Biological Technical Report and Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Consistency Analysis for the Western Way Widening and Improvements Project

Riverside County, California

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Definition
°F	Degrees Fahrenheit
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
BMP	Best Management Practice
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CNPSEI	California Native Plan Society's Electronic Inventory
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CWA	Clean Water Act
DDC	District Department Connection
ECORP	ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Term	Definition
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FDC	Fire Department Connection
FP	Fully Protected
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
IA	Implementing Agreement
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
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
PQP	Public Quasi-Public
RCA	Regional Conservation Authority
RCTLMA	Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency
ROW	Right-of-Way
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAA	Streambed Alteration Agreement
SSC	California Species of Special Concern
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WEAP	Worker Environmental Awareness Program

1.0 INTRODUCTION

ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) conducted a biological reconnaissance survey at the Proposed Western Way Widening and Improvements Project (Project) located primarily along the public Right-of-Way (ROW) along Western Way but includes portions of the following Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) in the City of Perris, Riverside County, California:

- 294-180-013
- 294-180-032
- 294-180-033
- 294-180-039
- 294-190-037
- 294-190-038
- 294-190-051
- 294-190-066
- 294-190-068
- 294-190-077
- 294-190-078

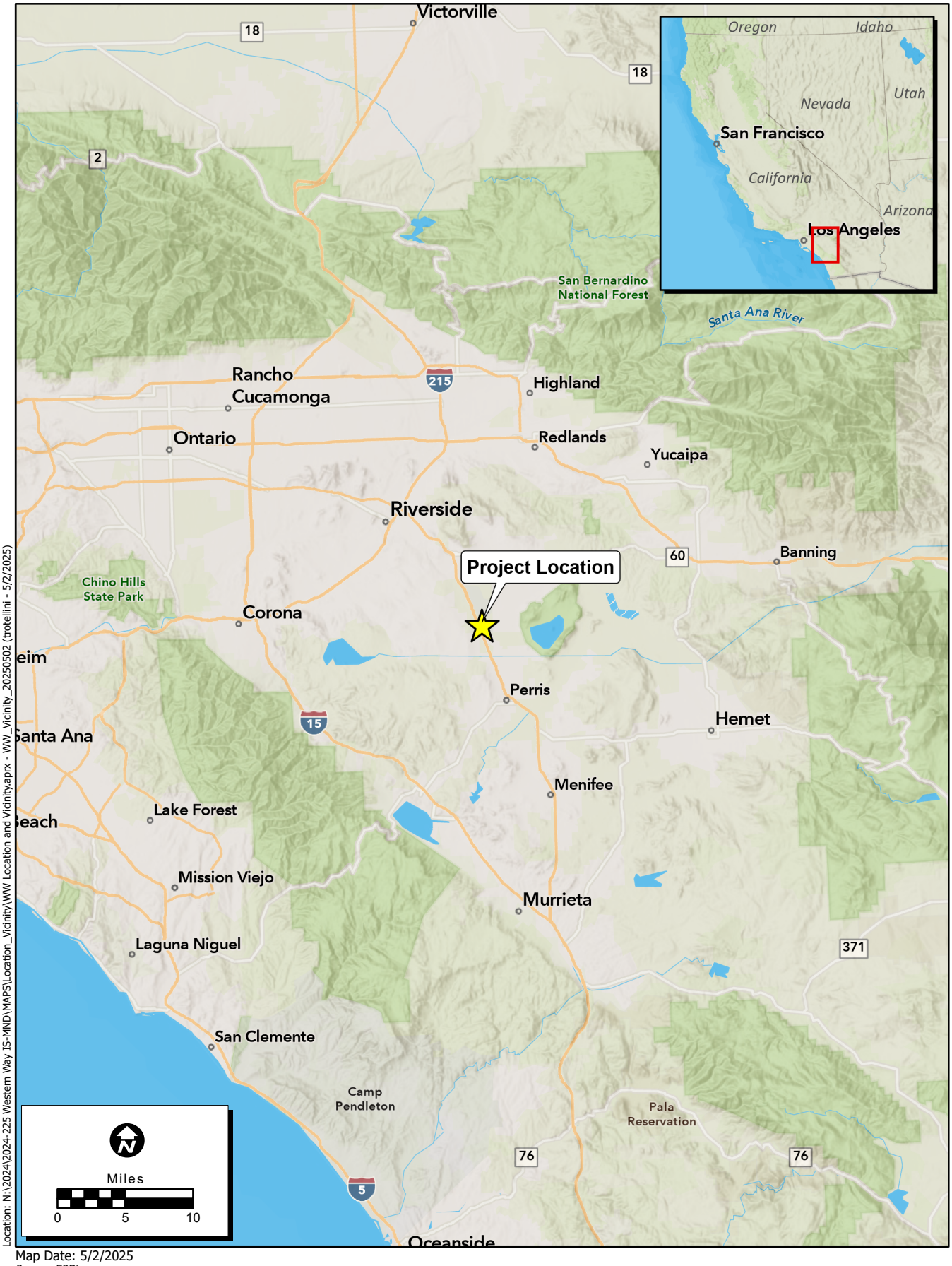
The survey was conducted to identify any biological resources that could potentially be affected by the Proposed Project, pursuant to the terms of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The surveys were conducted in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The MSHCP provides information on plant and wildlife species of concern to the County of Riverside and outlines goals for their conservation. The Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency (RCTLMA) website provides additional information regarding the MSHCP (RCTLMA 2025). 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 approximately 5.91-acre Project Site is located to the east of Interstate 215 within the City of Perris in Riverside County (Figure 1). The Project Site is located north of Harley Knox Boulevard, southwest of the March Air Reserve Base, and south of Van Buren Boulevard (Figure 2). The Project Site is located within Section 36 of Township 3 South, Range 4 West and is depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Steele Peak 7.5-minute topographic map quadrangle.

1.2 Project Description

The Proposed Project would widen the Western Way ROW alignment to an ultimate width of 94-feet north of Nandina Ave, and an 88- to 84-foot ROW south of Nandina Ave, to allow for the construction of a 64-foot wide paved surface with two 14-foot wide through lanes, two 12-foot wide through lanes, and one 12-foot striped median. The Project would include the construction of two new through lanes, and a new 12-foot striped median within the Western Way alignment. In addition to the Project's new north and southbound traffic lanes, the Project would include the installation of new traffic signals, street lighting, sidewalks, curb and gutter, ramps compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and a retaining wall. Some existing utilities would need to be relocated as part of the Proposed Project, including electrical structures, electrical vaults, Fire Department Connection/District Department Connection (FDC/DDC), fire DDC backflow converter, fire hydrants, retaining wall, utility box, storm water quality device, and area drain.

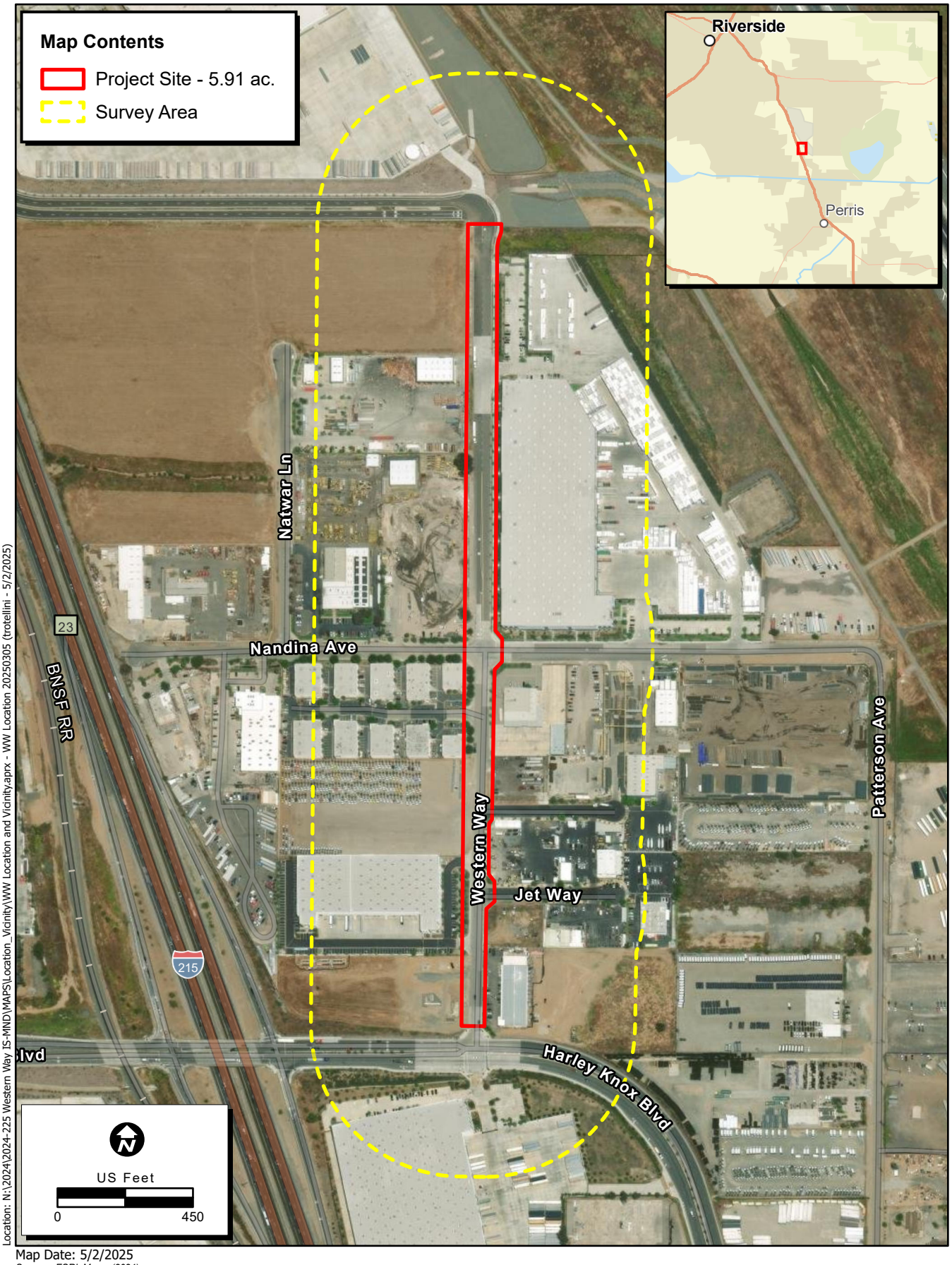


Location: N:\2024\2024-225 Western Way IS-MND\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\WW Location and Vicinity.aprx - WW_Vicinity_20250502 (trotellini - 5/2/2025)

Map Date: 5/2/2025

Sources: ESRI

Figure 1. Project Vicinity



Location: N:\2024\2024-225 Western Way IS-MND\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\WW Location and Vicinity.aprx - WW Location 20250305 (trotellini - 5/2/2025)

Map Date: 5/2/2025

Sources: ESRI, Maxar (2024)

Figure 2. Project Location

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2024-225 Western Way Widening and Improvements Project

1.3 Terms

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

- *Project Site:* the approximately 5.91-acre area, comprising the public ROW and portions of APNs 294-180-013, 294-180-032, 294-180-033, 294-180-039, 294-190-037, 294-190-038, 294-190-051, 294-190-066, 068, 294-190-077, and 294-190-078, assessed during the general biological reconnaissance survey that will have Project related impacts associated with the construction of the Project.
- *Survey Area*: includes the Project Site and a 500-foot buffer.

2.0 SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES REGULATIONS

ECORP biologists conducted the biological reconnaissance survey to identify potential constraints to Project 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 federal 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 federal 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 federal 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 (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 purpose of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) 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 evaluating permit applications and reviewing 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 federal 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 (FP) prior to the creation of the federal and California ESAs. Lists of FP 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 FP 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 FP species may not be taken or possessed at any time. Furthermore, CDFW prohibits any state agency from issuing incidental take permits for FP 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 California 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 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act requires "any person discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the Waters of the State to file a report of discharge" with RWQCB through State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (Procedures) (California Code of Regulations [CCR], title 23, Section 3855) (State Water Resources Control Board 2021). *Waters of the State* are defined as any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the State (California Water Code Section 13050[e]). Pollution is defined as an alteration of the quality of the Waters of the State by waste to a degree that unreasonably affects its beneficial uses (California Water Code Section 13050) and includes filling in Waters of the State. Note that CCR, Title 23, Section 3855 applies only to individual water quality certifications, but the new Procedures extend the application of Section 3855 to individual waste discharge requirements for discharges of dredged or fill material to Waters of the State and waivers thereof.

A permit for impacts to Waters of the State would likely be required under the CWA and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The RWQCB considers whether project activities could impact the quality of Waters of the State to determine whether a project should be regulated pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

2.2.5 California Fish and Game Code

2.2.5.1 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." 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.

2.2.5.2 Migratory Birds

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 also 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.

2.2.5.3 Bats and Roosting Bats

Bats in California are currently protected by the California Fish and Game Code Sections 86, 1600, 2000, 2014, 3007, and 4150; California Public Resources Code, Division 14, Section 21000 et seq.; CCR, Title 14 including, but not limited to Section 251.1, CEQA regulations (Section 15000 et seq.), Section 15380 – Endangered, Rare, or Threatened Species, Section 15382 – Significant Effect on the Environment, and Appendix O; and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Environmental Policy, Caltrans Environmental Procedures, and the Federal Highway Administration Environmental Policy and Environmental Procedures.

Regulations of particular relevance to this Project include Title 14, Section 251.1 of the CCR, which prohibits harassment (defined in that section as an intentional act that disrupts an animal's normal behavior patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering) of nongame mammals (e.g., bats), and California Fish and Game Code Section 4150, which prohibits *take* or possession of all nongame mammals or parts thereof. Any activities resulting in bat mortality (e.g., the destruction of an occupied bat roost that results in the death of bats), disturbance that causes the loss of a maternity colony of bats (resulting in the death of young), or various modes of nonlethal pursuit or capture may be considered *take* as defined in Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code. In addition, impacts to bat maternity colonies, which are considered native wildlife nursery sites, could be considered significant under CEQA.

2.2.6 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

The Western Riverside County MSHCP is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional HCP focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in western Riverside County. The MSHCP identifies 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 to be adequately conserved when certain landmark conservation requirements are met during the course of future development. The goal of the MSHCP is to maintain 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), the California ESA, and the federal ESA, the approval will be granted. The Development Mitigation Fee varies according to project size and project 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.

2.2.7 California Environmental Quality Act Significance Criteria

Section 15064.7 of the CEQA Guidelines encourages local agencies to develop and publish the thresholds that 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. CEGA 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. The reason for this is that 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 CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB; CDFW 2025a) and the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) (CNPS 2025a) to determine the special-status plant and wildlife species that have been documented in the vicinity of the Project Site. ECORP searched CNDDB and CNPSEI records within the Project Site as depicted on the USGS 7.5-minute Steele Peak topographic quadrangle, as well as the surrounding eight topographic quadrangles: Riverside West, Riverside East, Sunnymead, Perris, Romoland, Lake Elsinore, Alberhill, and Lake Mathews. The CNDDB and CNPSEI contain records of reported occurrences of federally or state-listed endangered, threatened, proposed endangered or threatened species, CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC), and/or other special-status species or habitat that may occur within or in the vicinity of the Project. ECORP gathered additional information from the following sources:

- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW 2025b);
- Special Animals List (CDFW 2025c);
- The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California (Baldwin et al. 2012);
- National Wetlands Inventory (NWI; USFWS 2025a);
- *A Manual of California Vegetation*, Online Edition (CNPS 2025b); and
- various online websites (e.g., CalFlora 2025).

ECORP generated a list of special-status plant and animal species that have the potential to occur within the Project Site using this information and observations in the field. 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.

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

- *Present*: The species was observed in the Project Site during a site visit or focused survey.
- *High*: Habitat (including soils and elevation factors) for the species occurs within the Project Site 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 Site 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 Site; or a recently documented observation occurs within 5 miles of the area and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs in the Project Site.
- *Low*: Limited or marginal habitat for the species occurs within the Project Site 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 Site; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs on site, but no records or only historic records were found within the database search.
- *Presumed Absent*: The 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 on site; or the known geographic range of the species does not include the Project Site.

Note that 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, while a record of a species may not exist in the databases, this 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 species.

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

ECORP biologists reviewed the USFWS online service for information regarding Threatened and Endangered Species Final Critical Habitat designation within California to determine if the Project Site is within any species' designated Critical Habitat (USFWS 2025b).

3.3 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Consistency Analysis

ECORP biologists reviewed data regarding the Project Site to determine consistency with the MSHCP. Biologists also queried the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) MSHCP Information Map to determine requirements for habitat assessment(s), potential focused survey(s), or other constraints related to biological resources that could exist in the Project Site (RCA 2025).

Section 6.0 of the MSHCP requires that an assessment of the Project Site be completed to identify any potential Project-related effects on biological resources, including burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), riparian/riverine areas, vernal pools, and fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta* sp.), if applicable. 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.

3.4 Field Surveys

3.4.1 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

ECORP biologists conducted the biological reconnaissance survey by walking the entirety of the Project Site plus a 500-foot buffer, herein referred to as Survey Area, where accessible, to identify the vegetation communities and wildlife habitat present within the Survey Area. Biologists documented plant and wildlife species, and vegetation communities observed within the Survey Area. The biologists assessed the Project Site's potential to provide habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species. Data was recorded on a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, field notebooks, and/or maps and photographs were taken during the survey to provide visual representation of the site conditions. The Project Site was also examined to assess its potential to function as a movement corridor for wildlife moving throughout the region.

Where appropriate, biologists used descriptions of the *California Manual of California Vegetation (MCV), Online Edition* (CNPS 2025b) to classify vegetation communities. Any deviations from standard vegetation classifications were made with 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.

Plant and wildlife species, including any special-status species that were observed during the survey, were recorded. 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), *Checklist of North American Birds* (Chesser et al. 2023), and the *Revised Checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico* (Bradley et al. 2014). In instances where a special-status species was observed, ECORP recorded the date, species, location, habitat, and GPS coordinates.

3.4.2 Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment and Focused Burrow Survey

The Project Site is located within the MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area and is subject to the MSHCP burrowing owl survey requirements (RCTLMA 2025). Prior to the field survey, available literature and databases including the CNDDB were reviewed, to identify burrowing owl observations in the vicinity of

the Project Site. ECORP conducted a burrowing owl habitat assessment concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey to determine the presence of suitable habitat. The habitat assessment followed the protocol outlined in Step I of the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (RCA 2006). The habitat assessment consisted of walking the Survey Area, where accessible, to identify the presence of burrowing owl habitat. In inaccessible areas, biologists scanned the area with binoculars.

In addition to the habitat assessment, ECORP conducted a focused burrow survey as required under Step IIA of the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (RCA 2006) and if found, documented suitable burrows present within the Survey Area, where accessible. The biologists visually inspected any burrows, rocky areas, or debris piles within the Survey Area for potential burrowing owl occupation. All burrows encountered were accessed for signs of burrowing owl presence or use (i.e., whitewash, feathers, pellets, and prey remains) and classified according to the guidelines in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (California Department of Fish and Game 2012). The biologists took photographs during the habitat assessment and focused burrow survey to provide visual representation of habitat suitable for burrowing owl.

3.5 Aquatic Resources Assessment

ECORP conducted a desktop review to identify potential streams and hydric soils in the Project Site. This entailed examination of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Mapper (NRCS 2025a), NWI Mapper (USFWS 2025b), aerial photography, and the USGS topographic mapping of the Project Site to aid in identifying potential biological constraints to the Project due to aquatic features that have the potential to be jurisdictional to the USACE, RWQCB, and/or CDFW.

4.0 RESULTS

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

4.1 Literature Review

4.1.1 Special-Status Plants and Wildlife

ECORP conducted the CNDDB and CNPSEI searches on April 18, 2025. The database searches identified 34 special-status plant species and 39 special-status wildlife species that could occur on and/or near the Project Site. A list was generated from the results of the literature review and the Project Site was evaluated for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status plant or wildlife species on the list. Appendix A contains a list of the special-status plant species with potential to occur on and/or near the Project Site, and Appendix B contains a list of the special-status wildlife species with potential to occur on and/or near the Project Site.

4.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Designated Critical Habitat

The Project Site is not located within any USFWS-designated critical habitat. The nearest designated critical habitat is located approximately 6.2 miles southeast for spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*) (USFWS 2025b).

4.3 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

ECORP biologists Chelsie Brown and Hugo Sanchez conducted the biological reconnaissance survey on April 22, 2025. Weather conditions during the survey are summarized in Table 1. The results of the biological reconnaissance survey, including site characteristics, plants and plant communities, wildlife, special-status species, special-status habitats (including any potential wildlife corridors), and aquatic resources are summarized below.

Table 1. Weather Conditions During the Biological Reconnaissance Survey

Date	Time		Temperature (°F)		Cloud Cover (%)		Wind Speed (miles per hour)	
	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End
4/22/2025	0800	1220	53	72	100 (foggy)	3	0-3	5-7

Notes: °F = Degrees Fahrenheit

4.3.1 Property Characteristics

The majority of the Project Site consists of the existing paved, public ROW along Western Way and portions of private properties adjacent to the paved roadway. The portions of private properties that fall within the Project Site consist of landscaped vegetation, property fencing/walls, parking lots, buildings, driveways, and vacant land. The Project Site is bound by industrial development, vacant land, and paved roadways to the north, west, south, and east. Landscaped trees are present within the Project Site adjacent to Western Way on both sides of the roadway. Elevations within the Project Site range from 1,501 to 1,508 feet (approximately 455 to 460 meters) above mean sea level.

Disturbances observed within the Project Site include pedestrian and vehicular use, manufactured ground cover (e.g., gravel and wood chips), landscaping, and scattered trash. The most northwest portion of the Project Site contained evidence of past mechanical disturbance (e.g., disced, tilled), and aerial imagery shows evidence of regular mechanical disturbance over the years, likely for the purpose of weed abatement. Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*) burrows are present in the Project Site along Western Way. Representative photographs of the Survey Area are presented in Appendix C.

According to NRCS Web Soil data, five soil types are documented within the Survey Area (NRCS 2025a): Hanford fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (HgA); Greenfield sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (GyA); Monserate sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes (MmB); Ramona sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Major

Land Resource Area 19 (RaA); Exeter sandy loam, deep, 0 to 2 percent slopes (EpA). None of the soils identified by NRCS within the Project Site are identified as being hydric soils (NRCS 2025b).

4.3.2 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

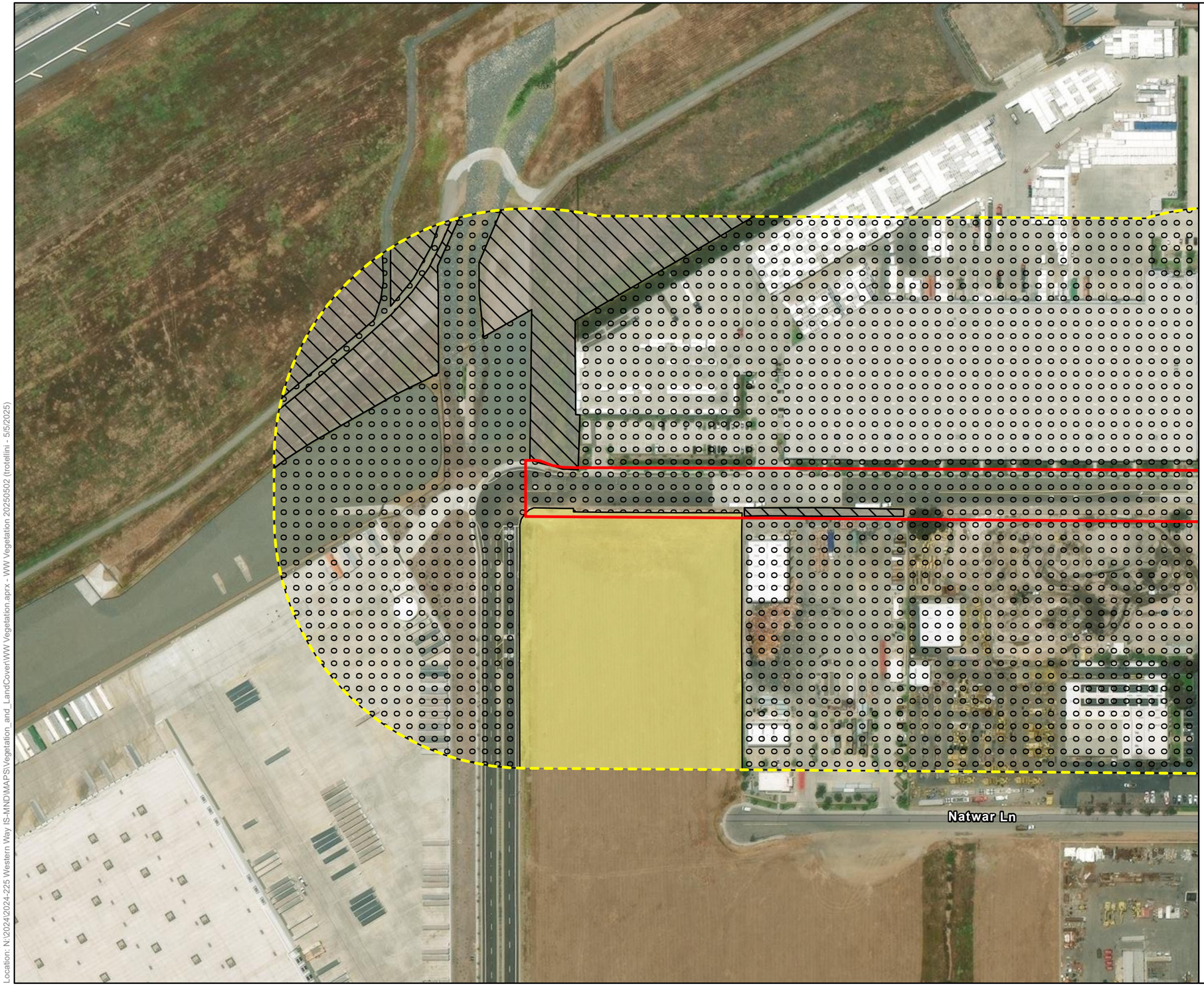
ECORP biologists characterized and mapped one vegetation community during the biological reconnaissance survey within the Survey Area, annual brome grasslands (*Bromus* spp. Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance) (CNPS 2025b). In addition, the biologists mapped two land cover types, developed and disturbed, within the Survey Area. The vegetation community and each of the land cover types are described below and depicted in Figure 3.

4.3.3 Annual Brome Grasslands (Bromus spp. Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance)

This vegetation community is dominated by one or more nonnative annual grass species with an open to continuous herb layer of herbage up to four feet in height (CNPS 2025b). The following nonnative species may be dominant or co-dominant on the landscape and occur with other nonnatives in the herb layer: slender oat (*Avena barbata*), wild oat (*Avena fatua*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), and foxtail barley (*Hordeum murinum*). This community can be considered a grassland, and occurs in all topographic settings in foothills, disturbed areas, rangelands, and openings in woodlands. A small sliver of this vegetation community is present in the northwest portion of the Project Site along Western Way. Within the Survey Area, annual brome grasslands are present in the northwestern most portion. This vegetation community was dominated by barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and also contained Menzies' fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*), ripgut brome, jimsonweed (*Datura wrightii*), redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), stinknet (*Oncosiphon pilulifer*), and sowthistle (*Sonchus* sp.). This vegetation community is considered a semi-natural stand, is not ranked, and is not considered a California Sensitive Natural Community (CDFW 2025d).

4.3.4 Developed

Developed is not a vegetation community classification but rather a land cover type. Developed lands are those that are heavily affected by human use, including landscaping, commercial or industrial buildings and associated infrastructure, and transportation corridors. Within developed areas, naturalized vegetation is often relatively sparse, and largely consists of ornamental, nonnative species. This land cover type is characterized by some level of anthropogenic development or disturbance and includes various types of landscaping including ornamental shrubs/trees and manufactured ground cover (gravel/wood chips). The majority of the Project Site and Survey Area consists of developed land cover. Developed areas within the Project Site include paved roadways including Western Way, Nandina Avenue, Jet Way, Airport Way, and Patterson Avenue as well as portions of industrial development, driveways, sidewalks, property fencing/walls, water infrastructure, and landscaping. Development outside of the Project Site but within the Survey Area includes additional industrial development water infrastructure, landscaping as well as parking lots, March Air Reserve Base roadways, Van Buren Boulevard, and a Riverside County Flood Control District box culvert system. Ornamental vegetation identified within the Project Site include American century plant (*Agave americana*), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), sacred bamboo (*Nandina domestica*), and Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*). Ornamental trees observed within the



Map Contents

- Project Site - 5.91 ac.
- Survey Area

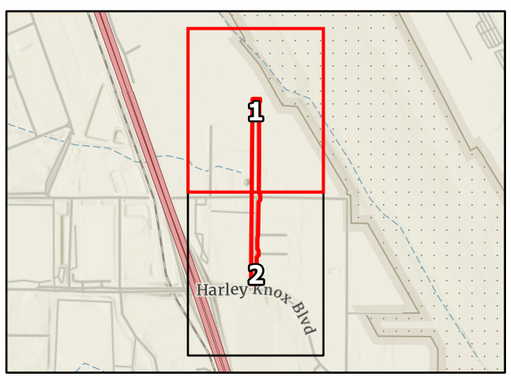
Vegetation Communities

- Annual Brome Grasslands

Land Cover Types

- Developed
- Disturbed

Sources: ESR$I, Maxar (2024)



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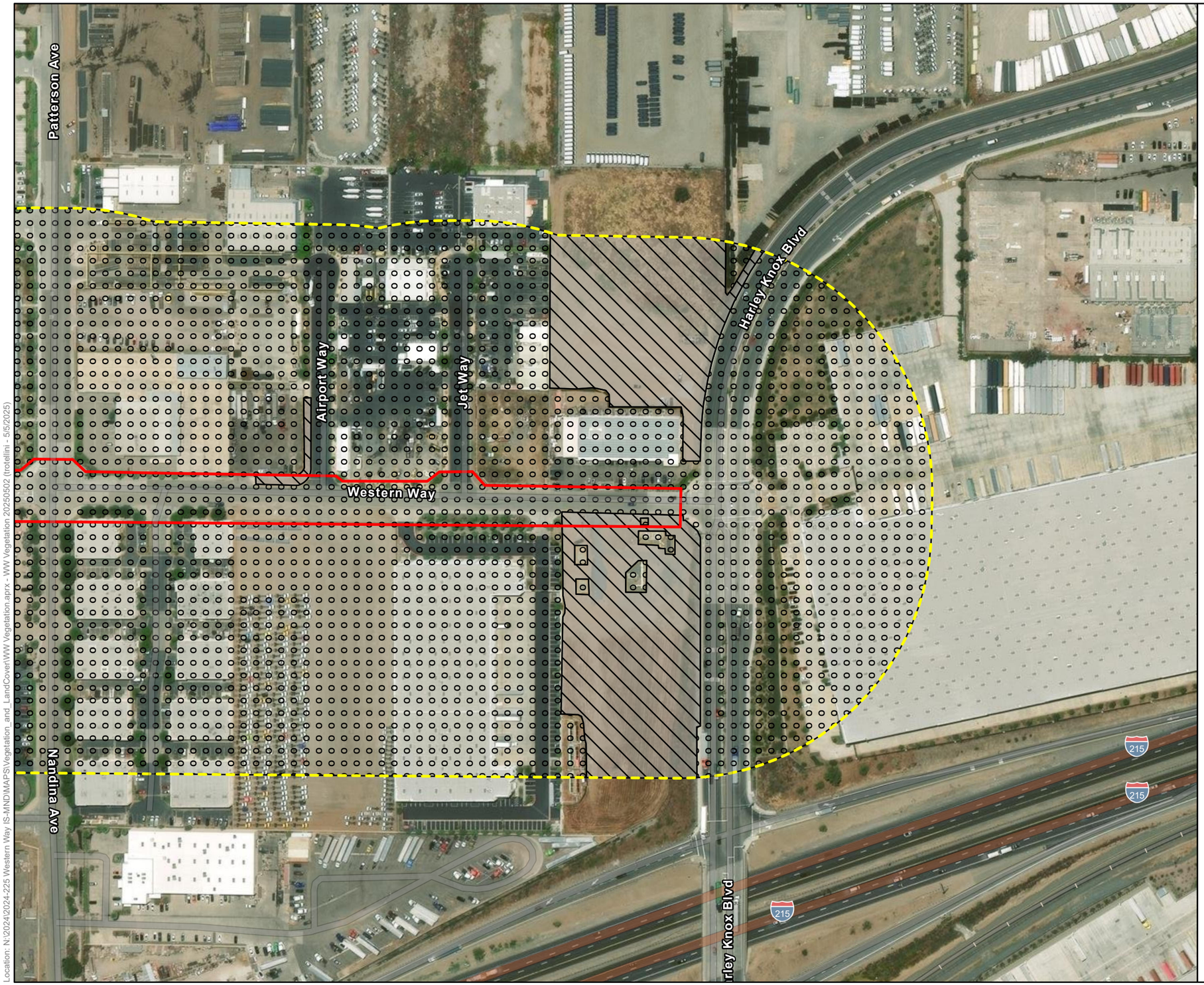
Map Date: 5/2/2025

ECORP Consulting, Inc.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Scale in Feet
0 200

Figure 3. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types
Sheet 1 of 2
2024-225 Western Way IS-MND



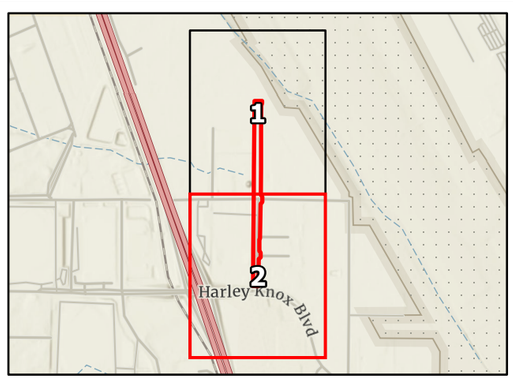
Map Contents

- Project Site - 5.91 ac.
- Survey Area

Land Cover Types

- Developed
- Disturbed

Sources: ESR$I, Maxar (2024)



Location: N:\2024\2024-225 Western Way IS-MND\MAPS\Vegetation_and_LandCover\WW Vegetation.aprx - WW Vegetation 20250502 (trotellini - 5/5/2025)

Map Date: 5/2/2025

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Scale in Feet
0 200

Figure 3. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types
Sheet 2 of 2
2024-225 Western Way IS-MND

Project Site include strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*), Mexican palo verde (*Parkinsonia aculeata*), pine (*Pinus* sp.), and sycamore (*Platanus* sp.).

4.3.5 Disturbed

Disturbed land is not a vegetation classification, but rather a land cover type and is not restricted by elevation. Disturbed land includes areas that are mostly devoid of vegetation and have been heavily influenced by human actions such as grading but lack development. Disturbed areas may be actively maintained to be free of vegetation or have been compacted or disked to such a degree that native and nonnative vegetation is very sparse. Some of the areas mapped as disturbed were largely devoid of vegetation, and other areas contained patchy to dense nonnative weedy and ruderal vegetation. Small slivers of this land cover occur throughout the Project Site along both sides of Western Way. Within the Survey Area, disturbed areas occur scattered throughout between and behind the developed areas. Plant species observed in the disturbed areas included ripgut brome, red brome (Bromus rubens), redstem filaree, short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), barley, prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), cheeseweed mallow (*Malva parviflora*), sowthistle, and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*).

4.3.6 Plants

Plant species observed during the survey were generally characteristic of ornamental vegetation and developed/disturbed areas in Southern California. The majority of Project Site contains nonnative plant species. However, native plant species observed include Menzies' fiddleneck, Jimsonweed, common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), and deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*). Nonnative plant species present include prickly lettuce, lantana (*Lantana camara*), stinknet, ornamental rose species (*Rosa* spp.), London rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*), and sowthistle. Ornamental trees are present along both sides of Western Way including those discussed in Section 4.3.4 as well as gum tree (*Eucalyptus* sp.), crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*), olive (*Olea europaea*), cottonwood (*Populus* sp.), and queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*). A complete list of plant species observed on the Project Site is included as Appendix D.

4.3.7 Wildlife

Wildlife species observed and detected within the Survey Area during the survey were generally characteristic of developed areas within the City of Perris. Insect species observed include honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) and black harvester ant (*Camponotus pennsylvanicus*). The biologists observed one reptile species: western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*). Bird species observed include rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis)*, and mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*). Mammal species observed or detected include domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*) and Botta's pocket gopher burrows. A complete list of wildlife species observed during the survey is included as Appendix E.

4.3.8 Potential for Special-Status Plant and Wildlife Species to Occur in the Project Site

The literature review and database searches identified 34 special-status plant species and 39 special-status wildlife species that have been documented on or near the Project Site.

4.3.8.1 Special-Status Plants

There were 34 special-status plant species that appeared in the literature review and database searches for the Project Site (CDFW 2025a; CNPS 2025a). Of those, 11 are federally and/or State-listed and 24 are covered by the Western Riverside MSHCP. A list was generated from the results of the literature review and the Project was evaluated for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status plant species on the list. Of the 34 plant species identified in the literature review, one has a moderate potential to occur and one has a low potential to occur. The level of development within the Project Site as well as the lack of suitable habitat and soils preclude 32 of these species from occurring. A table outlining each species, their designations, and the potential for these species to occur in the Project Site can be found in Appendix A.

For the purposes of this study, the results of the literature review were limited to plant species occurring within a nine-quadrangle search of the Project Site. With various habitat types occurring within the nine-quadrangle search, some species appeared in the literature review results that had no potential to occur on the Project Site. For the purposes of this study, plant species with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1A were eliminated from the analysis because they are presumed to be extirpated from California. Additionally, plant species with a CRPR of 3 or 4 were eliminated from the analysis because these rankings are considered a review list and a watch list, respectively, and if present, any impacts to CRPR 3 and 4 species would not be considered significant under CEQA. Descriptions of the CRPR designations can be found in Table 2.

Table 2. California Rare Plant Rank 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)

Table 2. California Rare Plant Rank Status Designations	
List Designation	**Meaning**
.3	Not very threatened in California (less than 20 percent of occurrences threatened/low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

Notes: According to California Native Plant Society (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. This interpretation is inconsistent with other definitions.
CRPR = California Rare Plant Rank

4.3.8.2 Plant Species with a Moderate Potential to Occur

The following special-status plant species has a moderate potential to occur in the Project Site due to the presence of limited suitable disturbed areas and grassland habitat and a recent record of the species within the 5 miles of the Project Site.

Smooth tarplant

Smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) is not a federally or state-listed species but is a MSHCP Covered species and has a CRPR status of 1B.1. This species is an annual herb that is endemic to California and is typically found in chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grassland, often found on disturbed sites and in alkaline soils. The Project Site contains limited suitable habitat for the species in the form of small disturbed areas and a small area of annual brome grasslands. Three records of the species have been documented within 5 miles of the Project Site (CDFW 2025a). One record is recent, one record is considered historic, and the date of the third record is unknown. The recent record (Occurrence # 4) was documented in 2016 approximately 4.5 miles from the Project Site. The historic and the undated records (Occurrence # 88 and 7) were documented approximately 3 miles away, with the historic record occurring in 1995. Based on the presence of limited disturbed and grassland habitat present on the Project Site and the recent documented record of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site, this species has been determined to have a moderate potential to occur on the Project Site.

4.3.8.3 Plant Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following species has a low potential to occur in the Project Site. The Project Site provides only limited or marginal habitat for this species, and there are no recent records of these species within 5 miles of the Project Site, or a historic observation was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, or a recent observation was recorded but not within 5 miles of the Project Site.

- San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*), federally listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered

4.3.8.4 Plant Species Presumed Absent

A total of 32 plant species were presumed absent due to lack of suitable habitat, soil type, and/or the species were located outside of the elevation range for the species.

- Chaparral sand-verbena (*Abronia villosa* var. *aurita*), CRPR 1B.1
- Yucaipa onion (*Allium marvinii*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (threatened), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1
- San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*), federally listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Davidson's saltscale (*Atriplex serenana* var. *davidsonii*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*), federally listed (threatened), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Intermediate mariposa lily (*Calochortus weedii* var. *intermedius*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- Salt marsh bird's-beak (*Chloropyron maritimum* ssp. *maritimum*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.2
- Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered but Not Adequately Conserved
- Long-spined spineflower (*Chorizanthe polygonoides* var. *longispina*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- San Miguel savory (*Clinopodium chandleri*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- Slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered
- Sticky dudleya (*Dudleya viscida*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered but Not Adequately Conserved
- Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Tecate cypress (*Hesperocyparis forbesii*), CRPR 1B.1
- Mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), CRPR 1B.1
- Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Heart-leaved pitcher sage (*Lepechinia cardiophylla*), CRPR 1B.2, MSHCP Covered

- Intermediate monardella (*Monardella hypoleuca* ssp. *intermedia*), CRPR 1B.3
- Hall's monardella (*Monardella macrantha* ssp. *hallii),* CRPR 1B.3, MSHCP Covered
- Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*), federally listed (threatened), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- Brand's star phacelia (*Phacelia stellaris*), CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered
- White rabbit-tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*), CRPR 2B.2
- Chaparral ragwort (*Senecio aphanactis*), CRPR 1B.2
- San Bernardino aster (*Symphyotrichum defoliatum*), CRPR 1B.2
- California screw moss (*Tortula californica*), CRPR 1B.2
- Wright's trichocoronis (*Trichocoronis wrightii* var. *wrightii*), CRPR 2B.1, MSHCP Covered

4.3.9 Potential for Special-Status Wildlife to Occur in the Project Site

There were 39 special-status wildlife species that appeared in the literature review and database searches for the Project Site. Of those, 12 are federally and/or state-listed, three are a candidate for State or federal listing, three are proposed for federal listing, and 23 are covered by the MSHCP. Of the 39 wildlife species identified in the literature review, three have a low potential to occur, and the remaining 36 species are presumed absent from the Project Site. The level of development, previous mechanical disturbances, the presence of anthropogenic influences on the site, as well as the lack of suitable habitat preclude many of these species from occurring. A complete list of the 39 wildlife species, with details regarding habitat requirements and potential for occurrence designations, is included as Appendix B.

4.3.9.1 Wildlife Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following species have a low potential to occur in the Project Site as indicated by one or more of the following: habitat for the species occurs onsite and a known occurrence has been reported in the database, but not within 5 miles of the Project Site; a historic documented observation was recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site; a known recently documented occurrence has been reported within 5 miles of the Project Site and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs onsite, or the species was not observed during focused surveys conducted for that species.

- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), Candidate for state listing
- Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Candidate for state listing, CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), CDFW SSC

4.3.9.2 Wildlife Species Presumed Absent

These species were not present at the site during the site visit and/or habitat was not present or suitable. For some species, there were historic or recent sightings; however, due to the lack of suitable habitat within the Project Site, these species are presumed absent:

- Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), federally listed (endangered), MSHCP Covered
- Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*), federally listed (threatened), MSHCP Covered
- Arroyo chub (*Gila orcutti*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Steelhead - southern California Distinct Population Segment (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus* pop. 10), federally listed (endangered), Candidate for state listing
- Santa Ana speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus* ssp. 8), federally proposed threatened CDFW SSC
- Western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*), proposed for federal listing (threatened), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*), CDFW SSC
- California glossy snake (*Arizona elegans occidentalis*), CDFW SSC;
- Coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*), proposed for federal listing (threatened), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*), CDFW SSC
- South coast gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis* pop. 1), CDFW SSC
- Tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), state listed (threatened), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*), CDFW SSC
- Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), CDFW Fully Protected, MSHCP Covered
- Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), state listed (threatened), MSHCP Covered
- Western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*), federally listed (threatened), CDFW SSC
- Yellow rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), CDFW SSC
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), CDFW Fully Protected, MSHCP Covered
- Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), federally delisted, state listed (endangered), CDFW Fully Protected, MSHCP Covered

- Yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*), state listed (threatened), CDFW Fully Protected
- Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), federally listed (threatened), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), MSHCP Covered
- San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*), federally listed (endangered), state-listed (endangered), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*), federally listed (threatened), state-listed (threatened), MSHCP Covered
- Western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), CDFW SSC
- San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- Pocketed free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops femorosaccus*), CDFW SSC
- Southern grasshopper mouse (*Onychomys torridus ramona*), CDFW SSC
- Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered
- American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), CDFW SSC

4.4 Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment Results

ECORP biologists conducted a burrowing owl habitat assessment and focused burrow survey within the Survey Area, where accessible. The burrowing owl habitat assessment was required under the MSHCP due to the Project Site being located within a MSHCP-designated Burrowing Owl Survey Area. The habitat assessment and focused burrow survey were conducted concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey on April 22, 2025. The assessment documented limited suitable habitat for burrowing owl within the annual brome grasslands vegetation community and disturbed land cover type within the Project Site. The biologists did not observe any California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) burrows during the biological reconnaissance survey or any California ground squirrels. In addition, no burrows of suitable size and shape for burrowing owl use were observed within the Project Site. The biologists noted one potential burrowing owl burrow located within the Survey Area but outside of the Project Site. The potential burrow documented consisted of a 5-inch high by 36-inch wide opening underneath a utility-access hole concrete pad. No sign (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, prey remains) of burrowing owl use was present at the burrow location. The location of the potential burrowing owl burrow is displayed on Figure 4.

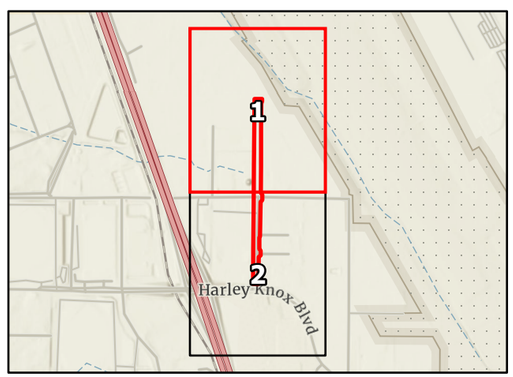
Map Contents

- Project Site - 5.91 ac.
- Study Area

Survey Results

- Swallow Nesting
- Potential Burrowing Owl Burrow (no sign)

Sources: ESR$I, Maxar (2024)



Location: N:\2024\2024-225 Western Way IS-MND\MAPS\Biological_Resources\WW Biological Resources aprx - WW BR Results 20250502 (trotellini - 5/2/2025)

Map Date: 5/2/2025

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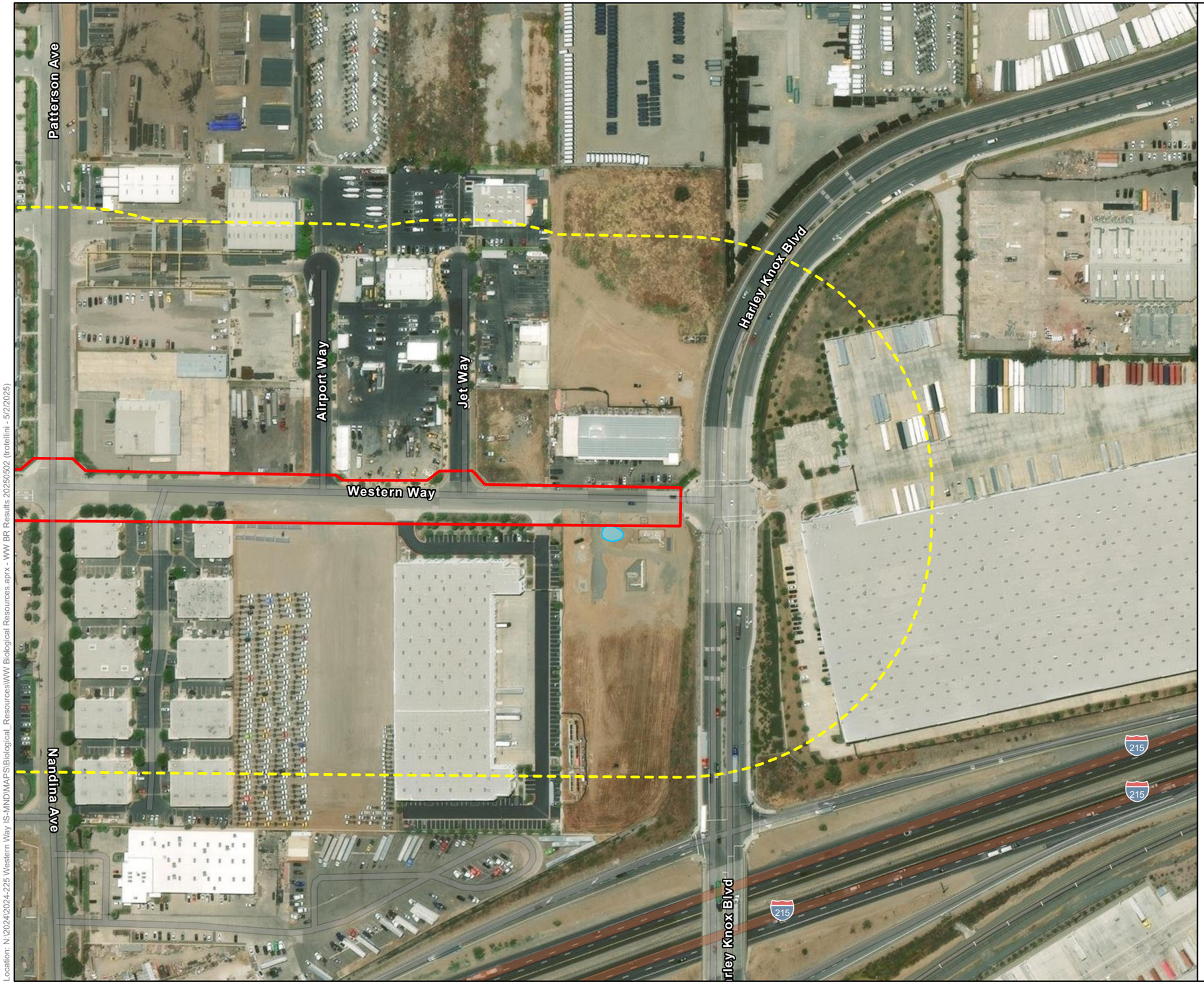
Scale in Feet
0 200

Figure 4. Biological Survey Results
Sheet 1 of 2
2024-225 Western Way Widening and Improvements Project



Map Contents

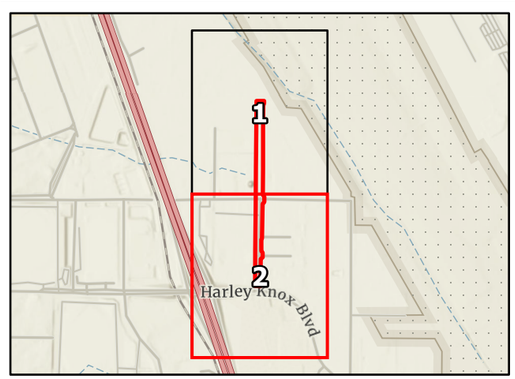
Project Site - 5.91 ac.

Study Area

Survey Results

Depression with Ephemeral Pooling

Sources: ESR$I, Maxar (2024)



Location: N:\2024\2024-225 Western Way IS-MND\MAPS\Biological_Resources\WW Biological Resources.aprx - WW BR Results 20250502 (trotellini - 5/2/2025)

Map Date: 5/2/2025

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Scale in Feet
0 200

Figure 4. Biological Survey Results
Sheet 2 of 2
2024-225 Western Way Widening and Improvements Project

The larger disturbed areas within the Survey Area were not accessible for the biologists to survey by foot. Burrowing owls may have the opportunity to inhabit the Project Site between the time of the biological reconnaissance survey and the start of construction due to the mobile nature of the species. Because no suitable burrows were observed within the Project Site, no additional focused burrowing owl surveys were conducted during the 2025 breeding season.

4.5 Raptors and Migratory Birds

There is potential nesting habitat for migratory birds and raptors protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code in the trees and shrubs on and adjacent to the Project Site. Additionally, the open areas and ground could be suitable for ground nesting species (e.g., killdeer [*Charadrius vociferus]*, California horned lark [*Eremophila alpestris actia*], and mourning dove). Raptors typically breed between January 15 and August 31, and songbirds and other passerines generally nest between February 1 and September 15. Nesting was observed within the Survey Area but outside of the Project Site in the Riverside County Flood Control box culvert (Figure 4). The biologists observed large quantities of two species of swallow (cliff swallow and northern rough-winged swallow) flying in and out of the box culvert repeatedly.

4.6 Aquatic Resources

The desktop review of the NRCS Soil Mapper identified no hydric soils within the Project Site (NRCS 2025a). No blue line features or other aquatic resources were identified within the Project Site during the desktop review of the NWI Mapper (USFWS 2025a). The biologists did not observe any aquatic resources present within the Project Site during the biological reconnaissance survey.

The biologists observed a depressional feature during the biological reconnaissance survey that is located adjacent to the Project Site and appears to pool ephemerally (Figure 4). Although this feature appears to pool ephemerally, it does not meet the three criteria necessary to be a wetland per USACE guidance (Environmental Laboratory 1987). This feature likely resulted from historic human activity and is subject to ongoing maintenance for the adjacent water infrastructure. The dominant vegetation in this area consisted of upland ruderal species including redstem filaree, which is not listed in the National Wetland Plant List (USACE 2022). This area would not likely meet the hydric soil criteria due to underlying substrate, primarily aggregate base. Historical aerial imagery from Google Earth does not show evidence of the feature present prior to construction activities.

4.7 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 between habitat areas. The definition of a corridor varies, 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. Most of the Project Site occurs within the existing paved public ROW and within developed land cover. In general, the Project is surrounded by development, paved roads, and a fenced military base (March Air Reserve Base) on all sides which greatly reduce the Project Site's value as a wildlife movement corridor. It is possible that the Project Site functions in local wildlife movement and that common wildlife species including coyote (*Canis latrans*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) could travel through the Project Site on the paved roadways; however, based on the fact that the Project Site is located within an urban area and surrounded by industrial development, it is unlikely that the Project Site plays a critical role in local wildlife movement. Additionally, the disturbances from vehicles and pedestrians would likely deter wildlife from moving through the area. Therefore, the Project Site is not considered a linkage or corridor between natural habitat areas.

5.0 IMPACT ANALYSIS

This section discusses the potential impacts to biological resources that could result from implementation of the Proposed Project. The Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures for the Proposed Project are discussed in Section 7.0.

5.1 Special-Status Species

The literature review and database search identified 34 special-status plant species and 39 special-status wildlife species that could occur on the Project Site. Of the 34 plant species identified in the literature search, one species has a moderate potential to occur within the Project Site: smooth tarplant (CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered) and one species was determined to have a low potential to occur in the Project Site: San Diego ambrosia (federally listed [endangered], CRPR 1B.1, MSHCP Covered). The remaining 32 plant species are presumed absent. Smooth tarplant and San Diego ambrosia are covered under the MSHCP and are considered adequately conserved. As such, impacts to these species would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

Of the 39 special-status wildlife species identified in the literature search, three species were determined to have a low potential to occur at the Project Site: Crotch's bumble bee (Candidate for state listing); burrowing owl (Candidate for state listing, CDFW SSC, MSHCP Covered), and western yellow bat (CDFW SSC). The remaining 36 species are presumed absent from the Project Site.

Crotch's bumble bee is a Candidate for state listing and is therefore afforded all the protections as though it were listed under the California ESA. This species has a low potential to occur due to the presence of pockets of suitable friable soils, suitable burrow habitat, suitable burrows (i.e., Botta's pocket gopher burrows), and minimal nectar sources within and adjacent to the Survey Area. If Crotch bumble bee is found to be using or nesting in the Project Site prior to the start of construction, impacts to Crotch bumble bee may occur in the form of direct mortality of individuals, direct mortality to an active nesting colony, direct mortality to an overwintering individual, conversion of foraging habitat, or permanent loss of foraging resources. Because this species is a generalist forager that chooses nest and overwintering locations on an annual basis, temporary and permanent loss of habitat resulting from the Project would not be expected to contribute substantially to the overall decline of this species unless direct impacts were to occur to an active nest or overwintering gyne (future queen). Impacts to Crotch bumble bee would be less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measures (MMs) BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3. The MMs for the Proposed Project are discussed in Section 7.0.

Burrowing owl is a Candidate for state listing under the California Endangered Species Act, a CDFW SSC, protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code, and a Covered Species under the MSHCP. This species has a low potential to occur due to the presence of limited suitable habitat in the disturbed and annual brome grassland habitats in the Project Site, despite the lack of suitable burrows within the Project Site. One potential burrow (suitably sized but no sign of burrowing owl use at the time of the biological survey) was documented outside of the Project Site within the Survey Area. No burrowing owls were observed during the biological reconnaissance survey, however, due to the mobile nature of the burrowing owl, there is potential for this species to move into the Project Site prior to the start of Project activities. Direct impacts in the form of ground disturbance, vegetation removal, habitat loss, and mortality and indirect impacts from construction noise and vibrations may occur to this species should they begin utilizing the site. Impacts to burrowing owl would be less than significant with the implementation of MMs BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, and BIO-5.

Western yellow bat is a CDFW SSC. This species has a low potential to occur on the Project Site due to the presence of trees that may provide suitable roosting habitat. Direct impacts to this species may occur in the form of tree trimming or removal. Impacts to western yellow bat would be less than significant with the implementation of MMs BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-6.

The trees, shrubs, and grassland located within or adjacent to the Project Site could provide nesting habitat for nesting birds and raptors protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code. If construction of the Proposed Project occurs during the bird breeding season (typically February 1 through August 31), ground-disturbing construction activities could directly affect nesting birds and other birds protected by the MBTA and their nests through habitat removal within the Project Site, and indirectly through increased noise, vibrations, and increased human activity. Impacts to sensitive bird species and/or nesting birds would be less than significant with the implementation of preconstruction surveys for nesting birds (MM BIO-5) as described in Section 7.0 of this document.

5.2 Sensitive Natural Communities

The vegetation community and land cover types on the Project Site include annual brome grasslands, developed areas, and disturbed areas. The vegetation community and the land cover types are not considered sensitive natural communities. Therefore, no impacts to sensitive natural communities are anticipated to result from the development of this Project.

5.3 State or Federally Protected Wetlands and Waters of the United States

The desktop review did not show any aquatic resources within the Project Site (USFWS 2025a). In addition, there were no aquatic resources observed within the Project Site by the biologists during the biological reconnaissance survey.

5.4 Wildlife Corridors and Nursery Sites

Most of the Project Site is located within a paved road ROW and areas that are developed or were previously disturbed. The disturbances from vehicles and pedestrians along the paved road ROW and adjacent industrial developments would likely deter wildlife from moving through the area. Generally, the Project Site is surrounded by development, paved roads, and a fenced military base on all sides. As such, the Project Site is not considered a linkage to higher quality habitat areas or a corridor to allow wildlife to move through the site towards larger habitat blocks, on a regional scale and impacts to wildlife corridors are not expected to occur from the Proposed Project.

Suitable bat roosting habitat was identified within the Project Site within the peeling and exposed bark of eucalyptus trees and in the foliage of landscaped cottonwood trees located in the southwest portion of the Project Site. Should bats be found roosting in these features during the bat maternity season (April 1 through August 31), these roosts would be considered native wildlife nursery sites and are protected under CEQA. Direct impacts to occupied bat roosts could include removal or destruction that could result in direct mortality, indirect impacts from noise, dust, and vibration during Project construction could result in roost abandonment and mortality of flightless young. Impacts to bat maternity roosts would be less than significant with the implementation of the preconstruction bat surveys (MM BIO-6) as described in Section 7.0.

No other native wildlife nursery sites were identified within the Project Site. No other impacts to nursery sites are expected to occur during the development of the Project Site.

5.5 Habitat Conservation Plans and Natural Community Conservation Plans

The Project Site is located within the planning area for the MSHCP, but outside of any Cell Groups, Criteria Cells, and Subunit designations. The Project is not located within any Conservation Areas. An MSHCP Consistency Analysis is included in Section 6.0, below.

6.0 MSHCP CONSISTENCY ANALYSIS

The purpose of this Consistency Analysis is to summarize the biological data for the Proposed Project and to document the Proposed Project's consistency with the goals and objectives of the MSHCP. The Project Site is located within the planning area for the MSHCP, but outside of any Cell Groups, Criteria Cells, and Subunit designations; therefore, no Reserve Assembly requirements would apply to the Project. The Project is located within Section 6.3.2 Additional Survey Needs and Procedures for Burrowing Owl; however, the Project Site is not located within Section 6.3.2 Additional Survey Needs for Criteria Area Plant Species, Mammals, or Amphibians; therefore, additional survey requirements for these biological resources would not apply to the Project. The Project's compliance with the relevant sections of the MSHCP are discussed in the following sections.

6.1 Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools Section 6.1.2

6.1.1 Riparian/Riverine

In accordance with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP, the biological reconnaissance survey included an assessment for riparian and riverine communities, vernal pools, and fairy shrimp. The MSHCP defines riparian/riverine areas as

> …lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent vegetation, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or that depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with freshwater flow during all or a portion of the year.

According to the RCA MSHCP Consistency Analysis Report Template, a riverine feature includes:

> any feature that is natural in origin as well as past natural features that have been heavily modified and/or redirected and can include features indirectly created through man-made manipulation of the landscape, including channelization of a historic riverine feature. If these features connect to nearby downstream resources that are either existing or described conservation lands, they would be considered riverine (RCTLMA 2025b).

Both vegetated (riparian) and unvegetated (riverine) drainages may be considered MSHCP resources.

No riparian or riverine resources were observed within the Project Site during the biological reconnaissance survey. The majority of the Project Site is developed and is covered by pavement or concrete. The Project Site lacks clay soils, and areas with exposed soil consisted entirely of sandy loam soils. In addition, there are no NWI-mapped aquatic features within the Project Site.

6.1.2 Vernal Pools and Fairy Shrimp Habitat

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. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season, while upland species (annuals) may be dominant during the drier portion of the growing season. The determination that an area exhibits vernal pool characteristics, and the definition of the watershed supporting vernal pool hydrology, must be made on a case-by-case basis. Such determinations should consider the length of the time the area exhibits upland and wetland characteristics and the manner in which the area fits into the overall ecological system as a wetland. Evidence concerning the persistence of an area's wetness can be obtained from its history, vegetation, soils, and drainage characteristics, uses to which it has been subjected, and weather and hydrologic records (RCTLMA 2025).

Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that alternate between periods of inundation and desiccation on an annual basis, corresponding to California's Mediterranean climate of cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers. Distinct phases in this annual cycle include a wetting phase, an aquatic or inundation phase, a waterlogged-terrestrial phase, and a drought phase (Keeley and Zedler 1998). Keeley and Zedler (1998) define vernal pools as "precipitation-filled seasonal wetlands inundated during periods when temperature is sufficient for plant growth, followed by a brief waterlogged-terrestrial stage and culminating in extreme desiccating soil conditions of extended duration."

California vernal pools host unique communities of plants and animals that have adapted to vernal pool conditions over a long geological timeframe. Vernal pools provide fishless breeding habitat for numerous invertebrates, aquatic insects, and amphibians during the aquatic phase (Zedler 1987). Western spadefoot toads utilize vernal pools for reproductive purposes and as a food source. As stated in Zedler's report: "…because of the brief periods of high productivity of the aquatic and amphibious plants and animals, the vernal pools probably also are a significant source of forage and prey" (Zedler 1987). Snakes may be attracted by the abundance of amphibians to prey upon, and mammals may utilize inundated pools as a source of water. Wading birds and waterfowl are attracted to the pools for food and as migratory stopovers and are probably a major means by which plant propagules too large for wind dispersal are carried long distances (Zedler 1987). The desiccating soil conditions present during the summer months prevent the establishment of plant species typical of more perennial wetland ecosystems. The growth period of vernal pool plant species typically begins during the wetting or inundation phases. As pools begin to draw down, flowering is initiated for the majority of vernal pool plants. The drawdown process often creates ring-shaped stratification of plant species adapted to drier or wetter conditions around the perimeter of the shrinking inundation zone. Invasive plants such as Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*) and wild oat (*Avena barbata* and *A. fatua*) also follow the receding water, often crowding out the native vernal pool plant species.

The biologists did not observe any vernal pools or indications of the presence of vernal pools during the biological reconnaissance survey. Although a portion of one depressional feature that ephemerally pools was identified adjacent to the southwest corner of the Project Site during the biological survey (Figure 4), this feature is not considered to be a vernal pool because the depressional area does not meet the three criteria necessary to be a wetland. Soils mapped by NRCS in this area consist of Ramona sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Major Land Resource Area 19 (RaA) (NRCS 2025a). The depressional feature appears to have resulted from historic human activity and is subject to ongoing maintenance for the adjacent water infrastructure.

Despite the depressional feature not being considered a vernal pool, fairy shrimp species that occur within ephemerally pools have the potential to be present within this depressional feature located adjacent to the Project Site, including Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*). In addition, two historical records (Occurrence # 27 and 28) of Riverside fair shrimp are documented in CNDDB within 5 miles of the Project site with both records occurring to the north on the March Air Reserve Base. The closest record (Occurrence # 28) is located less than 1 mile away, and the second record (Occurrence # 27) is located approximately 2 miles away. ECORP assumes that this feature will be fully avoided during Project construction and as a result, no impacts will occur. If direct impacts must occur to the depressional area that is subject to pooling, then focused fairy shrimp surveys may be necessary of the feature.

6.1.3 Riparian Birds

ECORP determined that suitable breeding and foraging habitat for least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) and western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) is not present within the Project Site. Based on the habitat requirements of these species, no potential habitat was observed within the Project Site. The Survey Area lacks any riparian vegetation and consists of developed and disturbed areas in addition to annual brome grasslands. Therefore, there is no potential for least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and/or western yellow-billed cuckoo to occur within the Project Site, and the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP.

6.2 Protection of Narrow Endemic Plant Species (Section 6.1.3)

ECORP reviewed the RCA MSHCP Information Map to determine whether the Project Site is located within a Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA), in accordance with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP (RCA 2025). The Project Site is not located within a NEPSSA or a Criteria Area. Therefore, no focused surveys for narrow endemic plant species are warranted, and the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP.

6.3 Urban/Wildlands Interface Guidelines (MSHCP Section 6.1.4)

As defined in the MSHCP, Conservation Areas are approximately 500,000 acres composed of roughly 347,000 acres of PQP Lands and 153,000 acres of Additional Reserves Lands within western Riverside County. The Urban/Wildland Interface is defined as a zone (less than 100 feet) between a project site and the MSHCP Conservation Area. Avoidance measures must be implemented if a project is located adjacent to a Conservation Area. The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to a MSHCP Conservation Area

(RCA 2025). The requirements for Urban/Wildlands Interface for the management of edge factors do not apply to the Project Site because the Project Site is not located adjacent to and does not have any onsite connection to either existing conservation or land described for conservation. Therefore, the Project is consistent with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP.

6.4 Additional Surveys Needs and Procedures (Section 6.3.2)

ECORP reviewed the RCA MSHCP Information Map to determine if the Survey Area was located within any other MSHCP-designated survey areas besides burrowing owl (RCA 2025). The Information Map revealed that the Project Site is not located within amphibian species, Criteria Area species, or mammalian species survey areas. Therefore, no further habitat assessments or surveys are required for amphibian species, Criteria Area species, or mammalian species.

6.4.1 Burrowing Owl (Section 6.3.2)

The Project Site is located within a Burrowing Owl Survey Area as designated by the MSHCP (RCA 2025). ECORP biologists conducted a burrowing owl habitat assessment within the Project Site, where accessible. The burrowing owl habitat assessment was required under the MSHCP due to the Project Site being located within a MSHCP-designated Burrowing Owl Survey Area. Due to the presence of suitable burrowing owl habitat identified during the burrowing owl habitat assessment, the biologists also conducted a focused burrow survey for the Survey Area within areas of suitable habitat, where accessible. The habitat assessment and focused burrow survey were conducted concurrently with the biological reconnaissance survey on April 22, 2025. The assessment documented limited suitable habitat for burrowing owl in the northwest portion of the Project Site within the annual brome grasslands community and in the disturbed area. Biologists did not observe any California ground squirrel burrows within the Project Site or any California ground squirrels during the assessment. The biologists documented one potential burrowing owl burrow with no sign present (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, prey remains) within the Survey Area but outside of the Project Site. Although California ground squirrels were not identified during the biological reconnaissance survey, ground squirrels have the potential to move in and create suitable burrows for burrowing owl prior to the start of construction. Because no suitable burrows were identified within the Project site, focused surveys for burrowing owls will not be necessary. Because the Project Site is located within a Burrowing Owl Survey Area, a pre-construction survey will need to be conducted within 30 days prior to ground disturbance for consistency with the MSHCP and in accordance with the protocol outlined in the MSHCP *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions* (RCA 2006).

6.5 Information on Other Species

6.5.1 Delhi Sands Flower Loving Fly

The Project Site is not located within an area with the Delhi Sands soils series or in an area mapped for Delhi sands flower loving fly within the MSHCP baseline data (RCA 2025a); no further discussion is provided in this document.

6.5.2 Coastal California Gnatcatcher

No suitable habitat is present for coastal California gnatcatcher within the Project Site. The Project Site consists of developed and disturbed areas in addition to annual brome grasslands. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to the species are anticipated.

6.5.3 Species Not Adequately Conserved

None of the Covered Species not Adequately Conserved listed in MSHCP Table 9-3 were determined to have a potential to occur within the Project Site. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to the species are anticipated.

6.6 MSHCP Consistency Summary

The Project would be consistent with the MSHCP based on the analysis and determinations made in Section 6.0.

The Project Site is not located within or near an MSHCP Criteria Cell, Cell Group, or Public Quasi-Public lands. The Survey Area also lacks MSHCP Section 6.1.2 riparian and riverine resources. Evidence of ephemeral pooling was observed adjacent to the southwest corner of the Project Site in a depressional area. This depressional area does not meet the characteristics to be considered a vernal pool, but the depressional area does provides suitable habitat for fairy shrimp species, including the Riverside fairy shrimp. The Survey Area is not located within a Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area or a Criteria Area. The Project is within the MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area; therefore, a habitat assessment and focused burrow survey for burrowing owl were conducted in April 2025. No burrows were identified within the Project Site, and as a result, focused burrowing owl surveys are not necessary. A 30-day preconstruction survey for burrowing owl is recommended prior to the initiation of construction to ensure protection for this species and compliance with the conservation goals as outlined in the MSHCP. The Project would be required to pay all applicable MSHCP development impact fees.

7.0 MITIGATION MEASURES

This section provides MMs that would reduce impacts to sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level.

BIO-1: **Seasonal Pre-Construction Crotch's Bumble Bee Nesting Survey and No-Work Buffer Establishment Around Active Crotch's Bumble Bee Nests.** If Crotch's bumble bee is still a candidate for listing or has been listed under California ESA at the time of Project implementation, the following shall be implemented. For work occurring during the nesting season (defined as March 15 through September 15 for purposes of this Project), a pre-construction Crotch's bumble bee nesting survey shall occur prior to ground-disturbing or vegetation-trimming activities within the Project's work area and a 50-foot buffer. A qualified Crotch's bumble bee biologist will conduct a Crotch's bumble bee nesting survey within 1 week of ground disturbing construction activities. Surveys shall be conducted during daylight hours when ambient temperatures are between 60 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit (°F).

In the event that a bumble bee nest is suspected (i.e., bumble bee was observed to have entered a burrow or disappeared under a shrub or into thatch), the suspected nest location will be passively observed for at least 20 minutes to confirm the presence/absence of a nest. A 50-foot buffer will be established and visibly flagged for avoidance if a nest location is discovered, and the discovery shall be reported to CDFW by the qualified Crotch's bumble bee biologist within 24 hours of discovery. During active construction, the Crotch's bumble bee biologist will monitor the nest on a weekly basis and will update the buffer size as necessary to ensure protection. Construction activities will not occur within the buffer until the nest is no longer active, as determined by the qualified Crotch's bumble bee biologist; CDFW will be notified prior to deactivation of the avoidance buffer and commencement of construction activities in this area. Application for a Section 2081 incidental take permit may be required should CDFW determine that avoidance measures are insufficient to avoid significant impacts to this candidate species.

BIO-2: **Worker Environmental Awareness Program.** Prior to the start of construction, a Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) will be developed by the Applicant. A qualified biologist with experience with the sensitive biological resources in the region will present the WEAP to all personnel working on the Project Site (either temporarily or permanently) prior to the start of Project activities. The WEAP may be videotaped and used to train newly hired workers or those not present for the initial WEAP. The WEAP could include but will not be limited to: discussions of the sensitive biological resources associated with the Project, Project-specific measures to avoid or eliminate impacts to these resources, consequences for not complying with Project permits and agreements, and contact information for the lead biologist. Logs of personnel who have taken the training will be kept on the site at the construction or Project office.

BIO-3: **Biological Monitoring.** A qualified biologist (biological monitor) with experience monitoring for and identifying sensitive biological resources known to occur in the area will be present during initial ground-disturbing and vegetation removal activities related to the Project. Biological monitoring duties will include, but are not limited to, conducting worker education training (BIO-2), verifying compliance with Project permits, and ensuring Project activities stay within designated work areas. The biological monitor will have the right to halt all activities in the area affected if a special-status species is identified in a work area and is in danger of injury or mortality. If work is halted in the area affected as determined by the biological monitor, work will proceed only after the hazards to the individual are removed and the animal is no longer at risk, or the individual has been moved from harm's way in accordance with the Project's permits and/or management/translocation plans. The biological monitor will take representative photographs of the daily activities and will also maintain a daily log that documents general Project activities and compliance with the Project's permit conditions. Non-compliances will also be documented in the daily log, including any measures that were implemented to rectify the issue. After initial ground disturbance and vegetation removal is complete and wildlife habitat is no longer present, full

time biological monitoring is no longer required unless a special-status species is documented on the Project Site during monitoring or preconstruction surveys.

BIO-4: **Preconstruction Survey for Burrowing Owl.** A preconstruction survey for burrowing owl shall be conducted within the Project Site and adjacent areas within 30 days prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. The surveys shall follow the methods described in the Western Riverside MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions (RCA 2006). If burrowing owl and/or suitable burrowing owl burrows with sign (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, prey remains) are identified within the Project Site during the survey and impacts to those features are unavoidable, consultation with the RCA and CDFW will be required.

BIO-5: **Preconstruction Nesting Birds Surveys.** Whenever feasible, any ground-disturbing activities shall be conducted outside of the breeding season for birds (approximately January 15 through August 31 for raptors and February 1 through September 15 for songbirds). This will avoid violations of the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513. If activities with the potential to disrupt nesting birds are scheduled to occur during the bird's breeding season, a preconstruction survey for nesting birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist who is experienced in conducting nesting bird surveys.

The survey should occur no more than 3 days prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. The nesting bird survey shall include the Project Site and adjacent areas (500-foot buffer) where Project activities have the potential to cause nest failure. If no nesting birds are observed during the survey, site preparation and construction activities may begin. If nesting birds (including nesting raptors), are found to be present, avoidance or minimization measures shall be undertaken to avoid potential Project-related impacts. Measures may include seasonal work restrictions or establishment of a non-disturbance buffer around each active nest until nesting has been completed as determined through periodic nest monitoring by the biologist. The size of the non-disturbance buffer will be determined by the Project biologist. Typically, this is 300 feet from the nest site in all directions (500 feet is typically recommended by CDFW for listed species and raptors), until the juveniles have fledged and there has been no evidence of a second attempt at nesting. Once nesting is deemed complete by the Project biologist, work may resume within the buffer.

BIO-6: **Preconstruction Bat Surveys.** Prior to the trimming or removal of any trees within the Project site, a bat habitat assessment will be conducted to examine trees for suitable bat roosting habitat. Trees with quality habitat features (e.g., large tree cavities, basal hollows, loose or peeling bark, palm trees with intact thatch) will be identified and the area around these features will be searched for bats and bat sign (e.g., guano, staining, culled insect parts).

If trees scheduled for removal/modification (i.e., trimming) are determined to be suitable for bat roosting, these activities should be scheduled outside of the bat maternity season to the greatest extent feasible. Work activities should occur between September 1 and March 31 or

when evening temperatures are not below 45°F and rain is not more than 0.50 inch in 24 hours. If trees with suitable bat roosting habitat are scheduled for trimming or removal during this time frame, removal using the two-step method should be conducted:

- As much as feasible, vegetation and trees within the area that are not suitable for roosting bats will be removed first to provide a disturbance that might reduce the likelihood of bats using the habitat.
- Two-step tree removal will occur over 2 consecutive days under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist. On Day 1, small branches and small limbs containing no cavity, crevice, or exfoliating bark habitat on trees (or outer fronds in the case of palm trees), as identified by a qualified bat biologist are removed first, using chainsaws only (i.e., no dozers, backhoes). The following day (Day 2), the remainder of the tree is to be felled/removed. The intention of this method is to disturb the tree with noise, vibration, and branch removal on Day 1. This should cause any potentially present day-roosting bats to abandon the roost tree after they emerge for nighttime foraging. Removing the tree quickly the next consecutive day should avoid reoccupation of the tree by bats.

7.1 Best Management Practices

The Project shall comply with the Standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) of the MSHCP (Volume I, Appendix C), as follows:

1. A condition shall be placed on grading permits requiring a qualified biologist to conduct a training session for project personnel prior to grading. The training shall include a description of the species of concern and its habitats, the general provisions of the Endangered Species Act (Act) and the MSHCP, the need to adhere to the provisions of the Act and the MSHCP, the penalties associated with violating the provisions of the Act, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve the species of concern as they relate to the project, and the access routes to and Project Site boundaries within which the project activities must be accomplished.
2. Water pollution and erosion control plans shall be developed and implemented in accordance with RWQCB requirements.
3. The footprint of disturbance shall be minimized to the maximum extent feasible. Access to sites shall be via pre-existing access routes to the greatest extent possible.
4. The upstream and downstream limits of projects disturbance plus lateral limits of disturbance on either side of the stream shall be clearly defined and marked in the field and reviewed by the biologist prior to initiation of work.
5. Projects should be designed to avoid the placement of equipment and personnel within the stream channel or on sand and gravel bars, banks, and adjacent upland habitats used by target species of concern.

6. Projects that cannot be conducted without placing equipment or personnel in sensitive habitats should be timed to avoid the breeding season of riparian species identified in MSHCP Global Species Objective No. 7.

7. When stream flows must be diverted, the diversions shall be conducted using sandbags or other methods requiring minimal instream impacts. Silt fencing of other sediment trapping materials shall be installed at the downstream end of construction activity to minimize the transport of sediments offsite. Settling ponds where sediment is collected shall be cleaned out in a manner that prevents the sediment from reentering the stream. Care shall be exercised when removing silt fences, as feasible, to prevent debris or sediment from returning to the stream.

8. Equipment storage, fueling, and staging areas shall be located on upland sites with minimal risks of direct drainage into riparian areas or other sensitive habitats. These designated areas shall be located in such a manner as to prevent any runoff from entering sensitive habitat. Necessary precautions shall be taken to prevent the release of cement or other toxic substances into surface waters. Project related spills of hazardous materials shall be reported to appropriate entities including but not limited to applicable jurisdictional city, [USFWS], and [California Department of Fish and Game], RWQCB and shall be cleaned up immediately and contaminated soils removed to approved disposal areas.

9. Erodible fill material shall not be deposited into water courses. Brush, loose soils, or other similar debris material shall not be stockpiled within the stream channel or on its banks.

10. The qualified project biologist shall monitor construction activities for the duration of the project to ensure that practicable measures are being employed to avoid incidental disturbance of habitat and species of concern outside the project footprint.

11. The removal of native vegetation shall be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable. Temporary impacts shall be returned to pre-existing contours and revegetated with appropriate native species.

12. Exotic species that prey upon or displace target species of concern should be permanently removed from the site to the extent feasible.

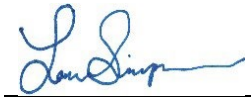
13. To avoid attracting predators of the species of concern, the Project Site shall be kept as clean of debris as possible. All food related trash items shall be enclosed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the site(s).

14. Construction employees shall strictly limit their activities, vehicles, equipment, and construction materials to the proposed project footprint and designated staging areas and routes of travel. The construction area(s) shall be the minimal area necessary to complete the project and shall be specified in the construction plans. Construction limits will be fenced with orange snow screen. Exclusion fencing should be maintained until the completion of all construction activities. Employees shall be instructed that their activities are restricted to the construction areas.

15. The Permittee shall have the right to access and inspect any sites of approved projects including any restoration/enhancement area for compliance with project approval conditions including these BMPs.

8.0 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:  Date: _____

Lauren Simpson
Senior Biologist

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LIST OF APPENDICES

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APPENDIX A

Potential for Occurrence of Special-Status Plant Species

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Centromadia pungens ssp. *Laevis* 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 grasslands. Often found in alkaline soils and on disturbed sites.	Moderate: The Project Site contains limited suitable disturbed areas and limited suitable habitat within the sliver of annual brome grasslands that occurs within the Project Site. One recent and two historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site. The recent occurrence (Occ # 4) was recorded in 2016, approximately 4.5 miles from the Project Site.
Ambrosia pumila 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. Sometimes found in alkaline, sandy, loam, or clay soils. Often found in disturbed areas.	Low: The Project Site contains limited suitable disturbed areas and limited suitable habitat within the small sliver of annual brome grasslands that occurs within the Project Site. There are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record is located approximately 8.5 miles away from 2005 (Occ # 54).
Allium munzii Munz's onion	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END THR 1B.1 COV	Mar-May 297-1070	Occurs in mesic, clay soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, appropriate mesic clay soils are not present. Further, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest records of the species are located approximately 6 miles away from 1999 and 2012 (Occ # 23 and 2).

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Brodiaea filifolia thread-leaved brodiaea	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	THR END 1B.1 COV	Mar-Jun 25-1120	Occurs in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools, and in openings of chaparral. Often found in clay soils.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, appropriate clay soils are not present. Further, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest records of this species occur approximately 7 miles away from 2008, 2000, and 1930 (Occ # 87, 2, and 1).
Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi* Parry's spineflower	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 NAC	Apr-Jun 275-1220	Occurs in openings of cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, and chaparral. Sometimes found in sandy or rocky soils.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, the vegetative cover in this habitat is dense and there are no openings within the Project site that woud be suitable for this species. Further, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record occurs approximately 5.5 miles away from 1936 (Occ # 81). The closest recent record occurs approximately 6.5 miles away from 2012 (Occ # 6).

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Chorizanthe polygonoides var. *longispina* 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 pools. Often found in clay soils.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, appropriate clay soils are not present. One historical CNDDB occurrence (Occ # 18) was recorded in 1980, approximately 3 miles from the Project Site. All other records of the species are located more than 5 miles from the Project Site.
Clinopodium chandleri San Miguel savory	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 COV	Mar-Jul 120-1075	Occurs in metavolcanic soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. Sometimes found in rocky or gabbroic soils.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, appropriate metavolcanic soils are not present. Further, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record of the species is located approximately 18 miles away from 2021 (Occ # 17).

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Dudleya multicaulis 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 grasslands. Often found in clay soils.	Presumed Absent: While limited marginally suitable grassland habitat is present within the sliver of the annual brome grasslands vegetation community present in the northwestern most portion of the Project Site, appropriate clay soils are not present. Further, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record of the species is located approximately 10 miles away from 1981 (Occ # 188). The closest recent record occurs approximately 11 miles away from 2014 (Occ # 190).
Abronia villosa var. *aurita* chaparral sand-verbena	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 none	(Jan) Mar-Sep 75-1600	Occurs in sandy soils of chaparral, coastal scrub, and desert dunes.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chaparral, coastal scrub, or desert dune habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Allium marvinii Yucaipa onion	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 COV	Apr-May 760-1065	Occurs in clay soils in openings of chaparral.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chaparral habitat is present on the Project Site, and the Project Site is located outside of the elevational range for this species. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Arenaria paludicola marsh sandwort	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.1 none	May-Aug 3-170	Occurs in openings of sandy soils in brackish and freshwater marshes and swamps.	Presumed Absent: No suitable marsh or swamp habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Atriplex coronata var. *notatior* San Jacinto Valley crownscale	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END none 1B.1 COV	Apr-Aug 139-500	Occurs in alkaline soils of playas, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools.	Presumed Absent: While limited grassland habitat is present on the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable alkaline soils. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Atriplex parishii Parish's brittlescale	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 COV	Jun-Oct 25-1900	Occurs in alkaline soils of chenopod scrub, playas, and vernal pools.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chenopod scrub, playa, or vernal pool habitat is present on the Project Site, and no record of the species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Atriplex serenana var. *davidsonii* Davidson's saltscale	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 COV	Apr-Oct 10-200	Occurs in alkaline soils of coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub.	Presumed Absent: No suitable coastal bluff scrub or coastal scrub habitat is present on the Project Site, and the Project Site is located outside of the elevational range for this species. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Berberis nevinii Nevin's barberry	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.1 COV	(Feb)Mar-Jun 70-825	Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub, sometimes in gravelly or sandy soils.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable chaparral, woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Calochortus weedii var. *intermedius* intermediate mariposa lily	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 COV	May-Jul 105-855	Occurs in rocky, calcareous soils of chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands.	Presumed Absent: While a sliver of grassland habitat is present on the Project Site, the grassland habitat lacks rocky soils. Additionally, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. *maritimum* salt marsh bird's beak	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.2 none	May-Oct(Nov) 0-30	Occurs in coastal dunes, marshes, and coastal salt swamps.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable dune, marsh, and swamp habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Dodecahema leptoceras slender-horned spineflower	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.1 COV	Apr-Jun 200-760	Occurs in sandy soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub.	Presumed Absent: No chaparral, coastal scrub, or cismontane woodland habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Dudleya viscida sticky dudleya	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 NAC	May-Jun 10-550	Occurs in rocky soils of chaparral, coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, and cismontane woodland.	Presumed Absent: No chaparral, coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, or cismontance woodland habitat is present on the Project Site, and no recent records of the species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Eriastrum densifolium ssp. *sanctorum* Santa Ana River woollystar	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.2 COV	Apr-Sep 91-610	Occurs in chaparral and in alluvial fans in coastal scrub. Sometimes occurs in gravelly or sandy soils.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chaparral or coastal scrub habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Hesperocyparis forbesii Tecate cypress	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 none	Perennial evergreen tree 80-1500	Occurs in clay soils of closed-cone coniferous forest and chaparral. Sometimes found in gabbroic or metavolcanic soils.	Presumed Absent: No closed-cone coniferous foest or chaparral habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of this species that occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Horkelia cuneata var. *puberula* mesa horkelia	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 none	Feb-Jul (Sep) 70-810	Occurs in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and maritime chaparral. Sometimes found in gravelly or sandy soils.	Presumed Absent: No chaparral, cismontane woodland, or coastal scrub habitat is present on the Project site. In addition, no records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri* Coulter's goldfields	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 COV	Feb-Jun 1-1220	Occurs in playas, vernal pools, and coastal salt marshes and swamps.	Presumed Absent: No playa, vernal pool, coastal marsh, or swamp habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Lepechinia cardiophylla heart-leaved pitcher sage	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 COV	Apr-Jul 520-1370	Occurs in closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, and cismontane woodland.	Presumed Absent: No closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, or cismontane woodland habitat is present on the Project Site, and the Project Site is located outside of the elevational range for the species. In addition, no records of the species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. *intermedia* intermediate monardella	Fed: 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 the understory.	Presumed Absent: No chaparral, cismontane woodland, or lower montane coniferous forest habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, no recent records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Monardella macrantha ssp. *hallii* Hall's monardella	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.3 COV	Jun-Oct 730 – 2195	Occurs in broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland.	Presumed Absent: While there is limited grassland habitat present on the Project Site, the Project Site is located outside of the elevational range for this species. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Navarretia fossalis spreading navarretia	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	THR none 1B.1 COV	Apr-Jun 30-655	Occurs in chenopod scrub, shallow freshwater marshes and swamps, playas, and vernal pools.	Presumed Absent: No chenopod scrub, marsh, swamp, playa, or vernal pool habitat is present on the Project Site. Additionally, no records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Orcuttia californica California Orcutt grass	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	END END 1B.1 COV	Apr-Aug 15-660	Occurs in vernal pools.	Presumed Absent: No vernal pool habitat is present on the Project Site. Additionally, no recent records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Phacelia stellaris Brand's star phacelia	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.1 COV	Mar-Jun 1-400	Occurs in coastal dunes and coastal scrub.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable dune and coastal scrub habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum white rabbit-tobacco	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 2B.2 none	(Jul) Aug-Nov (Dec) 0-2100	Occurs in sandy, gravelly soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, or riparian scrub habitat is present on the Project Site. Additionally, no records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Senecio aphanactis chaparral ragwort	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 none	Jan-Apr(May) 15-800	Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub, sometimes in alkaline soils.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable chaparral, woodland, and coastal scrub habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status		Bloom Period & Elevation (meters)	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Symphyotrichum defoliatum 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 vernally mesic valley and foothill grasslands. Often found in areas near ditches, streams, and springs.	Presumed Absent: Although limited grassland habitat is present on the Project Site, the annual brome grasslands community does not contain vernally mesic conditions. Additionally, no records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Tortula californica California screw moss	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 1B.2 none	N/A 10-1460	Occurs in sandy soils of chenopod scrub and valley and foothill grassland.	Presumed Absent: Although limited grassland habitat is present in the northwestern portion of the Project Site, the grassland habitat lacks suitable sandy soils. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Trichocoronis wrightii var. *wrightii* Wright's trichocoronis	Fed: Ca: CRPR: MSHCP:	none none 2B.1 COV	May-Sep 5-435	Occurs in alkaline soils of marshes and swamps, meadows and seeps, riparian forest, and vernal pools.	Presumed Absent: No marsh, swamp, meadow, seep, riparian forest, or vernal pool habitat is present on the Project Site. Additionally, no records of this species occur within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Notes:

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

Other Designations (Western Riverside MSHCP)

COV: Covered

NAC: Covered but Not Adequately Conserved

Source: California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) and California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) for Steele Peak, Riverside West, Riverside East, Sunnymead, Perris, Romoland, Lake Elsinore, Alberhill, and Lake Mathews 7.5-minute quads.

APPENDIX B

Potential for Occurrence of Special-Status Wildlife Species

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Streptocephalus woottoni Riverside fairy shrimp	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	END none COV	Occurs in vernal pools, tectonic swales, and earth slump basins in western Riverside, Orange, and San Diego counties in grassland and coastal sage scrub.	Presumed Absent: No suitable habitat for this species is located within the Project site. Limited suitable habitat for this species is present immediately adjacent to the Project Site in a depressional area with ephemeral pooling that was observed during the biological reconnaissance survey. It is assumed that this areas will be fully avoided during Project construction. Two historical CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 27 and 28) were recorded in 1997 within 5 miles of the Project Site, located less than 1 mile and 2 miles to the north on the March Air Reserve Base.
Bombus crotchii Crotch bumble bee	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none CAN none	Range includes coastal California east to the Sierra-Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Occurs in grasslands, shrublands, chaparral, desert margins including Joshua tree and creosote scrub, and semi-urban settings. Nests and overwinters underground, often in abandoned rodent dens, but also rock piles, thatch, fallen logs, and brush piles. Generalist forager but reported food plants include Asclepias, Chaenactis, Lupinus, Medicago, Phacelia, and Salvia.	Low: Limited suitable foraging habitat is present in the annual brome grasslands community located in the northwest portion of the Project Site and in the flowering ornamental vegetation present within the developed areas. Limited suitable nesting habitat is present in the disturbed areas and in the annual brome grasslands community within gopher burrows. One recent (Occ # 215) and one historical (Occ # 214) CNDDB occurrence has been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site. The recent occurrence (Occ # 215) was recorded in 2020, approximately 4 miles south of the Project Site.
Catostomus santaanae Santa Ana Sucker	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	THR none COV	Pools and runs of creeks and small to medium rivers with cool, shallow, clear, and unpolluted water.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks creeks and river habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Gila orcutti 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: The Project Site lacks creeks, streams, and rivers. Additionally, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Rhinichthys gabrielino Santa Ana speckled dace	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	Prop THR SSC none	Permanent flowing creeks and streams with shallow gravel and cobble riffles.	Presumed Absent: No creeks or streams are located within the Project Site, and there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 10 steelhead - southern California DPS	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	END CAN none	Freshwater lagoons, river mouths/tidal rivers, bays/sounds, rivers, and creeks for breeding. Spawning streams are relatively warm. Migrate between freshwater breeding and marine non-breeding habitats. Marine habitat is pelagic and near shore.	Presumed Absent: There are no lagoons, rivers, or creeks located within the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Spea hammondii western spadefoot	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	Prop THR SSC COV	Open areas with sandy soils in a wide range of habitats including lowlands to foothills, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, mixed woodlands, alluvial fans, and grasslands.	Presumed Absent: Although recent CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles and a depressional area that pools ephemerally is present within the southwestern portion of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable upland habitat for this species. The nearest friable soils for burrowing are located immediately adjacent to a highly trafficked roadway (Harley Knox Blvd). In addition, the urban nature of the Project Site and the isolated nature of the depressional area from other natural areas preclude this species from occurring within the Project Site.
Anniella stebbinsi southern California legless lizard	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Occurs in moist warm loose soil with plant cover. Can occur in sparsely vegetated areas of coastal sand dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, alluvial fans, and stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks loose soil within dune, chaparral, woodland, desert scrub, wash, alluvial fan, or stream terrace habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Arizona elegans occidentalis California glossy snake	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Arid scrub, rocky washes, grasslands, and chaparral. Prefers microhabitats of open areas and areas with soil loose enough for easy burrowing. Prefers washes and sandy areas with patchy brush and rocks. Perennial plants necessary in habitat for food source.	Presumed Absent: Although two historical CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 103 and 106) have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, suitable habitat is not present on the Project Site for this species. The annual grassland habitats on the Project Site are isolated and frequently disturbed, and this species would not be expected to occur.
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea coast patch-nosed snake	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Inhabits semi-arid brushy areas and chaparral in canyons, rocky hillsides and plains.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks canyon, hillside, and plain habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Thamnophis sirtalis pop. 1 south coast gartersnake	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Occurs in marshes and upland habitats in proximity to perennial water sources and riparian vegetation in Southern California (Thomson et al. 2016).	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks marsh and suitable upland habitat for this species. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Actinemys pallida southwestern pond turtle	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	Prop THR SSC COV	Ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, marshes, and other water sources with rocky or muddy substrate. Basks on logs, rocks, and exposed banks. Uses upland habitat less than 0.3 miles away for egg laying. Below 6,000' elevation	Presumed Absent: Although one historical CNDDB occurrence (Occ # 49) was recorded in 1933 approximately 5 miles south of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable pond, lake, river, stream, and marsh habitat.
Phrynosoma blainvillii 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.	Presumed Absent: Although one recent and multiple historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site and limited grassland habitat is present in the northwest portion of the Project Site, the grassland habitat lacks loose sandy soils for burial.
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri coastal whiptail	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC COV	Arid habitats including chaparral, woodlands, and dry riparian areas.	Presumed Absent: Although two historical CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 2 and 34) have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks chaparral, woodland, and dry riparian habitat.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Crotalus ruber 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.	Presumed Absent: Although two recent CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 95 and 167) have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site and the Project Site contains limited grassland habitat, the annual brome grasslands community present in the northwest portion of the Project Site lacks rocky soils.
Aquila chrysaetos golden eagle (nesting & wintering)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	* FP 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.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks prairie, sagebrush, savannah, woodland, barren hill, and mountainous habitat for overwintering. In addition, there is no suitable nesting habitat on the Project Site. Although gum trees (*Eucalyptus* sp.) were observed during the biological reconnaissance survey within and adjacent to the Project Site, the gum trees are located on and adjacent to a rock materials industrial property with ongoing operations that would deter the species from using the trees for nesting. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none THR COV	Open pine-oak woodland, savannah, and agricultural fields with scattered trees. Nests in solitary bush or tree, or in small groves. Nesting trees can include willow, black locust, oak, aspen, cottonwood, and conifers.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable pine-oak woodland, savannah, and agricultural field habitat. Although cottonwood (*Populus* sp.) trees were observed within the Project Site, the trees were planted as ornamentals along Western Way and would not provide suitable nesting habitat for the species. The Project Site does not contain suitable nesting habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Elanus leucurus white-tailed kite (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none FP COV	Open habitat in lowlands including savannah, open woodlands, marshes, and agricultural fields. Nests in trees near a marsh.	Presumed Absent: No savannah, woodland, marsh, or agricultural field habitat is present on the Project Site. The Project Site does not offer suitable nesting habitat for this species in the form of trees near marsh habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Haliaeetus leucocephalus bald eagle (nesting & wintering)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	DL END/FP COV	Forested areas, and sometimes dry open uplands, along the coast or near large open bodies of water including lakes. Nests in tall trees or on cliffs or pinnacles near open water.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable overwintering habitat in the form of forested and open upland habitat along the coast or near large bodies of water. There are no tall trees or cliffs within the Project Site near a large body of water for nesting habitat. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus *western snowy plover (Nesting)*	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	THR SSC none	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 beach, levee, shoreline, or lake habitat is present within the Project Site for the species to nest. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Agelaius tricolor tricolored blackbird (nesting colony)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none THR/SSC COV	Freshwater marshes with dense cattails, bulrushes, sedges, and tule. Forages in open habitat such as cultivated fields and pastures.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks suitable nesting habitat in the form of marsh habitat with dense emergent vegetation, and there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Icteria virens 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 nesting habitat is present within the Project Site in the form of riparian vegetation and pasture habitat. Additionally, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Lanius ludovicianus loggerhead shrike (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC COV	Open country, with scattered shrubs and trees or other perches for hunting; includes agricultural fields, deserts, grasslands, savannah, and chaparral.	Presumed Absent: Although one historical CNDDB occurrence (Occ # 2) was recorded in 1994 approximately 2 miles northwest of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable nesting habitat because the majority of the Project Site consists of developed areas with ornamental vegetation, a disturbed area with ruderal vegetation, and a small sliver of annual brome grasslands that lacks shrubs and trees.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Setophaga petechia yellow warbler (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC COV	In southern California, this species breeds in lowland and foothill riparian woodlands dominated by cottonwoods, alders, or willows and other small trees and shrubs typical of low, open-canopy riparian woodland. During migration, they occur in lowland and foothill woodland habitats such as desert oases, riparian woodlands, oak woodlands, mixed deciduous-coniferous woodlands, suburban and urban gardens and parks, groves of exotic trees, farmyard windbreaks, and orchards (Small 1994).	Presumed Absent: No riparian woodland habitat is present on the Project Site for the species to nest. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Polioptila californica californica 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 four historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable coastal slope, wash, and mesa habitat with coastal sage scrub vegetation.
Coturnicops noveboracensis yellow rail	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Occurs in grassy freshwater marshlands and meadows. Not found in deeper areas with tall vegetation, such as cattail marshes.	Presumed Absent: No marsh or meadow habitat is present on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus California black rail	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none THR/FP none	Coastal and estuarine saltmarshes especially dominated by pickleweed and matted salt grass. Freshwater marshes with shallow and stable water levels and flat shorelines.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site lacks saltmarsh and freshwater marsh habitat. Additionally, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Asio otus long-eared owl (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Dense wooded areas such as deciduous and evergreen forests near water.	Presumed Absent: The Project Site does not contain wooded or forested habitat, and the Project Site lacks suitable nesting habitat for the species. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl (burrow & some wintering sites)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none CAN/SSC COV	Open grasslands including prairies, plains, and savannah, or vacant lots and airports. Nests in abandoned dirt burrows.	Low: Limited suitable habitat for the species is present in the northwest portion of the Project Site within the annual brome grasslands community and in the disturbed area. These areas contained small mammal activity, although none of the burrows within the Project Site were of suitable size for burrowing owl use. Portions of these areas also contained friable soils. Twelve CNDDB records of the species are present within 5 miles of the Project Site with 11 of the records being considered recent and within the last 20 years. The most recent and closest occurrence (Occ # 628) was recorded in 2009, approximately 1 mile east of the Project Site.
Vireo bellii pusillus least Bell's vireo (nesting)	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	END END COV	Occurs in dense riparian habitats often below 2,000 feet but can also occur up to 4,270 feet. Breeds in low riparian vegetation with a dense understory and stratified canopy along water or dry intermittent streams often composed of southern willow scrub, cottonwood forest, mule fat scrub, alluvial woodland, coast live oak riparian forest, and arroyo willow riparian forest. Forages in adjacent upland habitats.	Presumed Absent: Although multiple recent CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable riparian habitat for the species to nest in.
Dipodomys merriami parvus San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	END END/SSC COV	Alluvial sage scrub, flood plains, washes, and upland areas adjacent to desert habitat.	Presumed Absent: Although one historical CNDDB occurrence (Occ # 83) was recorded in 1908 approximately 2 miles northwest of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable alluvial sage scrub, floodplain, wash, and desert habitat.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Dipodomys stephensi Stephen's kangaroo rat	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	THR THR COV	Annual grasslands, coastal sage scrub with sparsely spaced vegetation, loose friable soils, and flat or slightly rolling terrain.	Presumed Absent: Although multiple historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site and limited grassland habitat is present in the northwest portion of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable habitat for this species due to previous mechanical disturbance within the annual brome grasslands community.
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus Los Angeles pocket mouse	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC COV	Habitats with sandy and fine soils, including grasslands, coastal sage scrub, and alluvial sage scrub.	Presumed Absent: Although four historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the limited grassland habitat present on the Project Site is not suitable for this species due to the past mechanical disturbance within the annual brome grassland community.
Eumops perotis californicus 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: Although three historical CNDDB occurrences have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable roosting habitat for the species in the form of rock/cliff crevices, caves, and suitable buildings.
Nyctinomops femorosaccus pocketed free-tailed bat	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Roosts in crevices of outcrops and cliffs, shallow caves, and may occasionally roost in buildings. Found along rugged canyons, high cliffs, and semiarid rock outcroppings.	Presumed Absent: Although one historical CNDDB occurrence (Occ # 20) was recorded in 1985 approximately 1 mile northwest of the Project Site, the Project Site does not contain suitable roosting habitat for this species in the form of outcrops, cliffs, caves, and suitable buildings.
Neotoma lepida intermedia San Diego desert woodrat	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC COV	Coastal chaparral, sagebrush scrub, sandy desert and boulder habitats. May also be found in woodlands of Joshua trees or pinyon-juniper pine.	Presumed Absent: No suitable chaparral, sagebrush scrub, desert, or boulder habitat occurs on the Project Site. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status		Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence
Onychomys torridus ramona southern grasshopper mouse	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	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.	Presumed Absent: Although two historical CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 30 and 33) have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable chaparral, coastal sage scrub, riparian, sagebrush, and grassland habitat. The limited grassland habitat present in the northwest portion of the Project Site appears to be routinely disced and not suitable for this species.
Taxidea taxus American badger	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Open habitats with friable soil such as grasslands, brushlands with sparse ground cover, open chaparral, and sometimes riparian zones.	Presumed Absent: Although limited grassland habitat is present on the Project Site, the Project Site lacks suitable habitat for this species due to the isolated nature of the Project Site within an urban area and away from other open space. In addition, there are no records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Lasiurus xanthinus western yellow bat	Fed: CA: MSHCP:	none SSC none	Roosts in trees, especially in fan palms with intact dead frond skirts. Has also been found roosting in cottonwood trees. Found in riparian woodlands in arid regions, oak or pinyon-juniper woodlands, and human developed areas.	Low: Limited suitable roosting habitat is present within the southwest portion of the Project Site in the form of landscaped cottonwood trees along Western Way. Two historical CNDDB occurrences (Occ # 31 and 53) have been recorded within 5 miles of the Project site, in 1981 and 1992, respectively. The closest record (Occ # 53) occurs approximately 3 miles away in 1992.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Status	Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence

Notes:
* Protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d)

Federal Designations (Federal Endangered Species Act, USFWS)
- END: Federally-listed, Endangered
- THR: Federally-listed, Threatened
- Prop END: Federally Proposed Endangered
- Prop THR: Federally Proposed Threatened
- FC: Federal Candidate
- FPD: Federally Proposed for Delisting
- DL: Delisted

State Designations (California Endangered Species Act & Fish & Game Code, CDFW)
- END: State-listed, Endangered
- THR: State-listed, Threatened
- CAN: State Candidate
- SSC: California Species of Special Concern
- FP: Fully Protected Species

Other Designations
- COV: Western Riverside MSHCP Covered Species

Source: California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) Steele Peak, Riverside West, Riverside East, Sunnymead, Perris, Romoland, Lake Elsinore, Alberhill, and Lake Mathews 7.5 minute quads.

APPENDIX C

Representative Site Photographs

Photo 1. Southern Portion of Project Site along Western Way with Developed Land Cover Present.

Photo 2. Disturbed Land Cover on the Left and Developed Land Cover within the Southern Portion of the Project Site.

Photo 3. Industrial Development within the Project Site Consisting of a Paved Roadway, Landscaping, Buildings, a Wall, a Sidewalk, Gravel Ground Cover.

Photo 4. Disturbed Land Cover Present in the Northeastern Portion of the Project Site.

Photo 5. Annual Brome Grasslands Present in the Northeastern Portion of the Project Site.

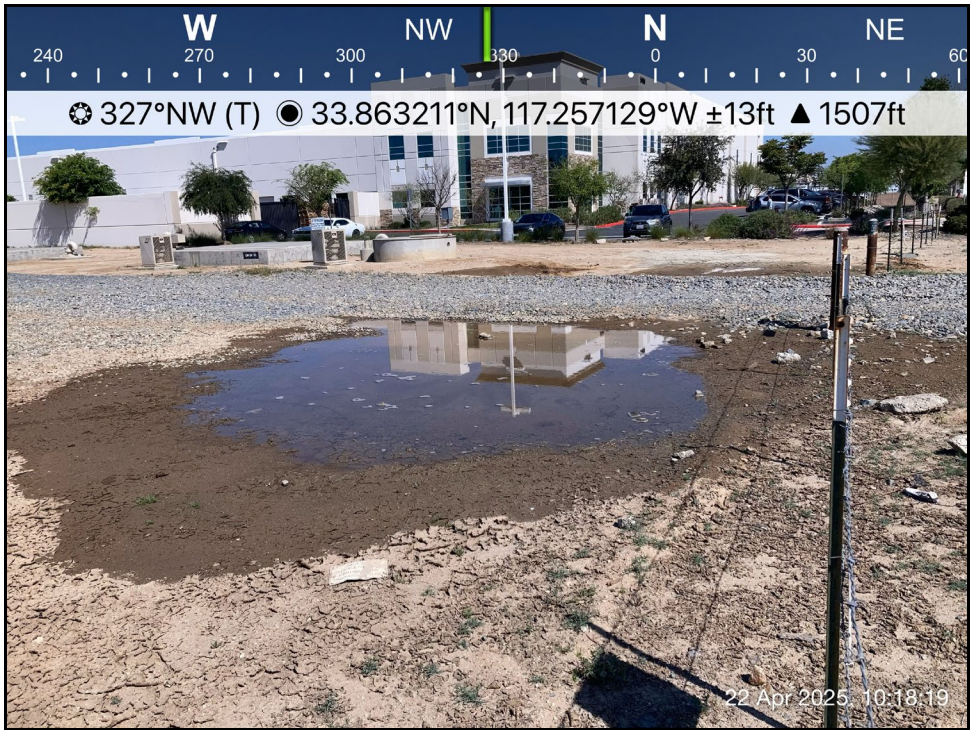

Photo 6. Depressional Feature that Appears to Pool Ephemerally Located adjacent to the Southwestern Portion of the Project Site.

Photo 7. Potential Burrowing Owl Burrow (No Sign) Consisting of a 5-Inch-Tall by 36-Inch-Wide Opening Present Underneath a Manhole Concrete Pad, Located Outside of the Project Site but within the Survey Area.

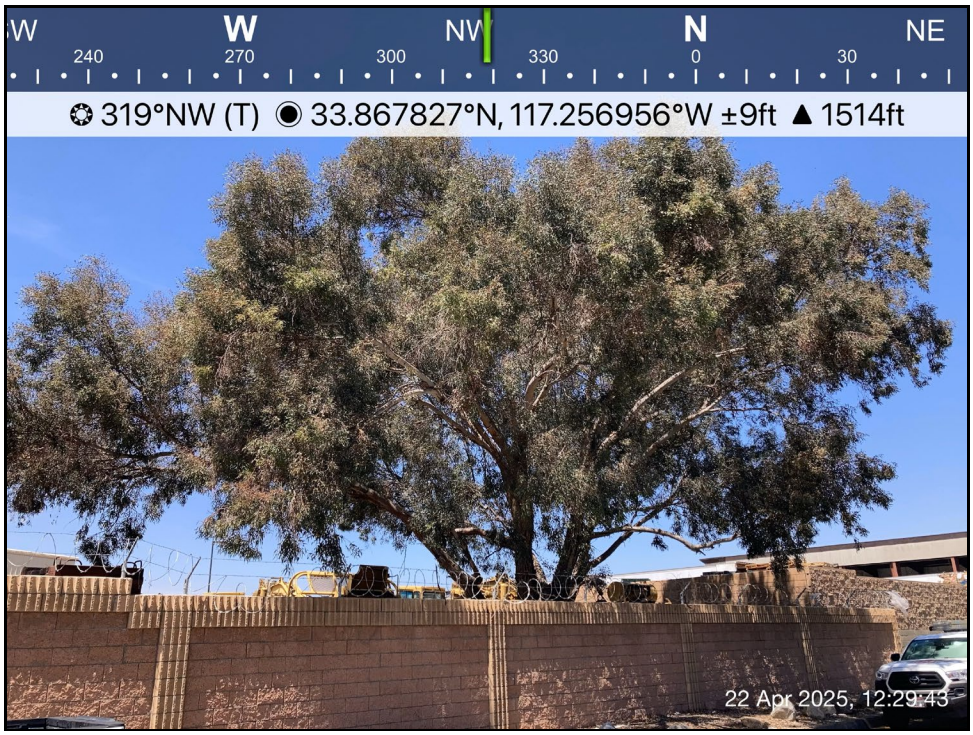

Photo 8. Gum Tree Canopy that Overhangs over the Project Site with Peeling and Exposed Bark Offering Suitable Bat Roosting Habitat.

APPENDIX D

Plant Species Observed

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
Pinus sp.*	Pine
Helianthus annuus	Common sunflower
*Lactuca serriola**	Prickly lettuce
*Oncosiphon pilulifer**	Stinknet
*Sonchus sp. **	Sowthistle
*Nandina domestica**	Sacred bamboo
Amsinckia menziesii	Menzies' fiddleneck
*Hirschfeldia incana**	Short-pod mustard
*Sisymbrium irio**	London rocket
*Lonicera japonica**	Japanese honeysuckle
*Salsola tragus**	Russian thistle
*Arbutus unedo**	Strawberry tree
*Medicago polymorpha**	Bur clover
*Melilotus indicus**	Sweetclover
*Parkinsonia aculeata**	Mexican palo verde
*Erodium cicutarium**	Redstem filaree
*Rosmarinus officinalis**	Rosemary
*Salvia leucantha**	Mexican bush sage
*Lagerstroemia indica**	Crape myrtle
*Malva parviflora**	Cheeseweed mallow
Eucalyptus sp.*	Gum tree
*Olea europaea**	Olive
*Pittosporum tobira**	Japanese cheesewood
Pittosporum sp.*	Cheesewood
Platanus sp.	Sycamore
Rosa spp.*	Ornamental rose species
Populus sp.	Cottonwood
Datura wrightii	Jimsonweed
*Lantana camara**	Lantana
*Agave americana**	American century plant
*Hesperaloe parviflora**	Red yucca
*Syagrus romanzoffiana**	Queen palm
Aloe sp.*	Aloe

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
*Bromus diandrus**	Ripgut brome
*Bromus rubens**	Red brome
*Cynodon dactylon**	Bermuda grass
Hordeum sp.*	Barley
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass
*Polypogon monspeliensis**	Annual beard grass

Notes:

* Not native to California.

Threat Ranks:

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)

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Ranks:

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

Sources:

California Natural Diversity Data Base (CDFW 2025)

CNPS Rare and Endangered Plant Inventory (CNPS 2025)

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consulting (IPaC) (USFWS 2025)

The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, 2nd Edition (Baldwin, B. et al, 2012)

APPENDIX E

Wildlife Species Observed

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
*Apis mellifera**	Honey bee
Camponotus pennsylvanicus	Black harvester ant
Sceloporus occidentalis	Western fence lizard
Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer
*Columba livia**	Rock pigeon
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow
Haemorhous mexicanus	House finch
Spinus psaltria	Lesser goldfinch
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Cliff swallow
Stelgidopteryx serripennis	Northern rough-winged swallow
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird
Melospiza melodia	Song sparrow
Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned sparrow
*Passer domesticus**	House sparrow
*Sturnus vulgaris**	European starling
Sayornis nigricans	Black phoebe
Canis familiaris	Domestic dog
Thomomys bottae	Botta's pocket gopher (burrows)

Notes:

* Nonnative species