
APPENDIX D2

Biological Assessment Report

Biological Assessment Report County of Santa Barbara Calle Real Campus

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Wildscape Restoration, Inc. (Wildscape) prepared a biological assessment on behalf of UltraSystems Environmental Incorporated (UltraSystems) for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to implement the Calle Real Campus Master Plan (Gensler 2022), which discusses long-term developmental improvements to the campus.

This biological assessment serves to identify observed sensitive plant and wildlife resources, including any environmentally sensitive habitat (ESH), and any other environmental issues as they relate to the development of the project site. This report also discusses recommended mitigation measures to avoid and minimize potential project impacts as development plans become finalized.

1.1 Proposed Project Description

The project entails developing the Calle Real Campus over the next twenty years. The existing buildings have been analyzed to determine which will remain, be renovated, or be demolished. The footprints of new buildings proposed in the master plan will stay within the existing developed area, which minimizes the impacts to the natural open space on the property.

2.0 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (Title 16, United States Code [U.S.C.] §§ 1531-1543, as amended), designates and provides for protection of listed threatened, endangered, candidate, and fully protected plant and animal species, and their critical habitat. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), in the Department of the Interior, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), in the Department of Commerce, share responsibility for administration of the ESA. These responsibilities include listing and delisting species, designating critical habitat, and formulating recovery plans. The USFWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (Title 50 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] Section 10.13), includes provisions for protection of migratory birds, including basic prohibitions against any take not authorized by federal regulation. The administering agency for the above authority is the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The law contains no requirement to prove intent to violate any of its provisions. Wording in the MBTA makes it clear that most actions that result in "take" or possession (permanent or temporary) of a protected species can be a violation of the act. The word "take" is defined as "pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect (including nests, eggs, and feathers)." The provisions of the MBTA are nearly absolute; "except as permitted by regulations" is the only exception.

Clean Water Act, § 401

Section 401 CWA requires project owners or proponents to obtain a Water Quality Certification which requires their project to prevent the discharge or dredge and fill material in quantities that would violate federal water quality standards. In the State of California, the SWRCB) and its nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) have been given the authority to issue § 401 Water Quality Certifications (WQCs).

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 3) would provide review and water quality certification services for this project.

Clean Water Act; § 404

Waters of the U.S., including wetlands, are subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction under § 404 of the CWA. A § 404 permit is required for the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S. The Los Angeles District of the USACE would provide review and permitting services for this project.

Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands (May 24, 1977)

This order provides for the protection of wetlands. The administering agency is the USACE. If impacts to wetlands cannot be avoided, then all practicable measures to minimize harm to those wetlands must be included and documented in the final environmental document for the proposed project or activity.

Executive Order 13112: Invasive Species (February 3, 1999)

This order requires Executive Branch agencies to work to prevent and control the introduction and spread of invasive species. Non-native flora and fauna can cause substantial changes to native ecosystems, upset native ecological balances, and have the potential to also cause economic harm. Roads and highways provide opportunities for the movement and spread of non-native, invasive species through an area, from the local to the national level.

State

Executive Order W-59-93 (August 23, 1993)

This executive order established state policy guidelines for wetlands conservation. The goal of the order is “no net loss” of wetlands to achieve a long-term net gain in the quantity, quality, and permanence of wetlands across California. The Fish and Game Code includes this goal in §1775-1779.5:

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code Division 7, § 13000 et seq.)

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, created in 1969 and most recently amended in 2023, charges the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine RWQCBs as the principal state agencies responsible for controlling water quality in California. In accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Water Boards regulate discharges that may affect the quality of waters of the state, which include wetlands, the ocean, lakes, rivers, intermittent streams, and ephemeral drainages. Regulated discharges include wastewater discharges to both surface water (e.g., rivers, oceans) and groundwater; storm water discharges

from construction, industrial, and municipal activities; discharges from irrigated agriculture; dredge and fill activities; and several other activities with practices that could degrade water quality.

State Policy for Water Quality Control: State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State (Revised April 6, 2021)

The State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State (Procedures) conform to Executive Order W-59-93, the “no net loss” policy for wetlands described above. Within the Procedures, the Water Boards defines wetland as follows:

An area is wetland if, under normal circumstances, (1) the area has continuous or recurrent saturation of the upper substrate cause by groundwater, or shallow surface water, or both; (2) the duration of such saturation is sufficient to cause anaerobic conditions in the upper substrate; and (3) the area’s vegetation is dominated by hydrophytes or the area lacks vegetation.

The California Water Code defines “waters of the state” broadly to include “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.” “Waters of the state” includes all “waters of the U.S.” Wetlands that meet the current definition, or any historic definition, of waters of the U.S. are waters of the state (including isolated wetlands and ephemeral waters). In 2000, the SWRCB determined that all waters of the U.S. are also waters of the state by regulation, prior to any regulatory or judicial limitations on the federal definition of waters of the U.S. (CCR Title 23, § 3831[w]). This regulation has remained in effect despite subsequent changes to the federal definition.

The Procedures provides application procedures for discharges of dredged or fill materials to waters of the state, which include all waters of the U.S., and non-federal waters of the state.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA) of 1984, California Fish and Game Code §§ 2050-2098

This act includes provisions for the protection and management of wildlife species listed by the State of California as endangered or threatened, or designated as candidates for such listings. This act includes a requirement for consultation “to ensure that any action authorized by a state lead agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species...or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to the continued existence of the species” (§ 2090). Plants of California listed as endangered, threatened, or rare are listed under 14 CCR § 670.2. Animals of California listed as endangered, threatened, or rare are listed under 14 CCR § 670.5. The administering agency for the above authority is the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

Native Plant Protection Act of 1977, California Fish and Game Code § 1900 et. seq.

The Native Plant Protection Act prohibits import of rare and endangered plants into California, take of rare or endangered plants, and sale of rare and endangered plants. CESA defers to the California Native Plant Protection Act (CNPPA), which ensures that plant species listed by the State as endangered, threatened, or rare are protected when state agencies engage in projects or activities subject to CEQA. In this instance, plants listed as rare under the CNPPA are not protected under CESA, but rather under CEQA.

California Fish and Game Code § 3503, § 3503.5, and § 3513

The California Fish and Game Code (FGC) § 3503 and § 3503.5 provides for the protection and enhancement of birds by declaring "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto" (§ 3503), and that "It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto" (§ 3503.5). In addition, "It is unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Treaty Act." (§ 3513)

California Fish and Game Code §§ 1600-1617

The California Fish and Game Code (FGC) §§ 1600-1617 address the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife resources. Specifically, § 1602 created the basis for the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) and regulates activities which "substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of, or substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake". The LSAA covers "any river stream or lake," including those that are dry for periods of time as well as those that flow year-round. The LSAA jurisdiction includes activities which affect "bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake designated by the CDFG in which there is at any time an existing fish or wildlife resource, or from which these resources derive benefit."

Local

County of Santa Barbara Land Use Development Code (LUDC) (2021)

The Santa Barbara Land Use Development Code published in 2021 regulates and classifies land use, buildings, and structures in the unincorporated areas outside of the Coastal Zone and Montecito Planning Area. It establishes that no development shall impact sensitive areas. Specifically, no development should be less than 100 feet from environmentally sensitive habitats including the following from the LUDC:

- Native plant communities recognized as rare by CDFW (2003 or as amended). Examples include Native Grasslands, Maritime chaparral, Bishop Pine Forests, and Coastal Dune Scrub.
- Native woodlands and forests.
- Nesting, roosting, and/or breeding areas for rare, endangered, or threatened animal species.
 - Rare, endangered, or threatened species are defined as those listed by State or Federal wildlife agencies under the State or Federal Endangered Species Acts, candidates for listing, species of special concern, and species that meet the definition of "rare" in Section 15380 of California Environmental Quality Act.

- A separation of greater than 100 feet may be required in order to fully protect formally listed Endangered Species (e.g., a 100-foot separation may not fully protect known breeding ponds for California Tiger Salamander).
- Plant communities known to contain rare, endangered, or threatened species.
- Streams, riparian areas, vernal pools, and wetlands.
- Any designated Environmental Sensitive Habitat Areas.

East Goleta Valley Community Plan (2015)

East Goleta Valley Community Plan (EGVCP) is a comprehensive guide for the eastern portion of the Goleta Valley Planning Area (County of Santa Barbara, 2015). This plan includes land use designations, development standards, policies, and actions to organize development within the Eastern Goleta Valley consistent with community goals. A stated objective for the natural environment of Eastern Goleta Valley is to “preserve the existing resources and enhance these resources whenever possible.” The EGVCP describes environmentally sensitive habitats (ESH) that are included in the LUDC described above. Any unique, rare or threatened plant community would be considered as ESH. The EGVCP provides a map of the designated ESH within the East Goleta Valley Planning Area, including ESH clearly delineated within the Project site.

Deciduous Oak Tree Protection and Regeneration Section in Article IX of Chapter 35 Santa Barbara County Code (2003)

The purpose of the Deciduous Oak Tree Protection and Regeneration Section is to protect and restore deciduous oak trees in Santa Barbara County, which are important to the ecological integrity of the area. This section provides regulations and guidelines for the preservation of two native species, valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) and blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), during certain development projects and requires permitting and mitigation for their removal. It includes minimization measures to prevent damage to the deciduous oak trees, including measures to avoid root disturbance, limit pruning, and prevent damage to the tree canopy.

Project activities would likely be exempt from these regulations as Section 35-903 of the Santa Barbara County Code states that the provisions of Article IX, Chapter 35 do not apply to removal of deciduous oak trees by the County of Santa Barbara or any district of which the Board of Supervisors is the governing body (County of Santa Barbara, 2003).

3.0 PROJECT SETTING

3.1 Project Location and Designated Land Use

The Project site is the County of Santa Barbara’s Calle Real Campus, located in southeastern Santa Barbara County (Figure 1). The Campus is located in the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series *Goleta* Quadrangle in Section 00, Township 4 North, Range 28 West, San Bernardino Principal Meridian (Figure 2). The Campus is east of the US 101 and CA-154 interchange and crosses the US 101 freeway, where it is bordered by Hollister Avenue to the south (Figure 3). The northernmost part of the Campus extends past Cathedral Oaks Road; the portion of the Project site between Cathedral Oaks Road and Calle Real is described as the Central Campus.

The Calle Real Campus comprises multiple collections of related facilities, including the Public Safety Campus, County Yards Campus, Health and Government Center Campus, Jail Campus, and the Community Services Campus. The Project site is 323 acres, with the current building footprint occupying 14.9 acres. There are 304 acres of open space, but not all are developable due to various constraints.

A Biological Survey Area (BSA), which includes the Calle Real Campus or Project site plus a 500-foot buffer, was established for the assessment of potential impacts to biological resources (Figure 4).

The property is zoned as “Recreation,” and its land use designation is “Institution/Government Facility.” The Santa Barbara County Land Use and Zoning Map layers from the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan have mapped ESHs on the project site (Figure 5). The surrounding land uses include residential development to the north, east, south, and west. The Santa Ynez Mountains occur further north of the Project site, and the Pacific Ocean is further to the south.

3.2 Topography

The Project site has an elevation range of about 50.1-362 feet (15-110 meters). The proposed facilities are located on existing graded pads, limiting the need for new soil disturbances on the slopes. The site topography was considered when proposing these new facilities.

3.3 Soil Types

Soils with the BSA were mapped using the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soils map (Web Soil Survey 2023). Soils within the project boundaries include Arnold loamy sand with a 15-50% slope, Ayar clay with a 15-75% slope, Camarillo soils with a 0-2% slope, and Milpitas-Positas with a 9-50% slope (Figure 6). Milpitas-Positas makes up approximately 50% of the soil within the project boundaries, followed by Arnold loamy sand which is 30%. The Santa Barbara Sanitary landfill area makes up approximately 10% of the soil area. The other soil types together comprise less than 10% of soil within project boundaries.

According to the State Soil Data Access (SDA) Hydric Soils List, the only predominantly hydric soil present is the Camarillo fine sandy loam, fine substratum (Cb). Camarillo soil consists of very deep, somewhat poorly drained soils that are found on flood plains and have slopes of 0 to 2 percent. It is found in the southwestern corner of the project boundary, where there are 29.33 acres of Cb, making up 5.2% of BSA.

Other soils within the BSA but entirely outside of the project boundaries include Elder sandy loam with a 2-9% slope, Goleta fine sandy loam with a 2-9% slope, Orthents with a 50-75% slope. Outside of the project boundaries Milpitas-Positas makes up approximately 70% of the soil between the project boundaries and the biological study area, followed by Ayar clay which is 20%. The other soil types together comprise less than 10% of soil within the BSA.

3.4 Microclimate

The project site is relatively representative of the overall climate on the coast of Santa Barbara County. The climate is warm and temperate, with more rainfall in the winter than in the summer, giving the area a Mediterranean climate type. The average daily high in the warmer months is 74 degrees Fahrenheit, and average daily low in the cooler months is 66 degrees

Fahrenheit. Average annual precipitation is estimated at 17.79 inches (46 cm), occurring primarily between October and late April (Western Regional Climate Center, 2013).

4.0 METHODOLOGY

Wildscape conducted a literature review and field survey to provide data for the biological assessment. Prior to performing fieldwork, Wildscape conducted a desk survey regarding the site and the surrounding areas. Reviewed documents included the Calle Real Master Plan (Gensler, 2022) and supplemental documents, as cited in the text. The site is in unincorporated Santa Barbara County. Therefore, the County of Santa Barbara Land Use and Development Code (LUDC; 2021) and the Santa Barbara County Land Use and Zoning Map (2023) layers were also reviewed. The Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual (2021) from the County of Santa Barbara's Planning Department informed determinations of the value of the biological resources on-site and levels of potential impacts. In addition, Wildscape reviewed the ESH determinations within the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan (County of Santa Barbara, 2015).

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; CDFW, 2023a) over a 10-mile radius from the project site was queried for recorded observations of sensitive and/or special-status plant and wildlife species. Unprocessed CNDDDB records within the Goleta Quadrangle were also reviewed for plants with California Rare Plant Ranks of 3 or 4 that are not typically included within maintained CNDDDB layers. Special-status species is a term used for species that have special consideration and/or regulatory protection. This is further defined in Biological Resources Section 5.4. The California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants (CNPS, 2023b) was also queried.

A review through the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation [IPaC] database (2023) was conducted for the Project site. The IPaC review generated an official letter from the local USFWS office, which included Federally listed species and species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered, designated and proposed critical habitat, and species that are candidates for listing that may occur within the Project boundary. The species on the IPaC list were cross-referenced with records found in CNDDDB. The potential of occurrence was determined for each sensitive species based on a habitat suitability analysis.

Other resources utilized for this assessment include various county, state, and federal regulations, review of other recent ecological reports completed in and around the Project site, and Wildscape's direct experience in the region.

Senior Biologist Mary Logan and Biologist Amanda Gibbs conducted reconnaissance-level biological spring surveys on May 9 and May 15, 2023. The survey focused on the extent of the BSA. They assessed the existing biological conditions, including identification of the vegetation communities and assessment of their quality, land cover mapping, a habitat suitability assessment for special-status plant and special-status wildlife species, and an assessment of potential aquatic resources. Vegetation communities outside of the 500-foot buffer were scanned using binoculars and dominance was noted, but not fully traversed. Most vegetation communities were classified to alliance or association level following the Manual of California Vegetation (Sawyer and Keeler-Wolf, 2009; CNPS, 2023). Alliances and associations described in the Vegetation Classification of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and

Environs in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties, California (CDFW et al., 2006) were applied to select communities also known or expected to occur or expected in the Santa Ynez mountains.

Biologists documented plant species and wildlife species that occurred within the Project site during the survey. The Jepson eFlora was utilized for botanical naming conventions (Jepson Flora Project, 2023). Wildlife naming conventions utilized were from various field guides, CDFW, and USFWS resources online.

The minimum mapping unit for the vegetation communities is one acre due to the large size of the survey area. Landscaped vegetation less than one acre was included in the developed land cover designation. Smaller vegetation communities under 1 acre were included in the larger adjacent community unless it was deemed as significant or at risk for impacts. In addition, high quality aerial imagery was used to map areas not fully surveyed on foot to efficiently map the entire project site and 500-foot buffer. UltraSystems provided maps for the database reviews that are included in this report.

The reconnaissance-level biological survey was conducted on a habitat suitability level (i.e., potential to occur). Neither focused surveys nor protocol surveys developed by responsible agencies (e.g., USFWS, USACE, CDFW) for specific species were conducted as part of this biological assessment survey.

Surveys were conducted during daylight hours under weather conditions that allowed for appropriate biological observations.

5.0 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

5.1 Land Cover Types

This section describes the land cover types present within the BSA as determined by the literature review and habitat assessment, and augmented by examining aerial imagery (Google Earth Pro, 2023). Fifteen land cover types/vegetation communities were observed within the BSA. They are described as disturbed or intact, and labeled as environmentally sensitive habitats (ESH) if they are established as such in local plans.

The vegetation on the property primarily consists of ornamental landscaping around the buildings. Coastal sage scrub (various alliances) and coast live oak woodland (various alliances) are dominant in the open spaces, but also occur within more disturbed/ruderal areas adjacent to the road. The ornamental landscaping and disturbed areas comprise the majority of non-native species observed. There are also multiple wetland features with riparian canopy across the entire property that are described below. A map of the vegetation communities is shown in Figure 7. Photos depicting different vegetation communities are included in Appendix A.

Characteristics of the land cover types are described below.

5.1.1 *Brassica nigra* – *Centaurea (solstitialis, melitensis)* Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance (Upland mustards or star thistle fields): Disturbed

This alliance, which typically occurs in fields, rangelands, roadsides, and disturbed coastal scrub, is characterized by the dominance of non-native mustards and/or star thistle (*Centaurea* spp.), and overall high levels of non-native cover. The cover is primarily herbaceous, < 3 m high, but some emergent trees and shrubs may be present. Within the BSA this alliance occupies areas

directly adjacent to the roads or other developed areas that are continuously disturbed due to clearance for fire abatement around the associated buildings and roads. At the site, the plants present in this community consist of annual herbaceous weeds such as mustards (*Brassica* spp., *Hirschfeldia incana*, *Sisymbrium* spp.), tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), sow thistles (*Sonchus* spp.), and non-native grasses such as bromes (*Bromus* spp.), wild oats (*Avena* spp.), Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*), and barleys (*Hordeum* spp.). Small patches of native shrubs, including California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), ceanothus (*Ceanothus* spp.), and sages (*Salvia* spp.) remain in some areas of the disturbed community, but non-native herbaceous species are dominant.

5.1.2 *Eucalyptus* spp. – *Ailanthus altissima* – *Robinia pseudoacacia* Woodland Semi-Natural Alliance; *Eucalyptus* (*globulus*, *camaldulensis*) Association (*Eucalyptus* semi-natural stands): Disturbed/ESH

Eucalyptus semi-natural stands are characterized by *Eucalyptus* spp. comprising greater than 80% relative cover in the tree layer. Blue gum trees (*Eucalyptus globulus*), as well as additional gum species, are abundant throughout the project site. They often occur with other landscape trees bordering developed areas. Two significant eucalyptus semi-natural stands occur on the property. One mapped stand is in the northeastern corner of the project site, between development to the north and south, with an area of intact California Sagebrush Shrubland to the east. A narrow riparian corridor previously determined as ESH passes through the stand.

A second mapped eucalyptus semi-natural stand is in the southeast part of the property and is determined to be ESH as it provides overwintering habitat for monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*). The understory consisted of herbaceous weeds and non-native shrubs, including non-native silverleaf cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster pannosus*), as well as native shrubs such as poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and lemonade berry (*Rhus integrifolia*).

5.1.3 *Encelia californica* - *Eriogonum cinereum* Shrubland Alliance (California brittle bush – ashy buckwheat scrub): Intact/ESH

This alliance is a type of coastal sage scrub characterized by greater than 30% relative cover of California brittle bush (*Encelia californica*) or greater than 50% relative cover of ashy buckwheat (*Eriogonum cinereum*) in the shrub layer. Within the BSA, there are several areas of relatively intact coastal sage scrub where California brittle bush is dominant or co-dominant with other native shrubs such as black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), purple sage (*Salvia leucophylla*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), and California sagebrush. A large area of California brittle bush - ashy buckwheat scrub occurs on the south- and east facing slopes located between areas of development and Coast Live Oak Woodland on the western side of the site. Another area is located centrally around the trails south of the horse stables. A small, but relatively intact patch, is located south of Cathedral Oaks Road along the northern end of the site. The emergent tree layer is absent from this association and the herbaceous understory varied among locations. The weeds were sparse, but included non-native annual grasses, as well as purple fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum* 'Rubra') from the adjacent landscaping, tocalote, and yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*).

The overall quality of the California brittle bush - ashy buckwheat scrub in the BSA is relatively high but threatened by encroachment of non-native weeds from the surrounding landscape.

5.1.4 *Ceanothus spinosus* Shrubland Alliance (Greenbark ceanothus shrubland): Intact/ESH

Greenbark ceanothus shrubland is a chaparral community in which greenbark ceanothus comprises over 50% of the relative cover in the shrub canopy, or greater than 30% relative cover when co-dominant with big pod ceanothus (*Ceanothus megacarpus*; CDFG et al. 2006). This community has been documented and described in both the Santa Monica Mountains (CDFG et al. 2006) and Santa Ynez Mountains (Borchert et al., 2004). At the project site, a stand of greenbark ceanothus shrubland occurs near the top of an eastern facing slope west of Camino del Remedio. Within this stand, greenbark ceanothus is dominant in the shrub layer and the emergent tree layer is absent. California sagebrush, laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), and giant wild rye (*Elymus condensatus*) also occur within and adjacent to this stand. The stand is relatively intact but is bordered downslope by primarily non-native grasses and mustard in a fuel modification area.

5.1.5 *Artemisia californica* Shrubland Alliance (California sagebrush scrub): Disturbed/ESH

California sagebrush scrub is characterized by the dominance or co-dominance of California sagebrush in the shrub layer and a variable herbaceous layer. California sagebrush scrub occurs at several locations within and adjacent to the project site, often with other native shrubs, such as coyote brush, bush sunflower, and sages (*Salvia* spp.) Low cover of lemonade berry and blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*) occurs within some of the California sagebrush scrub areas. Along drainage basins within this community, the relative cover of coyote brush increases but areas of coyote brush dominance were below the minimum mapping unit of one acre. The herbaceous layer was primarily comprised of non-native species, but native deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*) was prevalent.

5.1.6 *Quercus agrifolia* Forest & Woodland Alliance (Coast live oak woodland and forest): Disturbed/ESH

The coast live oak alliance is characterized by greater than 50% relative cover of coast live oaks in the tree canopy. It broadly includes upland savannas, woodlands, and riparian forests. At the project site, Coast Live Oak Woodland occurs primarily along slopes and riparian corridors. As not all areas were surveyed extensively, some are mapped at the more general alliance level. The understories of these areas varied from primarily non-native herbaceous species to an intermittent shrub layer including blue elderberry, toyon, and California sagebrush. The herbaceous layer is diverse and is dominated by ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*). Other herbs often include black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), tocalote, horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), and wild oat grass.

5.1.7 *Quercus agrifolia* / *Toxicodendron diversilobum* Association (Coast live oak woodland/poison oak forest association): Disturbed/ESH

Within the *Quercus agrifolia* Forest & Woodland Alliance, the coast live oak woodland/poison oak forest association is characterized by coast live oak in the canopy with poison oak and/or bush monkey flower (*Diplacus longiflorus*) in the understory. This association occurs on a north-facing slope just south of Cathedral Oaks Road in the northern portion of the site.

5.1.8 *Quercus agrifolia* - *Salix lasiolepis* Woodland/Forest Association (Coast live oak-arroyo willow woodland/forest association): Intact/ESH

The coast live oak-arroyo willow woodland/forest association is characterized by dominance of coast live oak in the overstory tree layer and arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) in the understory tree layer (CDFG et al. 2006). The shrub canopy is typically sparse, and the herbaceous layer is variable and often abundant. Though known only from the Santa Monica Mountains region, this association is expected to occur elsewhere in central and southern coastal California (CDFG et al. 2006). Within the BSA, portions of the main riparian corridor and other tributary drainages north of Cathedral Oaks Road, are mapped as coast live oak-arroyo willow woodland/forest. The coast live oak trees are consistent through the riparian area from north to south adjacent to Camino del Remedio. The stands of willows occur primarily along the stream banks. The waterway was in a deep ravine and was not fully traversed. It was surveyed from Camino del Remedio through binoculars. The understory had blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*), manroot (*Marah* sp.), and sporadic California walnut (*Juglans californica*).

The drainages north of Cathedral Oaks Road were briefly surveyed on foot. Surface water and saturated soils were present within both areas and a lush herbaceous understory consisting of native and non-native species was observed.

5.1.9 *Juglans californica* Forest and Woodland Alliance (California walnut groves): Intact/ESH

California walnut groves are characterized by the dominance or co-dominance of California walnuts in the tree canopy. A California walnut grove occurs along a drainage on the eastern side of the property, north of Calle Real and the Freeway 101. The grove consists of a fairly continuous tree canopy comprised of California walnut, arroyo willow, and blue elderberry. The *Juglans californica* Forest and Woodland Alliance is a G3S3.2 community.

5.1.10 *Platanus racemosa* - *Quercus agrifolia* Woodland Alliance (California sycamore – coast live oak riparian woodlands): Disturbed/ESH

California sycamore-coast live oak riparian woodlands are characterized by the dominance or co-dominance of California sycamore and/or coast live oak in the tree canopy, an open to intermittent shrub canopy, and a sparse or grassy herbaceous understory. Within the BSA, this alliance occurs along the main riparian corridor, where California sycamores grow on the channel banks, alongside coast live oaks and arroyo willows. The stand occurs adjacent to Camino del Remedio and along a portion of the drainage that passes through a parking lot adjacent to the Department of Social Services building. Though considered a rare plant community (G3S3), the stand on site is fragmented and disturbed.

5.1.11 Landscaped/Ornamental Trees

Throughout the site there are landscaped areas associated with development that consist of maintained lawns and ornamental trees. Ornamental trees are primarily non-native species, but sometimes include native trees. Due to their size and location, these trees are all assumed to have been planted within developed areas for landscaping purposes. Small, landscaped areas are included in the classification of Development due to their proximity to buildings or location within planters while larger landscaped areas are mapped separately based on the minimum mapping unit. Common exotic landscape tree species include eucalyptus, olive (*Olea europaea*),

peppertree (*Schinus* spp.), Chinese pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*), Canary island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*).

5.1.12 Agriculture

The agriculture classification includes crops, orchards, and pastures. Two orchards within the 500-ft buffer west and north of the project area were identified from aerial imagery. A horse pasture, comprised of mostly non-native herbaceous species, was observed from Cathedral Oaks Road in the northeastern buffer of the project site.

5.1.13 Cleared/Bare Ground

The cleared/bare ground classification includes areas largely devoid of any vegetation. There are many dirt roads and trails within the project area, which are included in the mapped areas of adjacent vegetation. Significant areas of bare ground occur within the northern portion of the project site, the equestrian center located at the center of the site, and adjacent to the water infiltration basin within the southern portion of the site.

5.1.14 Development

The development classification includes the buildings and other structures that are on the existing campus and surrounding neighborhoods. The developed roads, parking areas, cleared yards, and landscaping immediately adjacent to buildings are also included within this category.

5.1.15 Debris and Sediment Management

A debris and sediment management basin is located in the southern portion of the Calle Real Campus. The basin is maintained to be vegetation free.

Table 1. Approximate Land Cover Acreages

Cover Type	Acres ¹	
	Project Site	BSA
Agricultural	0.34	13.10
Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields	18.83	35.88
Cleared/Bare Ground	19.70	19.70
California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub	22.58	30.48
California Walnut Groves	3.08	3.08
California Sagebrush Scrub	13.49	26.76
California Sycamore – Coast Live Oak Woodland	1.85	1.85
Coast Live Oak - Arroyo Willow Woodland	9.86	14.16
Coast Live Oak Woodland and Forest	29.04	36.87
Coast Live Oak Woodland/Poison Oak Forest	2.30	2.30
Development	147.60	319.85
Eucalyptus Semi-Natural Stands	13.79	16.19
Greenbark Ceanothus Shrubland	1.69	1.69
Ornamental Trees	24.21	24.27

Cover Type	Acres ¹	
	Project Site	BSA
Landscaped	12.20	14.80
Debris and Sediment Management	2.80	2.80
Total	323.25	563.77

¹ Approximate acreages of land cover types are based on reconnaissance-level vegetation surveys and calculated using ArcMap 10.8 (ESRI, 2020).

5.2 Plant Species

The following plant species listed in Table 2 below were observed within the BSA. The plant species identified in this plan utilize the scientific names as classified in *The Jepson eFlora* (Jepson Flora Project, 2023).

Table 2. Plant Species Observed at Project Site

Native Plants		
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Chamaesyce albomarginata</i>	rattlesnake weed
Anacardiaceae	<i>Malosma laurina</i>	laurel sumac
Anacardiaceae	<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	lemonade berry
Anacardiaceae	<i>Toxicodendron diversilobum</i>	poison oak
Asteraceae	<i>Anaphalis</i> sp.	everlasting
Asteraceae	<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush
Asteraceae	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	California mugwort
Asteraceae	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	coyote brush
Asteraceae	<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>	mule fat
Asteraceae	<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i>	common sandaster
Asteraceae	<i>Encelia californica</i>	bush sunflower
Asteraceae	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Canada horseweed
Asteraceae	<i>Erigeron</i> sp.	daisy
Asteraceae	<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i> var. <i>confertiflorum</i>	golden yarrow
Asteraceae	<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	telegraph weed
Asteraceae	<i>Pseudognaphalium stramineum</i>	cotton-batting plant
Asteraceae	<i>Vernegasia carpesioides</i>	canyon sunflower
Asteraceae	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	cocklebur
Boraginaceae	<i>Amsinckia menziesii</i>	Menzies' fiddleneck
Cactaceae	<i>Opuntia littoralis</i>	prickly pear
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>	quail bush
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Marah macrocarpa</i>	chilicothe
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Marah</i> sp.	man-root
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton californica</i>	California croton
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia albomarginata</i>	rattlesnake sandmat
Fabaceae	<i>Acmispon americanus</i> var. <i>americanus</i>	Spanish clover
Fabaceae	<i>Acmispon glaber</i>	deerweed
Fabaceae	<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	arroyo lupine
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	coast live oak
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	valley oak

Native Plants		
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Hydrophyllaceae	<i>Pholistoma auritum</i>	fiesta flower
Iridaceae	<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	blue eyed grass
Juglandaceae	<i>Juglans californica</i>	California black walnut
Juncaceae	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	toad rush
Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia apiana</i>	white sage
Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	purple sage
Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	black sage
Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	hummingbird sage
Montiaceae	<i>Claytonia perfoliata</i>	Miner's lettuce
Montiaceae	<i>Claytonia</i> spp.	spring beauty
Papaveraceae	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California poppy
Phrymaceae	<i>Diplacus</i> sp.	monkeyflower
Platanaceae	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	sycamore
Poaceae	<i>Elymus condensatus</i>	giant wild rye
Ranunculaceae	<i>Clematis</i> sp.	clematis
Rhamnaceae	<i>Ceanothus megacarpus</i>	bid pod ceanothus
Rhamnaceae	<i>Ceanothus spinosus</i>	greenbark ceanothus
Rhamnaceae	<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>	redberry buckthorn
Rosaceae	<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	California blackberry
Salicaceae	<i>Salix laevigata</i>	red willow
Salicaceae	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	arroyo willow
Solanaceae	<i>Datura wrightii</i>	jimsonweed
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum</i> spp.	nightshade
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum xanti</i>	nightshade
Verbenaceae	<i>Verbena lasiostachys</i>	western vervain
Viburnaceae	<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>	blue elderberry
Non-Native Plants		
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Aizoaceae	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	iceplant
Anacardiaceae	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache
Anacardiaceae	<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian peppertree
Anacardiaceae	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper tree
Apiaceae	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	poison hemlock
Apiaceae	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel
Araliaceae	<i>Hedera canariensis</i>	canary island ivy
Arecaceae	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	canary palm
Arecaceae	<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Mexican fan palm
Asparagaceae	<i>Agave attenuata</i>	foxtail agave
Asparagaceae	<i>Yucca gigantea</i>	spineless yucca
Asphodelaceae	<i>Asphodelus</i> sp.	asphodel
Asteraceae	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Italian thistle
Asteraceae	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	toalote
Asteraceae	<i>Sonchus</i> sp.	sow thistles
Asteraceae	<i>Hypochaeris</i> spp.	cat's ear

Non-Native Plants		
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Asteraceae	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	bristly oxtongue
Asteraceae	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce
Asteraceae	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk thistle
Asteraceae	<i>Logfia gallica</i>	cottonrose
Asteraceae	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	field marigold
Asteraceae	<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i>	flax-leaved horseweed
Brassicaceae	<i>Brassica</i> spp.	mustard
Brassicaceae	<i>Raphanus</i> sp.	radish
Brassicaceae	<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	alyssum
Cactaceae	<i>Opuntia cacanapa 'Ellisiana'</i>	spineless prickly pear
Caryophyllaceae	<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	goosefoot
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>	bassia
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Bassia hyssopifolia</i>	five horn bassia
Cistaceae	<i>Cistus creticus</i>	hoary rock rose
Cyperaceae	<i>Cyperus</i> sp.	umbrella plant
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castor bean
Fabaceae	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	annual yellow sweetclover
Fabaceae	<i>Vicia sativa</i> spp. <i>sativa</i>	common vetch
Fabaceae	<i>Medicago</i> sp.	bur clover
Fabaceae	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia</i> sp.	wattle
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	evergreen oak
Geraniaceae	<i>Erodium</i> sp.	filaree
Geraniaceae	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	wild geranium
Geraniaceae	<i>Geranium</i> sp.	geranium
Geraniaceae	<i>Pelargonium x hortorum</i>	garden geranium
Magnoliaceae	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	magnolia tree
Malvaceae	<i>Malva parviflora</i>	cheeseweed
Moraceae	<i>Ficus benjamina</i>	weeping fig
Musaceae	<i>Musaceae</i> sp.	banana
Myrsinaceae	<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus calophylla</i>	redgum
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	blue gum
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	eucalyptus
Myrtaceae	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	melaleuca
Oleaceae	<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive
Oxalidaceae	<i>Oxalis</i> sp.	wood sorrel
Plantaginaceae	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	ribwort plantain
Plumbaginaceae	<i>Limonium perezii</i>	Perez's sea lavender
Poaceae	<i>Avena</i> spp.	oats
Poaceae	<i>Bromus arvensis</i>	soft brome
Poaceae	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	ripgut brome
Poaceae	<i>Bromus rubens</i>	red brome

Non-Native Plants		
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Poaceae	<i>Cortaderia sp.</i>	pampas grass
Poaceae	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	bermuda grass
Poaceae	<i>Festuca perennis</i>	Italian rye grass
Poaceae	<i>Hordeum sp.</i>	barley
Poaceae	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	fountain grass
Poaceae	<i>Schismus sp.</i>	schismus
Poaceae	<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	annual beard-grass
Myrtaceae	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	bottle brush
Poaceae	<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	goldentop
Polygonaceae	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	prostrate knotweed
Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	curly dock
Rosaceae	<i>Cotoneaster pannosus</i>	silver leaf cotoneaster
Rutaceae	<i>Citrus sp.</i>	citrus
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Myoporum sp.</i>	myoporum
Solanaceae	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	tree tobacco
Strelitziaceae	<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	bird of paradise
Tamaricaceae	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	athel tamarisk
Ulmaceae	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm tree
Urticaceae	<i>Urtica urens</i>	stinging nettle
Valerianaceae	<i>Centhranthus ruber</i>	red valerian
Zygophyllaceae	<i>Tribulus sp.</i>	puncture vine
Platanaceae	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
Verbenaceae	<i>Lantana sp.</i>	lantana
Apocynaceae	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	oleander
Bignoniaceae	<i>Campsis sp.</i>	trumpet vine
Polygonaceae	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	ladys thumb
Polygonaceae	<i>Persicaria capitata</i>	smartweed
Rosaceae	<i>Pyracantha sp.</i>	firethorn

5.3 Wildlife Species

The following wildlife species were observed and/or are common to the area. There was flowing water throughout the riparian areas at the time of survey and tadpoles and frogs were present.

Table 3. Wildlife Observed at the Project Site

Birds			
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Accipitridae	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	COHA
Accipitriformes	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	red-tailed hawk	RTHA
Aegithalidae	<i>Psaltiriparus minimus</i>	bushtit	BUSH
Apodidae	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	white-throated swift	WTBW
Cathartidae	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	turkey vulture	TUVU
Charadriidae	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	killdeer	KILL
Columbiformes	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	mourning dove	MODO
Corvidae	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	California scrub jay	CASJ
Corvidae	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow	AMCR

Birds			
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Estrildidae	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	scaly-breasted munia	SBMU
Fringillidae	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	house finch	HOFI
Fringillidae	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>	lesser goldfinch	LEGO
Icteridae	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	Bullock's oriole	BUOR
Icteridae	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	hooded oriole	HOOR
Laridae	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	western gull	GULL
Mimidae	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird	NOMO
Mimidae	<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>	California thrasher	CATH
Odontophoridae	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	California quail	CAQU
Paridae	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>	oak titmouse	OATI
Parulidae	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	Wilson's warbler	WIWA
Parulidae	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>	orange-crowned warbler	OCWA
Parulidae	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	yellow warbler	Yewa
Passerellidae	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	song sparrow	SOSP
Passerellidae	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	California towhee	CATO
Passerellidae	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	spotted towhee	SPTO
Passeridae	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	house sparrow	HOSP
Passeriformes	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	dark eyed junco	DEJU
Poliophtidae	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>	blue-grey gnatcatcher	BGGN
Sturnidae	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	European starling	EUST
Sylviidae	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	wren	WREN
Trochilidae	<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird	ANHU
Trochilidae	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Allen's hummingbird	ALHU
Troglodytidae	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's wren	BEWR
Tyrannidae	<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>	pacific-slope flycatcher	PSFL
Tyrannidae	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	say's phoebe	SAPH
Vireonidae	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	warbling vireo	WAVI
Mammals			
Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Leporidae	<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>	Audubon's cotton tail	
Sciuridae	<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel	
Sciuridae	<i>Sciurus niger</i>	Eastern fox squirrel	
Amphibians, Fish, Invertebrates			
Family	Scientific name	Common Name	Notes
Hylidae	<i>Pseudacris hypochondriaca</i>	Baja California tree frog	tadpoles

5.4 Special Status Species

Plants and wildlife may be considered "special status" due to declining populations, vulnerability to habitat change, or restricted distributions. Species considered as "special status" for this report include the following:

Federal Endangered Species Act:

Federally Endangered (FE): Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. 16 U.S.C., §1532 (6); 50 C.F.R., § 17.3

Federally Threatened (FT): Any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. 16 U.S.C., §1532 (20); 50 C.F.R. § 17.3

Federal Candidate (FC): Plant and animal species for which the USFWS has sufficient information on their biological status and threats to propose them as endangered or threatened under the ESA, but for which developed of a proposed listing regulation is precluded by other higher priority listing activities. Candidate species receive no statutory protection under the ESA. However, the USFWS encourages conservation efforts for these species, as they may warrant future protection under the ESA.

California Endangered Species Act (CFG Code, §2050-2098):

State Endangered (SE): A native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease. *CFG Code, §2062*

State Threatened (ST): A native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. *CFG Code, §2067*

State Candidate (SC): A native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the commission has formally noticed as being under review by the Department for listing as either threatened (SCT) or endangered (SCE). Candidates are given full CESA protection during the review period. *CFG Code, §2068*

State Rare (SR): A native species or subspecies of plant that is not presently threatened with extinction but exists in such small numbers throughout all or a significant portion of its range, that it may become endangered if its environment worsens. *Title 14, California Code of Regulations, §15380*

California Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Fully Protected Species (FP) [CFG Code §3511, 4700, 5050 and 5515]: The classification of Fully Protected was the State's initial effort in the 1960's to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Please note that most fully protected species have also been listed as threatened or endangered species under the more recent California Endangered Species Act. Fully Protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research, relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock, or if they are a covered species whose conservation and management is provided for in a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP). Common and scientific names are those given in the Fish and Game Code Sections 3511, 4700, 5050 and 5515. However, some of these names are no longer consistent with current scientific nomenclature.

Species of Special Concern (SSC): A species of special concern is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal (fish, amphibian, reptile, bird and mammal) native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria: is extirpated from the state or, in the case of birds, in its primary seasonal or breeding role; is listed as federally-, but not state-, threatened or endangered; meets the state definition of threatened or endangered, but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or

formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for state threatened or endangered status; has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for state threatened or endangered status (CNDDDB 2023). The CDFW uses the classification of SSC as an administrative designation, which carries no formal legal status, to direct attention and resources towards research and conservation of species before they reach threshold for listing under CESA. CEQA guidelines indicate SSC should be included in analysis of project impacts if they meet criteria of endangered or rare, as outlined in Section 15380, subdivision b.

Watch List Species (WL): Watch list species include taxa of concern previously but no longer classified as SSC, for which additional information is needed to clarify their status (CNDDDB 2023). Reported occurrences of WL species are tracked in the CNDDDB. WL species with known occurrences within a 2-mile radius of the project site (Figure 9) are included in analysis of project impacts.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) Definitions:

In addition to the Federal and State Endangered Species Act rankings, plants may also hold special status ranking within the State of California, per Section 15380 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The California Native Plant Society developed the California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR), also used in CEQA analysis, to define and categorize rarity of California flora (CNPS, 2023b). Identification of plant population rarity enables agencies with jurisdiction to provide conservation measures to protect detected populations. CRPR definitions are listed below.

CRPR 1A = California Rare Plant Rank 1A - presumed extirpated or extinct because they have not been seen or collected in the wild in California for many years.

CRPR 1B = California Rare Plant Rank 1B - plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. Plants with a CRPR of 1B are rare throughout their range; the majority of CRPR 1B species are endemic to California. Most of the plants that are ranked 1B have declined significantly over the last century. All of the plants constituting CRPR 1B meet the definitions of § 2062 and § 2067 (CESA) of the Fish and Game Code and are eligible for state listing. It is mandatory that they be fully considered during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA (CNPS, 2023b).

CRPR 2A = California Rare Plant Rank 2A - Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere. Plants with a CRPR of 2A are presumed extirpated because they have not been observed or documented in California for many years. All of the plants constituting CRPR 2A meet the definitions of the CESA of the California Fish and Game Code and are eligible for state listing. Should these species be rediscovered, any impacts proposed to individuals, or their habitat must be analyzed during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA, or those considered to be functionally equivalent to CEQA, as they meet the definition of Rare or Endangered under CEQA Guidelines §15125 (c) and/or §15380 (CNPS, 2023b).

CRPR 2B = California Rare Plant Rank 2B - Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere. All of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 2B meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code

and are eligible for state listing. Impacts to these species or their habitat must be analyzed during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA, or those considered to be functionally equivalent to CEQA, as they meet the definition of Rare or Endangered under CEQA Guidelines §15125 (c) and/or §15380 (CNPS, 2023b).

CRPR 3 = California Rare Plant Rank 3 - Review List: Plants about which more information is needed. Nearly all of the plants constituting CRPR 3 are taxonomically problematic and are currently under investigation until plants are either moved to other status categories or removed from the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory entirely. Many of the plants constituting CRPR 3 meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code and are eligible for state listing. Impacts to these species or their habitat should be analyzed during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA, or those considered to be functionally equivalent to CEQA, as they may meet the definition of Rare or Endangered under CEQA Guidelines §15125 (c) and/or §15380 (CNPS, 2023b).

CRPR 4 = California Rare Plant Rank 4 – Watch List: Plants of limited distribution. CRPR 4 plants are of limited distribution or infrequent throughout a broader area in California. They are not considered “rare” in California, but uncommon enough that their status should be monitored regularly (CNPS 2023). Some of the plants constituting CRPR 4 meet the definitions of § 2062 and § 2067 (CESA) of the Fish and Game Code, and few, if any, are eligible for state listing. Nevertheless, many of them are significant locally, and CNPS strongly recommends that CRPR 4 plants be evaluated for consideration during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA (CNPS, 2023b).

CRPR Threat Ranks

Each CRPR also includes a threat rank (e.g., CRPR 4.3), defined as follows:

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 (less than 20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

NatureServe Element Rankings: The CNDDDB program is a member of the NatureServe Network, a group of over 60 natural heritage programs in the United States and Canada that work to conserve species and ecosystems in their jurisdictions. As a NatureServe member, the CNDDDB uses the network’s standard conservation status methodology, including a Global rank (G-rank), State or Subnational rank (S-rank), and a Taxon rank (T-rank), where applicable.

Global Rank describes the status of a taxon/community throughout its global range. The rankings are defined below (from CNDDDB Special Animals List [2023]):

- **GX:** Presumed Extinct – Not located despite intensive searches and virtually no likelihood of rediscovery.
- **GH:** Possibly Extinct – Known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery. Examples of evidence include (1) that a species has not been documented in approximately 20-40 years despite some searching and/or some evidence of significant

habitat loss or degradation; (2) that a species has been searched for unsuccessfully, but not thoroughly enough to presume that it is extinct throughout its range.

- **G1:** Critically Imperiled – At very high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations or occurrences, very steep declines, very severe threats, or other factors.
- **G2:** Imperiled – At high risk of extinction due to restricted range, few populations or occurrences, steep declines, severe threats, or other factors.
- **G3:** Vulnerable – At moderate risk of extinction due to a fairly restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences, recent and widespread declines, threats, or other factors.
- **G4:** Apparently Secure – At fairly low risk of extinction due to an extensive range and/or many populations or occurrences, but with possible cause for some concern as a result of local recent declines, threats, or other factors.
- **G5:** Secure – At very low risk of extinction due to a very extensive range, abundant populations or occurrences, and little to no concern from declines or threats.
- **GNR:** Unranked – Global rank not yet assessed.

The **State Rank** describes the status of an element within state or subnational jurisdictional boundaries. In the CNDDDB, the S-rank refers to status within California state boundaries only. S-rank definitions, as defined in the CNDDDB Special Animal List (2023), are included below:

- **SX:** Presumed Extirpated – Species is believed to be extirpated from the state. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered
- **SH:** Possibly Extirpated – Known from only historical records but still some hope of rediscovery. There is evidence that the species may no longer be present in the state, but not enough to state this with certainty. Examples of such evidence include (1) that a species has not been documented in approximately 20-40 years despite some searching and/or some evidence of significant habitat loss or degradation; (2) that a species has been searched for unsuccessfully, but not thoroughly enough to presume that it is no longer present in the jurisdiction.
- **S1:** Critically Imperiled – At very high risk of extirpation in the state due to very restricted range, very few populations or occurrences, very steep declines, severe threats, or other factors.
- **S2:** Imperiled – At high risk of extirpation in the state due to restricted range, few populations or occurrences, steep declines, severe threats, or other factors.
- **S3:** Vulnerable – At moderate risk of extirpation in the state due to a fairly restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences, recent and widespread declines, threats, or other factors.
- **S4:** Apparently Secure – At a fairly low risk of extirpation in the state due to an extensive range and/or many populations or occurrences, but with possible cause for some concern as a result of local recent declines, threats, or other factors.
- **S5:** Secure – At very low or no risk of extirpation in the state due to a very extensive range, abundant populations or occurrences, and little to no concern from declines or threats.
- **SNR:** Unranked – State rank not yet assessed.

Taxa which are subspecies may also receive a **taxon rank** (T-rank). Whereas G-rank indicates the status of the entire species, T-rank reflects the status of the subspecies across its global range.

All elements tracked by the CNDDDB program have NatureServe Network rankings; however, the species occurrence potential analysis (Tables 4 and 5) include these rankings only when CNDDDB does not list any of the other FESA, CESA, CDFW, CRPR rankings described above. For the purpose of this impact analysis, only species with Global, State, and/or Taxon ranks of 1-3 are considered to be special status species, unless listed with other previously described status descriptions.

Wildscape assessed the potential for special status species to occur within the Project site according to the following criteria:

Present – Species was observed on site during the biological assessment.

High Potential to Occur – CNDDDB/IPaC records an occurrence within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project site and/or high-quality appropriate habitat was observed within the BSA.

Moderate Potential to Occur – CNDDDB/IPaC records an occurrence within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project site and/or appropriate habitat was observed within the BSA.

Low Potential to Occur – CNDDDB/IPaC records an occurrence within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project area and/or marginally appropriate habitat was observed on the project site.

Not Expected to Occur – CNDDDB/IPaC records no species occurrences within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project site and/or no appropriate habitat was observed within the BSA.

5.4.1 Special Status Plants

Occurrences of **forty-nine (49)** special status plant species have been recorded within a 10-mile radius of the project site and/or within the Goleta quadrangle (Table 4). The potential of each species to occur within the BSA was evaluated based on the proximity and dates of recorded observations, species habitat preferences, and field observations of habitat types and quality (Table 4).

Of the 49 special status species assessed in Table 4, one was present, seven have a high potential to occur, five have a moderate potential to occur, 21 have a low potential to occur, and 16 are not expected to occur.

Present – **One (1)** special status species was determined to be “Present” within the project site.

- Southern California walnut (*Juglans californica*) – List 4.2

High Potential to Occur – **Six (7)** special status species have “High Potential to Occur” within the project area.

- Plummer’s baccharis (*Baccharis plummerae* ssp. *plummerae*) – CRPR 4.3
- Brewer’s calandrinia (*Calandrinia breweri*) – CRPR 4.2
- Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*) – CRPR 4.2
- Late-flowered mariposa lily (*Calochortus fimbriatus*) – CRPR 1B.3
- Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*) – CRPR 1B.2
- White-veined monardella (*Monardella hypoleuca* ssp. *hypoleuca*) – CRPR 1B.3

- Nuttall's scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*) – CRPR 1B.1

Moderate Potential to Occur – Five (5) special status species were determined to have “Moderate Potential to Occur” within the project area.

- Douglas's fiddleneck (*Amsinckia douglasiana*) – CRPR 4.2
- Saint's daisy (*Erigeron sanctarum*) – CRPR 4.2
- Vernal barley (*Hordeum intercedens*) – CRPR 3.2
- Southwestern spiny rush (*Juncus acutus* ssp. *leopoldii*) – CRPR 4.2
- Hubby's phacelia (*Phacelia hubbyi*) – CRPR 4.2

Low Potential to Occur – Twenty-one (21) special status species have “Low Potential to Occur” within the project area.

- Mile's milk-vetch (*Astragalus didymocarpus* var. *milesianus*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Coulter's saltbush (*Atriplex coulteri*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Palmer's spineflower (*Chorizanthe palmeri*) – CRPR 4.2
- Island mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides blanchea*) – CRPR 4.3
- Small-flowered morning-glory (*Convolvulus simulans*) – CRPR 4.2
- Ojai fritillary (*Fritillaria ojaiensis*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Sisquoc gilia (*Gilia ochroleuca* ssp. *lanosa*) – CRPR 4.3
- Mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Contra costa goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Ocellated Humboldt lily (*Lilium humboldtii* ssp. *ocelatum*) – CRPR 4.2
- Carmel valley cliff aster (*Malacothrix saxatilis* var. *arachnoidea*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Cliff aster (*Malacothrix saxatilis* var. *saxatilis*) – CRPR 4.2
- Gambel's water cress (*Nasturtium gambelii*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Sonoran maiden fern (*Pelazoneuron puberulum sonorensis*) – CRPR 2B.2
- Mexican earth moss (*Pleuridium mexicanum*) – CRPR 2B.1
- Hoffman's bitter gooseberry (*Ribes amarum* var. *hoffmannii*) – CRPR 4.3
- Hoffman's sanicle (*Sanicula hoffmannii*) – CRPR 4.3
- Black-flowered figwort (*Scrophularia atrata*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Santa Ynez false lupine (*Thermopsis macrophylla*) – CRPR 1B.3

Not Expected to Occur – Sixteen (16) special status species are not expected to occur within the project area.

- Red sand-verbena (*Abronia maritima*) – CRPR 4.2
- Slender silver moss (*Anomobryum julaceum*) – CRPR 4.2
- Refugio manzanita (*Arctostaphylos refugioensis*) – CRPR 1B.2
- marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*) – 1B.1
- Santa Barbara morning-glory (*Calystegia sepium* ssp. *binghamiae*) – CRPR 1A
- Salt marsh bird's-beak (*Chloropyron maritimum* ssp. *Maritimum*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Panicle tarplant (*Deinandra paniculata*) – CRPR 4.2
- Umbrella larkspur (*Delphinium umbraculorum*) – CRPR 1B.3
- Elegant wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum elegans*) – CRPR 4.3

- Santa Barbara bedstraw (*Galium cliftsonsmithii*) – CRPR 4.3
- Santa Lucia dwarf rush (*Juncus luciensis*) – CRPR 1B.2
- Pale-yellow layia (*Layia heterotricha*) – CRPR 1B.1
- Fragrant pitcher sage (*Lepechinia fragrans*) – CRPR 4.2
- Mexican earth moss (*Pleuroidium mexicanum*) – CRPR 2B.1
- San Gabriel ragwort (*Senecio astephanus*) – CRPR 4.3
- Estuary seablite (*Suaeda esteroa*) – CRPR 1B.2

Figure 8 depicts the locations of CNDDDB records of seven special status plant species within a 2-mile radius of the project site. Of the seven species, only Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*) has been recorded within 2 miles of the project site within the last 20 years. Observations of the six other species were dated in or prior to 1977.

Santa Barbara honeysuckle is a shrub found in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub at elevations between 35-3280 ft (CNPS, 2023b). Suitable coastal scrub habitat was identified within the BSA, and the species has a high potential of occurring within the Project area.

Nuttall's scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*) is also considered to have a high potential of occurrence, as the BSA contains suitable coastal scrub habitat and recent observations of the species have been recorded within 10 miles of the Project site.

Though historic occurrences (>45 years old at the time of assessment) of Coulter's saltbush, Sonoran Maiden fern, black-flowered figwort, mesa horkelia, and southern tarplant have been recorded within 2 miles of the Project site (Figure 8), these species have a low potential of occurrence due to a lack of suitable habitat, as described in Table 4.

Table 4. Special Status Plant Species Occurrence Potential

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
Plants					
CNDDDB	<i>Abronia maritima</i>	red sand-verbena	4.2	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms February-December. Prefers coastal strand and coastal dune habitats. Between 0-425 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Amsinckia douglasiana</i>	Douglas's fiddleneck	4.2	Moderate - the site has suitable habitat. Observations recorded within 5 miles of the project site within the last five years.	Annual herb. Blooms from March-May. Cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland. Between 0-6400 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Anomobryum julaceum</i>	slender silver moss	4.2	Not Expected – the site does not have suitable habitat.	Moss. Common in wet crevices, sandstone cliffs, and seepy niches. Prefers broad-leafed upland forest, lower montane coniferous forest, and north coast coniferous forests. Between 100-1000 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Arctostaphylos refugioensis</i>	Refugio manzanita	1B.2	Not Expected – site is below preferred elevation.	Shrub. Blooms from December-March and prefers chaparral habitat. Between 425-1805 ft. elevation.
IPAC	<i>Arenaria paludicola</i>	marsh sandwort	FE, SE	Not Expected – the site does not have suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms in late spring – summer. Occurs in wetland marshes and swamps. Below 984 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Astragalus didymocarpus</i> var. <i>milesianus</i>	Mile's milk-vetch	1B.2	Low – the site has disturbed grasslands at the low end of preferred elevation.	Annual herb. Blooms from March-June. Prefers grasslands. Between 295-590 ft. elevation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Atriplex coulteri</i>	Coulter's saltbush	1B.2	Low – CNDDDB records an occurrence within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project site. Reported occurrence within 2 miles of the project site was recorded > 50 years ago.	Shrub. Sandy soils. Prefers coastal dunes, sea bluffs, scrub, salt marshes; Below 650 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Baccharis plummerae</i> ssp. <i>plummerae</i>	Plummer's baccharis	4.3	High- the site has coastal sage scrub at the preferred elevation.	Shrub. Blooms from May-October. Prefers clay, loam, and sandy loam soil. Coastal sage scrub. Between 35-2855 ft. elevation
CNDDDB	<i>Calandrinia breweri</i>	Brewer's calandrinia	4.2	High - the site has disturbed coastal sage scrub habitat at preferred elevation.	Annual herb/bulb. Blooms March-June. Soils. Prefers disturbed habitat - Chaparral, Northern Coastal Scrub, Coastal Sage Scrub. Below 0-3500 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Calochortus catalinae</i>	Catalina mariposa-lily	4.2	High- the site has open grassland and coastal scrub habitat.	Perennial herb. Occurs along the southern California coast in coastal sage scrub, foothill woodland, chaparral, and valley grassland habitats. Between 50 - 2295 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Calochortus fimbriatus</i>	late-flowered mariposa-lily	1B.3	High - the site has suitable habitat and there are recent observations within the BSA.	Perennial herb. Blooms from June-August. Occurs in dry, open coastal woodland and chaparral communities at less than 2,955 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Calystegia sepium</i> ssp. <i>binghamiae</i>	Santa Barbara morning-glory	1A	Not Expected - the site lacks suitable habitat. Single recorded observation within 10 miles of project site from 1886.	Perennial herb. Blooms in August. Typically found in low elevation coastal marshes and swamps.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Centromadia parryi</i> <i>ssp. australis</i>	southern tarplant	1B.1	Low - the site has minor riparian habitat and disturbed grasslands.	Annual herb. Blooms from May-November. Requires fertile, moist soils. Prefers salt marshes, vernal pool habitats and freshwater wetlands and valley grassland communities. Below 1015 ft. elevation. Observed within 2 miles of the project site in 1952, in an area that has since been developed.
CNDDDB	<i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i> var. <i>blancheae</i>	island mountain-mahogany	4.3	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Shrub. Blooms from February-May. Well drained soils with a neutral pH. Occurs in chaparral communities. Elevation: Below 1968 ft.
IPAC	<i>Chloropyron maritimum</i> ssp. <i>maritimum</i>	salt marsh bird's-beak	FE, SE, 1B.2	Not Expected – the site does not have suitable habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from May – October. Occurs in coastal salt-marsh and dune habitats. Between 0 - 100 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Chorizanthe palmeri</i>	Palmer's spineflower	4.2	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from April-August. Moist, well-draining soils. Prefers foothill woodland, chaparral, valley grassland communities. Between 15-2920 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Convolvulus simulans</i>	small-flowered morning-glory	4.2	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from March-July. Moist, well-draining soil. Prefers seep habitats and Northern coastal scrub, coastal sage scrub, and valley grassland communities. Between 130-4430 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Deinandra paniculata</i>	paniculate tarplant	4.2	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from April-November. Prefers fertile, moist soils. Prefers valley grassland communities and occurs usually in non-wetlands. Between 80-2820 ft. elevation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Delphinium umbraculorum</i>	umbrella larkspur	1B.3	Not Expected - the site is below preferred elevation.	Perennial herb. Blooms from April-June. Clay loam soil. Occurs in foothill woodland and chaparral communities between 1310 - 5250 ft.
CNDDDB	<i>Erigeron sanctarum</i>	saints' daisy	4.2	Moderate - the site has appropriate habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms from March-July. Sandy loam soil Prefers coastal sage scrub, foothill woodland, chaparral. Between 15-755 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Eriogonum elegans</i>	elegant wild buckwheat	4.3	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from May-November. Decomposed plant material, clay loam and sandy loam soils. Prefers foothill, woodland, valley grassland. Between 180-3805 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Fritillaria ojaiensis</i>	Ojai fritillary	1B.2	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat at preferred elevation.	Perennial herb. Blooms from February-May. Clay loam, and sandy loam soils. Prefers yellow pine forest, mixed evergreen forest, chaparral. Between 15-3575 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Galium cliftonsmithii</i>	Santa Barbara bedstraw	4.3	Not Expected - the site is below elevational range and does not have suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms May-July. Sandy and loamy soils. Cismontane Woodland; Light shade, coastal canyons, dry banks, chaparral; Blooms April-June; Between 656-4001 ft. elevation
CNDDDB	<i>Gilia ochroleuca</i> ssp. <i>lanosa</i>	Sisquoc gilia	4.3	Low – Site is below typical elevation range; limited amount of chaparral habitat on site.	Annual herb. Blooms from April - June. Prefers sandy soils. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and in openings in pinyon and juniper woodlands habitats. Between 1475 - 4855 ft elevation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Hordeum intercedens</i>	vernal barley	3.2	Moderate - the site has suitable habitat at preferred elevation.	Annual grass-like herb. Blooms from March-June. Sandy loam soils. Prefers vernal pool habitats and freshwater wetland, valley grassland, and wetland-riparian communities. Between 0-4530 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i>	mesa horkelia	1B.1	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat at preferred elevation.	Perennial herb. Blooms from February-July. Sandy loam soils. Prefers coastal chaparral habitat. Between 15-7480 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Juglans californica</i>	southern California walnut	4.2	Present.	Tree. Blooms March-May. Loam, clay, moist, well-drained soils. Slopes and riparian areas. Occurs primarily in Ventura and Los Angeles counties in the Santa Monica mountains. Below 3000 ft elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i>	Southwestern spiny rush	4.2	Moderate – there are wetland riparian communities at preferred elevation	Perennial grass-like herb. Blooms from May-June. Sand, loam, and saline soils. Prefers seeps, meadows, salt marsh, dunes, coastal habitats and coastal strand and wetland-riparian communities. Between 0-5940 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Juncus luciensis</i>	Santa Lucia dwarf rush	1B.2	Not Expected - the site is below elevational range and lacks suitable habitat.	Annual grass-like herb. Blooms from April-July. Sandy loam soil. Occurs in wet, sandy soils of seeps, meadows, vernal pools, streams and roadsides. Between 965-6695 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Lasthenia conjugens</i>	contra costa goldfields	FE, 1B.1	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat	Annual herb. Blooms from March-June. Loam soil. Occurs in vernal pools and prefers freshwater wetland, valley grassland, and wetland-riparian habitats. Below 655 ft. elevation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>	Coulter's goldfields	1B.1	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat.	Annual herb. Blooms from February-June. Moist, saline soils. Occurs in salt marshes, playas, vernal pools, and coastal habitats. Prefers coastal salt marsh, freshwater wetlands, alkali sink, and wetland-riparian communities. Less than 3,300 ft elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Layia heterotricha</i>	pale-yellow layia	1B.1	Not Expected - the site is below elevation range.	Annual herb. Blooms from March-June. Clay, silty and sandy loam soils. Prefers foothill woodland, valley grassland, pinyon-juniper woodland, and wetland riparian. Between 985-5840 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Lepechinia fragrans</i>	fragrant pitcher sage	4.2	Not Expected - the site is below elevation range.	Shrub. Blooms from March-October. Decomposed plant material and sandy loam soil. Prefers chaparral. Between 720-5415 ft. elevation
CNDDDB	<i>Lilium humboldtii</i> ssp. <i>ocelatum</i>	ocellated Humboldt lily	4.2	Low – the site has marginally appropriate habitat at low end of preferred elevation.	Perennial herb. Blooms from March-July. Medium to slow draining soil. Occurs in openings in yellow pine forest, foothill woodland, and chaparral communities. Between 245-7480 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>	Santa Barbara honeysuckle	1B.2	High – site has suitable habitat and elevation.	Shrub. Blooms May-August. Prefers clay loam and sandy loam soils. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub habitat. Between 35-3280 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Malacothrix saxatilis</i> var. <i>arachnoidea</i>	Carmel valley cliff aster	1B.2	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms from June-December. Fast draining soils. Prefers chaparral communities. Between 165-560 ft. elevation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Malacothrix saxatilis</i> var. <i>saxatilis</i>	cliff aster	4.2	Low - the site has marginally appropriate habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms May-September. Prefers fast draining soils and chaparral communities and coastal hills. Between 15-5005 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> ssp. <i>hypoleuca</i>	white-veined monardella	1B.3	High - The site has suitable habitat. Recent observations recorded on and within 1 mile of the project site within the last five years.	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral and cismontane woodland communities. Between 165-5005 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Nasturtium gambelii</i>	Gambel's water cress	FE, ST, 1B.1	Low – the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms April-October. Moist well, draining soils. Prefer marshes, streambanks, and lakes. Between 17-1295 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Pelazoneuron puberulum</i> var. <i>sonorense</i>	Sonoran maiden fern	2B.2	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Fern. Moist, well-drained soils. Prefers riparian, meadows, and seep habitats. Between 36-2561 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Phacelia hubbyi</i>	Hubby's phacelia	4.2	Moderate - the site has suitable habitat, and a recent observation (2020) has been recorded within 10 miles of the project site.	Annual herb. Moist, well-draining soils. Open gravelly or rocky slopes, chaparral, grasslands. Between 0 to 4660 ft
CNDDDB	<i>Pleuroidium mexicanum</i>	Mexican earth moss	2B.1	Low Potential - CNDDDB records an occurrence within the last 20 years within 10 miles of the project site but at higher elevation.	Moss. Requires moist, damp, shaded areas to grow. Typically grows on bark or moist, well-drained soils. Reported to occur in grasslands and oak-pine forests at moderate to high elevations.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Quercus dumosa</i>	Nuttall's scrub oak	1B.1	High- the site does have coastal sage scrub communities at the proper elevation.	Tree/shrub. Blooms in spring. Prefers soils with medium-fast drainage. Open chaparral, coastal sage scrub; of conservation concern; Between 0-984ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Ribes amarum</i> var. <i>hoffmannii</i>	Hoffman's bitter gooseberry	3	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Shrub. Blooms March-April. Clay loam soil. Prefers chaparral. Below 2690 ft.
CNDDDB	<i>Sanicula hoffmannii</i>	Hoffman's sanicle	4.3	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms March-May. Rocky and gravely, well-drained soils. Prefers northern coastal scrub, coastal sage scrub, mixed evergreen forest, and chaparral communities. Between 15-5280 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Scrophularia atrata</i>	black-flowered figwort	1B.2	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms in the spring and summer. Prefers calcareous or diatomaceous soils. Occurs in coastal canyons. Between 10-7699 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Senecio astephanus</i>	San Gabriel ragwort	4.3	Not Expected - the site is below elevation range.	Perennial herb. Blooms May-July. Rocky, well-drained soils. Typically occurs in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and oak woodland habitats. Between 1310-4920 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Suaeda esteroa</i>	estuary seablite	1B.2	Not Expected - the site is above elevational range and does not have suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms May-October. Sandy soil. Typically occurs in coastal salt marshes and swamps at < 15 ft. elevation.
CNDDDB	<i>Thermopsis macrophylla</i>	Santa Ynez false lupine	SR, 1B.3	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Perennial herb. Blooms April-June. Gravely, well-drained soils. Prefers a disturbed habitat and mixed evergreen forest and foothill woodland communities. Between 260-4560 ft. elevation.

5.4.2 Protected Trees

Native woodland habitats within the BSA are also significant biological resources at the site, as are other individual trees providing important wildlife habitat. Policy ECO-EGV-4.1 of the Eastern Goleta Community Plan (County of Santa Barbara, 2015) states that existing trees in Eastern Goleta Valley shall be preserved to the maximum extent possible, with the prioritization of protected trees. The EGVCP defines protected trees as: “mature native, naturalized, or roosting/nesting trees that are healthy, structurally sound, and have grown into the natural stature particular to the species.” Within the Inland Zone of the Eastern Goleta Valley, protected trees include but are not limited to coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), western sycamores (*Platanus racemosa*), native willows (*Salix* spp.), redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) maples (*Acer macrophyllum*), California bay laurels (*Umbellularia californica*), cottonwood (*Populus fremontii* and *Populus balsamifera*), white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), California walnut (*Juglans californica*), any trees serving as known raptor nesting or key roosting sites, and any trees serving as monarch butterfly aggregation sites (County of Santa Barbara, 2015). The County of Santa Barbara LUDC (2021) also provides guidance for protected trees that are “(1) mature and/or (2) roosting/nesting trees that do not pose a threat to public health or safety.”

While a full arborist survey was not conducted during the biological resource survey, several native trees, including coast live oaks, valley oaks, California walnuts, California sycamores, arroyo willow, and red willows were observed within the BSA. Additionally, eucalyptus and other non-native trees are considered protected if they provide important nesting and roosting habitat for raptors, monarch butterflies, and other wildlife, such as bats. These protected trees may be vulnerable to project impacts if they are within or adjacent to the construction footprint. Specifically, ingress and egress areas may impact surrounding native trees, where increased traffic and/or heavy equipment could drive within canopy driplines. An arborist report and tree protection plan will be required as an impact avoidance and minimization measure (see Section 6.5).

5.4.3 Special Status Wildlife

Occurrences of **fifty-five (55)** special status wildlife species have been recorded within a 10-mile radius of the project site and/or within the Goleta quadrangle (Table 5). The potential of each species to occur within the BSA was evaluated based on the proximity and dates of recorded observations, species habitat preferences, and field observations of habitat types and quality (Table 5).

Of the 55 special status species assessed in Table 5, two were present, three have a high potential to occur, 11 have a moderate potential to occur, 23 have a low potential to occur, and 16 are not expected to occur.

Present – Two (2) special status species were determined to be “Present” within the project area.

- Cooper’s hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) - WL
- Yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) – SSC

High Potential to Occur – Three (3) special status species were determined to have “High Potential to Occur” within the project area:

- Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1) – FC

- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) – SCE
- Rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*) – WL

Moderate Potential to Occur – Eleven (11) special status species have “Moderate Potential to Occur” within the project area:

- Western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) – SSC
- California legless lizard (*Anniella spp.*) - SSC
- Northern California legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra*) – SSC
- Coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*) – SSC
- Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) – SSC
- Coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*) – SSC
- Two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*) – SSC
- Arroyo toad (*Anaxyrus californicus*) – SSC
- Coast range newt (*Taricha torosa*) – SSC
- California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) – SSC, FT
- Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*) – GS5/S4

Low Potential to Occur – Twenty-three (23) special status species were determined to have low potential to occur within the project area:

- Tidewater goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*) – FE
- Foothill yellow-legged frog – south coast (*Rana boylei pop. 6*) – FE, SE
- Tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) – SSC, ST
- Grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) – SSC
- Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) – FP; WL
- Bell's sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli belli*) - WL
- Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) – SSC
- Olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) – SSC
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) – FP
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Epidonax traillii extimus*) – FE, SE
- Willow flycatcher (*Epidonax traillii*) – SE
- California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) - WL
- Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) – FP, SE
- Bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) – ST
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) – FE, SE
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) – SSC
- Southern California ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus octavus*) – FP
- Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) – SSC
- Western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*) – SSC
- Western red bat (*Lasiurus frantzii*) – SSC
- San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) – SSC
- Big-free tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*) – SSC
- Busck's gallmoth (*Eugnosta busckana*) – G1G3/S2S3

Not Expected to Occur – Sixteen (16) special status species are not expected to occur within the project area, due to lack of suitable habitat and/or absence of recent observations within 10 miles of the project site:

- Steelhead – southern California DPS (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop.10*) – FE, SC
- Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) – FT, SE
- Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) – FT, SE
- Western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*) – SSC, FT
- Yellow rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) – SSC
- Common loon (*Gavia immer*) - SSC
- California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) – FP, FE, SE
- California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*) – FP, ST
- Double-crested cormorant (*Nannopterum auritum*) - WL
- Light-footed Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus levipes*) – FP, FE, SE
- Belding's savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi*) – SE
- California brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*) – G4/T3T4/S3
- California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) – FP, FE, SE
- California spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*) - SSC
- Vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*) – FT
- Pacific hairy-necked tiger beetle (*Cicindela hirticollis gravida*) – G5/T2/S2

Figure 9 depicts the locations of CNDDDB records of 21 special status wildlife species within a 2-mile radius of the Project site, 14 of which had been recorded within two miles of the Project site since 2003. A brief discussion of the habitat requirements and potential of each species to occur is included below:

Cooper's hawk (High Potential/Present): Cooper's hawks are present within the BSA and were observed during the 2023 survey. This species occurs in a variety of woodland habitats and is common in suburban environments. There are suitable stands of coast live oak and riparian deciduous trees along the main riparian corridor of the Project site to potentially support breeding Cooper's hawks.

Rufous-crowned sparrow (High Potential): Rufous-crowned sparrows commonly occur in coastal sagebrush communities and frequent drier slopes dominated by grasses with sporadic shrubs, such as those observed within the BSA. Many recent observations of this species have been recorded at the neighboring San Marcos Foothills Preserve and other locations within five miles of the Project site.

Crotch's bumble bee (High Potential): Crotch's bumble bees inhabit grasslands and shrublands, where they nest colonially underground in abandoned rodent burrows or above ground in tufts of grass, tree cavities, rock piles, and inactive bird nests. They can survive in slightly modified habitats. The BSA comprises suitable grassland and shrubland habitat for Crotch's bumble bee, with preferred food plants such as sages (*Salvia* spp.) and wild buckwheats (*Eriogonum* spp.). Multiple recent observations have been recorded within one-mile of the Project site (iNaturalist, 2023).

Monarch butterfly (High Potential): Migratory monarch butterflies (discussed further in section 5.4.4 below) migrate to overwinter in California each November through February.

Potential roosting habitat and foraging plants for migratory monarchs occur within the BSA. A monarch overwintering population occurrence was recorded in the CNDDDB within the eucalyptus stand at the southeastern portion of the Project site in 1990 (CDFW, 2023a). This habitat is designated as an ESH Monarch Butterfly Site in the EGVCP (County of Santa Barbara, 2015).

Northern California legless lizard (Moderate Potential): The northern California legless lizard occurs in loose, warm, and moist soils, often with plant cover. It lives in a variety of habitats, including beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, sandy washes, desert scrub and stream terraces. Suitable oak woodland and stream terrace habitats occur within the BSA.

Western pond turtle (Moderate Potential): The western pond turtle is associated with permanent or nearly permanent water bodies. It occurs in streams, ponds, lakes, and wetlands, but also requires terrestrial habitat for nesting. Suitable habitat for this species may occur within the Project site, notably along the riparian corridor of Hospital Creek.

Yuma myotis (Moderate Potential): The Yuma myotis roosts in buildings, caves, or crevices. The species also has been seen roosting in abandoned swallow nests and under bridges. Yuma myotis typically forage over water sources such as ponds and streams. The site has some foraging and roosting habitats. In addition to the historic CNDDDB records, a Myotis sp. has also been recorded more recently on iNaturalist within the two-mile radius (iNaturalist, 2023).

California red-legged frog (Moderate Potential): California red-legged frogs occur in a variety of habitat types, including aquatic, riparian, and upland habitats. The species prefers slow moving or deep standing ponds, pools, and streams. The Project site has riparian habitat with standing water and small streams.

Coast range newt (Moderate Potential): Coast range newts occur in a variety of habitats, including wet valley-foothill hardwood, hardwood-conifer, mixed conifer, oak woodlands, coastal scrub, chaparral, and annual grasslands. Adults migrate in large numbers from terrestrial locations to ponds, reservoirs, and sluggish pools in streams to breed. Suitable habitat for this species may occur within riparian corridor of the Project site and the species has been observed in San Antonio Creek Park (approximately 1 mile from the Project site) in 2021 (iNaturalist, 2023).

Tri-colored blackbird (Low Potential): Tri-colored blackbirds nest colonially in dense cattails, tules, thickets of willow, blackberry, wild rose, and tall herbs, and agricultural grain fields. Nest site must support a minimum colony of 50 pairs. The species may occasionally forage at the Project site, but the site lacks adequate habitat to support breeding colonies.

Grasshopper sparrow (Low Potential): The grasshopper sparrow occurs in California as a summer resident from March to September. The species is typically found in grasslands, prairies, hayfields, and open pasture, often with patches of bare ground. Grasshopper sparrows have recently been observed in the open grassland adjacent to San Marcos Foothills Preserve (iNaturalist, 2023). The Project site has only a minor amount of suitable habitat, as the more open habitats are primarily dominated by dense non-native herbaceous species. Grasshopper sparrows may occasionally forage on the site, but nesting is unlikely.

Burrowing owl (Low Potential): Burrowing owls occur in open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. The species is a

subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel. Wintering burrowing owls have been observed near the BSA at the San Marcos Foothills Preserve (Watershed Environmental, 2015). Occasional flyovers of burrowing owls may occur at the Project site, but the site lacks suitable open habitat for nesting or wintering.

White-tailed kite (Low Potential): White-tailed kites typically occur in rolling foothills and valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottomlands or marshes next to deciduous woodland. The species requires open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense topped trees for nesting and perching. White-tailed kites are frequently observed at the San Marcos Foothill Preserve, where they have historically nested (Watershed Environmental, 2015), and at More Mesa Open Space (iNaturalist, 2023), both within two miles of the Project site. However, the Project site lacks suitable nesting habitat and contains only marginal foraging habitat for white-tailed kites. White-tailed kites may occasionally forage at or fly over the site but are not expected to nest there.

Bell's sparrow (Low Potential): Bell's sparrows are year-round residents of California. The species occurs along the coast ranges of California to the west slope of the Sierra Nevada. Bell's sparrows typically occupy drier, inland chamise chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats, where they nest within or beneath shrubs. The Project site has limited amounts of marginal habitat for this species and there are no recent recorded observations within 10 miles of the Project site (CNDDDB, 2023; iNaturalist, 2023).

Bank swallow (Low Potential): The bank swallow is a southern California migrant that breeds in the northern half of the United States and much of Canada. Bank swallows typically live in low areas along rivers, streams, coasts, and reservoirs. They are colonial nesters, requiring vertical banks or cliffs with fine-textured/sandy soils to dig nesting holes. Bank swallows may occur at the Project site as migrants, but the site is outside of the species' breeding range and lacks suitable nesting habitat. There are no recent recorded observations of bank swallows within 10 miles of the Project site (CNDDDB, 2023; iNaturalist, 2023).

Townsend's big-eared bat (Low Potential): Townsend's big-eared bats require caves, mines, tunnels, or constructed structures for roosting. The species typically occur in mesic habitats with a good water source. The site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.

Hoary bat (Low Potential): Hoary bats generally roost in dense foliage of medium to large trees. Preferred roost sites are hidden from above, with few branches below, and have ground cover of low reflectivity. Females and young tend to roost at higher sites in trees. The site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.

Western mastiff bat (Low Potential): Western mastiff bats prefer open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral etc. They roost in crevices in cliff faces, tall buildings, trees, and tunnels. The site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.

Western red bat (Low Potential): Western red bats roost primarily in trees, 2-40 ft above ground, from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. The species prefers habitat edges and mosaics with trees providing roosts that are protected from above and open below with open areas for foraging. The site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.

Busck's gallmoth (Low Potential): Busck's gallmoth typically occurs in coastal sand dunes, which the Project site lacks. However, California brittlebush is a known host plant for this species and is abundant within the Project site. The only CNDDDB record of Busck's gallmoth within 10 miles of the project site was in 1990.

Belding's savannah sparrow (Not Expected): Belding's savannah sparrow is a wetland dependent species that resides year-round in southern California coastal salt marshes. Belding's savannah sparrows nest semi-colonially or locally concentrated within larger habitat areas in salt marsh vegetation. This species is not expected to occur within the Project site as it lacks coastal salt marsh habitat.

Table 5. Special Status Wildlife Species Occurrence Potential

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
Vertebrates					
Fish					
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	tidewater goby	FE	Low - adult and juveniles recorded at the mouth of Atascadero Creek in 2009. However, the site is farther upstream than typical upstream migration distance and no suitable habitat was observed during the biological survey.	Endemic to California. Occurs in coastal lagoons, estuaries, and marshes. Can migrate upstream into tributaries--typical distances are up to 0.5 miles, though distances up to 5 miles are possible. Usually found in water Below 3 ft. Found from northern Del Norte County south to San Diego county.
CNDDDB	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop.10	steelhead – southern California DPS	FE, SC	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers rivers and streams and usually occurs from the Santa Maria river in Santa Barbara county to Malibu creek in Los Angeles county. Require unpolluted, cool, unobstructed conditions in coastal rivers and streams.
Reptiles					
CNDDDB	<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	Northern California legless lizard	SSC	Moderate – suitable habitat occurs within the project site.	Occurs in loose, warm, and moist soils and often has plant cover. Occurs in beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, sandy washes, desert scrub and stream terraces.
CNDDDB	<i>Anniella</i> spp.	California legless lizard	SSC	Moderate - suitable habitat occurs within the project site.	Found in several habitats, but especially coastal dune, valley-foothill, chaparral, and coast scrub habitats. Prefer sandy or loose loamy soils with high moisture content under sparse vegetation.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>	coastal whiptail	SSC	Moderate - the site has riparian and woodland areas.	Found in deserts and semiarid areas with sparse vegetation and open areas. Also found in woodland and riparian areas. Ground may be firm soil, sandy, or rocky. Common in suitable habitat.
CNDDDB	<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>	western pond turtle	SSC	Moderate - suitable habitat may occur within the project site.	Associated with permanent or nearly permanent water bodies. Occurs in streams, ponds, lakes, and wetlands. Also require terrestrial habitat for nesting. May be active year-round.
CNDDDB	<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	coast horned lizard	SSC	Moderate - suitable habitat present at the site and recent observations of the species within 10 miles of the project site.	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes. Open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and abundant supply of ants and other insects. Between 0-8000 ft. elevation
CNDDDB	<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgulata</i>	coast patch-nosed snake	SSC	Moderate - the site has brushy and shrubby vegetation and a moderate amount of small mammal burrows.	Brushy or shrubby vegetation in coastal southern California. Requires small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering sites.
CNDDDB	<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	two-striped garter snake	SSC	Moderate - the site has riparian growth and streams.	Coastal Salinas to northwest Baja California. Highly aquatic, found in or near permanent fresh water. Often along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
Amphibians					
CNDDDB	<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i>	arroyo toad	SSC, FE	Moderate - suitable habitat may occur within the project site.	Occurs in washes, arroyos and riparian areas with willows, sycamores, oaks, and cottonwoods along exposed sandy substrates. Tadpoles sift fine sediments for food and are extremely dependent on this specialized habitat.
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Rana boylei</i> pop. 6	foothill yellow-legged frog – south coast DPS	FE, SE	Low – only marginally appropriate habitat observed in the project site.	Occurs in foothill and mountain streams from the coast up to approximately 5,000 ft. elevation. Suitable habitat types include valley-foothill woodland, valley-foothill riparian, mixed chaparral, conifer forest, and wet meadows. Found near water, especially near riffles where there are rocks, rocky substrate, and sunny banks.
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	California red-legged frog	SSC, FT	Moderate - the site has riparian habitat with standing water and small streams.	Occurs in a variety of habitat types, including aquatic, riparian, and upland habitats. Prefers slow moving or deep standing ponds, pools, and streams. They are active all year but in dry years estivate in moist refuges until the late fall rains.
CNDDDB	<i>Taricha torosa</i>	coast range newt	SSC	Moderate - suitable habitat may occur within riparian corridor. Reported observation in San Antonio creek Park (1 mile from project site) in 2021.	Occurs in wet valley-foothill hardwood, hardwood-conifer, mixed conifer, oak woodlands, coastal scrub, chaparral, and annual grasslands. Adults migrate in large numbers from terrestrial locations to ponds, reservoirs, and sluggish pools in streams to breed.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
Birds					
CNDDDB	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	SSC, ST	Low - species may occasionally forage at site, but site lacks adequate habitat to support breeding colonies.	Resident throughout Central Valley and along the coast from Sonoma County south. Nests colonially in dense cattails, tules, thickets of willow, blackberry, wild rose, and tall herbs, and agricultural grain fields. Nest site must support a minimum colony of 50 pairs.
CNDDDB	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	grasshopper sparrow	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat; species may forage at the site, but nesting is unlikely.	Occurs in California as a summer resident from March to September. Typically found in grasslands, prairies, hayfields, and open pasture, often with patches of bare ground.
CNDDDB	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	golden eagle	FP; WL	Low - occasional flyovers may occur but the site does not have suitable habitat for nesting or wintering.	Rolling foothills, mountain areas, sage-juniper flats, and desert. Nests in cliff-walled canyons and large trees in open areas. Nest sites are highly sensitive to nearby human visual and noise disturbances.
CNDDDB	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	burrowing owl	SSC	Low -wintering owls have been observed near the BSA at the San Marcos Foothills Preserve. Occasional flyovers may occur, but the site does not have suitable habitat for nesting or wintering.	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California Ground squirrel.
IPAC	<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Not Expected – the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers near-shore marine waters. Comes inland to nest. Foraging areas are usually within 1.2 to 3 miles of shore, typically in waters less than 100 feet deep.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i>	western snowy plover	SSC, FT	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Require beaches, salt pans, sandy flats, or alkaline flats. Nests where there is sparse vegetation, minimal disturbance, and shoreline/mudflat habitat for foraging.
IPAC	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	yellow-billed cuckoo	FT, SE	Not Expected – the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers wooded habitat with dense cover and water nearby, including woodlands with low, scrubby, vegetation, overgrown orchards, abandoned farmland, and dense thickets along streams and marshes.
CNDDDB	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	olive-sided flycatcher	SSC	Low - species may forage at site during migration but site lacks suitable habitat for nesting.	Summer resident in California, typically within forest and woodland habitats. Occurs in montane conifer forests. overlook canyons, meadows, lakes, and open terrain. Nests in mixed conifer, montane hardwood-conifer, Douglas-fir, redwood, red fir and lodgepole pine.
CNDDDB	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	yellow rail	SSC	Not Expected - the site occurs outside of current known range in California and lacks suitable habitat.	Migratory species that primarily winters in southeastern United States and breeds in Canada. In California, species occurs only in a few limited breeding and wintering areas. Prefers large meadows or shallow marshes dominated by grasses and sedges. Requires fresh or brackish shallow water no more than a foot deep. Typically winters in coastal salt marsh or coastal meadows.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	white-tailed kite	FP	Low - species may occasionally forage at or fly over site but site lacks suitable nesting habitat.	Rolling foothills and valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottomlands or marshes next to deciduous woodland. Open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense topped trees for nesting and perching.
CNDDDB	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Southwestern willow flycatcher	FE, SE	Low - species may use patches of riparian habitat on the site during migration but site lacks suitable nesting habitat.	Summer resident in California. Requires moist conditions, typically occurring in riparian habitats. Large patches of dense riparian vegetation near surface water or saturated soil are required for nesting. Nesting often occurs in <i>Tamarix</i> spp. and <i>Salix</i> spp. Smaller patches of, less dense riparian habitat may be used during migration.
CNDDDB	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	willow flycatcher	SE	Low - species may use patches of riparian habitat on the site during migration but site lacks suitable nesting habitat.	Summer resident in California. Occur in areas with willows or other shrubs near standing or running water. Thick willow thickets are required for nesting and roosting. Low exposed branches are used for singing and sallying. Nest near streams, standing water and seeps.
CNDDDB	<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	California horned lark	WL	Low - site has a limited amount of marginal habitat.	California year-long resident. Occur in open areas with low cover of low herbaceous vegetation or shrubs.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Gavia immer</i>	common loon	SSC	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers wooded lakes, tundra ponds and coastal waters. Summers on lakes with coniferous forests and also in open tundra. Requires open water for takeoff and a good supply of fish to feed. Wintering occurs near the ocean in shallow waters close to shore or near water bodies that have not frozen over.
IPAC	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	California condor	FP, FE, SE	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Permanent resident of the semi-arid mountains from Santa Clara to Los Angeles Co. Occurs at 0-9000 ft., nests at 2000-6500 ft. Requires large expanses of open savannah, grasslands, and foothill chaparral with cliffs and large trees for nesting/roosting.
CNDDDB	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	WL	Present— the site has suitable habitat and there are recent observations of the species on and near the project site. Observed during 2023 spring field survey.	Breeding resident in California. Commonly occurs in dense stands of live oak, riparian deciduous, or other forest habitats near water. Also observed in urban settings where trees are present. Nests in a variety of tree species, usually within dense forest.
CNDDDB	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	FP, SE	Low - occasional flyovers may occur but the site does not have suitable habitat for nesting or wintering.	Resident or wintering migrant in California. Some scattered breeding locations in central coast range to inland southern California. Requires large bodies of water or free flowing rivers with abundant fish. Requires large old-growth trees or snags near water for nesting.
CNDDDB	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail	FP, ST	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers saltwater, brackish, and freshwater marshes with pickleweed, saltgrass, cattails, and bulrushes

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i>	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	Not Expected - the site lacks coastal salt marsh habitat.	Wetland dependent. Resides year-round in southern CA coastal salt marshes. Nests in pickleweed salt marsh vegetation.
CNDDDB	<i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i>	Bell's sparrow	WL	Low – site has limited amounts of marginal habitat; no recent recorded observations near the project site.	Year-round resident of California. Occurs along the coast ranges of California to the west slope of the Sierra Nevada. Typically occupy drier, inland chamise chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats. Nest within or beneath shrubs.
CNDDDB	<i>Aimophila ruficeps</i>	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	WL	High—the site has suitable habitat and many recent observations have been recorded at San Marcos Foothills Preserve and other locations within 5 miles of the project site.	Year-round resident of California. Found in coastal sagebrush, open chaparral, scrub oak, and pinyon pine communities. Typically occurs on dry, open slopes covered with grasses, rocks, and sporadic shrubs. Forages on ground in herbage and in litter beneath shrubs, gleaning from ground and foliage. Nest concealed on ground at base of grass tussock or shrub, occasionally in a shrub.
CNDDDB	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i>	California brown pelican	G4/T3T4/S3	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers rocky, sandy offshore islands and beaches with vegetation. Require open seas for feeding, harbor, marinas, and estuaries. Nesting occurs on islands without mammalian predators and human presence.
CNDDDB	<i>Nannopterum auritum</i>	double-crested cormorant	WL	Not Expected – may occasionally fly-over but site lacks adequate water bodies to support foraging or breeding colonies.	Colonial waterbirds that require water bodies for foraging and high airy perches for roosting. Typically nest in colonies in tree clusters near water.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Rallus obsoletus levipes</i>	light-footed Ridgway's rail	FP, FE, SE	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Nests in coastal salt marshes where cordgrass is present. They require mudflats and shallow water for feeding. They also need nearby higher vegetation to roost in during high tide.
CNDDDB	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	bank swallow	ST	Low – may occur as a migrant but no suitable nesting habitat at the site.	Southern California migrant that breeds in the northern half of the United States and much of Canada. Typically live in low areas along rivers, streams, coasts, and reservoirs. Colonial nesters, requiring vertical banks or cliffs with fine-textured/sandy soils to dig nesting holes.
CNDDDB	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	yellow warbler	SSC	Present- the site is disturbed, has wetland and riparian habitats with abundant willows. Species observed during biological assessment in 2023.	Breeding summer resident of California. Prefers thickets and disturbed/regrowing habitats, close to streams and wetlands. Often found among willows, birch stands and aspen trees.
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i>	California least tern	FP, FE, SE	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers sandy/gravelly beaches. are undisturbed and near a lagoon or estuary for nesting. Nesting areas must be able to support large colonies of nesting individuals. Require open water and sea access for fishing.
CNDDDB	<i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i>	California spotted owl	SSC	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable habitat.	Prefers old growth forests. provide trees suitable for nesting, roosting, and foraging. Frequently Occurs in the Sierra Nevada Range within mid-elevation ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, white fir, and evergreen forest types. High canopy cover and a dense number of trees is preferred for nesting.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	least Bell's vireo	FE, SE	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable riparian habitat.	Inhabits low-elevation, riparian habitats with a dense shrub understory that is near water.
Mammals					
CNDDDB	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	pallid bat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.
CNDDDB	<i>Bassariscus astutus octavus</i>	southern California ringtail	FP	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Suitable habitat consists of a mixture of forest and shrubland, close association with rocky or riparian habitats. Nests in rock recesses, hollow trees, logs, snags, abandoned burrows, or woodrat nests. Not found more than 1 km (0.6 mi) from permanent water
CNDDDB	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Requires caves, mines tunnels or constructed structures for roosting. Prefers mesic habitats and a good water source.
CNDDDB	<i>Enhydra lutris nereis</i>	Southern sea otter	FP, FT	Not Expected - the site does not have suitable marine habitat.	Occurs in marine nearshore environments, Prefers canopies of kelp for rafting and feeding. Requires clean, nearshore marine water.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	western mastiff bat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Prefers open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral etc. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, tall buildings, trees, and tunnels.
CNDDDB	<i>Lasiurus frantzii</i>	western red bat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Roosts primarily in trees, 2-40 ft above ground, from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. Prefers habitat edges and mosaics with trees. are protected from above and open below with open areas for foraging.
CNDDDB	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	Hoary bat	G3G4/S4	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Feeds primarily on moths. Generally, roosts in dense foliage of medium to large trees. Preferred sites are hidden from above, with few branches below, and have ground cover of low reflectivity. Females and young tend to roost at higher sites in trees.
CNDDDB	<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Yuma myotis	G5/S4	Moderate – the site has some foraging and roosting habitats. A <i>Myotis</i> sp. has been recorded on iNaturalist within the two-mile radius.	Usually feeds over water sources such as ponds and streams. Prey includes moths, midges, flies, termites, ants, and caddisflies. Roosts in buildings, caves, or crevices. The species also has been seen roosting in abandoned swallow nests and under bridges.
CNDDDB	<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>	San Diego desert woodrat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Prefers coastal scrub of Southern California from San Diego County to San Luis Obispo County. Moderate to dense canopies preferred. Abundant in rock outcrops and rocky cliffs and slopes.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB	<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>	big-free tailed bat	SSC	Low - the site has a minor amount of suitable habitat.	Prefers deserts and arid grasslands where rocky outcrops, canyons, or cliffs provide ideal roosts. Cliff-sided river valleys of the Big Bend area. May roost in buildings. Insectivores.
Invertebrates					
Crustaceans					
IPAC	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	Vernal pool fairy shrimp	FT	Not Expected– the site lacks vernal pool habitat and there are no recorded observations within 10 miles of the project site.	Inhabits vernal pools from southern Oregon to southern California. Typically occur in grassland or wetland areas but are occasionally found in artificial pools created by roadside ditches.
Insects					
CNDDDB	<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	Crotch's bumble bee	SCE	High - the site has shrublands and grasslands that could support this species. There are multiple recent observations recorded within one mile of the project site.	Inhabits grasslands and shrublands. They can survive in slightly modified environments. They nest underground and require hotter and drier environments than other bumblebee species.
CNDDDB	<i>Cicindela hirticollis gravida</i>	Pacific hairy-necked beetle	G5/T2/S2	Not Expected – the site lacks moist, sandy beach habitats.	Scattered extant populations found along the California coast. Occurs in moist sand near the ocean. Found in swales behind coastal dunes and beaches above normal high tide limits.

Special Status Species Potentially Occurring in the Region in 2023 (Updated January 2024)					
Survey/ Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
CNDDDB & IPAC	<i>Danaus plexippus</i> <i>plexippus pop. 1</i>	Monarch butterfly	FC	High - the site has eucalyptus stands and there are recent observations of overwintering monarchs within one mile of the project site.	California overwintering population. Prefer to roost in eucalyptus, Monterey pines and Monterey cypress trees.
CNDDDB	<i>Eugnosta busckana</i>	Busck's gallmoth	G1G3/S2S3	Low — the site lacks coastal dune habitat, but host plants are abundant. Only recorded observation within 10 miles of project site was in 1990.	Typically occurs in coastal sand dunes. Host plant is California brittlebush (<i>Encelia californica</i>).

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5.4.4 Monarch Butterflies

Based on the CNDDDB/IPaC search, there is a known overwintering site for the migratory subspecies of the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1) within the BSA. The migratory subspecies of the monarch butterfly is listed as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) as of 2022. In 2014, USFWS reviewed the status of monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act and ruled in 2020 that the listing of this species is warranted-but-precluded. As a Candidate for listing, the monarch does not currently receive protection under the Federal ESA but may be proposed for listing and/or listed during the Project duration. At the time of assessment, the monarch is not listed under California ESA, but has the following state-level protections:

- Included in the CDFW list of Terrestrial and Vernal Pool of Invertebrates of Conservation Priority (CDFW, 2017).
- Listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need on California's State Wildlife Action Plan (CDFW, 2015a).
- Protected under California Fish and Game Code and California Code of Regulations § (1002) and California Code of Regulations Title 14 §§ 650 (a) and (b), which outlaw the possession or removal of monarchs without a Scientific Collection Permit from the CDFW.
- The California Coastal Commission designates all overwintering sites within the Coast Zone to be Environmental Sensitive Habitat Areas, though many Local Coastal Plans do not include this designation.

Monarch butterflies migrate to overwinter in California each November through February. In the 1980s millions of monarchs overwintered along California's coastline. But by the mid-2010s, the western monarch population had declined by over 90% (Pelton et al., 2016). Numbers of overwintering monarchs in California have changed dramatically in recent years, with counts of less than 2,000 in 2020, and greater than 200,000 in 2021 and 2022 (Xerces Society WMC, 2023). However, the species is still considered endangered and is a candidate for listing by the USFWS in 2024.

Monarch overwintering sites can be found in Santa Barbara County, with some sites hosting more than 20,000 butterflies. A monarch overwintering population occurrence within the Project boundary was recorded in the CNDDDB; however, the observation was from 1990 and presence of the species at the location was listed as "possibly extirpated" in 2020 (CDFW, 2023a). Even though Wildscape biologists did not observe any monarchs during the biological survey, there are iNaturalist observations of a monarch caterpillar within the Project site, a monarch butterfly within the BSA, and many more observations in nearby areas with similar habitats (iNaturalist, 2023). The entire project site also sits completely within the CDFW designated Areas of Conservation Emphasis.

5.4.5 Nesting Migratory Birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protects migratory birds, their nests, and eggs. Bird species protected under the provisions of the MBTA are identified by the List of Migratory Birds (50 CFR, Section 10.13). Any impact on an active migratory bird nest would be considered a violation of the MBTA. There are 146 species of birds recorded within a two-mile radius of the Project site (iNaturalist, 2023), 138 of which are protected by MBTA (USFWS, 2023c).

The Project site provides nesting habitats for many bird species. The larger trees throughout the BSA could be used by a variety of tree and cavity nesting birds such as raptors, crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), swallows (*Tachycineta* spp.), white-breasted nuthatches (*Sitta carolinensis*), western bluebirds (*Sialia mexicana*), wrens (Family Troglodytidae), and woodpeckers (Family Picidae). The surrounding shrubs could be nesting habitat for California scrub-jays (*Aphelocoma californica*), sparrows (Family Passerellidae), vireos (*Vireo* spp.), and warblers (Family Parulidae). There are also ground-nesting birds such as killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) observed on site. Constructed structures can also be nest sites. For example, house finch (*Haemorrhous mexicanus*), swallows (Family Hirundinidae), and phoebes (*Sayornis* spp.) often nest on building ledges, whereas raptors and crows can nest on telephone poles and streetlamps.

Wildscape biologists observed an active red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) nest with two to three chicks during the survey. Multiple other nests were observed but not confirmed as active due to the reconnaissance level of the survey. Raptors have potential to nest within the taller trees such as the eucalyptus, willows, and sycamores in and adjacent to the project site. Raptors that are likely to nest in the area include Cooper's hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*), red-tailed hawks, red-shouldered hawks (*Buteo lineatus*), American kestrels (*Falco sparverius*), and great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*).

Birds can usually fly away from harm during construction activities, but during the nesting season, nests, eggs, and chicks are in danger when construction activity begins. If construction occurs during breeding and nesting bird season, usually between February 1 through September 15 but as early as January 1 for some raptors, the loss of an active nest, especially that of a raptor, would be considered a violation of §§ 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code. Title 14, Chapter 1, § 251.1 also forbids unauthorized harassment of any game or non-game birds, which includes any intentional act which disrupts their breeding (e.g., mating, nest-building, brooding, and/or caring for young). Therefore, nesting bird surveys will be required prior to construction conducted on the Project site during bird breeding season (see Section 6.1).

5.4.6 Bats

Bats perform important ecological services, including pest control, pollination, and seed dispersal, throughout the world and are good indicators of environmental health. The majority of bat species in southern California are insectivorous and help to control populations of mosquitoes and other potential insect pests. Several species of bats occur within Santa Barbara County, including six SSC species observed within 10 miles of the BSA (CDFW, 2023a), and some of which are known to roost in trees and structures in urbanized areas (Pierson et al., 2002). Specific habitat assessments for bats were not performed during the reconnaissance-level surveys for this assessment; however, it is reasonable to expect that some species of bats may

use vegetation and/or structures within the BSA as daytime, nighttime, hibernation, and/or maternity roosts.

Project activities, especially those involving the demolition of existing buildings and/or removal of mature trees, could result in direct injury or mortality of bats and a loss of roosting habitat.

5.5 Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife corridors are strips of natural habitat which connect other habitat areas otherwise separated by development, roads, or agriculture. Inclusion and protection of wildlife corridors are important components of Project design, as these areas enable dispersal movements and gene flow among wildlife populations within and adjacent to urban areas (Aziz and Rasidi, 2014). The Project site is fragmented by existing development and surrounded by residential development to the north, east, west, and south. However, approximately 200 acres of undeveloped grassland, oak canyon, and riparian habitats within the San Marcos Foothills Preserve border the northeastern corner of the BSA, across Via Chaparral and State Route 154 (Watershed Environmental, 2014). The San Marcos Foothills Preserve, located in the foothills of the Santa Ynez Mountains, supports a diverse fauna, including sensitive bird, reptile, and amphibian species, and larger mammals, such as mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), coyotes (*Canis latrans*), bobcats (*Lynx rufus*), and mountain lions (*Felis concolor*; Watershed Environmental, 2014).

Based on reconnaissance-level vegetation mapping at the site (Figure 7), there are approximately 176 acres of undeveloped land within the Project Site, and an additional 68 acres of undeveloped land in the 500-foot buffer area comprising the remainder of the BSA. (). Within residential and urban areas, roads, washes, parks, and cemeteries or other open spaces, such as those found throughout the BSA, are considered local movement corridors. These areas support residential wildlife and domesticated animals, which may contribute to the prey base for predators.

There are also multiple riparian corridors that lead into and pass through the Project site, which could be movement corridors for mammals such as raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), rabbits (*Sylvilagus* spp.), and opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*) that form a prey base for larger predators in the adjacent foothills and mountains. While the site is unlikely to be used as a migration corridor for larger wildlife, as it does not provide a connection to other substantial areas of suitable habitat, the Project site likely functions as a local movement corridor and provides additional feeding habitat for wildlife species in the BSA.

5.6 Environmentally Sensitive Habitat

As defined in the Santa Barbara County Land Use Development Code (2008), an Environmentally Sensitive Habitat [ESH] is an “area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem, and that could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments.”

The BSA comprises ESH areas designated by the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan (EGVCP) in 2015. ESH designated in the plan includes but is not limited to riparian woodlands including riparian mixed hardwood and California sycamores, coastal sage scrub, chaparral,

and oak woodlands. The 2023 biological assessment survey confirmed the presence of ESH within the BSA; not all of the mapped ESH is in pristine condition.

5.6.1 Riparian Habitats/Corridors

One ESH in the BSA is a fragmented riparian corridor that starts north of Cathedral Oaks Road in two tributaries. These tributaries are labeled as Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland by the USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI, 2023 [Figure 10]). They are culverted under Cathedral Oaks Road and merge into the main riparian channel. This channel is labeled Hospital Creek in the EGVCP, and also labeled as a Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland, which runs through the central campus to Calle Real. The culverted connections on the NWI are labeled as Riverine. The tributary is then culverted under the US 101 freeway into a debris and sediment management basin (Gensler, 2022) and continues south/southwest through the remainder of the BSA in a reinforced channel. Hospital Creek merges with Atascadero Creek near South Patterson Avenue, flows west, and discharges into the Pacific Ocean via Goleta Slough. Throughout its course, Atascadero Creek is occasionally channelized, but is sometimes a soft-bottom riparian corridor.

Within the BSA, the riparian corridor of Hospital Creek is fragmented and channelized in the southern part of the central campus and entirely channelized in the southernmost part of the campus. The habitat is intact in the northern central part of the campus where its vegetation community was determined to be coast live oak-arroyo willow woodland due to its mixed tree layer of oaks and riparian trees.

In the developed central part of the campus, Hospital Creek is directed through the parking lot of the Health Campus and lined with landscaped sycamores and planted coast live oaks. This area was described as California sycamore -coast live oak riparian woodland, although not fully intact. The banks are disturbed with non-native annual grasses, as well as other annual weeds directly adjacent to the road. There are also landscaped trees surrounding the water course.

In the southernmost part of the campus near the baseball fields, the channel is reinforced and filled with sediment where herbaceous non-native wetland species have grown as well as landscaped plantings. The habitat is not pristine through this section, however the water in the drainage provides habitat for wildlife species particularly aquatic birds. In the southwest corner, the waterway does not have a riparian canopy. Although it does not meet typical ESH criteria, it is still designated as ESH in the community plan (County of Santa Barbara, 2015).

Portions of the riparian corridor, including ephemeral drainages and wetland, may constitute Waters of the U.S. and/or State. Project-specific jurisdictional delineation assessments and/or surveys will be necessary prior to projects within the Calle Real campus to adequately assess and avoid aquatic resources and riparian ESH (see Sections 6.2 and 6.3).

5.6.2 Coastal Sage Scrub

The coastal sage scrub ESH is in the northeast corner of the property and expands outside of the Project site boundary into the 500-foot buffer. Due to access limitations, aerial imagery was reviewed for the northern portion of the ESH, which appears to be a disturbed drainage. The ESH has a few coast live oaks, but the surrounding area where it crosses into the Project site is a

eucalyptus woodland. The area to the east that is outside of the Project boundary but within the BSA is intact coastal sage scrub.

There are other ESHs on-site that are under the coastal sage scrub designation but were not mapped in the EGVCP. The different alliances characterized as coastal sage scrub within the BSA are described in Section 5.1 and shown on the vegetation communities map (Figure 7).

5.6.3 Oak Woodland and Individual Oak Trees

There are coast live oak woodland vegetation communities throughout the Project site. While they were not mapped in the EGVCP, they are considered to be ESH per the community plan definitions (County of Santa Barbara, 2015). Individual oak trees, particularly the valley oaks, are also protected by the County of Santa Barbara.

5.6.4 Eucalyptus Grove for Monarch Butterflies

In the northeastern and southeastern portions of the Project site there are eucalyptus groves that may support overwintering monarchs. The EGVCP includes the southeastern portion as a monarch butterfly site but does not map the northern portion (County of Santa Barbara, 2015). Overwintering populations of monarch butterflies have declined by nearly 90% over the last 10 years (Jepsen et al. 2015) and continue to be threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation. Without appropriate mitigation, habitat loss could result in a direct and cumulative significant impact. No new development or tree removal is proposed within either mapped stand of eucalyptus trees (Gensler, 2022), but the areas should not be disturbed during construction.

6.0 Potential Project Impacts and Assessment

Potential Project impacts to biological resources described in Section 5 are summarized in Table 6, according to the significance thresholds for biological resources from CEQA Appendix G, Section IV, and discussed in the sections below.

Table 6. Summary of Potential Project Impacts to Biological Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
(b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
(c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?		X		
(d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites?		X		
(e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		X		
(f) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		X		

The significance thresholds were evaluated with consideration of the local thresholds of significance provided in the County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development's Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual (2021).

Per the County of Santa Barbara guidelines, disturbances to habitats or species are deemed a **significant impact** if they:

- Substantially reduce or eliminate species diversity or abundance.
- Substantially reduce or eliminate quantity or quality of nesting areas.
- Substantially limit reproductive capacity through losses of individuals or habitat
- Substantially fragment, eliminate, or otherwise disrupt foraging areas and/or access to food sources.
- Substantially limit or fragment range and movement (geographic distribution or animals and/or seed dispersal routes)
- Substantially interferes with natural processes, such as fire or flooding, upon which the habitat depends.

The manual describes **less than significant impacts** to habitats that have little or no importance as such:

- Small acreages of non-native grassland if wildlife values are low.
- Individuals or stands of non-native trees if not used by important animal species such as raptors or monarch butterflies.
- Areas of historical disturbance such as intensive agriculture.
- Small pockets of habitats are already significantly fragmented or isolated, and degraded or disturbed.
- Areas of primarily ruderal species resulting from pre-existing human-caused disturbance.

Potential impact categories are discussed Sections 6.1 – 6.7 below, while mitigation measures for biological resources (**BR1 – BR12**) are described in detail in Section 7.

6.1 Threshold (a)

Would the Project 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 the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Several special status species occur or may occur within the BSA. As described in Section 5.4.1, one special status plant, the California walnut (*Juglans californica*, CRPR 4.3) was observed within the BSA during the 2023 spring field surveys. Additionally, 12 special status plants were determined to have moderate to high potential of occurrence within the Project site (Table 4). While most of these species have CRPRs of 4.2 or 4.3, indicating that they are ‘watch list’ species with limited distribution and low to moderate threat levels in California, four species with high potential to occur are on CRPR list 1B, considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere (CNPS, 2023b).

Improvements proposed in the Calle Real Master Plan (Gensler, 2022) are sited within developed areas, outside of the chaparral, coastal sage scrub, woodland, and/or riparian vegetation communities where most special status plants are likely to occur (Table 4, Figure 7). However, adjacent vegetation and vegetation communities may be temporarily impacted by work areas, staging areas, etc.

As described in section 5.4.3, two special status wildlife species, the yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), a CDFW Species of Special Concern, and the Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), a CDFW Watch List species, were observed within the BSA during the 2023 spring field surveys. Fourteen additional wildlife species were determined to have moderate to high potential to occur within the Project site (Table 5).

Special status wildlife species and avian species protected under the MBTA are expected to occur primarily in the natural vegetation communities within the Project site (Table 5), outside of the proposed areas of permanent impact. However, many species are highly mobile and may use or traverse more developed areas and/or non-native landscaped vegetation.

As the Project is currently proposed, most demolition and construction activities will occur within the development footprints of pre-existing buildings and parking areas. As such, few permanent impacts to special status plant species or sensitive wildlife habitat are anticipated. However, several measures are recommended to mitigate potential impacts in areas where new construction will expand the existing development footprint and/or construction may temporarily impact sensitive species through increased human activity, traffic, noise, or dust, or result in direct take of wildlife species.

Prior to commencement of any Project improvement, a qualified biologist shall conduct a habitat assessment to assess the potential for special status species to occur within or adjacent to the proposed construction footprint, including temporary work areas such as staging areas and areas of ingress and egress (**BR1**). Within impact areas comprising potentially suitable habitat for special status species, the appropriate protocol level surveys for wildlife (**BR2**) and plants (**BR3**) shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. These surveys will assist in determining if special status species are present at the site and if species-specific permits and mitigation measures are required for work in that area.

If special status species are present, or likely to occur within project impact areas, a Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan will be developed in consultation with the appropriate agencies (USFW and/or CDFW), which will include required pre-construction surveys, monitoring, avoidance measures, and mitigation (**BR4**).

Bats

Several species of bats occur within Santa Barbara County, including six SSC recorded within 10 miles of the BSA (CDFW, 2023a), some of which are known to roost in trees and structures in urbanized areas (Pierson et al., 2002). Specific habitat assessments for bats were not performed during the reconnaissance-level surveys for this assessment; however, it is reasonable to expect that some species of bats may use vegetation and/or structures within the BSA as daytime, nighttime, hibernation, and/or maternity roosts.

Project activities, especially those involving the demolition of existing buildings and/or removal of mature trees, could result in direct injury or mortality of bats and a loss of roosting habitat. Implementation of specific measures for avoidance and protection of bats (**BR5**) shall be required where desk surveys and habitat assessments indicate potential bat roosting habitat.

Breeding and Nesting Birds

Nesting birds protected under state and federal law may be impacted by construction, if construction takes place during the typical nesting season of February 1 through September 15, but as early as January 1 for some raptors. The proposed project could affect nesting birds through vegetation modification, increased human activity, noise, and artificial lighting, dust, and ground disturbance. However, these potential impacts can be mitigated through timing of construction activities, or by preconstruction breeding and nesting bird surveys and avoidance (**BR6**).

In addition to focused or protocol-level surveys and avoidance measures that may be required for special status species and other sensitive wildlife, site clearance shall be conducted immediately before the start of initial construction activities at a particular area of impact (**BR7**) and a qualified biologist shall monitor the work (**BR8**).

With the implementation of these measures, the level of Project impacts to special status species would be less than significant.

6.2 Threshold (b)

Would the Project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

The Calle Real Master Plan includes proposed demolition, renovation, and new construction at multiple locations within 500 ft. of Hospital Creek, which is designated ESH (Gensler, 2022). The potential for permanent project-related impacts to ESH is greatest along a portion of California sycamore-coast live oak riparian woodland just north of U.S. Route 101, where the construction footprint of a new building extends beyond the footprint of existing buildings (Figures 7 and 11). Some riparian vegetation may be removed or permanently encroached upon by the expanded development footprint. Additionally, construction activities and temporary staging areas may cause temporary impacts, such as erosion, run-off, and debris deposition, to the riparian corridor at this and other locations.

Riparian habitat and other ESH shall be identified during the literature review and habitat assessment (**BR1**) completed for each individual project. Additionally, a jurisdictional delineation of Hospital Creek and other aquatic features occurring within 500 ft. of project impact areas shall be performed to identify potential Waters of the U.S. and State, as well as riparian areas under the jurisdiction of CDFW, to adequately assess and avoid potential impacts to sensitive riparian habitat (**BR9**). If impacts cannot be avoided, a habitat restoration and/or replacement plan will be prepared and implemented such that no overall net loss of habitat results from the development (**BR10**).

In the northeastern corner of the Project site, where oak woodland and coastal sage scrub ESH occur, the new building footprint for the Fire Department Headquarters appears to be within the existing developed area. No permanent impacts to ESH are anticipated in this area, however, required habitat assessments, surveys, site clearance, and monitoring shall be performed to identify and avoid potential impacts to sensitive species that may occur in adjacent areas or pass through the work area (**BR1-BR8**).

In the northeastern and southeastern portion of the Project site there are eucalyptus groves that may support overwintering monarch butterflies. Overwintering populations of monarch butterflies have declined by nearly 90% over the last 10 years (Jepsen et al. 2015) and continue to be threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation. Without appropriate mitigation, habitat loss could result in a direct and cumulative significant impact. No new development or tree removal is proposed within either mapped stand of eucalyptus trees in the BSA (Gensler, 2022), but the areas should not be disturbed during construction. Through the initial habitat assessment, focused surveys, and special status species avoidance and protection plans required by measures **BR1**, **BR2**, and **BR4**, potential impacts to sensitive monarch overwintering habitat can be avoided and/or mitigated.

6.3 Threshold (c)

Would the Project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

There are federally – and/or state-protected wetlands within the BSA. During the biological survey, biologists found frogs and tadpoles and hydrophytic vegetation in standing waters on the northwestern corner of the BSA, outside of the project boundary. This wetland is more than 500 ft away from Project impact areas currently depicted in the Calle Real Master Plan (Gensler, 2022). However, not all aquatic features, including but not limited to wetlands, streams, drainages, etc., within the BSA were surveyed and there may be other wetland habitats, streams, or riparian corridors within the Project site that could be impacted by project activities. Additionally, detailed specifications of each proposed demolition, renovation, and/or construction site, including staging areas and temporary impact zones, were not available at the time of analysis.

Project activities occurring in or near wetlands or other jurisdictional waters may impact the quality of the waters through physical disturbance and the discharge of sediment, debris, and pollutants. Project activities may also impact the function of the waters through disposal of soil and other construction materials, excavation, placement of structures within the waterway, and changes in the surrounding landscape that could alter the quantity or quality of water flow.

Due to uncertainties in the status of the wetlands on site and impact of specific improvements, a jurisdictional delineation of any aquatic feature identified during the initial habitat assessment (**BR1**) to be within 500 ft of an impact area shall be performed (**BR9**). Waters of the U.S., Waters of the State, and streams and riparian habitat providing resources for fish and wildlife delineated within the project area shall require coordination and possibly permitting with the appropriate agency or agencies: USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW, respectively. Compensatory

mitigation to offset temporary and permanent impacts to jurisdictional waters, including federally or state-protected wetlands, shall be determined in consultation with the appropriate agency or agencies (BR10).

6.4 Threshold (d)

Would the Project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Fragmented by development, and bordered by highly developed residential areas, roads, and freeways, the Project site does not constitute a significant migration or habitat connectivity corridor. However, undeveloped open spaces, riparian corridors, and even landscaped vegetation likely provides local movement corridors for smaller wildlife. The main riparian corridor through the Project site (Hospital Creek), is divided by a wide barrier consisting of a busy road, Highway 101, and a railway, making wildlife crossings to the southern portion very difficult. The northern part of the Project site is better connected to undeveloped habitats outside of the site boundaries, so it could be considered a wildlife corridor (Beier et al., 2007).

As discussed in Section 6.2, Project activities, especially where new construction expands the development footprint, may impact sensitive California sycamore -coast live oak riparian woodland along Hospital Creek. Wildlife movements and migration within this habitat may also be impacted. New construction may result in the direct loss or degradation of riparian vegetation or indirectly impact the habitat and wildlife movement through increased noise, vehicle traffic, artificial light, decreased water quality due to run-off during construction activities, and potential introduction or spread of invasive non-native species. Mitigation measures to protect sensitive species using movement corridors (BR1-BR8), to avoid impacts to water features (BR9), to maintain and/or enhance native riparian vegetation in the nearby areas (BR10), and to minimize the impacts of artificial lighting (BR11) will be applied to reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

6.5 Threshold (e)

Would the Project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Policy ECO-EGV-4.1 of the Eastern Goleta Community Plan (County of Santa Barbara, 2015) states that existing trees in Eastern Goleta Valley shall be preserved to the maximum extent possible, with the prioritization of protected trees. The EGVCP defines protected trees as: “mature native, naturalized, or roosting/nesting trees that are healthy, structurally sound, and have grown into the natural stature particular to the species.” While a full arborist survey was not conducted during the biological resource survey, native tree species, including coast live oaks, valley oaks, California walnuts, California sycamores, arroyo willow, and red willows were observed within the BSA. Additionally, eucalyptus and other non-native trees are considered protected if they provide important nesting and roosting habitat for raptors, monarch butterflies, and other wildlife species.

Though most Project activities would be sited within the footprint of the existing campus, exact design and specifications of each improvement were not available to fully assess whether any protected trees, which occur both in natural vegetation communities and landscaped areas, would be removed or encroached upon. Some protected trees may be vulnerable to project impacts if they are within or adjacent to areas of temporary or permanent impacts. Specifically, ingress and egress areas may impact surrounding native trees, where vehicles and/or heavy equipment may drive within canopy driplines and cause soil compaction. The potential for permanent project-related impacts to protected trees is greatest along a portion of California sycamore-coast live oak riparian woodland just north of U.S. Route 101, where the construction footprint of a new building extends beyond the footprint of existing buildings (Figures 7 and 11). California sycamores and/or other native trees may be removed, limbed, or otherwise encroached upon by the expanded development footprint.

To mitigate potential impacts to native trees and adhere with the EGVCP and other local policies, an arborist report and tree protection and mitigation plan shall be prepared (**BR12**). If impacts to trees (including, but not limited to, trimming or removal) are proposed in the final design, a certified arborist will inventory all trees that may be affected by a project within the Calle Real Master Plan Area prior to final project approval. In addition, a protected tree mitigation and protection plan will also be required. Damaged trees shall be mitigated at a minimum 10:1 ratio. Therefore, Project impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

6.6 Threshold (f)

Would the Project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No impact.

The BSA does not appear to fall within the jurisdiction of any adopted Natural Community Conservation Plan or Habitat Conservation Plan (CDFW, 2023b; USFWS, 2023). Project activities are therefore not expected to conflict with the provisions of any such plan.

Local plans and ordinances, such as the County of Santa Barbara Land Use Development Code (2021) and East Goleta Valley Community Plan (2015) include provisions for the conservation of sensitive species and communities, which are discussed previously under Thresholds a – e.

6.7 Unanticipated Biological Resource Impacts

This evaluation of potential impacts to biological resources is based on Project plans included in the Calle Real Campus Master Plan (Gensler, 2022). As the exact construction footprint and specifications of individual improvements become available, additional temporary and permanent impacts to biological resources must be evaluated and potentially mitigated.

7.0 Mitigation Measures

7.1 BR1: Habitat Assessment Survey

Purpose:

To determine the presence of sensitive natural communities and habitat suitability for special status species within impact areas for individual projects.

Requirement:

A qualified biologist shall conduct a literature search, including a review of CNDDDB, IPaC, and current aerial imagery, to evaluate the potential of sensitive natural communities and/or special status species to occur within a specific project impact area. The biologist shall also review recent biological survey reports (within the preceding five years) for other projects within five miles of the project impact area.

Following the literature search, a qualified biologist shall conduct at least one biological reconnaissance-level survey to identify and map vegetation communities and assess potential habitat for the likelihood of supporting special status species in and within 500 ft of the project construction footprint, including temporary work and other temporary impact areas. The biologist conducting the survey shall be familiar with the habitat requirements, vegetation types, and appropriate timing of habitat assessments for each special status species with a potential to occur at the site.

If suitable habitat for a special status species is observed or otherwise recorded within the project impact areas, the County will consult with CDFW and/or USFWS to determine the additional surveys, take avoidance measures, and permitting that may be required.

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare a report of the literature search and reconnaissance-level survey results, including updated figures of vegetation communities that depicts the locations of sensitive natural communities and/or suitable habitats for special status species, known locations of recorded special-status species from the CNDDDB, IPaC, and citizen science groups, waters of the U.S. and State, including riparian habitat, nearest to the project impact areas, and other figures that are necessary to support the finding of the reconnaissance survey report. The report shall also include any observations of special status plants or wildlife within the habitat assessment survey area, and shall answer the threshold questions in CEQA Appendix G, Section IV, and will be used to support any CEQA document, including addendums, that are required for project and permitting approval.

Timing:

A qualified biologist shall submit the findings of the literature review and reconnaissance-level survey to the County as part of an individual project application. Subsequent focused and/or protocol surveys (BR2 – B3) and resulting agency consultations shall occur prior to final project approval.

Monitoring:

The County shall ensure that a recent literature review and reconnaissance-level survey report is submitted and reviewed prior to final project approval. The County shall review and confirm that all recommendations for the protection of sensitive natural communities and special status species, including additional focused surveys, are completed prior to the issuance of a grading permit.

7.2 BR2: Focused Surveys for Special Status Wildlife

Focused and/or protocol level surveys are recommended for wildlife species with potential to occur within or adjacent to a specific project area if suitable habitat is observed within or adjacent to project permanent or temporary impact areas at any time.

Focused surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the appropriate techniques and timing for the species of interest. If the CDFW and/or USFWS require species-specific collection or survey permits, including Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), the qualified biologist shall possess the required permits/MOUs in good standing. If the CDFW and/or USFWS provide survey protocols or guidance for detecting certain species of interest, the qualified biologist must follow these protocols.

Purpose:

To determine the presence/absence of special status wildlife species for avoidance of project-related impacts.

Requirement:

Where literature searches and reconnaissance-level biological surveys (BR1) indicate that individual project impact areas encroach upon potentially suitable habitat for special status species, a qualified biologist shall conduct focused surveys for the potentially-occurring species, utilizing agency-recommended survey protocols for applicable species. The timing of surveys is usually species-specific. The qualified biologist should consult with the appropriate resource agency prior to conducting such surveys.

If the presence of a special status species is documented within the project impact area, the County will consult with the appropriate agency or agencies (CDFW and/or USFWS) for recommended take avoidance measures and additional permitting requirements and prepare a Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection plan (BR 4).

While focused and protocol surveys following the CDFW and/or USFWS protocols are considered most effective for detecting the target species, they may fail to detect individuals. The County may choose to assume presence of certain species based on the presence of high-quality habitat in lieu of, or in addition to, presence/absence surveys.

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare a report documenting the results of the survey(s), including a map depicting locations of the suitable habitats and individuals observed.

Timing:

Protocol level surveys and resulting agency consultations shall occur prior to the approval and/or the issuance of a grading permit for any project sites within the Calle Real Master Plan.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The qualified biologist shall report the results of any protocol surveys to the County and appropriate regulatory agencies, following all applicable protocol standards. If special status species are documented within or adjacent to Project impact areas, the County will consult with CDFW and USFWS for recommended take avoidance measures and required permitting.

7.3 BR3: Focused Surveys for Special Status Native Plants and Sensitive Natural Communities

Purpose:

Avoidance of impacts to populations of special status native plants that may occur within the BSA.

Requirement:

Prior to the approval of projects proposed within the Calle Real Master Plan Area, a qualified biologist shall conduct a thorough, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities within the footprint of potential disturbance and contiguous adjoining habitat areas. The surveys should follow CDFW *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities* (CDFW, 2018).

The qualified biologist shall prepare a botanical survey report documenting the results of the survey(s). The report shall include survey dates, methods, specific geographic locations of any special status plants and/or natural communities observed, population counts or estimates, and additional information about phenology and site characteristics. The report shall also include an assessment of potential impacts to special status plants and natural communities and recommended measures to mitigate potential impacts.

If impacts cannot be avoided, a habitat restoration plan to mitigate project impacts will be required (see BR6) and developed in consultation with the appropriate regulatory agencies.

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare a botanical survey report as described above, per the CDFW guidelines (2018).

Timing:

The botanical field surveys should be conducted at times of year when potentially occurring special status plants would be evident and identifiable, e.g., during flowering or fruiting. Multiple visits, strategically placed throughout flowering/fruiting periods of potentially

occurring species, are typically required. Table 4 includes the bloom period of potentially occurring special status plant species.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The qualified biologist shall report the results of any protocol surveys to the County and appropriate regulatory agencies, according to the protocol standards. If special status species are documented within or adjacent to Project impact areas, the County will consult with CDFW and USFWS for recommended take avoidance measures and required permitting. A Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan (see BR4, below) documenting appropriate protective measures and required monitoring shall be required.

7.4 BR4: Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan

Purpose:

Protection of any special-status species occurring within or moving through the project impact areas.

Requirement:

If the literature search and reconnaissance-level biological survey (BR1) and/or subsequent surveys (BR2 and BR3) indicate the presence of a special status species, a qualified biologist shall notify the appropriate regulatory agencies (CDFW and/or USFWS) and prepare a Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan.

Depending on the site and project specifications, the plan may include the following elements:

- Timing considerations for temporal avoidance
- Required pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring
- Humane relocation and exclusion methods to remove and/or exclude wildlife from the project site
- Translocation plan and procedures for special status plants
- Protective fencing to avoid impacts to plants or wildlife habitat that will remain on site
- Best Management Practices for minimizing the effects of noise, human activity, dust, lighting, and ground vibrations during construction
- On and/or off-site mitigation measures to compensate for lost or disturbed habitat
- Required post-mitigation monitoring

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare the Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan, as described above, and submit it to the County and the appropriate regulatory agencies (CDFW and/or USFWS).

Timing:

The Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan shall be submitted to and approved by the County and appropriate regulatory agencies (CDFW and/or USFWS) prior to the issuance of a grading permit.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The County shall review the Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan and ensure that all applicable mitigation measures are implemented prior to, during, and post-completion of project activities, as required.

7.5 BR5: Bat Avoidance and Protection

Purpose:

Avoidance of impacts to bats that may occur within the BSA.

Requirement:

Prior to the approval and/or the issuance of a grading permit for any project sites within the Calle Real Master Plan, a qualified bat biologist familiar with bat species and their habitat requirements shall conduct a daytime habitat assessment of the project impact area. The biologist will identify potential daytime, nighttime, wintering, and hibernation roost habitat within the project footprint and a 100-foot buffer. If suitable habitat is observed, the qualified biologist shall conduct appropriately timed bat surveys, assisted by acoustic recognition technology (e.g. AnaBat or similar), to identify bat species and potential roost and maternity roost sites within the survey area.

Based on the survey results, a Bat Avoidance and Protection Plan (BAPP), shall be developed in consultation with the CDFW. Depending on bat species present, the project site, and project specifications, the plan may include the following elements:

- Required pre-construction surveys and monitoring
- Timing considerations for temporal avoidance
- Humane relocation and exclusion methods to remove and/or exclude bats from roosting sites within structures or vegetation slated for removal
- Protective fencing or signage to avoid impacts to potential roosting habitat that will remain on site
- Best Management Practices for minimizing the effects of noise, human activity, dust, lighting, and ground vibrations on bats
- On and/or off-site mitigation measures to compensate for lost roosting habitat, including installation of alternative roosting habitat.
- Mitigation monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of bat-related mitigation

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare and submit to the County a report documenting the results of the habitat assessment and recommendations for additional surveys, if they are warranted. The bat biologist conducting nighttime surveys and/or passive acoustic monitoring shall provide to the County and CDFW a report of survey results, including any species detected and a map of identified roost sites.

If suitable habitat is present, the qualified biologist shall submit a BAPP to the County and CDFW.

Timing:

The daytime habitat assessment can be conducted at any time of the year. Additional surveys and monitoring shall be conducted at the timing recommended by the bat specialist based on the potential habitat observed and species likely to occur.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The County shall review the BAPP and ensure that all applicable mitigation measures are implemented prior to, during, and post-completion of project activities, as required. If the installation of alternative habitat is required to offset the loss of roosting sites, a qualified biologist shall monitor the alternative habitat for the duration recommended in the BAPP.

7.6 BR6: Breeding and Nesting Bird Avoidance, Survey, and Protection

Nesting birds protected under state and federal law may be impacted by construction, if construction takes place during the typical breeding and nesting season of February 1 through September 15, but as early as January 1 for some raptors. The proposed project could affect breeding and nesting birds through vegetation modification, increased human activity, noise, and artificial lighting, dust, and ground disturbance. However, these potential impacts can be mitigated through timing of construction activities, or by survey and avoidance.

Purpose:

Protection of breeding and nesting birds.

Requirement:

1. Initial grubbing, grading, and construction should be scheduled to occur outside of the nesting bird season as defined by the CDFW, if feasible. Regardless of timing, a qualified biologist will conduct nesting bird surveys three to seven days before any trimming or clearing of vegetation, or ground-disturbing activities are scheduled to occur. This will reduce the potential for the project to adversely affect breeding and nesting birds.
2. The biologist must be familiar with nesting ecology and chronology of migratory species and, if required, hold any required permits that allow them to survey for nests of threatened, and endangered species.
3. If initial vegetation clearance, grubbing, grading, and construction activities are scheduled to occur during the CDFW-defined nesting season, qualified biologists will conduct a breeding and nesting bird survey within the BSA no more than 7 days and no less than 3 days before construction activities (including, but not limited to, staging, and installation of security fencing) begin.
4. If the biologist determines that there are breeding activities and/or active nests within the BSA, and that these areas may potentially be affected by construction activities, the biologists will establish a 100- foot buffer for passerine nests and a 300-foot buffer for raptor nests.

5. The biologist should clearly mark the buffer area in the field in areas where it overlaps the proposed construction sites with high-visibility fencing (orange construction fencing or similar).
6. If the breeding and nesting bird survey does not identify breeding areas or nest sites that will be impacted by construction activities, then vegetation clearance, grubbing, and grading may proceed.
7. No work will occur within a nest buffer under any circumstance, unless authorized in writing by the CDFW, or until the qualified biologists have determined that the fledglings are no longer dependent on the nest, or until the biologists otherwise determine that the nesting cycle is complete, or the nest is inactive.
8. If the qualified biologists determine that a buffer reduction is feasible without affecting the nest or its occupants, they shall prepare and submit a letter requesting a reduction to the CDFW along with any necessary information and a statement of justification for the CDFW to make an informed decision whether or not to allow the reduction. CDFW buffer reduction approvals must be provided to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department, who will provide a copy to the qualified biologists.
9. In circumstances when activities are scheduled to occur between an original buffer and a reduced buffer, a qualified biologist should monitor the nest before, during, and after the activities, to ensure that the nest, or nesting behavior, is not being affected. If construction activities adversely affect a nest or its occupants, the biologist has the authority to stop work in the area and consult with the appropriate agencies to determine whether the original buffer should be replaced.
10. The only activities that shall be allowed between the original buffer and the reduced buffer are those that generate noise levels less than 60 dBA, the level of normal conversation, as measured at the nest site. The biologist shall record noise levels using a digital sound level meter (40 - 130 dB) every hour and has the authority to stop any activities that exceed 60 dBA if the biologist determines that it is affecting or has the potential to affect the outcome of a nest.
11. CDFW and the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department shall be notified immediately if project activities result in take.

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare a letter report documenting the findings of the preconstruction surveys, including surveys with negative results. This report shall be submitted to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department.

The biologist shall prepare daily monitoring logs documenting the results of the nesting bird surveys and monitoring. Daily logs shall be compiled into weekly monitoring reports, which shall include maps of each breeding and/or nest site, extent of applied buffers, and photos of each nest. The biologist shall submit nesting bird reports to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department, as described below (Monitoring and Reporting).

Timing:

If initial vegetation clearance, grubbing, grading, and construction activities are scheduled to occur during the CDFW defined nesting season, the biologist should conduct breeding and nesting bird surveys no more than 7 days and no less than 3 days prior to the commencement of construction activities, as described in this measure.

Monitoring and Reporting:

A qualified biologist shall monitor any active nests occurring within or adjacent to the Project work area at least weekly. The biologist shall compile weekly monitoring reports and submit them to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department, documenting the status of monitored nests. A Final Nesting Bird Monitoring Report will be prepared when construction is complete. This report will summarize all nesting bird monitoring activities, issues, and solutions that occurred during construction. This report shall be sent to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department at the end of the construction phase of the project.

7.7 BR7: Pre-Construction Survey and Site Clearance

Purpose:

Protection of any special status plant or wildlife species occurring within or moving through the area through avoidance and relocation.

Requirement:

A qualified biologist shall conduct a site clearance survey one to three days before any clearing, grubbing, or grading activities occur for areas of temporary and permanent disturbance associated with projects proposed on the campus. Grading activities shall occur no more than 3 days after site clearance occurs. If grading is discontinued for a period of more than 3 days, additional site clearance shall be required prior to restarting work.

Areas containing special-status species or habitat for special-status species, will be staked and flagged off as “No Entry/No Construction” areas to be avoided until construction is completed. If special status plants cannot be avoided, they shall be transplanted and/or replaced according to the Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan (BR4).

If special status wildlife are observed during the pre-construction survey and cannot be avoided, they shall be humanely moved off site by a qualified (and permitted, as necessary) biologist and subsequently excluded from the project impact area following the Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan (BR4).

If a special-status species is observed within areas of temporary or permanent impact and cannot be humanely relocated or legally relocated without a permit, then the qualified biologist will consult with the responsible agencies for the appropriate course of action.

Documentation:

The qualified biologist shall prepare a report documenting the pre-construction survey results and site clearance activities. The original and final locations of any wildlife or plant relocations will be recorded and mapped.

Timing:

The pre-construction survey and site clearance shall be conducted one to three days prior to the start of ground disturbance.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The County shall ensure that a pre-construction survey and site clearance are completed within three days prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. The qualified biologist shall submit a pre-construction survey report to the County. The County will provide this report to CDFW and/or USFWS, as required by any regulatory permits.

7.8 BR8: Biological Monitoring

Purpose:

Protection of any special status plant or wildlife species occurring within or moving through the area through avoidance and relocation during construction.

Requirement:

A qualified biologist shall be present each day during vegetation removal, grubbing, and grading to the first 24 inches of soil depth, and at least weekly during other construction activities to ensure that biological avoidance and minimization measures are implemented. If special status wildlife species are observed within the work area, work shall be halted until the animal leaves the area of its own volition, or is hand captured and relocated to suitable habitat outside of the work area by a qualified biologist.

If a special-status species is observed within areas of temporary or permanent impact and cannot be humanely relocated or legally relocated without a permit, then the qualified biologist will consult with the responsible agencies for the appropriate course of action.

Documentation:

The biological monitor shall prepare daily field notes of monitoring activities, which will be summarized in a final monitoring report when construction activities have been completed at a particular site. The date and original and final locations of any wildlife relocations shall be recorded and mapped.

Timing:

Monitoring shall be conducted daily during initial ground-disturbing activities and on a weekly basis during all other construction activities, unless greater frequency is required in a protection plan developed for special status species (BR4), bats (BR5), or nesting birds (BR6).

Monitoring and Reporting:

The County shall ensure that biological monitoring occurs as required by this mitigation measure, or as stipulated for the protection of special status species (BR4), bats (BR5), and/or nesting birds (BR6), whichever is most frequent. The biological monitor shall submit a final monitoring report to the County. The County will provide this report to CDFW and/or USFWS, as required by any regulatory permits.

7.9 BR9: Jurisdictional Delineation of Significant Water Features

Purpose:

Avoidance of impacts to Waters of the U.S. and State, and significant riparian habitat.

Requirement:

A qualified biologist shall conduct a jurisdictional delineation survey of all waters and wetlands within 500 ft. of specific project impact areas to determine and map the extent of USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW jurisdictional areas and to adequately assess potential impacts to waters of the U.S. and State, including riparian and wetland habitats. The delineation shall incorporate information from the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory, and other resources to identify potential water features and riparian areas. A field survey according to the guidelines provided in most recent versions of the documents listed below shall be conducted to determine the boundaries of wetlands and other waters that may qualify as Waters of the U.S. and/or the State.

- 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory, 1987),
- Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region, Version 2.0 (USACE, 2008),
- The National Ordinary High Water Mark Field Delineation Manual for Rivers and Streams: Interim Version (David et. al, 2021),
- A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) in the Arid West Region of the Western United States (Lichvar and McColley, 2008),
- The State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (SWRCB, 2021).

The surveyor will also map the limits of water features potentially under the jurisdiction of the CDFW, which are typically defined by the tops of the stream banks, or outer edge riparian vegetation, whichever is wider.

Documentation:

Based on the background research and field delineation survey, the biologist shall prepare a jurisdictional delineation report that includes a discussion of observed soils, vegetation, and hydrology used to delineate the boundaries of potential jurisdictional waters on the site. If detailed project plans are available, the jurisdictional delineation report shall include an impact analysis with estimated areas of temporary and permanent impacts to different jurisdictional areas. The jurisdictional delineation report shall be submitted to USACE, Los Angeles District Office, Central Coast RWQCB (Region 3), and CDFW South Coast Region (5) and used to determine the required permits for the work.

Timing:

The jurisdictional delineation shall be completed and required permits/authorization from the regulatory agencies shall be obtained prior to approval of grading plans for any project conducted pursuant to this EIR.

Monitoring and Reporting:

Additional monitoring and reporting may be required as conditions of regulatory permits.

7.10 BR10: Habitat Mitigation Plan

Purpose:

To offset the loss of habitat, including riparian habitat, due to development within the ESH or other sensitive areas.

Requirement:

In cases where adverse impacts to ESH or biological resources cannot be avoided after impacts have been minimized, compensatory mitigation shall be required. The County shall provide restoration and/or replacement habitat as compensatory mitigation such that no overall net loss of habitat results from the development. Per the EGVCP (County of Santa Barbara, 2015), a minimum replacement ratio of 2:1 shall be required to compensate for the destruction of native habitat areas or biological resources. The restoration and/or replacement habitat shall be 'in kind' (i.e., same type) and provide habitat of comparable or higher biological value than that which was lost. Onsite restoration of native habitat may include protection and enhancement of native vegetation and control of invasive non-native plants. Where onsite restoration is infeasible or not beneficial for long-term habitat preservation, offsite mitigation, in the form of an easement and/or restoration providing long-term preservation of an adequate quantity and quality of habitat shall be required.

The County shall develop a Habitat Mitigation Plan in consultation with all agencies that have jurisdiction over the biological resource damaged or lost. Components of the Plan shall include but are not limited to the locations and acreages of compensatory mitigation sites, habitat restoration and enhancement activities, mitigation success criteria, and a monitoring schedule.

Post construction site visits by biologists and/or arborists shall be required to check for any unanticipated impacts, loss of habitat and any impacts to trees.

Documentation:

The County shall include this measure as part of the proposed project.

Timing:

The Habitat Mitigation Plan should be submitted to and approved by the County and any other agencies with jurisdiction over the affected biological resource prior to final project approval.

Monitoring and Reporting:

The County shall ensure that monitoring of the mitigation site(s) is conducted at least annually for at least five years following initial mitigation implementation to track the progress of the site towards established success criteria and adjust maintenance activities accordingly. Annual monitoring reports shall be submitted to all agencies that have jurisdiction over the resource.

7.11 BR11: Low Impact Lighting Plan

Purpose:

Mitigate adverse impacts of artificial lighting on wildlife habitat use and movement in and adjacent to the Project site.

Requirement:

The County shall develop and implement a Low Impact Lighting Plan for proposed development to meet the security and safety needs of the site, while reducing impacts to wildlife.

The Plan should document measures taken to limit artificial lighting to areas and times it is needed, to shield lights to prevent casting light beyond desired areas, and to limit the duration night-time lighting through the use of timers and motion-sensors, when feasible to do so (Longcore et al. 2016).

Documentation:

The County shall include this measure as part of the proposed Project.

7.12 BR12: Arborist Report and Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan

Purpose:

To document protected trees on-site that may be impacted during construction; compensate for the removal of protected trees, minimize adverse impacts of development/construction activities encroaching within the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) of protected trees, and to prevent inadvertent or indirect impacts to trees outside of but adjacent to the disturbance area.

Requirement:

A certified arborist will survey trees that may be impacted during construction, prepare a Tree Report, and as needed, create the Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan.

- If impacts to trees (including, but not limited to, trimming or removal) are proposed in the final design, a certified arborist will inventory all trees that will be affected when an application for the development is submitted.
- The arborist will prepare a report and tree protection plan indicating locations of trees to be removed, trees that will be encroached upon, and trees outside of but adjacent to the construction footprint that require protective fencing to prevent inadvertent impacts.
- The report/plan will also indicate which trees will be transplanted and designated transplant and replacement planting locations for on-site mitigation.
- Onsite tree protection measures will be installed prior to start of construction activities.
- Removed or damaged protected trees shall be replaced at 10:1 ratio.

Documentation:

The County shall include this measure as part of any proposed project within the Calle Real Master Plan Area.

Timing:

Protective measures shall be installed after tree survey and report, and mitigation plan. Protective measures must be installed before construction and approved by an arborist.

Monitoring and Reporting:

Construction monitoring of trees that may or will be impacted shall occur to ensure compliance with the Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan. Long-term monitoring of impacted trees and/or trees transplanted or replaced with new plantings shall be performed in compliance with the Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan.

Table 7 summarizes potential impacts to biological resources and measures proposed to mitigate them.

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Table 7. Summary of Biological Resource Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Biological Resources Impacts	Impact Classification	Mitigation Measures
Impact BIO -A. The proposed Project could impact species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.	Less than significant with mitigation	BR1 (Habitat Assessment Survey) BR2 (Focused Surveys for Special Status Wildlife) BR3 (Focused Surveys for Special Status Plants) BR4 (Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan) BR5 (Bat Avoidance and Protection) BR6 (Nesting Bird Avoidance, Survey, and Protection) BR7 (Pre-Construction Survey and Site Clearance) BR8 (Biological Monitoring)
Impact BIO -B. The proposed Project could impact riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service.	Less than significant with mitigation	BR1 (Habitat Assessment Survey) BR9 (Jurisdictional Delineation) BR10 (Habitat Mitigation Plan)
Impact BIO-C. The proposed Project could impact state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.	Less than significant with mitigation	BR9 (Jurisdictional Delineation) BR10 (Habitat Mitigation Plan)
Impact BIO-D. The proposed Project could impact the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites.	Less than significant with mitigation	BR1 (Habitat Assessment Survey) BR2 (Focused Surveys for Special Status Wildlife) BR3 (Focused Surveys for Special Status Plants) BR4 (Special Status Species Avoidance and Protection Plan) BR5 (Bat Avoidance and Protection) BR6 (Nesting Bird Avoidance, Survey, and Protection) BR7 (Pre-Construction Survey and Site Clearance) BR8 (Biological Monitoring) BR9 (Jurisdictional Delineation) BR10 (Habitat Mitigation Plan) BR11 (Low Impact Lighting Plan)

Biological Resources Impacts	Impact Classification	Mitigation Measures
Impact BIO -E. The proposed Project could conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.	Less than significant with mitigation	BR12 (Arborist Report and Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan)
Impact BIO -F. The proposed Project does not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	No impact.	-

8.0 Conclusion

No state or federally listed threatened or endangered species were observed at the site during the 2023 survey. One species of special concern, the yellow warbler, was observed and one special status plant, the California walnut was observed. As the Project is currently proposed, most demolition, renovation, and construction activities will occur within footprints of existing structures, parking areas, and landscaped areas. As such, few permanent impacts to special status species or sensitive habitats are anticipated but areas of temporary impacts are unknown. However, several measures are recommended to mitigate potential impacts in areas where new construction may expand the existing development footprint and/or construction may temporarily impact sensitive species through increased human activity, traffic, noise, or dust, or result in direct take of wildlife species.

Recommended mitigation measures include reconnaissance-level biological surveys, focused surveys (as needed), and jurisdictional delineations of waters of the U.S. and State to determine the presence of special status species, ESH, protected trees, nesting birds, and potential Waters of the U.S. and/or State for each improvement proposed within the Calle Real Master Plan Area. Protection and mitigation plans shall also be required to avoid or offset impacts to sensitive resources detected at each project site. Incorporation of these measures would reduce potential Project impacts to a less than significant level.

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Figure 1

CALLE REAL CAMPUS MASTER PLAN Regional Project Location

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA



0 10 20
Miles

Wildscape
RESTORATION

Prepared May 2023

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Figure 2



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Figure 3

CALLE REAL CAMPUS BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT Local Vicinity

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

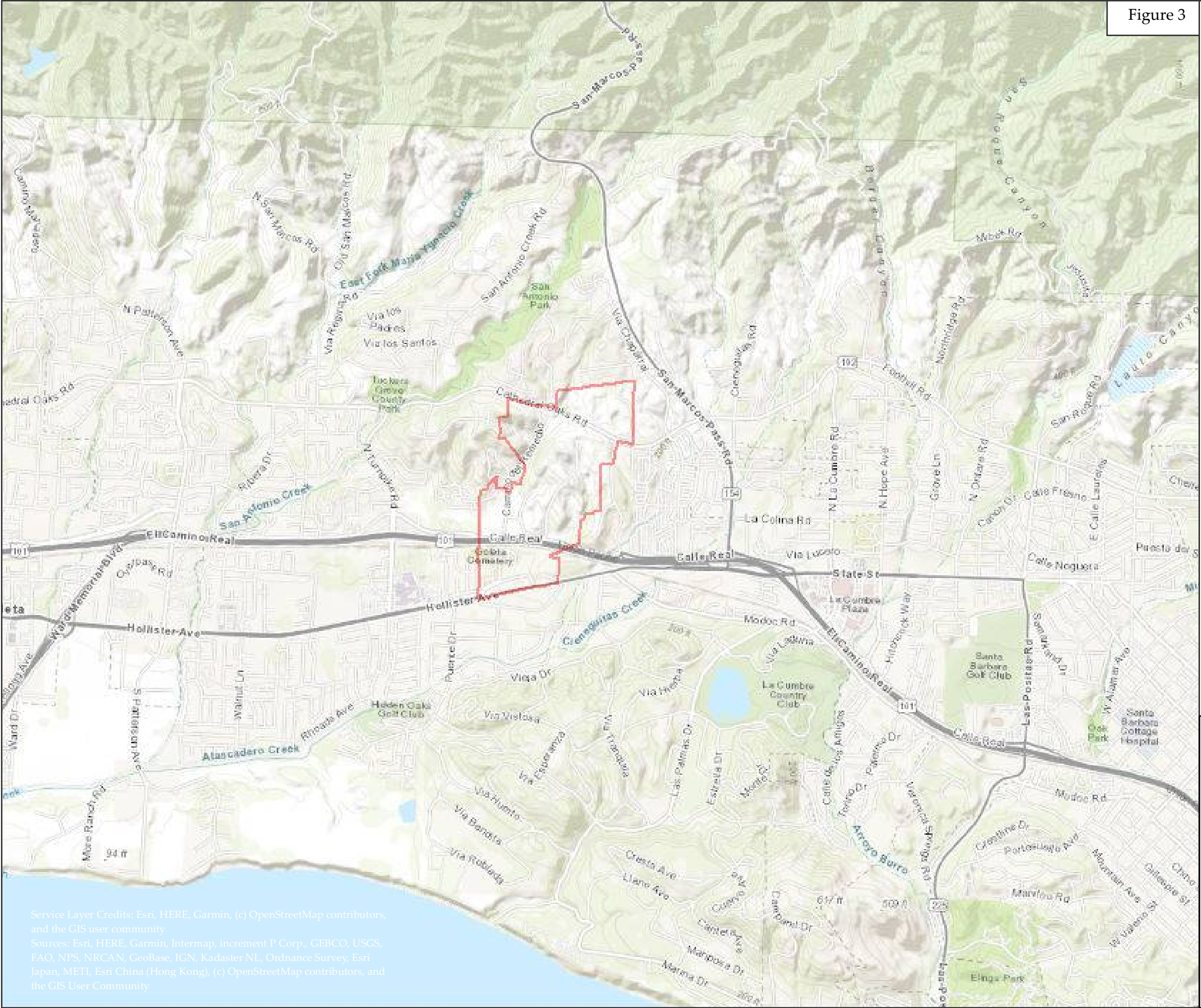
Project Boundary



0 0.65 1.3 Miles

Wildscape
RESTORATION

Prepared May 2023



Service Layer Credits: Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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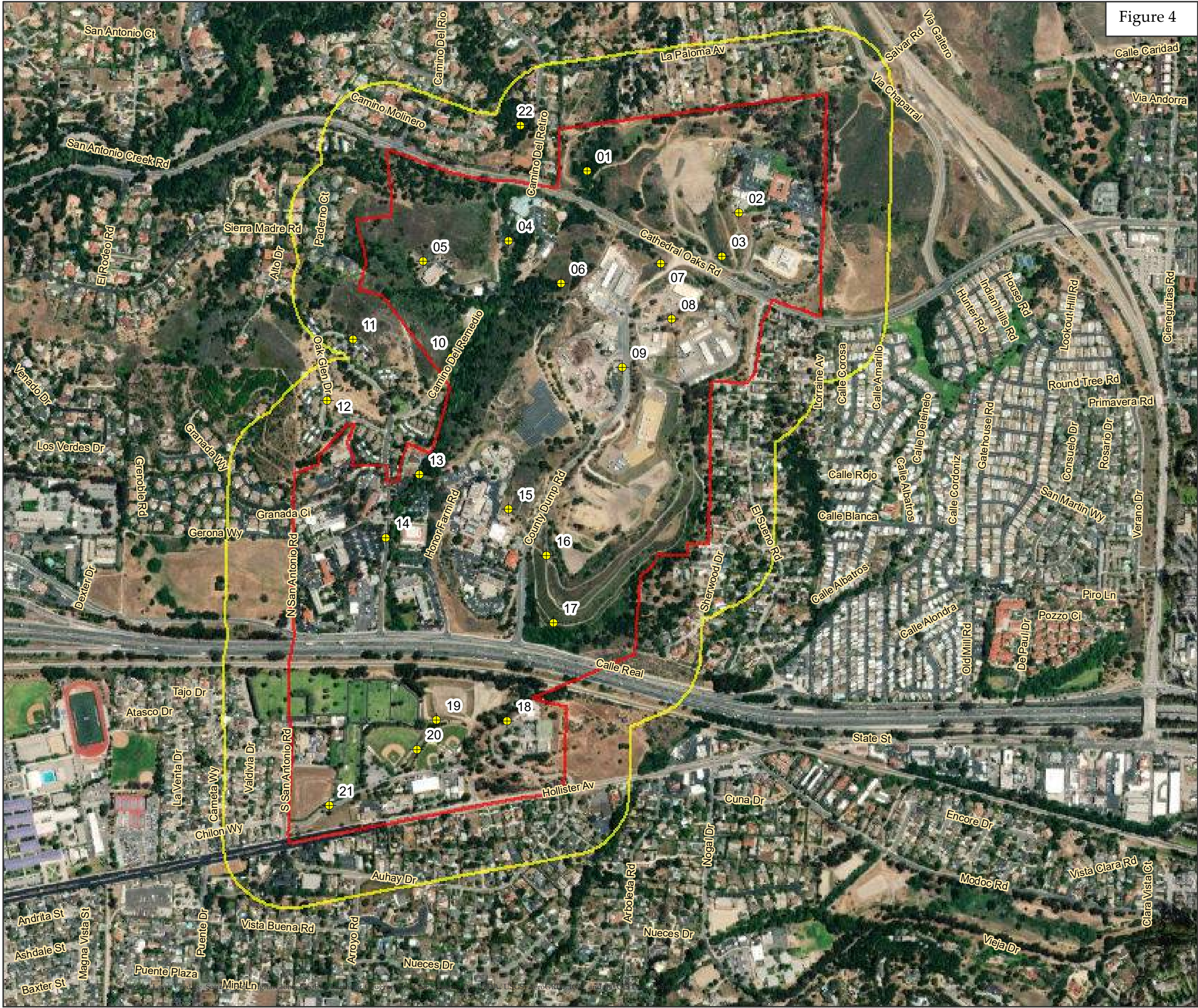


Figure 4

CALLE REAL CAMPUS BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT Project Map

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Photo Points

Project Boundary



500 ft Buffer



N



0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Wildscape
RESTORATION

Prepared May 2023

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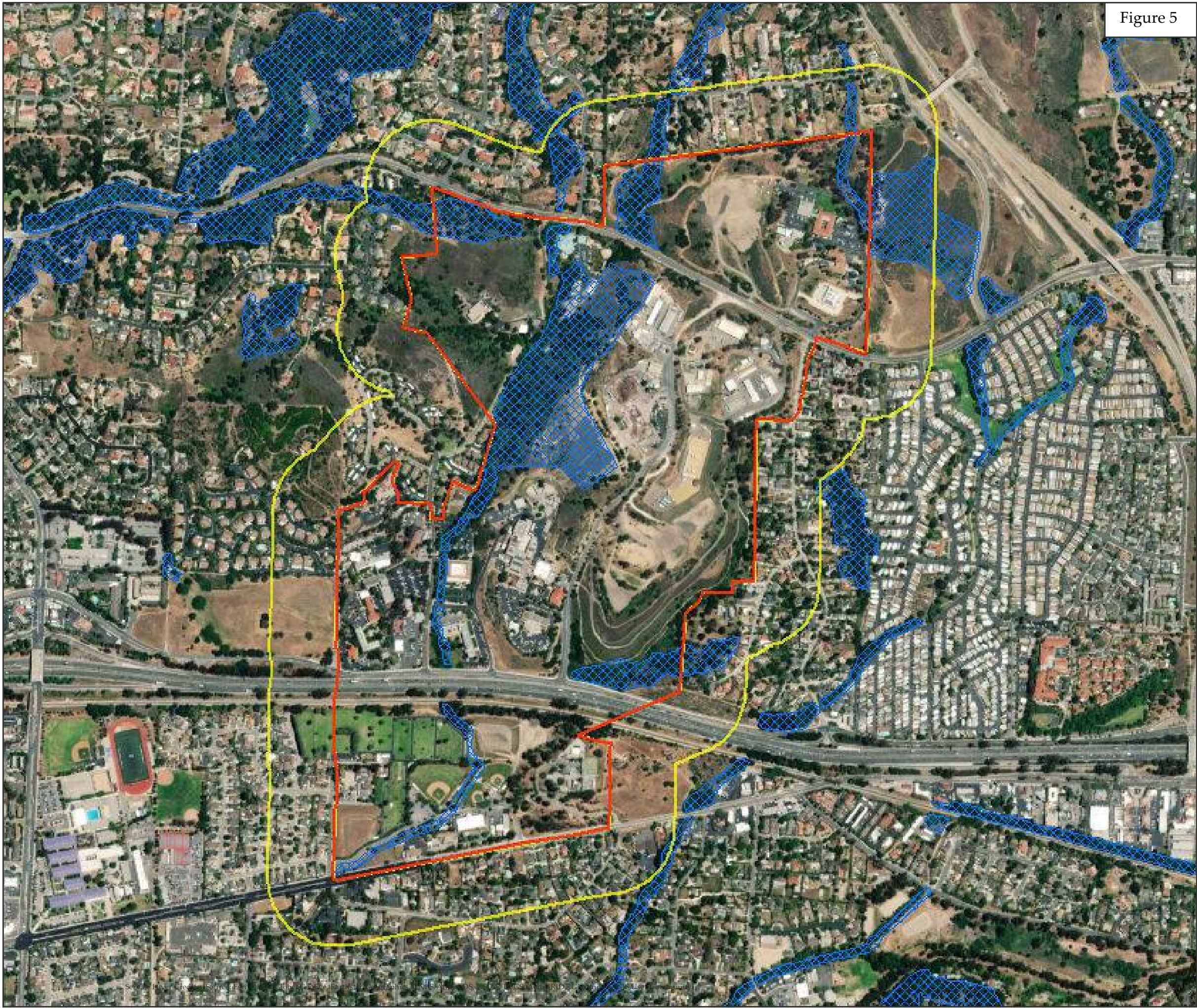


Figure 5

**CALLE REAL CAMPUS
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**
Santa Barbara County
Environmentally Sensitive
Habitat Map

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Project Boundary



500 ft Buffer



Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH)



Source: Santa Barbara County Land Use and Zoning Map

N

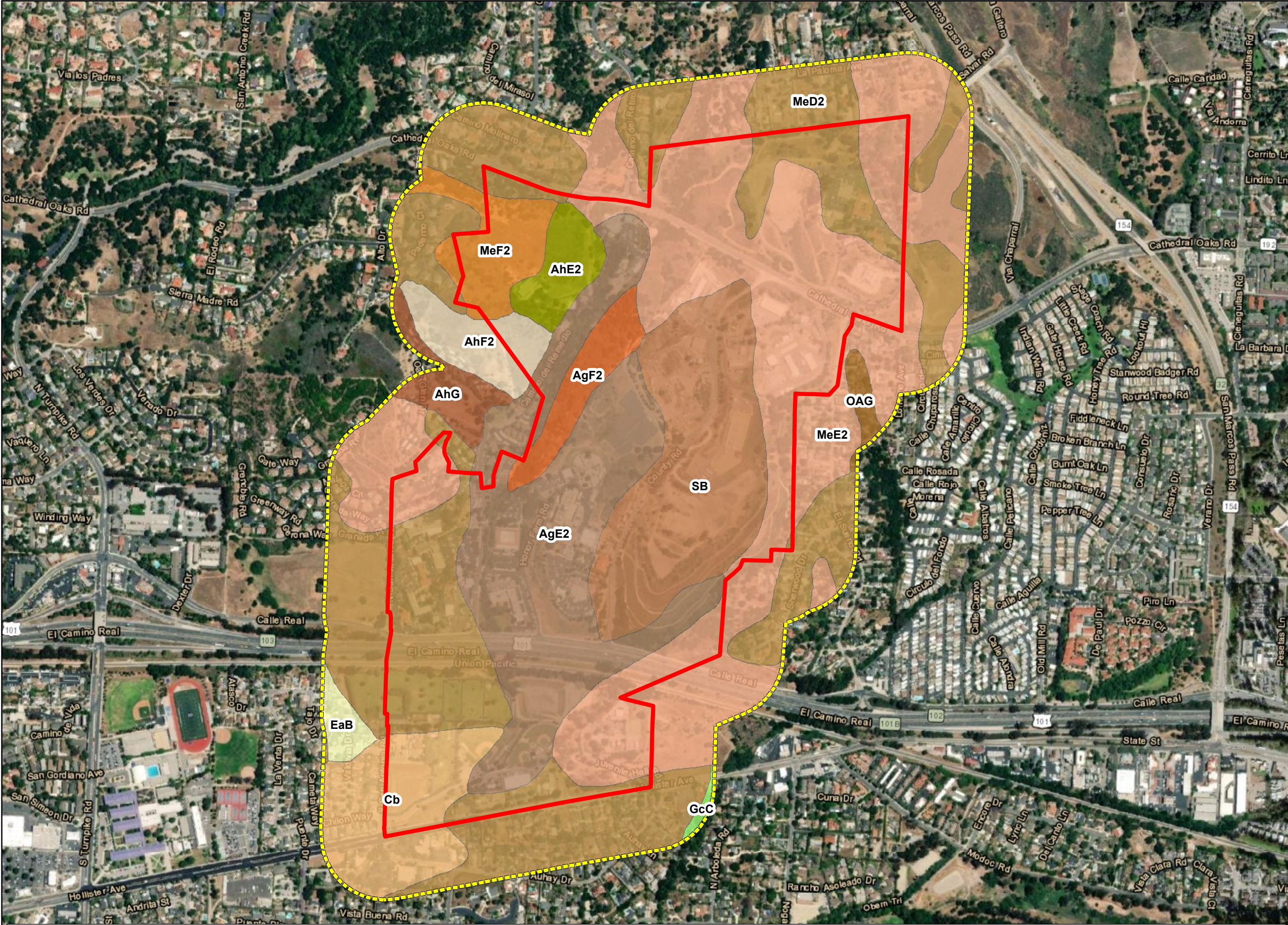


0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Wildscape
RESTORATION

Prepared May 2023

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Calle Real Campus Master Plan

Legend

Project Boundary

500ft Biological Study Area

USDA Soil Unit

AgE2_Arnold loamy sand, 15 to 30 percent slopes, eroded, MLRA 20

AgF2_Arnold loamy sand, 30 to 50 percent slopes, eroded

AhE2_Ayar clay, 15 to 30 percent slopes, eroded

AhF2_Ayar clay, 30 to 50 percent slopes, eroded

AhG_Ayar clay, 50 to 75 percent slopes

Cb_Camarillo, variant, fine sandy loam

EaB_Elder sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes, MLRA 14

GcC_Goleta fine sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes

MeD2_Milpitas-Positas fine sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes, eroded

MeE2_Milpitas-Positas fine sandy loams, 15 to 30 percent slopes, eroded

MeF2_Milpitas-Positas fine sandy loams, 30 to 50 percent slopes, eroded

OAG_Orthents, 50 to 75 percent slopes

SB_Sanitary landfill areas

Key Map

Scale: 1:9,000

USDA Soils

Figure 6

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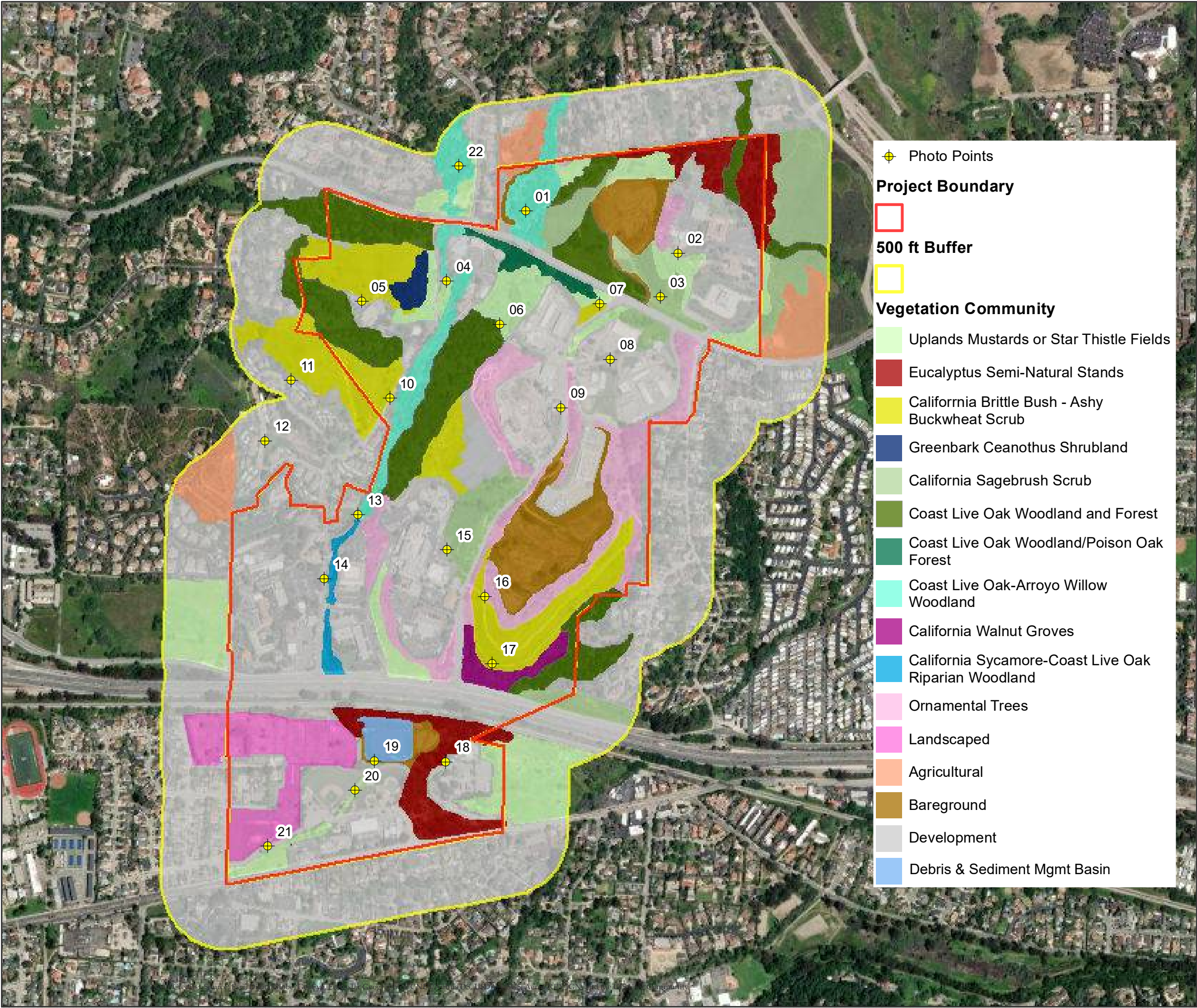
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Figure 7

CALLE REAL CAMPUS
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Vegetation Communities

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

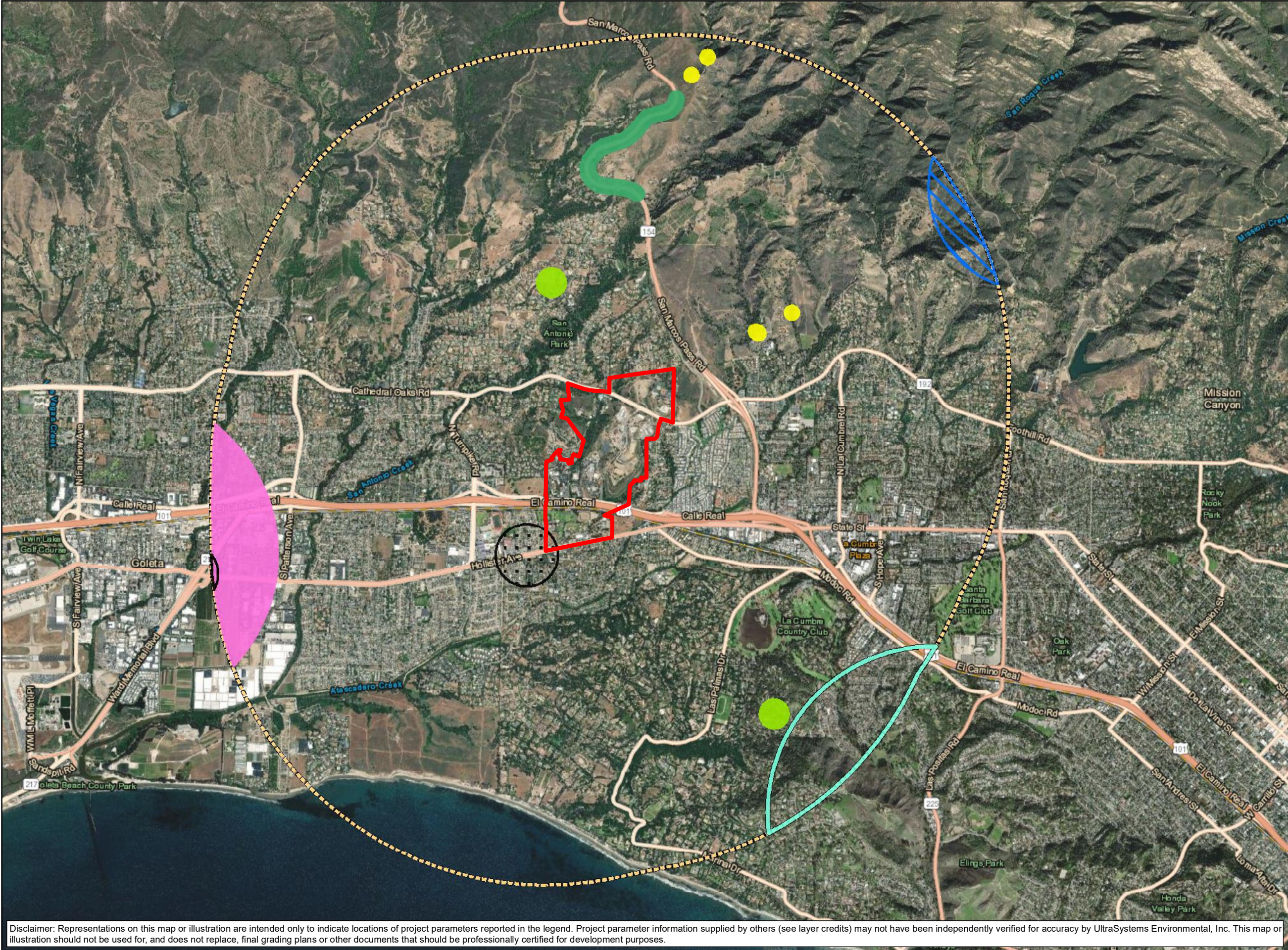


0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Wildscape
RESTORATION

Prepared May 2023

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Calle Real Campus Master Plan

Legend

Project Boundary

2-Mile Radius

Common Name, Scientific Name

Coulter's saltbush, *Atriplex coulteri*

Nuttall's scrub oak, *Quercus dumosa*

Santa Barbara honeysuckle, *Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*

Sonoran maiden fern, *Pelazoneuron puberulum* var. *sonorense*

black-flowered figwort, *Scrophularia atrata*

mesa horkelia, *Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*

southern tarplant, *Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*

Key Map

0 1,250 2,500 Feet

0 300 600 Meters

N

Scale: 1:36,000

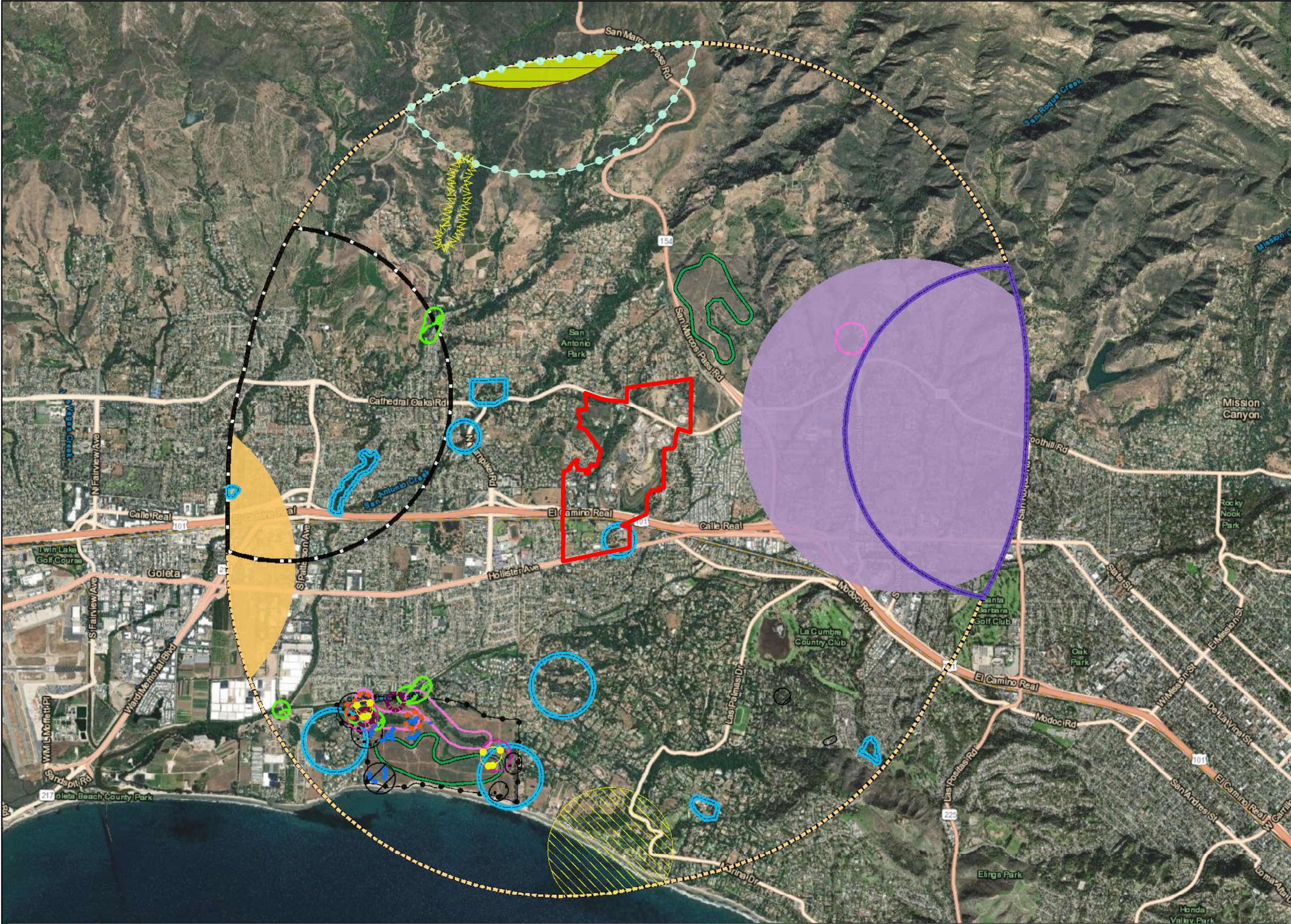
CNDDB Known Occurrences Plant Species and Habitats

Figure 8



UltraSystems
environmental management planning

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Calle Real Campus Master Plan

Legend

Project Boundary	Yuma myotis, <i>Myotis yumanensis</i>
2-Mile Radius	Bank swallow, <i>Riparia riparia</i>
Common Name, Scientific Name	Burrowing owl, <i>Athene cunicularia</i>
Belding's savannah sparrow, <i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i>	Grasshopper sparrow, <i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>
Bell's sparrow, <i>Artemisospiza belli belli</i>	Hoary bat, <i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>
Busck's gallmoth, <i>Eugnosta busckana</i>	Monarch - California overwintering population, <i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i> pop. 1
California red-legged frog, <i>Rana draytonii</i>	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>
Coast Range newt, <i>Taricha torosa</i>	Tricolored blackbird, <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>
Cooper's hawk, <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Western mastiff bat, <i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>
Crotch bumble bee, <i>Bombus crotchii</i>	Western pond turtle, <i>Emys marmorata</i>
Northern California legless lizard, <i>Anniella pulchra</i>	Western red bat, <i>Lasiurus frantzii</i>
Townsend's big-eared bat, <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	White-tailed kite, <i>Elanus leucurus</i>

Key Map

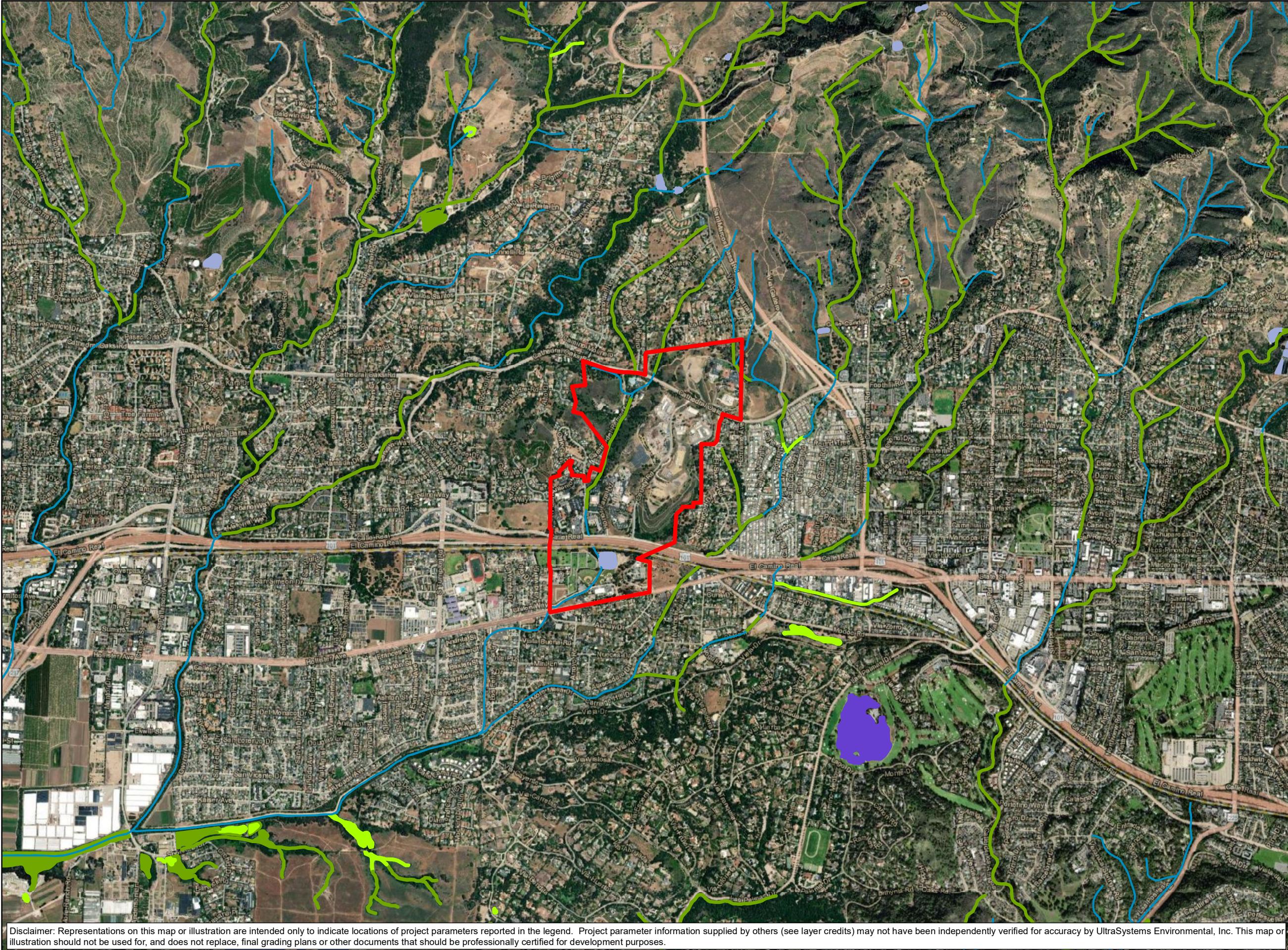
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CNDDDB Known Occurrences Wildlife Species

Figure 9

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Calle Real Campus Master Plan

Legend

Project Boundary

USFWS NWI Wetland Type

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

Freshwater Emergent Wetland

Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

Freshwater Pond

Lake

Riverine

Key Map

San Luis Obispo County, Kern County, Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, Pacific Ocean, Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

0 200 400 Meters

N

Scale: 1:24,000

USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

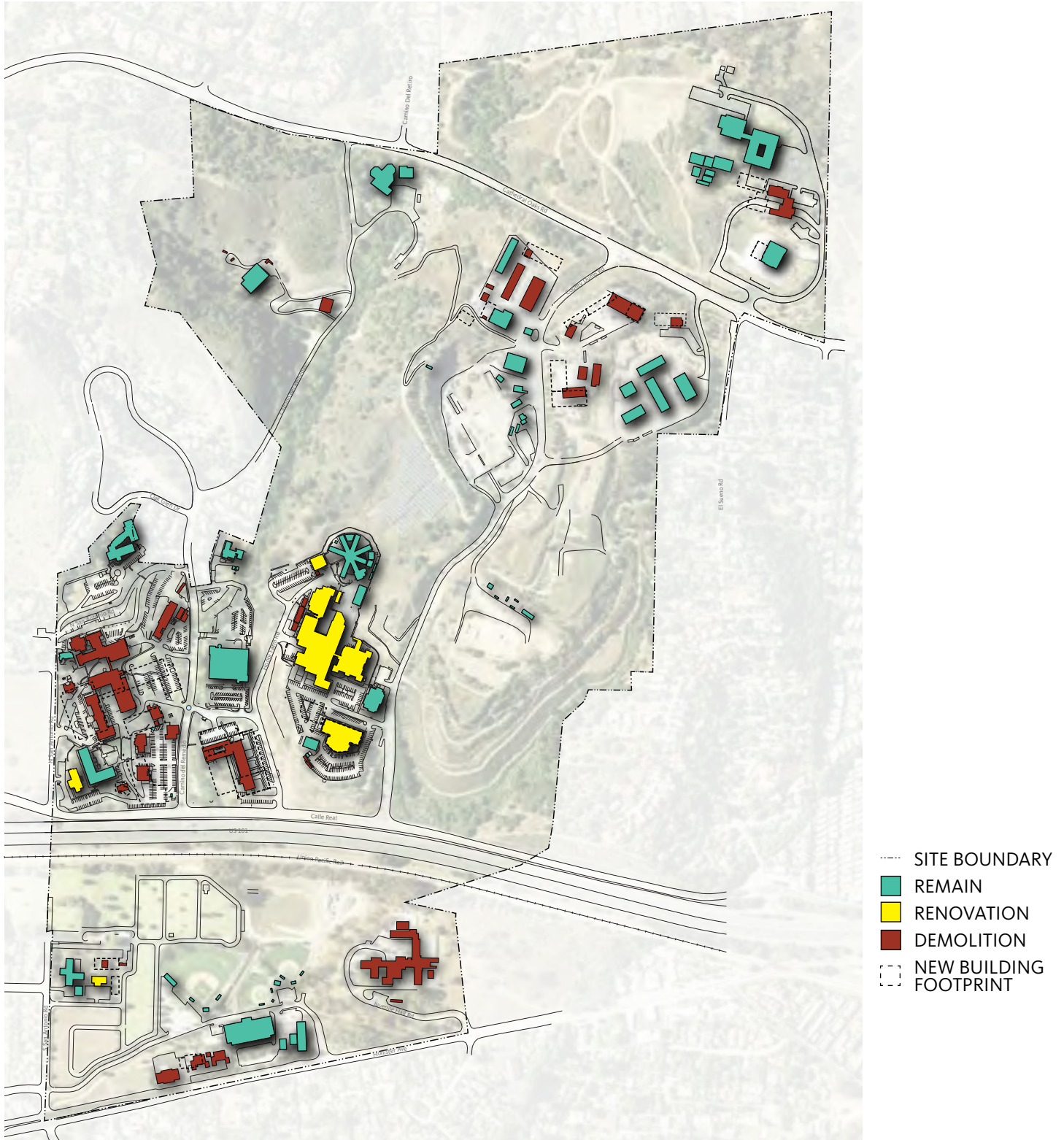
Figure 10

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OVERALL MASTER PLAN

EXISTING BUILDING DISPOSITION



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Photo Point 01 (facing east): Coast Live Oak-Arroyo Willow Woodland Association



Photo Point 01 (facing south): Coast Live Oak-Arroyo Willow Woodland Association



Photo Point 01 (facing west): Coast Live Oak-Arroyo Willow Woodland Association



Photo Point 02 (facing south): Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields



Photo Point 02 (facing east): View of landscape trees bordering development.



Photo Point 03 (facing east): California Sagebrush Scrub; California sagebrush dominant on slopes; co-dominant with coyote brush within shallow drainage.



Photo Point 04 (facing east): Shortpod mustard in foreground, Coast Live Oak Woodland on slope east of the main riparian corridor.



Photo Point 04 (facing south): Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields in fuel modification zone on western slope; Greenbark Ceanothus Shrubland visible higher up the slope. Non-native Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*) visible on the left.



Photo Point 05 (facing northwest): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub; deerweed and purple sage visible in foreground.



Photo Point 06 (facing southwest): Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields dominated by black mustard in foreground, Coast Live Oak Woodland visible to the southwest.



Photo Point 06 (facing north): Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields in foreground, non-native ornamental trees visible to upper left.



Photo Point 07 (facing southwest): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub south of Cathedral Oaks Road.



Photo Point 08 (facing north): Multiple *Eucalyptus* species with a ruderal understory comprised of primarily non-native herbaceous species surrounding existing buildings.



Photo Point 08 (facing east): Non-native landscape trees including *Eucalyptus* spp. and Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) growing adjacent to existing buildings planned for renovation or demolition.



Photo Point 09 (facing north): View of existing building and landscape trees along County Road.



Photo Point 09 (facing east): Landscape trees, including non-native *Eucalyptus* spp. and native coast live oaks, along the eastern side of County Road.



Photo Point 10 (facing west): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub growing on eastern facing slope on the western side of the site. Giant wild rye visible in the foreground.



Photo Point 10 (facing east): Coast live oak in the overstory tree layer of the main riparian corridor, with non-native mustard and Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*) growing along Camino del Remedio in the foreground.



Photo Point 11 (facing north): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub on south-facing slope bordering developed neighborhood.



Photo Point 12 (facing east): View of Santa Barbara County Jail from hilltop neighborhood on Oak Glen Road. Overstory tree canopy of main riparian corridor visible through center of image.



Photo Point 13 (facing north): Upstream view of drainage from bridge where channel passes through a culvert and then through a paved parking area.



Photo Point 13 (facing south): Downstream view of partially reinforced channel after it passes through the culvert. Mature coast live oaks comprise the overstory tree layer.



Photo Point 14 (facing southwest): Disturbed California Sycamore – Coast Live Oak Woodland along a portion of the main riparian corridor. Understory is absent to sparse.



Photo Point 15 (facing north): View of solar panels north of County Jail buildings, with California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub visible to the east (foreground) and west (background).

Appendix A. Site Photographs (continued)



Photo Point 15 (facing east): Non-native hoary rock rose is abundant within patch of California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub adjacent to the County Jail buildings. Lemonade berry and other native shrubs more abundant further east along the slope.



Photo Point 15 (facing west): County Jail buildings with ruderal Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields in foreground and slopes with relatively intact coastal sage scrub in background.



Photo Point 16 (facing north): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub Alliance adjacent to the equestrian center.



Photo Point 16 (facing south): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub growing up- and downslope of trails located south of the equestrian center.



Photo Point 16 (facing west): View from trail towards County Road. Bush sunflower and black sage are codominant in the shrub layer.



Photo Point 17 (facing north): California Brittle Bush – Ashy Buckwheat Scrub upslope of the trail.



Photo Point 17 (facing south): California Walnut Grove located in riparian area south of trail system.



Photo Point 17 (facing west): Coast Live Oak Woodland south and west of the trail. Black sage, bush sunflower, California sagebrush, and shorthorn mustard visible along trail.



Photo Point 18 (facing north): Eucalyptus Semi-Natural Stand at southeastern corner of project site.



Photo Point 18 (facing south): Eucalyptus Semi-Natural Stand at southeastern corner of project site; laurel sumac visible in the shrub layer.

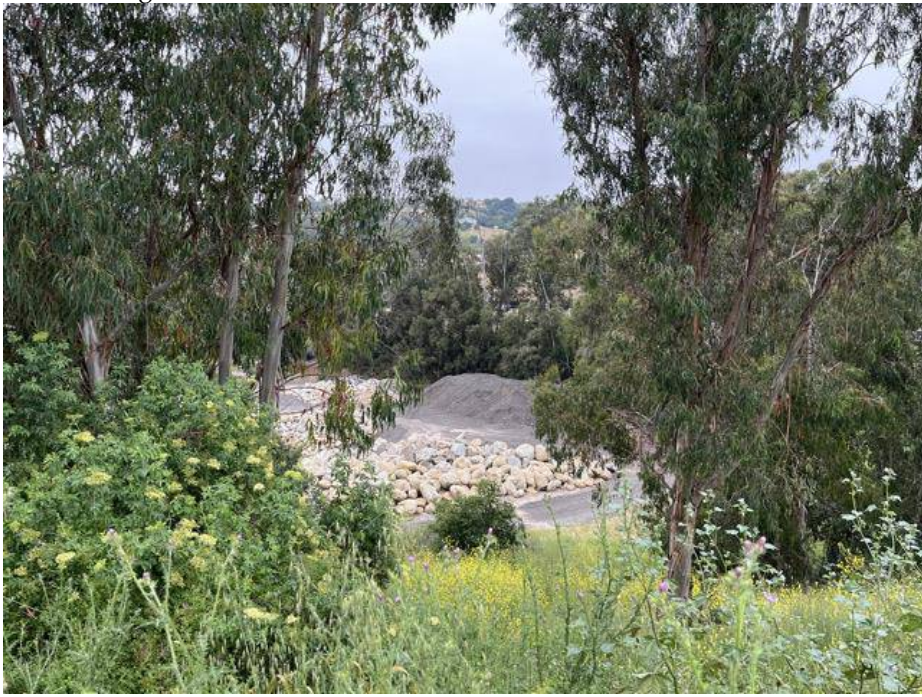


Photo Point 18 (facing west): View of water catchment through Eucalyptus Semi-Natural Stand; blue elderberry visible in the shrub layer.



Photo Point 18 (facing east): Existing building with landscape trees in foreground and Eucalyptus Semi-Natural Stand visible in the background.



Photo Point 19 (facing north): View of debris and sediment management basin at southern end of property.



Photo Point 20 (facing north): Upstream view of reinforced channel running south to southwest from the catchment basin through the southern end of the project site; non-native tocalote dominant in the herbaceous layer.



Photo Point 20 (facing south): Downstream view of reinforced channel running south to southwest from the catchment basin through the southern end of the project site; non-native tocalote dominant in the herbaceous layer.



Photo Point 21 (facing northeast): Disturbed Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields occurs within and adjacent to the drainage (south of road) and landscape ornamental trees, including myoporum and wattles (*Acacia* sp.) line the north side of road.



Photo Point 21 (facing southwest): Upland Mustards or Star Thistle Fields occurs within and adjacent to the drainage (south of road) and landscape ornamental trees, including myoporum and wattles (*Acacia* sp.) line the north side of road. Canary Island date palm visible in the foreground.



Photo Point 21 (facing north): Exotic ornamental trees lining the north side of the road.



Photo Point 22 (facing north): View of forested wetland habitat northwest of project site.



Photo Point 22 (facing east): Tree canopy mix of coast live oaks, evergreen oaks (*Quercus ilex*), and pine (*Pinus* sp.), with herbaceous understory.



Photo Point 22 (facing south): Downstream view of drainage and culvert. Non-native castor bean (*Ricinus communis*) and nasturtium (*Tropaeolum majus*) visible.



Photo Point 22 (facing west): Upslope of forested wetland habitat northwest of project site.



Photo Point 22: Tadpoles present within the forested wetland habitat northwest of the project site; mature Baja California tree frog (*Pseudacris hypochondriaca*) visible at top of rock.



Photo Point 22: Close up of tree frog and tadpoles.