APPENDIX 4

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT PROPOSITION 1 RECYCLED WATER CUSTOMER CONVERSION FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROJECT

VARIOUS CITIES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Biological Resources Assessment

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November 2024

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The undersigned certify that the statements furnished in this report and exhibits present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and the facts, statements, and information presented is a complete and accurate account of the findings and conclusions to the best of our knowledge and beliefs.

Travis J. McGill
Director/Biologist

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November 2024

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EXHIBITS

APPENDIX

Section 1 Introduction

This report contains the findings of ELMT Consulting's (ELMT) habitat and jurisdictional assessment for the Central Basin Municipal Water District Proposition 1 Recycled Water Customer Conversion for Disadvantaged Communities Project (Project) located in various cities in Los Angeles County, California. ELMT biologists Andrew N. Mestas and Megan E. Peukert conducted a field survey and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on October 15, 2024.

The habitat assessment was conducted to characterize existing site conditions and to assess the probability of occurrence of special-status[1] plant and wildlife species that could pose a constraint to project implementation. This report provides an assessment of the suitability of the onsite habitats to support special-status plant and wildlife species identified by the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) and other electronic databases as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project site.

The site was also evaluated for its potential to support natural drainage features, ponded areas, and/or water bodies that have the potential to fall under the regulatory authority of the of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and Section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The District is proposing the Proposition 1 Recycled Water Customer Conversion for Disadvantaged Communities Project (project), which will conserve potable water by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation in seven public sites in disadvantaged communities. The project proposes to install recycled water pipeline that would connect to the District's existing recycled water transmission system and would also require installation of new pipeline internally at the seven public sites that will be connected to the District's new recycled water transmission system installed as part of this project. The project consists of seven (7) separate project site subareas as described below (refer to Appendix A, *Site Maps*):

Table 1: Project Site Subarea Descriptions

Subarea	Name	Description	Recycled Water Pipeline in Lineal Feet (LF)
1	Bellflower City Hall	This segment of recycled water (RW) pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 5 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, no new external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, as connection to recycled water service is	External: 0 LF Internal: 175 LF

[1] As used in this report, "special-status" refers to plant and wildlife species that are federally or State listed, proposed, or candidates; plant species that have been designated a California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Rank; and wildlife species that are designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as fully protected, species of special concern, or watch list species.

Subarea	Name	Description	Recycled Water Pipeline in Lineal Feet (LF)
		already available, but 175 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Bellflower City Hall site.	
2	Maywood Academy High School	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 4 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 600 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 0 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Maywood Academy High School site.	External: 600 LF Internal: 0 LF
3	San Antonio Elementary School	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 2 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 45 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 40 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the San Antonio Elementary School site.	External: 45 LF Internal: 40 LF
4	Tanner Elementary School	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 4 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 20 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 500 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Tanner Elementary School site.	External: 20 LF Internal: 500 LF
5	Tweedy Elementary School	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 2 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 50 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 80 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Tweedy Elementary School site.	External: 50 LF Internal: 80 LF
6	Bloomfield Park	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 70 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 100 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 225 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Bloomfield Park site.	External: 100 LF Internal: 225 LF
7	Fedde Middle School	This segment of RW pipeline is anticipated to replace potable water use in the amount of 35 AF per year by transitioning to recycled water for irrigation purposes. As previously stated, 6,000 LF of external RW pipeline is anticipated to be necessary for this project, and 300 LF of internal pipeline will be installed within the Fedde Middle School site.	External: 6,000 LF Internal: 300 LF

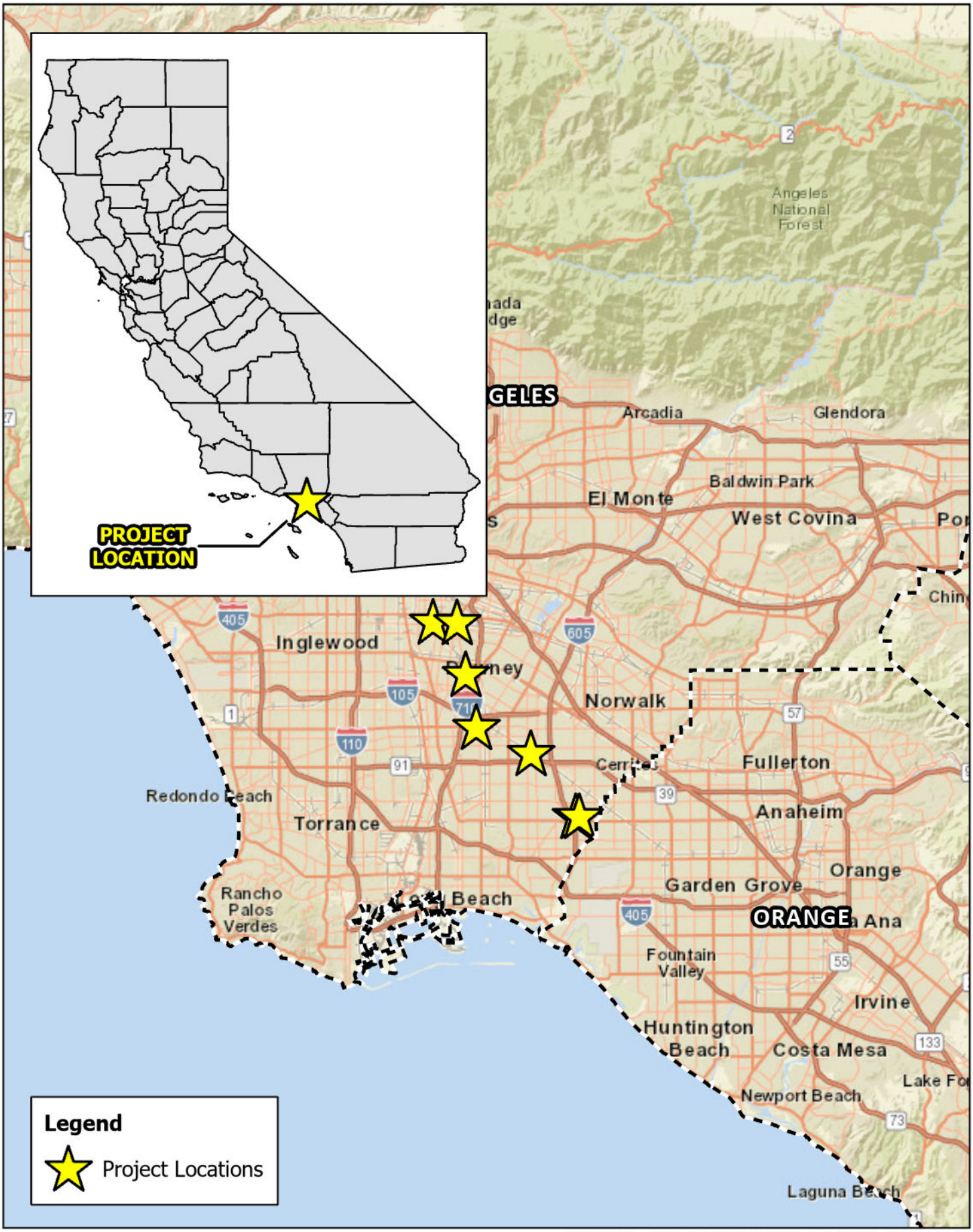
1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The project consists of seven (7) separate project site subareas that are generally located throughout eastern Los Angeles County, California (refer to Exhibit 1, *Regional Vicinity*). The specific location of each project site subarea is provided below (refer to Exhibits 2-1 thru 2-6 and 3-1 thru 3-6):

Table 2: Project Site Subarea Locations

Alternative Subarea	Name	Location
1	Bellflower City Hall	Latitude/Longitude: 33.883663°, -118.122141° The project is located at 16600 Civic Center Dr, Bellflower, CA 90706. Recycled water pipeline will be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 27, Township 3 South, Range 12 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute Whittier, CA topographical quadrangle.
2	Maywood Academy High School	Latitude/Longitude: 33.982993°, -118.189599° The project is located at 6125 Pine Ave, Maywood, CA 90270. New recycled water pipeline will connect to an existing pipeline within Randolph Street (south), and will travel along Randolph Street, bore under the Southern Pacific Railroad at Randolph Street's intersection with Fishburn Avenue, will travel across Randolph Street (north) to connect to the Maywood Academy High School site. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 24, Township 2 South, Range 13 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute South Gate, CA topographical quadrangle.
3	San Antonio Elementary School	Latitude/Longitude: 33.983802°, -118.212305° The project is located at 6222 State St, Huntington Park, CA 90255. New recycled water pipeline will connect to an existing pipeline within Randolph Street (north), and will cross the median, as well as Randolph Street (south) to connect to San Antonio Middle School. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 23, Township 2 South, Range 13 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute South Gate, CA topographical quadrangle.
4	Tanner Elementary School	Latitude/Longitude: 33.903196°, -118.171173° The project is located at 7210 Rosecrans Ave, Paramount, CA 90723. New recycled water pipeline will connect to an existing pipeline that traverses the western boundary of Tanner Elementary School and will connect to the site at its northwest corner. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 18, Township 3 South, Range 12 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute South Gate, CA topographical quadrangle.
5	Tweedy Elementary School	Latitude/Longitude: 33.944324°, -118.181301° The project is located at 9724 Pinehurst Ave., South Gate, CA. New recycled water pipeline will connect to an existing pipeline within the median that separates east- and west-bound traffic along Atlantic Avenue and will cross the median, as well as Atlantic Avenue (north) to connect to Tweedy Elementary School. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is

Alternative Subarea	Name	Location
		generally located within Section 6, Township 3 South, Range 12 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute South Gate, CA topographical quadrangle.
6	Bloomfield Park	Latitude/Longitude: 33.835240°, -118.079352° The project is located at 21420 Pioneer Blvd, Lakewood, CA 90715. Bloomfield Park and Fedde Middle School are adjacent to one another and will be served by a recycled water pipeline connection that will serve both locations. For Bloomfield Park, the new recycled water pipeline will connect to the park within 215th Street at the park's southwest corner. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 7, Township 4 South, Range 11 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute Los Alamitos, CA topographical quadrangle.
7	Fedde Middle School	Latitude/Longitude: 33.834521°, -118.076976° The project is located at 21409 Elaine Ave, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716. As stated above, Bloomfield Park and Fedde Middle School are adjacent to one another and will be served by a recycled water pipeline connection that will serve both locations. For Fedde Middle School, the new recycled water pipeline will connect to an existing pipeline within Norwalk Boulevard at the northwest corner of Palms Park (north of Fedde Middle School), and will travel south along Norwalk Boulevard to 214th Street, the new recycled water pipeline will travel west along 214th Street to Elaine Avenue, where the new recycled water pipeline will then travel south to 215th Street, at which the pipeline will travel west to the southwestern corner of Fedde Middle School. Recycled water pipeline will also be installed internally at this site. The project site is generally located within Section 7, Township 4 South, Range 11 West of the USGS 7.5 Minute Los Alamitos, CA topographical quadrangle.



ELMT CONSULTING

Source: ESRI World Street Map

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
PROPOSITION 1

Regional Vicinity

Exhibit 1

ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 250 500 1,000 US Feet

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #1: CITY OF BELLFLOWER

Site Vicinity

Exhibit 2-1

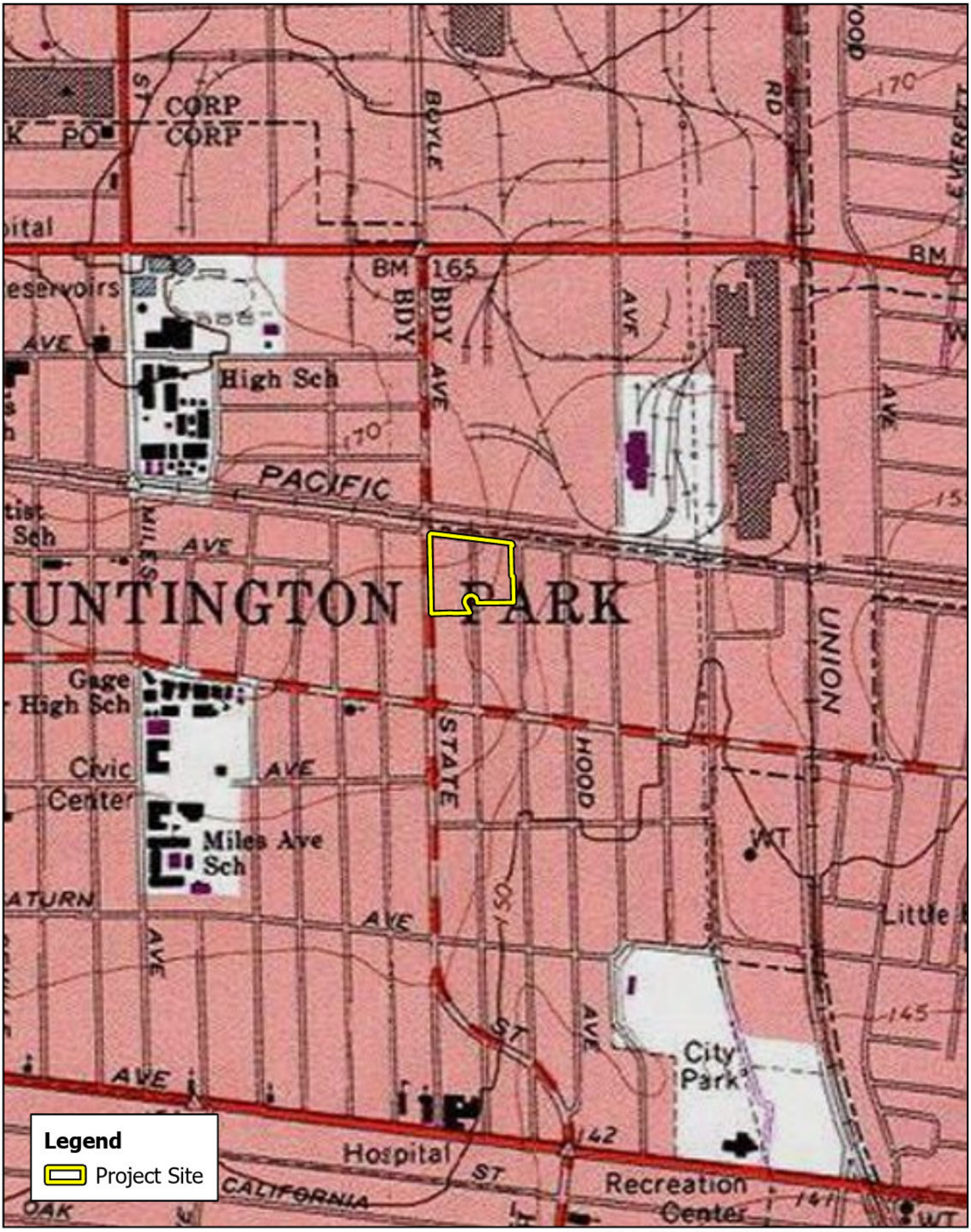
ELMT CONSULTING

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #3: MAYWOOD ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Site Vicinity

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 2-3



ELMT CONSULTING

N

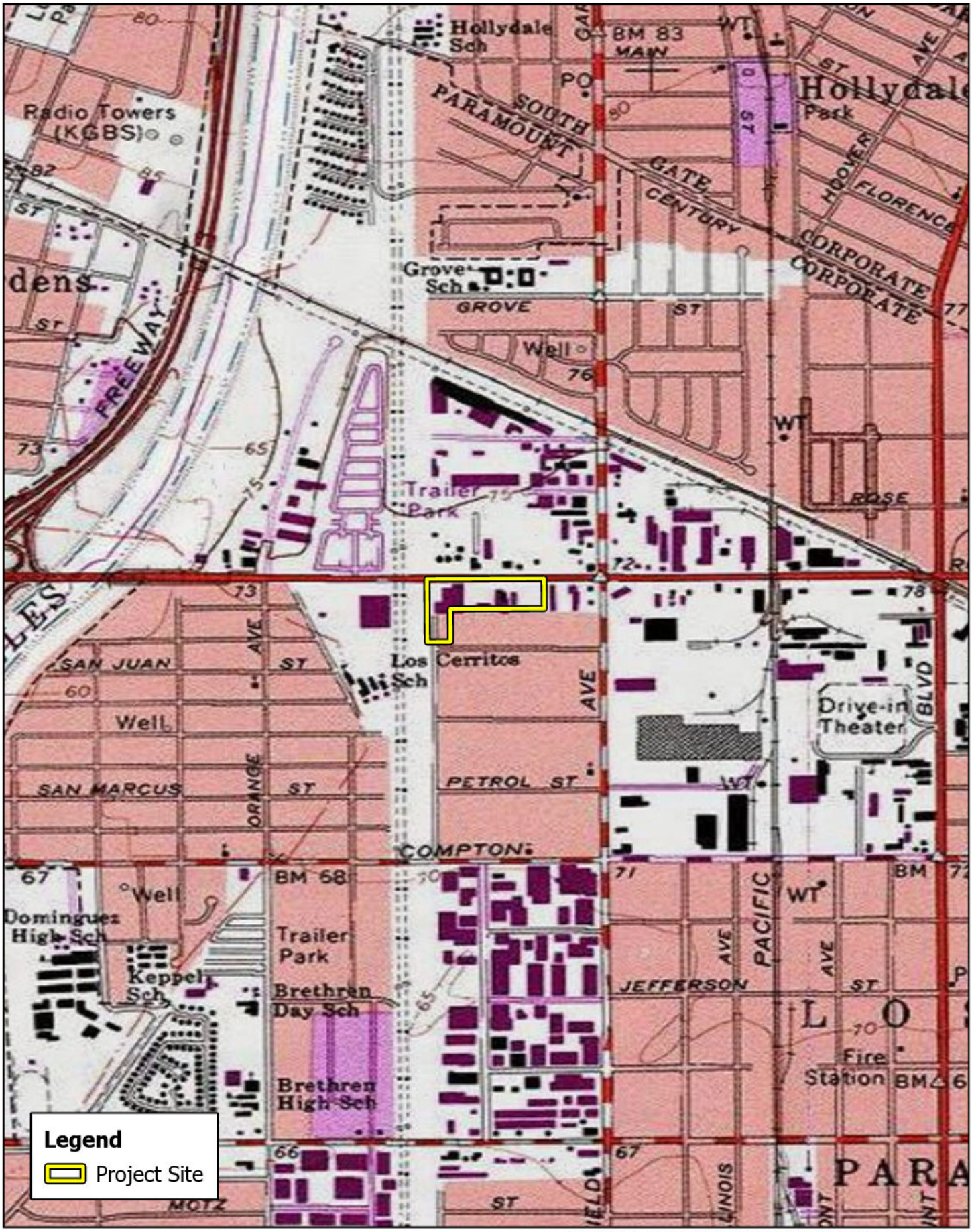
0 500 1,000 2,000 US Feet

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #3: SAN ANTONIO

Site Vicinity

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 2-3



CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #4: TANNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

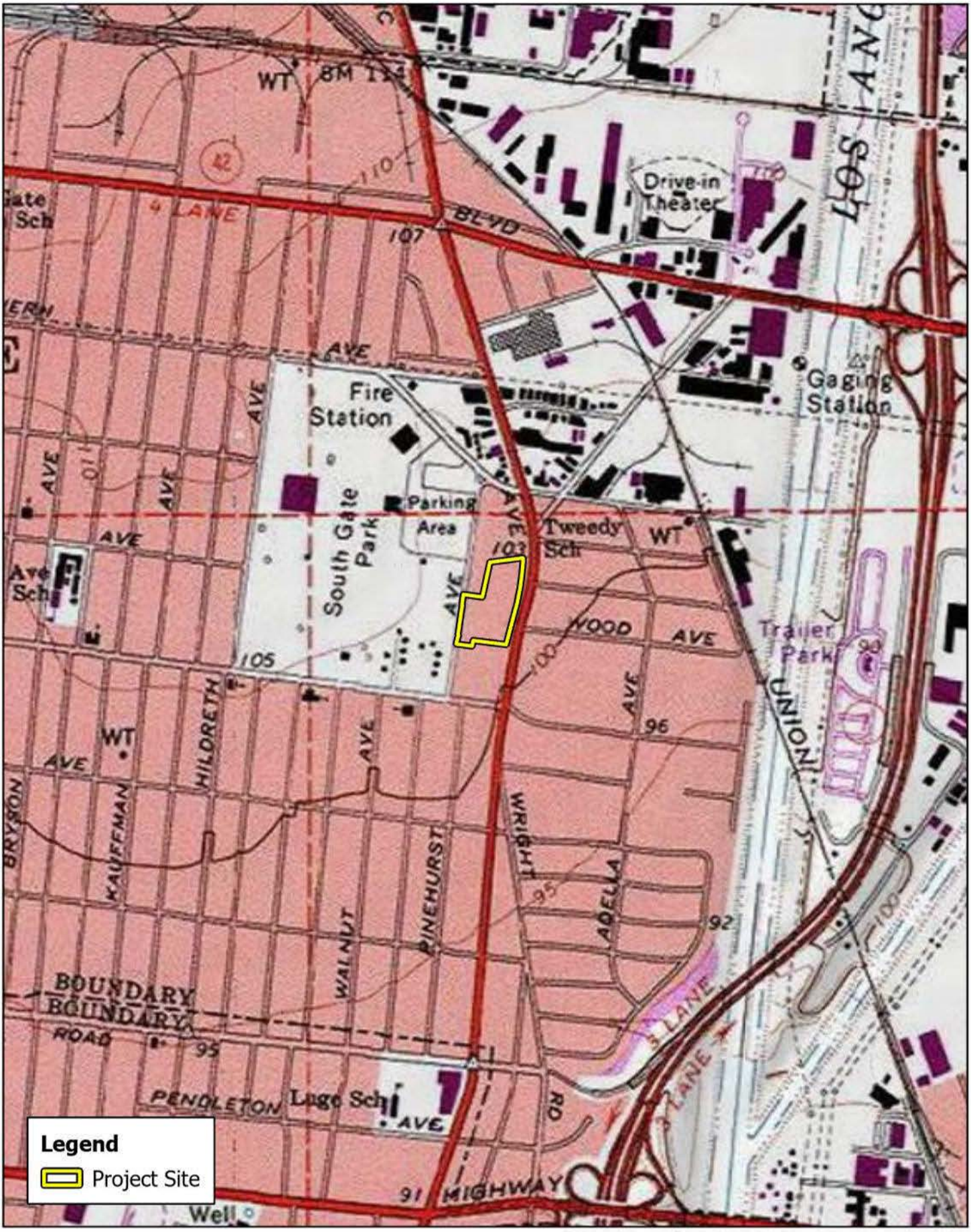
Site Vicinity

ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 500 1,000 2,000 US Feet

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 2-4



CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #5: TWEEDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

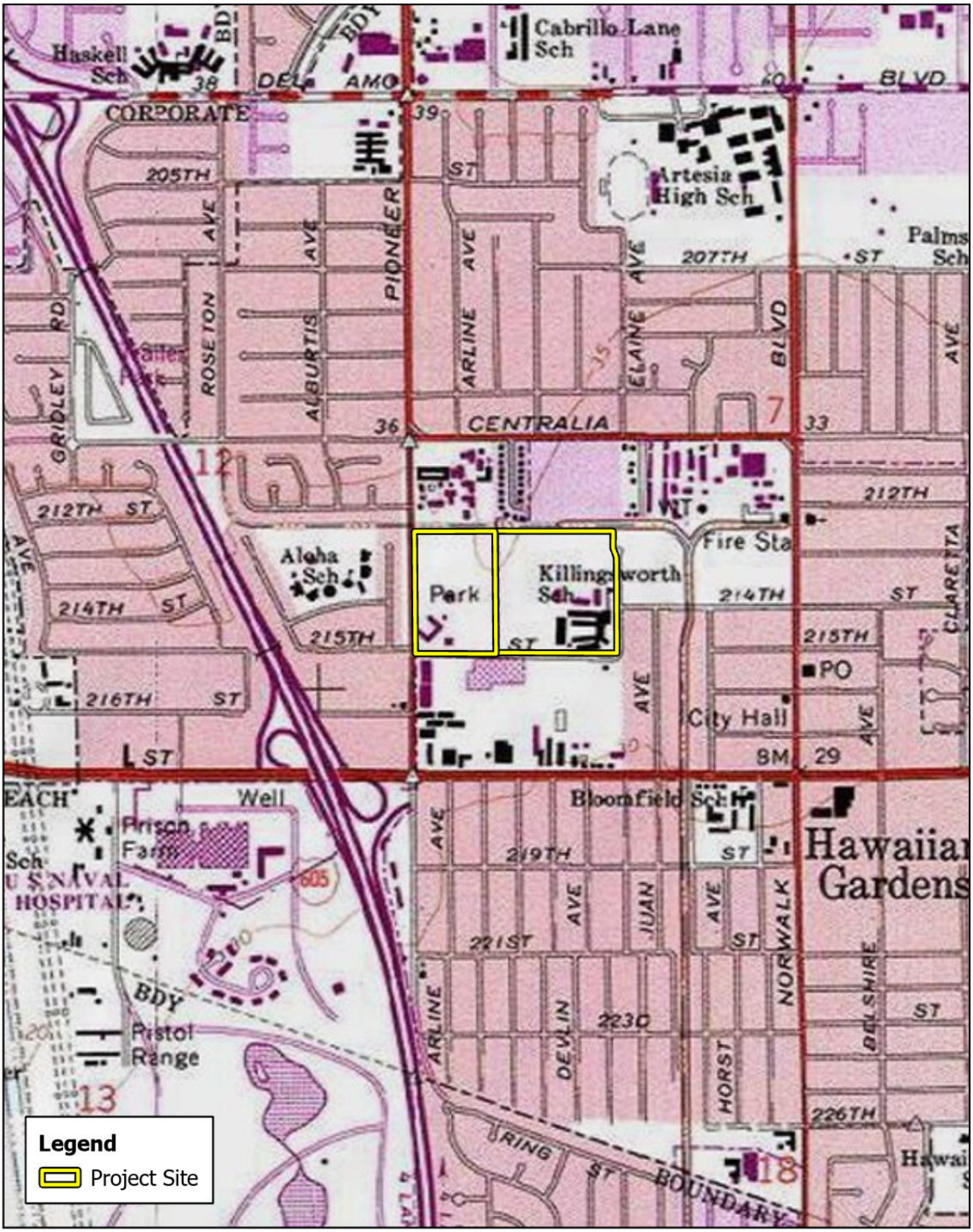
Site Vicinity

ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 500 1,000 2,000 US Feet

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 2-5



ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 500 1,000 2,000 US Feet

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, Los Angeles County

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #6 AND 7: FEDDE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND BLOOMFIELD PARK

Site Vicinity

Exhibit 2-6

ELMT CONSULTING

N

0 37.5 75 150

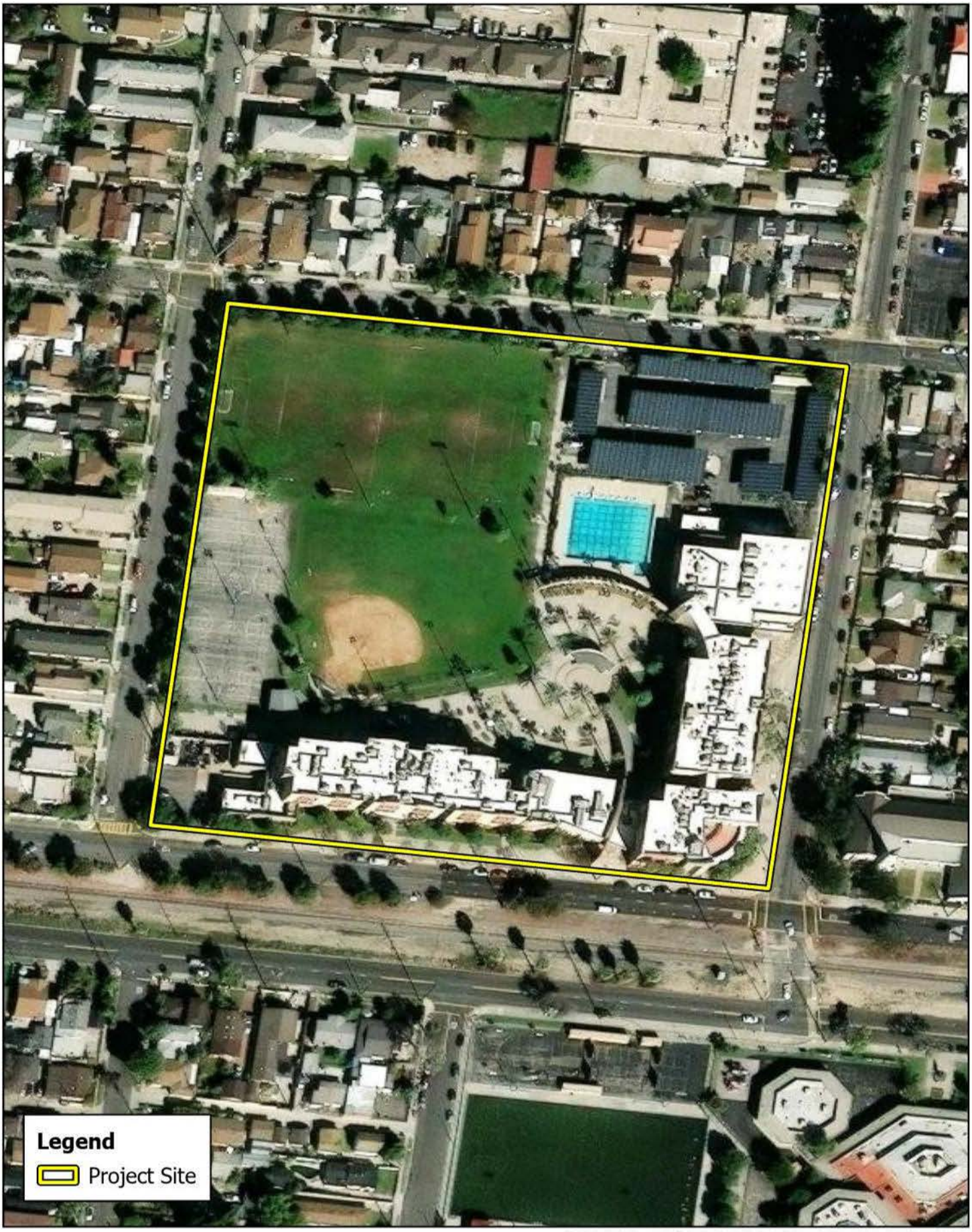
US Feet

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #1: CITY OF BELLFLOWER

Project Site

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 3-1



ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 75 150 300 US Feet

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #2: MAYWOOD ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Project Site

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 3-2

ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 50 100 200 US Feet

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #3: SAN ANTONIO

Project Site

Exhibit 3-3

ELMT CONSULTING

N 0 75 150 300 US Feet

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #4: TANNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Project Site

Exhibit 3-4

ELMT CONSULTING

N

0 50 100 200

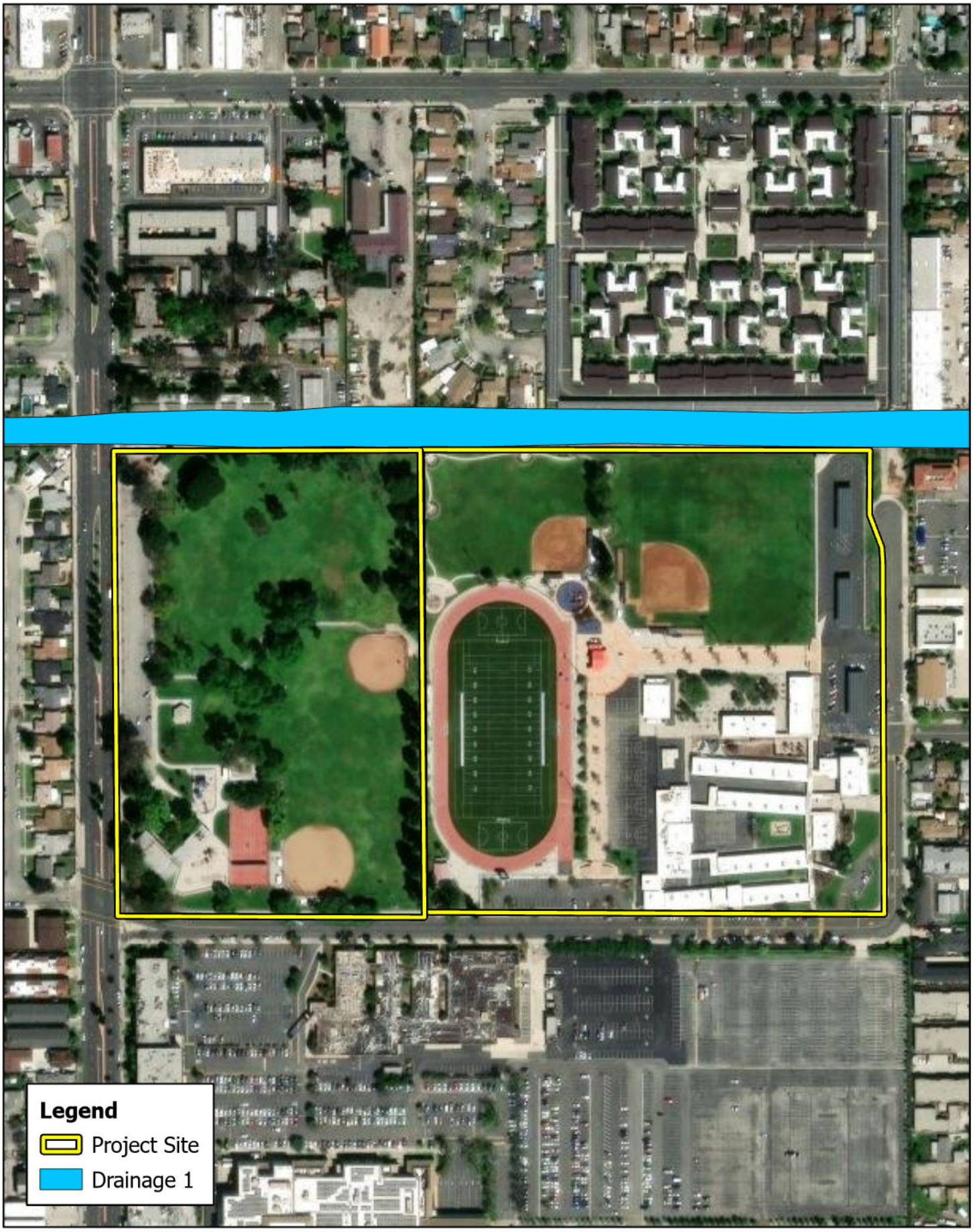
US Feet

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #5: TWEEDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Project Site

Exhibit 3-5



ELMT CONSULTING

N

0 150 300 600

US Feet

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SITE #6 AND 7: FEDDE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND BLOOMFIELD PARK

Project Site

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, Los Angeles County

Exhibit 3-6

Section 2 Methodology

A literature review and records search were conducted to determine which special-status biological resources have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity of the project site. In addition to the literature review, a general habitat assessment or field investigation of the project site was conducted. The field investigation was conducted to document existing conditions within the project site and assess the potential for special-status biological resources to occur.

2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Prior to conducting the field study, species and habitat information was gathered from the reports related to the specific project and relevant databases for the Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles to identify species and habitats known to occur locally. These quadrangles were queried due to the proximity of the project site to quadrangle boundaries, and regional topography. The literature review sources included:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) threatened and endangered species occurrence GIS overlay;
- USFWS Designated Critical Habitat Maps;
- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) *Rarefind 5*;
- International Union for Conservation of Naturae (IUCN);
- CNDDB Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS);
- California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) database;
- Calflora Database;
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Soil Survey;
- USFWS National Wetland Inventory;
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Water Program "My Waters" data layers;
- Google Earth Pro historic aerial imagery (1985-2024);
- USFWS Critical Habitat designations for Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

The literature review provided a baseline from which to inventory the biological resources potentially occurring on the subject property. The CNDDB database was used, in conjunction with ArcGIS software, to locate the nearest recorded occurrences of special-status species and determine the distance from the project site.

2.2 FIELD INVESTIGATION

ELMT biologists Andrew N. Mestas and Megan E. Peukert evaluated the conditions of the plant communities found within the boundaries of the project site on October 15, 2024. Plant communities identified on aerial photographs during the literature review were verified in the field. The plant communities were evaluated for their potential to support special-status plant and wildlife species. In

addition, field staff identified any natural corridors and linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area.

The plant communities were evaluated for their potential to support special-status plant and wildlife species. Plant communities were mapped using 7.5-minute USGS topographic base maps and aerial photography. The plant communities were classified in accordance with Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf and Evens (2009) and delineated on an aerial photograph, and then digitized into ArcGIS. The ArcGIS application was used to compute the area of each plant community in acres.

Common plant species observed during the field survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field and recorded in a field notebook. Unusual and less familiar plants were photographed in the field and identified in the laboratory using taxonomic guides. Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study follows the 2012 Jepson Manual (Hickman 2012). In this report, scientific names are provided immediately following common names of plant species (first reference only).

Wildlife species detected during field surveys by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other sign were recorded during surveys in a field notebook. Field guides were used to assist with identification of wildlife species during the survey included The Sibley Field Guide to the Birds of Western North America (Sibley 2003), A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians (Stebbins 2003), and A Field Guide to Mammals of North America (Reid 2006). Although common names of wildlife species are fairly well standardized, scientific names are provided immediately following common names in this report (first reference only). In addition, field staff identified any natural corridors and linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area.

2.3 SOIL SERIES ASSESSMENT

On-site and adjoining soils were researched prior to the field survey using the USDA NRCS Soil Survey for Los Angeles County. In addition, a review of the local geological conditions and historical aerial photographs was conducted to assess the ecological changes that the project site has undergone.

2.4 JURISDICTIONAL DRAINAGES AND WETLANDS

Aerial photography was reviewed prior to conducting a field investigation in order to locate and inspect any potential natural drainage features, ponded areas, or water bodies that may fall under the jurisdiction of the Corps, Regional Board, and/or CDFW. In general, surface drainage features indicated as blue-line streams on USGS maps that are observed or expected to exhibit evidence of flow are considered potential riparian/riverine habitat and are also subject to state and federal regulatory jurisdiction. In addition, ELMT reviewed jurisdictional waters information through examining historical aerial photographs to gain an understanding of the impact of land-use on natural drainage patterns in the area. The USFWS NWI and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Water Program “My Waters” data layers were also reviewed to determine whether any hydrologic features and wetland areas have been documented on or within the vicinity of the Project site.

Section 3 Existing Conditions

3.1 LOCAL CLIMATE

The eastern Los Angeles County area lies roughly 0 to 300 feet above mean sea level and is characterized by mild to hot temperatures year-round with a borderline Mediterranean and semi-arid climate. Rainfall occurs primarily in the winter, while summers are relatively dry. Climatological data obtained for the Los Angeles County indicates the annual precipitation averages approximately 14-18 inches per year. Almost all of the precipitation, in the form of rain, occurs in the months between November and April, with February being the wettest month, averaging around 3-4 inches of rainfall. The average minimum and maximum temperatures for the region are about 50°F and 80°F, respectively, with December and January being the coldest months (average daily low around 40-45°F) and August being the hottest (average daily high around 90°F).

3.2 TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

On-site topography in the region supporting the project sites is generally flat with no significant areas of topographic relief as development in the area has flattened the land.

All seven of the project sites are historically underlain by Urban land-Hueneme, drained-San Emigdio complex, (0 to 2 percent slopes). The San Antonio Elementary School site is additionally underlain by Urban land-Metz-Pico complex, (0 to 2 percent slopes).

3.3 SURROUNDING LAND USES AND SITE CONDITIONS

The entirety of the area of potential effect (APE) for this project is urbanized. The project would be installed within 7 separate jurisdictions—City of Bellflower, City of Maywood, City of Huntington Park, City of Paramount, City of South Gate, City of Lakewood, and City of Hawaiian Gardens—all of which are located within Los Angeles County and within the District's service area. The land uses within the project area include nearly every type of land use supported by the Cities as a result of the nature of the proposed project as an RW pipeline project that would traverse through a variety of areas within road ROWs. The area surrounding the project sites includes residential, commercial, open space, public, and industrials uses.

Section 4 Discussion

4.1 LITERATURE REVIEW AND RESULTS

The literature search identified thirty-three (33) special-status plant species and eighty-two (82) special-status wildlife species, and two (2) special-status plant communities as having the potential to occur within the Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles quadrangles. Species determined to have the potential to occur within the general vicinity are presented in *Table C-1: Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources*, provided in Appendix C.

4.2 VEGETATION AND LAND COVER

All of the seven project sites support developed land. The land cover type is described in further detail below.

4.2.1 Developed

Developed areas generally encompass all buildings/structures, parks, and paved, impervious surfaces. Within the boundaries of the project sites, developed areas include residential, commercial, and institutional development, roadways, and other public infrastructure. These areas are largely devoid of natural vegetation and support primarily ornamental vegetation that may be maintained in association with or without artificial irrigation. Plant species present within the developed areas include jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), juniper (*Juniperus spp.*), pine (*Pinus spp.*), fig trees (*Ficus spp.*), oak (*Quercus spp.*), crepe myrtle (*Lagerstroemia spp.*), bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*), Indian hawthorne (*Rhaphiolepis indica*), rosemary (*Salvia rosmarinus*), sycamore (*Platanus spp.*), tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*), bottle brush tree (*Callistemon*), red trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*), olive (*Olea europaea*), ash (*Fraxinus spp.*), gum tree (*Eucalyptus spp.*), and Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*).

4.3 WILDLIFE

Plant communities provide foraging habitat, nesting and denning sites, and shelter from adverse weather or predation. This section provides a discussion of those wildlife species that were observed during the field survey or that are expected to occur within the project site. The discussion is to be used as a general reference and is limited by the season, time of day, and weather condition in which the field survey was conducted. Wildlife detections were based on calls, songs, scat, tracks, burrows, and direct observation.

4.3.1 Fish

No fish or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., perennial creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) that would provide suitable habitat for fish were observed on the project. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur and are presumed absent.

4.3.2 Amphibians

No amphibians or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., perennial creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) that would provide suitable habitat for amphibian species were observed on the project. Therefore, no amphibians are expected to occur and are presumed to be absent.

4.3.3 Reptiles

The project site provides limited foraging and cover habitat for local reptile species adapted to regular disturbance and developed conditions. No reptilian species were observed onsite. Reptile species that could be expected to occur on-site include Great Basin fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis longipes*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), and western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*).

4.3.4 Birds

The project site provides suitable foraging and nesting habitat for a variety of bird species adapted to urban environments. Bird species detected onsite during the investigation include house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), Nuttall's woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*), western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), northern mocking bird (*Mimus polyglottos*), white-faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*), and common raven (*Corvus corax*).

4.3.5 Mammals

The project site provides limited habitat for a mammalian species adapted to regular disturbance and developed conditions. No mammalian species were detected onsite during the investigation. Common mammalian species that could be expected to occur onsite include raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), black rat (*Rattus rattus*), ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), and domestic cat (*Felis catus*).

4.4 NESTING BIRDS

Ornamental/landscaped vegetation on and surrounding the project sites have the potential to provide suitable nesting opportunities for common residential and migratory avian species known to occur in the area. Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3513 prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs). If construction occurs between February 1st and August 31st, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds should be conducted within three (3) days of the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction.

4.5 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES

Habitat linkages provide connections between larger habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or

migrate between areas. A corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species yet still inadequate for others. Wildlife corridors are features that allow for the dispersal, seasonal migration, breeding, and foraging of a variety of wildlife species. Additionally, open space can provide a buffer against both human disturbance and natural fluctuations in resources.

The Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (LACDRP) refers to habitat linkages, wildlife corridors, and major open spaces as "Significant Ecological Areas" (SEAs) and typically defines SEAs as habitat that consists of large, contiguous blocks with intervening areas of roads, rural residential development, and other low intensity disturbance. The LACDRP establishes and protects SEAs with the goal of maintaining high levels of connectivity between core habitat areas via a network of core open space areas and wide linkages and corridors.

As mapped by the LACDRP, the project sites do not occur within or near a SEA. The Rio Hondo Wildlife Sanctuary SEA occurs approximately 5.9 miles to the northeast of the project sites. The project sites are separated from the Rio Hondo Wildlife Sanctuary SEA by a large existing urbanized region. Additionally, the project sites support developed land which is surrounded by existing development. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will not have any direct or indirect impacts to the SEA. Further, the sites do not function as a Wildlife Movement Pathway (WMP) or support wildlife movement opportunities through the area into the Rio Hondo Wildlife Sanctuary SEA.

4.6 STATE AND FEDERAL JURISDICTIONAL AREAS

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The Corps Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredge and/or fill materials into "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the Regional Board regulates discharges into surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated plant communities pursuant to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code.

The USFWS NWI and the USGS National Hydrography Dataset were reviewed to determine if any blueline streams or riverine resources have been documented within or immediate surrounding the project sites. Based on this review, no riverine resources or blueline streams are mapped as occurring on the project sites. Further, no features were observed the project sites that would qualify as jurisdictional under the Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW.

It should be noted that one drainage occurs immediately north of both the Bloomfield Park site and Fedde Middle School sites (refer to Exhibit 3-6). No impacts are expected to occur to this drainage feature from project implementation.

4.7 SPECIAL-STATUS BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The CNDDB Rarefind 5, CNDDB Quickview Tool in BIOS and the CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California were queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species as well as special-status natural plant communities in the Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles. The habitat assessment evaluated the conditions of the habitat(s) within the boundaries of the project site to determine if the existing plant communities, at the time of the survey, have the potential to provide suitable habitat(s) for special-status plant and wildlife species.

The literature search identified thirty-three (33) special-status plant species and eighty-two (82) special-status wildlife species, and two (2) special-status plant communities as having the potential to occur within the Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles quadrangles. Special-status plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to occur within the project boundaries based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions. Species determined to have the potential to occur within the general vicinity are presented in *Table C-1: Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources*, provide in Appendix C. Refer to Table C-1 for a determination regarding the potential occurrence of special-status plant and wildlife species within the project site.

4.7.1 Special-Status Plants

According to the CNDDB and CNPS, thirty-three (33) special-status plant species have been recorded in Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles quadrangles (refer to Appendix C). No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field investigation. The project sites are fully developed and do not support undisturbed natural plant communities with the potential to provide suitable habitat for special-status plant species. Based on habitat requirements for the identified special-status species, and known distributions, it was determined that the project sites do not have the potential to support any special-status plant species known to occur in the area, and are presumed absent.

4.7.2 Special-Status Wildlife

According to the CNDDB, eighty-two (82) special-status wildlife species have been reported in the Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles quadrangles (refer to Appendix C). One special-status species was observed on-site: snowy egret (*Egretta thula*). Based on habitat requirements for the identified special-status species, and known distributions, it was determined that the ornamental plant communities found within the project sites have a moderate potential to support the following special-status wildlife species: Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*), and California gull (*Larus californicus*). None of the other listed special-status wildlife species are expected to occur onsite due to the high level of human disturbance/developed, and are presumed absent.

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4.7.3 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT COMMUNITIES

According to the CNDDB, two (2) special-status plant community has been reported in Los Alamitos, Whittier, South Gate, and Los Angeles quadrangles: Walnut Forest and Southern California Salt Marsh. Based on the results of the field investigation, no special-status plant communities were observed on-site.

4.8 CRITICAL HABITAT

Under the federal Endangered Species Act, "Critical Habitat" is designated at the time of listing of a species or within one year of listing. Critical Habitat refers to specific areas within the geographical range of a species at the time it is listed that include the physical or biological features that are essential to the survival and eventual recovery of that species. Maintenance of these physical and biological features requires special management considerations or protection, regardless of whether individuals or the species are present or not. All federal agencies are required to consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding activities they authorize, fund, or permit which may affect a federally listed species or its designated Critical Habitat. The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that projects will not jeopardize the continued existence of the listed species or adversely modify or destroy its designated Critical Habitat. The designation of Critical Habitat does not affect private landowners, unless a project they are proposing is on federal lands, uses federal funds, or requires federal authorization or permits (e.g., funding from the Federal Highways Administration or a CWA Permit from the Corps). If a there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for providing the funding or permit would consult with the USFWS.

The project sites are not located within federally designated Critical Habitat. The nearest federally designated Critical Habitat occurs 5.9 miles to the northeast of the project sites for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*). As a result, no impacts to Critical Habitat will occur from project implementation.

Section 5 Conclusion and Recommendations

The discussion below provides a summary of survey results; avoidance and minimization efforts; direct, indirect, and cumulative project impacts; and compensatory mitigation measures for each biological resource area required to be analyzed according to CEQA, based on Appendix G (Environmental Checklist Form) of the CEQA Guidelines:

CEQA Threshold*: Would the proposed 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 Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

Special-Status Plant Species

No special-status flora were observed within the boundaries of the project sites during the habitat assessment. Based on habitat requirements, availability/quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions, special-status flora are not expected to occur on the project sites and are presumed absent. Since the majority of the project sites are developed, the sites do not provide undisturbed native habitats needed by most of the special-status plant species known to occur in the area. As a result, the proposed project is not expected to result in impacts to special-status flora and no additional special-status flora surveys are recommended. No additional surveys are recommended.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

One special status species was observed during the field investigation: snowy egret. Based on habitat requirements for the identified special-status species, and known distributions, it was determined that the ornamental plant communities found within the project sites have a moderate potential to support the following special-status wildlife species: Cooper's hawk, great egret, great blue heron, California horned lark, and California gull. It was further determined that the project site does not have the potential to support any of the other special-status wildlife species known to occur in the vicinity of the site and all are presumed to be absent.

To ensure impacts to aforementioned avian species do not occur from implementation of the proposed project, a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey shall be conducted prior to ground disturbance. With implementation of the pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey, impacts to the aforementioned species will be less than significant and no mitigation will be required.

Recommendations for avoidance and minimization:

1. Prior to grading or construction activities, including vegetation removal occurring between February 1st and August 31st, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds will be conducted within three (3) days of the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction. The clearance survey will need to focus on the presence/absence of California gnatcatcher to ensure no impacts to California gnatcatcher occur from project implementation.

If occupied California gnatcatcher habitat is present, all habitat clearing, grubbing, grading, and associated construction actions will be timed to avoid the active breeding season for California gnatcatcher (March 1 to August 15) within the Criteria Cell.

The Project Applicant shall ensure that impacts to nesting bird species at the project site are avoided through the implementation of preconstruction surveys, ongoing monitoring, and if necessary, establishment of minimization measures. The Project Applicant shall adhere to the following:

a. Applicant shall designate a biologist (Designated Biologist) experienced in: identifying local and migratory bird species of special concern; conducting bird surveys using appropriate survey methodology; nesting surveying techniques, recognizing breeding and nesting behaviors, locating nests and breeding territories, and identifying nesting stages and nest success; determining/establishing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures; and monitoring the efficacy of implemented avoidance and minimization measures.

b. Surveys shall be conducted by the Designated Biologist at the appropriate time of day/night, during appropriate weather conditions, no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of project activities. Surveys shall encompass all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. Survey duration shall take into consideration the size of the project site; density, and complexity of the habitat; number of survey participants; survey techniques employed; and shall be sufficient to ensure the data collected is complete and accurate. If a nest is suspected, but not confirmed, the Designated Biologist shall establish a disturbance-free buffer until additional surveys can be completed, or until the location can be inferred based on observations. If a nest is observed, but thought to be inactive, the Designated Biologist shall monitor the nest for one hour (four hours for raptors during the non-breeding season) prior to approaching the nest to determine status. The Designated Biologist shall use their best professional judgement regarding the monitoring period and whether approaching the nest is appropriate.

   If an active avian nest is confirmed, the Designated Biologist shall immediately establish a conservative avoidance buffer surrounding the nest based on their best professional judgement and experience. The Designated Biologist shall monitor the nest at the onset of project activities, and at the onset of any changes in such project activities (e.g., increase in number or type of equipment, change in equipment usage, etc.) to determine the efficacy of the buffer. If the Designated Biologist determines that such project activities may be causing an adverse reaction, the Designated Biologist shall adjust the buffer accordingly or implement alternative avoidance and minimization measures, such as redirecting or rescheduling construction or erecting sound barriers. All work within these buffers will be halted until the nesting effort is finished (i.e., the juveniles are surviving independent from the nest). The on-site qualified biologist will review and verify compliance with these nesting avoidance buffers and will verify the nesting effort has finished. Work can resume within these

avoidance areas when no other active nests are found. Upon completion of the survey and nesting bird monitoring, a report shall be prepared and submitted to County for mitigation monitoring compliance record keeping.

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

Riparian Habitat and Special-Status Natural Communities

No jurisdictional features were observed within the project sites. One drainage occurs adjacent to the northern boundary of the Bloomfield Park site and Fedde Middle School site. However, project implementation is not expected to impact the drainage. Therefore, regulatory approvals from the Corps, Water Board, and CDFW will not be required. Further, no special-status plant communities were observed within or adjacent to the project sites.

CEQA Threshold: *Would the proposed Project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

Federally Protected Wetlands

No inundated areas, wetland features, or wetland plant species that would be considered wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act occur within the proposed Project footprint. As a result, implementation of the proposed Project would not result in any impacts or have substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands.

CEQA Threshold: *Would the proposed 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 wildlife nursery sites?*

Wildlife Corridors

The project site does not occur within any designated SEAs as identified by the LACDRP. The site occurs in an area composed primarily of residential parcels and developed infrastructure. Therefore, the project sites and the majority of the surrounding area do not support uninterrupted natural plant communities which could be expected to function as significant wildlife corridors. In addition, the proposed project will not result in a significant alteration to available vegetative cover and the existing extent of wildlife usage is expected to remain the same in the long term. As a result, implementation of the proposed project will not disrupt or have any adverse effects on any migratory corridors or linkages in the surrounding area.

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

Local Policies or Ordinances

There are no local policies or ordinances that pertain to the proposed project. Therefore, impacts to local polices or ordinances are not expected to occur from development of the proposed project, and mitigation is not required.

CEQA Threshold: *Would the proposed 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?*

Local, Regional, and State Plans

The project site is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state Habitat Conservation Plan. Therefore, impacts to any local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans are not expected to occur from development of the proposed project, and mitigation is not required.

Section 6 References

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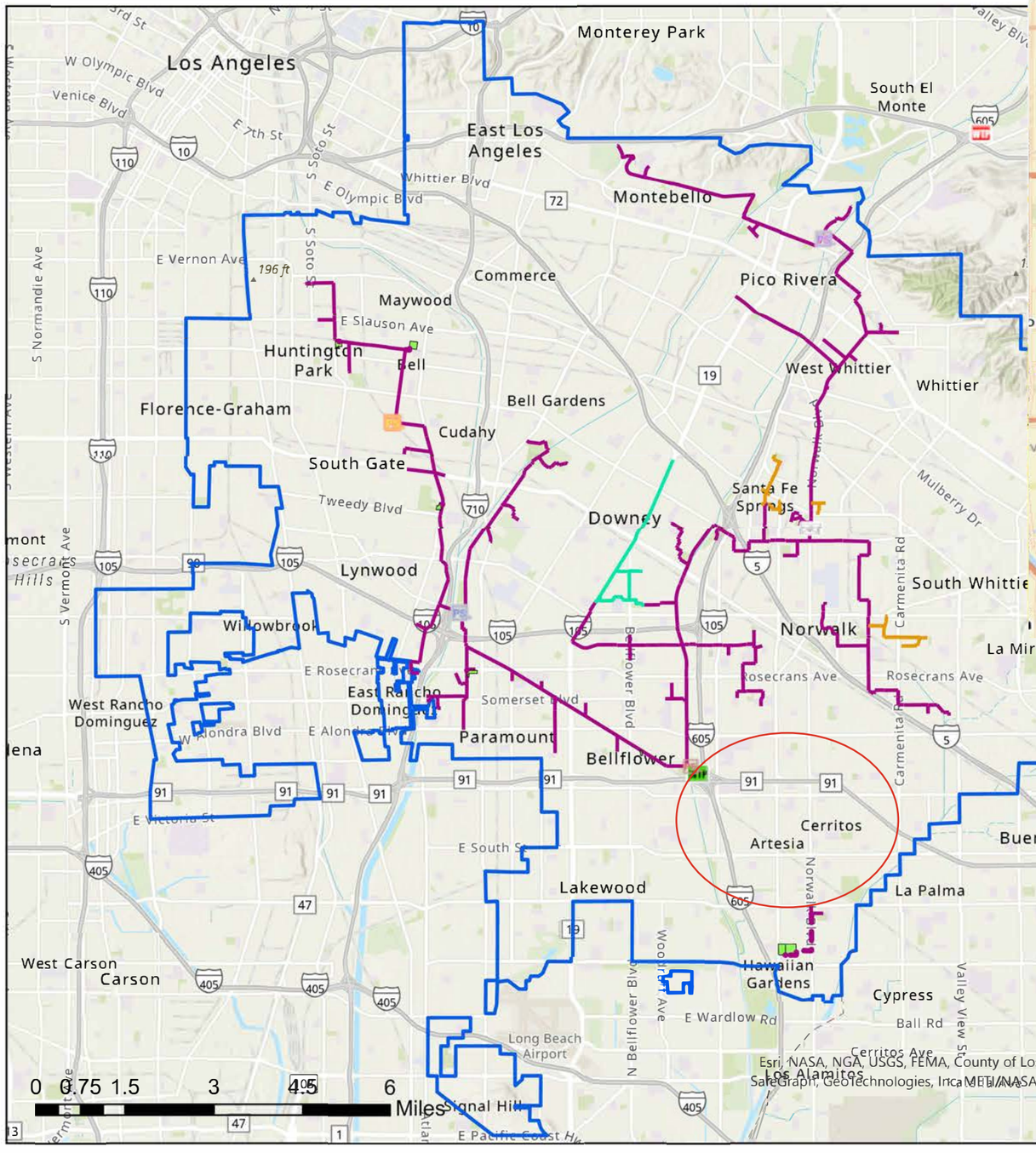
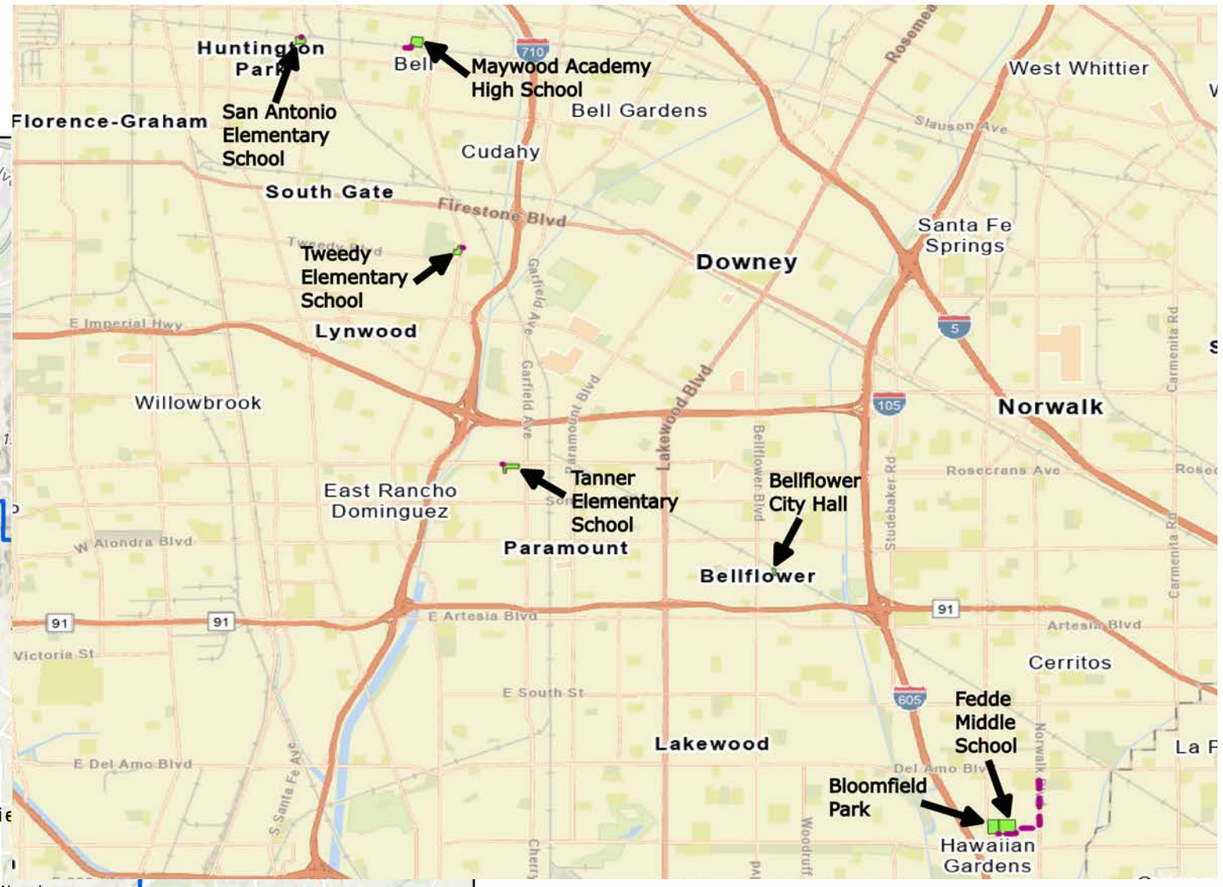
Appendix A Site Maps

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Prop 1 Site Map





- Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
- Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

- Cudahy Pump Station
- Hollydale Pump Station
- Los Coyotes WRP
- Cerritos Pump Station
- Pressure Reducing Valve
- Rio Hondo Pump Station
- San Jose Creek WRP
- Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
- SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines
- City_of_Cerritos_RW_ServiceArea
- Century
- Rio Hondo
- CentralBasin_ServiceArea

8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Prop 1 Site Map

Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

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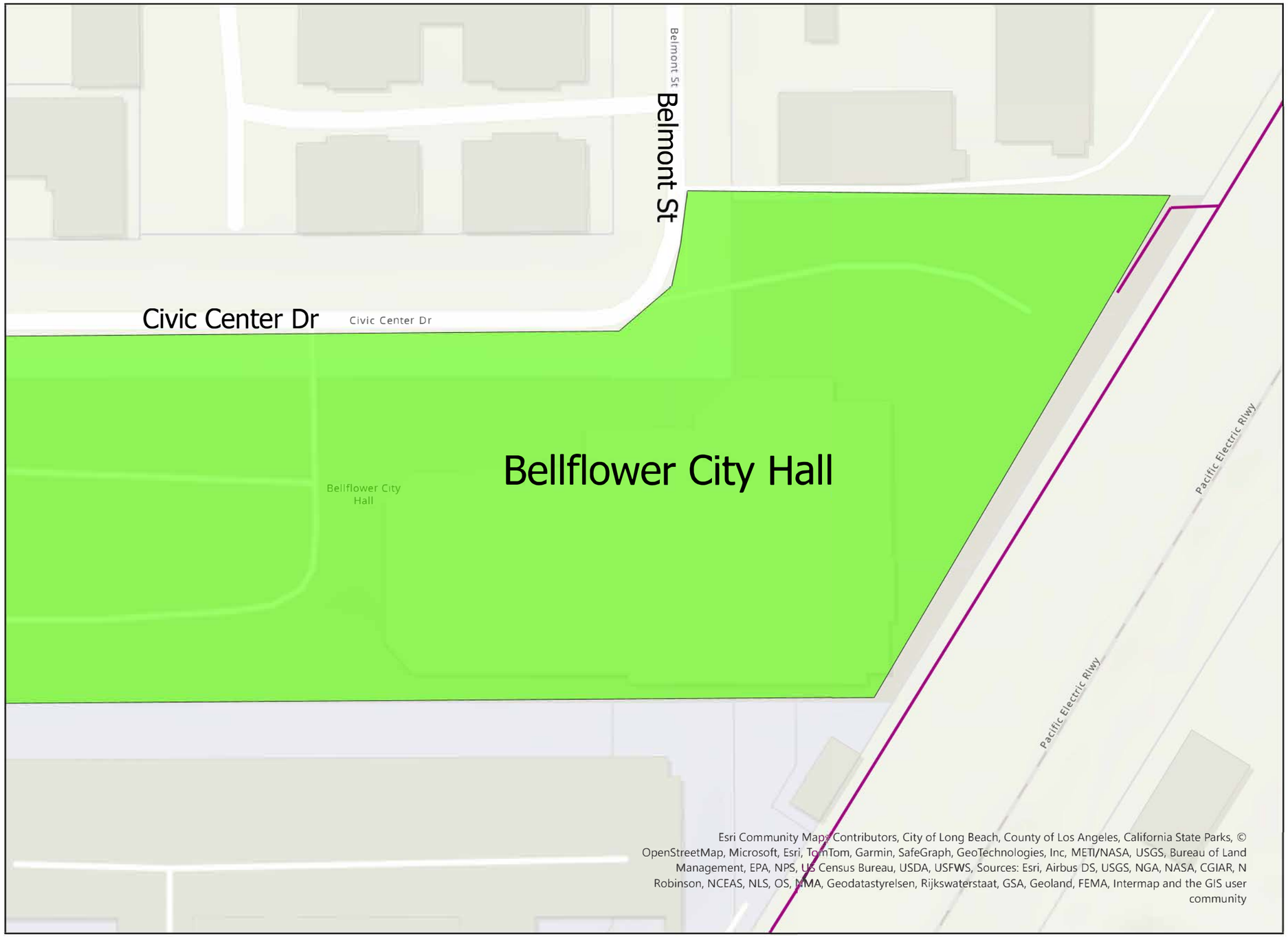
Miles

8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Bellflower City Hall Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
Hollydale Pump Station
Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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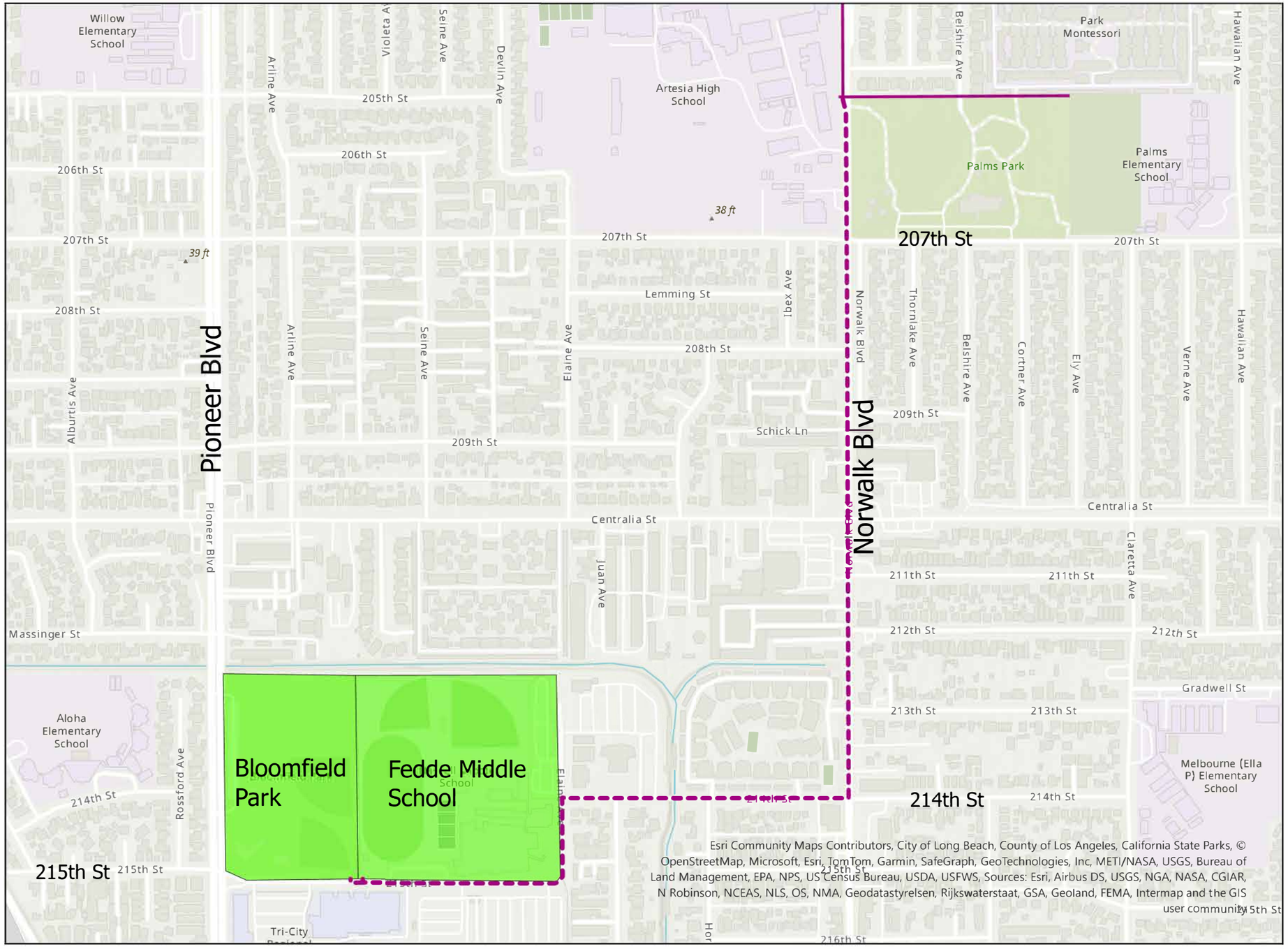
Miles

8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Bloomfield Park and Fedde Middle School Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

- Cudahy Pump Station
- Hollydale Pump Station
- Los Coyotes WRP
- Cerritos Pump Station
- Pressure Reducing Valve
- Rio Hondo Pump Station
- San Jose Creek WRP
- Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
- SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

- Century
- Rio Hondo
- CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Bloomfield Park and Fedde Middle School Pipeline Alignment

Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
Hollydale Pump Station
Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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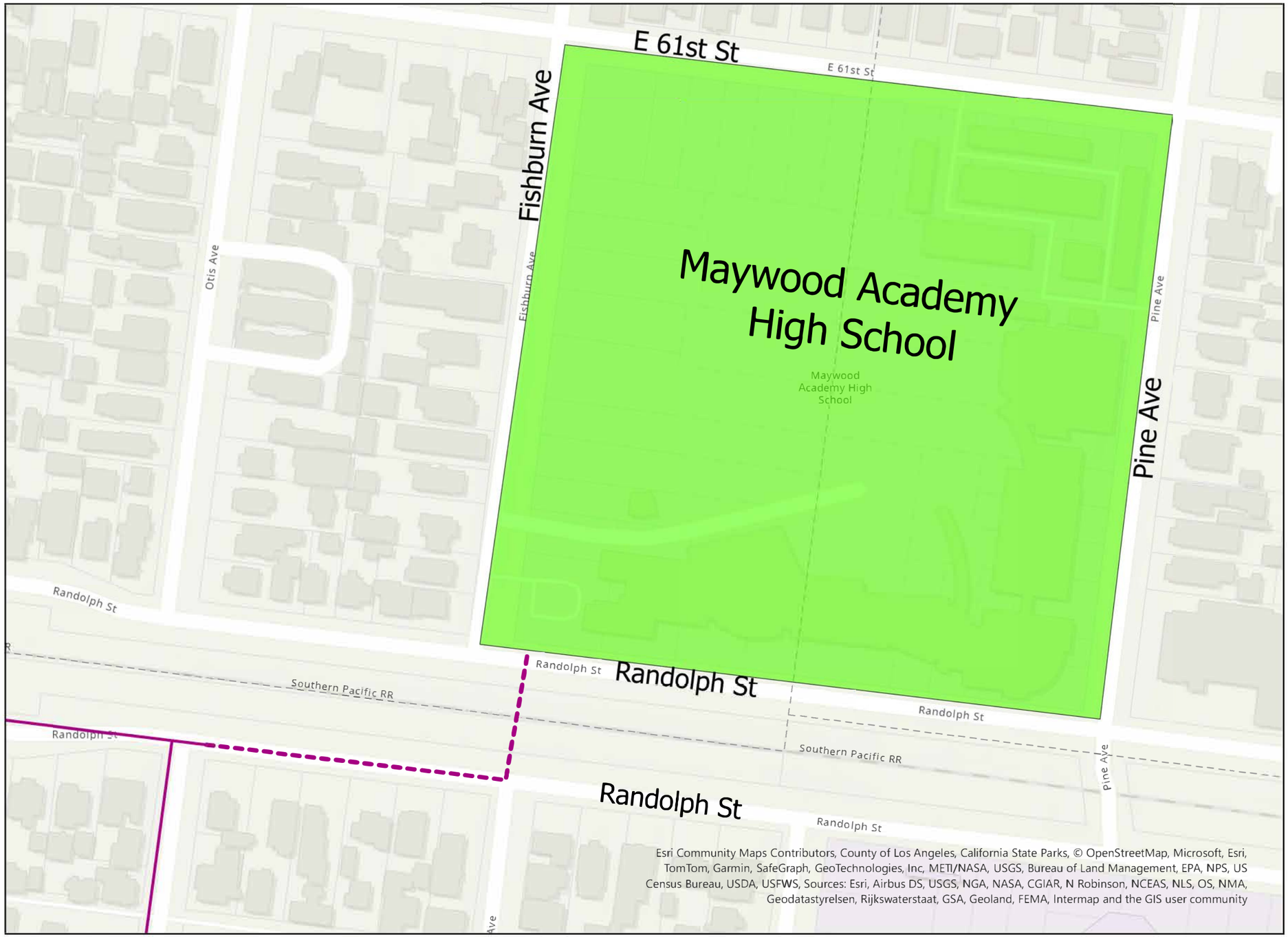
8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Maywood Academy High School
Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
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Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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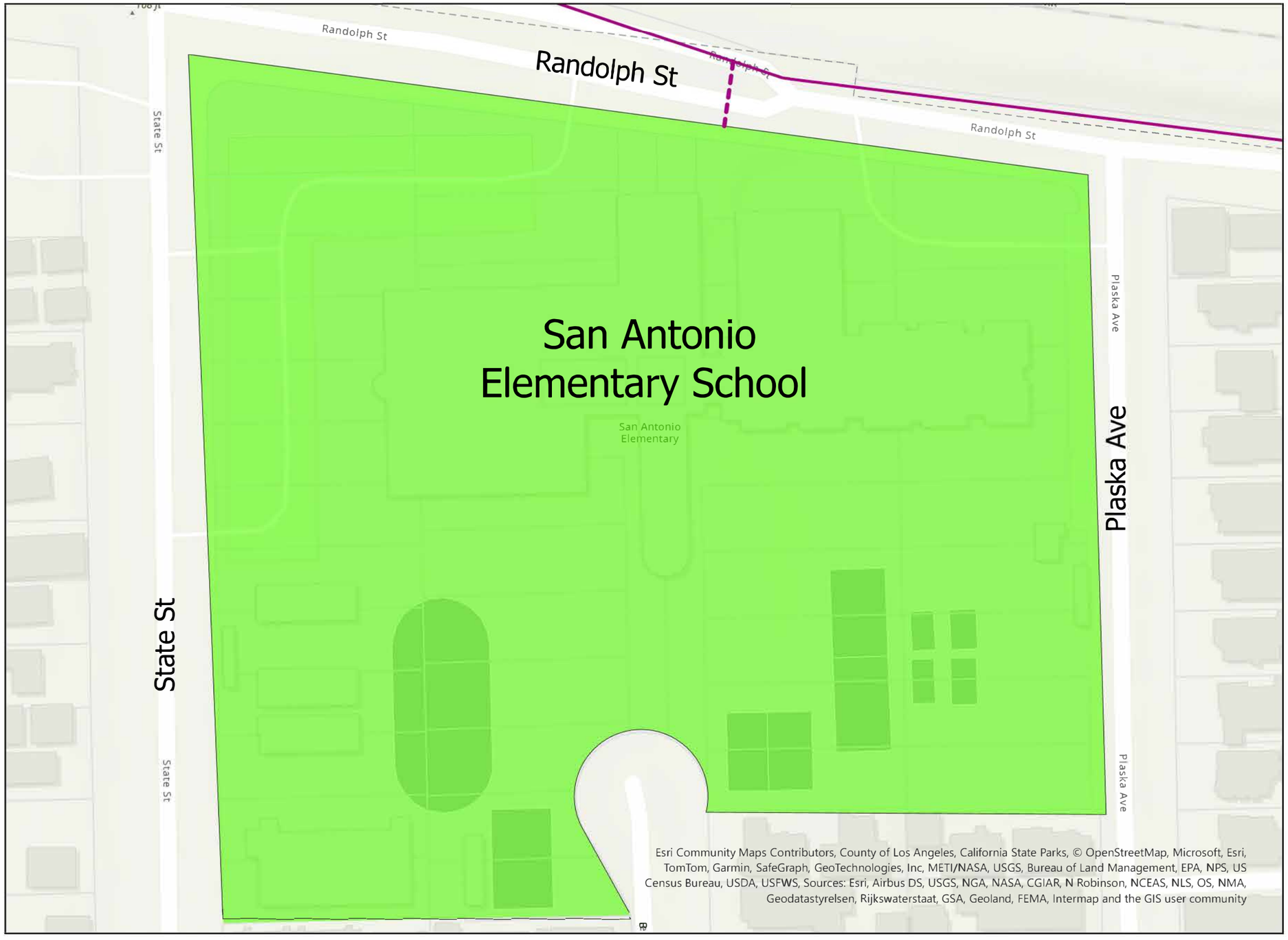
Miles

8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

San Antonio Elementary School
Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
Hollydale Pump Station
Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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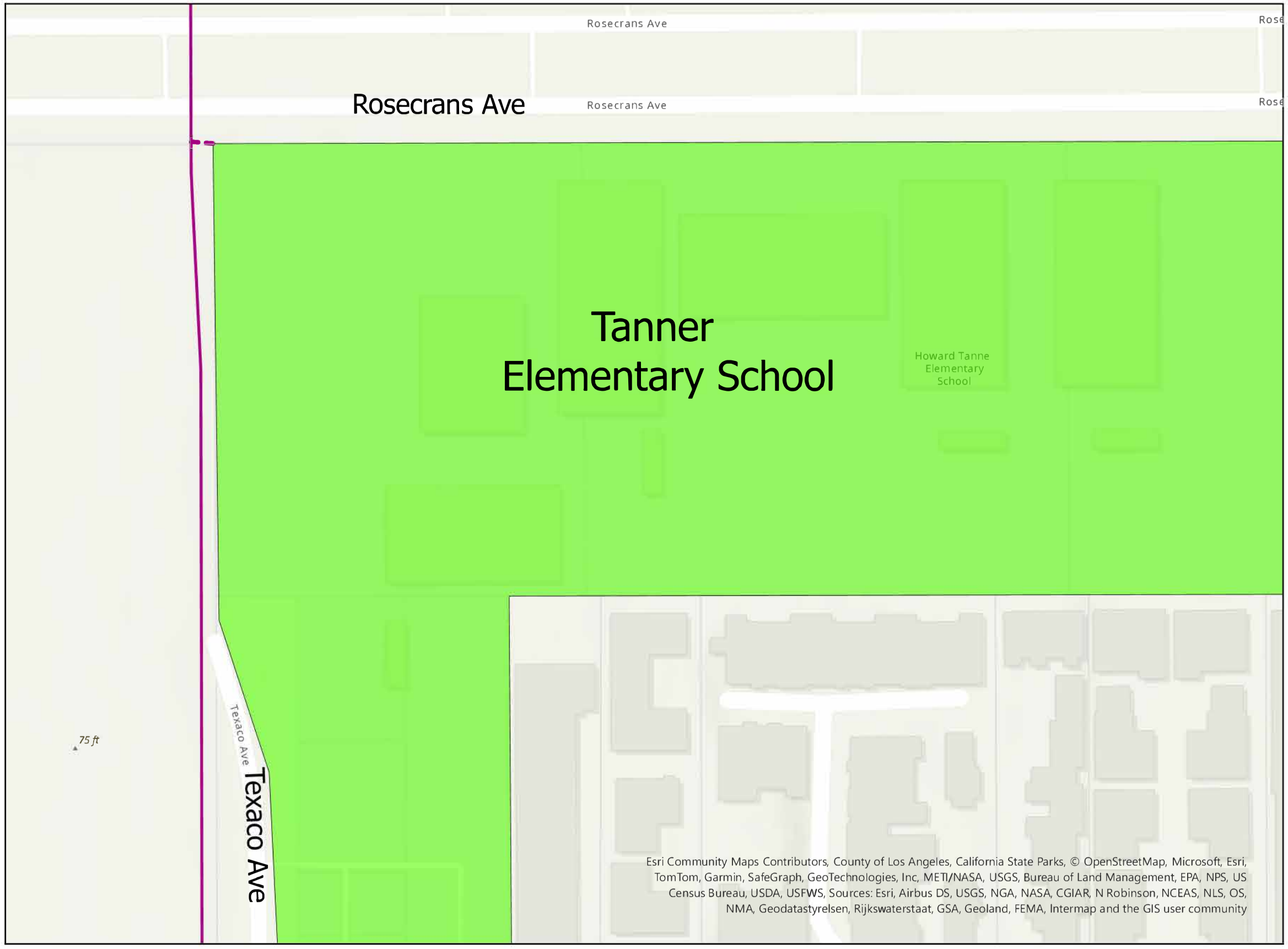
8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Tanner Elementary School
Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
Hollydale Pump Station
Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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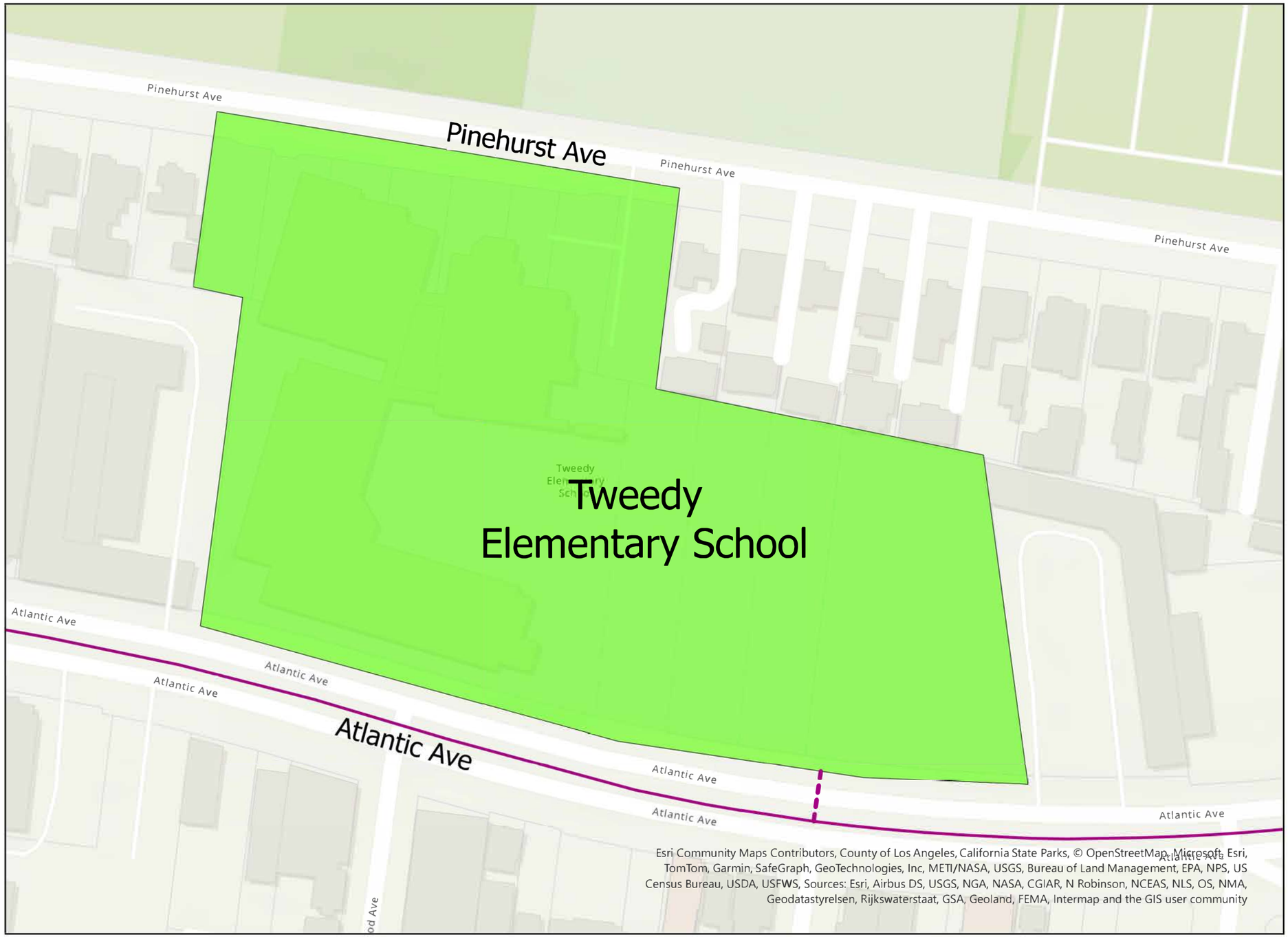
8/29/2024

Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Tweedy Elementary School
Pipeline Alignment



Prop1 Proposed RW Alignment
Prop1 DAC Sites

rwFacilities

Cudahy Pump Station
Hollydale Pump Station
Los Coyotes WRP
Cerritos Pump Station
Pressure Reducing Valve
Rio Hondo Pump Station
San Jose Creek WRP
Downey_Recycled_Water_Pipelines
SantaFe_Springs_Pipelines

rwMain

Century
Rio Hondo
CentralBasin_ServiceArea

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Miles

8/29/2024

Appendix B Site Photographs

Photograph 1 From the northwest corner of the Bellflower City Hall site, looking south.

Photograph 2 From the northwest corner of the Bellflower City Hall site, looking southwest.

Photograph 3 From the southwestern edge of the Bellflower City Hall site, looking north.

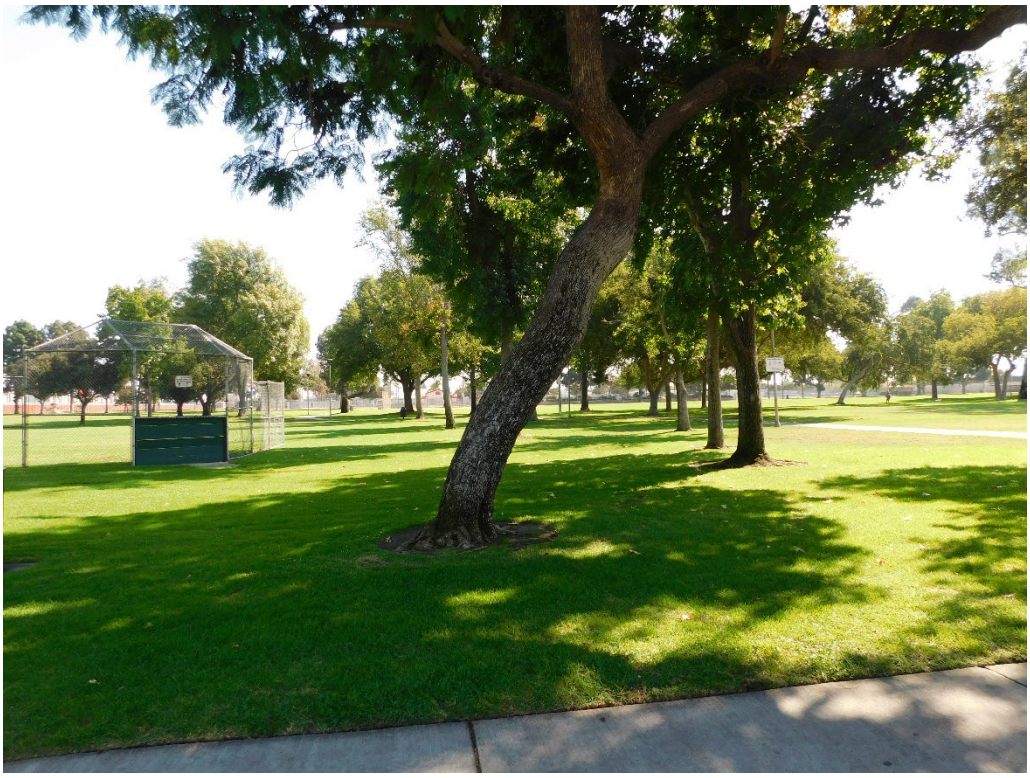
Photograph 4 From the southern corner of the Bloomfield Park site and Fedde Middle School site, looking east along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 5 From the southern corner of the Bloomfield Park site and Fedde Middle School site, looking west along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 6 From the western edge of the Fedde Middle School site, looking east.

Photograph 7 From the southwestern corner of the Fedde Middle School site, looking north.

Photograph 8 From the eastern edge of the Bloomfield Park site, looking west.



Photograph 9 From the western edge of the Bloomfield Park site, looking east.

Photograph 10 From the northern edge of the San Antonio Elementary School site, looking east along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 1 From the northern edge of the San Antonio Elementary School site, looking west along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 2 From the northern portion of the San Antonio Elementary School site, looking southeast.

Photograph 3 From the southeastern portion of the Maywood Academy High School site, looking southwest.

Photograph 4 From the southeastern corner of the Maywood Academy High School site, looking west towards the proposed alignment.

Photograph 5 From the eastern edge of the Maywood Academy High School site, looking west.

Photograph 6 From the western edge of the Tweedy Elementary School site, looking east.

Photograph 7 From the eastern edge of the Tweedy Elementary School site, looking north along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 8 From the eastern edge of the Tweedy Elementary School site, looking southwest.

Photograph 9 From the northwestern corner of the Tanner Elementary School site, looking east along the proposed alignment.

Photograph 10 From the southwestern corner of the Tanner Elementary School site, looking east.

Photograph 0 From the western edge of the Tanner Elementary School site, looking east.

Appendix C Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources

Table C-1 Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES				
Accipiter cooperii Cooper's hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in mixed and deciduous forests, open woodlands, small woodlots, riparian woodlands, open and pinyon woodlands, and forested mountainous regions. Nests in more open areas with older, larger trees.	No	**Moderate** Suitable nesting and foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.
Accipiter striatus sharp-shinned hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in mixed or coniferous forests, open deciduous woodlands, thickets, and forest edges. Usually nests in groves of coniferous trees in mixed woods and sometimes in dense deciduous tress or in pure coniferous forests with brush or clearings nearby. Winters in most types of forests or brushy areas. Avoids open country.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Actinemys pallida Southwestern pond turtle	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, marshes, and irrigation ditches, with abundant vegetation, and either rocky or muddy bottoms, in woodland, forest, and grassland. In streams, prefers pools to shallower areas. Logs, rocks, cattail mats, and exposed banks are required for basking. May enter brackish water and even seawater.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Agelaius tricolor tricolored blackbird	Fed: None CA: **THR** | SSC	Prefers wetland and grassland habitats. Historically nested in cattails, bullrushes, and willows, but has adapted to more agricultural settings with habitat loss. Commonly found in pasturelands, foraging in fields and farms.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Aimophila ruficeps canescens southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Widespread over the coastal lowlands and foothills in sage scrub, broken or burned chaparral, and grassland habitats with scattered shrubs.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Anniella stebbinsi southern California legless lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Mostly found in coastal sand dunes and a variety of interior habitats, including sandy washes and alluvial fans. They live mostly underground, burrowing in the loose sandy soils.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Anodonta californiensis California floater	Fed: None CA: None	Limited to fresh water shallow muddy or sandy habitat in large rivers, reservoirs, and lakes.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Antrozous pallidus pallid bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in arid or semi-arid habitats, often in mountainous or rocky areas near water. Can also be found over open, sparsely vegetated grasslands, and oak and pine forested areas. Roosts in caves, rock crevices, mines, hollow trees, and buildings, but favor rocky outcrops.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Ardea alb great egret	Fed: None CA: None	Yearlong resident throughout California, except for the high mountains and deserts. Feeds and rests in fresh, and saline emergent wetlands, along the margins of estuaries, lakes, and slow-moving streams, on mudflats and salt ponds, and in irrigated croplands and pastures.	No	**Moderate** Suitable foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.
Ardea herodias great blue heron	Fed: None CA: None	Found in both saltwater and freshwater habitats along the open coast, marshes, sloughs, riverbanks, and lakes, to backyard ponds and flooded agricultural fields. Forage in grasslands and fields. Nests high off the ground, usually in tall trees.	No	**Moderate** Suitable foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.
Arizona elegans occidentalis California glossy snake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Inhabits arid scrub, rocky washes, grassland, and chaparral. Appears in microhabitats of open areas and areas with soil loose enough for easy burrowing.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri coastal whiptail	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in valley-foothill hardwood, hardwood-conifer, riparian, mixed conifer, pine-juniper, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, desert scrub, desert wash, alkali scrub, and annual grasslands.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	Fed: None CA: Canidate	Occurs in dry, open areas such as grasslands, prairies, savannas, deserts, farmlands, golf courses and other urban areas. Usually nests in old burrow of ground squirrel, or other small mammal.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Bomb s crotchii Crotch bumble bee	Fed: None CA: CE	Exclusive to coastal California east towards the Sierra-Cascade Crest; less common in western Nevada.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Bomb s pensylvanicus American bumble bee	Fed: None CA: None	Prefers habitats in open farmland, prairies, and agricultural fields. Nests below grass or underground. Forages for pollen and nectar in meadows, parks, open fields, gardens, and sometimes forests.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Buteo regalis ferruginous hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in open spaces like grasslands, prairie, sagebrush steppe, scrubland, and pinyon-juniper woodland edges. Nests in cliffs, utility structures, outcrops, boulders, shrubs, knolls, or haystacks, but prefers to nest in lone tree.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk	Fed: None CA: **THR**	Lives in open areas, including savannas, grasslands, steppes, and cultivated lands. Nests in isolated trees along drainages, windbreaks in fields, and around farmsteads.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Calyptae costae Costa's hummingbird	Fed: None CA: None	Found in desert scrub in the Sonoran and Mojave deserts and chaparral and sage scrub areas in coastal California. During non-breeding season, found mostly in similar dry habitats and well as parks, gardens, and higher elevation mountains.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Cardinalis cardinalis northern cardinal	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in woodland edges, thickets, suburban gardens, urban areas, and desert washes. Requires dense bushes for nesting.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Catostomus santaanae Santa Ana sucker	Fed: **THR** CA: SSC	Live in shallow portions of rivers and streams. Exist mostly in flash systems where currents range from swift in the canyons to sluggish in the bottomlands. Seeks refuge in backwater eddies and less turbulent areas during periods of heavier deluge.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Chaetura vauxi Vaux's swift	Fed: None CA: SSC	Nests and roosts in large hollow trees in mature and old-growth coniferous and mixed forests. Forages over forests, rivers, lakes, fields, and gaps in forests, such as burned areas.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Charadrius montanus mountain plover	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in short grasslands, freshly-plowed fields, newly-sprouting grain fields, and sometimes in sod farms. Prefers short vegetation or bare ground with flat topography, particularly grazed areas or areas with fossorial rodents.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Chelonia mydas green turtle	Fed: **THR** CA: None	Found along the coastline in subtropical and temperate regions around islands, bays, and protected shores, especially in areas with seagrass beds.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Cicindela hirticollis gravida sandy beach tiger beetle	Fed: None CA: None	Found in unaltered ocean and estuarine beaches with significant sand dunes or beach grass areas above the high-tidal zone. Burrows into sand.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Cicindela latesignata western beach tiger beetle	Fed: None CA: None	Found in sandy open habitats, including river sandbars, and ocean beaches.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Cicindela senilis frosti senile tiger beetle	Fed: None CA: None	Found on or adjacent to coastal prairie terrace habitats. Forages, mates, and lays eggs in native grasslands marked by poorly-drained clay soils.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Circus hudsonius northern harrier	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in both wet and dry habitats with good ground cover. Breed in wide open habitats within prairie grasslands and fields and marshes. Nests on the ground in dense grasses or wetland vegetation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Cistothorus palustris clarkae Clark's marsh wren	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in both fresh and saltwater marshes and around the brushy edges of ponds. Forages in vegetation closer to water or at the water's surface. Breeds in marshes with tall vegetation such as cattails and bullrush.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis western yellow-billed cuckoo	Fed: CA: **THR END**	In California, the breeding distribution is now thought to be restricted to isolated sites in Sacramento, Amargosa, Kern, Santa Ana, and Colorado River valleys. Obligate riparian species with a primary habitat association of willow-cottonwood riparian forest.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Contopus cooperi olive-sided flycatcher	Fed: None CA: SSC	Can be found in western coniferous forests from sea level to over 10,000 feet in elevation. Occurs commonly in burned forests and other open areas with many dead trees.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Crotalus ruber red-diamond rattlesnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Inhabits arid scrub, coastal chaparral, oak and pine woodlands, rocky grasslands, and cultivated areas. Prefers the desert slopes of mountains and rocky desert flats.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
***Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1** monarch - California overwintering population	Fed: CE CA: SSC	Found in gardens, managed corridors, agricultural areas, and natural restored areas. Relies on milkweed (*Ascelpias* sp.) as its obligate larval host plant.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Diadophis punctatus modestus San Bernadino ringneck snake	Fed: None CA: None	Prefers moist habitats such as wet meadows, rocky hillsides, gardens, farmland, grassland, chaparral, mixed coniferous forests, and woodlands. Found under cover of rocks, wood bark, boards, and other surface debris.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Egretta thula snowy egret	Fed: None CA: None	Found in marshes, swamps, ponds, and shores and widespread throughout many aquatic habitats in both fresh and saltwater. If along the coast, prefers sheltered bays and estuaries. If inland, prefers extensive marshes and other large wetlands. Can sometimes be found foraging in dry fields.	Yes	**Present** Suitable foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Elanus leucurus white-tailed kite	Fed: None CA: **FP**	Common in savannahs, open woodlands, marshes, desert grasslands, partially cleared areas, and cultivated fields. Avoids heavily grazed areas. Breeds in lowland grasslands, agricultural wetlands, oak-woodland and savannah habitats, and riparian areas.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Empidonax traillii extimus Southwestern willow flycatcher	Fed: **END** CA: **END**	Occurs in riparian woodlands in southern California. Typically requires large areas of willow thickets in broad valleys, canyon bottoms, or around ponds and lakes. These areas typically have standing or running water, or are at least moist.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Eremophila alpestris actia California horned lark	Fed: None CA: WL	Inhabits open ground, generally avoiding areas with trees and bushes. Found in short-grass prairies, extensive lawns, plowed fields, stubble fields, beaches, lake flats, or high mountains.	No	**Moderate** Suitable foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.
Eumops perotis californicus western mastiff bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily a cliff-dwelling species, roost generally under exfoliating rock slabs. Roosts are generally high above the ground, usually allowing a clear vertical drop of at least three meters below the entrance for flight. In California, it is most frequently encountered in broad open areas. Its foraging habitat includes dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, and agricultural areas.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Falco columbr ius merlin	Fed: None CA: WL	Nests in trees in forested openings, edges, and along rivers. Can also be found nesting in towns and cities. Breeds in semi-open terrain. Lives in fairly-open country such as willow or birch scrub, shrubland, parks, grasslands, prairies, dunes, deserts, and moorland. Prefers low and medium-height vegetation with some trees.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Falco mexi canus prairie falcon	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in fairly dry open country, including grasslands, deserts, open hills, plains, and prairies, or above the tree line in high mountain areas. Winters in farmlands and around lakes and reservoirs, and sometimes in western cities. Nests on leges, cavities, or crevices of cliff faces, or uses abandoned nests of other raptors or ravens.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Falco peregrinus anatum American peregrine falcon	Fed: DL CA: DL	Lives in a wide variety of habitats, from tundra to desert mountains. Found mostly along mountain ranges, river valleys, and coastlines, and generally near water. Often moves into cities and nests on building ledges.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Gila orcuttii arroyo chub	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occupies warm streams of the Los Angeles Plain, which provide muddy torrents during the winter, and clear quiet brooks in the summer, but can dry up in certain areas. Found in both slow-moving, and rapid sections, typically in areas deeper than 15 inches.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Glyptostoma gabrielense San Gabriel chestnut	Fed: None CA: None	Restricted to the San Gabriel Mountains, part of the Transverse Ranges situated between the Los Angeles Basin and the Mojave Desert.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Gonidea angulate Western ridged mussel	Fed: None CA: None	Occurs on the benthos of streams, rivers, and lakes with substrates that vary from gravel to firm mud, and include at least some sand, silt or clay.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Hab oscelimorpha gab i western tidal-flat tiger beetle	Fed: None CA: None	Lives in tidal mud flats, shorelines, herbaceous wetlands in salty coastal areas, beaches, and sand dunes. Prefers areas unobstructed by vegetation for running and flying in short bursts.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Hydroprogne caspia Caspian tern	Fed: None CA: None	Found in both fresh and saltwater environments, but favors more protected areas such as bays, lagoons, rivers, and lakes. Breeds along ocean coasts, barrier islands, and interior lakes and rivers. Nests in colonies on flat, open areas with little vegetation, allowing for predator detection.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Icteria virens yellow-breasted chat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily found in tall, dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and thickets of willows, vine tangles, and dense brush with well-developed understories. Nesting areas are associated with streams, swampy ground, and the borders of small ponds. Breeding habitat must be dense to provide shade and concealment. It winters south the Central America.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Larus californicus California gull	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in any open area where food can be found. Common in garbage dumps, pastures, scrublands, orchards, meadows, and farms. Winters along the Pacific coast, mostly in marine areas including mudflats, estuaries, deltas, and beaches.	No	**Moderate** Suitable foraging habitat is present within or adjacent to the project sites.
Lasionycteris noctivagans silver-haired bat	Fed: None CA: None	Resides mainly in forested habitats from lower elevations to over 3,600 feet. Roosts under loose bark, in dead trees or snags, inside hollow cavities of trees, in buildings, rock crevices, wood piles, and on cliff faces.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Lasiurus cinereus hoary bat	Fed: None CA: None	Lives in an array of habitat types nationwide, but most common in arid desert regions in the Southwest. Winters along the coast. Roosts in tree foliage near the ends of branches.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Lasiurus frantzii western red bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common in edge habitats adjacent to streams or open fields. Can sometimes be found in orchards an urban areas. Prefers riparian areas dominated by walnuts, oaks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores for roosting.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Lasiurus xanthinus western yellow bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in riparian woodland habitats that include an abundance of trees such as cottonwood, sycamore, and white oak. Roosts in trees.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Mycrotus californicus stephensi south coast marsh vole	Fed: None CA: SSC	Most common in grasslands, but also found in the coastal zone in saltwater and freshwater marshes, wet meadows, and areas along rivers and lakes Elevation ranges from sea level to over 5,900 feet.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Myotis velifer Cave myotis	Fed: None CA: SSC	Roosts in caves, mines, and buildings. Foraging activity covers a broader range than other *Myotis* species.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Nannopterum auritum double-crested cormorant	Fed: None CA: WL	Found along coasts, in bays, lakes, rivers, and estuaries, along with most aquatic habitats. Nests in trees near or over water, on sea cliffs, or on the ground on islands.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Neotoma lepida intermedia San Diego desert woodrat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in a variety of shrub and desert habitats. Prefers large cactus patches and rock outcroppings. Common in sagebrush scrub areas, chaparral, desert, and within rocky sloped areas. Occurs at elevations up to 9,500 feet.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Nycticorax nycticorax black-crowned night heron	Fed: None CA: None	Found in a variety of aquatic habitats around both fresh and salt water including marshes, rivers, ponds, mangrove swamps, tidal flats, canals, and rice fields. Nests in groves of trees, in thickets, or on the ground, usually on islands or above the water.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Nyctinomops macrotis big free-tailed bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in rugged and rocky terrain.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi Belding's savannah sparrow	Fed: None CA: **END**	Dependent on wetland habitats. Resides year-round in the coastal salt marshes in southern California. Nests in pickleweed salt marsh vegetation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Passerculus sandwichensis rostratus large-billed savannah sparrow	Fed: None CA: SSC	Limited to open, low salt marsh vegetation, including grasses, pickleweed, and iodine bush. Almost entirely restricted to shorelines and marshes.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in a wide variety of vegetation types including coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland and coniferous forest. The key elements of such habitats are loose, fine soils with a high sand fraction; an abundance of native ants or other insects; and open areas with limited overstory for basking and low, but relatively dense shrubs for refuge.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Piranga rubra Summer tanager	Fed: None CA: SSC	Breed in gaps and edges of open deciduous or pine-oak forests across the southern and mid-Atlantic U.S. Uncommon (formerly common) summer resident and breeder in desert riparian habitat along lower Colorado River. Breeds in mature, desert riparian habitat dominated by cottonwoods and willows.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Polioptila californica californica coastal California gnatcatcher	Fed: **THR** CA: SSC	Obligate resident of sage scrub habitats that are dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*). This species generally occurs below 750 feet elevation in coastal regions and below 1,500 feet inland. It prefers habitat with more low-growing vegetation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Progne sub s purple martin	Fed: None CA: SSC	Favors meadows, grasslands, lakes and ponds, beaver dams, and flooded pastures for foraging areas. Can also be found in more urban areas like farms, croplands, parks, and gardens. Nests in tree cavities, or in holes in buildings and cliffs.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Pyrocephalus rubinus vermilion flycatcher	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occupies desert riparian habitat, particularly cottonwoods, willows, mesquite, and other large desert riparian trees, in habitat adjacent to irrigated fields, irrigation ditches, pastures, and other open, mesic areas where it can forage.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Rallus ob oletus levipes light-footed Ridgway's rail	Fed: **END | FP** CA: **END**	Found in coastal salt marshes and lagoons, or in brackish and freshwater habitats with cattails and bullrush. Nests in strands of dense cordgrass.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Rhaphiomidas terminates terminates El Segundo flower-loving fly	Fed: None CA: None	DSF habitat is limited to areas that include Delhi fine sand, an aeolian (wind-deposited) soil type. The highest density of DSF have been found in habitat that includes a variety of plants including California buckwheat, California croton, deerweed, and telegraph weed.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
***Rhinichthys osculus* ssp. 8** Santa Ana speckled dace	Fed: PTHR CA: SSC	Inhabits the Santa Ana, San Jacinto, San Gabriel, and Los Angeles River systems. Prefers perennial streams fed by cool springs with overhanging riparian vegetation and shallow gravel riffles for spawning.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Riparia riparia bank swallow	Fed: None CA: **THR**	Lives in low areas along rivers, streams, ocean coasts and reservoirs. Requires vertical banks and cliffs to form colonies of nests. Common around natural banks and waterways, and human-made sites such as sand and gravel quarries.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Salvadora hexal epis Coast patch-nosed snake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in brushy or shrubby vegetation along the coast and requires small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Selasphorus rufus rufous hummingbird	Fed: None CA: None	Breeds in open or shrubby areas, forest openings, yards, parks, and sometimes forests, thickets, swamps, and meadows from sea level to about 6,000 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Setophaga petechia yellow warbler	Fed: None CA: SSC	Nests over all of California except the Central Valley, the Mojave Desert region, and high altitudes and the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada. Winters along the Colorado River and in parts of Imperial and Riverside Counties. Nests in riparian areas dominated by willows, cottonwoods, sycamores, or alders or in mature chaparral. May also use oaks, conifers, and urban areas near stream courses.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Sorex ornatus salicornicus southern California saltmarsh shrew	Fed: None CA: SSC	Restricted to coastal salt marshes in Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. Found in tidal marshes characterized by cordgrass, bulrush, and cattail. Requires dense, low-lying cover with an abundance of small invertebrates for food.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Spea hamondii western spadefoot	Fed: PTHR CA: SSC	Occurs in open areas with sandy or gravelly soils in a variety of habitats including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washes, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, alkali flats, foothills, and mountains. Requires rainpools free of bullfrogs, fish, or crayfish for breeding.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Spinus lawrencei Lawrence's goldfinch	Fed: None CA: None	Open woodlands, chaparral, and weedy fields. Closely associated with oaks. Nests in open oak or other arid woodland and chaparral near water.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Spizella breweri Brewer's sparrow	Fed: None CA: None	Lives in arid sagebrush steppe habitat and among subalpine and dwarf shrub communities. Forages and nests among sagebrush habitats.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Sternula antillarum browni California least tern	Fed: **END** CA: **END**	Found on beaches, in bays, lagoons, large rivers, and salt flats. Generally, along the coast with sand beaches close to extensive shallow waters for feeding. Nests on beaches, mudflats, and sand dunes, usually near shallow estuaries and lagoons with access to the near open ocean. Requires undisturbed stretches of sparsely vegetated sandy or gravely ground for nesting.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Taxidea taxus American badger	Fed: None CA: SSC	Lives in open areas like plains and prairies, farmlands, and the edges of woodlands. Prefers dry, open grasslands.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Thamnophis hammondii Two-striped gartersnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in or near permanent fresh water, often along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth up to 7,000 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Vireo bellii pusillus least Bell's vireo	Fed: **END** CA: **END**	Inhabits low-elevation riparian habitats with a dense shrub understory near water. Prefers an area with both a canopy and shrub layer. Prefers to nest in willows, but will use other shrubs, trees, and vines. Found below 2,000 feet elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES				
Astragalus hornii* var. *hornii Horn's milk-vetch	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in lake margins in playas, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 197 to 2,789 feet. Blooming period is from May to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Atriplex parishii Parish's brittlescale	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Can be found along the immediate coastline and the Channel Islands. Grows in saline and alkaline soils, such as those in dry lakebeds and ephemeral vernal pools. Blooms from June to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii Davidson's saltscale	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in alkaline soils within coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 33 to 656 feet. Blooming period is from April to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Calochortus catalinae Catalina mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Most often found in chaparral or coastal scrub ecosystems and sometimes in grasslands and oak or pine woodlands. Blooms from April to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Calochortus plummerae Plummer's mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in chaparral or coastal scrub ecosystems, and sometimes in grasslands and oak or pine woodlands. Blooms from May to July. Found at elevations of up to 5,580 feet.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Calochortus weedii var. intermedius intermediate mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in coastal and peninsular ranges, Grows in heavy rocky soils from sea level to 6,200 feet. Blooms from June to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Calystegia felix lucky morning-glory	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in gentle alluvial slopes with silty loam soils, wetlands, and marshy places. Blooms from April to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Camissoniopsis lewisii Lewis' evening primrose	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 3	Found in coastal bluff scrub, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland in sandy or clay soils. From 0 to 984 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Centromadia parryi ssp. australis southern tarplant	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in disturbed areas near coastal salt marshes, grasslands, vernal pools, and coastal sage scrub habitat. From 0 to 1,575 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum salt marsh birds-beak	Fed: **END** CA: **END** CNPS: 1B.2	Found in coastal marshes from San Luis Obispo County to Northern Baja California, Mexico. Common among tidal wetland habitats. Blooms from May to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Clinopodium mimuloides Monkey-flower savory	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows along streambanks and in mesic soils within chaparral and north coast coniferous forest habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 1,000 to 5,905 feet. Blooming period is from June to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Dudleya multicaulis many-stemmed dudleya	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found on dry stony outcrops, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral habitats at up to 2,000 feet. Most common in Orange County along coastal plains in heavy clay soils.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Helianthis nuttallii ssp. parishii Los Angeles sunflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Occurs in marshes, swamps, and on damp river banks. Found at elevations ranging from 16 to 5,495 feet. Blooming period is from August to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Hordeum intercedens Vernal barley	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 3.2	Found in coastal dunes, coastal scrub, vernal pools, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 16 to 3,281 feet. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Horkelia cuneata var. pub rula Mesa horkelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs on sandy or gravelly soils in chaparral, woodlands, and coastal scrub plant communities. Found at elevations ranging from 230 to 2,657 feet. Blooming period is from February to September.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
J glans californica southern California black walnut	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Occurs in alluvial soils in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodlands. From 15 to 5,875 feet in elevation. Blooming period is from May to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii southwestern spiny rush	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Grows in coastal saltmarshes and dunes and disturbed saline areas as well as in alkaline, wet places in the interior along wetlands and ponds.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Lasthenia glab ata ssp. coulteri Coulter's goldfields	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in heavy soils, vernal pools, low alkaline fields, hillsides and grasslands and alkaline marshes up to 4,265 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii Robinson's pepper-grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.3	Fields, waste ground, disturbed areas, glades, prairies, pastures, roadsides, railroads. Blooming period is from January to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Lycium californicum California box-thorn	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Common in coastal sage scrub on coastal bluffs, mesas, and the boarders of estuaries, but also found in low, sparse, saline desert areas. Blooms from March to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Nama stenocarpa mud nama	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Occurs in wetlands, riparian areas, lake-margins, streambanks, and along the edges of water. Blooms from January to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Navarretia prostrata prostrate vernal pool navarretia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in moist to wet places, including alkaline floodplains and vernal pools. Blooms from April to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Nemacaulis denudata var. denudata coast woolly-heads	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in coastal sand dunes among coastal strand communities. Blooms from March to August.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Orcuttia californica California Orcutt grass	Fed: **END** CA: **END** CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in large and deep vernal pools, beginning as an aquatic plant with floating leaves, then growing and flowering as the water recedes and the vernal pool has dried. Blooms from April to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Phacelia hubbyi Hubby's phacelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Dry soils on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 3 to 2,904 feet. Blooming period is from January to July.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Phacelia stellaris Brand's star phacelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Found in along the coast in open areas such as sand dunes, sandy openings, washes, or flood plains, and among coastal scrub communities. Blooms from March to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Rib s divaricatum var. parishii Parish's gooseberry	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Found in riparian woodland and other riparian habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 213 to 984 feet. Blooming period is from February to April.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Sagittaria sanfordii Sanford's arrowhead	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in shallow, freshwater marshes and swamps at elevations lover than 2,100 feet. Blooms from May to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Sidalcea neomexicana Salt Spring checkerbloom	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Habitat includes chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, plays, and mojavean desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 5,020 feet. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	**Status**	**Habitat**	**Observed Onsite**	**Potential to Occur**
Suaeda esteroa estuary seablite	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in estuaries and salt marshes along the coast. Sometimes found inland in riparian communities. Blooms from May to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Suaeda taxifolia woolly seablite	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Grows in saline habitats such as salt marshes, beaches, dunes, edges and scrub. More common along the coast, but can be found in wetland riparian communities as well. Blooms year-round.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Symphyotrichum defoliatum San Bernardino aster	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in grasslands and disturbed areas in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains and Peninsular Range. Occurs in vernally wet sites including ditches, streams, and springs in many plant communities. From 6 to 6,693 feet in elevation.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Symphyotrichum greatae Greatas aster	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.3	Grows in mesic soils within broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cusmontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and riparian woodland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 6,594 feet. Blooming period is from June to October.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT COMMUNITIES				
Walnut Forest	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Southern California walnut woodland may be monospecific or mixed. Coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) is frequently codominant in the walnut woodland. Between Santa Barbara and Orange counties, southern California walnut is locally dominant or codominant in the coast live oak phase of oak woodland. Narrow, isolated stands of southern California walnut sometimes occur in chaparral. Occasionally, southern California walnut is found in coastal sage scrub.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.
Southern California Salt Marsh	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Occurs sporadically along the coast. Found in bays, inlets, and other protected areas subject to tidal flooding. Supports halophytic plant species, adapted to higher levels of saline, and lower oxygen content. Species diversity is relatively low.	No	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the project site.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) - Federal
END- Federal Endangered
THR- Federal Threatened
Candidate END – Under Review

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) - California
END- California Endangered
SSC- California Species of Concern
WL- Watch List
FP- California Fully Protected

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)
California Rare Plant Rank
1A- Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere
1B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
2B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere
4- Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

Threat Ranks
0.1- Seriously threatened in California
0.2- Moderately threatened in California
0.3- Not very threatened in California

Appendix D Regulations

Special status species are native species that have been afforded special legal or management protection because of concern for their continued existence. There are several categories of protection at both federal and state levels, depending on the magnitude of threat to continued existence and existing knowledge of population levels.

Federal Regulations

Endangered Species Act of 1973

Federally listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats are protected under provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Section 9 of the ESA prohibits "take" of threatened or endangered species. "Take" under the ESA is defined as to "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any of the specifically enumerated conduct." The presence of any federally threatened or endangered species that are in a project area generally imposes severe constraints on development, particularly if development would result in "take" of the species or its habitat. Under the regulations of the ESA, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) may authorize "take" when it is incidental to, but not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful act.

Critical Habitat is designated for the survival and recovery of species listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA. Critical Habitat includes those areas occupied by the species, in which are found physical and biological features that are essential to the conservation of an ESA listed species and which may require special management considerations or protection. Critical Habitat may also include unoccupied habitat if it is determined that the unoccupied habitat is essential for the conservation of the species.

Whenever federal agencies authorize, fund, or carry out actions that may adversely modify or destroy Critical Habitat, they must consult with USFWS under Section 7 of the ESA. The designation of Critical Habitat does not affect private landowners, unless a project they are proposing uses federal funds, or requires federal authorization or permits (e.g., funding from the Federal Highway Administration or a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)).

If USFWS determines that Critical Habitat will be adversely modified or destroyed from a proposed action, the USFWS will develop reasonable and prudent alternatives in cooperation with the federal institution to ensure the purpose of the proposed action can be achieved without loss of Critical Habitat. If the action is not likely to adversely modify or destroy Critical Habitat, USFWS will include a statement in its biological opinion concerning any incidental take that may be authorized and specify terms and conditions to ensure the agency is in compliance with the opinion.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S. Government Code [USC] 703) makes it unlawful to pursue, capture, kill, possess, or attempt to do the same to any migratory bird or part, nest, or egg of any such bird listed in wildlife protection treaties between the United States, Great Britain, Mexico, Japan, and the countries of the former Soviet Union, and authorizes the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to protect and regulate the taking of migratory birds. It establishes seasons and bag limits for hunted species and protects migratory birds, their occupied nests, and their eggs (16 USC 703; 50 CFR 10, 21).

The MBTA covers the taking of any nests or eggs of migratory birds, except as allowed by permit pursuant to 50 CFR, Part 21. Disturbances causing nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort (i.e., killing or abandonment of eggs or young) may also be considered "take." This regulation seeks to protect migratory birds and active nests.

In 1972, the MBTA was amended to include protection for migratory birds of prey (e.g., raptors). Six families of raptors occurring in North America were included in the amendment: Accipitridae (kites, hawks, and eagles); Cathartidae (New World vultures); Falconidae (falcons and caracaras); Pandionidae (ospreys); Strigidae (typical owls); and Tytonidae (barn owls). The provisions of the 1972 amendment to the MBTA protects all species and subspecies of the families listed above. The MBTA protects over 800 species including geese, ducks, shorebirds, raptors, songbirds and many relatively common species.

State Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides for the protection of the environment within the State of California by establishing State policy to prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures for projects. It applies to actions directly undertaken, financed, or permitted by State lead agencies. If a project is determined to be subject to CEQA, the lead agency will be required to conduct an Initial Study (IS); if the IS determines that the project may have significant impacts on the environment, the lead agency will subsequently be required to write an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A finding of non-significant effects will require either a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration instead of an EIR. Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines independently defines "endangered" and "rare" species separately from the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Under CEQA, "endangered" species of plants or animals are defined as those whose survival and reproduction in the wild are in immediate jeopardy, while "rare" species are defined as those who are in such low numbers that they could become endangered if their environment worsens.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA)

In addition to federal laws, the state of California implements the CESA which is enforced by CDFW. The CESA program maintains a separate listing of species beyond the FESA, although the provisions of each act are similar.

State-listed threatened and endangered species are protected under provisions of the CESA. Activities that may result in "take" of individuals (defined in CESA as; "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill") are regulated by CDFW. Habitat degradation or modification is not included in the definition of "take" under CESA. Nonetheless, CDFW has interpreted "take" to include the destruction of nesting, denning, or foraging habitat necessary to maintain a viable breeding population of protected species.

The State of California considers an endangered species as one whose prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy. A threatened species is considered as one present in such small numbers throughout its range that it is likely to become an endangered species in the near future in the

absence of special protection or management. A rare species is one that is considered present in such small numbers throughout its range that it may become endangered if its present environment worsens. State threatened and endangered species are fully protected against take, as defined above.

The CDFW has also produced a species of special concern list to serve as a species watch list. Species on this list are either of limited distribution or their habitats have been reduced substantially, such that a threat to their populations may be imminent. Species of special concern may receive special attention during environmental review, but they do not have formal statutory protection. At the federal level, USFWS also uses the label species of concern, as an informal term that refers to species which might be in need of concentrated conservation actions. As the Species of Concern designated by USFWS do not receive formal legal protection, the use of the term does not necessarily ensure that the species will be proposed for listing as a threatened or endangered species.

Fish and Game Code

Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3513 are applicable to natural resource management. For example, Section 3503 of the Code makes it unlawful to destroy any birds' nest or any birds' eggs that are protected under the MBTA. Further, any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (Birds of Prey, such as hawks, eagles, and owls) are protected under Section 3503.5 of the Fish and Game Code which makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy their nest or eggs. A consultation with CDFW may be required prior to the removal of any bird of prey nest that may occur on a project site. Section 3511 of the Fish and Game Code lists fully protected bird species, where the CDFW is unable to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take these species. Pertinent species that are State fully protected by the State include golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*). Section 3513 of the Fish and Game Code makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA 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 MBTA.

Native Plant Protection Act

Sections 1900–1913 of the Fish and Game Code were developed to preserve, protect, and enhance Rare and Endangered plants in the state of California. The act requires all state agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve Endangered and Rare native plants. Provisions of the Native Plant Protection Act prohibit the taking of listed plants from the wild and require notification of the CDFW at least ten days in advance of any change in land use which would adversely impact listed plants. This allows the CDFW to salvage listed plant species that would otherwise be destroyed.

California Native Plant Society Rare and Endangered Plant Species

Vascular plants listed as rare or endangered by the CNPS, but which have no designated status under FESA or CESA are defined as follows:

California Rare Plant Rank

1A- Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere

1B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere

2A- Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, But More Common Elsewhere

2B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, But More Common Elsewhere

3- Plants about Which More Information is Needed - A Review List

4- Plants of Limited Distribution - A Watch List

Threat Ranks

.1- Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)

.2- Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)

.3- Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known).

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The Corps Regulatory Branch regulates activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the CDFG regulates activities under the Fish and Game Code Section 1600-1616, and the Regional Board regulates activities pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

Federal Regulations

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

In accordance with the Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States"; Conforming (September 8, 2023), "waters of the United Sates" are defined as follows:

(a) ***Waters of the United States*** means:

(1) Waters which are:
(i) Currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;
(ii) The territorial seas; or
(iii) Interstate waters;

(2) Impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under this definition, other than impoundments of waters identified under paragraph (a)(5) of this section;

(3) Tributaries of waters identified in paragraph (a)(1) or (2) of this section that are relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water;

(4) Wetlands adjacent to the following waters:
(i) Waters identified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section; or
(ii) Relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water identified in paragraph (a)(2) or (a)(3) of this section and with a continuous surface connection to those waters;

(5) Intrastate lakes and ponds not identified in paragraphs (a)(1) through (4) of this section that are relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water with a continuous surface connection to the waters identified in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(3) of this section

(b) The following are not "waters of the United States" even where they otherwise meet the terms of paragraphs (a)(2) through (5) of this section:

(1) Waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons, designed to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act;

(2) Prior converted cropland designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The exclusion would cease upon a change of use, which means that the area is no longer available for the production of agricultural commodities. Notwithstanding the determination of an area's status as prior converted

cropland by any other Federal agency, for the purposes of the Clean Water Act, the final authority regarding Clean Water Act jurisdiction remains with EPA;

(3) Ditches (including roadside ditches) excavated wholly in and draining only dry land and that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water;

(4) Artificially irrigated areas that would revert to dry land if the irrigation ceased;
(5) Artificial lakes or ponds created by excavating or diking dry land to collect and retain water and which are used exclusively for such purposes as stock watering, irrigation, settling basins, or rice growing;
(6) Artificial reflecting or swimming pools or other small ornamental bodies of water created by excavating or diking dry land to retain water for primarily aesthetic reasons;

(7) Waterfilled depressions created in dry land incidental to construction activity and pits excavated in dry land for the purpose of obtaining fill, sand, or gravel unless and until the construction or excavation operation is abandoned and the resulting body of water meets the definition of waters of the United States; and

(8) Swales and erosional features (*e.g.,* gullies, small washes) characterized by low volume, infrequent, or short duration flow.

(c) In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) ***Wetlands*** means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

(2) ***Adjacent*** means having a continuous surface connection

(3) ***High tide line*** means the line of intersection of the land with the water's surface at the maximum height reached by a rising tide. The high tide line may be determined, in the absence of actual data, by a line of oil or scum along shore objects, a more or less continuous deposit of fine shell or debris on the foreshore or berm, other physical markings or characteristics, vegetation lines, tidal gages, or other suitable means that delineate the general height reached by a rising tide. The line encompasses spring high tides and other high tides that occur with periodic frequency but does not include storm surges in which there is a departure from the normal or predicted reach of the tide due to the piling up of water against a coast by strong winds such as those accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm.

(4) ***Ordinary high water mark*** means that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

(5) ***Tidal waters*** means those waters that rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface can no longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by hydrologic, wind, or other effects.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act

Pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity which may result in any discharge to waters of the United States must provide certification from the State or Indian tribe in which the discharge originates. This certification provides for the protection of the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of waters, addresses impacts to water quality that may result from issuance of federal permits, and helps insure that federal actions will not violate water quality standards of the State or Indian tribe. In California, there are nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Board) that issue or deny certification for discharges to waters of the United States and waters of the State, including wetlands, within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Resources Control Board assumed this responsibility when a project has the potential to result in the discharge to waters within multiple Regional Boards.

State Regulations

Fish and Game Code

Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 et. seq. establishes a fee-based process to ensure that projects conducted in and around lakes, rivers, or streams do not adversely impact fish and wildlife resources, or, when adverse impacts cannot be avoided, ensures that adequate mitigation and/or compensation is provided.

Fish and Game Code Section 1602 requires any person, state, or local governmental agency or public utility to notify the CDFW before beginning any activity that will do one or more of the following:

(1) substantially obstruct or divert the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake;
(2) substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; or
(3) deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it can pass into a river, stream, or lake.

Fish and Game Code Section 1602 applies to all perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral rivers, streams, and lakes in the State. CDFW's regulatory authority extends to include riparian habitat (including wetlands) supported by a river, stream, or lake regardless of the presence or absence of hydric soils and saturated soil conditions. Generally, the CDFW takes jurisdiction to the top of bank of the stream or to the outer limit of the adjacent riparian vegetation (outer drip line), whichever is greater. Notification is generally required for any project that will take place in or in the vicinity of a river, stream, lake, or their tributaries. This includes rivers or streams that flow at least periodically or permanently through a bed or channel with banks that support fish or other aquatic life and watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that support or have supported riparian vegetation. A Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement would be required if impacts to identified CDFW jurisdictional areas occur.

Porter Cologne Act

The California *Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act* gives the State very broad authority to regulate waters of the State, which are defined as any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters. The Porter-Cologne Act has become an important tool in the post SWANCC and Rapanos regulatory environment, with respect to the state's authority over isolated and insignificant waters. Generally, any person proposing to discharge waste into a water body that could affect its water quality must file a Report of Waste Discharge in the event that there is no Section 404/401 nexus. Although "waste" is partially defined as any waste substance associated with human habitation, the Regional Board also interprets this to include fill discharged into water bodies.