



Appendix B

Biological Technical Report



JURUPA WILLOW WAREHOUSE PROJECT BIOLOGICAL TECHNICAL REPORT

City of Rialto, California

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The Jurupa Willow Warehouse Project (project or proposed project) consists of approximately 7.87 acres in the City of Rialto (City), San Bernardino County, California (Figure 1). The project site is located north of Jurupa Avenue, west of Willow Avenue, south of an industrial facility, and east of residential and light industrial uses. The following Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) are contained within the proposed project site: 0258-111-31-0000, 0258-111-41-0000, and 0258-111-42-0000. The site is located within USGS 7.5' quadrangles Fontana and San Bernardino South (USGS 2023b).

1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would include the construction of one warehouse building with associated on-site improvements. The 119,908-square-foot (sf) warehouse building would be oriented north-to-south and would include 114,908 sf of warehouse space and 5,000 sf of office uses of which 2,500 sf would be on the ground level and 2,500 sf of office space on the mezzanine level. The building would be rectangular with dimensions of approximately 431 feet wide (east-to-west) and 258 long (north-to-south). The warehouse would include 20 dock doors and 1 drive-in door along the northern side of the proposed building. The proposed project characteristics are shown below in Table 1.

Table 1. Building Site Summary

Building	Site (sf)	Office (sf)	Mezzanine (sf)	Warehouse (sf)	Dock Doors	Landscaping	
						sf	% of site
Total	119,908	2,500	2,500	114,908	20	44,326	15.5

PARKING AND CIRCULATION

Vehicular access would be provided from three driveways: two driveways on Jurupa Avenue and one driveway on Willow Avenue, the latter at the northeast corner of the site. The western 35-foot-wide driveway located on Jurupa Avenue and the 40-foot-wide driveway on Willow Avenue would provide full movement access for trucks and passenger vehicles. The eastern 26-foot-wide driveway located on Jurupa Avenue would provide access for passenger vehicles only. Access into the trailer loading area would be gated within the project site to allow for on-site queuing of trucks.

The proposed warehouse would provide 83 standard passenger vehicle parking stalls, inclusive of standard parking stalls, Americans with Disabilities (ADA) stalls, clean air/van pool/electric vehicle (EV) parking stalls, and electric vehicle charging “ready” stalls. The majority of passenger vehicle parking would be provided in the parking area accessed from Jurupa Avenue with 13 passenger vehicle parking stalls located at the northeast corner of the project site and accessed from the

Willow Avenue driveway. The project requires 3 truck trailer parking stalls and would provide 35 stalls.

There are no sidewalks along the project site frontage on Jurupa Avenue and Willow Avenue. As a part of the proposed project, sidewalks, curb, gutter, and roadway improvements would be constructed on Jurupa Avenue and Willow Avenue adjacent to the project site. Bicycle parking would also be provided on the site.

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The Applicant anticipates that building construction would take approximately 7 months, in the following sequence:

- Demolition;
- Site preparation;
- Grading;
- Infrastructure improvements;
- Paving;
- Building construction; and
- Architectural coating.

1.3 SCOPE OF WORK

This Biological Technical Report (BTR) describes the existing biological resources within and adjacent to the proposed project footprint; details the methods used to assess existing conditions and potential impacts on sensitive habitats and species; and presents potential avoidance, minimization, and standard conditions to avoid and minimize potential project impacts. This report also includes an impact assessment on biological resources associated with the project in the context of County of San Bernardino Land Use regulations, the CEQA, and state and federal regulations, such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and California Fish and Game Code (CFGF).

1.4 EXISTING CONDITIONS

The project site is primarily composed of vacant, undeveloped disturbed land that was used for grazing prior to use as semi-trailer storage. Although an aerial photograph shows buildings on the western third of the project site (Figure 2), a general biological survey conducted on April 26, 2023 found that those structures had been demolished and flattened, and disturbed land remains. The topography of the project site is generally flat with minimal change in elevation. Portions of the project site appear to have been graded and some piles of concrete are present in the northwestern portion of the project site. Roads exist at the southern and eastern borders of the site. The project site is primarily surrounded by developed land, composed of residential development to the south, commercial and residential development, including a private

ranch/equestrian facility to the west, a commercial shipping facility to the north, and commercial and residential development to the east.

1.5 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Federal, state, and local agencies have established several regulations to protect and conserve biological and aquatic resources. The descriptions below provide a brief overview of agency regulations that may be applicable to the project. The regulating agencies make the final determination as to what types of permits are required.

FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Federal Endangered Species Act

The federal ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.), as amended, provides for listing of endangered and threatened species of plants and animals and designation of critical habitat for listed species. The ESA regulates the “take” of any endangered fish or wildlife species, per Section 9. As development is proposed, the responsible agency or individual landowner is required to consult with the USFWS to assess potential impacts on listed species (including plants) or their critical habitat, pursuant to Sections 7 and 10 of the ESA. USFWS is required to make a determination as to the extent of impact a project would have on a particular species. If it is determined that potential impacts on a species would likely occur, measures to avoid or reduce such impacts must be identified. USFWS may issue an incidental take statement, following consultation and the issuance of a Biological Opinion. This allows for take of the species that is incidental to another authorized activity, provided that the action will not adversely affect the existence of the species. Section 10 of the ESA provides for issuance of incidental take permits to non-federal parties with the development of a habitat conservation plan (HCP); Section 7 provides for permitting of federal projects.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.) is a federal statute that implements treaties with several countries on the conservation and protection of migratory birds. The number of bird species covered by the MBTA is extensive and listed at 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 10.13. The USFWS enforces the MBTA, which prohibits “by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, [or] kill” any migratory bird, or attempt such actions, except as permitted by regulation.

Clean Water Act

Pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1344), the Corps is authorized to regulate any activity that would result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (including wetlands). The Corps is currently interpreting the phrase “waters of the U.S.” consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court’s May 25, 2023 decision in *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency*.

The Corps, with oversight from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), has the principal authority to issue CWA Section 404 permits. Substantial impacts on waters of the U.S.

may require an Individual Permit. Projects that only minimally affect waters of the U.S. 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 all Section 404 permitted actions. The RWQCB, a division of the State Water Resources Control Board, provides oversight of the Section 401 certification process in California. The RWQCB must certify "that there is a reasonable assurance that the activity will be conducted in a manner which will not violate water quality standards" (40 CFR 121.2(a)(3)). Water Quality Certification's must be based on the finding that a proposed discharge will comply with applicable water quality standards.

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is the permitting program for discharge of pollutants into surface waters of the U.S. under Section 402 of the CWA (33 U.S. Code § 1342).

STATE REGULATIONS

California Environmental Quality Act

The CEQA (California Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) was established in 1970 as California's counterpart to NEPA. CEQA requires state and local agencies to identify significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, where feasible.

CEQA applies to certain activities of state and local public agencies. A public agency must comply with CEQA when it undertakes an activity defined by CEQA as a "project." A project is an activity undertaken by a public agency or a private activity, which must receive some discretionary approval (meaning that the agency has the authority to deny the requested permit or approval) from a government agency that may cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment.

California Endangered Species Act and Natural Community Conservation Planning Act

The California Endangered Species Act of 1984 (CESA; CFGC § 2050 et seq.), in combination with the California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (CFGC § 1900 et seq.), regulates the listing and take of plant and animal species designated as endangered, threatened, or rare within the state. California also lists species of special concern based on limited distribution; declining populations; diminishing habitat; or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is responsible for assessing development projects for their potential to impact listed species and their habitats. State-listed special-status species are addressed through the issuance of a 2081 permit (Memorandum of Understanding).

In 1991, the California Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act (CFGC § 2800 et seq.) was approved and the NCCP Coastal Sage Scrub program was initiated in Southern California. The NCCP program was established "to provide for regional protection and perpetuation of natural wildlife diversity while allowing compatible land use and appropriate development and growth." The NCCP Act encourages preparation of plans that address habitat conservation and management on an ecosystem basis rather than one species or habitat at a time.

California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600-1602

Pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 6, Section 1602 of the CFGC, CDFW regulates all diversions, obstructions, or changes to the natural flow or bed, channel or bank of any river, stream or lake that supports fish or wildlife. A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Application must 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” (CFGC § 1602). CDFW has jurisdiction over riparian habitats associated with watercourses. Jurisdictional waters are delineated by the outer edge of riparian vegetation or at the top of the bank of streams or lakes, whichever is wider. CDFW jurisdiction does not include tidal areas or isolated resources. CDFW reviews the proposed actions and, if necessary, submits (to the applicant) a proposal that includes measures to protect affected fish and wildlife resources. The final proposal that is mutually agreed upon by CDFW and the applicant is the Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement.

California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3511, 3513, 3801, 4700, 5050, and 5515

CDFW protects and manages fish, wildlife, and native plant resources within California. The California Fish and Game Commission and/or CDFW are responsible for issuing permits for the take or possession of protected species. The following sections of the CFGC address protected species: Section 3511 (birds), Section 4700 (mammals), Section 5050 (reptiles and amphibians), and Section 5515 (fish). In addition, the protection of birds of prey is provided for in Sections 3503, 3513, and 3800 of the CFGC.

California Native Plant Protection Act (California Fish and Game Code §§ 1900–1913)

The California Native Plant Protection Act requires all state agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve endangered and rare native plants. The California Native Plant Protection Act prohibits the take of such plants, with certain exceptions.

California Desert Native Plants Act (California Food and Agriculture Code §§ 80001–80201)

The California Desert Native Plants Act prohibits the removal of certain species of California desert native plants on public and privately owned lands without a valid permit from the sheriff or commissioner of the county where collecting would occur. This act applies within the boundaries of Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code § 13000 et seq.) provides for statewide coordination of water quality regulations. The State Water Resources Control Board was established as the statewide authority and nine separate RWQCBs were developed to oversee water quality on a day-to-day basis.

The RWQCBs have primary responsibility for protecting water quality in California. As discussed above, the RWQCBs regulate discharges to surface waters under the CWA. In addition, the RWQCBs are responsible for administering the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

Pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the state is given authority to regulate waters of the state, which are defined as any surface water or groundwater, including saline

waters. As such, any person proposing to discharge waste into a water body that could affect its water quality must first file a Report of Waste Discharge if a Section 404 permit is not required for the activity. “Waste” is partially defined as any waste substance associated with human habitation, including fill material discharged into water bodies.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANS

County of San Bernardino Land Use Services, Planning Division

According to the County’s Biotic Resources Overlay Map, the project site is located within the Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone (County of San Bernardino 2012). The burrowing owl is listed as a Species of Special Concern (SSC) by CDFW.

City of Rialto General Plan

The City’s General Plan Land Use Plan Map depicts the City’s land use designations and indicates that the project site has a Light Industrial land use designation. The Light Industrial land use designation allows for light industrial activities including distribution, warehousing and storage, and similar low impact industrial uses.

The biological resource policies outlined in the City’s General Plan that relate to the project can be found in Chapter 2, Managing Our Land Supply: Land Use, Community Design, Open Space and Conservation (City of Rialto 2010), and includes:

Policy 2-39.3: Continue to work with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to adopt a habitat conservation plan to protect viability of the Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly. Until a habitat conservation plan is established, continue to support the implementation of the existing Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly Recovery Plan.

2 METHODS

Rocks Biological Consulting (RBC) biologists conducted vegetation mapping, habitat assessments for special-status species, and a general biological survey on April 26, 2023. Additionally, RBC examined the site for the presence of potentially jurisdictional aquatic resources; however, a formal aquatic resources delineation to identify areas that may be considered jurisdictional under the Corps pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA, under the RWQCB pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and under the CDFW pursuant to Section 1602 of the CFGC, was not conducted.

The general biological survey, vegetation mapping, and habitat assessments were conducted within the approximately 7.87-acre project site and a surrounding 100-foot buffer (survey area) for a total of 14.01 acres. The constraints-level aquatic resources assessment was conducted within the project site plus a surrounding 50-foot buffer (review area). Note that buffer areas are included in this analysis to assess the potential for special-status species or resources in areas immediately adjacent to the project site that could be impacted by the project analyzed herein. Such information should not be considered comprehensive for all biological resources or aquatic resources that may occur in buffer areas, and buffer mapping is intended only for the project analysis outlined herein; such information is not intended for impact analysis of any potential future projects within or adjacent to project buffer areas.

2.1 DATABASE SEARCH

Prior to conducting field surveys, existing information regarding biological resources present or potentially present within the project site was obtained through a review of pertinent literature and databases, including, but not limited to:

- CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB; CDFW 2023a)
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (CNPS 2023)
- USFWS Special-Status Species Database (USFWS 2023a)
- USFWS Information for Planning and Consulting (IPaC) Database (USFWS 2023b)
- USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Database (USFWS 2023c)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Database (USGS 2023a)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soils Survey Database (NRCS 2023)

Database results, along with local biological knowledge, were used for assessment of special-status species' potential for occurrence on or adjacent to the project site. The potential for occurrence tables created for the project include federally and state-listed species, candidate species, and other state-designated special-status species that have been reported within three miles of the project site (CNDDB and USFWS Special-Status Species Database) and determined to be potentially present in the IPaC Database, as well as California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1 and 2 species that occur within the 'Nine Quads' search within an elevational range of 957- 989 feet above mean sea level (amsl; CNPS 2023a). The potential for special-status species to occur within

the project site was refined by considering the habitat affinities of each species, field habitat assessments, vegetation mapping, and knowledge of local biological resources.

2.2 VEGETATION MAPPING AND GENERAL BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

On April 26, 2023, RBC biologists conducted vegetation mapping in the field to provide a baseline of the biological resources that occur or have the potential to occur within the project site. RBC conducted vegetation mapping by walking throughout the survey area and mapping vegetation communities on aerial photographs at a 1:1080 scale (1 inch = 90 feet).

The extent of each habitat type (delineated as a habitat polygon on the vegetation maps) was calculated using the Geographic Information System (GIS) application ArcGIS Field Maps. Habitats were classified based on the dominant and characteristic plant species in accordance with vegetation community classifications outlined in Holland's *Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California* (Holland 1986). The vegetation communities were also crosswalked with *The Manual of California Vegetation, 2nd Edition* (MCV2) (Sawyer et al. 2009), and the equivalent classification is provided.

RBC biologists conducted a general biological survey for plants and wildlife concurrently with vegetation mapping. Photos taken during the general biological survey are provided in Appendix A. Plant species encountered during the field survey were identified and recorded in field notebooks. Plant species that could not be identified were brought to the laboratory for identification using the dichotomous keys in the *Jepson Manual* (Baldwin et al. 2012). A list of the vascular plant species observed in the survey area is presented in Appendix B; common names for plant species follow Simpson and Rebman (2006).

RBC conducted habitat assessments for special-status plants during the general biological field survey. Special-status plant species include those that are: 1) listed or proposed for listing by federal or state agencies as threatened or endangered; 2) CRPR 1 or 2 species (CNPS 2023a); or 3) considered rare, endangered, or threatened by the CDFW (CDFW 2023a) or other local conservation organizations or specialists.

CNPS is a statewide resource conservation organization that has developed an inventory of California's sensitive plant species. The CRPR system is recognized by CDFW and essentially serves as an early warning list of potential candidate species for threatened or endangered status. The CRPR system is categorized as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2. CRPR Definitions

CRPR	1A	presumed extirpated in California and rare or extinct elsewhere
	1B	rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
	2A	presumed extirpated in California but more common elsewhere
	2B	rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
	3	plants for which more information needed

	4	plants of limited distribution
CRPR Threat Ranks	0.1	Seriously threatened in California (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 no current threats known)

Wildlife species were documented during the field survey by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other signs, and were recorded in field notebooks. Binoculars (10X42 magnification) were used to aid in the identification of wildlife. In addition to species observed during the surveys, expected wildlife use of the project site was assessed based on known habitat preferences of local species and knowledge of their biogeographic distribution in the region. RBC conducted habitat assessments for special-status wildlife during the general biological field survey. Special-status wildlife species include those that are: 1) listed or proposed for listing by federal or state agencies as threatened or endangered; or 2) considered endangered, threatened, or rare by the CDFW (CDFW 2023b).

A list of wildlife species observed in the project site is presented in Appendix B; scientific and common names of wildlife follow CDFW's Complete List of Amphibian, Reptile, Bird and Mammal Species in California (CDFW 2016). Twilight/nighttime surveys were not conducted, therefore crepuscular and nocturnal animals are likely under-represented in the project species list; however, habitat assessments were performed for all special-status species to ensure that any potentially present rare species are adequately addressed herein.

If observed, the location of biological resources designated as special-status by the USFWS, CDFW, and/or CNPS, were recorded in field notebooks, on aerial maps, and/or through the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) units.

2.3 SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES SURVEYS

Special-status species surveys have not been conducted for this project and such surveys are not recommended due to the lack of suitable habitat.

2.4 CONSTRAINTS-LEVEL AQUATIC RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

RBC conducted a constraints-level assessment of the review area to identify areas that may be considered potentially jurisdictional under the Corps pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA; the RWQCB pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the Porter-Cologne Act; or CDFW pursuant to CFGC §1602. Areas with depressions, drainage patterns, wetland vegetation, or riparian vegetation within the review area were assessed for potential jurisdictional status, with focus on the presence of defined channels, soils, and hydrology. No formal aquatic resources delineation was conducted as part of this effort.

3 RESULTS

This section includes results of the literature review, vegetation mapping, general biological survey, and the constraints-level aquatic resources assessment. Special-status biological resources are also addressed in this section and are defined as follows: 1) species that have been given special recognition by federal, state, or local conservation agencies and organizations due to limited, declining, or threatened/endangered population sizes; 2) species and their associated habitat types recognized by local and regional resource agencies as sensitive; 3) habitat areas or vegetation communities that are unique, are of relatively limited distribution, or are of particular value to wildlife; 4) wildlife corridors and habitat linkages; and/or 5) biological resources that may or may not be considered sensitive, but are regulated under local, state, and/or federal laws.

3.1 PHYSICAL SETTING

The project site is relatively flat and supports primarily disturbed land, with developed roads on the southern and eastern project site boundaries. The site is surrounded entirely by residential and commercial development with no native habitat; however, non-native grassland is present within the 100-foot project buffer near the southeast corner of project site.

On-site elevations range from approximately 957- 989 feet amsl. Soils mapped within the project boundary include Tujunga loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes, and Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes (NRCS 2023, Figure 3). On-site soils appear to have been graded and compacted and contain fill material.

3.2 VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND LAND USES

The project site supports little diversity in vegetation communities and other land covers. Table 4 provides a summary of vegetation/land cover within the survey area.

Table 3. Summary of Vegetation/Land Cover Within the Project Site and Survey Area

Vegetation (Holland) ¹	Vegetation ²	Global/ State Rank	Project Site (acres)	Project Buffer (acres)	Survey Area (acres)
Developed	Developed/Disturbed	No Rank	0.64	5.44	6.08
Disturbed	Developed/Disturbed	No Rank	7.23	0.31	7.54
Ornamental	Developed/Disturbed	No Rank	0	0.26	0.26
Non-native Grassland	Wild Oats and Annual Brome Grassland	No Rank	0	0.13	0.13
Total			7.87	6.14	14.01

¹ Vegetation communities recognized by Holland (1986)

² Vegetation communities from Holland (1986) crosswalked to *The Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009)

Natural communities with ranks of S1 through S3 are considered sensitive natural communities by CDFW to be addressed in the environmental review processes of CEQA. The project site does not contain habitat that is considered a sensitive vegetation community by CDFW (CDFW 2023c).

Developed

Developed land is typically classified as lands regularly utilized by humans that are devoid of natural habitat. Developed land on the project site (0.64 acres) consists of roadways. Developed land within the survey area includes residential and commercial development as well as roads.

Developed land is not recognized by CDFW (CDFW 2023c); therefore, it is not considered a sensitive natural community under CEQA.

Disturbed

Disturbed land is typically classified as land on which the native vegetation has been significantly altered by agriculture, construction, or other land-clearing activities, and the species composition and site conditions are not characteristic of the disturbed phase of a plant association. Disturbed land is typically found in vacant lots, along roadsides, within construction staging areas, and in abandoned fields. This land is typically dominated by non-native annual species and perennial broadleaf species.

A majority of the project site is composed of disturbed land (7.23 acres). Observed disturbances are associated with the site's historical use as a pasture and semi-trailer storage. The site is primarily vegetated by non-native species such as short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), London rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*), and mustard species (*Brassica* spp.). There are a few scattered native species throughout the disturbed areas, such as mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*) and Menzies' fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*); however, they are isolated occurrences and do not function as separate vegetation communities or land cover types.

Disturbed land is not recognized by CDFW (CDFW 2023c); therefore, it is not considered a sensitive natural community under CEQA.

Ornamental

Ornamental vegetation is typically classified as an area containing planted ornamental, non-native species. Ornamental vegetation is found in the northeastern project buffer in association with developed land. Species found within the ornamental vegetation include pine trees (*Pinus* sp.) and queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) among other common ornamental plantings.

Ornamental vegetation is not recognized by CDFW (CDFW 2023c); therefore, it is not considered a sensitive natural community under CEQA.

Non-native Grassland

Non-native grassland (wild oats and annual brome grassland) is typified by dense to sparse cover of annual, non-native grasses. Non-native grassland is not present within the project site but is found immediately beyond the southeastern border of the project site. It is dominated by ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*) and slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*) and is co-dominant with annual herbs such as rigid fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*) and Sahara mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*).

Non-native grassland/wild oats and annual brome grassland is not recognized by CDFW (CDFW 2023c); therefore, it is not considered a sensitive natural community under CEQA.

3.3 PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

The project site supports a very low diversity of wildlife and plant species. A total of 35 plant species (23 percent native, 77 percent non-native) were observed during the general biological survey (Appendix B). A total of 11 bird species, one reptile species, one mammal, and three invertebrate species were observed (Appendix B).

3.3.1 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES

No special-status plant species, including federally or state threatened or endangered plant species, were observed during the field survey, and none have a moderate or high potential to occur within the project site based on the highly disturbed nature of the site and lack of suitable habitat. A full list of special-status plants assessed for their potential to occur on site is presented in Appendix C. Please note that CRPR 3 and 4 species were omitted from the potential to occur analysis below due to their relatively low threat status.

Although there are documented occurrences of special-status plant species within three miles from the project site (Figure 4A), the significant disturbances on the site make it highly unlikely to support populations of these or other special-status plants, as detailed further in Appendix C. Please note that special-status plant species with low potential to occur or not expected to occur are not addressed further in this report; because these species have low or no potential for occurrence, no impacts are anticipated on these species.

3.3.2 SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITATS

One special-status wildlife species, a monarch butterfly, was observed during the general biological survey. Another species, the California horned lark, has a moderate potential to occur on site, and a third special-status wildlife species, the burrowing owl, has a potential to occur if additional ground squirrel activity were to occur prior to site clearance.

A full list of special-status wildlife assessed and their potential to occur on site is presented in Appendix D. Note that several federally and/or state-listed species are known from the project vicinity but are not expected to occur on the project site. Additional detail regarding the rationale for these species' low potential for occurrence determination is provided below for public informational purposes.

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

Coastal California Gnatcatcher (Poliioptila californica californica)

The coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliioptila californica californica*) is federally listed as threatened and is considered a CDFW SSC. This species is a year-round resident of southern California and is found in the six southernmost California counties located within the coastal plain (San Bernardino, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, and Riverside).

The primary cause of this species' decline is conversion of coastal sage scrub vegetation to urban and agricultural uses. USFWS has estimated that coastal sage scrub habitat has been reduced by 70 to 90 percent of its historical extent (USFWS 1993). Coastal California gnatcatcher generally inhabit Diegan coastal sage scrub and Riversidian coastal sage scrub dominated by coastal

sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), generally below 1,500 feet in elevation along the coastal slope. When nesting, this species typically avoids slopes greater than 25% with dense, tall vegetation. Gnatcatcher pairs will attempt several nests each year (average of four), each placed in a different location inside their breeding territory, but most nest attempts are unsuccessful due to depredation by a variety of species (Grishaver et al. 1998; Atwood and Bontrager 2001). Clutch size ranges from one to five eggs, with three or four eggs most common. Males and females will remain paired through the non-breeding season and will often expand their home range when not breeding.

This species is particularly vulnerable to habitat destruction and fragmentation because of their low dispersal rate, reliance on a specific habitat type, and low breeding success. Coastal California gnatcatcher has been described as “an obligate resident of coastal sage scrub” (Atwood and Bontrager 2001), a vegetation community that is vulnerable to urban pressures. The destruction of coastal sage scrub by wildfire also has a detrimental effect on local populations. This species also inhabits chaparral vegetation where adjacent to coastal sage scrub.

Coastal California gnatcatcher has been documented within one mile of the project site to the southeast near the Agua Mansa Landfill (Figure 4B). Suitable scrub habitats do not occur within the survey area and very few native shrubs are present; therefore, coastal California gnatcatcher has a very low potential to occur on site and impacts on this species are not anticipated with project implementation.

Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*)

The Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) is a federally endangered species under the ESA. It is one of more than 30 species of the genus *Rhaphiomidas* distributed across the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. As with all species of *Rhaphiomidas*, Delhi Sands flower-loving fly is associated with arid, sandy habitats. It is only found in the Colton Dunes of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties (Kingsley 2002), with most occupied Delhi Sands flower-loving fly habitat located within a limited area of southwestern San Bernardino County.

The life history of the Delhi Sands flower-loving fly is largely unknown, but the loose, sandy soils of the Delhi Sands appear to be required for oviposition. Larval stages develop completely underground and may remain subterranean for several years to emerge as adults in the summer. It is unknown what neonatal and larval flies eat or what subterranean conditions are required. Adults are most active during the warmest, sunniest parts of the day, and both males and females likely extract nectar from California buckwheat and other flowering plants (Kingsley 1996). The primary threat to the fly is habitat loss, including both degradation of lands and permanent loss due to urban development.

Numerous observations of Delhi Sands flower-loving fly have occurred within one mile of the project site to the east (Figure 4B). While many of these observations occurred in areas where the fly is assumed to be extirpated, some populations are believed to be extant as suitable habitat and soils remain present. Soils mapped within the project boundary are Tujunga loamy sand and Hanford coarse sandy loam (NRCS 2023, Figure 3). Sandy soils of the Delhi Series are absent from the survey area; therefore, the site does not provide suitable habitat for Delhi Sands flower-loving

fly and this species has a very low potential to occur. Hence, impacts on Delhi Sands flower-loving fly are not anticipated with project implementation.

Los Angeles Pocket Mouse (Perognathus longimembris brevinasus)

Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*) is a CDFW SSC and is one of eight subspecies of little pocket mouse. It is found in limited areas of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties. Suitable habitat for this species includes lower elevation grasslands, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal sage scrub (Brylski 1998). Los Angeles pocket mouse hibernates in the winter from about October to February, but periodically awakens during this time to feed on seeds in burrow caches (Brylski 1998). It emerges from hibernation in spring when forb and grass seeds become available. This species feeds primarily on seeds and forbs but occasionally eats arthropods and larva (Brylski 1998). The primary threat to Los Angeles pocket mouse is habitat loss due to development.

Several observations of Los Angeles pocket mouse have occurred within one mile of the project site to the east (Figure 4B). The observations took place on land that contain sandy soils of the Delhi Series and native shrubs. Non-native grassland southeast of the project site is marginally suitable for Los Angeles pocket mouse. Suitable habitat for this species is not present on the project site, and frequent disturbance and surrounding development further reduce the likelihood of species occurrence. Due to the lack of suitable habitat, Los Angeles pocket mouse has a very low potential to occur on site and impacts on this species are not anticipated with project implementation.

Monarch, California Overwintering Population (Danaus plexippus)

The California overwintering population of monarch is currently a candidate for listing under the FESA. The California overwintering population range extends from northern Baja California, Mexico, to Mendocino County, California. Overwintering sites require specific conditions including protection from high wind and storms, absence of freezing temperatures, varying levels of sunlight, high humidity, and the presence of water. Most of the California overwintering population cluster on non-native blue gum eucalyptus trees (*Eucalyptus globulus*), but they will also utilize native trees. Threats to this population include loss of suitable overwintering habitat from development, tree trimming, fire and fire management, tree disease, as well as herbicide, pesticide, and climate change.

A single monarch butterfly was observed on the project site during biological surveys (Figure 2). Host plants were not observed and no colonial roosting monarchs were observed. Eucalyptus groves or other potentially suitable overwintering habitat is not present on site or in the project vicinity. Based on these site conditions, there is no potential for this species to overwinter on site.

Wildlife Species of Special Concern and Watch List Species

Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia)

Burrowing owl is a CDFW SSC at nesting sites and is federally protected by the MBTA. Suitable burrowing owl habitat can be found in annual and perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation (Zarn 1974). Suitable burrowing owl habitat may also

include trees and shrubs if the canopy covers less than 30 percent of the ground surface. Burrows are the essential component of burrowing owl habitat; both natural and artificial burrows provide protection, shelter, and nests for burrowing owl (Henny and Blus 1981). Burrowing owl typically use burrows made by rodents, such as ground squirrels or badgers, but may also use human-made structures, such as concrete culverts; concrete, asphalt, or wood debris piles; or openings beneath concrete or asphalt pavement.

Burrowing owls have declined throughout much of their range because of habitat loss due to urbanization, agricultural conversion, and destruction of ground squirrel colonies (Remsen 1978). The incidental poisoning of burrowing owls and the destruction of their burrows during eradication programs aimed at rodent colonies have also caused their decline (Collins 1979; Remsen 1978). Although burrowing owl are relatively tolerant of lower levels of human activity, human-related impacts, such as shooting and introduction of non-native predators, have negative population impacts. Burrowing owl often nest and perch near roads where they are vulnerable to roadside shooting, fatal car strikes, and general harassment (Remsen 1978).

The project is within the Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone (County of San Bernardino 2012). No burrowing owl individuals or active sign were observed during the general biological survey. Although burrowing owl has historically bred in the local area (RBC 2016, eBird 2023), the project site lacks suitable burrows required to support this species. Some California ground squirrel burrows are present on site; however, the entrances are overgrown with non-native plant species. The project site is surrounded by development, which limits foraging opportunities in the immediate vicinity. In addition, utility structures surrounding the project site provide perches for raptors; burrowing owls avoid nesting near such structures due to the elevated risk of predation. Based on these conditions, burrowing owl has a low potential to occur on the project site. However, it should be noted that on-site ground squirrel burrow activity could increase prior to site development; if additional burrow activity occurs then burrowing owls could have a moderate potential for occurrence on site.

California Horned Lark (Eremophila alpestris actia)

California horned lark is a CDFW SSC found from coastal deserts and grasslands to alpine dwarf-shrub habitat above tree line, and in coniferous or chaparral habitats. It is a common to abundant resident in a variety of open habitats, usually found in habitats where trees and large shrubs are absent. Within southern California, California horned lark nests on the ground in open fields, grasslands, and rangelands. Horned larks forage in areas with low-growing vegetation and feed primarily on grains and other seeds, shifting to mostly insects in the summer months. California horned lark breeds from March through July, with a peak in activity in May. Pairs do not maintain territories outside of the breeding season and instead form large gregarious, somewhat nomadic flocks.

Threats to California horned lark include habitat destruction and fragmentation. Habitats preferred by California horned lark are easily converted to other landscapes and human uses such as farmland and development. Pesticides have also been shown to poison and kill horned larks (Beason 1995). As a ground nester, California horned lark is vulnerable to mowing in a variety of habitats and pesticide use in agricultural fields.

The project site supports disturbed land that is absent of trees and shrubs and includes open areas which are potentially suitable for California horned lark. Due to the presence of suitable foraging and ground nesting habitat, this species has a moderate potential to occur on the project site.

Critical Habitat

The ESA defines critical habitat as a specific geographic area, or areas, that contains features essential for the survival and recovery of endangered and threatened species. USFWS designates critical habitat for endangered and threatened species and may include sites for breeding and rearing, movement or migration, feeding, roosting, cover, and shelter. Critical habitat may also include areas that are not currently occupied by the species, but that will be needed for its recovery.

No USFWS designated critical habitat occurs within or immediately adjacent to the project site, or within one mile of the project site (Figure 4B).

3.4 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS

A wildlife corridor can be defined as a physical feature that links wildlife habitat, often consisting of native vegetation that joins two or more larger areas of similar wildlife habitat (Ogden Environmental and Energy Services 1996). Corridors enable migration, colonization, and genetic diversity through interbreeding and are therefore critical for the movement of animals and the continuation of viable populations. Corridors can consist of large, linear stretches of connected habitat (such as riparian vegetation) or as a sequence of stepping-stones across the landscape (discontinuous areas of habitat such as wetlands and ornamental vegetation), or corridors can be larger habitat areas with known or likely importance to local fauna.

Regional corridors are defined as those linking two or more large patches of habitat, and local corridors are defined as those allowing resident animals to access critical resources (food, cover, and water) in a smaller area that might otherwise be isolated by urban development (Ogden Environmental and Energy Services 1996). A viable wildlife migration corridor consists of more than an unobstructed path between habitat areas. Appropriate vegetation communities must be present to provide food and cover for both transient species and resident populations of less mobile animals. There must also be a sufficient lack of stressors and threats within and adjacent to the corridor for species to use it successfully.

The project site does not function as part of a wildlife corridor. Based on a review of the CDFW Biogeographic Information and Observation System data, no wildlife movement corridors are mapped within the project site (CDFW 2023d). The land within and around the project site is designated as Rank 1, "Limited Connectivity Opportunity", which is the lowest rank within the Terrestrial Connectivity, Areas of Conservation Emphasis (ACE) dataset (CDFW 2023d). The project site is composed of highly disturbed land that is surrounded by development. No large areas of native vegetation are contiguous with the disturbed areas on site, nor do such areas of native habitat occur in proximity to the project site. Cumulatively, the project site and other undeveloped

isolated lots in the project vicinity are unlikely to be used by wildlife species as refuge between larger areas of naturally occurring habitat.

3.5 POTENTIAL FEDERAL AND STATE JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES

Based on the constraints-level aquatic resources assessment, no aquatic resources potentially jurisdictional by the Corps, RWQCB, and/or CDFW are anticipated to occur within the review area.

RBC biologists observed an individual mule-fat and some soil cracking in a sparsely vegetated, topographic low point between dirt mounds within the center of the project site (Appendix A, Photo 6). Based on a review of aerial imagery, the dirt mounds were likely created by dirt-moving machinery in or around 2018 when the land use was converted from grazing to semi-trailer storage (Google Earth 2023). Although an individual mule fat (a wetland indicator plant species) was observed along the edge of the area exhibiting soil cracking, based on the lack of additional wetland indicator plant species/hydrophytic vegetation (i.e., the remainder of the area is unvegetated or dominated by upland plant species) this area is not anticipated to meet the appropriate wetland parameters to qualify as wetland waters of the U.S./State per the Corps/RWQCB or associated wetlands jurisdictional by the CDFW.

This area would also not qualify as non-wetland waters of the U.S./State per the Corps/RWQCB as it did not display an observable ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Similarly, this area would not qualify as streambed jurisdictional per the CDFW as it did not display an observable bed and bank.

Further, the USFWS NWI and USGS NHD databases do not map any aquatic resources within the review area and the NRCS database does not map hydric soils within the review area (USFWS 2023c, USGS 2023a, NRCS 2023).

Please note that a formal, project-specific aquatic resources delineation and reporting per Corps standards and guidelines and further coordination with the Corps, RWQCB, and CDFW would be required to receive an official determination from the Corps and concurrence from the RWQCB and CDFW related to potential aquatic resources on site (i.e., that the project site does not support jurisdictional aquatic resources). RBC does not believe such reporting and coordination is warranted for this site unless requested by the local permitting jurisdiction or the regulatory agencies.

4 IMPACT ANALYSIS

Direct impacts are caused by the project and occur at the same time and place as the project. Any alteration, disturbance, or destruction of biological resources that would result from project-related activities is considered a direct impact. Direct impacts would include direct losses to native habitats, potential jurisdictional waters, wetlands, and special-status species; and diverting natural surface water flows. Direct impacts could include injury, death, and/or harassment of listed and/or special-status species. Direct impacts could also include the destruction of habitats necessary for species breeding, feeding, or sheltering. Direct impacts on plants can include crushing of adult plants, bulbs, or seeds.

Indirect impacts can result from project-related activities where biological resources are affected in a manner that is not direct. Indirect impacts may occur later in time or at a place that is farther removed in distance from the project than direct impacts, but indirect impacts are still reasonably foreseeable and attributable to project-related activities. Examples include habitat fragmentation; elevated noise, dust, and lighting levels; changes in hydrology, runoff, and sedimentation; decreased water quality; soil compaction; increased human activity; and the introduction of invasive wildlife (domestic cats and dogs) and plants (weeds). As noted in Section 2, the survey area included a 100-foot buffer to identify nearby biological resources and to aid in assessment of potential indirect impacts on protected resources, if present.

Cumulative impacts refer to incremental individual environmental effects of two or more projects when considered together. Such impacts taken individually may be minor but are collectively significant in light of regional impacts.

The significance thresholds as outlined in Appendix G of the state CEQA Guidelines (CCR Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387) have been used to determine whether project implementation would result in a significant direct, indirect, and/or cumulative impact. A significant biological resources impact would occur 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, or regulations or by CDFW or USFWS;
- Have a substantial adverse effect on federal protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including, but not limited to, marshes, vernal pools, coastal, etc.) 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;

- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan; Natural Community Conservation Plan; or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

4.1 NATIVE VEGETATION IMPACTS

The proposed project would result in impacts on two land uses/vegetation communities: developed and disturbed (Figure 5; Table 5). Developed and disturbed land are not considered native vegetation communities. Therefore, impacts to native vegetation communities resulting from the project would be less than significant.

Table 4. Vegetation Communities/Land Cover Project Impacts

Vegetation (Holland) ¹	Vegetation ²	Impacts (acres)
Developed	Developed/Disturbed	0.64
Disturbed	Developed/Disturbed	7.23
Total		7.87

¹ Vegetation communities recognized by Holland (1986)

² Vegetation communities from Holland (1986) crosswalked to *The Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009)

4.2 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS AND WILDLIFE IMPACTS

4.2.1 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES

The proposed project will not impact federally and/or state listed or other special-status plants as none are present and none have a moderate to high potential to occur within the project site due to lack of suitable habitat and the overall disturbed nature of the site.

4.2.2 SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITATS

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

Although monarch butterfly, a candidate for listing under FESA when overwintering in California, was observed during the general biological survey, the site has low potential to support overwintering individuals. Thus, impacts on monarch resulting from the project would be less than significant.

The proposed project will not impact other federally and/or state listed wildlife species as none were observed during general biological surveys or have moderate to high potential to occur on site based on lack of suitable habitat and the disturbed nature of the site.

Other Special-Status Wildlife Species

No other special-status wildlife species were detected during general biological surveys; however, one non-listed special-status wildlife species, California horned lark, has moderate potential to occur on the project site. The proposed project has the potential to impact this special-status

species, as discussed below. In addition, potential impacts on burrowing owl are discussed below due to the project site's location within the Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone (County of San Bernardino 2012).

Burrowing Owl

The project site has a low potential to support burrowing owl and occurs within the Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone. If on-site conditions were to change and become more suitable for burrowing owl (i.e., new construction of suitable burrows by California ground squirrels), the species may colonize the project site. If burrowing owls are present at the time of project implementation, direct impacts on this species could occur in the form of habitat destruction, and potentially death, injury, or harassment of nesting birds, their eggs, and their young; such impacts, if they were to occur, are potentially significant. Injury or mortality occurs most frequently during the vegetation clearing stage of construction and affects eggs, nestlings, and recently fledged young that cannot safely avoid equipment. Project impacts on burrowing owls are potentially significant and pre-construction burrowing owl surveys, as outlined in Section 5, would be required during project implementation. With adherence to proposed mitigation measures (BIO-2), impacts on burrowing owls resulting from the project would be less than significant.

Other Non-Listed Special-Status Wildlife Species

California horned lark has a moderate potential to occur on site due to the presence of suitable foraging and ground nesting habitat. On-site suitable habitat for this species is limited in size and, if present, California horned larks are unlikely to solely rely on the project site for their foraging and reproductive needs. Additionally, adult avian species would likely flush during initial project activities, and with implementation of nesting bird protections (BIO-3), potential impacts on nests would be avoided. Thus, direct impacts on special-status wildlife would be less than significant.

4.3 NESTING BIRD IMPACTS

The proposed project has the potential to impact active bird nests if vegetation is removed or ground disturbing activities are initiated during the nesting season. The disturbed land within the project site has the potential to support avian nests and impacts on nesting birds are prohibited by the MBTA and/or CFGC §3503. However, with the adherence to standard conditions proposed in Section 5, impacts on nesting birds resulting from the project would be less than significant.

4.4 WILDLIFE CORRIDOR IMPACTS

The project site does not serve as part of a regional wildlife corridor. As such, the project would not result in impacts on wildlife movement and regional corridors.

4.5 POTENTIAL JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES IMPACTS

The proposed project is not expected to impact jurisdictional aquatic resources, as such resources were not observed on site (see Section 3.5). Therefore, permitting through the Corps, RWQCB, and CDFW is not expected to be required for the proposed project. A formal, project-specific aquatic resources delineation and reporting per Corps standards and guidelines and further coordination with the Corps, RWQCB, and CDFW would be required to receive an official

determination from the Corps and concurrence from the RWQCB and CDFW related to potential aquatic resources on site (i.e., that the project site does not support jurisdictional aquatic resources).

4.6 LOCAL POLICIES AND ORDINANCES IMPACTS

4.6.1 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO BURROWING OWL OVERLAY ZONE

As previously discussed, the project site is within the Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone. As such, pre-construction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted prior to project implementation, as detailed in Section 5. With adherence to mitigation measures proposed, impacts on burrowing owl would be avoided and/or minimized.

4.6.2 CITY OF RIALTO GENERAL PLAN

As discussed above in Section 3.3.2, the project does not contain suitable habitat or soils for Delhi Sands flower-loving fly; therefore this species has a very low potential to occur and impacts on Delhi Sands flower-loving fly are not anticipated. As such, protocol surveys are not required, and the City of Rialto General Plan policy related to this species is not applicable.

4.7 HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN; NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN; OR OTHER APPROVED LOCAL, REGIONAL, OR STATE HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN IMPACTS

The project site is not located within an active HCP or NCCP area, and therefore would not result in impacts on HCPs or NCCPs.

4.8 INDIRECT IMPACTS ON BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

In the context of biological resources, indirect impacts are those effects associated with developing areas adjacent to native open space. Potential indirect effects associated with development include water quality impacts from site drainage into adjacent open space/downstream aquatic resources; lighting effects; noise effects; invasive plant species from landscaping; and effects from human access into adjacent open space, such as recreational activities (including off-road vehicles and hiking), pets, dumping, etc. Temporary, indirect effects may also occur because of construction-related activities.

The project site is largely composed of disturbed land and abutting lands are primarily developed. Project activities would not significantly change the conditions on adjacent lands or result in indirect effects on biological resources. Therefore, indirect impacts would be less than significant.

4.9 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ON BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cumulative impacts are defined as the direct and indirect effects of a proposed project which, when considered alone, would not be deemed a substantial impact, but when considered in addition to the impacts of related projects in the area, would be considered potentially significant. 'Related projects' refers to past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects, which would have similar impacts to the proposed project. The project site is disturbed,

surrounded by development, and does not support sensitive natural vegetation communities. As such, the proposed project will not result in significant cumulative effects.

5 MITIGATION MEASURES AND STANDARD CONDITIONS

The following discussion provides project-specific mitigation measures and standard conditions; adherence with these mitigation measures and standard conditions is necessary to avoid and minimize impacts on biological resources resulting from the project.

5.1 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

To avoid impacts on special-status resources and inadvertent disturbance to areas outside the limits of the proposed project activities, the following monitoring requirements and BMPs shall be implemented:

BIO-1:

- 1) To prevent inadvertent disturbance to areas outside the limits of work, the construction limits shall be clearly demarcated (e.g., installation of flagging or temporary visibility construction fence) prior to ground-disturbance activities, and all construction activities, including equipment staging and maintenance, shall be conducted within the marked disturbance limits. The work limit delineation shall be maintained throughout project construction.
- 2) Construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads adjacent to the project site or the right-of-way accessing the site.
- 3) Construction activities will occur during daytime hours.
- 4) If trash and debris need to be stored overnight during construction activities, fully covered trash receptacles that are animal-proof and weather-proof will be used by the maintenance contractor to contain all food, food scraps, food wrappers, beverage containers, and other miscellaneous trash. Alternatively, standard trash receptacles may be used during the day, but must be removed each night.
- 5) The operator will not permit pets on or adjacent to the construction site.
- 6) At the end of each workday during construction, the applicant, or its contractors, will cover all excavated, steep-sided holes or trenches more than eight inches deep and that have sidewalls steeper than 1:1 (45 degree) slope with plywood or similar materials, or provide a minimum of one escape ramp per 100 feet of trenching (with slopes no greater than 3:1) constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. The project biologist will thoroughly inspect holes and trenches for trapped animals during biological monitoring.
- 7) The applicant, or its contractors, will screen, cover, or elevate at least one (1) foot above ground, all construction pipe, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of three (3) inches or greater that are stored on site overnight. These pipes, culverts, and similar structures will be inspected by the project biologist for wildlife before such material is moved, buried, or capped.

5.2 BURROWING OWL AVOIDANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The project site is within the County of San Bernardino Burrowing Owl Overlay Zone. As such, adherence to the following avoidance and mitigation measures for burrowing owl are recommended:

BIO-2A: No less than 14 days prior to the onset of construction activities, a qualified biologist shall survey the construction limits of the project site and a 500-foot buffer for the presence of burrowing owls and occupied nest burrows. A second survey shall be conducted within 24 hours prior to the onset of construction activities. The surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the most current CDFW survey methods. If burrowing owls are not observed during the clearance survey, no additional conditions may be required to avoid impacts to burrowing owl.

If burrowing owl is documented on site, occupied burrowing owl burrows shall not be disturbed during the nesting season (February 1 through August 31) unless a qualified biologist approved by CDFW verifies through non-invasive methods that either the birds have not begun egg laying and incubation, or that juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and capable of independent survival. Disturbance avoidance buffers shall be determined and set up by a qualified biologist in accordance with the recommendations included in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012). A biologist shall be contracted to perform monitoring during all construction activities approximately every other day. The definitive frequency and duration of monitoring shall be dependent on whether it is the breeding versus non-breeding season and the efficacy of the exclusion buffers, as determined by a qualified biologist and in coordination with CDFW.

If burrowing owl is observed during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or confirmed to not be nesting, a non-disturbance buffer between the project activities and the occupied burrow shall be installed by a qualified biologist in accordance with the recommendations included in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012).

The project applicant shall submit at least one burrowing owl preconstruction survey report to the satisfaction of the City of Rialto and CDFW to document compliance with this standard condition. For the purposes of this standard condition, 'qualified biologist' is a biologist who meets the requirements set forth in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012).

BIO-2B: If avoidance is not possible, either directly or indirectly, a Burrowing Owl Relocation and Mitigation Plan (Plan) shall be prepared and submitted for approval by CDFW. Once approved, the Plan would be implemented to relocate non-breeding burrowing owls from the project site. The Plan shall detail methods for passive relocation of burrowing owls from the project site, provide guidance for the monitoring and management of the replacement burrow sites and associated reporting requirements, and ensure that a minimum of two suitable, unoccupied burrows are

available off site for every burrowing owl or pair of burrowing owls to be passively relocated. Compensatory mitigation of habitat would be required if occupied burrows or territories occur within the permanent impact footprint. Habitat compensation shall be approved by CDFW and detailed in the Burrowing Owl Relocation and Mitigation Plan.

5.3 NESTING BIRD AVOIDANCE AND STANDARD CONDITIONS

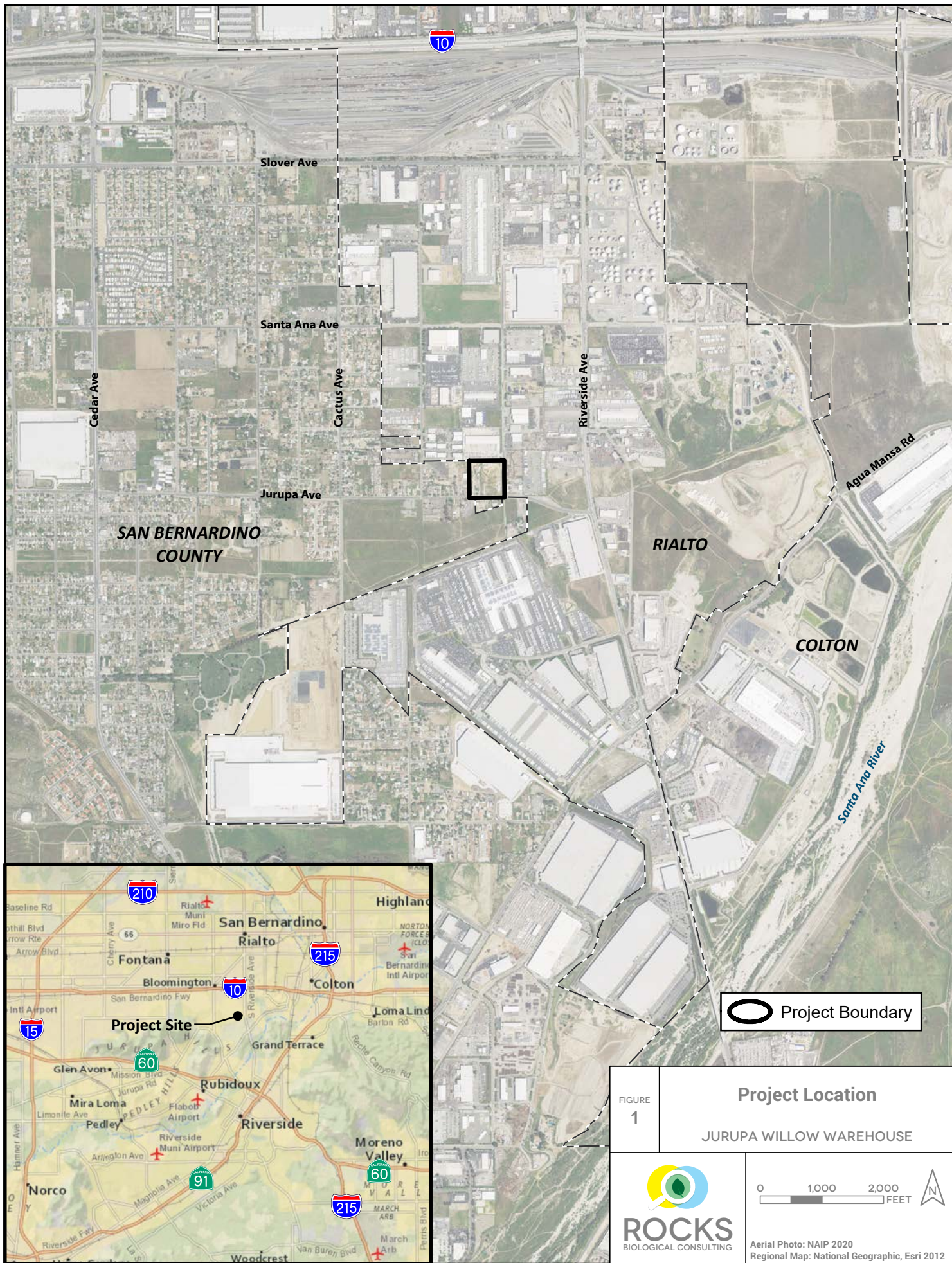
The project site supports suitable habitat for nesting birds. As such, adherence to the following standard condition is required to reduce impacts on nesting birds:

BIO-3: To ensure compliance with CFGC sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 and to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, vegetation clearing and ground-disturbing activities shall be conducted outside of the bird nesting season (generally February 15 through August 31). If avoidance of the nesting season is not feasible, then a qualified biologist will conduct a nesting bird survey within three (3) days prior to any disturbance of the site, including but not limited to vegetation clearing, disking, demolition activities, and grading. If active nests are identified, the biologist shall establish suitable buffers around the nests depending on the level of activity within the buffer and species observed, and the buffer areas shall be avoided until the nests are no longer occupied, and the juvenile birds can survive independently from the nests. During construction activities, the qualified biologist shall continue biological monitoring activities at a frequency recommended by the qualified biologist using their best professional judgment. If nesting birds are documented, avoidance and minimization measures may be adjusted, and construction activities stopped or redirected by the qualified biologist using their best professional judgement to avoid take of nesting birds. If nesting birds are not documented during the preconstruction survey, adherence to additional standard conditions may not be necessary to avoid impacts to nesting birds.

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	Project Boundary		Vegetation
	Survey Area		Non-native Grassland
Special-Status Species			Ornamental
	Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>)		Disturbed
			Developed

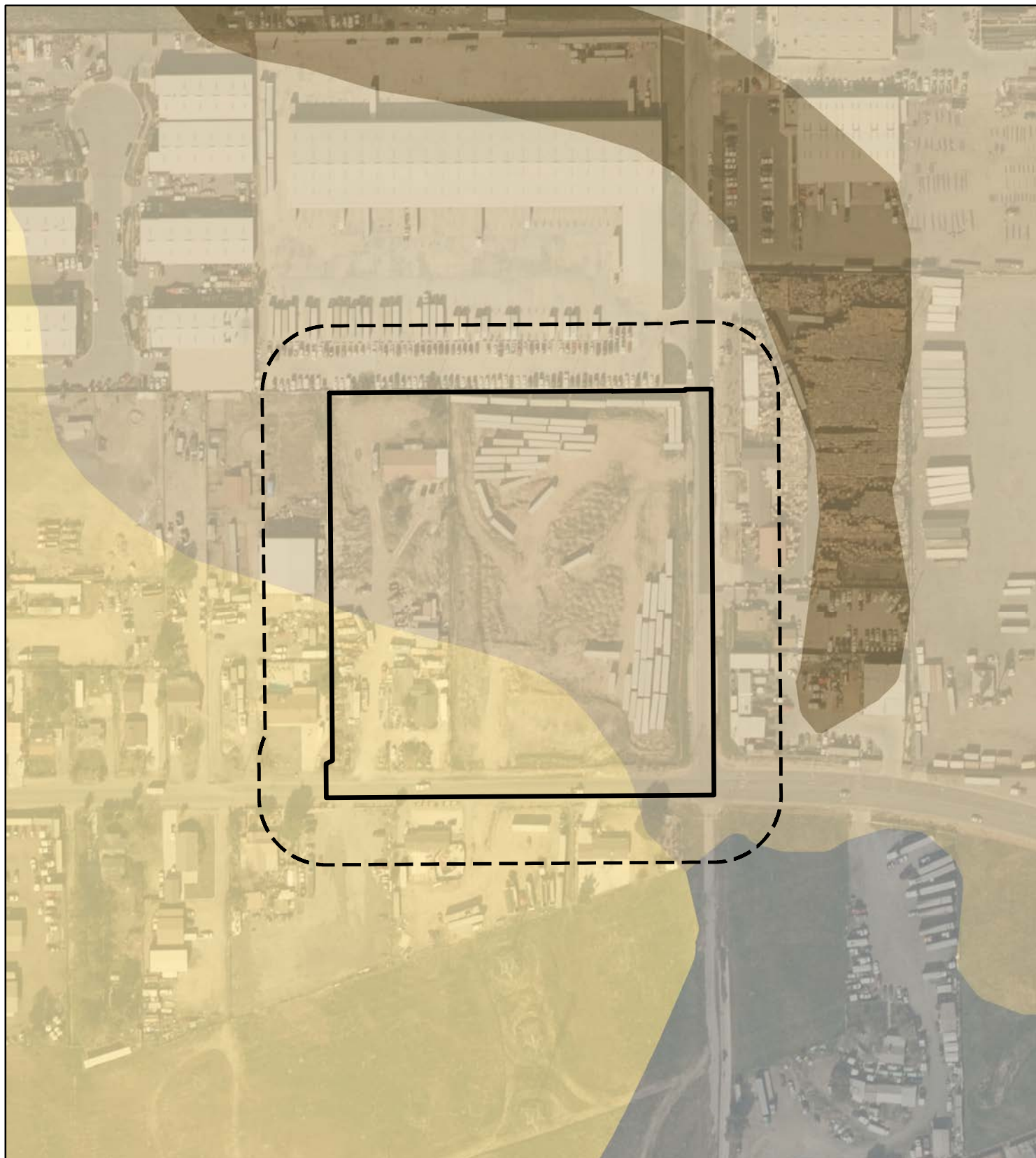
FIGURE
2

Biological Resources

JURUPA WILLOW WAREHOUSE



Aerial Photo: Esrti, San Bernardino County 2020
Source: USDA NRCS



 Project Boundary
 Survey Area

Soils

-  Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes
-  Hanford coarse sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes
-  Quarries and Pits soils
-  Tujunga loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

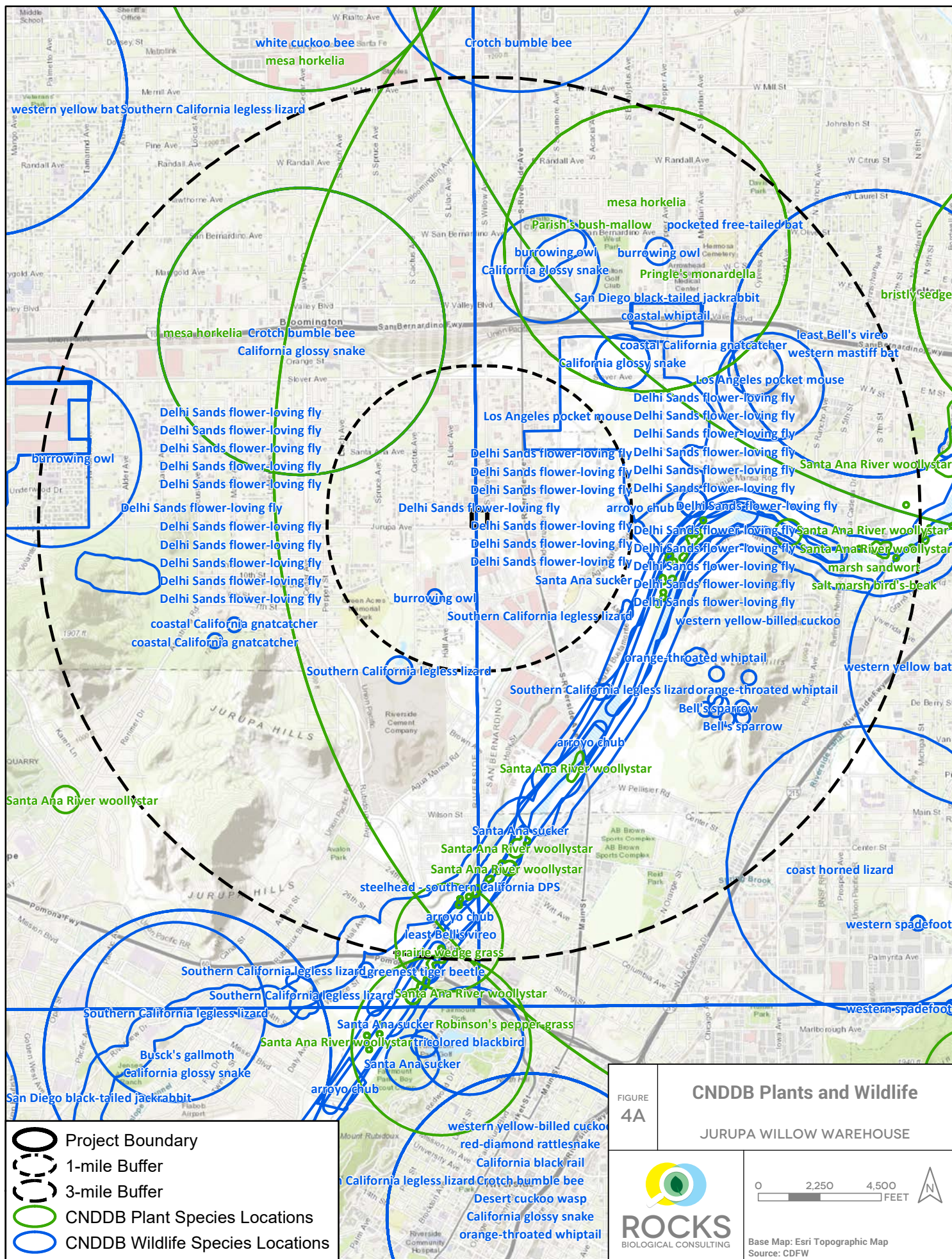
FIGURE
3

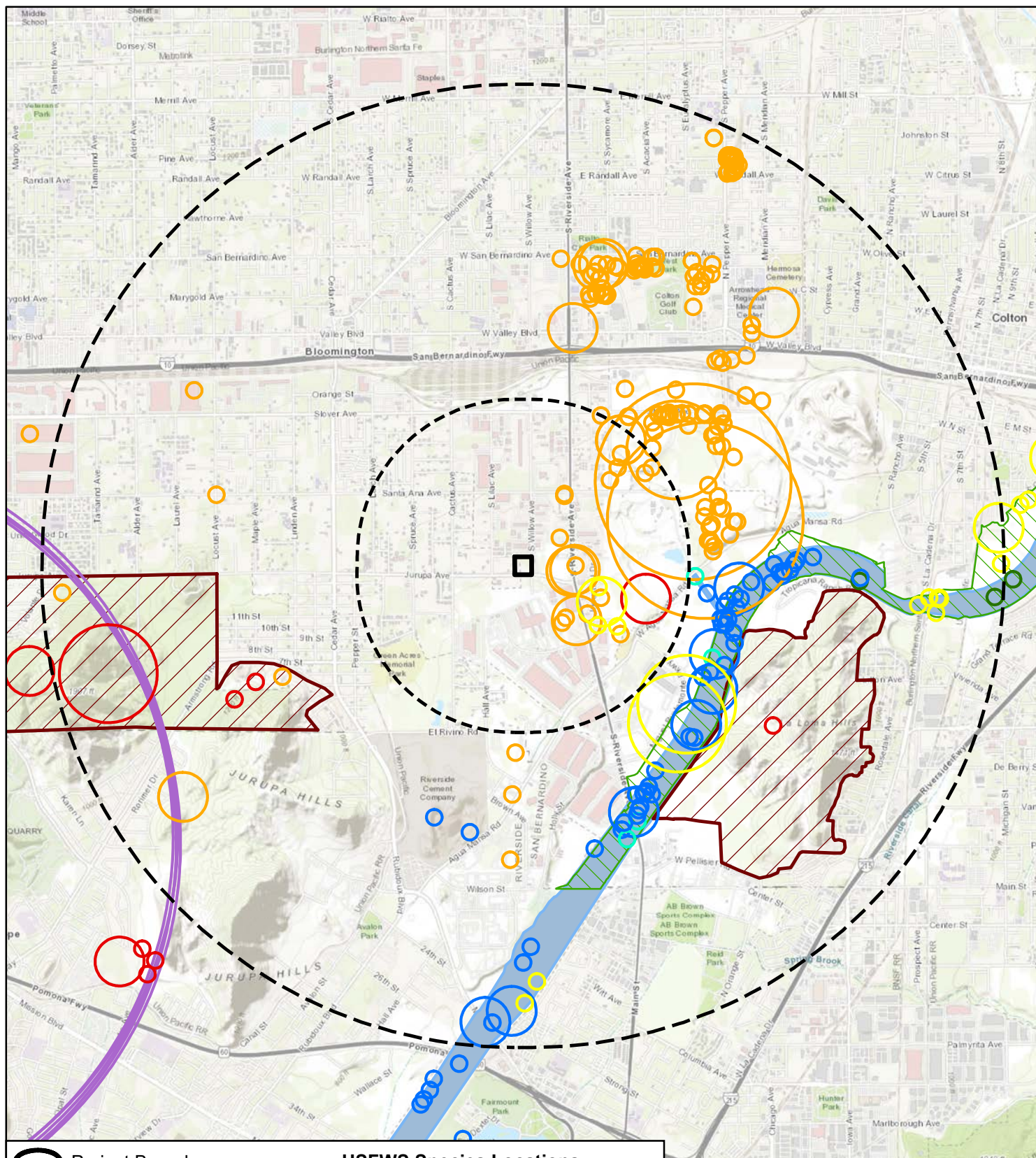
Soils

JURUPA WILLOW WAREHOUSE



Aerial Photo: Esrti, San Bernardino County 2020
 Source: USDA NRCS



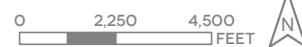


- | | |
|--|---|
| <p> Project Boundary</p> <p> 1-mile Buffer</p> <p> 3-mile Buffer</p> <p>Critical Habitat</p> <p> Coastal California Gnatcatcher</p> <p> Santa Ana Sucker</p> <p> Southwestern Willow Flycatcher</p> | <p>USFWS Species Locations</p> <p> Coastal California Gnatcatcher</p> <p> Least Bell's Vireo</p> <p> Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly</p> <p> Los Angeles Pocket Mouse</p> <p> San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat</p> <p> Santa Ana River Woolly-star</p> <p> Santa Ana Sucker</p> |
|--|---|

FIGURE
4B

USFWS Plants and Wildlife

JURUPA WILLOW WAREHOUSE



Base Map: Esri Topographic Map
Source: USFWS



 Project Boundary Project Impacts Survey Area Special-Status Species Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>)	Vegetation Non-native Grassland Ornamental Disturbed Developed
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FIGURE
5

Proposed Project Impacts

JURUPA WILLOW WAREHOUSE



Aerial Photo: Esrti, San Bernardino County 2020
Source: USDA NRCS

Appendix A
Site Photographs
April 26, 2023



Photo 1. Overview of project site from the center portion of the site, showing disturbed land, facing south.



Photo 2. View of disturbed land from the southwest corner of the project site, facing northeast.



Photo 3. View of disturbed land in the central southern portion of the project site, showing remnants of a vineyard and small mammal burrows, facing west.



Photo 4. View from the southwest corner of the project site, facing east.



Photo 5. View from the central portion of the project site, facing northwest.



Photo 6. Area exhibiting some soil cracking and adjacent mule-fat (shown by arrow) in center of project site, facing southeast.

Appendix B
Plant and Wildlife Species Observed

Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
Plants		
Amaranthaceae	white tumbleweed*	<i>Amaranthus albus</i>
Arecaceae	queen palm*	<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i>
Asteraceae	annual bur-sage	<i>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</i>
Asteraceae	brittlebush	<i>Encelia farinosa</i>
Asteraceae	western sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>
Asteraceae	golden crownbeard*	<i>Verbesina encelioides</i>
Asteraceae	mule-fat	<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>
Asteraceae	stinknet*	<i>Oncosiphon piluliferum</i>
Asteraceae	telegraph weed	<i>Heterotheca grandifolia</i>
Asteraceae	prickly lettuce*	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>
Asteraceae	common sow-thistle*	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Asteraceae	horseweed	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>
Asteraceae	tocalote*	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>
Boraginaceae	rigid fiddleneck	<i>Amsinckia menziesii</i>
Brassicaceae	Sahara mustard*	<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>
Brassicaceae	short pod mustard*	<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>
Brassicaceae	London rocket*	<i>Sisymbrium irio</i>
Caryophyllaceae	stickwort, starwort*	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>
Euphorbiaceae	castor bean*	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Fabaceae	Mexican palo verde*	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>
Fabaceae	Indian sweetclover*	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>
Fabaceae	California burclover*	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>
Geraniaceae	red-stem filaree/storksbill*	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>
Malvaceae	cheeseweed*	<i>Malva parviflora</i>
Pinaceae	ornamental pine*	<i>Pinus</i> sp.
Poaceae	Bermuda grass*	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>
Poaceae	foxtail chess, red brome*	<i>Bromus rubens</i>

Poaceae	ripgut grass*	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>
Poaceae	slender wild oat*	<i>Avena barbata</i>
Poaceae	foxtail barley*	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>
Poaceae	Mediterranean schismus*	<i>Schismus barbatus</i>
Polygonaceae	California buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>
Salicaceae	prickly Russian-thistle*	<i>Salsola tragus</i>
Solanaceae	tree tobacco*	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>
Zygophyllaceae	puncture vine*	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
Invertebrates		
Formicidae	harvester ant	<i>Veromessor</i> sp.
Nymphalidae	monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i>
Nymphalids	painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Reptiles		
Phrynosomatidae	western side-blotched lizard	<i>Uta stansburiana elegans</i>
Birds		
Accipitridae	red-tailed hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Charadriidae	killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>
Columbidae	Eurasian collared-dove*	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Corvidae	American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
Fringillidae	house finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>
Fringillidae	lesser goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>
Mimidae	northern mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>
Passeriformes	house sparrow*	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Sturnidae	European starling*	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Tyrannidae	western kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>
Tyrannidae	Say's phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>
Mammals		
Sciuridae	California ground squirrel	<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>
* Non-Native Species		

Appendix C

Assessment of Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur Within the Project Site

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Aparejo grass (<i>Muhlenbergia utilis</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms October-May. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, marshes and swamps, and meadows and seeps. Elevation 80-7,630 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Black bog-rush (<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial glasslike herb. Blooms August-September. Marshes and swamps. Elevation 490-6,650 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Brand's star phacelia (<i>Phacelia stellaris</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms March-June. Coastal dunes and scrub. Elevation 5-1310 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Bristly sedge (<i>Carex comosa</i>)	CRPR 2B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms May-September. Coastal prairie, marshes and swamps (lake margins), valley and foothill grasslands. Elevation 0-2,050 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
California satintail (<i>Imperata brevifolia</i>)	CRPR 2B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms September-May. Chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, Mojavean desert scrub, and riparian scrub. Elevation 0-3,985 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
California saw-grass (<i>Cladium californicum</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms June-September. Marshes and swamps, and meadows and seeps. Elevation 195-5,250 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Chaparral ragwort (<i>Senecio aphanactis</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Annual herb. Blooms January-April. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Elevation 50-2,625 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Chaparral sand-verbena (<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms January-September. Sandy chaparral, coastal scrub and desert dunes. Elev. 245-5,250 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Coulter's goldfields (<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms February-June. Coastal salt marshes and swamps, playas, vernal pools. Elev. 5-4,005 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Gambel's water cress (<i>Nasturtium gambelii</i>)	FE; ST; CRPR 1B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms April-October. Marshes and swamps. Elevation 15-1,085 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Horn's milk-vetch (<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms May-October. Lake margins, alkaline, meadows and seeps, playas. Elevation 195-2,790 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Hot springs fimbriatylis (<i>Fimbristylis thermalis</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms July-September. Meadows and seeps. Elevation 360-4,395 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Intermediate mariposa-lily (<i>Calochortus weedii</i> var. <i>intermedius</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb. Blooms May-July. Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Elevation 345-2,805 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Los Angeles sunflower (<i>Helianthus nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i>)	CRPR 1A	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms August-October. Marshes and swamps (coastal salt and freshwater). Elevation 35-5,005 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Many-stemmed dudleya (<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Perennial herb. Blooms April-July. Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley/foothill grasslands. Elev. 50-2,590 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Marsh sandwort (<i>Arenaria paludicola</i>)	FE; SE; CRPR 1B.1	Perennial stoloniferous herb. Blooms May-August. Marshes and swamps (brackish, freshwater). Elevation 10-560 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Mesa horkelia (<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Perennial herb. Blooms February-September. Maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Elevation 230-2,660 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Nevin's barberry (<i>Berberis nevinii</i>)	CNPR 1B.1	Perennial evergreen shrub. Blooms (February) March-June. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and Riparian scrub. Elevation 230-2,705 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site. This perennial shrub was not observed during the general biological survey.
Parish's bush-mallow (<i>Malacothamnus parishii</i>)	CRPR 1A	Perennial deciduous shrub. Blooms June-July. Chaparral and coastal scrub. Elevation 1,000-1,495 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site. This perennial shrub was not observed during the general biological survey.
Parish's desert-thorn (<i>Lycium parishii</i>)	CRPR 2B.3	Perennial shrub. Blooms March-April. Coastal scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. Elevation 445-3,280 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Parish's gooseberry (<i>Ribes divaricatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i>)	CRPR 1A	Perennial deciduous shrub. February-April. Riparian woodland. Elevation 215-985 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site. This perennial shrub was not observed during the general biological survey.
Parry's spineflower (<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms April-June. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation 900-4,005 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Pringle's monardella (<i>Monardella pringlei</i>)	CRPR 1A	Annual herb. Blooms May-June. Coastal scrub (sandy). Elevation 985-1,310 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Prairie wedge grass (<i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial herb. Blooms April-July. Cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps. Elevation 985-6,560 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Prostrate vernal pool navarretia (<i>Navarretia prostrata</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb. Blooms April-July. Coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. Elevation 10-3,970 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Robinson's pepper-grass (<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i>)	CRPR 4.3	Annual herb. Blooms January-July. Chaparral, coastal scrub. Elevation 0-2905 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Salt marsh bird's-beak (<i>Chloropyron maritimum</i> ssp. <i>maritimum</i>)	FE; SE; CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb (hemiparasitic). Blooms May-October (November). Coastal dunes and marshes and swamps (coastal salt). Elevation 0-100 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Salt spring checkerbloom (<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial herb. Blooms March-June. Chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forests, Mojavean desert scrub, and playas. Elevation 50-5,020 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
San Bernardino aster (<i>Symphyotrichum defoliatum</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms July-November. Cismontane woodlands, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and vernal mesic valley/foothill grasslands. Elevation 5-6,695 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
San Diego Ambrosia (<i>Ambrosia pumila</i>)	FE; CRPR 1B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms April-October. Sandy loam or clay soils in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. Elevation 65-1,350 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Sanford's arrowhead (<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Blooms May-October (November). Marshes and swamps. Elevation 0-2,135 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Santa Ana River woollystar (<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>sanctorum</i>)	FE; SE; CRPR 1B.1	Perennial herb. Blooms April-September. Chaparral and coastal alluvial fan scrub. Elevation 298-2,000 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site..
Singlewhorl burrowbush (<i>Ambrosia monogyra</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial shrub. Blooms August-November. Chaparral, Sonoran desert scrub. Elevation 35-1,640 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.. This perennial shrub was not observed during the general biological survey.
Slender-horned spineflower (<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i>)	FE; SE; CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms April-June. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, alluvial fan coastal scrub. Elevation 655-2,495 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Smooth tarplant (<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms April-September. Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playa, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Elevation 0-2,100 feet.	Low. Though this species can inhabit disturbed environments, it is not known from the project vicinity and disturbed land on site is not suitable.
Thread-leaved brodiaea (<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>)	CRPR 1B.1	Perennial bulbiferous herb. Blooms March-June. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. Elevation 80-3,675 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
White rabbit-tobacco (<i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i>)	CRPR 2B.2	Perennial herb. Blooms (July) August-November (December). Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland. Elevation 0-6,890 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
White-bracted spineflower (<i>Chorizanthe xanti</i> var. <i>leucotheca</i>)	CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb. Blooms April-June. Coastal scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland. Elevation 985-3,935 feet.	None. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
CRPR: California Rare Plant Rank FE: Federally Endangered (FE) SE: State Endangered (SE) ST: State Threatened (ST)			
Sources: CNPS 2023; Calflora 2023			

Appendix D

Assessment of Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur Within the Project Site

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
INVERTEBRATES			
Crotch bumble bee (<i>Bombus crotchii</i>)	SE (Candidate)	Found in arid shrublands and grasslands in coastal and foothill areas of southern California. Nectar plants include milkweeds, buckwheat, and lupines.	Very low. The project site is composed of disturbed land with non-native forbs and grasses rooted in compacted soils. Appropriate nectar sources are not present.
Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i>)	FE	Found in sandy areas composed of Delhi fine sands, stabilized by sparse native vegetation.	Very low. Delhi fine sands are not present on or in the immediate vicinity of the project site; on-site soils are Tujunga loamy sand and Hanford coarse sandy loam, which are not suitable for this species.
Monarch butterfly, California overwintering population (<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i> pop. 1)	FE (Candidate)	Found in a variety of habitats across the United States and Mexico (e.g., grasslands, urban land, mountains, and coastal habitats). Exclusively oviposit on milkweed. Nectivorous adults require flowering plants. Roost in eucalyptus, Monterey pines, and Monterey cypresses in California.	Present; no potential for overwintering. Observed on site during general biological survey on April 26, 2023. No milkweed or eucalyptus observed; thus, the site does not have potential to support reproduction or overwintering.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
FISH			
Arroyo chub (<i>Gila orcuttii</i>)	SSC	Found in slow-moving streams and backwaters of streams.	None. Suitable aquatic habitats do not occur within the project site.
Santa Ana sucker (<i>Catostomus santaanae</i>)	FT	Found in small permanent streams.	None. Suitable aquatic habitats do not occur within the project site.
Steelhead (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>) – southern California distinct population segment (DPS) 10	FE; CSE	Found in coastal streams.	None. Suitable aquatic habitats do not occur within the project site.
REPTILES			
California glossy snake (<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i>)	SSC	Found in arid scrub, rocky washes, grasslands, and chaparral habitats. Prefers habitats containing open areas and loose soils for burrowing.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site. Frequent disturbance and surrounding development make it unlikely for this species to occur.
Coast horned lizard (<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>)	SSC	Found in a variety of habitats including sage scrub, chaparral, and coniferous and broadleaf woodlands. Found on sandy or friable soils with open scrub. Requires open areas, bushes, and fine loose soil.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Coastal whiptail (<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>)	SSC	Found in a variety of rocky, sandy, dry habitats including sage scrub, chaparral, woodlands on friable loose soil.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Orange-throated whiptail (<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>)	WL	Found in a variety of habitats including sage scrub, chaparral, and coniferous and broadleaf woodlands. Found on sandy or friable soils with open scrub.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Red-diamond rattlesnake (<i>Crotalus ruber</i>)	SSC	Found in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, along creek banks, and in rock outcrops or piles of debris. Often associated with dense vegetation in rocky areas.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
San Diego banded gecko (<i>Coleonyx variegatus abbotti</i>)	SSC	Found in rocky areas of coastal sage scrub and chaparral.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Southern California legless lizard (<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i>)	SSC	Found in a variety of habitats including coastal dunes, sandy washes, and alluvial fans, containing moist, loose soils.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Southern rubber boa (<i>Charina umbratica</i>)	SE	Found in oak-conifer and mixed-conifer forests at elevations between roughly 5,000 to 8,200 feet. where rocks and logs or other debris provide shelter.	Very low. Suitable habitat not present; project site is outside elevation range.
BIRDS			
Allen's hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>)	BCC	Found in areas with tree or shrub cover. Frequently nest near shady streams.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
American peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>) ¹	FP	Found in open country, cliffs (mountains to coast), sometimes cities. Over its wide range, found in wide variety of open habitats, from tundra to desert mountains. Often near water, especially along coast, and migrants may fly far out to sea.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>) ²	FP	Found primarily in forested habitats. Nest at the tallest branch crux of large-canopied trees, often near a body of water. Requires water source with abundant fish for hunting	None. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Belding's savannah sparrow (<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>)	SE; BCC	Found primarily in the upper marsh zone that is flooded infrequently by the tide. Nest on or near the ground within habitats dominated by dense pickleweed, shore grass, and saltwort.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Bell's sparrow (<i>Artemisiospiza belli</i>)	WL	Found in sagebrush, alkali desert scrub, and desert scrub in low, dense stands of shrubs. Frequently associated with <i>Atriplex</i> spp. in desert habitats.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Bullock's oriole (<i>Icterus bullockii</i>)	BCC	Found in riparian corridors and open deciduous woodland.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) ³	SSC; BCC	Found in grasslands and open scrub from coast to foothills. Strongly associated with California ground squirrel and other fossorial mammal burrows.	Low. This species is known to occur within the general area. Although California ground squirrel burrows occur within the project site, site and burrow entrances are overgrown with non-native plant species.
California condor (<i>Gymnogyps Californianus</i>)	FE; SE; FP	Found in rocky scrubland, coniferous forest, and oak savannah. Nest near cliffs or large trees in forested mountain regions up to about 6,000 feet elevation. Foraging areas are in open grasslands and can be far from primary nesting sites.	None. Suitable nesting sites are not present. On-site habitat is not suitable for foraging and is isolated from other native habitats by surrounding development and unlikely to support condor foraging.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
California gull (<i>Larus californicus</i>) ⁴	WL; BCC	Found in a variety of habitats excluding densely forested areas. Breeds in colonies on sparsely vegetated islands, levees in inland lakes and rivers, and salt ponds.	Very low. Suitable habitat for breeding colonies does not occur within the project site.
California thrasher (<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>)	BCC	Found primarily in chaparral, but also inhabits sagebrush, juniper bushland, and riparian and oak woodlands.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
California horned lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>)	WL	Found from coastal deserts and grasslands to alpine dwarf-shrub habitat above treeline. Also seen in coniferous or chaparral habitats.	Moderate. Disturbed land on site is moderately suitable for this species.
Clark's grebe (<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>)	BCC	Found in marshes, lakes, and coastlines also in proximity to tree cover that can be used for nesting.	None. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Coastal California gnatcatcher (<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>)	FT; SSC	Found in sage scrub habitats, often on slopes. Nests in shrubs including sagebrush, buckwheat, and sage. Diegan coastal sage scrub and other similar open scrub habitats in coastal areas, with most populations occurring below 1,500 feet in elevation.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Common yellowthroat (<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>)	BCC	Found typically in marshes and wetland edges.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Cooper's hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>) ¹	WL	Found primarily in woodlands but may also be found in urban environments if trees are present.	Very low. Project site does not contain trees suitable for this species.
Ferruginous hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>) ⁵	WL	Found in grassland, desert, and scrubland habitats and at the edges of low/moderate elevation forests.	Low. Marginally suitable foraging habitat present. Species does not nest in southern California.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) ²	FP; WL	Found in open and semi open country featuring native vegetation across most of the northern hemisphere. Nest on cliffs and steep escarpments in grassland, chaparral, shrubland, forest, and other vegetated areas.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Grasshopper sparrow (<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>) ¹	SSC	Found in grassland habitat and agricultural areas with little to no scrub cover and often with some bare ground.	Low. Abundance of orthopteran prey on site. Non-native grassland occurs southeast of the project site and the project site is marginally suitable; however, the site is largely surrounded by development and species is not known from the vicinity.
Lawrence's goldfinch (<i>Spinus lawrencei</i>) ¹	BCC	Found in chaparral, coastal scrub, pinyon pine-juniper woodlands, oak woodlands, riparian, and disturbed habitats. Also found in semi-urban, weedy, and agricultural environments. Generally associated with a water source, especially in drier regions.	Low. Disturbed land on site is comprised of weedy forbs and grasses; however, site and surrounding area lacks a water source.
Least Bell's vireo (<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>) ¹	FE; SE	Found in riparian woodland with an understory of dense young willows or mule fat and willow canopy. Nests often placed along internal or external edges of riparian thickets.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) ¹	SSC	Found within grassland, chaparral, desert, and desert edge scrub, particularly near dense vegetation used for nesting.	Low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) ⁵	WL	Found in a wide variety of open and semi-open habitats. Primarily found in grasslands when wintering in southern California but will inhabit any habitat except dense woodland.	Low. Marginally suitable foraging habitat present, but species does not nest in southern California.
Northern harrier (<i>Circus hudsonius</i>) ¹	SSC; BCC	Found in meadows, grasslands, open rangelands, desert sinks, and fresh and saltwater emergent wetlands. Nests on the ground, usually near marsh edge, but may also nest in grasslands, grain fields, or sagebrush flats several miles from water.	Low. Non-native grassland occurs southeast of the project site. Suitable foraging habitat and fossorial prey exist on site; however, the project site does not suitable nesting habitat.
Nuttall's woodpecker (<i>Dryobates nuttalli</i>)	BCC	Found primarily in open oak woodlands. Nests in cavities in trees.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Oak titmouse (<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>)	BCC	Found in open oak woodlands and other forests as long as oak trees are present. Nests in woodpecker holes/natural cavities.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Olive-sided flycatcher (<i>Contopus cooperi</i>) ¹	SSC, BCC	Found along edges or within openings of semi-open to dense forests, largely composed of conifers in Southern California. Broaden tree genera preferences during migration; desert migrants are found in various habitats containing trees.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Prairie falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) ¹	WL	Found in desert shrubland and grasslands. Primarily forage in grassland habitats. Requires open space with cliffs, rock outcrops, or canyons for foraging.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Sharp-shinned hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>) ¹	WL	Found in ponderosa pine, black oak, riparian deciduous, mixed conifer, and Jeffrey pine habitats.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>)	WL	Found in shrubland or grassland habitats with scattered scrubs. Prefers open habitat with rocky slopes.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii</i>) ¹	FE; SE	Found in thick riparian areas with willows near standing or running water.	Very low. No suitable habitats present; riparian vegetation is not found within the project site.
Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>) ¹	ST	Found in open habitats for foraging including grasslands, prairies, and sometimes pastures. Nest in solitary trees or sometimes very small groves near water.	Low. Marginally suitable foraging habitat present, but nesting habitat is not present on the project site.
Tricolored blackbird (<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>) ⁴	ST; SSC; BCC	Found nesting in grasslands and wetlands with cattails, bulrushes, and willows. Forages in cultivated fields, feedlots associated with dairy farms, and wetlands.	Very low. Suitable wetland habitat not present. Grasslands with low suitability to support a nesting colony occur southeast of the project site.
Western grebe (<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>)	BCC	Found typically on large inland lakes and occasionally in coastal marshes.	None. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Western yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>) ¹	FT; SE	Found exclusively in riparian habitats. Typically nests in low to moderate elevation riparian woodlands with native broadleaf trees, primarily cottonwood-willow-dominated habitats.	None. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site; tree species typically associated with this species are not present.
Wrentit (<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>)	BCC	Found in chaparral and woodland habitats.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Yellow warbler (<i>Setophaga petechia</i>) ¹	SSC	Found within riparian woodlands, including disturbed habitats, and are associated with streamside cottonwood, willow, alder, and ash trees.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Yellow-breasted chat (<i>Icteria virens</i>) ¹	SSC	Found within a variety of riparian habitats and occasionally disturbed and successional habitats.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
MAMMALS			
Los Angeles pocket mouse (<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i>)	SSC	Found in low elevation grassland, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal sage scrub.	Very low. Non-native grassland southeast of the project site is marginally suitable for this species. Frequent disturbance and surrounding development make it unlikely for this species to occur on the project site. This species occurs sparingly in, or is absent from, many historic localities in the San Bernardino valley.
Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>)	SSC	Found in coastal sage scrub, sage scrub/grassland ecotones, and chaparral communities.	Very Low. Non-native grassland southeast of the project site is marginally suitable for this species. Frequent disturbance and surrounding development make it unlikely for this species to occur on the project site.
Pocketed free-tailed bat (<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>)	SSC	Found in rugged cliffs, rocky outcrops, and slopes in desert shrub and pine oak forests.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site; cliffs and outcrops are not present.
San Bernardino kangaroo rat (<i>Callospermophilus lateralis bernardinus</i>)	FE, SE, SSC	Found along floodplains, washes and alluvial fans in scrub and chaparral habitats. Soft soil required to burrow.	Very Low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site
Southern grasshopper mouse (<i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i>)	SSC	Found primarily in habitats with low open and semi-open scrubs habitats including coastal sage scrub, mixed chaparral, low sagebrush, riparian scrub. Annual grassland with scattered shrubs, are less frequently inhabited by this species.	Very Low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site. Annual grasses present throughout the on-site disturbed land but do not constitute a suitable vegetation community for this species.

Species	Status	Habitat Description	Potential to Occur
Stephens' kangaroo rat (<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>)	FE; ST	Found in annual grassland and coastal sage scrub with sparse shrub cover. Commonly in association with <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> , <i>Artemisia californica</i> , and <i>Erodium cicutarium</i> , in areas with loose, friable, well-drained soil, and flat or gently rolling terrain.	Low. <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> and <i>Erodium cicutarium</i> on site are isolated and not part of a vegetation community suitable for this species.
Western mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>)	SSC	Found primarily in habitats with open space, such as desert scrub, woodlands, and grasslands. Requires roosts of 10-feet above ground to start flight.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site.
Western yellow bat (<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>)	SSC	Found in a variety of habitats in arid and dry areas. Inhabits secluded woodlands, agricultural lands, and occasionally residential areas.	Very low. Suitable habitat does not occur within the project site. Species prefers trees over 10 feet in height, which do not occur within the project site.
BCC: USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern FE: Federally Endangered FT: Federally Threatened FP: CDFW Fully Protected SE: State Endangered ST: State Threatened SSC: CDFW Species of Special Concern WL: CDFW Watch List Species			
¹ CNDDDB, administered by CDFW, only tracks documented nest sites and behavior indicating reproduction for this species ² CNDDDB, administered by CDFW, tracks detections of nest sites, behavior indicating reproduction, and wintering locations for this species ³ CNDDDB, administered by CDFW, tracks detections of burrow sites and some wintering sites for this species ⁴ CNDDDB, administered by CDFW, only tracks detections of nesting colonies for this species ⁵ CNDDDB, administered by CDFW, only tracks detections of wintering locations for this species			
Sources: Brylski 1998; eBird 2023; CDFW 2023a; CDFW 2023b; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2023; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2023; USFWS 2023b; Zeiner et al. 1988-1990			