The Project site's overall topography is relatively flat and gently slopes downward to the northwest at a gradient of less than one percent (SCG-A, p.4). Since the Project site is not in an area prone to slope instability and not susceptible to landslides, implementation of the Project would not directly, or indirectly, cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including landslides. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- b) **Less than significant impact.** The Project site is characterized as generally flat, descending gradually to the northwest. Development of the Project site would result in the development of vacant and underutilized parcels. Construction would include the grading, moving, and compaction of soils at the site, followed by building construction. Trenching, grading, and compacting associated with construction of structures, modification/relocation of underground utility lines, and landscape/hardscape installation could expose areas of soil to erosion by wind or water during these construction processes. As such, construction activities have the potential to result in soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Further, the *Geotechnical Investigation* identified that near surface soils possess appreciable silt and clay content and may become unstable if exposed to significant moisture infiltration or disturbance by construction traffic. Due to their granular content, some of the onsite soil could also be susceptible to erosion. Thus, the Project site would be required to be graded to prevent ponding of surface water and to prevent water from running into excavations. (SCG-A, p. 17).

One of the major effects of erosion is sedimentation in receiving waters. However, erosion control standards are set by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) through administration of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process for storm drainage discharge. The NPDES permit requires implementation of nonpoint source control of stormwater runoff through the application of a number of Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs are required to reduce the amount of constituents, including eroded sediment, that enter streams and other water bodies to the maximum extent practicable. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), as required by the RWQCB, must describe the stormwater BMPs (structural and operational measures) that would control the quality (and quantity) of stormwater runoff.

Additionally, sites greater than one acre in size are subject to the provisions of the General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Developers must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the SWRCB for coverage under the Statewide General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit and must comply with all applicable requirements, including the preparation of a SWPPP, applicable NPDES Regulations, and BMPs. The SWPPP must describe the site, the facility, construction period erosion and sediment controls, runoff water quality monitoring, means of waste disposal, implementation of approved local plans, control of post-construction sediment and erosion, maintenance responsibilities, and non-stormwater management controls. Inspection of construction sites before and after storms is required to identify stormwater discharge from the construction activity and to identify and implement controls where necessary. Because the site is over one acre in size, the Project will be required to comply with all applicable requirements of the General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit, including the preparation of a SWPPP, applicable NPDES Regulations, and BMPs.

All construction activities would also be required to comply with Chapter 33 of the CBC, which regulates excavation activities and the construction of foundations and retaining walls, grading activities, including drainage and erosion control. Likewise, the City performs stormwater monitoring and enforcement activities. In the developed condition, the addition of paved and landscaped areas would, over the long term, decrease the potential for erosion because less exposed soils would exist at the sites.

Thus, through compliance with these standard regulatory requirements, the construction of the proposed Project is not anticipated to result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Through compliance with standard state and federal requirements and recommendations outlined in the *Geotechnical Investigation Report*, the Project would not result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c) **Less than significant impact.** Lateral spreading is a phenomenon in which soils move laterally during seismic shaking and is often associated with liquefaction. The amount of movement depends on the soil strength, duration and intensity of seismic shaking, topography, and free face geometry. Seismic ground subsidence (not related to liquefaction induced settlements) occurs when strong earthquake shaking results in the densification of loose to medium density sandy soils above groundwater. The potential for geological hazards induced by lateral spreading is considered low and only minor subsidence may occur at the Project site (SCG-A, p. 9, 12). As such, the *Geotechnical Investigation Report* provides site development and design

recommendations that would be incorporated into the grading plans prepared for the proposed Project.

It is expected that shoring may be required during excavation for the storm drain line along portions of the existing street segments. The proposed shoring is also expected to be required in order to protect the existing utility lines located on the proposed storm drain line alignment. Geotechnical recommendations assume that the retained soil heights will extend to depths of approximately 10 to 15 feet and any surcharge loads would be setback at least 10 feet from the face of the shoring. Any excavation related to the offsite improvements would be required to comply with the recommendations of the *Limited Geotechnical Investigation* (SCG-B, p. 8).

The Project would be required to adhere to the measures identified in the California Building Code and applicable standards of the City's Grading Ordinance to reduce potential impacts resulting from unstable soil conditions. Additionally, as discussed in *Thresholds 6.7(a.iii)* and *6.7(a.iv)*, the Project site is located in a relatively flat area so landslides do not pose a significant risk and liquefaction is not considered to be a significant design concern.

Older native alluvial soils were encountered at the ground surface at all of the boring locations, extending to depths of at least 5.5 feet to 25 feet below ground surface both within the Project site and in the offsite improvement areas. The older alluvium generally consists of stiff to hard fine sandy clays, fine to coarse sandy clays and medium dense to very dense clayey fine to medium sands. Granodiorite to Tonalite bedrock was encountered beneath the older alluvium at depths of 5.5 feet to 12 feet below ground surface, extending to the maximum depths explored of 15 feet to 25 feet. The bedrock generally consists of medium dense to very dense gray-brown, highly weathered, friable, fine- to coarse-grained granodiorite to tonalite. (SCG-A, p. 5). Collapsible soils typically occur in areas with young and very young alluvial sediments due to their low density, rapid deposition in alluvial fans, and the generally dry condition of their upper soils. The proposed building area is underlain by relatively high strength older alluvial soils. Based on soil samples, near surface soils may be subject to minor consolidation settlement when loaded. In order to provide more uniform support characteristics below the floor slab and foundation areas, and to help limit potential differential settlements, some remedial grading is considered warranted within the proposed building pad area in order to remove the upper portion of the existing soils and replace them as compacted structural fill. This recommended remedial grading would remove the upper portion of the near-surface native alluvium and replace these soils as compacted structural fill. The native soils that would remain in place below the recommended depth of over excavation generally possess favorable consolidation characteristics and would not be subject to significant load increases from the foundations of the new structure. Provided that the recommended remedial grading is completed, the post-construction static settlements of the proposed structure is expected to be within tolerable limits. (SCG-A, p.11).

Thus, the Project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- d) **Less than significant impact.** Expansive soils swell when subjected to moisture and shrink when dried. The UBC mandates that "special [foundation] design consideration" be employed if the Expansion Index (EI) is 20, or greater. Laboratory testing performed on a representative sample of the near surface soils indicates that these materials possess a medium expansion

potential (EI = 62). Based on the presence of expansive soils at this site, recommendations of the *Geotechnical Investigation* recommend proper moisture conditioning and maintenance of moisture content of all building pad subgrade soils to a moisture content of 2 to 4 percent above the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D-1557 optimum, during site grading. (SCG-A, p.11). As such, the *Geotechnical Investigation Report* provides site development and design recommendations that are required to be incorporated into the grading plans prepared for the proposed Project to be approved by the City prior to issuance of grading permits. These plans are also required to be prepared in conformance with applicable standards of the City's Grading Ordinance. Development of the Project, consistent with applicable standards and the recommendations included in the *Geotechnical Investigation*, would reduce impacts from expansive soils. Thus, the Project would not create substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property due to expansive soil. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- e) **No impact.** The Project site will connect to the existing sewer system and will not require the use of septic tanks. Thus, soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater is not applicable to the proposed Project. Therefore, **no impacts** are anticipated so this topic will not be further analyzed and addressed in the forthcoming EIR.
- f) **Potentially significant impact.** The Perris Valley floor is composed of Quaternary alluvium, which has developed as a result of erosion out of the batholithic and minor Aeolian deposition. Near the surface, this material is too young to exhibit fossils. However, it is possible that at depths beyond five feet below the modern ground surface, fossils may be found. (GP CE, p. 26). Paleontological sensitivity has been broken into five geographic regions within the City. The Project site is located in Area 2 which is identified as High Sensitivity due to its Pleistocene older fan deposits. The older fan deposits have a high potential to contain significant fossil resources (GP CE, pp. 26-27). Hence, construction-related and earth-disturbing actions may have the potential to impact previously undiscovered fossils in rock units. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant** impact. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** Implementation of the Project would incorporate light industrial uses which may result have the potential to generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions above SCAQMD thresholds during construction and operational activities. Thus, the Project may have the potential to generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- b) **Potentially significant impact.** As discussed in *Threshold 6.8(a)* above, the Project may have the potential to increase GHG emissions to levels that may impact the environment. Thus, the proposed Project may have the potential to conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.9 Hazards/Hazardous Materials | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous material? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter-mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise or people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Expose people or structures either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

References: AICUZ, ALUC-A, ALUC-B, ALUC-C, ALUC-D, CALFIRE, CCR, DTSC, GCI, GE, GP SE, MC

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Less than significant impact.** The routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials can result in potential hazards to the public through accidental release. Such hazards are typically associated with certain types of land uses, such as chemical manufacturing facilities, industrial processes, waste disposal, and storage and distribution facilities.

Construction

Construction of the Project site would involve the transport of fuels, lubricants, and various other liquids for operation of construction equipment. These materials would be transported to the Project site by equipment service trucks. In addition, workers would commute to the Project via private vehicles and would operate construction vehicles and equipment on public streets. Hence, the potential exists for direct impacts to human health and the environment from accidental spills of hazardous materials during Project construction through the transport, use, and disposal of construction-related hazardous materials such as fuels, lubricants, and solvents. However, several federal and state agencies prescribe strict regulations for the safe transportation of hazardous materials. Hazardous material transport, storage and response to upsets or accidents are primarily subject to federal regulation by the United States DOT Office of Hazardous Materials Safety in accordance with Title 49 Part 171-180 of the CFR. Title 49 Part 171-180 regulates the safe transportation of hazardous materials and requires appropriate documentation for all hazardous waste that is transported. OSHA protects workers from being killed or seriously harmed at work: specifically, 29 CFR §§1910 and 1926 address the handling of toxic materials. Cal OSHA, under 8 CCR §§337-340, specifies requirements for employee training, availability of safety equipment, accident prevention programs, and hazardous substance exposure warnings. Management of Hazardous Waste, under CCR Title 22 Division 4.5, establishes permits for the storage and disposal of hazardous material that cannot be disposed of in landfills. The California Hazardous Waste Control Law, under Chapter 6.95 of the Health and Safety Code, describes strict regulations for the safe transportation and storage of hazardous materials. Compliance with all applicable laws and regulations will reduce potential impacts associated with routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

The transportation of hazardous materials can result in accidental spills, leaks, toxic releases, fire, or explosion. Further, it is possible that licensed vendors may bring some hazardous materials to and from the Project site as a result of the proposed Project. However, appropriate documentation for all hazardous waste that is transported in connection with specific Project-site activities would be provided as required for compliance with existing hazardous materials regulations codified in Titles 8, 22, and 26 of the CCR, and their enabling legislation set forth in Chapter 6.95 of the CHSC. In addition, future users would be required to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations pertaining to the transport, use, disposal, handling, and storage of hazardous waste, including but not limited to the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of Hazardous Materials Safety Title 49 of the CFR, and implemented by Title 13 of the CCR which prescribes strict regulations for the safe transportation of hazardous materials. Compliance with the applicable federal and state laws related to the transportation of hazardous materials would reduce the likelihood and severity of accidents during transit.

Operation

The LI designations allow for the assembly of non-hazardous products and materials. Because the exact tenants of the proposed buildings are unknown at this time, there is the potential that hazardous materials such as petroleum products, pesticides, fertilizer, and other household hazardous products may be stored and transported from the proposed facility during operation. However, these hazardous materials would not be manufactured at the Project site and would only be stored short-term before transport. The transportation of hazardous materials can result in accidental spills, leaks, toxic releases, fire, or explosion. Further, it is possible that licensed

vendors may bring some hazardous materials to and from the Project site as a result of the proposed Project. However, appropriate documentation for all hazardous waste that is transported in connection with specific Project-site activities would be provided as required for compliance with existing hazardous materials regulations codified in Titles 8, 22, and 26 of the CCR, and their enabling legislation set forth in Chapter 6.95 of the CHSC. In addition, future users would be required to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations pertaining to the transport, use, disposal, handling, and storage of hazardous waste, including but not limited to the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of Hazardous Materials Safety Title 49 of the CFR, and implemented by Title 13 of the CCR which prescribes strict regulations for the safe transportation of hazardous materials. Compliance with the applicable federal and state laws related to the transportation of hazardous materials would reduce the likelihood and severity of accidents during transit.

Thus, because the proposed Project would be required to comply with all applicable federal and state laws related to the transportation, use, storage and response to upsets or accidents that may involve hazardous materials, it will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transportation, use, or disposal of hazardous materials

Further, development within the City is subject to regulation and monitoring by the Department of Environmental Health of the Riverside County Community Health Agency as part of the requirements of the California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (GP DEIR, p VI-16). Thus, through compliance with all applicable federal, state, regional and local laws, the Project will not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous material. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- b) **Less than significant impact.** The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment dated April 2023 (hereinafter referred to as the *Phase I ESA*) was prepared for the Project site by Geosyntec Consultants, Inc (GCI) and is included as Appendix C of this Initial Study. The *Phase I ESA* was prepared in accordance with the ASTM International (ASTM) Standard E 1527-13 Standard Practice for environmental site assessments (ESAs) to evaluate the Project site for potential recognized environmental conditions (RECs), controlled recognized environmental conditions (CRECs), or historic recognized environmental conditions (HRECs). As part of the *Phase I ESA*, a site reconnaissance was conducted on November 9, 2022, as well as a records review. The following databases were reviewed: Federal, State, and local environmental databases, historical aerial photographs, historical topographic maps, fire insurance maps, city directories, local authority permits and records, and available property tax information. (GCI, p. 11).

The search of environmental databases identified 45 site listings for properties within one mile of the Project site, some of which were in databases indicative of releases. Listed sites located greater than one-quarter mile from the Project site were not evaluated because they are not anticipated to adversely affect the site based on their location and proximity. All others were considered unlikely to adversely impact the Project site (GCI, p. 13).

The Project site is vacant and appears to have been recently tilled and does not contain any structures. The *Phase I ESA* indicates a potential abandoned agricultural well consisting of a damaged 12-inch diameter steel pipe was observed in the southeast corner of the site and that the Project site was previously used for agricultural purposes (row crops and/or pastures) since at least the late 1930's. By 1949, the site appears to have included a homestead with a small farm and/or residential structures in the southern portion of the site. Between the late 1940s and

late 1990s, residences and farm structures were developed along the southern property boundary adjoining Ethanac Road. From 2012 to 2018, no building footprints are depicted at the site. Based on the time frame of the observed clearings, it is possible that pesticides or herbicides (considered hazardous substances) or petroleum products were used onsite. However, no indication of pesticide/herbicide usage was found as part of the *Phase I ESA*. Hence, the findings are considered a *de minimis* condition which is a condition that generally does not present a threat to human health or the environment that generally would not be the subject of an enforcement action if brought to the attention of appropriate governmental agencies. Further, no HRECs in connection with the Project site exist. (GCI, pp. 5-6, 17, 25-26, 28-29).

As previously stated, the Project site does not contain buildings or structures. Scattered debris piles containing used tires, one compressed natural gas (CNG) cannister, fencing materials, and general plastic/glass trash were observed throughout the Project site but largely concentrated along sites southern boundary. Small piles of aggregate (concrete and asphalt) were observed near the Project site boundaries. The southern portion of the Project site contains imported fill material and a 50-square-foot concrete pad in the approximate location of a former residence. Other improvements observed include several pedestals along the east site boundary marking the location of a buried EMWD Telemetry cable and a potential abandoned 12-inch-diameter well was observed in the southeast corner of the Project site. The results of the site reconnaissance provided no indication of releases, ground surface staining, or other impacts from the solid waste/debris listed here. Hence, the findings are considered a *de minimis* condition and there are no RECs in connection with the Project site. (GCI, pp. 6, 28-29).

Based on the results of the Phase I ESA, no evidence of RECs or HRECs in connection with the Project site exist (GCI, p. 25). Additionally, de minimis conditions were associated with the Project site, in relation to solid waste/debris and historical agricultural land, neither of which generally present a threat to human health or the environment. (GCI, p. 29). As such, implementation of the Project would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c) **No impact.** There are no existing or proposed schools within a one-quarter-mile radius of the proposed Project site. The closest existing schools to the Project site are Romoland Elementary School (approximately 0.6 mile east of the proposed Project site) and Hans Middle School (approximately 1.7 miles south of the Project site). Thus, the Project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school because there are no existing or proposed schools within one-quarter-mile of the proposed Project site. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- d) **No impact.** According to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Cortese list, compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, no hazardous materials sites are located within or adjacent to the Project site. The environmental database resources consulted as part of the *Phase I ESA* identified three sites within one-quarter mile of the Project site that were evaluated due to their potential to adversely affect the site based on location and proximity. (GCI, p. 12).

- Trimline Automotive Interiors / Top Tech Auto & Sons / Gencorp Auto Body Shop located at 27271 Ethanac Road Suite 104 (adjoining south across Ethanac Road, hydraulically down to cross-gradient from the Project site). The site was listed in the listed in the EDR HIST AUTO database from 1985 to 2014 as an auto supply store, automotive repair shop, and automotive transmission repair shop. It is also listed in the CERS and CERS HAZ Waste databases, and other non-release databases, and received multiple notices of violation (NOV) for administrative issues (failure to maintain copies of manifests, submit emergency response plans, submit business plans, employee training, etc.). Other than an NOV for oil spilled on the ground or pooled on top of drums, no violations or reported releases were identified at the property. However based on the information provided it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely affected the Project site. (GCI, p. 13).
- Chaney's Automotive / Longs Enterprises dba Longs Automotive / Ethanac Smog located at 27411 Ethanac Road (adjoining south across Ethanac Road, (hydraulically down to cross-gradient from the Project site). The site was listed in the EDR HIST AUTO, Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST), CERS HAZ WASTE, and other non-release databases. The facility was issued various administrative violations during compliance inspections by the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health. No violations associated with a spill or release were reported. A LUST case was opened in 1992 for a release of waste oil affecting soil. The case was closed and issued No Further Action (NFA) in 2000. The Case Closure Summary report indicates groundwater is located approximately 112 to 200 feet below ground surface (bgs). Based on the case closure status, distance and hydraulic direction from the site, and lack of groundwater impact, it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely Impacted the site. (GCI, p. 13).
- Arco Celestino at 27391 Ethanac Road (adjoining south across Ethanac Road, hydraulically down to cross gradient from the site). The property is listed on the EDR HIST AUTO database in 2002 as a gasoline service station. This property is not listed on any databases indicative of a spill or release. Based on the lack of a documented release, it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely impacted the site. (GCI, p. 13).
- Richard Whitaker dba Chute Systems, Earth Systems Southwest, Amanda Langston and Top Promotional Products at 1622-1794 Illinois Avenue (adjoining north across Illinois Avenue, hydraulically down to cross gradient from the site) were listed in the RCRA-- Non Generators / No Longer Regulated (RCRA NONGEN/NLR) database as nonhazardous waste generators. No violations were found. Based on the nature of these listings, it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely impacted the site. (GCI, pp. 13-14).
- West Coast Yamaha Inc. dba Langston Motorsport at 1622 Illinois Avenue, Suite 1 (adjoining north across Illinois Avenue, hydraulically down to cross gradient from the site) was listed in the CERS HAZ WASTE, CERS, Facility and Manifest Data (HAZNET), Hazardous Waste Tracking System (HWTS), and RCRA NONGEN/NLR databases. The facility generated hazardous materials and petroleum products associated with vehicle maintenance. No violations were reported for a spill or release. Based on the nature of these listings, it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely impacted the site. (GCI, p. 14).

- Pro Structural and Summit Equipment Rentals at 26105 Sherman Road (adjoining south across Sherman Road, hydraulically cross gradient from the site) were listed in the RCRA NONGEN/NLR database as non-hazardous waste generators. No violations were found. Based on the nature of these listings, it is considered unlikely that these properties have adversely impacted the site. (GCI, p. 14).
- North County Sand & Gravel at 26227 Sherman Road (adjoining south across Sherman Road, hydraulically cross gradient from the site) was listed in the CERS HAZ WASTE, CERS TANKS, CERS, and RCRA NONGEN/NLR databases. The facility is a truck maintenance/storage yard. Hazardous materials used at the property include diesel and oils stored in aboveground storage tanks. A violation was issued for minor staining beneath new oil and waste oil secondary containment pallets. Absorbent was applied to the spill. The facility cleaned the absorbent and returned to the compliance. Based on the minor nature of the release, it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely impacted the site. (GCI, p. 14).
- Cal Trans at 27644 Highway 74 is located approximately 1,150 feet northeast, hydraulically cross gradient of the Project site. The site was listed in the LUST database for a gasoline release affecting soil in 1989 but was closed with a “No Further Action” issued in 1994. Based on the case closure status, distance and hydraulic direction from the site, and the lack of groundwater impact it is considered unlikely that this property has adversely impacted the Project site. (GCI, p. 14).
- Six abandoned mines were reported within a 0.25-mile radius of the site. The mines were used for construction sand and gravel. (GCI, p. 14).

The *Phase I ESA* concluded that the above properties were not considered to be significant environmental concerns to the Project site based on several factors including the nature of the regulatory databased listing, the case closures, the distance of the listed properties to the Project site, and the hydraulic direction of the site comparatively to the Project site. Thus, the Project would not be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- e) **Less than significant.** The proposed Project site is located just over 2 miles northwest of the Perris Valley Airport and Skydiving Center (GE). The Perris Valley Airport and Skydiving Center is a privately owned and privately used airport (ALUC-A, p. 1-2). The proposed Project site is also located approximately 11 miles southeast of March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport (MARB/IPA). The March Air Reserve Base/Inland Port Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (MARB/IPA ALUCP) divides the area close to the airport into zones based on proximity to the airport and perceived risks. The proposed Project site is located within the Airport Compatibility Zone D. Zone D represents the area on the periphery of flight corridors where the risk concern is primarily for uses such as high intensity uses in confined areas where the consequences could be severe. This area is also located within the 55 dBA Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) noise contour where potential noise impacts from MARB/IPA are considered moderate to low with concerns focused primarily on individual loud events.

The Project site is also located within the 2018 MARB Air Installations Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) Study area. The purpose of this study is to promote public health, safety, and general

welfare in areas surrounding the base while seeking development compatible with the defense flying mission. The AICUZ Program recommends that noise levels, Clear Zones (CZs), Accident Potential Zones (APZs), and flight clearance requirements associated with military airfield operations be incorporated into local community planning programs in order to maintain the airfield's operational requirements while minimizing the impact to residents in the surrounding community. The Project site is not located within any APZ.

The City's noise compatibility standards in the Perris Municipal Code Section 19.51.080, prevents the establishment of noise-sensitive land uses such as new residences, schools, libraries, museums, hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes, places of worship, in portions of the airport environ that are exposed to significant levels of aircraft noise. The proposed Project site is located within the 55 dBA CNEL aircraft noise contour (ALUC-B, p. 3). However, the proposed Project use is not noise-sensitive land use. As such, the proposed Project would not expose people working in the Project area to excessive noise levels from aircraft operations.

Because the proposed Project site is located within the Airport Compatibility Zone D, the Project is required to be reviewed by the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for a consistency determination. As required by Perris Municipal Code Chapter 19.51 March ARB/IP Airport Overlay Zone (AOZ), development within the (AOZ) must be compatible with the ALUCP. The Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) requires a review and consistency determination when any project is seeking legislative action. The Project was reviewed by ALUC and determined to be consistent with the MARB/IPA LUCP on June 8, 2023 (ALUC-C). Due to a site plan change which placed the basin underground to provide more truck trailer parking subsequent to the June 2023 hearing, the site plan was reviewed again by ALUC staff pursuant to Policy 1.5.2(d) of the Countywide Policies of the 2004 Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and was determined by the ALUC Director to be consistent on August 22, 2023 (ALUC-D). Both consistency determinations are included as Appendix C of this Initial Study. Thus, implementation of the Project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- f) **Less than significant impact.** The Project site is located along Ethanac Road and Sherman Road which have both been identified as Evacuation Routes by the City GP (GP SE, p.11). These roadways are identified as potential evacuations routes due to their connectivity to other major highways and roadways within Riverside County (GP SE, p. 10.) The City of Perris participates in the County of Riverside Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) which outlines requirements for emergency access and standards for emergency responses. It is anticipated that all local roadways would remain open during Project construction and operation. Hence, the Project would not result in closures of local roadways that may have an effect on emergency access in the vicinity of the Project site. Further, construction activities occurring within the Project site would comply with all conditions, including grading permit conditions regarding fire access, and would not restrict access for emergency vehicles responding to incidents on the site or in the surrounding area. Thus, the Project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- g) **No impact.** The City has been identified by the California Fire Alliance as a Community at Risk and assigned the highest category for wildfire risk (GP SE, p. 20). The Project site and surrounding areas include vacant land. The surrounding area also includes existing non-conforming residential uses and industrial uses. The area is planned for future commercial, business park, and light industrial land uses. The proposed Project site is not located adjacent to any wildlands or any undeveloped hillsides where wildland fires might be expected (GE SE, p. 19). Further, the Project site is not located within or near a State Responsibility Area (SRA) or in an area that is identified as being in a very high fire hazard severity zone according to the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the SRA Map produced by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE). Furthermore, the Project site does not contain natural features that would exacerbate wildland fire risk. Therefore, no direct or indirect significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires would occur. Thus, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.10 Hydrology and Water Quality | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would: | | | | |
| (i) result in substantial erosion or siltation onsite or offsite; | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite; | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iv) impede or redirect flood flows? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: FEMA, GE, GP SE, GP DEIR, USGS

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** The City is located within the San Jacinto River Watershed, which drains an approximately 540-square-mile area of western Riverside County and ultimately to its terminus in Lake Elsinore. The only major tributary to the San Jacinto River within the City of Perris is the earthen Perris Valley Channel (GP DEIR, p. IV-48). The San Jacinto River is not listed on the 2002 list of Clean Water Act 303(d) impaired water bodies. However, Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore, downstream of the City of Perris, are listed for excessive nutrients/pathogens and nutrients/sediment/unknown toxicity, respectively (GP DEIR, p. IV-67). Development of the Project site would increase the amount of impervious surface area at the site including parking areas, sidewalks, roadways, and rooftops. All sources of runoff may carry pollutants and

therefore have the potential to degrade water quality to a level below water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. As such, because the proposed Project would increase the amount of impervious surfaces at the site, the Project may potentially violate water quality standards, waste discharge requirements, or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant** impact. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- b) **Less than significant impact.** The City of Perris is located within the San Jacinto River Watershed, which drains an approximately 540-square-mile area of western Riverside County. The San Jacinto River flows from the San Jacinto Mountains, across the San Jacinto Valley, through the City of Perris, to Railroad Canyon Reservoir, and finally to its terminus in Lake Elsinore, southwest of Perris. The Santa Ana River Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) divides the San Jacinto Watershed into 14 groundwater subbasins. The City of Perris lies above Perris South I, Perris South II, and Perris South III sub-basins. The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority's combines these three sub-basins into two Groundwater Management Zones (GMZ), referred to as Perris North and Perris South. (GP DEIR, pp. IV-48 to IV-49). The Project site is located within the Perris South GMZ.

All three groundwater sub-basins are listed for municipal and agricultural beneficial uses. Water quality objectives have only been established for total dissolved solids (TDS) for each of the three sub-basins. Groundwater quality in the Perris sub-basin is generally of poor quality due to high concentrations of TDS and nutrients resulting from past and present agricultural runoff. Due to high TDS and nutrient levels, groundwater is no longer used for domestic purposes and only partially used to meet agricultural demand. The EMWD, which serves the Perris area, supplements agricultural needs with low TDS water imported from the State Water Project. (GP DEIR, pp. IV-48 to IV-50)

Implementation of the proposed Project would increase the amount of impervious surfaces within the EMWD's service area and may have the potential to impact the amount of water which percolates back into the local groundwater basin. The Project site encompasses approximately 20 gross acres plus an additional 12 acres within roadway ROW for potential offsite improvements. Although the amount of impervious surface will increase due to Project construction, the area of the Project site is negligible compared to the groundwater basin. Further, groundwater from this GMZ is not utilized for domestic purposes and will not be required as part of any agricultural land use. As such, the proposed Project would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin. Therefore, this impact would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c.i) **Potentially significant impact.** There are no streams or rivers currently mapped within the Project site (USGS). As such, the Project would not alter an existing stream or river. However, implementation of the proposed Project would introduce impervious surfaces throughout the Project site which may generate more onsite runoff that moves faster than the existing condition which may result in erosion onsite or offsite if erosive surfaces are present. During construction, if erosive surfaces are present, and the Project is greater than one acre, the Project would be required to comply with the Construction General Permit (CGP) and implement an effective

SWPPP for the control and minimization of non-stormwater runoff that could adversely affect downstream waterbodies. A Drainage Study will be needed to determine the site's existing hydrologic conditions and determine capacity of existing drainage facilities. Post construction, the Project would be required to provide a Preliminary Project-Specific Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) to identify how water will be treated prior to leaving the site or entering any storm drain facilities. As such, the proposed Project may substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which may potentially result in substantial erosion or siltation onsite or offsite. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- c.ii) **Potentially significant impact.** There are no streams or rivers currently mapped within the Project site (USGS). As such, the Project would not alter an existing stream or river. However, implementation of the proposed Project would introduce impervious surfaces throughout the Project site which may generate more onsite runoff that moves faster than the existing condition which may result in onsite or offsite flooding. A Preliminary Drainage Study would be needed to determine the site's existing hydrologic conditions and determine the capacity of existing drainage facilities. Thus, the proposed Project may substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding onsite or offsite. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- c.iii) **Potentially significant impact.** There are no streams or rivers currently mapped within the Project site (USGS). As such, the Project would not alter an existing stream or river. However, the Project will have the potential to introduce pollutants during and after construction. Pursuant to the CGP, the Project would be required to implement an effective SWPPP for the control and minimization of non-stormwater runoff that could adversely affect downstream waterbodies during construction. Construction of the Project is not expected to be significantly different or unique than a typical construction site. As such, standard Best Management Practices (BMPs), such as gravel bags, silt fencing, and fiber rolls, are anticipated to be adequate for the Project. Post construction, implementation of the proposed Project would also introduce impervious surfaces throughout the Project site which may generate more onsite runoff that moves faster than the existing condition. A Drainage Study and project-specific Preliminary WQMP would be required to determine the site's existing hydrologic conditions, capacity of existing drainage facilities, and how the Project will need to treat water prior to leaving the site. Thus, the proposed Project may substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which may create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted run. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- c.iv) **Potentially significant impact.** According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (Panel No. 06065C2060H, effective August 18, 2014), the Project site is located in "Zone X – Other Flood Areas." These are defined as "areas of 0.2 percent annual chance flood; areas of 1 percent annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by

levees from 1 percent annual chance flood.” Nonetheless, the proposed Project may substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which may impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- d) **Less than significant impact.** The Project site is located in “Zone X – Other Flood Areas” and is not located within a flood hazard zone (FEMA). A seiche is a surface wave created when a body of water is shaken, usually by earthquake activity.

Seiches are of concern relative to water storage facilities because inundation from a seiche can occur if the wave overflows a containment wall, such as the wall of a reservoir, water storage tank, dam, or other artificial body of water. Because of the distance from the proposed project site to surrounding large water bodies and reservoirs, inundation due to seiche is unlikely. The Project is not located within an identified seiche zone.

Tsunamis are a type of earthquake-induced flooding that is produced by large-scale sudden disturbances of the sea floor and can result in an increased wave height and a destructive wave surge into low-lying coastal areas. Because tsunamis occur in coastal areas and the project is located approximately 40 miles east of the Pacific Ocean, inundation due to tsunami is unlikely (GE). The Project is not located within an identified tsunami zone.

Furthermore, the Project site is not located within a tsunami or seiche zone and is not located within the Dam Inundation Area for the Lake Perris Dam. (GP SE, p. 17). As such, the Project would not be exposed to the release of pollutants due to project inundation from flood, tsunami, or seiche. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- e) **Potentially significant impact.** As mentioned in *Threshold 6.10(a)*, the Project may conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.11 Land Use and Planning | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **No impact.** The Project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community. The Project applicant proposes to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI. The proposed Project site is undeveloped and the surrounding parcels generally consist of a mixture of vacant land, industrial, and non-conforming residential uses. The Project does not include any new roadways or structures that would physically divide the existing community. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- b) **Potentially significant impact.** The City of Perris GP identifies several policies that have been adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. In addition, in 2022 the City adopted its Good Neighbor Guidelines for Siting New and/or Modified Industrial Facilities. Inconsistency with one or more of the applicable policies would result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.12 Mineral Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

References: GP DEIR, COR GP DEIR

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **No impact.** The GP DEIR notes that lands within the City is either designated Mineral Resource Zone Three (MRZ-3) or Mineral Resource Zone Four (MRZ-4), as defined by the California Department of Conservation. (GP DEIR, p. VI-28.) The proposed Project site is located within Mineral Resource Zone Three (MRZ-3), as classified by the State Mining and Geology Board (COR GP DEIR, Figure OS-6). Within MRZ-3, available geologic information suggests that mineral deposits exist, or are likely to exist; however, the significance of the deposit is unknown. (GP DEIR, VI-28.) Due to the existing developments in proximity to the Project site, it is unlikely that a mining operation could feasibly function if significant resources were discovered in the future. Thus, the Project is not anticipated to result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- b) **No impact.** No sites within the City of Perris have been designated as locally-important mineral resource recovery sites on any local plan (GP DEIR, p. VI-28). Therefore, **no impact** to the availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site would occur. No further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.13 Noise | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Would the project result in: | | | | |
| a) Generation of substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: ALUC-C, ALUC-D, GE

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed Project would introduce new noise sources to the Project vicinity. The Project may generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. Therefore, impacts would be **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- b) **Potentially significant impact.** During construction and operation activities, ground borne vibration may be experienced based on the equipment and methods employed. Thus, the Project may generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Therefore, impacts are **potentially significant**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- c) **Less than significant impact.** As identified in *Threshold 6.9(e)* above, the proposed Project is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the Perris Valley Airport and Skydiving Center and approximately 11 miles southeast of MARB/IPA. As further identified in *Threshold 6.9(e)*, the Project site is located within the MARB/IPA ALUCP 55 dBA CNEL noise contour where potential noise impacts from MARB/IPA are considered moderate to low with concerns focused primarily on individual loud events. The southernmost offsite areas of the project consisting of roadway ROW are located beyond the 55 dBA CNEL noise contour where potential noise impacts from MARB/IPA are considered low with concerns focused primarily on occasional overflights that may be intrusive to some outdoor activities.

The City’s noise compatibility standards in the Perris Municipal Code Section 19.51.080, prevents the establishment of noise-sensitive land uses such as new residences, schools, libraries, museums, hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes, places of worship, in portions of

the airport environ that are exposed to significant levels of aircraft noise. The proposed Project use is not a noise sensitive land use. As such, the proposed Project would not expose people working in the Project area to excessive noise levels from aircraft operations.

Further, the Project was reviewed by ALUC and determined to be consistent with the MARB/IPA ALUCP on June 8, 2023 (ALUC-C). Due to a site plan change which placed the basin underground to provide more truck trailer parking subsequent to the June 2023 hearing, the site plan was reviewed again by ALUC staff pursuant to Policy 1.5.2(d) of the Countywide Policies of the 2004 Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and was determined by the ALUC Director to be consistent on August 22, 2023 (ALUC-D). Both consistency determinations are included as Appendix C of this Initial Study. Thus, implementation of the Project would expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.14 Population and Housing | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through the extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

References: COR GP DEIR-A, USCB, SCAG

Explanation of Checklist Answers

a) **Less than significant impact.** In 2021, the City’s population was approximately 79,835 residents (DOF-A). The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) estimates that the population of Perris is expected to increase to about 116,700 by the year 2040 (SCAG, p.3). However, the proposed Project does not involve construction of any new homes and would not contribute to a direct increase in the City’s population. The proposed Project may indirectly contribute to population growth within the City by creating jobs both during construction and operation. The Project is projected to create approximately 400 jobs¹. (COR GP DEIR-A, p.3). However, it is anticipated that the majority of new jobs would be filled by workers who already reside in the Project vicinity and that the Project would not attract a substantial number of new residents to the City.

Although the proposed Project would include extension of storm drain infrastructure, this would be constructed for the purposes of serving the proposed Project’s needs and would not cause additional growth within the cities of Perris and Menifee. The Project’s proposal to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI would not result in a substantial change in the number of people in the area. Thus, implementation of the proposed Project would not substantially introduce unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. Thus, impacts to population growth within the City and Project vicinity would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

b) **No impact.** The Project site is currently vacant. Hence, no housing units would be displaced as a result of Project construction. Thus, the Project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

1. Based on employment projection factor of 1,030 employees per square foot.
 (412,348 sf / 1030 employees per square foot = 400 employees)

| 6.15 Public Services | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services: | | | | |
| a) Fire protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Police protection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Schools? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Parks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Other public facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: GP SE, MC, GP DEIR, PESD, PUHSD

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Less than significant impact.** The City provides fire protection by contract with the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD). Under the RCFD, the City receives services from five (5) fire stations, which ensure adequate coverage and timely response to all parts of the City. (GP SE, p. 21). The fire stations closest to the Project site are: 1) Fire Station 101- City of Perris Battalion 1 located approximately 3.7 miles northwest from the Project site at 105 S. "F" Street; and 2) Fire Station 9 – Goodmeadow Battalion 1 located approximately 5.9 miles west from the Project site at 21565 Steele Road (GE, GP SE, p. 21). Due to its proximity to Fire Station 101, it is expected that this fire station would provide the first response to the proposed Project. However, Fire Station 9 could also potentially service the Project site. Perris Municipal Code (PMC) Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees (DIF), establishes a developer impact fee to mitigate the cost of public facilities needed to offset the impact of developing new facilities to support fire services. Thus compliance with PMC Section 19.68.020 through payment of DIF would offset potential impacts to the local fire department. Thus, implementation of the Project would not result in substantial physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities; the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- b) **Less than significant impact.** The City provides police protection through a contract with the Riverside County Sheriff (GP SE, p. 10). The Perris police station is located at 137 North Perris Boulevard, approximately 3.9 miles northwest of the Project site. As stated in *Threshold 6.14(a)*, PMC Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees, establishes DIF to mitigate the cost of

- public facilities to serve new development. As such, through compliance with PMC Section 19.68.020, payment of DIF would offset potential impacts to the local police department. Thus, the Project would not result in substantial physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities; the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for police protection. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- c) **Less than significant impact.** The proposed Project site is located within the boundaries of the Perris Elementary School District and Perris Union High School District (PESD, PUHSD). The proposed Project would not directly create a source of school-aged children, as the Project does not include any residential land uses. It may indirectly affect schools by providing a source of employment that may draw new residents into the area. However, as stated in *Threshold 6.14(a)* above, it is anticipated that a majority of new jobs would be filled by workers who already reside in the area. Nonetheless, the Project would be required to comply with PMC Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees, which requires the payment of appropriate developer impact fees, as required by state law, which shall be assessed and paid to each school district. Through compliance of PMC Section 19.68.020, payment of DIF would offset potential impacts to the local schools. Thus, the Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for schools. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- d) **Less than significant impact.** The proposed Project would not directly require the construction or expansion of public recreational facilities as it does not include new residential uses. However, it may indirectly affect public recreational facilities by providing a source of employment that may draw new residents into the area. However, as mentioned in *Threshold 6.15(a)*, the Project would be required to comply with PMC Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees, which requires the payment of appropriate developer impact fees to offset potential impacts to park facilities. Thus, the Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for parks. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- e) **Less than significant impact.** The proposed Project would not directly increase the demand for library or other public services because it does not include new residential uses. The City of Perris contracts with the Riverside County Public Library System to provide library services at Cesar E. Chavez Library located at 163 E. San Jacinto Boulevard, approximately 3.8 miles north of the proposed Project site (GE, GP DEIR, p. IV-107). As mentioned in *Threshold 6.15(a)* above, the Project would be required to comply with PMC Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees, which requires the payment of appropriate developer impact fees that will be used to construct new library facilities or expand existing library facilities subsequent to increased demand. However, development of the proposed Project would not result in the construction of

new or expanded library facilities. The nearest emergency medical service available to the proposed Project area is the Riverside County Regional Medical Facility in Moreno Valley, approximately 11.5 miles north of the Project site. Healthcare facilities are developed in response to perceived market demand by free enterprise (GP DEIR, p. IV-93). Hence, development of the proposed Project would not result in the construction of new or expanded medical facilities.

Thus, the Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for other public facilities. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.16 Recreation | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would/does the project: | | | | |
| a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: PMC, Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Less than significant impact.** The Project is the proposed development of a warehouse and does not include any residential component that could create a direct increase in the use of public recreational facilities. Although the proposed Project may indirectly affect public recreational facilities by creating new jobs in the area which may draw new residents to the area, it is anticipated that individuals already residing in the Project vicinity would fill a majority of the jobs. Indirect impacts to park facilities will be offset through payment of Development Impact Fees (DIF) as identified required by PMC Section 19.68.020 – Development Impact Fees. Payment of DIF, that will be used to construct new recreational facilities or expand or replace existing recreational facilities subsequent to increase demand. Therefore, payment of DIF would reduce possible impacts to existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would not occur or be accelerated. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.
- b) **Less than significant impact.** Consistent with the Perris Municipal Code, Chapter 19.44 Industrial Zones, the Project includes outdoor employee amenities. Two outdoor patio areas are proposed: one patio area adjacent to the southwestern office and another patio area near the southeastern office area. Future tenants would provide indoor employee amenity areas. As such, the proposed Project would provide its own amenities but is not a use that would induce the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. The proposed Project may indirectly affect public recreational facilities by creating new jobs in the area which may draw new residents to the area, although it is anticipated that the majority of jobs will be filled by individuals already residing in the Project vicinity. However, incremental indirect impacts to park facilities would be offset via payment of applicable DIF outlined in PMC Section 19.68.020 - Development Impact Fees. Thus, the Project would not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. Therefore, the Project would result in **less than significant impacts** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.17 Transportation | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: GP SE, Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** Implementation of the Project would introduce light industrial uses to a currently vacant site, which may increase traffic volumes in the surrounding roadways. Since Project-related impacts have not been fully quantified, the Project may conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant** impact. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- b) **Potentially significant impact.** The Project would introduce light industrial land uses to a currently vacant site, which may increase traffic volumes in the surrounding roadways. Thus, the Project may conflict or be inconsistent with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b). Therefore, the Project may result in a **potentially significant** impact. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- c) **Less than significant impact.** No sharp curves or other hazardous traffic conditions currently exist within the Project vicinity or on the Project site since the site is vacant and undeveloped. The proposed Project would be required to comply with all applicable City development standards and policies for providing pedestrian walkways and applicable bike lanes (if required) so as not to conflict with vehicular circulation. The Project would also include the improvement of roadways, which include safety and operational improvements to ensure that geometric roadway designs comply with all intersection sight distance requirements and are designed for safety. Access points would be limited to Trumble and Ethanac Roads to ensure that access and circulation accommodates vehicles (including emergency vehicles and trash trucks), pedestrians, and bicycles. The passenger vehicle parking area within the Project site would be separated from the truck activity areas to ensure pedestrian safety.

Thus, the proposed Project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment) and would not include incompatible uses. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- d) **Less than significant impact.** The proposed Project would be required to comply with all applicable fire code and City Fire Department requirements and standards for construction, access, water mains, fire flow, and fire hydrants. Prior to any site development or future project approvals, all plans would be required to be submitted to the fire marshal for review and verification that they conform to all pertinent fire standards and requirements. Thus, the Project would not result in result in inadequate emergency access because it would be required to comply with applicable fire codes. Thus, implementation of the proposed Project would not result in inadequate emergency access. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.18 Tribal Cultural Resources | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: | | | | |
| i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: GP CE, Project Description

Explanation of Checklist Answers:

- a.i) **Potentially significant impact.** As discussed in *Threshold 6.5(a)*, the proposed Project site is located in an area with a low probability for cultural resources, including archaeological resources. Nonetheless, since the Project site is currently vacant and undeveloped, there is the potential for historic resources to be discovered during construction activities. Accordingly, a site-specific cultural resources survey will be conducted at the Project site to identify any potentially archeological resources that could potentially be impacted by development. Causing a substantial change in the significance of a historic resource may result in a **potentially significant impact**. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.
- a.ii) **Potentially significant impact.** The City, as lead agency, is required to coordinate with Native American Tribes through the Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) consultation process and Senate Bill 18 (SB18) as a result of the General Plan Amendment. On January 31, 2023, the City of Perris notified local tribal governments in writing of the proposed Project pursuant to AB52 pertaining to tribal cultural resources consultation. On January 31, 2023, the City also sent notification to local tribes pursuant to SB18. As these processes have yet to be concluded, the tribal knowledge and significance of potential tribal cultural resources, if any, has yet been determined. Thus, the Project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature,

place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1. Therefore, impacts may be **potentially significant**. This topic will be addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

| 6.19 Utilities and Service Systems | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| Would the project: | | | | |
| a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: CAL-B, CAL-C, CAL-D, GP CE, Project Description, PVRWRF, USEPA, UWMP, WCSMP, WSCP

Explanation of Checklist Answers:

a) **Potentially significant impact.** The Project includes construction of an on-site network of water, sewer, storm drain, electric, and gas. Currently there are existing water lines, sewer lines, telecommunications, and electrical lines adjacent to the Project site in Ethanac, Sherman and Trumble Roads to which the Project will connect. Additionally, the Project would underground existing electrical facilities. As such, the Project would not result in significant impacts with respect to these facilities.

The Project site currently slopes down at an approximately one percent grade to the west. The existing drainage pattern for the site and the general area is characterized by sheet flows that follow the slope to the west towards Trumble Road. The Project site is located within the Romoland Master Drainage Plan (MDP) watershed area. There are no existing storm drain facilities adjacent to the Project site but the Project site is naturally tributary to MDP Line A-11.

Onsite runoff would be conveyed throughout the site via proposed curb and gutters and captured by a network of drainage inlets that convey captured flows towards underground storage chambers before being pumped to a proposed biotreatment device for water quality treatment. Treated stormwater would then gravity flow to a proposed storm drain line in Trumble

Road, that connects to City of Perris Line A (City Line A) in Illinois Avenue. City Line A connects to MDP Line A-11 which ultimately connects to MDP Line A.

Offsite flows tributary to the Project site, from east of Sherman Road, would be collected via proposed catch basins in Sherman Road and conveyed via storm drain to an underground storage chamber system on the west side of the Project site. Flows would then be pumped out of the storage system and confluence with the onsite flows in the proposed storm drain line in Trumble Road and continue from there, as described above.

The Project applicant would construct offsite drainage facilities traveling north of the Project site in Trumble Road to Illinois Avenue to connect to the existing Line A-11 (an existing 36-inch to 48-inch reinforced concrete pipe).

Hence, the Project applicant would construct onsite drainage improvements as well as offsite drainage improvements in Trumble Road north of the Project site to Illinois Avenue and along Illinois Avenue from Trumble Avenue to I-215 in order to connect to MDP Line A-11 and ultimately MDP Line A. The Project would be generally consistent with the Romoland MDP since flows will ultimately drain to MDP facility Line A. It is anticipated that construction of any off-site drainage facilities would occur within roadway ROW.

Further, it is anticipated that construction of any off-site drainage facilities would occur within roadway right-of-way (ROW). Nonetheless, there is potential that these offsite storm drain improvements may result in potentially significant impacts so this topic needs to be further analyzed. Thus, the Project would not result in impacts due to the relocation or construction of new or expanded water wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, telecommunications, or relocation of which could cause a significant environmental so impacts related to these facilities would be less than significant. However, the Project may result in **potential significant impacts** due to the relocation or construction of new or expanded storm water drainage which could cause a significant environmental effect. Therefore, this topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- b) **Less than significant impact.** The EMWD's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) includes a water system analysis, identifies improvements to correct existing deficiencies and serve projected future growth, and presents the estimated costs and phasing of the recommended improvements. As concluded in the UWMP, the EMWD anticipates that it will be able to meet projected demand for water within its service boundaries until at least the year 2045 during normal and dry weather years. Further, the EMWD supply portfolio has a high degree of reliability. The local groundwater basins are managed to protect them from overdraft, and the EMWD participates in programs to bank water in the groundwater basins in wet years so that it can be used in dry years. The EMWD's imported water is provided by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), which has made extensive investments in programs to increase the reliability of its supply. In its 2020 UWMP, the MWD has shown the ability to continue to meet demands through 2045, even during an extended drought. The EMWD would benefit from the MWD's storage and supply programs and also expects that it can meet demands through 2045 during normal and dry conditions. (UWMP, p. E-2). The UWMP also includes a Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which the EMWD is to implement in cases of future water deficiencies caused by limitations on supply or the EMWD's delivery system. At the time of long- or short-term drought conditions, or other emergencies, the EMWD would inform their customers of the need to conserve water and impose penalties for non-compliance with mandatory water use reductions. Compliance with mandatory water use reductions would

ensure that the EMWD has the ability to meet present and projected demand within its service area during dry years. (WSCP, p. 1).

Over 90 percent of the EMWD's customers are residential so a substantial portion of the EWWD's future year water demand forecasts are based on the population projections of SCAG, which rely on the adopted land use designations contained within the general plans that cover the geographic areas within the EMWD's service area. (WSCP, p. 1). The Project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Community Commercial and zoning designation of Commercial Community. While the Project applicant proposes to amend the General Plan land use designation and change the zoning designation to LI, this would not result in increased population. Further, water demand for commercial land use is greater than the demand for industrial use (UWMP, p. 4-2). As such, the proposed GPA and zone change would actually result in less water demand than originally projected for the Project site. Thus, the EMWD would have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- c) **Less than significant impact.** The EMWD's Perris Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility (PVRWRF) is the largest of its four wastewater treatment operating plants. The PVRWRF receives approximately 128 million gallons per day (mgd) of sewage. The plant produces tertiary-treated water and can store more than 2 billion gallons of recycled water for use by surrounding agricultural, sports fields, parks, and landscape customers. The facility has an ultimate capacity of 100 mgd. This facility allows the EMWD to not only meet the projected demands of anticipated development in the region, but also to meet more stringent environmental requirements for wastewater treatment and recycled water quality. The facility also includes two 300 kilowatt fuel cells powered by methane gas from three anaerobic sludge digesters. Those methane-gas powered fuel cells provide approximately 30 percent of the power needed to run the facility, significantly reducing the EMWD's reliance on the region's power grid and stabilizing future energy costs. In addition, the facility has a 1 megawatt (1,000 kilowatts) solar array that has reduced electrical energy needs for the plant. As such, this facility has the ability to meet the current and future demands of the region as well as help to meet the increasing demand for recycled water throughout the EMWD service area. (PVRWRF).

Based upon the EMWD's wastewater generation rate of 300 gallons per day (gpd) per acre for industrial light land uses, the proposed Project would generate approximately 6,000 gallons of wastewater per day (300 gpd per acre × 20 Project acres = 6,000 gpd). If the site were to be developed under the existing land use and zoning designations, the wastewater generation rate of 1,200 gpd per acre would result in approximately 24,000 gpd for the same site. (WCSMP, Table 4-4). As the site was planned for future uses that would generate a higher wastewater result that was already accounted for within PVRWRF's capacity, it can be concluded that this facility has sufficient capacity to serve the proposed Project. As such, the Project would not create the need for any new or expanded wastewater facility (such as conveyance lines, treatment facilities, or lift stations) because there is adequate capacity at existing treatment facilities to serve the Project's projected sewer demand. Thus, the proposed Project would not result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- d) **Less than significant impact.** Trash, recycling, and green waste services within the City are provided by CR&R Waste Services. Waste is transported to the Perris Transfer Station and Materials Recovery Facility located at 1706 Goetz Road, approximately 3 miles northwest of the Project site. At this facility, recyclable materials are separated from solid waste materials. Recyclable materials are sold in bulk and transported for processing and transformation for other uses. (GP CE, p. 38). Solid waste from the proposed Project would be transported to either: (1) the Badlands Landfill on Ironwood Avenue in Moreno Valley, which has a permitted daily capacity of 5,000 tons per day (tpd) and remaining total capacity of 7,800,000 tons; or (2) the El Sobrante Landfill on Dawson Canyon Road in Corona, with a permitted daily capacity of 16,054 tpd and remaining total capacity of 143,977,170 tons. (CAL-B; CAL-C).

Table C, Project Construction Waste identifies the Project's projected contribution to these landfills during construction.

Table C, Project Construction Waste

| Proposed Land Use | Building Size (SF) | Generation Rate (lbs/SF)¹ | Total (Tons)² |
|---|--|---|--|
| Industrial | 412,48 | 3.89 | 802 |
| Disposal Facility | Disposal Capacity (tons/year)³ | Yearly Intake⁴ | Proposed Project's Percent of Yearly Intake⁵ |
| Badlands | 1,825,000 | 802 | 0.04 |
| El Sobrante | 5,859,710 | 802 | 0.01 |
| Notes: | | | |
| 1. Source USEPA, p. 2-4. | | | |
| 2. $412,348\text{SF} \times 3.89 = 1,604,034 \text{ lbs/sf}$. $1,604,034 \text{ lbs/sf} \times 0.0005 = 802.02 \text{ tons}$ | | | |
| 3. Daily disposal capacity multiplied by 365 days per year. | | | |
| 4. Total tons multiplied by years of construction (1 year). | | | |
| 5. $\text{Yearly Intake} / \text{Disposal Capacity} \times 100$ | | | |

Based on the results from Table D above, the Project's contribution to either landfill during construction would be negligible.

Table D, Project Operational Waste identifies the Project's projected operational contribution to these landfills.

Table D, Project Operational Waste

| Proposed Land Use | Projected Employees | Disposal Factor (Tons/Employee)¹ | Total (Tons/Year) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Industrial | 400 | 1.23 | 492 |
| Disposal Facility | Disposal Capacity (tons/year) | Proposed Project's Percent of Yearly Intake | |
| Badlands | 1,825,000 | 0.03 | |
| El Sobrante | 5,859,710 | 0.01 | |
| Notes | | | |
| 1. Source: CAL-D | | | |

Based on the results from Table D above, the Project's contribution to either landfill during operation would be negligible. The proposed Project's yearly tonnage contribution is only 0.03 percent of the yearly permitted intake rate for Badlands Landfill and 0.01 percent of the yearly permitted intake for El Sobrante. These percentages are based on all waste going to one landfill

or the other but resulting waste would likely be split between the two landfills, resulting in smaller total contributions. Thus, the Project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations regarding solid waste generation, transport, and disposal are intended to decrease solid waste generation through mandatory reductions in solid waste quantities (e.g., through recycling and composting of green waste) and the safe and efficient transport of solid waste. The proposed Project would be required to coordinate with CR&R Waste Services to develop a collection program for recyclables, such as paper, plastics, glass, and aluminum, in accordance with local and State programs, including the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Act of 1991. Additionally, the proposed Project would be required to comply with applicable practices enacted by the City under the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) and any other applicable local, State, and federal solid waste management regulations. AB 939 requires all counties to prepare a County Integrated Waste Management Plan. The County of Riverside adopted its *Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP)* in 1998. The CIWMP includes the Countywide Summary Plan; the Countywide Siting Element; and the Source Reduction and Recycling Elements, the Household Hazardous Waste Elements, and Non-disposal Facility Elements for Riverside County and each city in Riverside County. Thus, the proposed Project would be required to comply with all regulatory requirements regarding solid waste. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant** and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.20 Wildfire | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project: | | | | |
| a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

References: CALFIRE, GP SE

Explanation of Checklist Answers:

a-d) **No impact.** The Project site is not located within or near a SRA very high fire, high or moderate hazard severity zone and the Project site is generally flat with no steep slopes located onsite or adjacent to the affected lands that would exacerbate wildfire risk (i.e., from upslope winds). No other natural features are present onsite that would exacerbate wildfire risks. Therefore, **no impact** would occur and no further evaluation of this topic is required in an ND, MND, or EIR.

| 6.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance | <i>Potentially Significant Impact</i> | <i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation</i> | <i>Less Than Significant Impact</i> | <i>No Impact</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Does the project: | | | | |
| a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number, or restrict the range of rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Does the project have environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

References: Initial Study Checklist

Explanation of Checklist Answers

- a) **Potentially significant impact.** As discussed under *Thresholds 6.4* and Section 6.5 above, the Project may have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Therefore, the Project may result in **potentially significant impacts**. These topics will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- b) **Potentially significant impact.** As demonstrated by the analysis in this IS, the Project would not result in any impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable with respect to aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resource, hazards and hazardous materials, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, and wildfires. The Project is not considered growth-inducing as defined by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(d) and would not induce, either directly or indirectly, population and/or housing growth. However, the Project may result in significant impacts related to air quality, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, land use, noise, transportation and traffic, tribal cultural resources, and/or utilities and service systems. As such, the cumulative impacts related to these topics are **potentially significant** and will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

- c) **Potentially significant impact.** The Project applicant proposes the construction and operation of a warehouse building, which may have a **potentially significant impacts** on human health. This topic will be further analyzed and addressed in a forthcoming EIR.

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INITIAL STUDY - APPENDIX A

Biological Resources

ECORP

Biological Technical Report
and MSHCP Consistency

Biological Technical Report and MSHCP Consistency Analysis for the Hillwood Ethanac Project

Riverside County, California

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 329-240-016, 329-240-017, 329-240-018, 329-240-019,
329-240-020, 329-240-023, 329-240-024, 329-240-025, 329-240-026, and
329-240-027

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September 2023

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Level Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys Report
- Appendix G – Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term | Definition |
|-------------|--|
| ARD | Aquatic Resources Delineation |
| BUOW | Burrowing Owl |
| CDFG | California Department of Fish and Game |
| CDFW | California Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| CEQA | California Environmental Quality Act |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| CNDDDB | California Natural Diversity Data Base |
| CNPS | California Native Plant Society |
| CNPSEI | California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory |
| CRPR | California Rare Plant Rank |
| CWA | Clean Water Act |
| ESA | Endangered Species Act |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| HCP | Habitat Conservation Plan |
| IA | Implementing Agreement |
| I- | Interstate |
| MBTA | Migratory Bird Treaty Act |
| MCV | Manual of California Vegetation |
| MM | Mitigation Measure |
| MSHCP | Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NEPSSA | Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area |
| NPPA | Native Plant Protection Act |
| NRCS | Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| NWP | Nationwide Permit |
| Project | Hillwood Ethanac Development Project |
| RCA | Riverside Conservation Authority |
| RCHCA | Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency |
| RCTLMA | Riverside County Land Management Agency |
| SAA | Streambed Alteration Agreement |

| Term | Definition |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| sf | Square Foot/Feet |
| SKR | Stephens' Kangaroo Rat |
| SSC | Species of Special Concern |
| USACE | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| USGS | U.S. Geological Survey |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

ECORP Consulting, Inc. conducted a biological reconnaissance survey at an approximately 21-acre property for the proposed Hillwood Ethanac Development Project (Project) located in the City of Perris in Riverside County. The Project also includes offsite improvement areas. The survey was conducted to identify any potential biological resources that could be affected by the Proposed Project, pursuant to the terms of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and for the purposes of identifying any biological constraints that would affect the proposed site plan for the Project. The surveys were conducted in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The MSHCP provides information on plant and wildlife species of concern to the County of Riverside and outlines goals for their conservation. Information on the MSHCP can be found at www.rctlma.org (Riverside County Land Management Agency [RCTLMA] 2022). The Project will be subject to county, state, and federal regulations regarding compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), California ESA, Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and California Fish and Game Code.

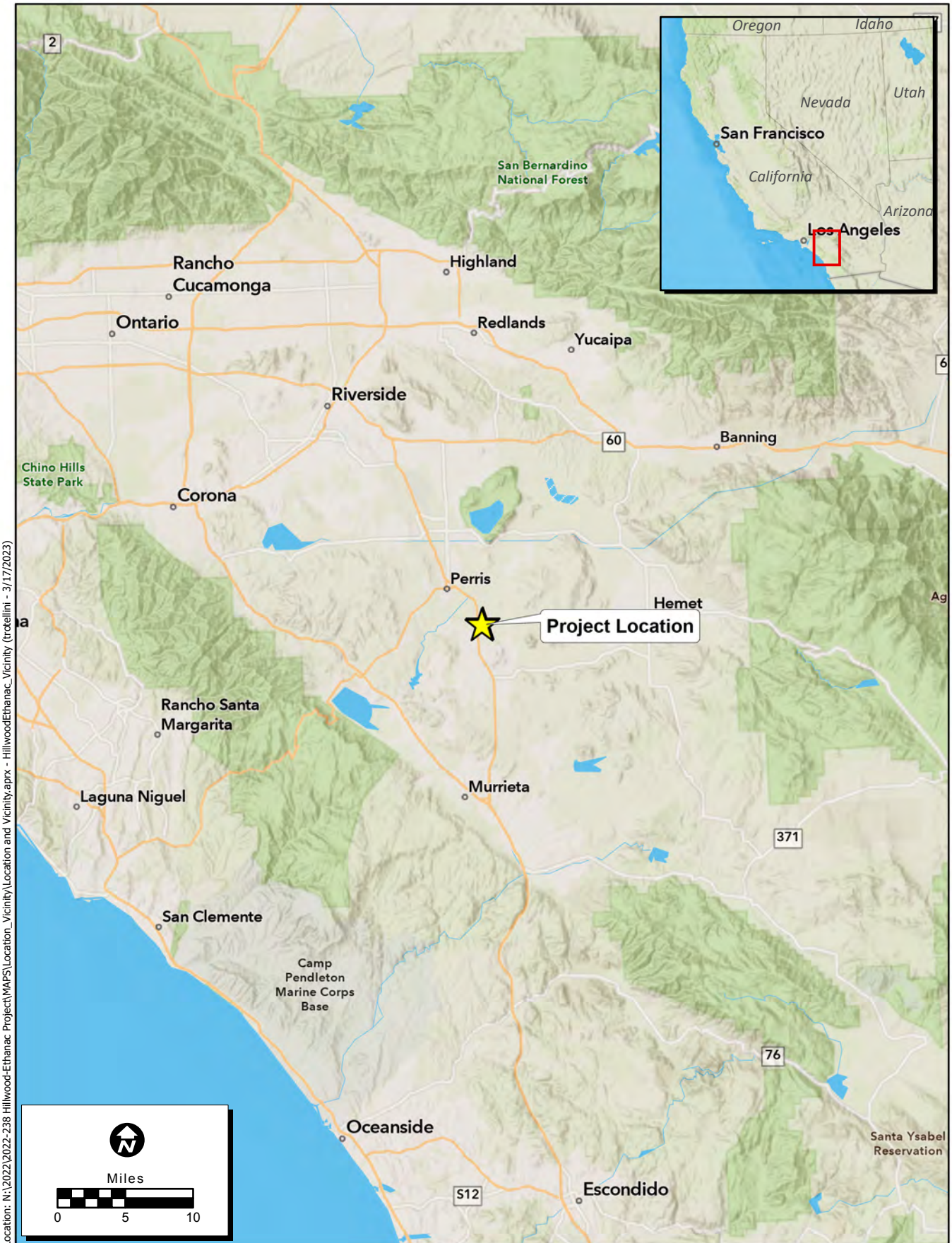
1.1 Project Location

The Project Site is generally located east of Interstate (I-) 215 and south of Highway 74. The Project Site is located northwest of the intersection of Ethanac and Sherman Roads in the City of Perris, Riverside County, California (Figures 1 and 2). The Project Footprint consists of an approximately 21-acre Project Site and approximately 21-acre offsite improvement areas (42-acres total) comprised of Assessor Parcel Numbers 329-240-016, 329-240-017, 329-240-018, 329-240-019, 329-240-020, 329-240-023, 329-240-024, 329-240-025, 329-240-026, and 329-240-027. The offsite improvement areas include portions of Ethanac Road, Sherman Road, Trumble Road, and Illinois Avenue (Figure 2).

The Project Site, as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) "Romoland, California" 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle, is located within Section 10, Township 5 South, Range 3 West. The Project Site is generally flat and elevation is approximately 1,440 feet (439 meters) above mean sea level. The Project Site is currently vacant land covered primarily with nonnative grasses and forbs. Vegetation communities/land cover types observed within the Project Footprint include eucalyptus groves; ornamental trees; and disturbed and developed areas.

1.2 Project Description

The proposed Hillwood-Ethanac Project and offsite improvements (Proposed Project or Project Footprint) involves the construction and operation of an approximately 412,348-square-foot (sf) building on the approximately 21-acre Project Site. Street improvements will be required along Ethanac Road and where Ethanac Road intersects with Trumble and Sherman Roads. Water and sewer connections will connect to the existing lines on Trumble Road or Ethanac Road, in the vicinity of the Project Site. Construction of offsite infrastructure facilities may be necessary. Stormwater facilities will connect to either the Romoland Master Drainage Plan Line A, located approximately 0.5 mile south of the Project Site on McLaughlin Avenue, or to a future Line A-21 on Trumble Road approximately 0.4 mile south of Ethanac Road. The offsite improvement areas are shown on Figure 2. The Proposed Project would be constructed in a single phase and the Project Site grading will balance the site.



Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac Project\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\Location and Vicinity.aprx - HillwoodEthanac_Vicinity (trotellini - 3/17/2023)

Map Date: 2/2/2023
Sources: ESRI

Figure 1. Project Vicinity



Figure 2. Project Location

1.3 Terms

The following terms will be used throughout this document and are defined as follows:

- **Project Footprint:** the approximately 42-acre area assessed during the general biological assessment, which encompasses the approximately 21-acre Project Site, and the approximately 21-acre roadway offsite improvement area.
- **Project Site:** the approximately 21-acre property north of Ethanac Road that will be permanently impacted to construct the approximately 412,348-sf building.
- **Offsite Improvement Area:** the approximately 21 acres of right-of-way surrounding expansions where improvements will occur along Trumble Road, Illinois Avenue, Ethanac Road, and Sherman Road.
- **Burrowing Owl Study Area:** includes the Project Footprint and a 500-foot buffer around the Project Footprint.

2.0 SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES REGULATIONS

ECORP conducted the biological reconnaissance survey to identify potential constraints to development and to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations regarding listed, protected, and sensitive species. The regulations are detailed below.

2.1 Federal Regulations

2.1.1 The Federal Endangered Species Act

The federal ESA protects plants and animals that are listed as endangered or threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Section 9 of the ESA prohibits the taking of endangered wildlife, where taking is defined as “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in such conduct” (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 17.3). For plants, this statute governs removing, possessing, maliciously damaging, or destroying any endangered plant on federal land and removing, cutting, digging up, damaging, or destroying any endangered plant on non-federal land in knowing violation of state law (16 U.S. Code 1538). Under Section 7 of the ESA, federal agencies are required to consult with the USFWS if their actions, including permit approvals or funding, could adversely affect a listed or proposed species, including plants or its critical habitat. Through consultation and the issuance of a biological opinion, the USFWS may issue an incidental take statement allowing take of the species that is incidental to an otherwise authorized activity provided the activity will not jeopardize the continued existence of the species. Section 10 of the ESA provides for issuance of incidental take permits where no other federal actions are necessary provided a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is developed.

2.1.2 Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The federal MBTA implements international treaties between the United States and other nations devised to protect migratory birds, any of their parts, eggs, and nests from activities such as hunting,

pursuing, capturing, killing, selling, and shipping, unless expressly authorized in the regulations or by permit. As authorized by the MBTA, the USFWS issues permits to qualified applicants for the following types of activities: falconry, raptor propagation, scientific collecting, special purposes (i.e., rehabilitation, education, migratory game bird propagation, and salvage), take of depredating birds, taxidermy, and waterfowl sale and disposal. The regulations governing migratory bird permits can be found in 50 CFR Part 13 General Permit Procedures and 50 CFR Part 21 Migratory Bird Permits. The State of California has incorporated the protection of birds of prey in Sections 3800, 3513, and 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code.

2.1.3 Federal Clean Water Act

The federal Clean Water Act's (CWA) purpose is to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters." Section 404 of the CWA prohibits the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S. without a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The definition of Waters of the U.S. includes rivers, streams, estuaries, the territorial seas, ponds, lakes, and wetlands. Wetlands are defined as those areas "that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions" (33 CFR 328.3 7b). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency acts as a cooperating agency to set policy, guidance, and criteria for use in evaluation permit applications and reviews USACE permit applications.

The USACE regulates *fill* or dredging of fill material within its jurisdictional features. *Fill material* means any material used for the primary purpose of replacing an aquatic area with dry land or changing the bottom elevation of a water body. Substantial impacts to wetlands may require an individual permit. Projects that only minimally affect wetlands may meet the conditions of one of the existing Nationwide Permits. A Water Quality Certification or waiver pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA is required for Section 404 permit actions; this certification or waiver is issued by the State Water Quality Control Board, administered by each of nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB).

2.2 State and Local Regulations

2.2.1 California Endangered Species Act

The California ESA generally parallels the main provisions of the ESA but, unlike its federal counterpart, the California ESA applies the take prohibitions to species proposed for listing (called *candidates* by the state). Section 2080 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits the taking, possession, purchase, sale, and import or export of endangered, threatened, or candidate species, unless otherwise authorized by permit or in the regulations. Take is defined in Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." The California ESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful development projects. State lead agencies are required to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to ensure that any action they undertake is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in destruction or adverse modification of essential habitat.

2.2.2 Fully Protected Species

The State of California first began to designate species as *fully protected* prior to the creation of the federal and California ESAs. Lists of fully protected species were initially developed to provide protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction, and included fish, amphibians and reptiles, birds, and mammals. Most fully protected species have since been listed as threatened or endangered under federal and/or California ESAs. The regulations that implement the Fully Protected Species Statute (California Fish and Game Code Section 4700) provide that fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time. Furthermore, CDFW prohibits any state agency from issuing incidental take permits for fully protected species, except for necessary scientific research.

2.2.3 Native Plant Protection Act

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) of 1977 (California Fish and Game Code Sections 1900-1913) was created with the intent to “preserve, protect and enhance rare and endangered plants in this State.” The NPPA is administered by CDFW. The Fish and Wildlife Commission has the authority to designate native plants as *endangered* or *rare* and to protect endangered and rare plants from take. The California ESA of 1984 (California Fish and Game Code Section 2050-2116) provided further protection for rare and endangered plant species, but the NPPA remains part of the California Fish and Game Code.

2.2.4 California Fish and Game Code

2.2.4.1 Streambed Alteration Agreement

Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code requires that a Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration be submitted to CDFW for “any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake.” The CDFW reviews the proposed actions and, if necessary, submits to the Applicant a proposal for measures to protect affected fish and wildlife resources. The final proposal that is mutually agreed upon by CDFW and the Applicant is the Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA). Often, projects that require an SAA also require a permit from the USACE under Section 404 of the CWA. In these instances, the conditions of the Section 404 permit and the SAA may overlap.

2.2.4.2 Migratory Birds

The CDFW enforces the protection of nongame native birds in Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800 of the California Fish and Game Code. Section 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits the possession or take of birds listed under the MBTA. These sections mandate the protection of California nongame native birds’ nests and make it unlawful to take these birds. All raptor species are protected from *take* pursuant to California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5 and are also protected at the federal level by the MBTA of 1918 (USFWS 1918).

2.2.5 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

The Western Riverside County MSHCP is a comprehensive, multijurisdictional HCP focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in western Riverside County. The MSHCP

identified 146 species, referred to as *Covered Species*, for which the federal and California ESAs *take* authorization has been granted to signatories to the plan as long as they comply with its requirements. Of the 146 Covered Species within the MSHCP, 118 are considered to be *adequately conserved*. The remaining 28 Covered Species will be considered adequately conserved when certain landmark conservation requirements are met during the course of future development. The goal of the MSHCP is to maintain the biological and ecological diversity within a rapidly urbanizing region while also improving the future economic development in the county by providing an efficient, streamlined regulatory process through which development can proceed in an efficient way.

The approval of the MSHCP and execution of the Implementing Agreement (IA) by the wildlife agencies allows signatories of the IA to issue *take* authorizations for all species covered by the MSHCP, including state- and federally listed species, as well as other identified sensitive species and/or their habitats. Each city of local jurisdiction will impose a development mitigation fee for projects within their jurisdiction. With payment of the mitigation fee to the County and compliance with the survey requirements of the MSHCP where required, full mitigation in compliance with CEQA, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the federal and California ESAs, will be granted. The development mitigation fee varies according to project size and description and is dependent on development density (Riverside County Ordinance No. 810.2). Payment of the mitigation fee and compliance with the requirements of Section 6.0 of the MSHCP are intended to provide full mitigation under CEQA, NEPA, and the California and federal ESAs for impacts to the species and habitats covered by the MSHCP, pursuant to agreements with USFWS, CDFW, and/or any other appropriate participating regulatory agencies as set forth in the IA for the MSHCP.

2.2.6 Stephens' Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) Habitat Conservation Plan

The Project Site is located within the Long-Term Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP area. The plan is administered by the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) and aims to conserve 15,000 acres of occupied Stephens' kangaroo rat habitat. To date, more than 46,000 acres have been assembled in western Riverside County for this species. The RCHCA has a Section 10A permit granted by USFWS that allows for take of Stephens' kangaroo rat as part of development activity. The federal ESA defines *take* as any attempt to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct as it relates to Stephens' kangaroo rat. As individual projects are proposed and approved in the Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP area, public and private land developers are required to pay a Stephens' kangaroo rat mitigation fee for land that is developed and removes Stephens' kangaroo rat habitat. This streamlined process benefits developers in the Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP Area because projects within this area do not require individual review and approval by the wildlife agencies.

Developers benefit from the streamlined process in the Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP area because projects within this area do not require individual review and approval by the wildlife agencies. The activities covered by the plan fall into three categories:

1. Actions by private landowners, local and regional public agencies, public and private utilities, and farmers that are otherwise lawful but constitute incidental take of Stephens' kangaroo rat as defined by the federal and California ESA;

2. Establishment and management of permanent Stephens' kangaroo rat reserves by the RCHCA in cooperation with other public agencies and individual landowners; and
3. Implementation by the RCHCA and its member agencies of the conservation, mitigation, and monitoring measures specified in this plan.

The Mitigation Fee is \$500 per gross acre of the parcels proposed for development within the Stephens' kangaroo rat HCP Area.

2.2.7 California Environmental Quality Act Significance Criteria

Section 15064.7 of the CEQA Guidelines encourages local agencies to develop and publish the thresholds the agency uses in determining the significance of environmental effects caused by projects under its review. However, agencies may also rely upon the guidance provided by the expanded Initial Study checklist contained in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. Appendix G provides examples of impacts that would normally be considered significant. Based on these examples, impacts to biological resources would normally be considered significant if the project would:

- 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 USFWS;
- have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by CDFW or USFWS;
- have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, and coastal) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means;
- 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 wildlife nursery sites;
- conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; and
- conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state HCP.

An evaluation of whether an impact on biological resources would be substantial must consider both the resource itself and how that resource fits into a regional or local context. Substantial impacts would be those that would diminish, or result in the loss of, an important biological resource, or those that would obviously conflict with local, state, or federal resource conservation plans, goals, or regulations. Impacts are sometimes locally important but not significant according to CEQA because although the impacts would result in an adverse alteration of existing conditions, they would not substantially diminish or result in the permanent loss of an important resource on a population-wide or region-wide basis.

3.0 METHODS

3.1 Literature Review

Prior to conducting the biological reconnaissance survey, ECORP biologists performed a literature review using the CDFW California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB; CDFW 2022a) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI; CNPS 2022) to determine the documented special-status plant and wildlife species in the vicinity of the Project Footprint. ECORP searched CNDDDB and CNPSEI records within the Project boundaries as depicted on USGS 7.5-minute "Romoland, California" topographic quadrangle, and the surrounding eight topographic quadrangles: Lake Elsinore, Steele Peak, Perris, Lakeview, Winchester, Bachelor Mountain, Murrieta, and Wildomar. The CNDDDB and CNPSEI contain records of reported occurrences of federally or state-listed endangered, threatened, proposed endangered or threatened species, California Species of Special Concern (SSC), and/or other special-status species or habitat that may occur within or in the vicinity of the Project Footprint.

Additional information was gathered from the following sources and includes, but is not limited to:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) *Web Soil Survey* (NRCS 2022);
- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW 2022b);
- Special Animals List (CDFW 2022c);
- *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California* (Baldwin et al. 2012);
- *A Manual of California Vegetation*, 2nd Edition (MCV; Sawyer et al. 2009); and
- Various online websites (e.g., CalFlora 2022).

Using this information and field observations, ECORP biologists generated a list of special-status plant and wildlife species that have potential to occur within the Project Footprint. For the purposes of this assessment, special-status species are defined as plants or animals that:

- have been designated as either rare, threatened, or endangered by CDFW, CNPS, or the USFWS, and/or are protected under either the federal or California ESAs;
- are candidate species being considered or proposed for listing under these same acts;
- are fully protected by the California Fish and Game Code, Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, or 5515;
- are of expressed concern to resource and regulatory agencies or local jurisdictions; and/or
- are covered species under the MSHCP.

ECORP assessed special-status species reported for the region in the literature review or for which suitable habitat occurs on the Project Footprint for their potential to occur within the Project Site based on the following guidelines:

- **Present:** The species was observed onsite during a site visit or focused survey.

- **High:** Habitat (including soils and elevation factors) for the species occurs within the Project Footprint and a known occurrence has recently been recorded (within the last 20 years) within 5 miles of the area.
- **Moderate:** Habitat (including soils and elevation factors) for the species occurs within the Project Footprint and a documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within 5 miles of the area; a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or a recently documented observation occurs within 5 miles of the area and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs within the Project Footprint.
- **Low:** Limited or marginal habitat for the species occurs within the Project Footprint and a recently documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within 5 miles of the area; a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs onsite, but no records or only historic records were found within the database search.
- **Presumed Absent:** Species was not observed during a site visit or focused surveys conducted in accordance with protocol guidelines at an appropriate time for identification; habitat (including soils and elevation factors) does not exist onsite; or the known geographic range of the species does not include the Project Footprint.

Note: Location information on some special-status species may be of questionable accuracy or unavailable. Therefore, for survey purposes, the environmental factors associated with a species' occurrence requirements may be considered sufficient reason to give a species a positive potential for occurrence. In addition, just because a record of a species does not exist in the databases does not mean it does not occur. In many cases, records may not be present in the databases because an area has not been surveyed for that particular species.

3.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Designated Critical Habitat

Biologists reviewed the USFWS online service for information regarding Threatened and Endangered Species Final Critical Habitat designation within California to determine if the Project Footprint is within any species' designated Critical Habitat (USFWS 2022).

3.3 Aquatic Resources

ECORP biologists conducted a desktop review of the NRCS' Web Soil Survey (NRCS 2022) and the corresponding USGS topographic maps to determine if there were any blue line streams or drainages that might potentially fall under the jurisdiction of either federal or state agencies within the Project Footprint.

3.4 Western Riverside County MSHCP Consistency Analysis

ECORP reviewed Project data to determine consistency with the MSHCP. Biologists queried the Riverside Conservation Authority (RCA) MSHCP Information Map to determine requirements for habitat

assessment(s), potential focused survey(s), or other issues related to biological resources that could exist within the Project Footprint (RCA 2022).

Section 6.0 of the MSHCP also requires that an assessment of the Project be completed to identify any potential applicable Project-related effects on biological resources, including riparian/riverine areas, vernal pools, and fairy shrimp. In addition, the MSHCP requires that an Urban/Wildlands Interface analysis be conducted to address the indirect effects associated with locating proposed development in the proximity of MSHCP Conservation Areas.

3.5 Field Survey

3.5.1 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

Biologists conducted a reconnaissance survey by walking the entire Project Footprint paying special attention to those areas that could host sensitive vegetation communities or had the potential to provide suitable habitat for special-status species. The biologists documented the plant and wildlife species present within the Project Footprint and assessed the location and condition of the Project Footprint for the potential for it to provide habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species. The data was recorded on a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, field notebooks, and/or maps. Photographs were taken during the survey to provide visual representation of the various vegetation communities within the Project Footprint. The biologists examined the Project Site to assess its potential to facilitate wildlife movement or function as a movement corridor for wildlife moving throughout the region. In addition, the biologists mapped the vegetation communities and land cover types present on the Project Footprint.

ECORP inspected the vegetation communities and habitat conditions to confirm presence and habitat quality of the vegetation found onsite. Where appropriate, biologists utilized descriptions of vegetation communities from the MCV second edition (Sawyer et al. 2009). Any deviations from standard vegetation classifications were made on best professional judgment when areas did not fit into a specific habitat description provided by the MCV. Biologists mapped vegetation communities using field observations and aerial imagery.

ECORP recorded plant and wildlife species including any special-status species that were observed during the survey. Plant nomenclature follows that of *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California* (Baldwin et al. 2012). Wildlife nomenclature follows Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (2017), *Check-list of North American Birds* (Chesser et al. 2019), and the *Revised Checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico* (Bradley et al. 2014). ECORP recorded GPS coordinates, the species, location, and habitat in instances where a special-status species was observed.

3.5.2 Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment, Focused Burrow Survey and Focused Surveys

The Project Footprint is located within the MSHCP Burrowing Owl (BUOW, *Athene cunicularia*) Survey Area (Figures 3 and 5) and is subject to the MSHCP burrowing owl survey requirements (RCTLMA 2022). ECORP conducted a BUOW habitat assessment concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey to determine the presence of suitable habitat. Biologists walked the Project Footprint and a 500-foot

buffer (Figure 3) to identify the presence of owl habitat, scanning for suitable habitat using binoculars in areas that were inaccessible by foot.

ECORP biologists conducted a focused burrow survey where they documented suitable burrows within the Project Footprint and in some areas of the 500-foot buffer, where accessible. This is a requirement under Part 2A of the WR-MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions

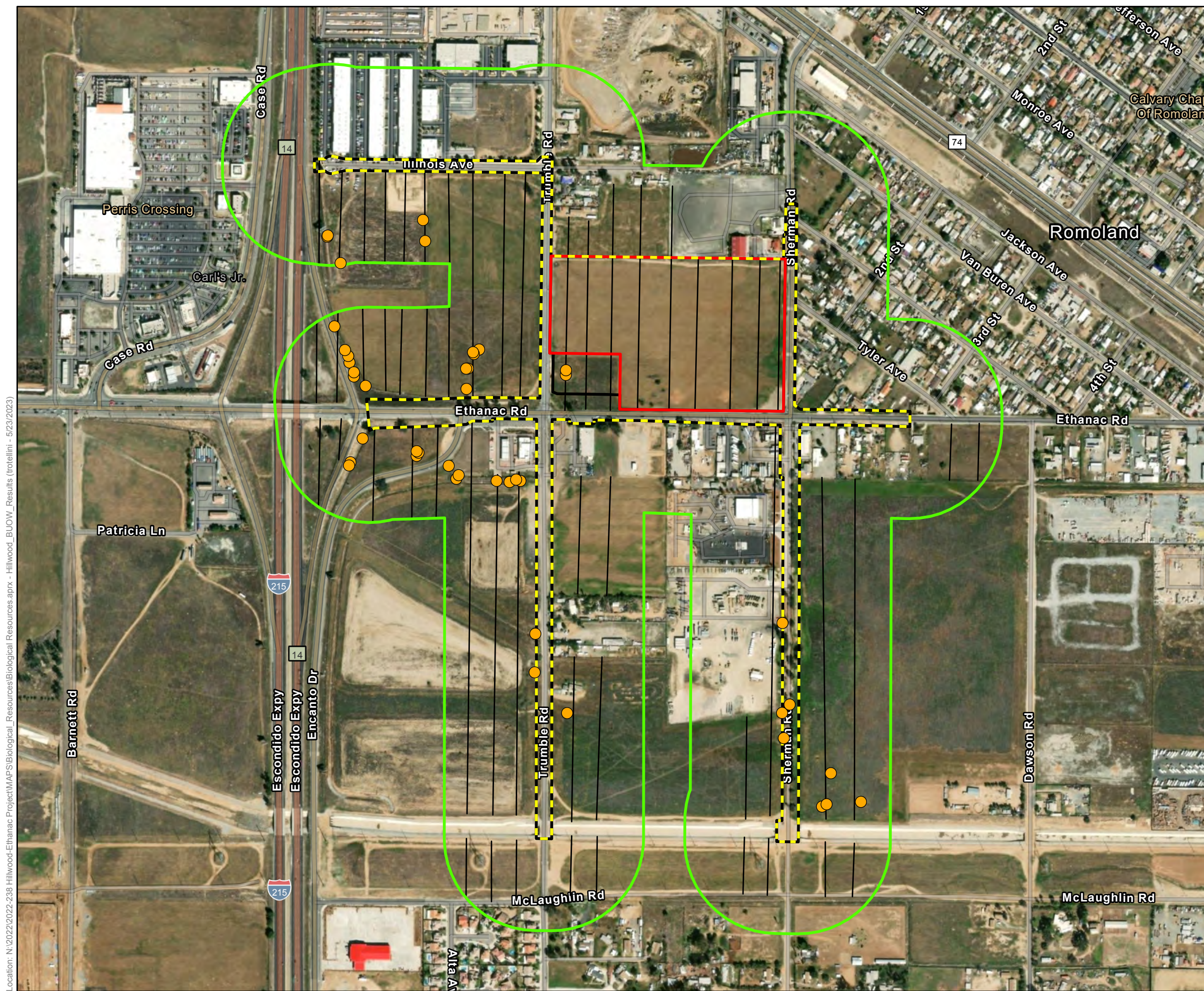
Protocol-level BUOW surveys were conducted during the breeding season (March 1 through August 31) as required under Part 2B of the WR-MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions and consisted of four separate surveys conducted throughout the Project Footprint, and within the 500-foot buffer (Burrowing Owl Study Area; RCA 2006), where accessible, to determine if, when, and how the Study Area is being used by BUOW. The surveys were conducted on four separate days in March, April, and May 2023 by qualified biologists. The biologists walked pedestrian transects spaced 20 to 30 meters apart across the entire Study Area (Figure 3) where access was permissible. In areas that were inaccessible, binoculars were used to scan for the presence of BUOW. Additionally, all the encountered burrows were marked during the surveys.

The biologists visually inspected any burrows, rocky areas, or manufactured materials within the BUOW study area for potential BUOW occupation. All burrows encountered were inspected for presence or sign of BUOW (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, and/or prey remains) and classified according to the guidelines in the Staff Report (California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG] 2012).

Data collected for each burrow included the condition and size of the burrow, number of entrances, presence of BUOW sign near the burrow, and location. The biologists used GPS to mark the location. Burrows were individually numbered and classified into two categories based on definitions found in the CDFG Staff Report (CDFG 2012): occupied burrow or potential burrow. Burrows classified as occupied showed signs (e.g., whitewash, feathers, pellets, and/or bones of prey outside the burrow), indicating BUOW presence and/or use at some point in time. Potential burrows were defined as burrows that are large enough for a BUOW but do not show sign of use by the species. The biologists recorded the data on survey sheets and took photographs.

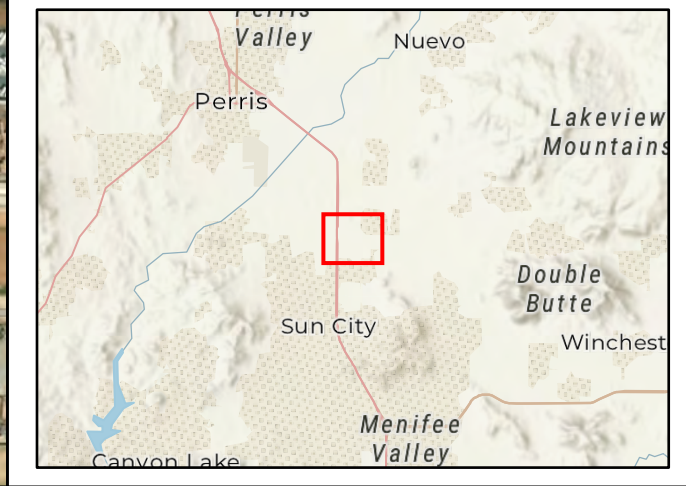
4.0 RESULTS

The results of the literature review and field surveys, including site characteristics, vegetation communities, wildlife, special-status species, and special-status habitats (including any potential wildlife corridors) are summarized below.



- Map Contents**
- Project Site
 - Offsite Improvement Area
 - Project Footprint
 - Study Area (Includes a 500-ft Buffer)
 - BUOW Survey Transects
 - Potential Burrowing Owl Burrows (No Sign)

Sources: ESRI
Other Related Info if Needed



Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac-Project\WAPS\Biological_Resources\Biological Resources.aprx - Hillwood_BUOW_Results (trotellini) - 5/23/2023

Map Date: 5/23/2023

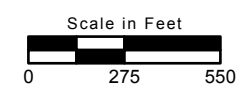


Figure 3. Burrowing Owl Study Area and Burrow Locations

4.1 Literature Review

4.1.1 Special-Status Plants and Wildlife

ECORP conducted the CNDDDB and CNPSEI searches on November 7 and 8, 2022 and January 13, 2023. The database searches identified 43 special-status plant species and 56 special-status wildlife species that could occur within and/or near the Project Footprint. Biologists generated a list from the results of the literature review and evaluated the Project Footprint for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status plant or wildlife species on the list.

4.1.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Designated Critical Habitat

The Project Footprint is not located within any USFWS-designated Critical Habitat. The closest designated Critical Habitat is for spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*), located approximately 1.9 miles to the northwest of the Project Footprint, and for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), located approximately 2.4 miles to the southwest of the Project Footprint (USFWS 2022).

4.2 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

ECORP biologists Carla Marriner and Verity Richardson conducted the biological reconnaissance surveys on November 9, 2022 and Ms. Marriner conducted the January 17, 2023 survey. This last biological reconnaissance survey included an additional offsite area located along Illinois Avenue plus a 500-foot buffer. The results of the biological reconnaissance surveys, including site characteristics, plants and plant communities, wildlife, special-status species, and special-status habitats (including any potential wildlife corridors) are summarized below. The biologists surveyed areas of unknown property ownership within the 500-foot buffer from a distance with binoculars. Table 1 provides summarized weather conditions during the surveys.

| Date | Time | | Temperature (°F) | | Cloud Cover (%) | | Wind Speed (mph) | |
|------------|-------|------|------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|------------------|------|
| | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End |
| 11/09/2022 | 0745 | 1245 | 50 | 57 | 20 | 30 | 0-1 | 4-12 |
| 1/17/2023 | 0830 | 1000 | 43 | 46 | 10 | 15 | 0-2 | 2-4 |

4.2.1 Site Characteristics and Land Use

The majority of the Project Footprint is disturbed and developed. The Project Site is currently vacant, disturbed, and undeveloped. The vegetation observed is composed of mostly nonnative forbs and grasses. Scattered trash and evidence of off-highway vehicle use was also observed on the site. Additionally, most of the site showed evidence of mechanical disturbance and based on aerial imagery, it appears to have been regularly disturbed over the last 20 years, likely associated with annual weed and fire abatement procedures.

There are four soil types within the Project Footprint:

- Exeter sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, eroded;
- Madera fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Monserate sandy loam, shallow, 0 to 5 percent slopes; and
- Monserate sandy loam, shallow, 5 to 15 percent slopes, eroded (NRCS 2022).

The Project Site is bounded by an open lot with a similar vegetative composition of disturbed nonnative grasslands to the west, Sherman Road and residential developments to the east, commercial development to the north, and Ethanac Road and commercial developments to the south.

Representative site photographs are included in Appendix A.

4.2.2 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

The vegetation communities observed within the Project Footprint were characteristic of areas subjected to anthropogenic disturbances. ECORP identified one vegetation alliance, Eucalyptus groves (*Eucalyptus* spp. Woodland Semi-Natural Alliance) within the offsite improvement area along Sherman Road. Biologists identified an earthen canal and a storm drain area plus four vegetation/land cover types within the Project Footprint that did not meet alliance membership requirements of the MCV (Sawyer et al. 2009). Detailed descriptions of each of these vegetation/land cover types including herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses, disturbed, urban/developed and ornamental trees are described below and depicted on Figure 4. A full list of plant species observed on and immediately adjacent to the Project Footprint is included in Appendix B.

4.2.2.1 Disturbed

The disturbed classification includes areas where the native vegetation community has been heavily influenced by human actions, such as grading, trash dumping, and off-road use, but lacks development. Disturbed is not a vegetation classification, but rather a land cover type and is not typically restricted to a known elevation. Disturbed areas encompass approximately 2.8 acres and were located throughout the Project Footprint. These areas have been recently disced, lack any vegetation cover due to the proximity to the paved roads, or are existing dirt roads. Vegetation was absent or sparse in areas classified as disturbed.

4.2.2.2 Earthen Canal

ECORP mapped a small portion of a humanmade earthen canal (0.02 acre) within the Project Footprint. The canal leads to an offsite catch basin that carries the flows across the I-215 and eventually to the San Jacinto River. Biologists observed vegetation within this portion of the manmade earthen canal including mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), barbary fig (*Opuntia ficus-indica*), palo verde (*Parkinsonia* sp.), and tamarisk (*Tamarix* sp.).



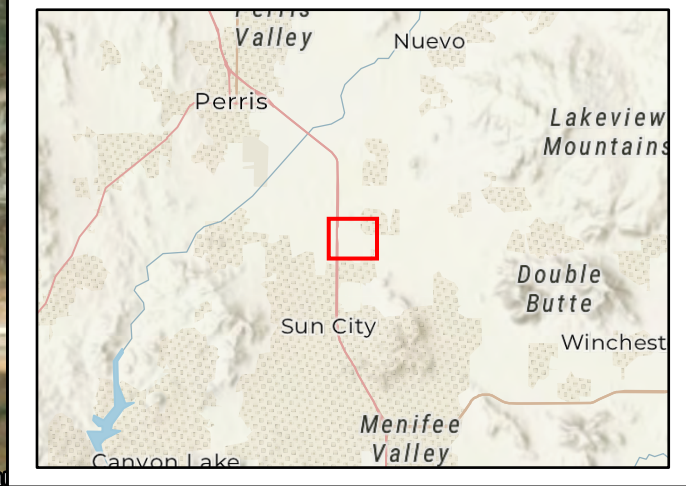
Map Contents

- Project Site
- Offsite Improvement Area
- Project Footprint

Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

- Disturbed
- Earthen Canal
- Eucalyptus Grove
- Herbaceous Non-native Forbs and Grasses
- Ornamental Trees
- Storm Drain
- Urban/Developed

Sources: ESRI
Other Related Info if Needed



Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac Project\WAPS\Vegetation_and_LandCover\Vegetation and Land Cover.aprx - Hillwood_Vegetation (trotellini - 2/6/2023)

Map Date: 2/2/2023

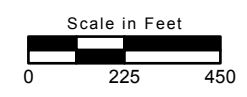


Figure 4. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

4.2.2.3 Eucalyptus Grove (*Eucalyptus* spp. Woodland Semi-Natural Alliance)

This vegetation community is located within the offsite improvement area along Sherman Road and encompasses approximately 1.1 acres. This vegetation community is dominated primarily by nonnative *Eucalyptus* trees such as red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*).

4.2.2.4 Herbaceous Non-native Forbs and Grasses

Approximately 26.1 acres of the land within the Project Footprint is considered herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses. This vegetation community was observed in the Project Site and in some areas within the offsite improvement area. Areas mapped within this land cover were largely devoid of native vegetation due to human disturbance and proximity to the roads and were dominated by nonnative weedy and ruderal vegetation. Some areas mapped within the Project Site exhibited human disturbance (e.g., annual discing and mowing).

Nonnative plant species present in this community included primarily nonnative grasses and weedy species such as Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), cheeseweed (*Malva parviflora*), pigweed amaranth (*Amaranthus albus*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), wild oat (*Avena* sp.), bromegrass (*Bromus diandrus*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*).

Native species present in this community at the time of the survey included telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), and jimson weed (*Datura wrightii*). In addition, scattered trees were observed within the Project Footprint such a gum trees (*Eucalyptus* sp.), juniper (*Platyclusus* sp.), olive tree (*Olea europaea*), mule fat, and tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*).

4.2.2.5 Ornamental Trees

ECORP mapped approximately 0.15 acre of ornamental trees within the Project Footprint adjacent to Trumble Road. Biologists observed nonnative tree species including Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), wattles (*Acacia* sp.), Mexican fan palm trees (*Washingtonia robusta*), olive trees, and tree of heaven.

4.2.2.6 Storm Drain

This area encompasses approximately 0.03 acre and is located within the Project Footprint at the western end of Illinois Avenue. This area contains a large box culvert that collects runoff from Illinois Avenue and I-215. Vegetation observed adjacent to this area includes a few Goodding's black willow (*Salix gooddingii*), yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*), one nonnative tamarisk (*Tamarix* sp.), and other nonnative herbaceous species.

4.2.2.7 Urban/Developed

The urban/developed classification includes areas where anthropogenic disturbance has resulted in permanent impacts such as roads, buildings, and other development. Urban/developed areas have little to no vegetation; Urban/developed is not a vegetation classification, but rather a land cover type and is not typically restricted to a known elevation. ECORP mapped approximately 12.7 acres of

urban/developed land cover within the Project Footprint and constitutes primarily the roads along Trumble Road, Illinois Avenue, Ethanac Road, and Sherman Road.

4.2.3 Plants

Plant species observed within the Project Footprint were generally characteristic of disturbed urban/wildland interface areas. Nonnative plant species observed during the biological assessment included wild oat, bromegrass, Bermuda grass, cheeseweed, pigweed amaranth, common stork's bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), small-flowered fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*), shortpod mustard, and Russian thistle. Native plants observed on the Project Site included telegraph weed, common sunflower, jimson weed, and California aster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*). Appendix B provides a full list of plant species observed on the Project Footprint.

4.2.4 Wildlife

The Project Footprint provides habitat for species adapted to disturbances and urban environments. Bird species were observed during the reconnaissance surveys including California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), and mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*). ECORP observed two mammal species: desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*) and California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*). Appendix C provides a full list of wildlife species observed on or immediately adjacent to the Project Footprint.

4.2.5 Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur within the Project Footprint

The literature review and database search identified 43 special-status plant species and 56 special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur within or near the Project Footprint. However, due to the current lack of suitable habitat for the special-status plant and wildlife species, many of the species have a low potential to occur or are presumed absent from the Project Footprint.

4.2.5.1 Special-Status Plants

There were 43 special-status plant species that appeared in the literature review and database searches for the Project Footprint (CDFW 2022a; CNPS 2022). ECORP generated a list from the results of the literature review and evaluated the Project Footprint for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status plant species on the list.

With various habitat types occurring within the nine-quadrangle search, including the Temescal and Lakeview mountains, several species appeared in the literature review results that had no potential to occur within or near the Project Footprint due to elevational or habitat requirements. Additionally, biologists eliminated CNPS Rare Plant Rank 3 or 4 species from the analysis because these rankings are considered a review list and a watch list, respectively. Table 2 provides descriptions of the CNPS designations. Appendix D consists of a table outlining each species, designation, and potential for occurrence within the Project Footprint.

| Table 2. CNPS Status Designations | |
|--|---|
| List Designation | Meaning |
| 1A | Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere |
| 1B | Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere |
| 2A | Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, but Common Elsewhere |
| 2B | Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere |
| 3 | Plants about which we need more information; a review list |
| 4 | Plants of limited distribution; a watch list |
| List 1B, 2, and 4 extension meanings: | |
| .1 | Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat) |
| .2 | Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat) |

Note: According to CNPS (Skinner and Pavlik 1994), plants on Lists 1B and 2 meet definitions for listing as threatened or endangered under Section 1901, Chapter 10 of the California Fish and Game Code (CDFG 1984). This interpretation is inconsistent with other definitions.

4.2.5.2 Plant Species Present on the Project Footprint

One special-status plant species, paniculate tarplant (*Deinandra paniculata*), was observed in a drainage ditch within the Burrowing Owl Study Area (500-foot buffer) during the biological assessment. However, paniculate tarplant is a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 4.2 species (limited distribution in California) and does not have the same protections that plant species with a rank of 1B do.

4.2.5.3 Plant Species with a Moderate Potential to Occur

Two species were found to have a moderate potential to occur within the Project Footprint. The Project Footprint provides marginal or limited amounts of habitat (including soils and elevation factors) and recently documented observations occur within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint. The special-status plant species with a moderate potential are listed below and detailed in Appendix D.

- Smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*) CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.

4.2.5.4 Plant Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following six species have a low potential to occur within the Project Footprint because limited habitat for the species occurs onsite and a known occurrence has been reported in the database, but not within 5 miles of the site or a historic documented occurrence (more than 20 years old) was

recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs onsite, but no records were found in the database search. The dense nonnative vegetation observed onsite combined with the mechanically disturbed soils limits the amount of suitable habitat; however, the herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses on the Project Footprint may provide low-quality suitable habitat for these species.

- Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), federally listed (Endangered), state-listed (Threatened), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Jaeger's milk-vetch (*Astragalus pachypus* var. *jaegeri*), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.
- San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*), federally listed (Endangered), state-listed (Threatened), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*), federally listed (Threatened), state-listed (Endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Intermediate mariposa lily (*Calochortus weedii* var. *intermedius*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Long-spined spineflower (*Chorizanthe polygonoides* var. *longispina*) CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered Species.

4.2.5.5 Plant Species Presumed Absent

A total of 35 plant species were presumed absent from the Project Footprint due to lack of suitable habitat (including elevation and soils) within the Project Footprint or because the Project Footprint is located outside of the known range for the species. A table outlining each species, their designations, and potential for occurrence on the Project Footprint can be found in Appendix D.

4.2.5.6 Special-Status Wildlife

The literature search documented 56 special-status wildlife species in the vicinity of the Project Footprint. ECORP generated a list from the results of the literature review and evaluated the Project Footprint for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status wildlife species on the list. The Project Site's long history of mechanical disturbances (e.g., discing, mowing) on the site, proximity to residential development, and the presence of anthropogenic influences on the site likely preclude many of these species from occurring. A brief natural history and discussion of the special-status wildlife species found to be present onsite or to have a moderate potential to occur within the Project Footprint is provided below. Appendix E provides a table outlining each species, their designations, and potential for occurrence within the Project Footprint.

4.2.5.7 Wildlife Species Present on the Project Footprint

The following species was observed within the Project Footprint during the biological reconnaissance survey.

California Horned Lark

California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) is a MSHCP Covered Species and CDFW Watch List species. Horned larks favor bare open areas dominated by low vegetation or widely scattered shrubs, including prairies, deserts, and plowed fields. They nest in hollows on the ground. Suitable habitat is present within the open and disturbed habitat within the Project Footprint. In addition to being observed during the biological assessment, the literature review returned several recent and historic records within 5 miles of the Project Footprint.

4.2.5.8 Wildlife Species with a Moderate Potential to Occur

Seven species were found to have a moderate potential to occur within the Project Footprint because of one of the following factors:

- Although these species were not observed during the biological reconnaissance survey, somewhat suitable habitat for the species occurs onsite, and a known occurrence has been reported in the database, but not within 5 miles of the site; or
- a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or
- a recently documented observation occurs within 5 miles of the site and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs onsite.

The special-status wildlife species with a moderate potential are listed below and detailed in Appendix E.

- California glossy snake (*Arizona elegans occidentalis*), CDFW SSC.
- Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), CDFW Watch List Species, MSHCP Covered Species.
- BUOW, CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*), CDFW Watch List Species, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*), federally listed (Endangered), state-listed (Threatened), MSHCP Covered Species.
- San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.

4.2.5.9 Wildlife Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following seven species have a low potential to occur within the Project Footprint because of one of the following factors:

- There is limited habitat for the species onsite and a known occurrence has been reported in the database, but not within 5 miles of the site; or

- a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; or
- suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs onsite, but no records were found in the database search.

The herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses within the Project Footprint provides low-quality habitat for species typically associated with grassland and scrub vegetation communities. Furthermore, the dense nonnative vegetation observed onsite, combined with the mechanically disturbed soils, severely limits the amount of suitable habitat for these species. The special-status wildlife species with a low potential are listed below and detailed in Appendix E.

- Crotch bumblebee (*Bombus crotchii*), state-listed (candidate).
- Western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), Fully Protected Species (FP), MSHCP Covered Species.
- Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered Species.
- Jacumba pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris internationalis*), CDFW SSC.

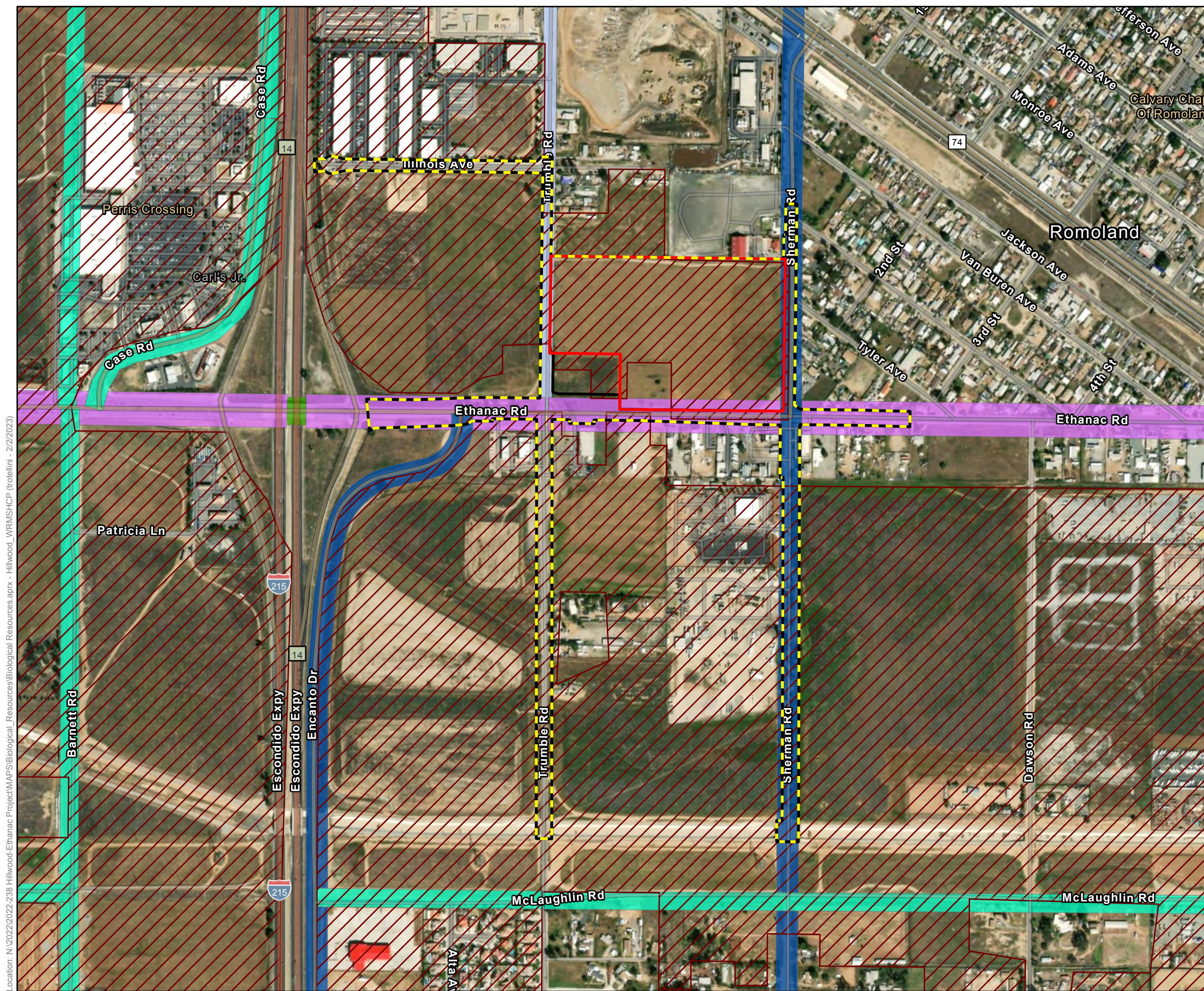
4.2.5.10 Wildlife Species Presumed Absent

A total of 41 species were presumed absent. These species were not present at the Project Site during the biological reconnaissance survey and the habitat present within the Project Footprint was not suitable. For some species, there were historic or recent sightings near the Project Footprint; however, these species are presumed absent due to the lack of suitable habitat within the Project Footprint. Appendix E outlines each species, their designations, and potential for occurrence within the Project Footprint.

4.3 Burrowing Owl Survey Results

A BUOW habitat assessment was required because the Project Footprint is located within a MSHCP-designated BUOW survey area (Figure 5). ECORP conducted the BUOW habitat assessment and focused burrow survey concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey on November 9, 2022 and on January 17, 2023 by ECORP biologists Ms. Marriner and Ms. Richardson within the Project Footprint and a 500-foot buffer. Weather conditions during the assessment are summarized in Table 1.

The assessment determined the site included suitable habitat for BUOW consisting of relatively large open expanses of sparsely vegetated nonnative forbs and grasses on level to gently rolling terrain, with an abundance of active California ground squirrel burrows. The presence of the ground squirrel burrows onsite provides suitable burrow habitat for owls. ECORP recorded potential burrows within the Burrowing Owl Study Area (Figure 3).



Map Contents

- Project Site
- Offsite Improvement Area
- Project Footprint

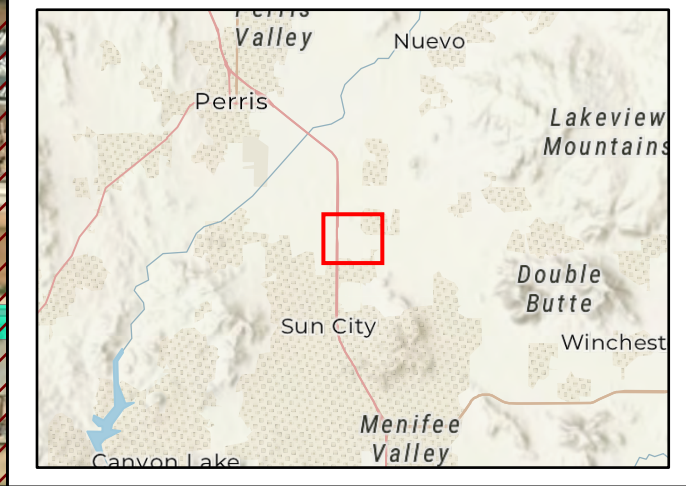
MSHCP Species Survey Areas

- MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area

MSHCP Covered Roads Right-of-Way

- Expressway
- Urban Arterial
- Arterial
- Major
- Secondary
- Collector

Sources: ESRI
Other Related Info if Needed



Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac Project\WAPS\Biological_Resources\Biological Resources.aprx - Hillwood_WRMSHCP (trotellini - 2/2/2023)

Map Date: 1/27/2023

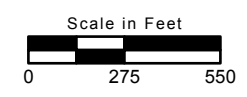


Figure 5. Western Riverside County MSHCP Designation

Four focused burrowing owl surveys were conducted during the breeding season to determine the presence of burrowing owls on the Project Footprint due to the presence of suitable habitat, including potential burrows. The focused surveys followed the MSHCP *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions* (RCTLMA 2006). In addition to BUOW focused surveys, pre-construction surveys will be required within 30-days prior to site disturbance (RCTLMA 2022). Mitigation measures discussing additional survey requirements are described in Section 6.0.

No BUOW or active signs thereof were observed during the habitat assessment or focused burrowing surveys within the Burrowing Owl Study Area. Suitable burrows were observed within the study area during the surveys. Methodology, results of the literature review, existing conditions and results from the BUOW focused surveys are included in Attachment F.

4.4 Raptors and Migratory Birds

Potential nesting habitat for migratory birds and raptors protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code was present within and adjacent to the Project Footprint in some of the larger trees and shrubs. Additionally, the open areas and ground could be suitable for some ground nesting species (e.g., mourning dove, killdeer). Raptors typically breed between February and August, and songbirds and other passerines generally nest between March and August. There is potential for nesting to occur within the Project Footprint due to the presence of suitable nesting habitat.

4.5 Aquatic Resources Delineation

ECORP conducted a desktop review to identify potential streams and hydric soils on the property. This entailed examination of the NRCS Soil Mapper (2022), National Wetland Inventory mapping, and the USGS topographic mapping of the Project Footprint to aid in identifying potential biological constraints to the Project due to jurisdictional streams. Additionally, biologists walked the property to look for signs of ordinary high-water mark as defined by the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region (Arid West Region Supplement)* (USACE 2008). There was water puddling in a series of tire ruts along a dirt road at the northern edge of the Project Site and in some areas within the offsite improvement area; however, the Project Site was determined to have a low potential for other aquatic features including vernal pools and human-modified depressions. Hernandez Environmental conducted a formal Aquatic Resources Delineation (ARD) within the Project Footprint on December 6 and 26, 2022. The boundaries of potential jurisdictional areas were formally delineated, and the results of the survey can be found in Appendix G.

4.6 Wildlife Movement Corridors, Linkages, and Significant Ecological Areas

The concept of habitat corridors addresses the linkage between large blocks of habitat that allow the safe movement of mammals and other wildlife species from one habitat area to another. The definition of a corridor is varied, but corridors may include such areas as greenbelts, refuge systems, underpasses, and biogeographic land bridges. In general, a corridor is described as a linear habitat, embedded in a dissimilar matrix, which connects two or more large blocks of habitat. Wildlife movement corridors are

critical for the survivorship of ecological systems for several reasons. Corridors can connect water, food, and cover sources, spatially linking these three resources with wildlife in different areas. In addition, wildlife movement between habitat areas provides for the potential of genetic exchange between wildlife species populations, thereby maintaining genetic variability and adaptability to maximize the success of wildlife responses to changing environmental conditions. This is especially critical for small populations subject to loss of variability from genetic drift and effects of inbreeding. Naturally, the nature of corridor use and wildlife movement patterns varies greatly among species.

ECORP assessed the Project Site for its ability to function as a wildlife corridor. The Project Site likely provides wildlife movement opportunities because it consists of open land. It is possible the Project Footprint may play a minor role in local wildlife dispersal and foraging. Common wildlife species including coyotes (*Canis latrans*), skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*), opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*), and raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) may travel through the site and neighboring developed areas, but the site does not provide connectivity between large areas of open space on a local or regional scale. The Site's value as a corridor is lessened by the fact that it borders residential developments to the east and commercial developments to the north, and is moderately disturbed due to anthropogenic factors.

5.0 IMPACT ANALYSIS

Impacts to sensitive biological resources resulting from construction activities are presented below.

5.1 Special-Status Species

The Project Footprint consists of herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses, disturbed land with large portions devoid of native vegetation, developed paved roads, ornamental trees, and a eucalyptus grove along Sherman Road.

The literature review and database searches identified 43 special-status plant species. Of these 43 special-status plants, two were found to have a moderate potential to occur within the Project Footprint due to the presence of marginally suitable habitat and records within 5 miles: smooth tarplant and Parry's spineflower. These plant species are MSHCP covered species; thus, additional surveys will not be required.

A total of six species had a low potential to occur onsite and 35 plant species were presumed absent. One special status species, paniculate tarplant, was observed within the 500-foot buffer; however, this species has a CRPR rank of 4.2 (limited distribution in California) and does not have the same protections as plant species with a rank of 1B; therefore, potential impacts to this species are not considered significant. The Project Site is highly disturbed and no additional sensitive plant species were observed during the biological surveys. No impacts to special-status plant or narrow endemic plant species are expected to occur as a result of the Proposed Project.

Of the 56 special-status wildlife species identified in the literature search, one bird species was present during the biological reconnaissance survey: California horned lark (Watch List species). Marginally suitable habitat for this sensitive bird species including the herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses occurs within the Project Footprint. Additionally, the large gum trees and other ornamental trees located within the Project Footprint could provide nesting habitat for nesting birds and raptors

protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code. Ground-disturbing construction activities could directly affect nesting birds and other birds protected by the MBTA and their nests through habitat removal on the Project Footprint, and indirectly through increased noise, vibrations, and increased human activity if any tree or vegetation removal needs to occur during the bird breeding season (typically January 15 through August 31). Potential impacts to sensitive bird species and/or nesting birds would be less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measure (MM) BIO-1.

A total of seven wildlife species were determined to have moderate potential to occur within the Project Footprint: BUOW, loggerhead shrike, California glossy snake, red-diamond rattlesnake, ferruginous hawk, San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, and Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR). Six of these species are covered by the MSHCP and, other than SKR, which is federally listed (Threatened), none of the other species are listed under the federal or California ESAs. These wildlife species are covered under the MSHCP and considered adequately conserved; no additional surveys or mitigation will be required. Although potential impacts to SKR are covered by the MSHCP and SKR HCP, potential impacts to SKR habitat within the SKR HCP area will require Mitigation Fee payment of \$500 per gross acre of the parcels proposed for development within the SKR HCP Fee Area.

California glossy snake is not covered under the MSHCP. This species, if present, could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and indirect impacts from noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to Project activities. However, this species is only expected to occur in very low densities and Project-related impacts would not be expected to contribute to the overall decline of populations for these species due to the lack of high-quality habitat within the Project Footprint, the Site's history of anthropogenic disturbances, and the presence of urban development adjacent to the Project Site. Therefore, potential impacts to California glossy would not be considered significant under CEQA and additional surveys and mitigation are not necessary.

The BUOW was found to have a moderate potential for occurrence and the Project Footprint is located within a designated survey area under the MSHCP for BUOW (RCA 2022). The biological reconnaissance survey and habitat assessment determined that suitable BUOW habitat was present within the BUOW Study Area. Four focused surveys were performed to further ascertain presence of the species during the breeding season; however, no BUOW or signs of BUOW were observed during the surveys. Due to the mobile nature of the species, it is also possible that BUOW could use the Site prior to the start of Project activities. If BUOW are present within the Project Footprint, direct impacts in the form of ground disturbance, vegetation removal, habitat loss, and mortality and indirect impacts from construction noise and vibrations may occur. Potential impacts to BUOW would be less than significant with the implementation of MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3.

A total of seven wildlife species have a low potential to occur within the Project Footprint. Five of the seven species are covered under the MSHCP and considered adequately conserved and will not require additional surveys or mitigation. The remaining two species include Crotch bumble bee and Jacumba pocket mouse. These species, if present, could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and indirect impacts from construction noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to the development of the Project Site. However, due to the lack of suitable habitat within the impact area, the site's long history of anthropogenic disturbances, and the presence of urban development immediately

adjacent to the Project Footprint, these species, if present in the impact area, are only expected to occur in very low densities and Project-related impacts would not be expected to contribute to the overall decline of populations for these species; therefore, potential impacts to these species would not be considered significant and additional surveys and mitigation are not necessary.

5.2 Sensitive Natural Communities

No sensitive natural communities were observed within the Project Footprint. No impacts to sensitive natural communities are anticipated to result from the Proposed Project.

5.3 State or Federally Protected Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.

The results of the surveys and potential impacts to jurisdictional waters observed within the Project Footprint are included in Appendix G. The Project is expected to impact approximately 0.05 acre (132 linear feet) of an ephemeral stream and a cement-lined channel within the offsite improvement area along Trumble Road (Appendix G), and associated habitat that would be regulated under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code. Impacts to these features would require the CDFW to be notified of these impacts under a Notification of Lake of Streambed Alteration Agreement pursuant to California Fish and Game Code Section 1602. The Project is expected to impact approximately 0.04 acre (132 linear feet) of the ephemeral stream, which is considered a Waters of the U.S. Impacts to onsite Waters of the U.S. will qualify for a Nationwide Permit (NWP) 14 from the USACE. The impacts to Waters of the U.S. within the human-made earthen canal and the cement-lined channel would require individual permits, according to Decision Document NWP 14 "each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization." See more details regarding impacts to jurisdictional waters in Appendix G.

5.4 Wildlife Corridors and Nursery Sites

The Project Footprint likely provides wildlife movement opportunities because it consists of open and unimpeded land. However, the Project Site's value as a corridor is lessened by the fact that it borders residential developments to the east, commercial development to the north and south, and is disturbed due to anthropogenic factors. No migratory wildlife corridors or native wildlife nursery sites were identified within the Project Footprint. No impacts to these resources are expected to occur during the development of the Project.

5.5 Covered Roads (Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Section 2.11.2)

Sherman Road is a publicly maintained MSHCP cover road. Safety improvements to publicly maintained existing roadways and necessary operation and maintenance activities conducted for safety purposes within Public/Quasi-Public Lands are Covered Activities. Covered maintenance activities include signage, traffic control devices, guardrails and fences, pavement repairs, accident response, tree trimming, natural disaster damage/restoration of emergency access, storm drainage, weed control, grading shoulders (up to 12 feet), grading existing dirt roadways, dust stabilization, culverts/drop structures, curbs/gutters/sidewalks, roadway widening, berms, roadway resurfacing, ditch clearing,

landscape maintenance, bridge maintenance, and roadway reconstruction. Guidelines are provided in Section 7.3.5 of the MSHCP, which would minimize and avoid impacts to sensitive species and habitats occurring adjacent to the existing roadway. The best management practices in Appendix C of the MSHCP would be applied as appropriate.

5.6 Habitat Conservation Plans and Natural Community Conservation Plans

The Project Site is located within the planning area for the Western Riverside MSHCP. The Project is not located within any Conservation Areas. The Project Site is located within a MSHCP-designated survey area for BUOW. Implementation of appropriate MMs would be consistent with the MSHCP requirements and therefore reduce any potential impacts to less than significant.

5.6.1.1 MSHCP Implementation Structure

Section 6.0 of the MSHCP requires assessment of the potential effects from the Project on biological resources including riparian/riverine areas, vernal pools, fairy shrimp, BUOW, and narrow endemic plant species. In addition, the MSHCP requires an Urban/Wildlands Interface analysis be conducted in order to address the indirect effects associated with locating proposed development in proximity of MSHCP Conservation Areas. These resources were assessed during the reconnaissance survey and are discussed below in relation to the Project.

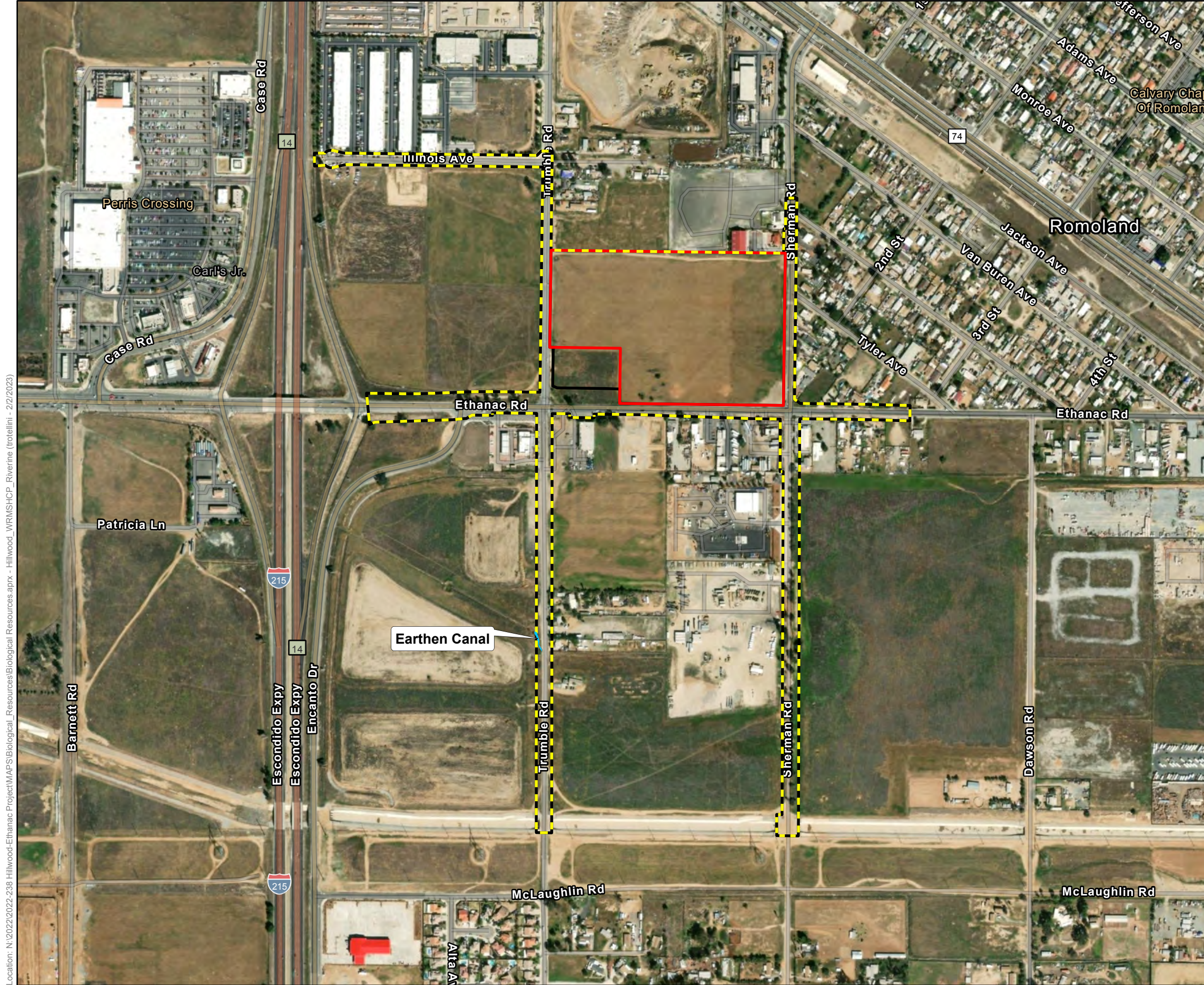
5.6.1.2 Riparian/Riverine and Riparian Bird Habitat (MSHCP Section 6.1.2)

In accordance with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP, ECORP performed a habitat assessment for riparian and riverine communities, vernal pools, and fairy shrimp. The MSHCP defines Riparian and Riverine resources as:

“...lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent moss and lichens, which occur close to or depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; OR areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year.”

Biologists evaluated potential Riparian/Riverine aquatic areas concurrently with the ARD, and detailed methods are provided in Appendix G. Hernandez Environmental biologists conducted the delineation for the entire Project Footprint in December 2022.

The Project Footprint contains approximately 0.05 acre (132 linear feet) of CDFW jurisdictional ephemeral features and associated vegetation regulated under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code (Figure 6). CDFW jurisdiction was measured from top of bank to top of bank or outside the dripline of associated riparian habitat. The CDFW jurisdictional areas on the Project Footprint include 0.02 acre (108 linear feet) of canal and associated mule fat and palo verde as shown on Figure 6. The humanmade earthen canal collects ephemeral flows and directs them northwest. The canal leads to an offsite catch basin that carries the flows across I-215 and eventually to the San Jacinto River. Vegetation observed within the portion of the humanmade earthen canal includes mule fat, Barbary fig (*Opuntia ficus-indica*), palo verde, and tamarisk. Shortpod mustard was the dominant species in the herbaceous layer within the canal.



- Map Contents**
- Project Site
 - Offsite Improvement Area
 - Project Footprint
 - Riverine Feature

Sources: ESRI
Other Related Info if Needed

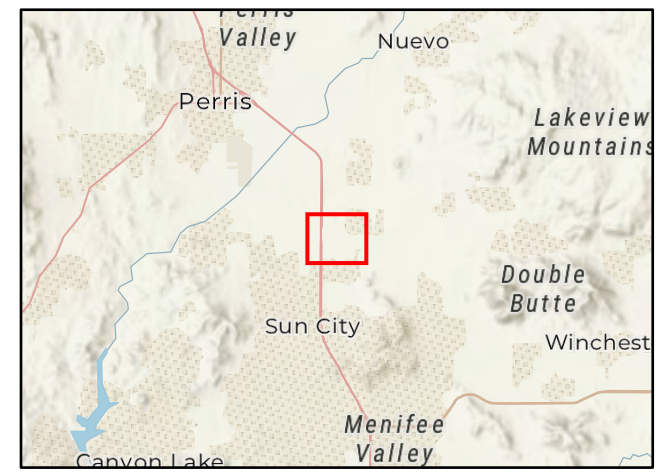
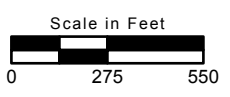


Figure 6. MSHCP Riparian/Riverine Habitat

Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac Project\WAPS\Biological_Resources\Biological Resources.aprx - Hillwood_WRWSHCP_Riverine (trotellini - 2/2/2023)

Map Date: 1/27/2023



The MSHCP also requires habitat assessments/focused surveys for certain species identified under Section 6.1.2, including riparian birds and fairy shrimp. The results of the literature review and habitat assessment determined that although some scattered mule fat and isolated willow trees were observed in some portions of the Project Site, the Project Footprint does not likely contain suitable habitat for riparian bird species including southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), and western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*). There were no indicators of surface flow and the area was not extensive enough to identify as its own vegetation community. The habitat was narrow in width (i.e., only scattered trees) with no understory, and lacked the structure required for southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, and western yellow-billed cuckoo nesting activities. These species typically require dense willow thickets in the understory of riparian vegetation communities for nesting purposes. The mule fat and the isolated willows were not structurally correct for riparian obligate bird species and there was no evidence or indicators of surface flow. Therefore, these trees would not be considered a riparian/riverine resource that would need to be conserved per the MSHCP.

5.6.1.3 Vernal Pool, and Fairy Shrimp Habitat Assessment (MSHCP Section 6.1.2)

The MSHCP defines vernal pools as:

“...seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season.”

Based on the literature review, field survey observations, and Google Earth imagery, the Project Site appears to have been regularly disturbed over at least the last 20 years and there was no evidence of vernal pools; fairy shrimp species are not anticipated to be within the Project Footprint. Due to lack of hydric/clays soils, ongoing disturbances, no records of fairy shrimp within 5 miles of the Project Footprint, ECORP determined that vernal pool fairy shrimp has no potential to occur. Therefore, no additional surveys are required due to the lack of suitable habitat, and the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP.

5.6.1.4 Narrow Endemic Plant Species (MSHCP Section 6.1.3)

ECORP reviewed the Riverside RCA MSHCP Information Map to determine if the Project Footprint was located within a Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA), in accordance with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP. The Project Footprint is not located within a NEPSSA (RCA 2022). Therefore, the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP.

5.6.1.5 Urban/Wildlands Interface Guidelines (MSHCP Section 6.1.4)

The Project Footprint does not share a border with any adjacent MSHCP-designated conserved lands. Therefore, the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP.

5.6.1.6 Additional Surveys (MSHCP Section 6.3.2)

The RCA MSHCP Information Map was reviewed to determine if the Project Footprint was located with any MSHCP-designated survey areas. The Information Map revealed the Project Footprint is located within a survey area for BUOW but is located outside of the survey areas for amphibians, small mammals, Delhi-sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*), and other criteria species. Therefore, habitat assessments for BUOW were conducted concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey.

The biological survey and BUOW habitat assessment determined suitable foraging and burrow habitat is present within some of the open areas of the Project Site and within the disturbed/developed habitat of the Project Footprint.

Four focused BUOW surveys were conducted during the breeding season to determine the presence of BUOW within the Project Footprint due to the presence of suitable habitat, including potential burrows. The focused surveys followed the MSHCP *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions* (RCTLMA 2006). Although potentially suitable habitat was present in the Study Area, no BUOW, or occupied burrows (e.g., burrows containing whitewash, pellets, feathers, bones of prey items) were observed during the protocol-level focused surveys for BUOW. Mitigation measures discussing additional survey requirements are described in Section 6.0. Additionally, a pre-construction survey will be required within 30 days prior to site disturbance.

6.0 MITIGATION MEASURES

The following MMs would reduce impacts to sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level.

BIO-1 Pre-construction Survey for Nesting Birds: In order to avoid violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513, site preparation activities (ground disturbance, construction activities, staging equipment, and/or removal of trees and vegetation) for the Project shall be avoided, to the greatest extent possible, during the nesting season of potentially occurring native and migratory bird species. If site-preparation activities are proposed during the nesting/breeding season, the Project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-activity field survey prior to the issuance of grading permits for the Project to determine if active nests of species protected by the MBTA or the California Fish and Game Code are present in the construction zone. The nest surveys shall include the Project Site and adjacent areas where Project activities have the potential to cause nest failure. The survey results shall be provided to the City's Planning Division. The Project proponent shall adhere to the following: 1. The Project proponent shall designate a biologist (Designated Biologist) experienced in: identifying local and migratory bird species of special concern; conducting bird surveys using appropriate survey methodology; nesting surveying techniques, recognizing breeding and nesting behaviors, locating nests and breeding territories, and identifying nesting stages and nest success; determining/establishing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures; and

monitoring the efficacy of implemented avoidance and minimization measures. 2. Pre-activity field surveys shall be conducted at the appropriate time of day/night, during appropriate weather conditions, no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of Project development activities. Surveys shall encompass all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. Survey duration shall take into consideration the size of the project site; density, and complexity of the habitat; number of survey participants; survey techniques employed; and shall be sufficient to ensure the data collected is complete and accurate. If no nesting birds are observed during the survey, site preparation and construction activities may begin conducted during the nesting/breeding season. However, if active nests (including nesting raptors) are located then avoidance or minimization measures shall be undertaken in consultation with the City of Perris and the CDFW. Measures shall include immediate establishment of an appropriate buffer zone to be established by a qualified biologist, and approved by the City of Perris, based on their best professional judgement and experience. The buffer around the nest shall be delineated and flagged, and no construction activity shall occur within the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines nesting species have fledged and the nest is no longer active or the nest has failed. The biologist shall monitor the nest at the onset of Project activities, and at the onset of any changes in such Project activities (e.g., increase in number or type of equipment, change in equipment usage, etc.) to determine the efficacy of the buffer. If the biologist determines that such Project activities may be causing an adverse reaction, the biologist shall adjust the buffer accordingly or implement alternative avoidance and minimization measures, such as redirecting or rescheduling construction or erecting sound barriers. All work within these buffers will be halted until the nesting effort is finished (i.e., the juveniles are surviving independent from the nest). The onsite biologist shall review and verify compliance with these nesting avoidance buffers and shall verify the nesting effort has finished. Work can resume within these avoidance areas when no other active nests are found. Upon completion of the survey and nesting bird monitoring, a report shall be prepared and submitted to City of Perris Planning Division for mitigation monitoring compliance record keeping.

BIO-2 Pre-construction Surveys for BUOW: The Project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction survey for resident burrowing owls within 30 days prior to commencement of initial ground-disturbing activities (e.g., vegetation clearing, clearing and grubbing, grading, tree removal, site watering, equipment staging) at the Project Site. The survey shall include the Project Site and all suitable burrowing owl habitat within a 500-foot buffer. The results of the survey shall be submitted to the City of Perris Planning Division prior to obtaining a grading permit. In addition, a pre-construction survey for resident burrowing owls shall also be conducted within three days prior to commencement. If burrowing owls are observed during the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) nesting bird survey (MM BIO-1, to be conducted within three days of ground disturbance or vegetation clearance, the observation shall be reported to the CDFW and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). If ground disturbing activities in these areas are delayed or suspended for more than 30 days after the pre-construction survey, the area shall be resurveyed for owls. The pre-construction survey and any relocation activity will

be conducted in accordance with the current Burrowing Owl Instruction for the Western Riverside MSHCP. If burrowing owl are not detected during the pre-construction survey, no further mitigation is required. If burrowing owl are detected, the CDFW shall be sent written notification within three days of detection of burrowing owls. If active nests are identified during the pre-construction survey, the Project applicant shall not commence activities until no sign is present that the burrows are being used by adult or juvenile owls or following CDFW approval of a Burrowing Owl Plan as described below. If owl presence is difficult to determine, a qualified biologist shall monitor the burrows with motion-activated trail cameras for at least 24 hours to evaluate burrow occupancy. The qualified biologist and Project applicant shall coordinate with the City of Perris Planning Division, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the CDFW to develop a Burrowing Owl Plan to be approved by the City in consultation with the CDFW and the USFWS prior to commencing project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall be prepared in accordance with guidelines in the CDFW Staff Report on Burrowing Owl (March 2012) and MSHCP. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, minimization, relocation, and monitoring as applicable. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites and details on proposed buffers if avoiding the burrowing owls and/ or information on the adjacent or nearby suitable habitat available to owls for relocation. If no suitable habitat is available nearby for relocation, details regarding the creation and funding of artificial burrows (numbers, location, and type of burrows). and management activities for relocated owls may also be required in the Burrowing Owl Plan. The permittee shall implement the Burrowing Owl Plan following CDFW and USFWS review and concurrence. A final letter report shall be prepared by the qualified biologist documenting the results of the Burrowing Owl Plan. The letter shall be submitted to CDFW prior to the start of project activities. The onsite qualified biologist will verify the nesting effort has finished according to methods identified in the Burrowing Owl Plan. When the biologist determines that burrowing owls are no longer occupying the Project site per the criteria in the Burrowing Owl Plan, Project activities may begin.

BIO-3: If burrowing owl are discovered to occupy the Project Site after Project activities have started, then construction activities shall be halted immediately. The Project proponent shall notify the CDFW and the USFWS within 48 hours of detection. A Burrowing Owl Plan, shall be implemented. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall be submitted to the CDFW for review and approval within two weeks of detection and no Project activity shall continue within 1,000 feet of the burrowing owls until the CDFW approves the Burrowing Owl Plan. The Project proponent shall be responsible for implementing appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures, including burrow avoidance, passive or active relocation, or other appropriate mitigation measures as identified in the Burrowing Owl Plan.

6.1 Recommendations

CDFW and RWQCB jurisdictional waters are regulated by state and local governments under a no-net-loss policy, and all impacts are considered significant and should be avoided to the greatest extent possible. Impacts to jurisdictional waters require mitigation through habitat creation, restoration, or

enhancement as determined by consultation with the regulatory agencies during the permitting process. Any impacts to CDFW jurisdiction would require a Section 1602 SAA from CDFW. Any impacts to Waters of the U.S. would require a Section 404 permit and would qualify for a Nationwide Permit 14 authorization from the USACE. It would also need a 401 Certification from the Santa Ana RWQCB.

If avoidance of riverine resources (earthen canal on Trumble Road; Figure 6) is infeasible, the unavoidable impacts would require regulatory permitting and will be mitigated and a Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation may be required.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Field work conducted for this assessment was performed by me or under my direct supervision. I certify that I have not signed a non-disclosure or consultant confidentiality agreement with the Project applicant or the applicant's representative and that I have no financial interest in the Project.

SIGNED: _____
Stacie Tennant
Senior Biologist and Project Manager
ECORP Consulting, Inc.

DATE: _____

SIGNED: _____
Carla Marriner
Senior Biologist and Project Manager
ECORP Consulting, Inc.

DATE: _____

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Appendix A - Representative Site Photographs

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Appendix D – Special Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

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Protocol-Level Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys Report

Appendix G – Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

APPENDIX A

Representative Site Photographs



Photo 1: Typical view and vegetation cover on the northeast corner of the Project Site; facing west.



Photo 2: West side of the Project Site dominated by herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses; facing east.



Photo 3: View of the southwestern portion of the Project Site; facing north.



Photo 4: View of disturbed land cover within the southeastern portion of the Project Site; facing west.



Photo 5: View of Eucalyptus grove along Sherman Road within southeast portion of the Project Footprint; facing north.



Photo 6: View of Trumble Road and western side of Project Footprint where road improvements will occur; facing north.



Photo 7: View of disturbed areas east of Trumble Road, facing north toward Ethanac Road within the southwestern portion of Project Footprint.



Photo 8: View of Burrowing Owl Study Area within 500-foot buffer west of the Project Footprint; facing south.



Photo 9: View of Trumble Road south of Ethanac Road (offsite improvement area); ornamental trees adjacent to the road in the background.



Photo 10: View of Illinois Avenue – urban/developed land cover within offsite improvement area; facing east.



Photo 11. Typical vegetation cover within the 500-foot buffer south of Illinois Avenue (offsite improvement area); facing north.



Photo 12. View of the storm drain (non-jurisdictional) and associated vegetation located at the western end of Illinois Avenue within the Project Footprint; facing west.

APPENDIX B

Plant Species Observed

Appendix B: Plant Species Compendium

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|---|------------------------|
| GYMNOSPERMS | |
| CUPRESSACEAE | CYPRESS FAMILY |
| <i>Juniperus</i> sp.* | Juniper |
| <i>Platycladus orientalis</i> * | Oriental arborvitae |
| PINACEAE | PINE FAMILY |
| <i>Pinus</i> sp.* | Pine |
| ANGIOSPERMS (DICOTS) | |
| AMARANTHACEAE | AMARANTH FAMILY |
| <i>Amaranthus albus</i> * | Pigweed amaranth |
| ANACARDIACEAE | CASHEW FAMILY |
| <i>Schinus molle</i> * | Peruvian pepper tree |
| <i>Searsia lancea</i> * | African sumac |
| APOCYNACEAE | DOGBANE FAMILY |
| <i>Nerium oleander</i> * | Oleander |
| ASTERACEAE | SUNFLOWER FAMILY |
| <i>Ambrosia</i> sp. | Bursage |
| <i>Baccharis salicifolia</i> | Mule fat |
| <i>Corethrogyne</i> sp. | Sandaster |
| <i>Deinandra fasciculata</i> | Clustered tarweed |
| <i>Deinandra paniculata</i> ^{CRPR 4.2} | Paniculate tarplant |
| <i>Helianthus annuus</i> | Common sunflower |
| <i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i> | Telegraph weed |
| <i>Lactuca serriola</i> * | Prickly lettuce |
| <i>Pulicaria paludosa</i> * | Spanish false fleabane |
| <i>Symphyotrichum chilense</i> | California aster |
| BIGNONIACEAE | TRUMPET-CREEPER FAMILY |
| <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> * | Blue jacaranda |
| BORAGINACEAE | BORAGE FAMILY |
| <i>Amsinckia</i> sp. | Fiddleneck |
| <i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i> | Salt heliotrope |
| BRASSICACEAE | MUSTARD FAMILY |
| <i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> * | Shortpod mustard |
| <i>Sisymbrium irio</i> * | London rocket |

Appendix B: Plant Species Compendium

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|---|-------------------------|
| BUXACEAE | BOX FAMILY |
| <i>Buxus sempervirens*</i> | Common box |
| CHENOPODIACEAE | CHENOPOD FAMILY |
| <i>Salsola tragus*</i> | Russian thistle |
| CONVOLVULACEAE | MORNING GLORY FAMILY |
| <i>Convolvulus sp.*</i> | Morning glory |
| EUPHORBIACEAE | SPURGE FAMILY |
| <i>Croton setiger</i> | Doveweed |
| <i>Euphorbia albomarginata</i> | Rattlesnake sandmat |
| FABACEAE | LEGUME FAMILY |
| <i>Parkinsonia aculeata*</i> | Mexican palo verde |
| <i>Acacia sp.*</i> | Wattle |
| GERANIACEAE | GERANIUM FAMILY |
| <i>Erodium cicutarium*</i> | Red-stemmed filaree |
| LAMIACEAE | MINT FAMILY |
| <i>Trichostema lanceolatum</i> | Vinegar weed |
| MALVACEAE | MALLOW FAMILY |
| <i>Malva parviflora*</i> | Cheeseweed mallow |
| MELIACEAE | MAHOGANY FAMILY |
| <i>Melia azedarach*</i> | China berry tree |
| MYRTACEAE | MYRTLE FAMILY |
| <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis*</i> | Red gum |
| <i>Eucalyptus sp.*</i> | Gum tree |
| OLEACEAE | OLIVE FAMILY |
| <i>Olea europaea*</i> | Olive tree |
| POLYGONACEAE | BUCKWHEAT FAMILY |
| <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum</i> | California buckwheat |
| SALICACEAE | WILLOW FAMILY |
| <i>Salix gooddingii</i> | Goodding's black willow |
| <i>Salix lasiolepis</i> | Arroyo willow |
| SAURURACEAE | LIZARD'S TAIL FAMILY |
| <i>Anemopsis californica</i> | Yerba mansa |
| SIMAROUBACEAE | QUASSIA FAMILY |
| <i>Ailanthus altissima*</i> | Tree of heaven |

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--|----------------------|
| SOLANACEAE | NIGHTSHADE FAMILY |
| <i>Datura innoxia</i> * | Pricklyburr |
| <i>Datura wrightii</i> | Jimson weed |
| TAMARICACEAE | TAMARISK FAMILY |
| <i>Tamarix sp.</i> * | Tamarisk |
| ZYGOPHYLLACEAE | CALTROP FAMILY |
| <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> * | Puncture vine |
| ANGIOSPERMS (MONOCOTS) | |
| AGAVACEAE | CENTURY PLANT FAMILY |
| <i>Agave sp.</i> | Agave |
| ARECACEAE | PALM FAMILY |
| <i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> * | Date palm |
| <i>Washingtonia robusta</i> * | Mexican fan palm |
| CYPERACEAE | SEDGE FAMILY |
| <i>Cyperus sp.</i> | Flatsedge |
| POACEAE | GRASS FAMILY |
| <i>Avena sp.</i> * | Wild oat |
| <i>Bromus diandrus</i> * | Ripgut brome |
| <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> * | Bermuda grass |
| <i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> * | Hairawn muhly |
| <i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> | Deergrass |
| TYPHACEAE | CATTAIL FAMILY |
| <i>Typha sp.</i> | Cattail |
| *Not native to California | |
| <p>California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Ranks: 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California. 1B: Plants rare, threatened, and endangered in California and elsewhere. 2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere. 3: Plants about which need more information; a review list. 4: Plants of limited distribution; a watch list. CNPS Threat Ranks: 0.1 Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat) 0.2 Fairly threatened in California (20-80% of occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat) 0.3 Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)</p> | |

Source: CNPS Rare and Endangered Plant Inventory (CNPS 2022)

APPENDIX C

Wildlife Species Observed

Appendix C: Wildlife Species Observed

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|---|----------------------------|
| ENTOGNATHA | WINGLESS ARTHROPODS |
| Poduridae | Springtails |
| <i>Podura aquatica</i> | Water springtail |
| INSECTA | INSECTS |
| Nymphalidae | Brush-footed Butterflies |
| <i>Vanessa cardui</i> | Painted lady |
| AVES | BIRDS |
| Accipitridae | Hawks and Eagles |
| <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> | Red-tailed hawk |
| Alaudidae | Larks |
| <i>Eremophila alpestris</i> ⁺ | California horned lark |
| Charadriidae | Plovers |
| <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> | Killdeer |
| Columbidae | Pigeons and Doves |
| <i>Columba livia</i> [*] | Rock pigeon |
| <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> [*] | Eurasian collared-dove |
| <i>Zenaida macroura</i> | Mourning dove |
| Corvidae | Jays and Crows |
| <i>Corvus corax</i> | Common raven |
| Fringillidae | Finches |
| <i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i> | House finch |
| <i>Spinus psaltria</i> | Lesser goldfinch |
| Icteridae | New World Blackbirds |
| <i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i> | Brewer's blackbird |
| <i>Sturnella neglecta</i> | Western meadowlark |
| Mimidae | Mockingbirds and Thrashers |
| <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> | Northern mockingbird |
| Parulidae | New World Warblers |
| <i>Setophaga coronata</i> | Yellow-rumped warbler |
| Passerellidae | New World Sparrows |
| <i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i> | Savannah sparrow |

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i> | White-crowned sparrow |
| Passeridae | Old World Sparrows |
| <i>Passer domesticus*</i> | House sparrow |
| Phasianidae | Pheasants |
| <i>Gallus gallus</i> | Domestic chicken |
| Sturnidae | Starlings |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris*</i> | European starling |
| Trochilidae | Hummingbirds |
| <i>Calypte anna</i> | Anna's hummingbird |
| Tyrannidae | Tyrant Flycatchers |
| <i>Sayornis nigricans</i> | Black phoebe |
| MAMMALIA | MAMMALS |
| Canidae | Foxes, Wolves, and Coyotes |
| <i>Canis familiaris</i> | Domestic dog |
| Leporidae | Rabbits and Hares |
| <i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i> | Desert cottontail |
| Sciuridae | Squirrels |
| <i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i> | California ground squirrel |

*Nonnative species

+Western Riverside MSHCP Covered Species

Special Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Angiosperms | | | | | |
| <i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>Aurita</i> chaparral sand- verbena | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 None | (Jan) Mar- Sept 75-1600 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and desert habitats. Often found in sandy soil. | Presumed Absent. No chaparral, coastal scrub or desert habitats are present on the Project Footprint, and there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Allium marvinii</i> Yucaipa onion | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Apr-May 760-1065 | Occurs in chaparral. Often found in openings on clay soils. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral habitat or suitable soils are present on the Project Footprint, and there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Allium munzii</i> Munz's onion | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END THR 1B.1 COV | Mar-May 297-1070 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. Often found in clay soils, growing in grasslands and openings within shrublands or woodlands. | Low. The Project Footprint lacks suitable habitat. There are two historic records within 5 miles of the Project (#21 is 1.02 miles east in 1897 and #22 is 4.5 miles southwest in 1962). |
| <i>Almutaster pauciflorus</i> alkali marsh aster | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.2 None | June-Oct 240-800 | Occurs in meadows and seeps. | Presumed Absent. No suitable meadow or seep habitat occurs on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the site. |
| <i>Ambrosia pumila</i> San Diego ambrosia | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END None 1B.1 COV | Apr-Oct 20-415 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. Often found in sandy loam or clay, often in disturbed areas, sometimes found in alkaline soils. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint is out of the elevational range of the species. No river flood plain terraces, and/or alkali playas occur onsite and there are no records within 5 miles of the site. |

Appendix D: Plant Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | | | |
| <i>Arctostaphylos rainbowensis</i> rainbow manzanita | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Dec-Mar 670-2200 | Occurs in chaparral habitat. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral habitat is present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the site. |
| <i>Astragalus pachypus</i> var. <i>Jaegeri</i> Jaeger's milk-vetch | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Dec-June 365-975 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. | Low. Marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat is present on the Project Footprint. However, there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Atriplex coronata</i> var. <i>notatior</i> San Jacinto Valley crownscale | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END None 1B.1 COV | Apr-Aug 139-500 | Occurs in playas, valley and foothill grasslands (mesic) and vernal pools. | Low. Marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat is present on the Projects site; however, no mesic, playas or vernal pools are present onsite. There are two recent and one historic record within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Atriplex parishii</i> Parish's brittlescale | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Jun-Oct 25-1900 | Occurs in chenopod scrub, playas, vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. Although there is one recent occurrence within 5 miles of the Project, there is no suitable chenopod scrub, playas or vernal pool habitat present in the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i> davidsonii</i> Davidson's saltscale | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | Apr-Oct 10-200 | Occurs in coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub habitats. | Presumed Absent. There is no coastal bluff scrub or coastal scrub habitats present on the Project site. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Ayenia compacta</i> California ayenia | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.3 None | Mar-Apr 150-1095 | Occurs in Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran desert scrub. | Presumed Absent. No Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran desert scrub is present within the Project Footprint and there are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |

Appendix D: Plant Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <i>Berberis nevinii</i> Nevin's barberry | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END END 1B.1 COV | Mar-Apr 70-825 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub habitats. | Presumed Absent. No chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub habitat is present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Brodiaea filifolia</i> thread-leaved brodiaea | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | THR END 1B.1 COV | Mar-June 25-1120 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grassland and vernal pools. | Low. The Project Footprint lacks suitable habitat for this species. However, there are three recent and two historic records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Brodiaea santarosae</i> Santa Rosa basalt brodiaea | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | May-June 565-1045 | Occurs in valley and foothill grassland. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint lacks suitable habitat for this species, and there are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Calochortus weedii</i> var. <i>intermedius</i> intermediate mariposa lily | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | May-July 105-855 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands, in rocky, calcareous soils. | Low. Although marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat is present, the Project Footprint lacks rocky, calcareous soils. Additionally, there are no records within 5 miles of the Project site. |
| <i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> smooth tarplant | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Apr-Sep 0-640 | Occurs in chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodlands, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Often found in alkaline soil. | Moderate. Marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat is present on the Project site, and there are 13 recent and 5 historic records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i> peninsular spineflower | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 4.2 COV | May-Aug 300-1900 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest. Prefers granitic substrate. | Presumed Absent. No chaparral, coastal scrub, or lower montane coniferous forest habitat present on the Project. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| <i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> <i>var. parryi</i> Parry's spineflower | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Apr-Jun 275-1220 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitat. Often found in sandy or rocky openings. | Moderate. The literature review revealed three recent and five historic records of this species within 5 miles of the Project. Marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat and sandy soils are present on the Project. However, the site is very disturbed. |
| <i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> <i>var. longispina</i> long-spined spineflower | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Apr-Jul 30-1530 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pool habitat. Often found in clay soil. | Low. Marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat is present on the Project Footprint and there is one recent record of this species within 5 miles of the Project. However, the site lacks clay soils. |
| <i>Clinopodium chandleri</i> San Miguel savory | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Mar-Jul 120-1075 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint lacks suitable habitat for this species and there are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Cryptantha wigginsii</i> Wiggins' cryptantha | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | Feb-Jun 20-275 | Occurs in coastal scrub habitat | Presumed Absent. No suitable coastal scrub habitat is present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> slender-horned spineflower | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END END 1B.1 COV | Apr-Jun 200-760 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub habitats. Often found in sandy soil. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, coastal scrub, or cismontane woodland habitat is present on Project Footprint and there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> many-stemmed dudleya | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Apr-Jul 15-790 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Typically restricted to clay and cobbly soils. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint lacks clay or cobbly soils typical of this species. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |

Appendix D: Plant Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> San Diego button-celery | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END END 1B.1 COV | Apr-Jun 20-620 | Occurs in coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland and vernal pools. Prefers mesic habitats. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint lacks suitable habitat. No records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Juncus luciensis</i> Santa Lucia dwarf rush | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | Apr-Jul 300-2040 | Occurs in chaparral, great basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, great basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows or seeps or vernal pool habitat present on the Project Footprint. Additionally, there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i> Coulter's goldfields | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 COV | Feb-Jun 1-1220 | Occurs in coastal salt marshes and swamps, playas, and vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. Although there are three recent and one historic records within 5 miles of the Project, no suitable coastal marsh, swamp, playa or vernal pool habitat is present on site. |
| <i>Lilium parryi</i> lemon lily | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Jul-Aug 1220-2745 | Occurs in lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, riparian forest, upper montane coniferous forest. Prefers mesic habitats. | Presumed Absent. No suitable lower montane coniferous forest, meadows or seeps, riparian forest, upper montane coniferous forest present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Limnanthes alba</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i> Parish's meadowfoam | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None END 1B.2 COV | Apr-Jun 600-2000 | Occurs in lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, vernal pools. Prefers vernal mesic habitats. | Presumed Absent. No suitable lower montane coniferous forest, meadows or seeps, or vernal pool habitat was present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| | Fed: | None | | | |
| <i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> ssp. <i>intermedia</i> intermediate monardella | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.3 None | Apr-Sep 400-1250 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and occasionally in lower montane coniferous forest habitat. Often found in areas of understory. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, woodland, or forest habitat is present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Nama stenocarpa</i> mud nama | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.2 COV | Jan-Jul 5-500 | Occurs in marshes and swamps | Presumed Absent. No marshes or swamps present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Navarretia fossalis</i> spreading navarretia | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | THR None 1B.1 COV | Apr-Jun 30-655 | Occurs in chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps, playas and vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. There are six recent and two historic records within 5 miles of the Project. However, there is no suitable chenopod scrub, marshes or swamps, playas or vernal pool habitat present within the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Navarretia prostrata</i> prostrate vernal pool Navarretia | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Apr-Jul 3-1210 | Occurs in coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, alkaline valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. The site lacks seeps and vernal pools. No records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Orcuttia californica</i> California Orcutt grass | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | END END 1B.1 COV | Apr-Aug 15-660 | Occurs in vernal pools | Presumed Absent. There is one historic record within 5 miles of the Project Footprint; however, the site lacks vernal pool habitat. |
| <i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i> white rabbit-tobacco | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.2 None | Aug-Nov 0-2100 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Often found in sandy, gravelly soils. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, or riparian woodland habitat for this species is present on the Project. There are no records within 5 miles. |
| <i>Scutellaria bolanderi</i> ssp. <i>austromontana</i> southern mountains skullcap | CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | Jun-Aug 425-2000 | Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest. In mesic habitats. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Sibaropsis hammittii</i> Hammitt's clay-cress | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 COV | Mar-Apr 720-1065 | Occurs in chaparral, valley and foothill grassland. | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint is out of the elevational range of the species and there are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> salt spring checkerbloom | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.2 None | Mar-Jun 15-1530 | Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, and playas. Often found in alkaline and mesic soils. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, or playa habitat was present on the site. In addition, there are no records within 5 miles of the site. |
| <i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i> San Bernardino aster | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | Jul-Nov 2-2040 | Occurs in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Often found in areas near ditches, streams, and springs. | Presumed Absent. The site lacks seeps, marshes, coastal scrub, coniferous forest and swamps. This perennial species was not observed during the general biological survey. Additionally, there are no records within 5 miles of the Project site. |
| <i>Trichocoronis wrightii</i> var. <i>wrightii</i> Wright's trichocoronis | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 2B.1 COV | May-Sep 5-435 | Occurs in marshes and swamps, meadows and seeps, riparian forest and vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. No marshes swamps, meadows, seeps, riparian forest or vernal pool habitat present on site. Additionally, there are no records within 5 miles of the Project site. |
| Gymnosperms | | | | | |
| <i>Hesperocyparis forbesii</i> Tecate cypress | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 None | Perennial evergreen tree 80-1500 | Occurs in closed-cone coniferous forest, and chaparral habitat. Often found in areas with clay, gabbroic or metavolcanics soils. | Presumed Absent. No suitable forest or chaparral habitat is present on the Project site. In addition, there are no records within 5 miles of the site. |

Appendix D: Plant Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Bloom Period & Elevation (meters) | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Bryophytes | | | | | |
| <i>Geothallus tuberosus</i> Campbell's liverwort | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 None | 10-600 | Occurs in coastal scrub, vernal pools. | Presumed Absent. No suitable coastal scrub or vernal pool habitat present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Sphaerocarpos drewiae</i> Bottle liverwort | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.1 None | 90-600 | Occurs in chaparral and coastal scrub habitats. | Presumed Absent. No suitable chaparral or coastal scrub habitat present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within 5 miles of the Project. |
| <i>Tortula californica</i> California screw moss | Fed: CA: CRPR: MSHCP: | None None 1B.2 None | 10-1460 | Occurs in chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland. | Presumed Absent. The site is very disturbed and the species was not observed during the biological surveys. There is one recent record within 5 miles of the Project (Occ #8) 4.08 miles northeast. |
| Federal Designations: (Federal Endangered Species Act, USFWS) END: federally listed, endangered THR: federally listed, threatened | | State designations: (California Endangered Species Act, CDFW) END: state-listed, endangered THR: state-listed, threatened Rare: CDFW Rare | | Other Designations (Western Riverside MSHCP) COV: Covered | |
| <p>California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Ranks:</p> <p>1A: Plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in CA and elsewhere 2A: Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere 2B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in CA but more common elsewhere 3: Plants about which need more information; a review list 4: Plants of limited distribution; a watch list</p> <p>Threat Ranks:</p> <p>0.1 Seriously endangered in CA (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat) 0.2 Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat) 0.3 Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened/low degree and immediacy of threat or current threats known)</p> | | | | | |

Source: California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) Romoland, Lake Elsinore, Steele Peak, Perris, Lakeview, Winchester, Bachelor Mountain, Murrieta and Wildomar 7.5-minute quads.

APPENDIX E

Special Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| INVERTEBRATES | | | |
| <i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None CAN None | Occurs in open grassland and scrub habitats. |
| | | | Low. Although there are three historic records within five miles of the site. The Project is highly disturbed and frequently maintained. |
| <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> Vernal pool fairy shrimp | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | THR None COV | Occurs in vernal pools and ephemeral wetlands. Typically, in small and shallow pools with mud or grassy bottoms. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. There are no clay soils present on the site and no records were identified within five miles of the Project. |
| <i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i> San Diego fairy shrimp | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END None None | Vernal pools and ephemeral wetlands in San Diego and Orange Counties. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. The Project Footprint is outside of the geographical range of the species and no records were identified within five miles. |
| <i>Euphydryas editha quino</i> Quino checkerspot butterfly | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END None COV | Chaparral and coastal sage scrublands in Riverside and San Diego counties. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat is present on the Project Footprint, no records were identified within five miles, and the Project is outside the recommended survey areas. |
| <i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i> Riverside fairy shrimp | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END None COV | Occurs in vernal pools, tectonic swales, and earth slump basins in Riverside County. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. There are no clay soils present onsite and no records were identified within five miles. Additionally, the Project Footprint is above the known highest elevation of the geographical range of the species. |
| FISH | | | |
| <i>Gila orcutti</i> arroyo chub | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Creeks, streams, and rivers with areas of slow-moving water with sand or mud bottoms. Ranges from San Diego to San Luis Obispo County. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. No permanent creeks, streams, or rivers are present on the Project Footprint. |
| AMPHIBIANS | | | |
| <i>Anaxyrus californicus</i> arroyo toad | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END SSC COV | Sandy banks of rivers, arroyos, and streams with shallow sandy pools. Also found in riparian woodlands or uplands adjacent to arroyos. |
| | | | Presumed Absent. No rivers, arroyos, or streams with shallow pools are present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | THR SSC COV | Found near water features such as ponds or streams in humid forests, grasslands, coastal scrub, and woodlands. | Presumed Absent. No permanent creeks, ponds or streams, are present on the Project Footprint. There are no records within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Spea hammondi</i> Western spadefoot | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Prefers open areas with sandy or gravelly soils, including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washes, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, and alkali flats. | Low. There is marginally suitable nonnative grassland habitat and open areas with sandy soils within the Project site. However, the site is very disturbed. There are eight recent records within five miles of the Project. The closest record (#969) is 0.72 miles southeast in 2015 and the most recent record (#1005) is 2.93 miles north from 2017. |
| <i>Taricha torosa</i> coast range newt | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Occurs in wet forests, oak forests, chaparral, and rolling grasslands. Burrows in moist soil or wood debris. | Presumed Absent. No chaparral, forest, or moist soil habitat is present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| REPTILES | | | | |
| <i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> southern California legless lizard | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Typically occurs in moist warm loose soil with plant cover in sparsely vegetated areas of beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, and stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks. | Presumed Absent. There are two recent records within five miles of the Project Footprint (#386) 2.66 miles northeast in 2016 and (#387) 3.42 miles east in 2018. However, no suitable moist habitat is present onsite. |
| <i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Typically occurs in scrub or grassland habitat, often with loose or sandy soils. | Moderate. Marginally suitable habitat was present on the Project Footprint. There are three historic occurrences within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i> orange-throated whiptail | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Semi-arid open areas with coarse soils including coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and dry riparian areas and washes. | Presumed Absent. Although multiple occurrences have been recorded with five miles of the Project, seven historic and one recent, no suitable habitat was present within the Project Footprint. |

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| <i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Arid habitats including chaparral, woodlands, and dry riparian areas. | Presumed Absent. Although there are two historic records within five miles of the Project, no suitable habitat was present within the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Coleonyx variegatus abbotti</i> San Diego banded gecko | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Rocky areas in coastal sage scrub and chaparral. | Presumed Absent. No suitable coastal sage scrub or chaparral habitat is present on the Project Footprint. Additionally, there are no records within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Found in coastal chaparral, arid scrub, rocky grassland, oak and pine woodlands, desert mountain slopes and rocky desert flats. | Low. Somewhat suitable habitat present onsite, and there are three historic records within five miles of the Project Footprint, but the site lacks rocky areas preferred by this species and is highly disturbed. |
| <i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i> San Bernardino ringneck snake | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Moist habitats in meadows, grasslands, chaparral, mixed conifer forests, and woodlands. Also, can occur in gardens and farmlands. | Presumed Absent. There are no moist habitats present on the Project Footprint, and there are no records within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, marshes, and other water sources with rocky or muddy substrate. Basks on logs, rocks, and exposed banks. | Presumed Absent. Although there is one historic record within five miles of the site, no suitable aquatic habitats are present on the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Open areas of valleys, foothills, and semiarid mountains with sandy soil and low vegetation including chaparral, woodlands, and grasslands. | Low. Marginally suitable habitat and sandy soils are present on the Project Footprint, and there are three historic records within five miles. However, the site is highly disturbed. |
| <i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i> coast patch-nosed snake | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Coastal scrub and semi-arid brushy areas and chaparral in canyons, rocky hillsides, and plains. Brushy or shrubby vegetation in coastal Southern California. Require small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering sites. | Presumed Absent. No suitable coastal scrub or chaparral habitats are present on the Project Footprint and there are no records of this species within five miles. |

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> two-striped gartersnake | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Occur along aquatic habitats such as pools and creeks usually near chaparral, rocky areas, brushland, oak woodland, and conifer forests and hunts in water. Found from sea to about 7,000 ft elevation. | Presumed Absent. No suitable aquatic habitat was present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles of the Project site. |
| BIRDS | | | | |
| <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Open woodlands, or broadleaf and coniferous forested areas but also found in parks and fields with tall trees. Nests in tall trees, usually on flat ground, in dense woods. | Moderate. Suitable foraging and nesting habitat primarily occurs within the Eucalyptus groves along Sherman Road and other trees present in the vicinity of the Project Footprint. However, there are no records within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird (nesting colony) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None THR COV | Freshwater marshes with dense cattails, bulrushes, sedges, and tule. Forages in open habitat such as cultivated fields and pastures. | Presumed Absent. There are no freshwater marshes for nesting are present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Coastal sage scrub, dominated by California sagebrush, or in coastal bluff scrub with low scattered scrub and moderate to steep, dry, and rocky slopes. Nests on ground or within 1 meter of ground in shrubs or trees. | Presumed Absent. Although there is one recent and five historic records within five miles of the Project, there is no suitable habitat present on the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle (nesting & wintering) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None FP COV | Open country including prairies, sagebrush, savannah or sparse woodlands, and barren hills or mountainous areas. Nests on rocky cliff edges. | Presumed Absent. There is one recent record within five miles of the Project; however, no suitable rocky, cliff habitat for nesting is present onsite. |
| <i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Chaparral dominated with California sagebrush or chamise. Nests on ground or within 1 meter above ground in a shrub. | Presumed Absent. There is one recent and three historic records within five miles of the Project. However, there is no suitable chaparral habitat present on the Project Footprint. |

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Asio otus</i> long-eared owl (nesting) | Fed: Ca: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Nests in trees or tree cavities within deciduous and evergreen forests, orchards, wooded parks, farm woodlots, river woods, desert oases. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat was present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles of the site. |
| <i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl (burrow & some wintering sites) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Open grasslands including prairies, plains, and savannah, or vacant lots and airports. Nests in abandoned dirt burrows. | Moderate. Suitable foraging and burrow habitat is present and numerous small mammal burrows are present within and adjacent to the Project Footprint. However, the site is highly disturbed. Several records of the species were found within five miles of the Project Footprint. (#37 recent, #7 historic) |
| <i>Buteo regalis</i> Ferruginous hawk | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Open country including prairies, sagebrush, savannah or sparse woodlands, and barren hills or mountainous areas. Nests on rocky cliff edges or in large trees such as eucalyptus or oak. | Moderate. There is one recent and one historic record within five miles of the Project and marginally suitable foraging and nesting habitat is present in the eucalyptus trees. |
| <i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk (nesting) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None THR COV | Open pine-oak woodland, savannah, and agricultural fields with scattered trees. Nests in large solitary trees | Presumed Absent. The site is surrounded by urban developed areas and lacks suitable nesting habitat. There are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i> coastal cactus wren | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Coastal sage scrub with tall opuntia cacti. Nests in opuntia cactus. | Presumed Absent. Coastal sage scrub habitat with opuntia cacti is not present on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i> western snowy plover | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | THR SSC | Sandy beaches, salt pond levees & shores of large alkali lakes. Needs sandy, gravelly, or friable soils for nesting. Known protected population in the Tijuana Estuary. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat is present within the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Circus hudsonius</i> northern harrier | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Marshes, wetlands, agricultural fields, and grasslands. Nests on ground among dense and tall vegetation. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat for this species occurs onsite. Additionally, there are no records within five miles of the Project Footprint. |

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Elanus leucurus</i> white-tailed kite (nesting) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None FP COV | Open habitat in lowlands including savanna, open woodlands, marshes, and agricultural fields. Nests in tall trees within or on the edge of forested areas. | Low. Somewhat suitable foraging habitat is present primarily within some of the larger scattered Eucalyptus trees. However, the Project does not contain or adjoin forested areas and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i> California horned lark | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Bare open areas dominated by low vegetation or widely scattered shrubs, includes prairies, deserts, and plowed fields. Nests in a hollow on the ground. | Present. This species was observed during the biological reconnaissance. Suitable habitat is present throughout the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> bald eagle (nesting & wintering) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | DL END/FP COV | Breeding habitat most commonly includes areas close to coastal areas, bays, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, or other bodies of water that reflect the general availability of primary food sources including fish, waterfowl, or seabirds | Presumed Absent. No suitable nesting habitat or adjacent to large bodies of water were present on the Project Footprint and there are no records of this species within five miles. |
| <i>Icteria virens</i> yellow-breasted chat (nesting) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Riparian and upland thickets, and dry overgrown pastures. Prefers to nest in dense scrub along streams or at the edges of ponds or swamps. | Presumed Absent. No suitable riparian habitat occurs on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Open country, with scattered shrubs and trees or other perches for hunting; includes agricultural fields, deserts, grasslands, savanna, and chaparral. | Moderate. There is suitable habitat present on the Project Footprint and there is one recent occurrence (#50) 2.74 miles southeast of the site recorded in 2007. |
| <i>Plegadis chihi</i> white-faced ibis | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None WL COV | Freshwater habitats such as ponds, rivers, marshes, and swamps. Nests in low tree or on ground in reeds in marshes. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat occurs on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Polioptila californica californica</i> coastal California gnatcatcher | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | THR SSC COV | Dry coastal slopes, washes, and mesas with areas of low vegetation and coastal sage scrub. | Presumed Absent. Although the literature review revealed several occurrences (four recent and seven historic) within five miles of the Project, no suitable habitat occurs within the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Setophaga petechia</i> yellow warbler | Fed: Ca: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Riparian plant associations in close proximity to water. Also nests in montane shrubbery in open conifer forests in Cascades and Sierra Nevada. Frequently found nesting and foraging in willow shrubs and thickets, and in other riparian plants including cottonwoods, sycamores, ash, and alders. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat occurs on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo (nesting) | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END END COV | Riparian woodlands and willow-cottonwood forests particularly with streamside thickets and dense brush. | Presumed Absent. Although there are two recent records within five miles no suitable riparian woodland or willow-cottonwood forest habitat occurs on the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> yellow-headed blackbird | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Occurs in freshwater marshes with dense, emergent vegetation such as cattails. | Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat occurs on the Project Footprint and there are no records within five miles. |
| MAMMALS | | | | |
| <i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i> Dulzura pocket mouse | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Chaparral, coastal scrub, and desert grasslands in San Diego County along the U.S.-Mexico border. | Presumed absent. There is one historic record (1993) within five miles of the Project Footprint. However, no suitable chaparral, coastal scrub, or desert grassland habitat is present onsite. |
| <i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> northwestern San Diego pocket mouse | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Coastal scrub, chaparral, sagebrush, and grasslands in western San Diego County. | Presumed Absent. There is one historic record (1992) within five miles of the Project Footprint. However, the site is very disturbed and lacks suitable sagebrush and chaparral habitats. |

Appendix E: Wildlife Potential Table

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino kangaroo rat | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END CAN COV | Occurs in alluvial scrub vegetation on sandy loam substrates characteristic of alluvial fans and flood plains. | Presumed Absent. There is no suitable habitat on the Project Footprint. Although there has been an occurrence 1.02 miles from the site; it was recorded in 1938 and is considered historic. |
| <i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> Stephens' kangaroo rat | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | END THR COV | Annual grasslands, coastal sage scrub with sparsely spaced vegetation, loose friable soils, and flat or slightly rolling terrain. | Moderate. Marginally suitable habitat is present on the Project Footprint; there are twenty-three historic records within five miles. The closest (#142) was 1.42 miles in 1988 and the most recent occurrence was recorded in 1999 approximately 1.63 miles from the Project (#42). |
| <i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Roosts high above ground in rock and cliff crevices, shallow caves, and rarely in buildings. Occurs in arid and semiarid regions including rocky canyon habitats. | Presumed Absent. The literature review revealed three historic records within five miles of the site; however, there are no suitable rock or cliff habitat is present on the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC None | Found in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats. Roosts in trees, particularly palms. Forages over water and among trees. | Presumed Absent. Although there have been two occurrences of this species within five miles south of the Project; the occurrence was recorded in 1982 and 1987 and are considered historic. In addition, no suitable riparian habitat is present on the Project Footprint. |
| <i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit | Fed: CA: MSHCP: | None SSC COV | Variety of open or semi-open country including grasslands, croplands, and sparse coastal scrub. | Moderate. Suitable habitat is present throughout the Project Footprint; however, the site is surrounded by urban developed areas. There are three historic and two recent occurrences within five miles of the site. The closest and most recent record (#100) 0.62 miles east in 2015. |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| <p><i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert woodrat</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC COV</p> | <p>Coastal scrub of Southern California from San Diego County to San Luis Obispo County. Moderate to dense canopies preferred. They are particularly abundant in rock outcrops & rocky cliffs & slopes.</p> | <p>Presumed Absent. No suitable scrub habitat was present on the Project Footprint, the site lacks moderate to dense canopies and rocky habitats. In addition, there are no records within five miles.</p> |
| <p><i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> pocketed free-tailed bat</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC None</p> | <p>Roosts in crevices of outcrops and cliffs, shallow caves, and buildings. Found along rugged canyons, high cliffs, and semiarid rock outcroppings.</p> | <p>Presumed Absent. No roosting habitat present on the Project Footprint. No records have been identified within five miles of the site.</p> |
| <p><i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i> southern grasshopper mouse</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC None</p> | <p>Low, semi-open, and open scrub habitats with flat, sandy valley floors. Habitats include coastal and mixed chaparral, coastal sage scrub, riparian scrub, low sagebrush, and grasslands with interspaced shrubs.</p> | <p>Presumed Absent. There is no coastal or mixed chaparral, coastal sage scrub, riparian scrub, low sagebrush habitat on the Project Footprint. The grassland present lacks interspaced shrubs. There are two records within five miles of the Project; however, they were recorded in 1923 and 1932 and are considered historic.</p> |
| <p><i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC COV</p> | <p>Habitats with sandy and fine soils, including grasslands, coastal sage scrub, and alluvial sage scrub.</p> | <p>Low. Marginally suitable habitat and sandy soils are present on the Project Footprint. However, no records have been identified within five miles of the site.</p> |
| <p><i>Perognathus longimembris internationalis</i> Jacumba pocket mouse</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC None</p> | <p>Occurs in desert washes, disturbed grasslands that have sand or alluvial substrates.</p> | <p>Low. Marginally suitable habitat and sandy soils are present on the Project Footprint. However, no records have been identified within five miles of the site.</p> |
| <p><i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger</p> | <p>Fed: CA: MSHCP:</p> | <p>None SSC None</p> | <p>Open habitats with friable soil such as grasslands, brushlands with sparse ground cover, open chaparral, and sometimes riparian zones.</p> | <p>Presumed Absent. No suitable habitat or suitable size burrows for this species were observed within the Project Footprint. No records have been identified within five miles of the site.</p> |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | Habitat Requirements | Potential for Occurrence |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|
| <p>Federal Designations: (Federal Endangered Species Act, USFWS) END: Federally-listed, Endangered THR: Federally-listed, Threatened CAN: Federal Candidate Species FSC: Federal Species of Concern FPD: Federal Proposed for Delisting DL: Federally-delisted BCC: Birds of Conservation Concern</p> | <p>State designations: (California Endangered Species Act, CDFW) END: State-listed, Endangered THR: State-listed, Threatened CAN: State Candidate Species SSC: California Species of Special Concern FP: Fully Protected Species WL: Watch List Species</p> | <p>Other Designations COV: Covered under the Western Riverside MSHCP</p> | |

Source: CNDDDB Romoland, Lake Elsinore, Steele Peak, Perris, Lakeview, Winchester, Bachelor Mountain, Murrieta and Wildomar 7.5-minute quads.

Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Protocol-Level
Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys Report



May 31, 2023

Ms. Stephanie Standerfer
Albert A. Webb Associates
3788 McCray Street
Riverside, California 92506

RE: *Results of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Protocol-Level Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys at the Hillwood Ethanac Development Project in Perris, California*

Dear Ms. Standerfer,

The purpose of this report is to document the findings of protocol-level focused burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) [BUOW] surveys conducted for Hillwood Ethanac Development Project (Project) located in the City of Perris, Riverside County. ECORP Consulting, Inc. conducted four protocol-level focused burrowing owl surveys on March 27, April 11, April 28, and May 11, 2023, in accordance with the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (WR MSHCP; Riverside County Land Management Agency [RCTLMA] 2006).

The Burrowing Owl Study Area includes the Project Site and offsite improvement area (Project Footprint) and a 500-foot surrounding buffer. No BUOW or signs thereof were observed within the Study Area during the surveys. Based on the lack of any direct or indirect evidence of BUOW presence, the survey results indicate that the Study Area was not occupied by BUOW at the time of the surveys.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Project Site is located in the City of Perris, east of Interstate (I-) 215, south of Highway 74, and northwest of the intersection of Ethanac and Sherman Roads (Figures 1 and 2). The Project Footprint consists of an approximately 21-acre Project Site, and approximately 21-acre offsite improvement areas (42 acres total) comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers 329-240-016, 329-240-017, 329-240-018, 329-240-019, 329-240-020, 329-240-023, 329-240-024, 329-240-025, 329-240-026, and 329-240-027.

The offsite improvement areas include portions of Ethanac Road, Sherman Road, Trumble Road, and Illinois Avenue (Figure 2). The Project, as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) "Romoland, California" 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle, is located within Section 10, Township 5 South, Range 3 West. The Project Site is generally flat, and elevation is approximately 1,440 feet (439 meters) above mean sea level.

BURROWING OWL NATURAL HISTORY

Burrowing owl is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird of Conservation Concern, a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Species of Special Concern, and a MSHCP-Covered Species. The burrowing owl is a small, migratory owl found in various habitats throughout North America. Habitat requirements for burrowing owls consist of arid, open areas with sparse vegetation cover such as deserts, abandoned

agricultural areas, grasslands, and disturbed open habitats. Burrowing owls can excavate their own burrows for shelter and breeding purposes; however, they often occupy abandoned mammal burrows such as those constructed by California ground squirrels (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*). Burrowing owls have also been known to nest within natural rock cavities, debris piles, culverts, and pipes (Rosenberg et al. 1998).

PROJECT HISTORY

Literature Review

Prior to conducting the protocol-level BUOW surveys, ECORP conducted a review of CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; CDFW 2023) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (CNPS 2023). The purpose of the literature review was to determine whether special-status plant and wildlife species had been previously reported within the Project boundaries as depicted on USGS 7.5-minute "Romoland, California ", topographic quadrangle, and the surrounding eight topographic quadrangles: Lake Elsinore, Steele Peak, Perris, Lakeview, Winchester, Bachelor Mountain, Murrieta and Wildomar.

The CNDDDB contains 44 records of BUOW within 5 miles (8 kilometers) of the Project Site: 36 current records (20 or fewer years old) and 8 historic records (20 or more years old). None of the records are located within the Project Footprint. A summary of some of the most recent occurrences and/or closest to the Project Site is presented below.

The most recent occurrence (Occ #2035) was in 2017 within approximately 4 miles of the Project Site. The occurrence was documented on the west side of Evans Road, between Moraga Avenue and Sunset Road. According to notes in the CNDDDB, one adult was observed perching near a burrow during the breeding season.

In 2016 (Occ #1537) approximately 5 miles from the Project Site, 12 owls were observed along the south edge of Holland Road at the Haun Road junction in Menifee. A presumed breeding pair had previously been observed at this location in 2007 during the breeding season.

One occurrence (Occ #1940) was documented in 2015 approximately 1 mile from the Project Footprint. The occurrence was documented east of San Jacinto Road and north of Abbey Lane in Menifee. Two adults and fledged young of the year were observed towards the end of the breeding season.

In 2008 (Occ #249) two adults and three juveniles were observed northeast of Murrieta Road and Nuevo Road in Perris during the breeding season. The occurrence was documented approximately 3.9 miles from the Project Site.

In 2007 (Occ #1535) four pairs were observed during the breeding season along the southern edge of Honeyrun Road and east of La Ladera Road. The occurrence was documented approximately 3.1 miles from the Project Site within an irrigation canal bank and water treatment holding ponds.

Biological Reconnaissance Survey

The Project Footprint is not located within an MSHCP Criteria Cell or Cell Group. The Project Footprint is located within a MSHCP-designated burrowing owl survey area and subject to the burrowing owl survey requirements [MSHCP Section 6.3.2] (RCTLMA 2006). The MSHCP provides information on plant and wildlife species of concern to the County of Riverside and outlines goals for their conservation (RCTLMA 2014).

A BUOW habitat assessment was conducted simultaneously with the biological reconnaissance survey by ECORP biologists, Carla Marriner and Verity Richardson on November 9, 2022 and January 17, 2023 within the Project Footprint and a 500-foot buffer (Study Area; Figure 3) to determine the presence of suitable habitat. The completed burrowing owl habitat assessment met the requirements of the focused burrow survey in part A of the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (RCTLMA 2006). During the habitat assessment, the biologists determined suitable habitat was present, consisting of relatively large open expanses of sparsely vegetated nonnative forbs and grasses on level to gently rolling terrain, with an abundance of active California ground squirrel burrows. Therefore, additional owl surveys are required to determine the presence of burrowing owls in the Study Area and will need to follow the MSHCP *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions* (RCTLMA 2006). In addition to BUOW surveys, pre-construction surveys will be required within 30-days prior to site disturbance (RCTLMA 2022).

METHODS

Protocol Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys

Four protocol-level BUOW surveys were conducted on four separate days in March, April, and May 2023 by qualified biologists. The biologists walked pedestrian transects spaced 20-30 meters apart across the entire Study Area (Figure 3) where access was permissible. Surveys were conducted during the burrowing owl breeding season (February 1 - August 31) and in accordance with the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (RCTLMA 2006). In locations where the Study Area was inaccessible due to unknown property ownership, biologists visually surveyed the area with binoculars. Prior to the start of a transect, biologists visually surveyed the transect and surrounding area. The biologists visually inspected any burrows, rocky areas, or man-made materials within the Study Area for potential BUOW occupation. All burrows encountered were inspected for presence or sign of burrowing owl (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, and/or prey remains) and classified according to the guidelines in the *Staff Report* (California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG] 2012).

Data collected for each burrow included the condition and size of the burrow, number of entrances, presence of burrowing owl sign near the burrow, and location. The location was marked using a Global Positioning System (GPS). Burrows were individually numbered and classified into two categories based on definitions found in the CDFG *Staff Report* (CDFG 2012): occupied burrow or potential burrow. Burrows classified as occupied showed signs (e.g., whitewash, feathers, pellets, and/or bones of prey outside the burrow), indicating BUOW presence and/or use at some point in time. Potential burrows were defined as

burrows that are large enough for a burrowing owl but do not show sign of use by the species. Data was recorded on survey sheets and photographs were taken.

Weather data was recorded at the time of the surveys (including time, temperature, cloud cover, and wind speed at the start and end of the survey). Surveys were not conducted during rain, high winds (over 20 mph), dense fog, or temperatures over 90 °F. The initial focused burrow survey was completed in the evening two hours before sunset and up to one hour after sunset. The remaining three focused burrowing owl surveys were conducted in the morning one hour before sunrise and up to two hours after sunrise. Biologists also recorded the major plant and wildlife species observed or detected during the surveys.

RESULTS

The protocol-level BUOW surveys were conducted over a series of four field visits by ECORP biologists Verity Richardson, Taylor Dee, Eliza Mclean, Amber Francis, Corinna Tapia, Maddy Panzino, and Sam Harrison as noted in Table 1. Weather conditions during the surveys are also provided in Table 1. Representative site photos are included in Attachment A. A complete list of wildlife species observed during the surveys is included in Attachment B, and field data sheets are included in Attachment C.

| Survey No. | Date | Surveyors | Time | | Temperature (F) | | Cloud Cover (%) | | Wind Speed (mph) | |
|------------|---------|--|-------|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| | | | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End |
| 1 | 3/27/23 | Verity Richardson, Taylor Dee, Eliza Mclean | 1705 | 2005 | 67 | 55 | 10 | 0 | 2-5 | 0-2 |
| 2 | 4/11/23 | Amber Francis, Eliza Mclean, Corinna Tapia | 0600 | 0945 | 60.6 | 71.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 4/27/23 | Amber Francis, Corinna Tapia | 0600 | 0920 | 51.3 | 76 | 0 | 0 | 0-2 | 0-1 |
| 4 | 5/11/23 | Verity Richardson, Maddy Panzino, Sam Harrison | 0510 | 0752 | 51 | 59.2 | 80 | 80 | 1-4 | 1-4 |

Habitat/Vegetation

The Project Site is currently vacant, disturbed, and undeveloped, characterized by open fields, disturbed annual grassland cover vegetated with a variety of non-native and early successional weedy plant species. The vegetation observed throughout the majority of the Project Footprint is composed of mostly nonnative forbs and grasses. Scattered trash and evidence of off highway vehicle use was also observed on the site.

Additionally, most of the site showed evidence of mechanical disturbance and based on aerial imagery, it appears to have been regularly disturbed over the last 20 years, likely associated with annual weed and fire abatement procedures. The Project Site is bounded by an open lot with a similar vegetative

composition of disturbed nonnative grasslands to the west, Sherman Road and residential developments to the east, commercial development to the north, and Ethanac Road and commercial developments to the south. The majority of the Study Area is disturbed or developed.

The vegetation communities observed within the Project Footprint were characteristic of areas subjected to anthropogenic disturbances. One vegetation alliance, Eucalyptus groves (*Eucalyptus* spp. Woodland Semi-Natural Alliance) (Sawyer et al. 2009) was identified within the offsite improvement area along Sherman Road.

Burrowing Owl

The burrows depicted on Figure 3 are considered potentially suitable (>4 inches in diameter) for BUOW. However, no BUOW or active signs thereof were observed during the four focused surveys and no occupied burrows were observed in the Study Area. The California ground squirrel burrows marked as potential BUOW burrows during the biological reconnaissance survey were difficult to locate during the focused surveys due to the overgrown vegetation. These potential burrows did not contain owl sign at any time. No new potential burrows were located during the focused surveys.

DISCUSSION

Four protocol-level focused surveys for BUOW were conducted by ECORP biologists on March 27, April 11, April 27, and May 11 within the Study Area. Suitable habitat for burrowing owl was initially found to be present during the burrowing owl habitat assessment including potential owl burrows. Throughout the focused surveys, the habitat became less suitable for BUOW due to dense, overgrown vegetation obstructing the burrow openings. No BUOW or occupied burrows were observed or detected in the Project Footprint throughout the four focused surveys. However, the Study Area includes burrows suitable for burrowing owl and suitable burrowing owl foraging habitat; therefore, due to the mobile nature of the species, the previous documentation of potential burrows, and the presence of California ground squirrel activity, it is possible for burrowing owl to occupy the site before the start of construction of the Project. Although burrowing owls were not found, a 30-day burrowing owl pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted prior to any ground disturbance activities in compliance with the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (RCTLMA 2006).

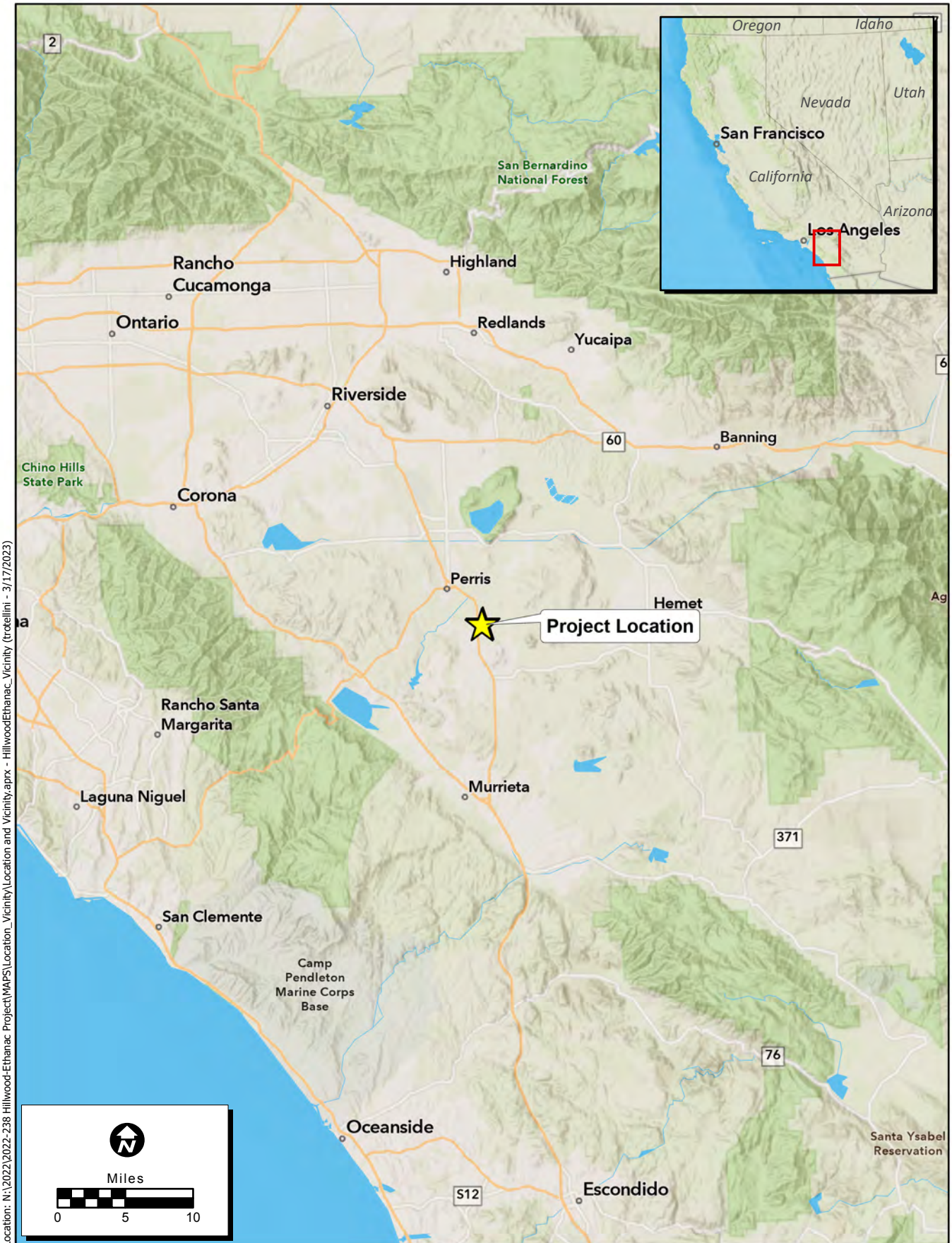
If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter report, please contact me at stennant@ecorpc consulting.com.

Enclosures:

- Figure 1. Project Vicinity
- Figure 2. Project Location
- Figure 3. Burrowing Owl Study Area and Burrow Locations
- Attachment A: Representative Site Photographs
- Attachment B: Wildlife Species Observed
- Attachment C: Field Survey Datasheets

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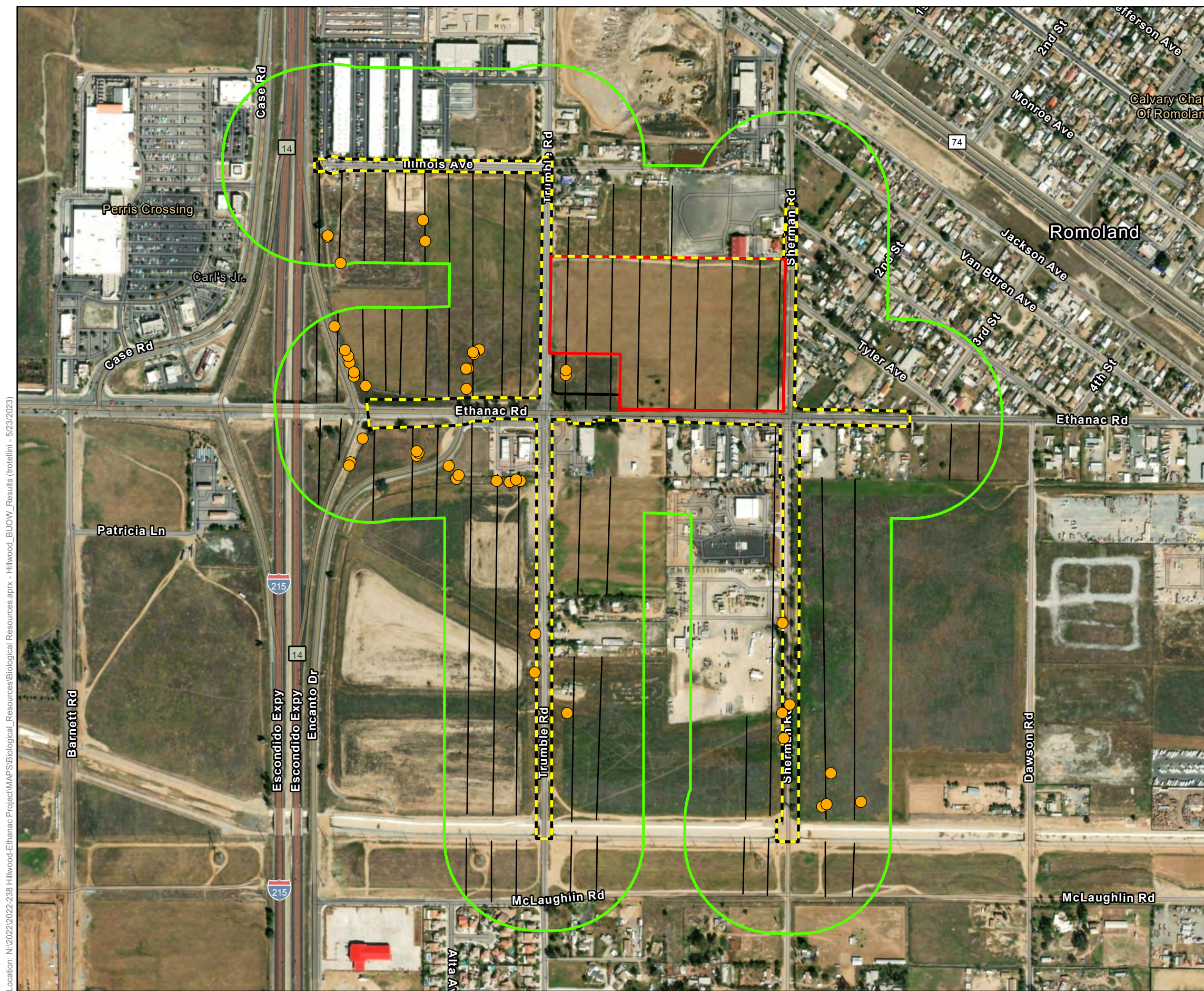
Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac Project\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\Location and Vicinity.aprx - HillwoodEthanac_Vicinity (trotellini - 3/17/2023)

Map Date: 2/2/2023
Sources: ESRI

Figure 1. Project Vicinity

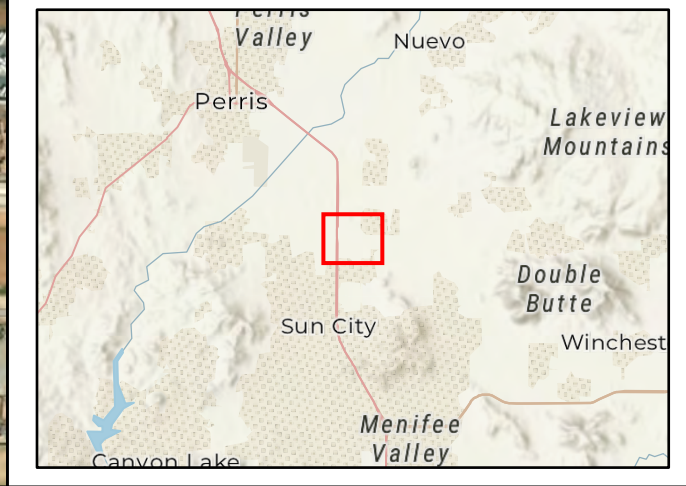


Figure 2. Project Location



- Map Contents**
- Project Site
 - Offsite Improvement Area
 - Project Footprint
 - Study Area (Includes a 500-ft Buffer)
 - BUOW Survey Transects
 - Potential Burrowing Owl Burrows (No Sign)

Sources: ESRI
Other Related Info if Needed



Location: N:\2022\2022-238 Hillwood-Ethanac-Project\WAPS\Biological_Resources\Biological Resources.aprx - Hillwood_BUOW_Results (trotellini) - 5/23/2023

Map Date: 5/23/2023

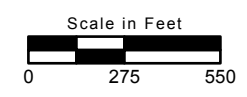


Figure 3. Burrowing Owl Study Area and Burrow Locations

ATTACHMENT A

Representative Site Photographs



Photo 1: Typical view and vegetation cover of the western portion of Project Site; facing north. Photo taken March 27, 2023.



Photo 2: East side of the Project Site dominated by herbaceous nonnative forbs and grasses; facing south. Photo taken March 27, 2023.



Photo 3: View of the western portion of the Study Area within the 500-foot buffer dominated by nonnative forbs and grasses; facing northeast. Photo taken March 27, 2023.



Photo 4: View of disturbed habitat along Trumble Road where road improvements will occur; facing north. Photo taken March 27, 2023.



Photo 5: View of the southern portion of the Study Area within 500-foot buffer southwest of Trumble Road; facing west. Photo taken March 27, 2023.



Photo 6: View of grassland habitat adjacent to Sherman Road and offsite improvement area; facing northwest. Photo taken May 11, 2023.



Photo 7: View of a potential burrowing owl burrow observed within the Project Site. Photo taken April 11, 2023.

ATTACHMENT B

Wildlife Species Observed

Appendix B: Wildlife Species Observed

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| INSECTA | INSECTS |
| Formicidae | Ants |
| <i>Pogonomyrmex californicus</i> | California harvester ant |
| AMPHIBIA | AMPHIBIANS |
| Bufonidae | True Toads |
| <i>Anaxyrus boreas halophilus</i> | California toad |
| AVES | BIRDS |
| Accipitridae | Hawks and Eagles |
| <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> | Red-tailed hawk |
| Anatidae | Ducks and Geese |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Mallard |
| <i>Branta canadensis</i> | Canada goose |
| Charadriidae | Plovers |
| <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> | Killdeer |
| Columbidae | Pigeons and Doves |
| <i>Columba livia*</i> | Rock pigeon |
| <i>Zenaida macroura</i> | Mourning dove |
| Corvidae | Jays and Crows |
| <i>Corvus corax</i> | Common raven |
| Fringillidae | Finches |
| <i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i> | House finch |
| <i>Spinus psaltria</i> | Lesser goldfinch |
| Hirundinidae | Swallows |
| <i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i> | Cliff swallow |
| <i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i> | Northern rough-winged swallow |
| Icteridae | New World Blackbirds |
| <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> | Red-winged blackbird |
| <i>Sturnella neglecta</i> | Western meadowlark |
| Mimidae | Mockingbirds and Thrashers |
| <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> | Northern mockingbird |
| Passerellidae | New World Sparrows |

Appendix B: Wildlife Species Observed

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i> | Savannah sparrow |
| <i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i> | White-crowned sparrow |
| Passeridae | Old World Sparrows |
| <i>Passer domesticus</i> * | House sparrow |
| Sturnidae | Starlings |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> * | European starling |
| Trochilidae | Hummingbirds |
| <i>Calypte anna</i> | Anna's hummingbird |
| Tyrannidae | Tyrant Flycatchers |
| <i>Sayornis nigricans</i> | Black phoebe |
| <i>Sayornis saya</i> | Say's phoebe |
| <i>Tyrannus verticalis</i> | Western kingbird |
| <i>Tyrannus vociferans</i> | Cassin's kingbird |
| Tytonidae | Barn Owls |
| <i>Tyto alba</i> | Barn owl |
| MAMMALIA | MAMMALS |
| Geomyidae | Pocket Gophers |
| <i>Thomomys</i> sp. | Smooth-toothed pocket gopher |
| Leporidae | Rabbits and Hares |
| <i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i> | Desert cottontail |
| Sciuridae | Squirrels |
| <i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i> | California ground squirrel |

*Nonnative species

ATTACHMENT C

Field Survey Datasheets

Date: 3/27/23
 Survey Season: Breeding
 Survey #: 1
 GPS File Name: _____

Burrowing Owl Survey



Project #: 2022-238
 Client: _____

| General Information | Weather Data | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | AM | | PM | |
| Observers: <u>Venity Richardson</u> <u>Taylor Dee</u> <u>Eliza McLean</u> | Time (24 hr) | Start: <u>1705</u> | End: _____ | Start: <u>1705</u> | End: <u>2005</u> |
| | Temp* (°F) <small>6" above ground in shade</small> | Start: <u>67</u> | End: _____ | Start: <u>67</u> | End: <u>55</u> |
| | Wind (mph) | Start: <u>2-5</u> | End: _____ | Start: <u>2-5</u> | End: <u>0-2</u> |
| | % Cloud Cover | Start: <u>10/</u> | End: _____ | Start: <u>10</u> | End: <u>0</u> |

Site Information

Project Name: Hillwood-Ethanac
 Location: Perris-Menifee
 County: Riverside
 Area Surveyed: Project area + 500-ft buffer
 Photos Taken? [Y] [N]

Physical Characteristics

Elevation: _____
 Land Form*: _____
 * e.g. mesa, bajada, wash
 Land Uses: _____
 N: _____
 E: _____
 Soils: _____
 Other: _____
 Disturbances on Site: [e.g. tracks (vehicle, human, livestock); trash; dump sites; blading; other]
 Transect Width: 10-20 meters

Field Observations

Vegetation Communities:
 Plants

Animals: [include: B - burrow, S - scat, O - observed, T - tracks, C - carcass, or Other (specify)]

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| <u>WEKI</u> | <u>EWDI</u> | <u>Maverick cat</u> <u>Cottontail</u> <u>California frog</u> <u>California ground sq.</u> |
| <u>SPBP</u> | <u>HOPI</u> | |
| <u>CORA</u> | <u>RTHA</u> | |
| <u>CAKI</u> | <u>BARO</u> | |
| <u>MODU</u> | <u>SAPH</u> | |

Comments

NO Burrows observed.

Date: 4-28-23
 Survey Season: Breeding
 Survey #: 3
 GPS File Name: _____

Burrowing Owl Survey



ECORP Consulting, Inc.
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Project #: 2022-238
 Client: _____

| General Information | | Weather Data | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------|------------|
| Observers: <u>Amber Francis</u> <u>Conna Tapia</u> | Time (24 hr) | AM | | PM | |
| | Temp* (°F) <small>6" above ground in shade</small> | Start: <u>0600</u> | End: <u>0920</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |
| | Wind (mph) | Start: <u>5-3</u> | End: <u>76-0</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |
| | % Cloud Cover | Start: <u>0-2</u> | End: <u>0-1</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |

Site Information

Project Name: Hillwood-Ethanaac
 Location: Perris/Pomona Photos Taken? [Y] [N]
 County: Riverside
 Area Surveyed: Project site + 500-foot buffer in suitable habitat

Physical Characteristics

Elevation: _____ Soils: _____
 Land Form*: _____ Other: _____
 * e.g. mesa, bajada, wash

Land Uses:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| N: <u>development</u> | S: <u>development</u> |
| E: <u>residential</u> | W: <u>undeveloped</u> |

Disturbances on Site: [e.g. tracks (vehicle, human, livestock); trash; dump sites; blading; other]
Tracks (vehicles), trash, dumpsite. Site and areas of buffer had been recently disc'd (since last survey)

Transect Width: 10-20 meters ±20m

Field Observations

Vegetation Communities:
 Plants

Animals: [include: B - burrow, S - scat, O - observed, T - tracks, C - carcass, or Other (specify)]

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>COBA</u> | <u>gopher</u> | <u>MADO</u> | <u>CLSW</u> |
| <u>BLPH</u> | <u>CA ground squirrel</u> | <u>CAKI</u> | <u>MALL</u> |
| <u>SAPH</u> | | <u>ANHU</u> | <u>POPI</u> |
| <u>KILL</u> | | <u>RWBL</u> | |
| <u>EUST</u> | | <u>HOPI</u> | |
| <u>NOMD</u> | | <u>HOSP</u> | |
| <u>WEME</u> | | <u>RTHA</u> | |

Comments

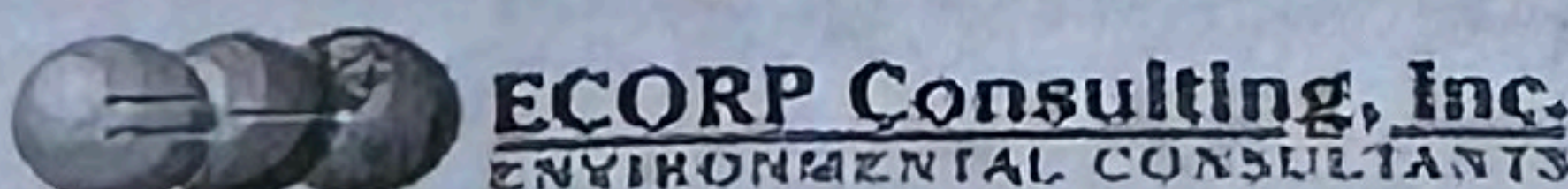
Vegetation was still dense throughout many areas in the buffer. Some areas in the buffer as well as a 40m perimeter around project site were recently disc'd. All burrows previously mapped, aside from object ID 19, 41, + 45, could not be located due to dense vegetation.

Burrows along slope of onramp + offramp to Ethanaac appeared unchanged.

Page 1 of 2

Date: May 11, 2023
 Survey Season: Breeding
 Survey #: 4
 GPS File Name: _____

Burrowing Owl Survey



Project #: 2022-238
 Client: Hillwood - Ethanol

| General Information | Weather Data | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------|------------|
| | | AM | | PM | |
| Observers: <u>Verity Richardson</u> <u>Paddy Parzino</u> <u>Sam Hamison</u> | Time (24 hr) | Start: <u>0510</u> | End: <u>0752</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |
| | Temp* (°F) <small>6" above ground in shade</small> | Start: <u>51</u> | End: <u>59.2</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |
| | Wind (mph) | Start: <u>1-4</u> | End: <u>1-4</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |
| | % Cloud Cover | Start: <u>80</u> | End: <u>80</u> | Start: _____ | End: _____ |

Site Information

Project Name: Hillwood Ethanol

Location: _____

County: _____

Area Surveyed: _____

Photos Taken? [Y] [N]

Physical Characteristics

Elevation: _____

Land Form*: _____
* e.g. mesa, bajada, wash

Land Uses: _____

N: _____

E: _____

Soils: _____

Other: _____

S: _____

W: _____

Disturbances on Site: [e.g. tracks (vehicle, human, livestock); trash; dump sites; blading; other]

Transect Width: 10-20 meters

Field Observations

Vegetation Communities:

Plants

Animals: [include: B - burrow, S - scat, O - observed, T - tracks, C - carcass, or Other (specify)]

WEKI, WEME, HOFI, CLSW, CANG, MODD, CAKI
ANHU, SASP, RWBL, NRWS, desert cottontail
California ground squirrel.

Comments



Safety Meeting Form

Project Number: 2022-238
Date: May 11, 2023

Project Name: Millwood Ethanol
Start time/End Time: 0510 - 0810

Meeting Leader: V Richardson
Location: Ethanol road, Riverside County.

Specific Activities Planned (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walking/hiking long distances | <input type="checkbox"/> Crossing flowing water (walking/driving) | <input type="checkbox"/> Working on a boat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using all-terrain vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in deep (>1m) ponded water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working in brushy, overgrown areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using mechanized equipment (i.e. chainsaw) | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in flowing water (creek/river) | <input type="checkbox"/> Working on mine tailings (cobbles) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towing trailer | <input type="checkbox"/> Working on steep cliffs | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in mine site (shafts, pits) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driving between sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Working near active forestry site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working near abandoned buildings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driving steep or narrow roads | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working in area of unknown property ownership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working in "suspect" neighborhood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driving 4X4 roads | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working under transmission lines | <input type="checkbox"/> Capturing live animals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driving wet/muddy roads | <input type="checkbox"/> Working near active construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing dipnet surveys |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driving in snow/ice | | <input type="checkbox"/> Working along railroad tracks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crossing paved roads | | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifting/carrying heavy equip. |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) |

Potential Hazards (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Venomous snakes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stinging and biting insects (bees, wasps, mosquitoes, ticks, scorpions) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Predatory mammals |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trip/slip/fall hazards/uneven ground/slick rocks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poison oak/other irritating vegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> Lightning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landowners/other people | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexploded ordinance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Overhead electrical hazards |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dogs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry brush/fire hazards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driving conditions/treacherous road hazards |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbed wire fences | <input type="checkbox"/> Mine shafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Active railroad use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric fence lines | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vehicular traffic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal burrow (trip/fall) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spiny/thorny vegetation (inc. vines) | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock | <input type="checkbox"/> Military/high-security areas |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heat-related illness (heat stroke/exhaustion/sunburn) | <input type="checkbox"/> Falling rocks/cliffs/steep edges | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High winds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cold-related illness (hypothermia/frost-bite) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refuse/rusty nails/junk piles | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow/hail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swift currents/water crossings | <input type="checkbox"/> Hantavirus | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Inhalation hazards (e.g., Valley Fever) | |

Supplies and PPE Needed

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large hat/bandanas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Long-sleeved shirt | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food/snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Hard hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Steel-toed boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Does project have a project-specific safety plan? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety vest | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wading boots | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cold weather gear | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber boots/waders | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen/SHADE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Magnetic vehicle signs | |

Hazard Response

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Location of nearest first aid kit (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal field gear <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Construction trailer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) | Location of nearest Medical Provider Network: <u>Menifee Global Medical Center</u> <u>28400 McCaw Blvd.</u> Location/phone of nearest MPN (if not in a 911 service area); draw map on reverse, or attach a | printout with directions: _____ _____ Snakebite/California Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222 Site-specific contact person/number: | _____ Site-specific emergency #: _____ Other: _____ |
|--|--|---|---|



Attendees

| Print Name | Field Lead? | Signature | Field Cell Number |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Venly Richardson | Yes | <i>[Signature]</i> | 760-704-7249 |
| M. Panzino | N | <i>[Signature]</i> | 714-335-8058 |
| Isamu Harrison | N | <i>[Signature]</i> | 562-754-8428 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



AQUATIC RESOURCE DELINEATION REPORT

**Hillwood-Ethanac Project
Perris, Riverside County, CA
January 2023**

**Prepared by:
Hernandez Environmental Services
17037 Lakeshore Drive
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530**

**Prepared for:
ECORP
215 North 5th Street
Redlands, CA 92374**

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- Appendix A – Site Photographs
- Appendix B – Soils Map

1.0 Introduction

Hernandez Environmental Services (HES) was contracted by ECORP Consulting, Inc. to prepare an aquatic resources delineation report for the approximately 40.7-acre project area which consists of the 20.1-acre project site and approximately 20.6 acres of areas that will be potentially impacted for road and drainage improvements (project). The purpose of this report is to identify and describe aquatic resources in the project area. This report facilitates efforts to document aquatic resource boundary determinations for review by regulatory authorities.

1.1 Project Site Location

The project site is located northwest of the intersection of Ethanac Road and Sherman Road, in the City of Perris, Riverside County, California. To access the site from Interstate 215, take exit 14 toward Ethanac Road and continue east, turn left on Sherman Road and the project site is on your left. The proposed project also includes road improvements to portions of Ethanac Road, Sherman Road, Trumble Road, and Illinois Avenue. The project site consists of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 329-240-016, -017, -018, -019, -020 -025, -026, and -027. Specifically, the project site is in Section 10 of Township 5 south, Range 3 west within the *Romoland* United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic quadrangle. The center point latitude and longitude coordinates for the project site are 33° 44' 39.8985" N, 117° 10' 56.4851" West (Figures 1 and 2).

1.2 Project Description

The proposed project consists of the construction of a 412,348 square foot warehouse building with offices (Figure 3). The proposed project includes potential offsite road and drainage improvements to Illinois Avenue, Trumble Road, Ethanac Road, and Sherman Road.

2.0 Regulatory Background

2.1 California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is responsible for conserving, protecting, and managing California's fish, wildlife, and native plant resources. To meet this responsibility, the California Fish and Game Code (F&GC), requires that the CDFW be consulted if a proposed development project has the potential to detrimentally effect a stream and thereby wildlife resources that depend on a stream for continued viability (F&GC Division 2, Chapter 5, section 1600-1616). A Section 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement is required, should the CDFW determine that the proposed project may do one or more of the following:

- Substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream or lake;
- Substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or

- Deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream, or lake.

For the purposes of clarification, a stream is defined by CDFW as “a body of water that flows perennially or episodically and that is defined by the area in which water currently flows, or has flowed, over a given course during the historic hydrologic regime, and where the width of its course can reasonably be identified by physical or biological indicators.” The historic hydrologic regime is defined as circa 1800 to the present (CDFW 2010).

2.2 United States Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act 404 Permit

The Clean Water Act (CWA) establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States (WUS) and regulating quality standards for surface waters. Under Section 404 of the CWA, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands and WUS, which includes tidal waters, interstate waters, and “all other waters, interstate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mud flats, sand flats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes or natural ponds, the use, degradation, or destruction of which could affect interstate or foreign commerce or which are tributaries to waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide” (33 C.F.R. 328.3(a)), pursuant to provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Section 404 requires a permit from the USACE or authorized state for the discharge of dredged or fill material into WUS, including wetlands.

For purposes of Section 404 of the CWA, the lateral limits of jurisdiction over non-tidal WUS extend to the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM), in the absence of adjacent wetlands. Under 33 CFR 328.3(e), the USACE defines the term OHWM as “that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.”

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and USACE, “wetlands are areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.” Water saturation (hydrology) largely determines how the soil develops and the types of plant and animal communities living in and on the soil. Wetlands may support both aquatic and terrestrial species. The prolonged presence of water creates conditions that favor the growth of specially adapted plants (hydrophytes) and promote the development of characteristic wetland (hydric) soils. The EPA and the Corps use the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and Regional Supplements to define wetlands for the CWA Section 404 permit program. To qualify for wetlands status, vegetation, soils, and hydrologic parameters must all be met.

For the purposes of this section, the term “fill” is defined as material placed in waters of the United States where the material has the effect of:

- Replacing any portion of a WUS with dry land; or
- Changing the bottom elevation of any portion of a WUS.

Examples of such fill material include, but are not limited to rock, sand, soil, clay, plastics, construction debris, wood chips, overburden from mining or other excavation activities, and materials used to create any structure or infrastructure in the WUS. The term fill material does not include trash or garbage.

The definition of “discharge of dredged material” is defined as any addition of dredged material into, including redeposit of dredged material other than incidental fallback within, the WUS. The term includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- The addition of dredged material to a specified discharge site located in WUS;
- The runoff or overflow, associated with a dredging operation, from a contained land or water disposal area; and
- Any addition, including redeposit other than incidental fallback, of dredged material, including excavated material, into WUS which is incidental to any activity, including mechanized land clearing, ditching, channelization, or other excavation.

The term discharge of dredged material does not include the following:

- Discharges of pollutants into WUS resulting from the onshore subsequent processing of dredged material that is extracted for any commercial use (other than fill). These discharges are subject to section 402 of the CWA even though the extraction and deposit of such material may require a permit from the Corps or applicable State.
- Activities that involve only the cutting or removing of vegetation above the ground (e.g., mowing, rotary cutting, and chain-sawing) where the activity neither substantially disturbs the root system nor involves mechanized pushing, dragging, or other similar activities that redeposit excavated soil material.
- Incidental fallback.

2.3 Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean Water Act / Porter-Cologne Act

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) (collectively Water Boards) have the authority to regulate discharges of dredged or fill material to waters of the state under Section 401 of the CWA and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne). CWA Section 401 water quality certifications are issued to applicants for a federal license or permit for activities that may result

in a discharge into WUS, including but not limited to the discharge or dredged or fill material (as defined in Section 2.2 above). Waste discharge requirements under Porter-Cologne are issued for discharges of dredged or fill material to waters of the state.

In accordance with Porter-Cologne (Water Code, § 13000 et seq.), the Water Boards are authorized to regulate discharges of waste, which includes discharges of dredged or fill material, that may affect the quality of waters of the state. The Water Code defines waters of the state broadly to include “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.” Waters of the state includes all WUS. On April 2, 2019, the State Water Board adopted State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (Procedures), which contained a wetland definition and wetland delineation procedures. The Procedures state that “an area is wetland if, under normal circumstances, (1) the area has continuous or recurrent saturation of the upper substrate caused by groundwater, or shallow surface water, or both; (2) the duration of such saturation is sufficient to cause anaerobic conditions in the upper substrate; and (3) the area’s vegetation is dominated by hydrophytes or the area lacks vegetation.” The following wetlands are waters of the state:

1. Natural wetlands;
2. Wetlands created by modification of a surface water of the state;
3. Artificial wetlands that meet any of the following criteria:
 - a. Approved by an agency as compensatory mitigation for impacts to other waters of the state, except where the approving agency explicitly identifies the mitigation as being of limited duration;
 - b. Specifically identified in a water quality control plan as a wetland or other water of the state;
 - c. Resulted from historic human activity, is not subject to ongoing operation and maintenance, and has become a relatively permanent part of the natural landscape;
 - d. Greater than or equal to one acre in size, unless the artificial wetland was constructed, and is currently used and maintained, primarily for one or more of the following purposes (i.e., the following artificial wetlands are not waters of the state unless they also satisfy the criteria set forth in 2, 3a, or 3b):
 - i. Industrial or municipal wastewater treatment or disposal,
 - ii. Settling of sediment,
 - iii. Detention, retention, infiltration, or treatment of stormwater runoff and other pollutants or runoff subject to regulation under a municipal, construction, or industrial stormwater permitting program,

- iv. Treatment of surface waters,
- v. Agricultural crop irrigation or stock watering,
- vi. Fire suppression,
- vii. Industrial processing or cooling,
- viii. Active surface mining – even if the site is managed for interim wetlands functions and values,
- ix. Log storage,
- x. Treatment, storage, or distribution of recycled water, or
- xi. Maximizing groundwater recharge (this does not include wetlands that have incidental groundwater recharge benefits);
- xii. Fields flooded for rice growing.

All artificial wetlands that are less than an acre in size and do not satisfy the criteria set forth in 2, 3.a, 3.b, or 3.c are not waters of the state. If an aquatic feature meets the wetland definition, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate that the wetland is not a water of the state.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Literature Review

Prior to the site visit, a literature review was conducted to aid in determining the potential for perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral drainages, wetlands, and riparian vegetation. Project background documents, topographic maps, satellite imaging, soils maps, and land use maps were examined to establish an accurate project site location, project description, potential for onsite drainages and wetlands, records of on-site vegetation, watershed, soils, and surrounding land uses.

3.2 Field Survey

On December 6 and 26, 2022, HES conducted field surveys of the approximate 40.7-acre project area which consists of the 20.1-acre project site and approximately 20.6 acres of areas that will be potentially impacted for road and drainage improvements. The field survey was conducted to delineate jurisdictional drainages and wetlands resources associated with jurisdictional drainages. Special attention was paid to areas that will be impacted by the proposed project. Representative site photographs were taken and are included within Appendix A.

Jurisdictional drainages were identified by looking for features such as a bed, bank, or channel. Where riparian vegetation was present, the drip line of the outer edge of the vegetation was used as the measuring criteria. Furthermore, the presence of an ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) was recorded. The OHWM is defined as: “on non-tidal rivers, the line on the shore established by the

fluctuations of water and indicated by the physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding area.” Where the presence of an OHWM was evident, a measurement was taken for the width of the OHWM, and the measurement was recorded. Areas measured were also recorded using hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) for accurate location reference. Any man-made features on site that were measured were also recorded using hand-held Garmin GPSMAP 64s for accurate location reference.

Where changes in plant community composition were apparent, the area was examined for the possibility of wetlands. Whether or not adjacent to “waters of the U.S.,” the potential wetland area was evaluated for the presence of the three wetland indicators: hydrology, hydric soils and hydrophytic vegetation. The guidelines followed are those established in the 1987 Army Corps of Engineers Manual as well as the 2006 Interim Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region.

4.0 Results

4.1 Environmental Setting

The 40.7-acre project area consists of paved roads and vacant disturbed land. The portions of the site that remain undeveloped had been previously graded and appears to be continually disturbed by weed abatement activities. The entire project area was field verified by HES biologists. A portion of a manmade earthen canal is located adjacent to the southern portion of Trumble Road within the project area. Onsite elevations range from 1,417 feet above mean sea-level (AMSL) to 1,453 feet AMSL. The site is bordered by commercial development to the north, residential development to the east, industrial development to the south, and vacant land to the west.

4.2 Existing Hydrological Features

4.2.1 Overview

The proposed project area contains a portion of a manmade earthen canal and a portion of a cement lined channel that are tributaries to the San Jacinto River. All other culverts or other man-made storm drain features found within the project area were found to not be jurisdictional due to lack of natural flows. There are areas on site that have evidence of ponding water such as cracked soils and shifts in vegetation. However, these areas were found to not qualify as wetlands due to lack of suitable vegetation and soils.

4.3 Soils

Seven soil classes are identified to occur on the project site by the United States Department of Agriculture Web Soil Survey (Appendix B). Soils at the project site are classified as:

- Exeter sandy loam (EnA), 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Exeter sandy loam (EnC2), 2 to 8 percent slopes, eroded;
- Greenfield sandy loam (GyC2), 2 to 8 percent slopes, eroded;
- Madera fine sandy loam (MaA), 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Monserate sandy loam (MmB), 0 to 5 percent slopes;
- Monserate sandy loam (MnD2), shallow, 5 to 15 percent slopes, eroded; and
- Ramona sandy loam (RaA), 0 to 2 percent slopes, MLRA 19.

None of these soils qualify as hydric and they all are considered to have well drained soil classes. The onsite soils do not allow for water pooling on the site to remain for any significant length of time after rain events or have any characteristics of hydric soils. The onsite soils do not qualify as hydric or mesic soils associated with vernal pools or wetlands.

4.4 Vegetation

The project site primarily consists of developed paved roads bordered by developed areas or disturbed areas with ruderal habitat. The vegetation within the portion of the manmade earthen canal on site includes mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), barbary fig (*Opuntia ficus-indica*), palo verde (*Parkinsonia* sp.), and tamarisk (*Tamarix* sp.). The dominant species in the herbaceous layer within the canal was shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*). Tamarisk and shortpod mustard are nonnative species. The mulefat within the project area was confined to the area directly adjacent to Trumble Road, and has a wetland indicator of Facultative Plant (FAC) which occurs in wetlands and non-wetlands. Palo verde also has a wetland indicator of FAC. The cement lined channel within the project area does not contain any vegetation.

4.5 Hydrology

The site is located within the Santa Ana Basin Plan, the San Jacinto Valley hydrologic unit, the Perris hydrologic area, and the Perris Valley sub-area. Due to the disturbed nature of the site, historical aerials from Google Earth were viewed in order to determine if the manmade canal was carrying natural flows. In a historical aerial from 2002, a depression is noticeable in the area where the manmade canal now occurs (Figure 4). The manmade earthen canal collects ephemeral flows and directs them northwest. The canal leads to an offsite catch basin which carries the flows across the Interstate 215 and eventually to the San Jacinto River. The cement lined channel that crosses the project area carries ephemeral flows west across the Interstate 215 and then heads northwest eventually flowing to the San Jacinto River. The San Jacinto River is a tributary to Canyon Lake.

No other natural drainages occur on site. Google Earth aerials, topo maps, elevation ranges, and field findings were used to determine the source and direction of flows to and from other manmade ditches or stormwater features on site. There is a large box culvert at the western end of Illinois

Avenue within the project area that collects runoff from Illinois Avenue and Interstate 215. Based on the field findings and literature review, the box culvert does not collect flows from any jurisdictional features and is not a tributary to a jurisdictional feature; therefore, the box culvert and adjacent ditch are not jurisdictional.

Table 1. Aquatic Resources within the Manmade Canal in the Survey Area

| Jurisdictional Agency | Aquatic Resource Size (acre) | Aquatic Resource Size (linear feet) |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| CDFW | 0.02 | 108 |
| RWQCB | 0.01 | 108 |
| USACOE | 0.01 | 108 |
| Location (lat/long) | 33° 44' 21.9155" North, 117° 11' 05.6112" West | |

Table 2. Aquatic Resources within the Cement Lined Channel in the Survey Area

| Jurisdictional Agency | Aquatic Resource Size (acre) | Aquatic Resource Size (linear feet) |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| CDFW | 0.03 | 24 |
| RWQCB | 0.03 | 24 |
| USACE | 0.03 | 24 |
| Location (lat/long) | 33° 44' 12.2882" North, 117° 11' 05.7293" West | |

4.6 California Department of Fish and Wildlife Jurisdiction

The project site contains approximately 0.05 acre (132 linear feet) of CDFW jurisdictional ephemeral features and associated vegetation regulated under Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code (Figure 5). CDFW jurisdiction was measured from top of bank to top of bank or outside the dripline of associated riparian habitat. The CDFW jurisdictional areas on the project site include 0.02 acre of canal and associated mulefat and palo verde.

4.7 Waters of the United States

The project site contains approximately 0.04 acre (132 linear feet) of Waters of the United States which are regulated by the USACE Sections 404 and 401 of the CWA (Figure 6). The stream located on site is tributary to San Jacinto River which connects to Canyon Lake.

4.8 Regional Water Quality Control Board Jurisdiction

The project site contains approximately 0.04 acre (132 linear feet) of an earthen canal and cement lined channel that carries ephemeral flows that are considered waters of the state subject to the Porter-Cologne Act (Figure 7). Beneficial uses for the Perris Valley Channel have been identified by the Santa Ana Basin Plan as Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN), Non-Contact Water Recreation (REC2), Wildlife Habitat (WILD), and Rare, Threatened or Endangered Species (RARE).

5.0 Impacts to Jurisdictional Areas

5.1 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

The project is expected to impact approximately 0.05 acre (132 linear feet) of an ephemeral stream and associated habitat that would be regulated under Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code. Impacts to these drainages would require the CDFW to be notified of these impacts under a Notification of Lake of Streambed Alteration Agreement pursuant to F&GC Section 1602.

5.2 Waters of the United States

The project site is expected to impact approximately 0.04 acre (132 linear feet) of an ephemeral stream on site which is considered a WUS. Impacts to onsite WUS will qualify for a Nationwide Permit (NWP) 14 from the USACE. The Decision Document for NWP 14 this permit covers “Linear Transportation Projects. Activities required for crossings of waters of the United States associated with the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects (e.g., roads, highways, railways, trails, driveways, airport runways, and taxiways) in waters of the United States. For linear transportation projects in non-tidal waters, the discharge of dredged or fill material cannot cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States.” The impacts to WUS within the manmade earthen canal and the cement lined channel would each require their own permit, according to Decision Document NWP 14 “each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization”.

5.3 Regional Water Quality Control Board

The project site is expected to impact approximately 0.04 acre (132 linear feet) of an ephemeral stream that are waters of the state subject to the Porter-Cologne Act. Impacts to onsite waters of the state that require a USACE 404 permit will also need a 401 State Water Quality Certification. The Santa Ana RWQCB will determine if waste discharge requirements (WDR) are required for impacts to Waters of the State.

6.0 Recommendation

CDFW and RWQCB jurisdictional waters are regulated by state and local governments under a no-net-loss policy, and all impacts are considered significant and should be avoided to the greatest

extent possible. Impacts to jurisdictional waters require mitigation through habitat creation, restoration, or enhancement as determined by consultation with the regulatory agencies during the permitting process. Any impacts to CDFW jurisdiction would require a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFW. Any impacts to WUS would require a Section 404 permit and would qualify for a Nationwide Permit 14 authorization from the USACE. It would also need a 401 Certification from the Santa Ana RWQCB.

7.0 Certification

“CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this jurisdictional delineation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.”



DATE 01/26/2023 SIGNED

Project Manager

Fieldwork Performed By:

Elizabeth Gonzalez

SENIOR BIOLOGIST

Sarah Vasquez

ASSOCIATE BIOLOGIST

8.0 References

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FIGURES

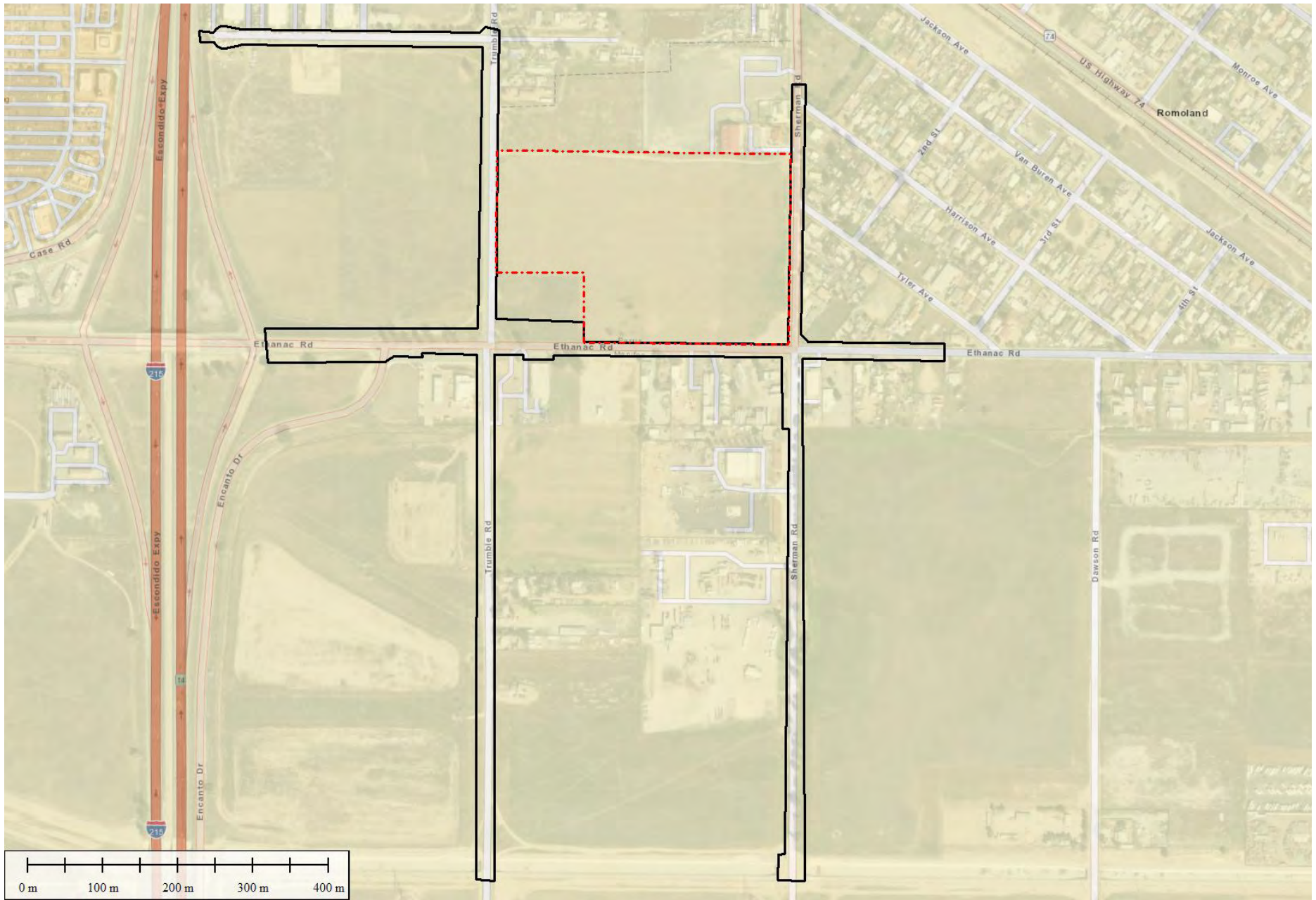

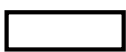


Figure 1

Location Map
 Hillwood-Ethanac
 City of Perris, Riverside County, California

Legend

-  Project Site
-  Offsite Project Area



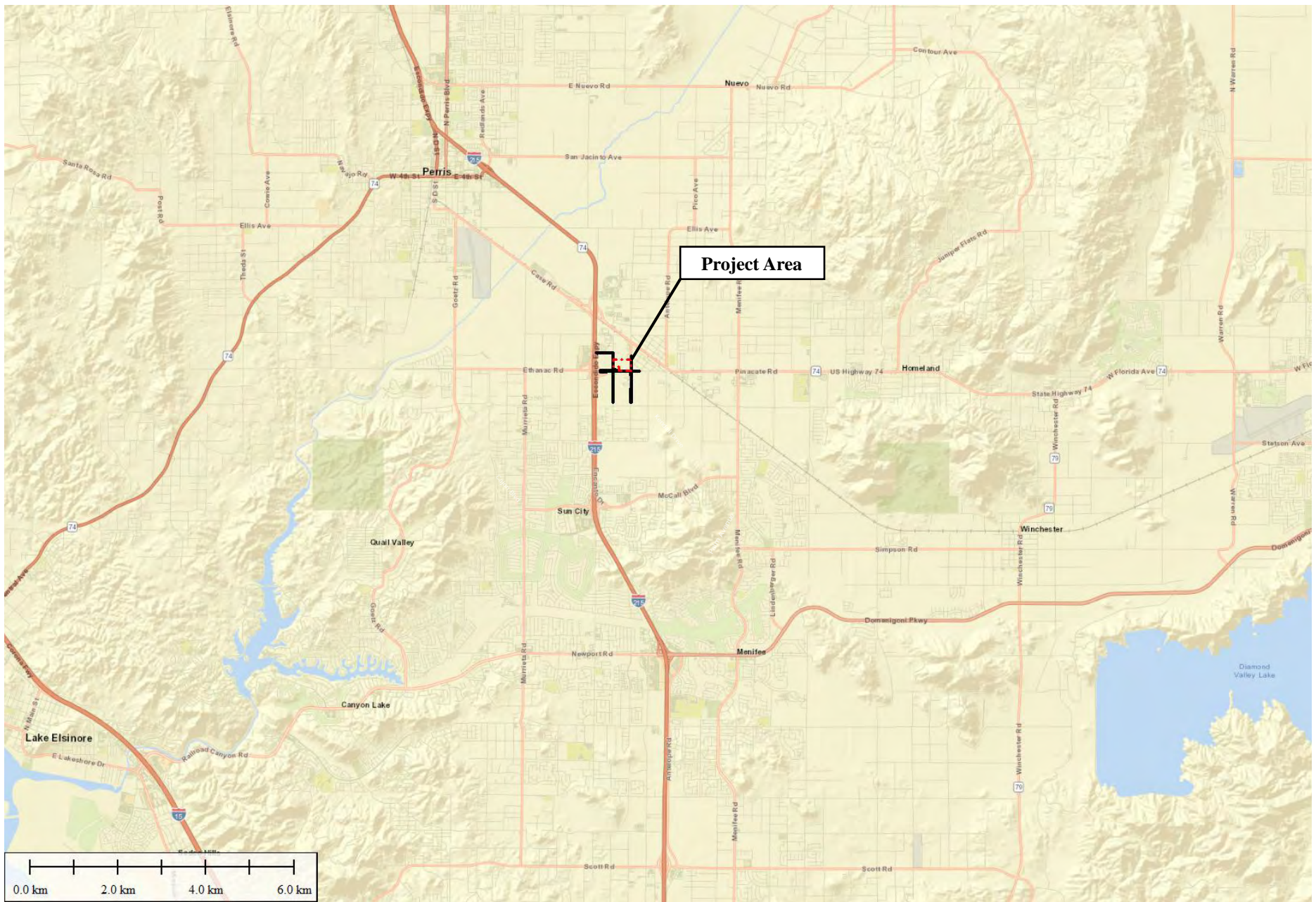

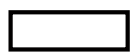


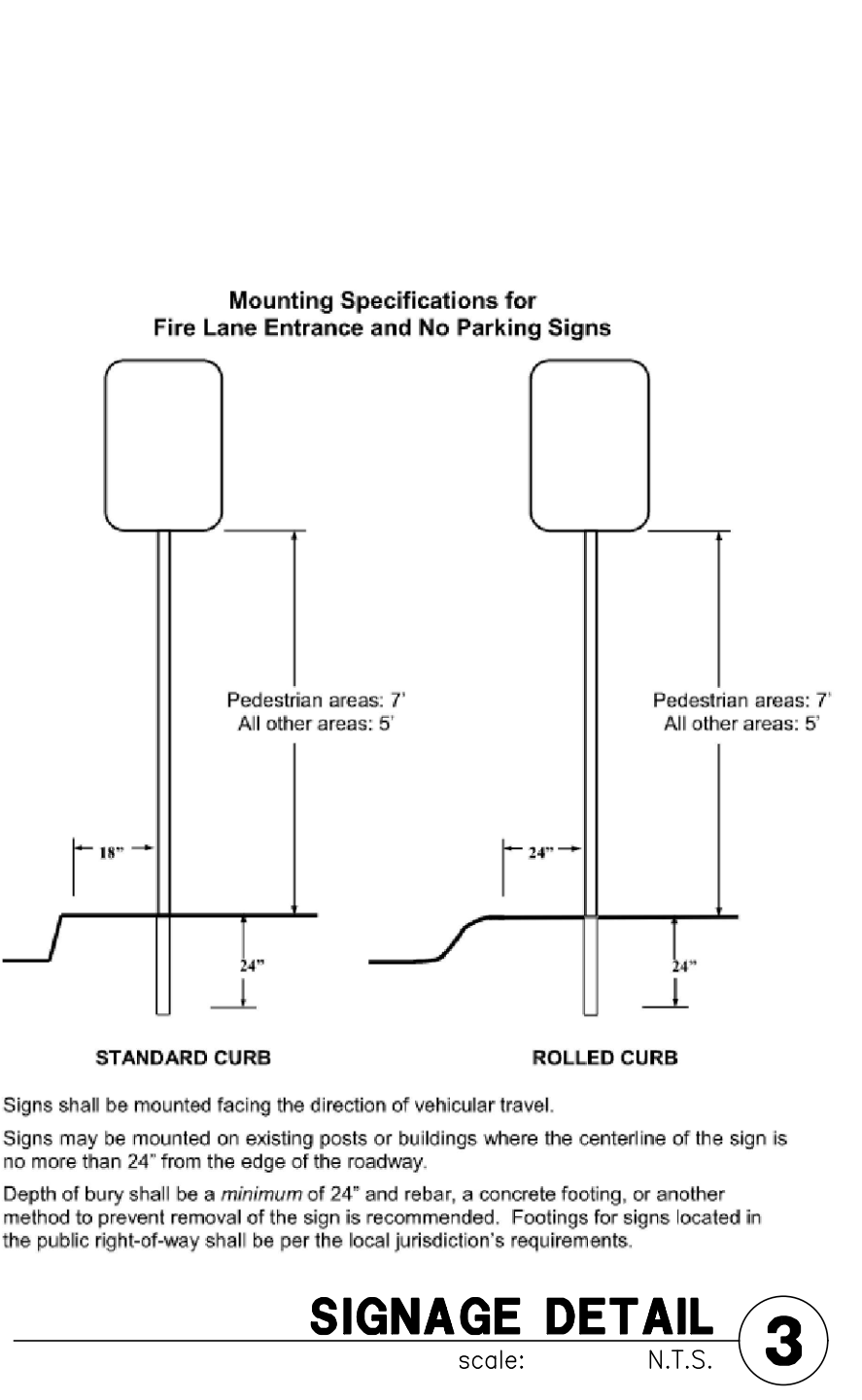
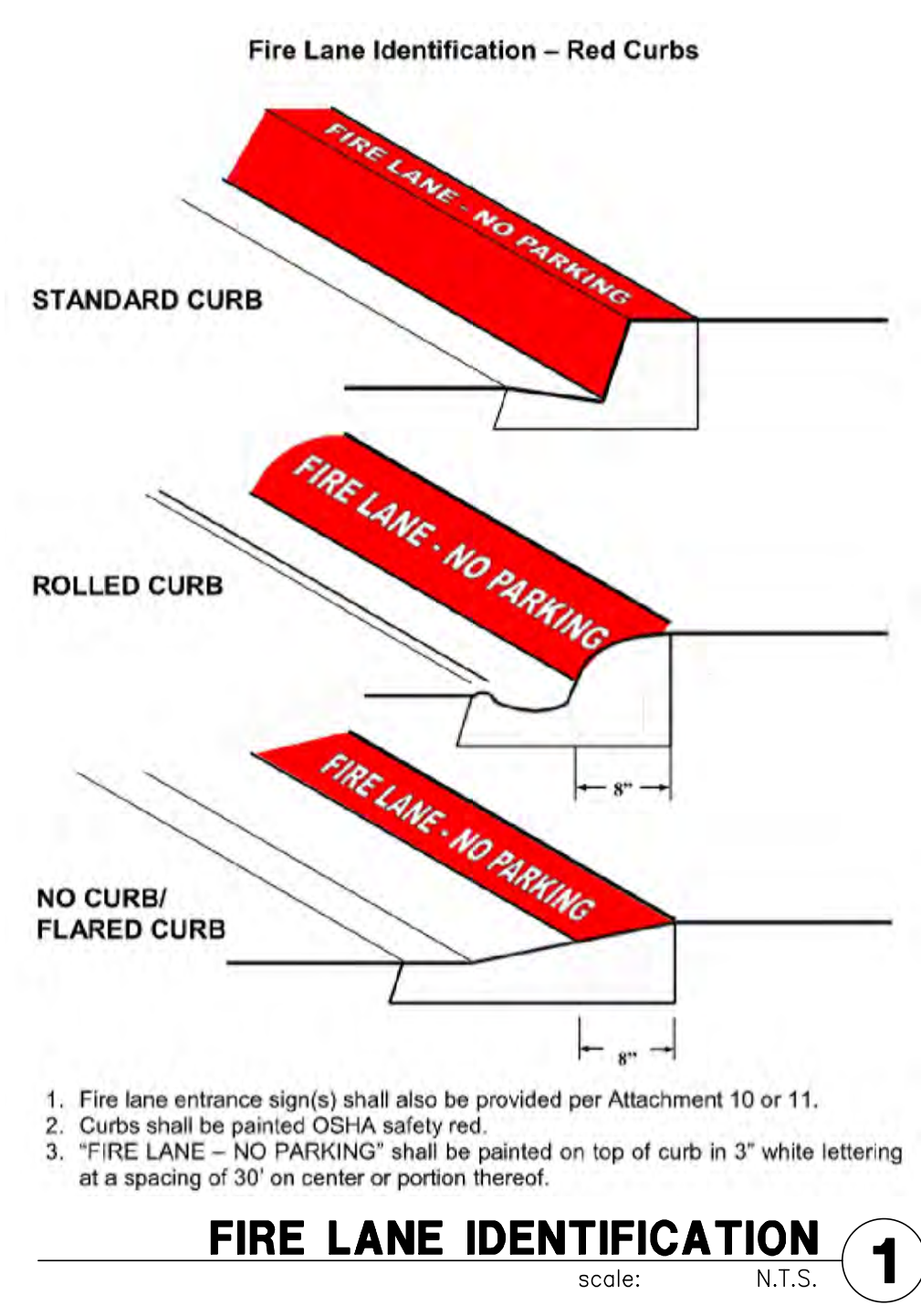
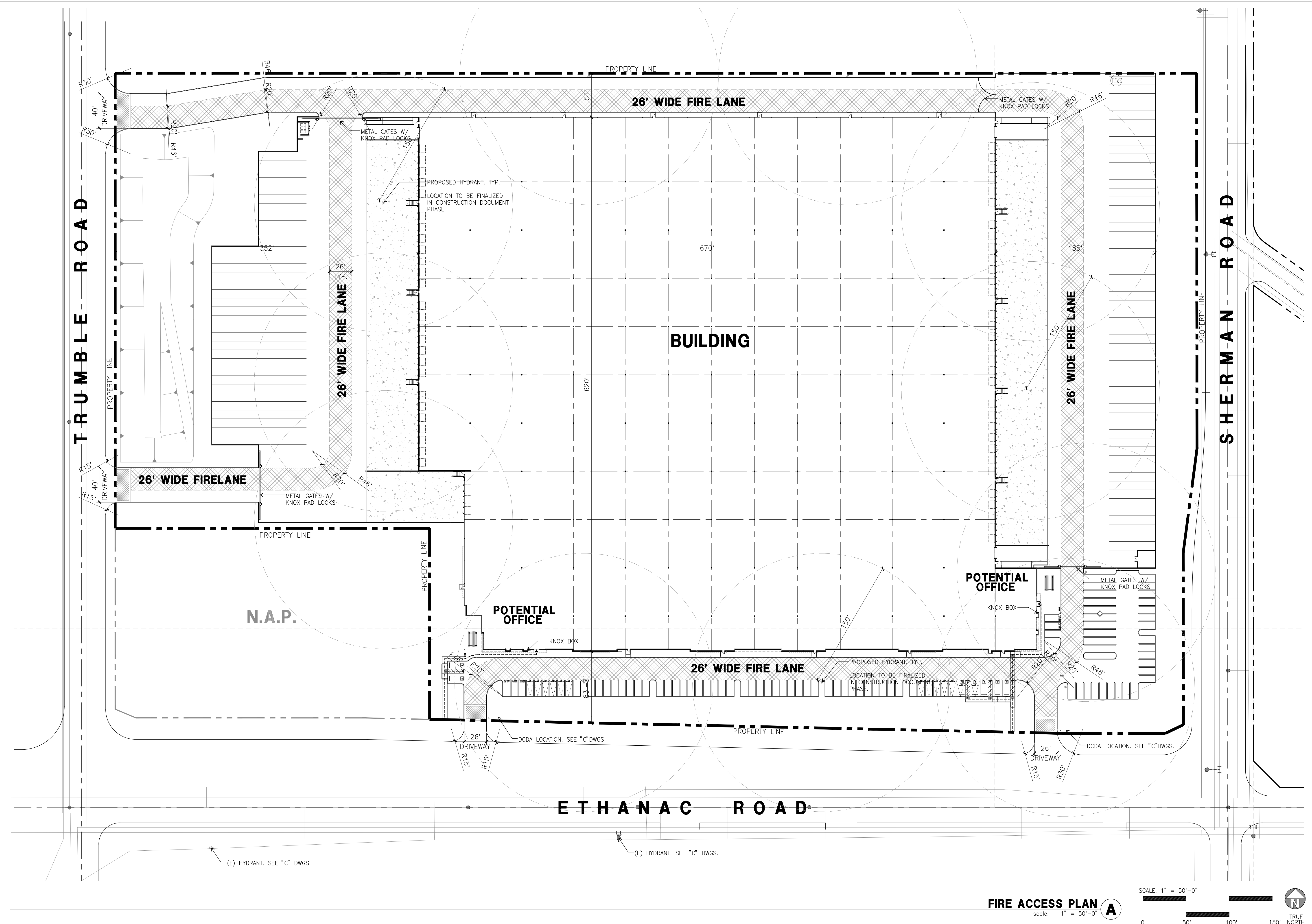
Figure 2
 Vicinity Map
 Hillwood-Ethanac
 City of Perris, Riverside County, California

Legend

-  Project Site
-  Offsite Project Area

N 

 Hernandez
 Environmental
 Services



FIRE LANE NOTES
-75,000 LBS MINIMUM CAPACITY
-2.5% SLOPE MAX. SEE "C" DWGS

1. Fire lane entrance sign(s) shall also be provided per Attachment 10 or 11.
2. Curbs shall be painted OSHA safety red.
3. "FIRE LANE - NO PARKING" shall be painted on top of curb in 3" white lettering at a spacing of 30' on center or portion thereof.

All sign and lettering dimensions shown are minimums. "Arial Narrow" font used is used in sample above though other legible sans-serif fonts may be acceptable.
This sign shall be posted at all vehicle entrances to areas marked with either red curbs or fire lane "No Parking" signs. Signs shall be securely mounted facing the direction of travel and clearly visible to oncoming traffic entering the designated area. Signs shall be made of durable material and installed per Attachments 13 and 14.
Towing company contact information is required for all properties with a standing written agreement for services with a towing company per the California Vehicle Code.

Signs shall be mounted facing the direction of vehicular travel.
Signs may be mounted on existing posts or buildings where the centerline of the sign is no more than 24" from the edge of the roadway.
Depth of bury shall be a minimum of 24" and rebar, a concrete footing, or another method to prevent removal of the sign is recommended. Footings for signs located in the public right-of-way shall be per the local jurisdiction's requirements.

All sign and lettering dimensions shown are minimums. "Arial Narrow" font used is used in sample above though other legible sans-serif fonts may be acceptable.
Signs shall be securely mounted facing the direction of travel and clearly visible to oncoming traffic entering the designated area. Signs shall be made of durable material and installed per Attachments 13 and 14.

All sign and lettering dimensions shown are minimums. "Arial Narrow" font used is used in sample above though other legible sans-serif fonts may be acceptable.
"Fire Lane - No Parking" sign shown in Attachment 12 may be used as an alternative. Signs shall be securely mounted on the front and back face of the gate clearly visible to traffic entering the designated area. Signs shall be made of a durable material.

Towing company contact information is required for all properties with a standing written agreement for services with a towing company per the California Vehicle Code.
To facilitate periodic changes in towing company contracts, the towing company contact information may be posted on a separate sign mounted directly below the fire lane entrance sign instead of on the entrance sign itself. The method of attachment to the post shall not obscure the wording on either sign.