Appendix C-1
Biological Technical Letter Report

ESA

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December 9, 2024

City of Los Angeles
Attention: Christopher Adams
Environmental Management Group
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600, Mail Stop 939
Los Angeles, California 90015-2213

Subject: Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Biological Technical Letter Report

Dear Mr. Adams:

Environmental Science Associates (ESA) is pleased to provide to you this Biological Technical Letter Report for the Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Project (Project). This report documents the existing biological conditions including species observed, a discussion of the potential to occur for sensitive biological resources, and potential impacts to biological resources as a result of Project implementation. The information used to support this report includes the results of a field reconnaissance survey for the Project site and research of available literature and databases. This report also provides a discussion of biological resource impacts and recommendations to reduce impacts below a level of significance. This report comprehensively documents existing biological resources within the Project site and surrounding lands in order to assist the City of Los Angeles in Project planning and permitting.

Project Location

The proposed Project is located in the City of Los Angeles on the north side of the Santa Monica Mountains (see **Attachment A, Figure 1, Regional Location**). More specifically, it is located within the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Burbank 7.5-minute quadrangle in Township 1 North, Range 14 West, Section 0. Impacts are proposed along a narrow strip between the Los Angeles River (LA River) to the north and State Route 134 (SR-134) to the south; it stretches west to east from Forest Lawn Drive to the Riverside Drive bridge (see **Attachment A, Figure 2, Project Site Map**).

Project Description

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering (BOE) as lead agency under CEQA, and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) as Project proponent, propose to implement the Project, which would construct a new multi-use trail segment along the south side of the LA River from the existing western terminus of the Los Angeles River Bikeway located just to the west of Riverside Drive westward to approximately 200 feet east of Forest Lawn Drive in the Hollywood Community Plan area of the City of Los Angeles. The total length of the Project is just under one mile (approximately 4,600 feet). The trail segment would include a new paved path on the northern side of the proposed trail alignment for use by pedestrians and cyclists, an equestrian-only unpaved trail on the south side of the alignment, and associated retaining walls, concrete fencing, path lighting, and limited utility relocations. The proposed Project site and surrounding 500-foot buffer is collectively referred to as the biological study area (BSA) (Figure 2).

Methodology

Literature Review

Prior to conducting the field survey, ESA conducted a query of the following resource inventory databases to analyze the potential for sensitive resources to occur within the BSA:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2024a. California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB). The database was queried for special status species records in the Burbank USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle and eight surrounding quadrangles, including San Fernando, Sunland, Condor Peak, Van Nuys, Pasadena, Beverly Hills, Hollywood, and Los Angeles (CDFW 2024).
- CDFW California Sensitive Natural Communities List (CDFW 2024c).
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 2024. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. Database was queried for special status species records in the Burbank USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle and eight surrounding quadrangles including San Fernando, Sunland, Condor Peak, Van Nuys, Pasadena, Beverly Hills, Hollywood, and Los Angeles.
- Los Angeles City Planning. 2021. Protected Areas for Wildlife & Wildlife Movement Pathways.
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Natural Resource Protection Plan and Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map (SMMC 2017; SMMC 2021).
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. (2021, December 13). https://smmc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/ESSM-NRPP.pdf
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2024b. Information for Planning and Consultation. IPaC: Home (fws.gov)
- USFWS National Wetland Inventory (USFWS).2024c.
- USGS (U.S. Geological Survey) National Hydrography Dataset. 2024.

Field Surveys

ESA biologists Brian Rawles and Sonya Vargas conducted a reconnaissance-level biological resources survey on June 27, 2024. The Project area as well as a 500-foot buffer around the perimeter of the Project area (collectively, the BSA; Figure 2) were surveyed for sensitive species, suitable sensitive species habitat, aquatic resources, and other possible biological constraints to the proposed Project. Focused sensitive species and aquatic resources delineation surveys were not performed during this site visit. ESA biologists Amanda French and Sonya Vargas conducted a follow-up biological survey and aquatic resources delineation within the BSA on July 30, 2024. The surveys consisted of meandering transects throughout the BSA to characterize and map plant communities and land use, and to determine the potential for special-status plants and wildlife to occur. All incidental, visual observations of flora and fauna, including sign (i.e., presence of scat) as well as any audible detections, were noted during the site visit and are discussed in the Existing Conditions section, below.

Natural communities and land use were characterized to map their extent and quantify their amounts within the BSA using ArcGIS software. Plant taxonomy followed *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition* (Baldwin et al. 2012), and plant community descriptions were characterized using *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009). Plant communities, land uses, and habitats not identified within the manuals were characterized based on species dominance. Representative photographs were taken during the survey and are provided in **Attachment B, Representative Site Photographs**.

Regulatory Framework

Federal & State Endangered Species Acts

The federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) provides guidance for conserving federally listed species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Section 9 of the FESA and its implementing regulations prohibit the "take" of any federally listed endangered or threatened plant or animal species, unless otherwise authorized by federal regulations. "Take" includes the destruction of a listed species' habitat. Section 9 also prohibits several specified activities with respect to endangered and threatened plants.

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) mandates that state agencies must not approve a project that would jeopardize the continued existence of species if reasonable and prudent alternatives are available that would avoid a jeopardy finding. CESA also prohibits the take of any fish, wildlife, or plant species listed as endangered or threatened, or designated as candidates for listing, under CESA. Like the FESA, CESA contains a procedure for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to issue an incidental take permit authorizing the take of listed and candidate species incidental to an otherwise lawful activity, subject to specified conditions.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the take of native birds "by any means or manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture (or) kill" any migratory birds except as permitted by regulations issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The term *take* is defined by USFWS regulation to mean to "pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect" any migratory bird or any part, nest, or egg of any migratory bird covered by the conventions, or to attempt those activities.

Clean Water Act

In accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (WOTUS). WOTUS and their lateral limits are defined in 33 CFR 328.3(a) and includes navigable waters of the U.S., interstate waters, all other waters where the use or degradation or destruction of the waters could affect interstate or foreign commerce, tributaries to any of these waters, and wetlands that meet any of these criteria or that are adjacent to any of these waters or their tributaries. Any activity resulting in the placement of "fill" material within WOTUS requires a Section 404 permit from USACE; "fill" is defined as any material that replaces any portion of a water of the U.S. with dry land or that changes the bottom elevation of any portion of a water of the U.S.

In accordance with Section 401 of the CWA, projects that apply for a Section 404 permit for discharge of dredged or fill material must obtain a water quality certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Section 401 of the CWA gives the state authority to grant, deny, or waive certification of proposed federally licensed or permitted activities resulting in discharge to waters of the United States. The certification shall originate from the state or appropriate interstate water pollution control agency in/where the discharge originates or will originate. Any such discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of CWA Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307.

Native Plant Protection Act

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) includes measures to preserve, protect, and enhance rare and endangered native plants. The list of native plants afforded protection pursuant to the NPPA includes those listed as rare and endangered under the CESA. The NPPA provides limitations on take as follows: "No person will import into this state, or take, possess, or sell within this state" any rare or endangered native plant, except in compliance with provisions of the act. Individual landowners are required to notify the CDFW at least 10 days in advance of changing land use to allow the CDFW to salvage any rare or endangered native plant material.

Section 15380 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines

Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and state statutes, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15380(b) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definition in FESA and the section of the California Fish and Game Code (FGC) dealing with rare or endangered plants or animals (i.e., CESA). This section was included in CEQA primarily to deal with situations in which a public agency must review a project that may have a significant effect on, for example, a species that has not been formally listed by either USFWS or CDFW; CEQA provides such an agency with the ability to protect the non-listed species from the potential impacts of a project. CEQA also calls for the protection of other significant resources, such as certain natural communities, for example. Although these resources are not currently protected, CEQA calls for an assessment of whether they would be affected and requires findings of significance regarding potential losses.

Sections 3503 and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code

Section 3503 of the FGC prohibits the killing of birds or the destruction of bird nests. Birds of prey are protected under Section 3503.5 of the FGC, which provides that it is "unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the order Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds of prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Section 3513 of the FGC prohibits any take or possession of birds that are designated by the MBTA as migratory nongame birds except as allowed by federal rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the MBTA. Migratory birds include all native birds in the United States, except those non-migratory game species, such as quail and turkey, which are managed by individual states.

Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Natural Resource Protection Plan

The Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Natural Resource Protection Plan (ESMM NRPP) identifies lands foundational to the conservation of habitats throughout the Santa Monica Mountains range between Topanga Canyon Boulevard (State Route 27) and Griffith Park. The plan addresses habitat connectivity for animal and plants species under threat of continued intense development of the area. The goal of the plan is to prevent further declines in biodiversity due to reduced habitat connectivity (ESMM NRPP 2021).

Ordinance 186873; City of Los Angeles Municipal Code

Ordinance 186873 amends Sections 12.21, 17.02, 17.05, 17.06, 17.51, 46.00, 46.01, 46.02, 46.03, 46.04 and 46.06 of the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code and requires that all development be sited and designed to preserve Protected tree and shrub species with a cumulative trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) of 4 inches or greater, where feasible. Protected trees include native oaks (*Quercus* species), excluding the scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*); California (western) sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*); Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*); and California bay (*Umbellularia californica*). Protected shrubs include Mexican elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*) and toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*).

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks Tree Preservation Policy

The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Tree Preservation Policy protects specified trees to prevent impacts to their value and avoid negative ecosystem impacts. Trees protected by the Tree Preservation Policy include Heritage Trees, Special Habitat Value Trees, and Common Park Trees. It should be noted that trees that meet criteria for Heritage, Special Habitat or Common Park Trees under RAP Tree Protection Policy and are protected under Ordinance 186873 are regulated under the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code.

- Heritage Trees are individual trees of any size or species that are specifically designated as heritage because of their historical, commemorative, or horticultural significance.
- Special Habitat Value Trees are native trees located on RAP managed lands.
- Common Park Trees are generally mature exotic trees that have value beyond the shade they provide to park users and are a scenic resource.

LA River Master Plan; Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project

The LA River Master Plan aims to transform the LA River into a multi-benefit resource that enhances the quality of life for Los Angeles County residents by creating a 51-mile connected public open space that integrates flood control, recreation, environmental restoration, and community engagement (Los Angeles County Public Works 2022). The plan focuses on improving water quality, increasing access to parks and trails, supporting native ecosystems, and fostering arts and culture. The LA River Master Plan incorporates the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project led by USACE, which seeks to restore 11 miles of historic riparian and marsh habitat between Griffith Park and Downtown Los Angeles (USACE 2016). Restoration efforts outlined by the

LA River Master Plan and Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project are intended to enhance habitat connectivity and support local wildlife populations.

Existing Conditions

Soils

Topography within the BSA generally slopes in a south-north orientation, ranging between an elevation of approximately 604 feet above mean sea level (amsl) near the Griffith Park foothills down to 449 feet amsl in the LA River bed. Based on a review of the USDA Soils Map, five soil types were documented within the BSA: urban land, frequently flooded, 0 to 5 percent slopes; urban land-metz-pico complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes; urban land-Tujunga-typic xerorthents, sandy substratum complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes; vista-cieneba complex, 30 to 85 percent slopes; and xeropsamments, frequently flooded, 0 to 2 percent slopes (NRCS 2024; see **Attachment A, Figure 3, Soils Map**). A brief description of each soil type is provided below:

Urban Land, Frequently Flooded, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Urban land, frequently flooded is a landform comprised of manufactured drainage channels with a very high runoff class and zero inches to a manufactured layer; it is not considered a hydric soil (NRCS 2024). This soil type occurs in much of the LA River and covers most of the Project impact area.

Urban Land-Metz-Pico Complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes

The urban land-Metz-Pico soil complex occupies most of the area south of the Project Site as well as some portions of the Project impact area. The soils in this complex are not considered hydric soils (NCRS 2024).

Urban Land

Urban land is a manufactured soil type with a very high runoff class and zero inches to a manufactured layer (NRCS 2024).

Metz

Metz soils are somewhat excessively drained soils. Its parent material is residuum derived from granite and/or sedimentary rock. Depth to a restrictive layer is greater than 80 inches. The profile consists of loamy sand 0 to 18 inches, sand 18 to 37 inches, silt loam 37 to 49 inches, and sand 49 to 79 inches (NRCS 2024).

Pico

Pico soils are well drained soils. Its parent material is residuum derived from granite and/or sedimentary rock. Depth to restrictive feature is greater than 80 inches. The profile consists of loam 0 to 5 inches, very fine loamy sand 5 to 18 inches, fine loamy sand 18 to 47 inches, and fine sand 47 to 79 inches (NCRS 2024).

Urban Land-Tujunga-Typic Xerorthents, Sandy Substratum Complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes

The urban land-Tujunga-typic xerorthents soil complex occupies most of the area north of both the Project Site and LA River; however, the complex does not occur within the Project impact area. The soils in this complex are not considered hydric soils (NCRS 2024).

Urban Land

Urban land is a manufactured soil type with a very high runoff class and zero inches to a manufactured layer (NRCS 2024).

Tujunga

Tujunga soils are somewhat excessively drained soils. Its parent material is residuum derived from granite. Depth to restrictive feature is greater than 80 inches. The profile consists of fine sandy loam 0 to 8 inches, coarse sand 8 to 28 inches, loamy coarse sand 28 to 49 inches, and loamy fine sand 49 to 79 inches (NCRS 2024).

Typic Xerorthents, Sandy Substratum

Typic xerorthents, sandy substratum are well drained soils. Its parent material is residuum derived from granite. Depth to restrictive feature is greater than 80 inches. The profile consists of clay loam 0 to 6 inches, sandy loam 6 to 18 inches, fine sandy loam 18 to 37 inches, and sand 37 to 79 inches (NCRS 2024).

Vista-Cieneba Complex, 30 to 85 percent slopes

The vista-cieneba soil complex occupies a small portion of the BSA southeast of the Project Site at the base of Griffith Park foothills. The soils in this complex are not considered hydric soils (NCRS 2024).

Vista

Vista soils are well drained soils. Its parent material is colluvium and/or residuum weathered from diorite. Depth to restrictive feature is 20 to 37 inches. The profile consists of sandy loam 0 to 12 inches, paragravelly sandy loam 12 to 23 inches, and bedrock 23 to 33 inches (NCRS 2024).

Cienba

Cienba soils are somewhat excessively drained soils. Its parent material is colluvium and/or residuum weathered from diorite. Depth to restrictive feature is 11 to 23 inches. The profile consists of sandy loam 0 to 16 inches, and bedrock 16 to 26 inches (NCRS 2024).

Xeropsamments, Frequently Flooded, 0 to 2 percent slopes

Xeropsamments, frequently flooded soils occurs within the LA River on the eastern side of the BSA adjacent the Project Site. These soils are somewhat excessively drained. The parent material is alluvium derived from granite. Depth to restrictive feature greater than 80 inches. The profile consists of stratified sand 0 to 79 inches. The soils in this complex are not considered hydric soils (NCRS 2024).

Natural Communities and Land Cover Types

The natural communities and land cover types characterized and mapped within the BSA are depicted in **Attachment A, Figure 4, Natural Communities and Landcover**, and their respective acreages are provided in **Table 1, Natural Communities and Land Cover Types**. A complete list of plant species observed within the BSA is provided in **Attachment C, Floral and Faunal Compendia**. Each natural community and land cover type is described in detail below.

Cattail Marshes (Typha [angustifolia, domingensis, latifolia] Herbaceous Alliance)

Cattail marshes occur in eastern edge of the BSA within a soft bottom portion of the LA River, just northeast of the Project Site. It consists of a dense riparian herbaceous layer dominated by slender cattail (*Typha domingensis*) and broad-leaved cattail (*Typha latifolia*) interspersed with stands of American bulrush (*Schoenoplectus americanus*) and California bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*). Emergent Goodding's willow (*Salix gooddingii*) and non-native species, including white sweetclover (*Melilotus albus*) are present at low cover.

Goodding's Willow – Red Willow Riparian Woodland and Forest (Salix gooddingii – Salix laevigata Forest & Woodland Alliance)

Goodding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest occurs in eastern portion of the BSA within a softbottom portion of the LA River adjacent the Project area. This community is characterized by a tree canopy dominated by Goodding's willow. Black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*) is also present in the tree canopy at very low cover. The continuous herbaceous layer includes slender cattail, broad-leaved cattail, American bulrush, and California bulrush.

TABLE 1
NATURAL COMMUNITIES AND LAND COVER TYPES WITHIN THE BSA

Natural Community/Land Cover Type	Project Site (acres)	500-foot Buffer (acres)	Total (acres)
Aquatic/Riparian			
Cattail Marshes	0	0.78	0.78
Goodding's/Red Willow Riparian Woodland & Forest	0	0.30	0.30
Open Water	0	16.48	16.48
Terrestrial			
Coast Live Oak Woodland & Forest	0	3.33	3.33
Developed/Disturbed Land Cover Types			
Developed/Disturbed	2.09	50.04	52.13
Landscaped Parkland/Ornamentals	0	22.91	22.91
Paved Roadways	0	25.71	25.71
Total	**2.09**	**119.54**	**121.63**

SOURCE: ESA 2024

Open Water

The open water land cover type was mapped throughout a large portion of the LA River, which bisects the BSA along the north side of the Project Site. The majority of the area mapped as open water occurs within the unvegetated portions of the concrete-lined channel. Submerged vegetation may be present at low cover within open water along the edges of cattail marshes or willow riparian woodland and forest natural communities inside the channel. The boundaries of this cover type are defined by the ordinary high water mark assessed during the aquatic resources survey.

Coast Live Oak Woodland and Forest (Quercus agrifolia Forest & Woodland)

Coast live oak woodland and forest occurs in the southeastern portion of the BSA along a hillside of Griffith Park. It consists of an upland tree canopy dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). Chinese elm (*Ulmus parviflora*) is also present at low cover in the canopy. A sparse to intermittent understory supports various grasses and forbs, including wild oat (*Avena fatua*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*).

Developed/Disturbed

Developed/Disturbed land was mapped throughout much of the BSA, including throughout the Project Site area. This land cover type is characterized by the presence of significant development or evidence of recent/regular disturbance. Vegetation in these areas is comprised of weedy and/or ornamental species, including crapemyrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*), European olive (*Olea europea*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus ssp. pycocephalus*), lamb's quarter (*Chenopodium album*), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*) and shortpod mustard.

Landscaped Parkland/Ornamentals

Landscaped parklands/ornamental was mapped throughout much of the BSA, including portions of Griffith Park, Bette Davis Picnic Area, and Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum. This land cover type is characterized by heavily managed open space. Vegetation in these areas is dominated by an ornamental tree canopy, including Afghan pine (*Pinus eldarica*), Chinese elm, jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Peruvian peppertree, red ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), and shamel ash (*Fraxinus uhdei*), with a sparse herbaceous layer dominated by Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*).

Paved Roadways

Paved roadways intersecting the BSA include State Route 134 (SR-134), Zoo Drive, Riverside Drive, Forest Lawn Drive, and Rancho Avenue. The areas are paved and lack vegetation.

Sensitive Natural Communities

CDFW has defined sensitive natural communities and habitats as those that have a reduced range and/or are endangered by human development (e.g. residential, agricultural, industrial), or the presence of invasive and other problematic species. NatureServe's Heritage Methodology evaluates vegetation communities based on their known range, distribution, and ecological integrity. This ranking occurs for both global (natural range within and outside of California [G]) and subnational (state level for California [S]) status ranks, each ranked from 1

("critically imperiled" or very rare and threatened) to 5 (demonstrably secure). Natural communities and habitats ranked S1-S3 are considered sensitive natural communities and may require review during evaluation of environmental impacts. Communities marked NR have not been ranked by NatureServe (NatureServe 2024).

Based on review of survey results, one sensitive natural community occurs within the BSA: Goodding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest (G4, S3; CDFW 2024b,c). This community occurs within the LA River north of the eastern portion of the Project site; however, Project impacts are not expected to extend into the LA River system. No other natural communities meeting the criteria for "sensitive" (i.e., 1-3) are present within the BSA.

Aquatic Resources

A separate delineation of aquatic resources was completed for the Project (ESA 2024). Based on the results of the aquatic resources delineation and the jurisdictional analysis, it is presumed that 0.11-acre of potential wetland waters and 7.57 acres (4,532 linear feet) of potential other (non-wetland) waters of the United States and waters of the State occur within the Project area and surrounding 100-foot buffer, collectively the Aquatic Resources Study Area (ARSA). Finally, it is presumed that 9.49 acres of aquatic resources are potentially jurisdictional under Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code occur within the ARSA.

Special-Status Plants

No special-status plants were observed within the BSA. Additionally, the Project site does not support suitable habitat for special-status plant species known to occur within the vicinity, nor were special-status plants observed during the site visit.

Special-status plants are defined as those that, because of their recognized rarity or vulnerability to various causes of habitat loss or population decline, are recognized by federal, state, or other agencies as imperiled in some way. Some of these species receive specific protection that is defined by federal or state endangered species legislation and others have been designated as special-status based on adopted policies (e.g., counties and cities) and/or the expertise of state resource agencies or non-profit organizations (e.g., CNPS). For purposes of this report, special-status plants are further defined as follows:

- Plants that are listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered or are candidates for possible future listing as threatened or endangered, under the FESA or the CESA.
- Rare species listed under the CESA and the NPPA.
- Plants that meet the definitions of rare or endangered under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15380.
- Plants considered by the CNPS to be rare, threatened, or endangered (Rank 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B plants) in California.
- California Rare Plant Ranked Species (Ranks 1-3) listed by the California Native Plant Society.
- Global and State Ranked Species (Ranks 1-3) listed by NatureServe.
- Plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act (Fish and Game Code 1900 et seq.).
- Plants listed under the California Desert Native Plants Act (Food and Agricultural Code [80071 - 80075]).

A review of the CNDDB (CDFW 2024), the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (CNPS 2024), and USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (USFWS 2024a) revealed that many special-status plant species have been recorded and/or have potential to occur within the USGS quadrangle search area (see **Attachment D, Database Results)**. The potential for special-status plant species to occur is based on existing vegetation and habitat quality, topography, elevation, soils, surrounding land uses, habitat preferences and geographic ranges. It was determined that many of the plant species generated in the database queries do not have the potential to occur within the BSA due to the lack of suitable habitat. Such species are therefore omitted from further discussion in this report. Based on the criteria defined below, it was determined that suitable habitat for seven species occurs within or immediately adjacent to the Project area (see **Table 2, Special-Status Plant Species with Potential to Occur**).

Low Potential: Limited habitat exists for a particular species. For example, the appropriate vegetation assemblage may be present while the substrate preferred by the species may be absent, or the preferred habitat may be present, but has undergone substantial disturbance, such that the species is not expected to occur.

Moderate Potential: Marginal habitat for a particular species is present. For example, the available habitat may be somewhat disturbed, however, still supports important components, such as a particular soil or community type.

High Potential: The BSA provides suitable habitat conditions for a particular species and/or known populations occur in the immediate vicinity.

Present: The species was observed during the biological resources assessment.

TABLE 2
SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

Common Name Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS	Habitat	Survey Period	Potential to Occur
Dicots				
marsh sandwort *Arenaria paludicola*	FE/CE/1B.1	marshes and swamps.	May-August	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal marsh habitat. Additionally, the nearest observation occurred over 8 miles away in 1900 and is presumed extirpated (CNDDB 2024a).
Nevin's barberry *Berberis nevinii*	FE/CE/1B.1	chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub.	March-June (February)	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal riparian scrub habitat.
lucky morning-glory *Calystegia felix*	-/-/1B.1	meadows and seeps and riparian scrub.	March-September	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal riparian scrub habitat. Additionally, the nearest observation occurred over 3 miles from the Project site, and all no observations have been recorded within 100 years (CNDDB 2024a).
Los Angeles sunflower	-/-/1A	marshes and swamps (coastal salt and freshwater).	August-October	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal marsh habitat. Additionally, the nearest

Common Name Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS	Habitat	Survey Period	Potential to Occur
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii				observation occurred over 8 miles away, no observations have been recorded within 100 years and the species is presumed extirpated from the area (CNDDB 2024a).
white rabbit-tobacco *Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*	-/-/2B.2	riparian woodland, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, chaparral.	(July) August-November (December)	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal riparian woodland habitat. Additionally, no nearby observations have been recorded within 100 years (CNDDB 2024a).
Parish's gooseberry *Ribes divaricatum var. parishii*	-/-/1A	riparian woodland.	February-April	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily reduced and disturbed marginal riparian woodland habitat. Additionally, no observations have been recorded within 100 years and the species is presumed possibly extirpated from the area (CNDDB 2024a).
Monocots				
California satintail *Imperata brevifolia*	S/-/2B.1	coastal scrub, chaparral, riparian scrub, Mojave desert scrub, meadows and seeps (alkali), riparian scrub.	September-May	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to reduced and disturbed marginal riparian habitat. Additionally, the only observation recorded occurred in a natural area over 10 miles from the Project site in 2013 (CNDDB 2024a).

SOURCES: CNPS 2024; USFWS 2024; CDFW 2024

KEY TO STATUS CODES:

Federal
Endangered = FE
US Forest Service Sensitive = S
None = -

State
Endangered = CE
None = -

Other
CNPS Rank Categories:
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
CNPS Code Extensions:
.1 = Seriously endangered in.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened)

The natural communities documented immediately adjacent to the Project site are heavily disturbed due to the significant urban development in the area, including the channelized LA River immediately to the north and SR-134 immediately to the south. Additionally, these vegetated areas are fragmented/isolated from contiguous vegetation found in the undeveloped foothills of Griffith Park; therefore, there is a reduced likelihood that sensitive plant species would occur within the Project site, even in the presence of otherwise suitable habitat. Seven species were determined to have a low potential to occur due to the degraded nature or lack of suitable habitat. These species include marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*), Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*), lucky morning-glory (*Calystegia felix*), Los Angeles sunflower (*Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii*), white rabbit-tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*), Parish's gooseberry (*Ribes divaricatum var. parishii*) and California satintail (*Imperata brevifolia*).

Special-Status Wildlife

No special-status wildlife were observed within the BSA. Additionally, the Project site does not support suitable habitat for special-status wildlife species known to occur within the vicinity, nor were special-status wildlife observed during the site visit. However, suitable habitat for one species (yellow warbler [*Setophaga petechia*]) does occur within the 500-foot buffer area inside the LA River channel.

Special-status wildlife are defined as those that, because of their recognized rarity or vulnerability to various causes of habitat loss or population decline, are recognized by federal, state, or other agencies as imperiled in some way. Special-status wildlife are further defined as follows:

- Wildlife listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered, or are candidates for possible future listing as threatened or endangered, under the FESA or the CESA
- Wildlife "fully protected" in California (FGC Sections 3511, 4700, and 5050)
- Species of Special Concern listed by CDFW
- Bird species protected by the MBTA
- Birds of Conservation Concern listed by the USFWS

The potential for special-status wildlife species to occur within the BSA was assessed according to on-site vegetation and habitat quality, topography, elevation, soils, surrounding land uses, habitat preferences, and geographic ranges. A review of the CNDDB (CDFW 2024) and IPaC (USFWS 2024a) revealed that many special-status wildlife species have been recorded within the USGS quadrangle search area or have the potential to occur (see Attachment C); however, based on the habitat preference, known geographic distributions, and/or range restrictions, it was determined that many of these do not have the potential to occur within the BSA and thus were omitted from further discussion in this report. Based on the criteria defined below, it is determined that 10 wildlife species have a low to high potential to occur within the BSA or were observed during the biological assessment (see **Table 3, Special-Status Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur**).

> **Low Potential:** The BSA supports limited habitat for a particular species. For example, the appropriate vegetation assemblage may be present while the substrate preferred by the species may be absent.
>
> **Moderate Potential:** Marginal habitat for a particular species may exist. For example, the habitat may be heavily disturbed and/or may not support all stages of a species' life cycle; or may not fit all preferred habitat characteristics.
>
> **High Potential:** The BSA provides suitable habitat conditions for a particular species and/or known populations occur in the immediate vicinity.
>
> **Present:** The species was observed within the BSA during the site assessment.

A total of four species are expected to have a low potential to occur within the BSA, including the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), and coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*).

One species, yellow warbler, is expected to have a moderate potential to occur within the BSA.

TABLE 3
SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

Common Name Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State	Other Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur
Birds				
southwestern willow flycatcher *Empidonax traillii extimus*	FE/CE	NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	Riparian woodlands in Southern California.	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to disturbed marginal riparian woodland habitat. While this species has been recorded near the Project site area, no nearby observations have been recorded within 100 years (CDFW 2024a). Additionally, this species was not detected during either Project site survey.
yellow warbler *Setophaga petechia*	-/-	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Riparian plant associations in close proximity to water. Also nests in montane shrubbery in open conifer forests in Cascades and Sierra Nevada.	Moderate. This species has a moderate potential to occur, as it is found in a variety of sparse to dense riparian woodland habitats (CDFW 2024b). However, this species was not observed during either Project site survey.
least Bell's vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus*	FE/CE	NABCI_YWL-Yellow Watch List	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 ft.	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to disturbed marginal riparian woodland habitat containing a sparse mature tree canopy but lacking a significant understory. While recent incidental observations have been recorded within 3 miles of the BSA (Cornell 2024), these have occurred within dense restored or maintained riparian habitat. Additionally, the most recent observation of this species within the BSA occurred in 1922 (CDFW 2024a). This species was not detected during either Project site survey.
Mammals				
western mastiff bat *Eumops perotis californicus*	-/-	BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	Many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to marginal roosting habitat within urban infrastructure and potential foraging habitat in the Griffith Park area.
Reptiles				
coast horned lizard *Phrynosoma blainvillii*	-/-	BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes.	Low. This species has a low potential to occur due to heavily disturbed marginal scrub habitat in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains; however, heavy disturbance and barriers to dispersal interrupts access to the Project site for this species.

SOURCES: CNPS 2024; USFWS 2024; CDFW 2024

KEY TO STATUS CODES:

Federal
Endangered = FE
None = -

State
Endangered = CE
None = -

Critical Habitat

Under the FESA, to the extent feasible, the USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service are required to designate critical habitat for endangered and threatened species. Critical habitat is defined as areas of land, water, and air space containing the physical and biological features essential for the survival and recovery of endangered and threatened species. Designated critical habitat includes sites for breeding and rearing, movement or migration, feeding, roosting, cover, and shelter that are essential to the survival and recovery of the species, whether the habitat is currently occupied by the species or not. Designated critical habitats require special management and protection of existing resources, including water quality and quantity, host animals and plants, food availability, pollinators, sunlight, and specific soil types.

The BSA is not located within designated critical habitat. The nearest critical habitat to the Project site is for the southwestern willow flycatcher located in the Hansen Dam Park area approximately 8.25 miles north of the Project site (USFWS 2024b).

Wildlife Movement

Migration corridors are navigable pockets or strips of land that connect larger tracts of open space together, allowing them to function as a greater habitat complex. These “passages” can exist on a small scale, allowing wildlife to pass through or under an otherwise uninhabitable area—such as a roadway, housing development, or city—through drainage culverts, green belts, and waterways, or on a larger scale, providing an opportunity for wildlife to skirt large topographical features—such as mountains, lakes, streams—by using adjacent canyons, valleys, and upland swaths when migrating.

The Project site is situated alongside the LA River urban corridor adjacent the Griffith Park open space, which wildlife utilize to forage and breed, and potentially to travel both locally and regionally. The BSA overlaps with a potential Protected Area for Wildlife (PAWs) encompassing Griffith Park, and the Project site occurs along Wildlife Movement Pathways (WMPs) 47 – Forest Lawn Drive and 48 – LA River Equestrian Trail, as indicated by the 2021 Protected Areas for Wildlife & Wildlife Movement Pathways report (Los Angeles City Planning 2021). PAWs are natural habitat areas under development pressure that have been designated for protection by the City of Los Angeles in an effort to sustain biodiversity in the region. The Griffith Park and Hollywood Hills PAW overlapping the edge of the BSA, separated from the Project area by SR-134, meets the following criteria for protection:

- Criterion 1: Supports Endangered/Threatened Plants/Wildlife
- Criterion 4: Supports Linkages/Constrained Linkages

WMPs indicate potential least-cost movement pathways[1] between fragmented natural areas designated as PAWs and can include developed and disturbed locations with some barriers to movement. Numerous species of birds, reptiles, invertebrates, and small mammals would be expected within the BSA, as would larger mammals such as

[1] The "least-cost movement pathway" refer to the predicted route an animal would take through a landscape to minimize the energy expenditure or "cost" of movement, considering factors like terrain, vegetation, barriers within the environment, and human activity.

the coyote (*Canis latrans*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), grey fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), and Mountain Lion (*Puma concolor*), who likely use the area for hunting and movement.

The BSA also slightly overlaps with habitat block 39R of the Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map, depicted in the ESMM NRPP. These blocks highlight patches of fragmented wildlife habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains as well as the pathways wildlife may use to travel between them (SMMC 2017). The Project site occurs along an urban wildlife corridor alongside natural areas that provide some refuge and potential for wildlife movement; however, the Project site is not expected to function as an important migration corridor due to significant developmental barriers in the area, including SR-134, other high traffic roadways, and fencing.

As part of the LA River Master Plan (Los Angeles County Public Works 2022) effort in conjunction with the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project (USACE 2016), wildlife movement and habitat connectivity have been considered and would not be impacted by the Project.

Protected Trees

A total of 291 trees consisting of 26 species were observed within and/or adjacent to the Project site during surveys conducted by an American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA) Registered Consulting Arborist (RCA) on October 28, November 6 and 8, 2024, see **Attachment E, Park Tree Inventory Report**. Trees observed include 131 trees on RAP managed property and 160 trees located within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) right-of-way (**Attachment E, Figures 3-1 to 3-6, Tree Location Exhibits**). **Table 4, Summary of Classifications of Park and Caltrans Trees Observed**, indicates quantities of protected and unprotected trees within or adjacent to the Project site.

TABLE 4
SUMMARY OF CLASSIFICATIONS OF RAP AND CALTRANS TREES OBSERVED

Tree Classification	Overall Number of Trees Observed
RAP - Ordinance Tree	46
RAP - Heritage Tree	—
RAP - Special Habitat Value Trees	18
RAP - Common Park Tree	41
RAP - Undesirable Species	26
Caltrans Tree (Unprotected)	129
Caltrans Tree (Ordinance)	31
Total Trees	***291***

SOURCE: Attachment E: Park Tree Inventory Report

Discussion of Impacts

Included within this section is a discussion of impacts as relevant to Appendix G of the CEQA guidelines. Biological resource issues include special-status plant and wildlife species[2], sensitive natural communities, and other biological resources considered sensitive under CEQA such as wildlife corridors, jurisdictional resources, local policies and ordinances, and habitat conservation plans. Special-status species evaluated for their potential to occur on the Project site are provided in Table 2 and Table 3. Additional measures to reduce potential Project-related impacts to sensitive biological resources are provided in the Best Management Practices section.

Issue 1: 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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Special-Status Plants

The natural communities documented immediately adjacent to the Project site are heavily disturbed due to the significant urban development in the area, including the channelized LA River immediately to the north and SR-134 immediately to the south. Additionally, the heavily disturbed and largely developed vegetated areas within the Project site area are fragmented/isolated from contiguous vegetation found in the undeveloped foothills of Griffith Park; therefore, there is a reduced likelihood that sensitive plant species would occur within the Project site. Seven species were determined to have a low potential to occur due to the degraded nature or lack of suitable habitat. These species include marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*), Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*), lucky morning-glory (*Calystegia felix*), Los Angeles sunflower (*Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii*), white rabbit-tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*), Parish's gooseberry (*Ribes divaricatum var. parishii*) and California satintail (*Imperata brevifolia*). **Best Management Practice (BMP)-1** below would provide a Worker Environmental Awareness Program training to inform construction crews regarding potentially occurring special-status plants.

Special-Status Wildlife

A total of four species are expected to have a low potential to occur within the BSA, including the southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, western mastiff bat, and coast horned lizard. One species, yellow warbler, is expected to have a moderate potential to occur within the BSA. However, all special-status wildlife species have a low potential to occur within the heavily disturbed and enclosed Project area. Impacts to special-status wildlife species are unlikely to occur due to the lack of habitat within previously developed or disturbed area, where all construction is proposed. Implementation of **BMP-1** below would also ensure that environmental training is provided prior to work, construction is maintained within approved Project limits, speed limits are enforced, and trash and debris are removed offsite, which would further reduce potential impacts to special-status wildlife

[2] "Special-status" species analyzed in this report include plants and animals that are listed and protected as "Endangered" or "Threatened" under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), as well as non-listed species that may be considered sufficiently rare or sensitive by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), other recognized conservation organizations (e.g., California Native Plant Society (CNPS)) and/or by the Lead Agency with authority under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to warrant conservation and protection.

species. Additionally, work activities are proposed to occur during daylight hours reducing overall impacts to special-status foraging bats which may occasionally forage within the BSA.

Furthermore, Project activities could negatively impact nesting birds, including yellow warbler, that are protected in accordance with the MBTA and CFGC through the removal of an active nest or the disruption of breeding/nesting, such as copulation, nest building or incubation. Implementation of **BMP-1** and **BMP-2** would reduce potential impacts to potential nesting birds established onsite as well as during travel to and from the Project site area through the BSA.

Issue 2: 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, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

Sensitive Natural Communities

One sensitive natural community is present within the BSA: Goodding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest (G4, S3) is located adjacent the eastern extent of the BSA within the LA River. The entire riparian woodland and forest natural community within the BSA falls outside of the fenced Project site; thus, it is not likely to be directly impacted by Project related work. **BMP-1** below would restrict access and potential pollution of the LA River and sensitive riparian community within.

Issue 3: Would the proposed Project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Aquatic Resources

Potential impacts to aquatic resources are identified and discussed within the associated aquatic resources report (ESA 2024).

Issue 4: 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 Movement

While wildlife likely uses the BSA to forage, breed, and to some extent, for local and regional movement, the Project site is heavily trafficked by vehicles, horses, and people, which create a significant barrier to movement in addition to existing physical barriers. Therefore, the Project site is not expected to function as an important migration corridor during daylight hours, when construction is proposed. Nighttime lighting may reduce the potential for wildlife movement during hours of lighter path traffic. The proposed Project may also result in both direct and indirect impacts to nesting migratory birds that may utilize the BSA for foraging and/or nesting. Ground disturbance activities may disrupt foraging and breeding/nesting behavior, such as copulation, nest building or incubation, or result in the removal of an active nest. Implementation of **BMP-1** and **BMP-2** below would minimize potential impacts to local wildlife and nesting or migratory birds.

Issue 5: Would the proposed Project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Protected Trees

The proposed construction of the new pathway and associated infrastructure would likely result in the encroachment into the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)[3] of 253 trees and the removal of 38 trees; however, with the implementation of **BMP -3**, impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level (see Attachment E, Figure 4, Tree Impact Exhibit). **Table 5, Summary of Tree Impacts**, provides a summary of the tree impacts by regulated status and the following assessment ratings:

- Avoidance – Proposed construction does not extend within the TPZ of a tree.
- Encroachment – Proposed construction extends into the <35% of the TPZ of a tree and is expected to result in impacts but not requiring removal.
- Removal – Proposed construction will result in >35% of the TPZ resulting in the removal of the tree.

TABLE 5
SUMMARY OF TREE IMPACTS

Assessment Rating Category	Common Tree	Ordinance Tree	Special Habitat Tree	Undesirable Tree	Caltrans – Ordinance Tree	Caltrans – Unprotected Tree	Totals
Avoided	—	—	—	—	—	—	**—**
Encroached	33	46	16	25	20	113	***253***
Removed	8	—	2	1	11	16	***38***
Totals	***41***	***46***	***18***	***26***	***31***	***129***	***291***

SOURCE: Attachment E: Park Tree Inventory Report

Issue 6: 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?

Protected Areas for Wildlife

The BSA overlaps with a potential Protected Area for Wildlife (PAW) encompassing Griffith Park, and the Project site occurs along Wildlife Movement Pathways (WMPs) 47 – Forest Lawn Drive and 48 – LA River Equestrian Trail (Los Angeles City Planning 2021). PAWs are natural habitat areas under development pressure that have been designated for protection by the City of Los Angeles in an effort to sustain biodiversity in the region. The Griffith Park and Hollywood Hills PAW adjacent the Project site supports both

[3] The TPZ is an area identified to prevent injury to trees related to construction; this area typically equates to 12 times the Diameter at Standard Height (diameter of the tree trunk at four and one-half feet above natural grade) or 15 feet beyond the dripline. Encroachment and removal designations are based on a surface projection analysis that determines the approximate percentage of the TPZ encroached upon and may not represent the actual rootzone of an individual tree.

endangered/threatened plants and wildlife and constrained habitat linkages. WMPs indicate potential least-cost movement pathways between fragmented natural areas designated as PAWs and can include developed and disturbed locations that act as barriers to movement.

Numerous species of birds, reptiles, invertebrates, small mammals, and larger mammals such as the coyote (*Canis latrans*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), grey fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), and Mountain Lion (*Puma concolor*) are likely to use the area for hunting and movement. However, these movement patterns are likely to be restricted to times of low human activity, as the Project site and surrounding areas are heavily trafficked. Implementation of **BMP-1** below would restrict construction activities to daylight hours and minimize potential impacts to wildlife activity in the area.

Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Natural Resources Protection Plan

The BSA also slightly overlaps with habitat block 39R of the Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map, depicted in the ESMM NRPP. These blocks highlight patches of fragmented wildlife habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains as well as the pathways wildlife may use to travel between them (SMMC 2017). However, the SR-134 highway, landscaped parkland, and a heavily trafficked road separate the habitat block from the Project site; therefore, impacts to the Griffith Park habitat block are unlikely to occur.

LA River Master Plan; Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project

The Project has been planned in conjunction with habitat connectivity goals outlined in the LA River Master Plan (Los Angeles County Public Works 2022) and the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project (USACE 2016). While wildlife movement throughout the Project area is currently limited, increased bikeway and multi-use trail continuity along the LA River may reduce barriers to wildlife movement between habitat patches throughout the city.

Best Management Practices

BMP-1: General Best Management Practices

The Contractor will implement the following Best Management Practices during construction to protect any adjacent habitat for special-status species and resources.

- **Environmental Training.** Prior to Project implementation, a Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) should be prepared and presented to construction crews regarding the potential for nesting birds and other special-status wildlife species to occur onsite during construction activities. The WEAP training should concentrate on the proper identification of sensitive resources while in the field, suggested strategies in avoiding impact to sensitive resources, and proper reporting methods for field crews if sensitive resources are observed during construction activities.
- **Limits of Disturbance.** Prior to Project implementation, construction crews should be made aware of the limits of disturbance within the fenced Project site. During construction, all construction activities will remain within the limits of disturbance. Travel to and from the Project site will also be confined to existing roads. Construction activities should also be restricted to daylight hours.

- **Hydrology/Water Quality.** The following water quality protection measures will be implemented during construction:
  - Stationary engines, such as compressors, generators, etc., will have drip pans beneath them to prevent any leakage from entering runoff or receiving waters.
  - All construction equipment will be inspected for leaks and maintained regularly to avoid soil contamination. Leaks and smears of petroleum products will be wiped clean prior to use.
  - Spill kits capable of containing hazardous spills will be stored on-site. Any grout waste or spills will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of off-site. Re-fueling of equipment should be conducted at least 50 feet from the ephemeral drainage.
  - Erosion control measures (e.g., silt fencing, straw wattles, etc.) should be implemented within the Project site to prevent sediment/contaminants from continuing offsite.
- **Lighting.** The project shall be designed to minimize exterior night lighting while remaining compliant with City requirements related to bikeway lighting. Any necessary lighting (e.g., to light up equipment for security measures), both during construction and after the development has been completed, shall be shielded or directed at the bikeway and away from the LA River or vegetated areas adjacent to the path.
- **Prevention of Inadvertent Wildlife Entrapment.** To prevent inadvertent entrapment of common and special-status wildlife during construction, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep will be covered with tarp, plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day and will be inspected visually to confirm animals would be excluded, to prevent animals from being trapped. Ramps may be constructed of earth fill or wooden planks within deep walled trenches to allow animals to escape, if necessary. Before such holes or trenches are backfilled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If trapped wildlife is observed, escape ramps or structures will be installed immediately to allow escape.
- **On-Site Overnight Storage.** All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods should be thoroughly inspected for birds and other wildlife before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved.
- **Speed Limits.** Vehicles will be restricted to existing access roads and approved work areas and will maintain speed limits of no greater than 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads.
- **Trash/Debris Removal.** During Project construction activities, all trash that may attract predators shall be properly contained, removed from the work site, and disposed of regularly. Following construction, all spoils, trash, or any debris will be removed off-site to an approved disposal facility or stored appropriately.

BMP-2: Nesting Birds

Project activities could negatively impact nesting birds that are protected in accordance with the MBTA and FGC. Therefore, the following measure is recommended to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds and raptors:

To avoid disturbance of nesting and special-status birds, including raptor species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code, activities related to the Project including, but not limited to, vegetation removal, ground disturbance, and construction and demolition shall occur outside of the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 30), if feasible.

If construction must begin during the breeding season, then a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities. The nesting bird preconstruction survey shall be conducted on foot inside the Project boundary, including a 300-foot buffer (500-foot for raptors), and in inaccessible areas (e.g., private lands) from afar using binoculars to the extent practical. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The biologist will prepare a summary of findings within 24 hours of conducting the survey, documenting the presence or absence of any protected native bird within 300 feet of the construction work area (or within 500 feet for raptors and least Bell's vireo).

If nests are found, an avoidance buffer (dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site) shall be determined and demarcated by the biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to mark the boundary. If a raptor nest is observed in a tree proposed for removal, the Applicant must consult with CDFW. All construction personnel shall be notified as to the existence of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities shall occur within this buffer until the avian biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed, and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist.

BMP-3: Protected Trees

Ordinance 186873; City of Los Angeles Municipal Code and Planning Department

RAP Property

The 46 Ordinance trees located on the RAP property that will be encroached by the Project shall be preserved in place. Any work within the TPZ of these trees shall be monitored as outlined in Appendix D of the Park Tree Inventory Report (see Attachment E). If it is determined that trees decline because of proposed construction activities, they shall be mitigated at a 4:1 ratio with at a minimum 4 – 24-inch inch box trees. Additionally, if the diameter of a tree to be removed exceeds 10 inches in D.B.H then RAP's inch per inch policy would be used to determine replacement requirements beyond the 4 – 24-inch box requirement. If necessary, any Ordinance Tree removal will need to be approved by the RAP Board of Commissioners prior to removal. All mitigation tree plantings will be installed within the Project Site or other nearby City owned park lands including Griffith Park, Bette Davis Picnic Area, or the Pump 7 area.

Caltrans

Consultation with Caltrans shall be conducted prior to encroaching into the TPZ or removing any Ordinance or unprotected tree within the Caltrans ROW, to determine whether mitigation would be required for impacts. If accepted by Caltrans, it is currently proposed that Caltrans trees be replaced using RAP Policy. Therefore, for the 11 Ordinance tree removals a total of 169.5 inches would need to be mitigated in accordance with the policies outlined below.

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks Tree Preservation Policy

Tree Encroachment

RAP has developed tree protection specifications for encroachment into protected trees as a result of construction projects, that require that various measures are implemented during and after the completion of active construction; these are presented below and further described in Appendix D, Protection of Trees During Construction outlined in the Park Tree Inventory Report (see Attachment E). The 95 trees protected under the tree preservation policy that will be impacted by the project shall be protected in accordance with these specifications, during all phases of the active construction:

- Determine the, and clearly illustrate TPZ on all plans. Beyond the TPZ, the contractor shall also be responsible for protecting all trees within the boundaries of the construction zone, including vehicular access areas leading to the construction zone, lay down areas, and any other areas impacted by construction activities.
- Mitigate construction-related dust accumulation on all trees by spraying the trunks, limbs, and foliage with water to a maximum height of 30 feet during the months of April through November, at monthly intervals.
- Within the TPZ, the contractor shall adhere to the following requirements, including, but not limited to:
  - No stockpiling or storage of any material, debris, or soil.
  - No storage of any construction equipment.
  - No vehicular access.
  - No cutting of roots.
  - No disturbance of soil or grade changes.
  - No objects of any kind to be attached to tree trunks.
- The contractor shall install a 5-foot-high temporary chain link fence with one pedestrian access gate along the boundary of the TPZ. Signs must be posted every 20 feet noting that fencing shall not be removed.
- No work is permitted within the TPZ without the approval of each of the project landscape architect, the project manager, and RAP Forestry staff.
- Any work authorized within the TPZ must be done in accordance with the recommendations of a RAP arborist and under the supervision of a Monitoring Arborist. A Monitoring Arborist must be an ISA Certified Arborist or a Registered Consulting Arborist, with verifiable experience in protecting trees during construction, and approved by RAP Forestry.
- Irrigation to all trees not specifically designated for removal shall be kept in operation for the duration of the project. Contractor shall be responsible for hand watering all impacted trees if necessitated by temporary shutdowns to existing irrigation systems. Trees are to be irrigated deeply and infrequently so that soil moisture is detectable at a minimum depth of 18” using a soil probe.
- Upon job completion, contractor shall remove all items installed to protect trees during the construction process.
- Failure to adhere to the above measures will result in suspension of work and damaged tree payment or replacement (typically at a ratio of 1:1) as determined by RAP Forestry.

Tree Removal

The removal of the eight Common Park Trees and the two Special Habitat Value Trees proposed must be mitigated in accordance with the following guidelines set forth in the RAP Policy Appendix J, Tree Removal Procedures. Additionally, the removal of Common Park Trees shall adhere to RAP Policy Appendix K, *Notification Protocols*, be used to notify the public of the pending proposed tree removals. These two RAP Policy appendices are outlined below and presented in **Appendix E**, **RAP Policy Tree Removal Procedures and Notification Protocols** within Attachment E.

- Submit a Tree Removal Request to RAP Forestry Division
- Contact Forestry Division at (213) 485-4826 and indicate what "protection category" the tree is in (Tree Protected by LA City Ordinances, Heritage Tree, Special Habitat Value Tree, or Common Park Trees).
- Provide a Project Outline that includes a timeline and the proposed work necessary to be done within the tree's dripline.
- Obtain final approval for tree removal.
  - For Special Habitat Value Trees, the Forestry Arborist makes a recommendation to the General Manager for removal. The General Manager or designee must make the final approval before the tree can be removed.
  - For a Common Park Tree, the Forestry Arborist may recommend removal.
- Trees determined hazardous may follow different removal procedures
- The established Notification Protocol, including posting signage notifying the public of intent to remove on each tree to be removed, shall be implemented.

Park trees are typically replaced on a 1:1 ratio for measured trunk diameter inches for each tree removed. Therefore, each one-inch DBH of an existing tree shall be replaced with a minimum one-inch caliper new tree. For example, a single-trunk tree whose DBH is 9 inches may be replaced with 36 trees of ¼-inch caliper, or with 3 trees of 3-inch caliper. The specific number of replacement trees will be determined by RAP Forestry staff and the Project landscape architect. The eight common park trees proposed for removal have a total combined trunk replacement value of 140.4 inches. The two Special Habitat Value Trees proposed for removal have a total combined trunk replacement value of 3.5 inches. If additional trees decline as a result of proposed construction activities, they are to be mitigated per the guidelines set forth above.

If you have any questions regarding this letter report, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Rawles (brawles@esassoc.com) at (310) 912-0769.

Sincerely,

Brian Rawles
Senior Biologist

List of Appendices

Attachment A: Figures
Attachment B: Representative Photographs
Attachment C: Floral and Faunal Compendia
Attachment D: CNDDB and CNPS Results
Attachment E: Park Tree Inventory Report

References

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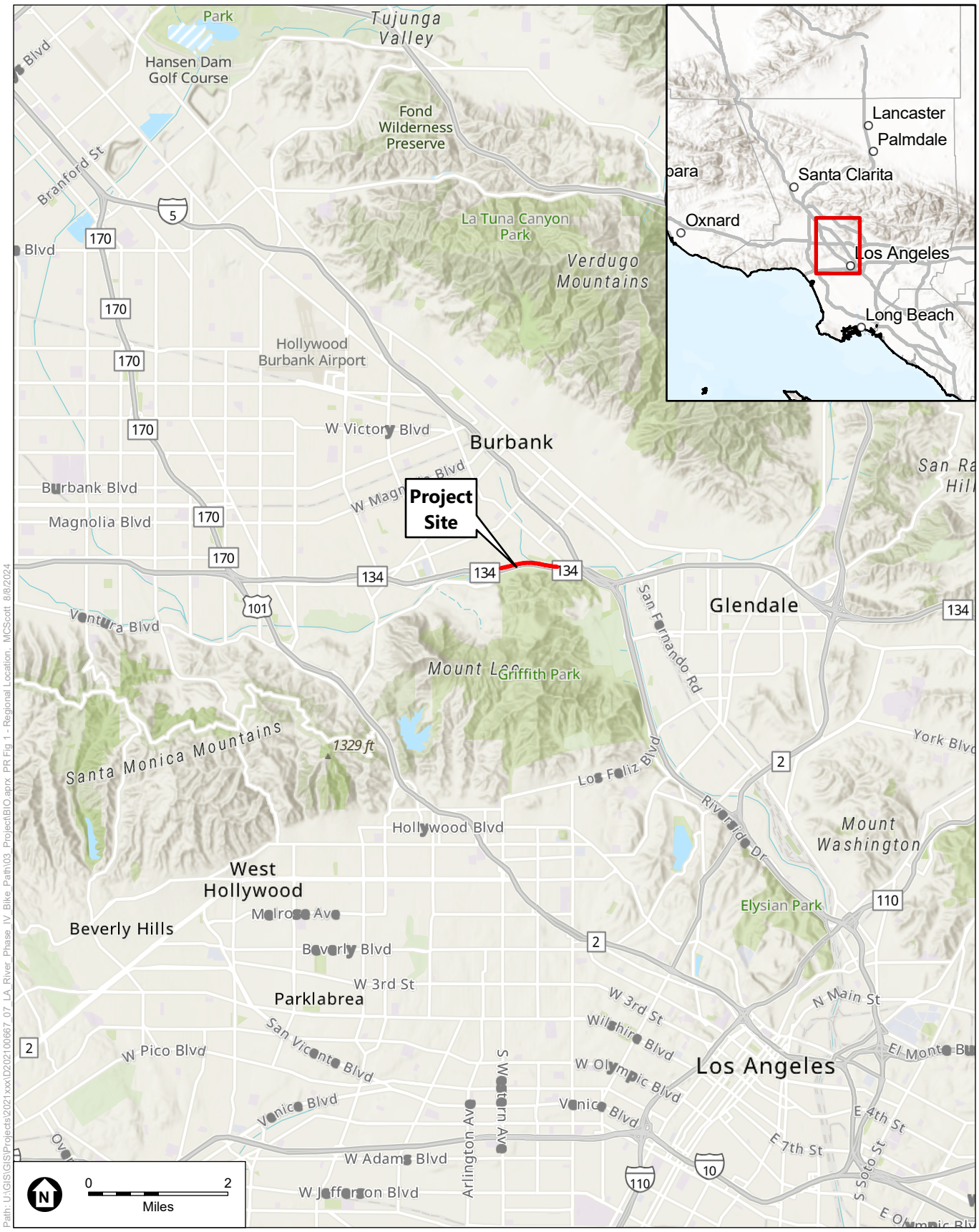
Attachment A
Figures



SOURCE: ESA, 2024

Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Project

Figure 1
Regional Location

ESA

SOURCE: ESA, 2024

Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Project

Figure 2
Project Site Map

ESA

Path: U:\GIS\GIS\Projects\2021xxx\D2021000667_07_LA_River_Phase_IV_Bike_Path\03_Project\BIO.aprx, PR Fig 3 - Soils, MCScott, 8/8/2024

SOURCE: ESA, 2024

Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Project

Figure 3
Soils Map

ESA

SOURCE: ESA, 2024

Los Angeles River Phase IV Bike Path Project

Figure 4
Natural Communities and Landcover Types

ESA

Attachment B

Representative Photographs

Photo 1. View facing west from Riverside Drive along the paved portion of the bike path leading to the project site between the SR-134 highway on-ramp and the Los Angeles River.

Photo 2. View facing west overlooking the eastern extent of the project site along the unmarked bike path below a transmission line corridor.

Photo 3. View facing west from the Riverside Drive bridge overlooking the soft bottom portion of the Los Angeles River adjacent the project site.

Photo 4. View facing east near the middle of the project site overlooking the western extent of the softbottom portion of the Los Angeles River adjacent the project site.

Photo 5. View facing south from the northern bank of the Los Angeles River overlooking the river, the project site, and adjacent foothills of Griffith Park.

Photo 6. View facing southwest of the eastern extent of the softbottom portion of the Los Angeles River and the Riverside Drive bridge that crosses over.

Photo 7. View facing northeast of a landscaped and irrigated parkland in the Bette Davis Picnic Area, representative of several parkland habitat areas present in the vicinity of the project site.

Photo 8. View facing south from the intersection of Riverside Drive and the SR-134 on-ramp overlooking coast live oak woodland along the foothills of Griffith Park beyond Zoo Drive.

Attachment C
Floral and Faunal Compendia

ATTACHMENT C
FLORAL AND FAUNAL COMPENDIA

Scientific Name	Common Name
GYMNOSPERMS	
Cupressaceae	**Cypress Family**
Taxodium mucronatum	Montezuma bald cypress
Pinaceae	**Pine Family**
Pinus canariensis	Canary Island pine
Pinus eldarica	Afghan pine
Pinus halepensis	aleppo pine
EUDICOTS	
Adoxaceae	**Muskroot Family**
Sambucus mexicana	blue elderberry
Aizoaceae	**Fig-Marigold Family**
Carpobrotus chilensis	sea-fig
Carpobrotus edulis	hottentot fig
Anacardiaceae	**Sumac Family**
Malosma laurina	laurel sumac
Pistacia chinensis	Chinese pistache
Schinus molle	Peruvian peppertree
Schinus terebinthifolius	Brazilian peppertree
Apiaceae	**Carrot Family**
Cyclospermum leptophyllum	marsh parsley
Araliaceae	**Ginseng Family**
Hedera helix	English ivy
Asteraceae	**Aster Family**
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	annual bursage
Carduus pycnocephalus ssp. pycocephalus	Italian thistle
Centaurea melitensis	tocalote/Maltese star-thistle
Erigeron canadensis	Canadian horseweed
Helianthus annuus	common sunflower
Heterotheca grandiflora	telegraphweed
Lactuca serriola	prickly lettuce
Stephanomeria diegensis	San Diego wirelettuce
Xanthium strumarium	rough cocklebur
Bignoniaceae	**Bigninia Family**
Jacaranda mimosifolia	jacaranda

Scientific Name	Common Name
Bombacaceae	**Kapok Family**
Ceiba speciosa	silk floss tree
Brassicaceae	**Mustard Family**
Hirschfeldia incana	shortpod mustard
Sisymbrium orientale	Indian hedgemustard
Cannabaceae	**Hemp Family**
Celtis australis	European hackberry
Chenopodiaceae	**Goosefoot Family**
Chenopodium album	lamb's quarters
Ericaceae	**Heath Family**
Arbutus unedo	strawberry tree
Euphorbiaceae	**Spurge Family**
Ricinus communis	castor bean
Fabaceae	**Legume Family**
Ceratonia siliqua	St. John’s bread
Melilotus albus	white sweetclover
Robinia pseudoacacia	black locust
Tipuana tipu	tipa
Fagaceae	**Oak Family**
Quercus agrifolia	coast live oak
Quercus lobata	valley oak
Geraniaceae	**Geranium Family**
Erodium cicutarium	redstem filaree
Grossulariaceae	**Gooseberry Family**
Ribes aureum	golden currant
Juglandaceae	**Walnut Family**
Juglans californica	*southern California black walnut*
Juglans regia	*English walnut*
Lythraceae	**Loosestrife Family**
Lagerstroemia indica	crapemyrtle
Malvaceae	**Mallow Family**
Chiranthodendron pentadactylon	Mexican hand tree
Myrtaceae	**Myrtle Family**
Eucalyptus globulus	blue gum
Eucalyptus polyanthemos	silver dollar gum
Eucalyptus sideroxylon	red ironbark
Oleaceae	**Olive Family**
Fraxinus uhdei	Shamel ash
Olea europaea	olive

Scientific Name	Common Name
Onagraceae	**Evening Primrose Family**
Eulobus californicus	California primrose
Ludwigia peploides	yellow waterweed
Platanaceae	**Sycamore Family**
Platanus racemosa	western sycamore
Polygonaceae	**Buckwheat Family**
Polygonum aviculare	prostrate knotweed
Persicaria lapathifolia	common knotweed
Proteaceae	**Lacewood Family**
Grevillea robusta	silkoak
Rhamnaceae	**Buckthorn Family**
Frangula californica	California coffeeberry
Rosaceae	**Rose Family**
Prunus ilicifolia	holly-leaved cherry
Rosa californica	California wild rose
Salicaceae	**Willow Family**
Populus trichocarpa	black cottonwood
Salix gooddingii	Goodding's willow
Simaroubaceae	**Simarouba Family**
Ailanthus altissima	tree of heaven
Solanaceae	**Nightshade Family**
Datura wrightii	jimson weed
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco
Ulmaceae	**Elm Family**
Ulmus parviflora	Chinese elm
Urticaceae	**Nettle Family**
Urtica urens	annual stinging nettle
Vitaceae	**Grape Family**
Vitis sp.	grape
MONOCOTYLEDONS	
Arecaceae	**Palm Family**
Washingtonia robusta	Mexican fan palm
Cyperaceae	**Sedge Family**
Cyperus eragrostis	tall cyperus
Schoenoplectus americanus	American bulrush
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush
Juncaceae	**Rush Family**
Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii	southwestern spiny rush

Scientific Name	Common Name
Poaceae	**Grass Family**
Avena barbata	slender wild oat
Avena fatua	wild oat
Bromus diandrus	ripgut grass
Bromus rubens	red brome
Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda grass
Digitaria sanguinalis	hairy crabgrass
Ehrharta calycina	perennial veldtgrass
Pennisetum setaceum	crimosn fountain grass
Polypogon monspeliensis	annual beard grass
Stipa miliacea var. miliacea	Smilo grass
Festuca myuros	rattail fescue
Typhaceae	**Cattail Family**
Typha domingensis	slender cattail
Typha latifolia	broad-leaved cattail
BIRDS	
Anseriformes	
Anatidae	**Waterfowl**
Anas platyrhynchos	mallard
Suliformes	
Phalacrocoracidae	**Cormorants**
Phalacrocorax auritus	double-crested cormorant
Pelecaniformes	
Ardeidae	**Herons**
Ardea alba	great egret
Ardea herodias	great blue heron
Egretta thula	snowy egret
Nycticorax nycticorax	black-crowned night-heron
Charadriiformes	
Charadriidae	**Plovers**
Charadrius vociferus	killdeer
Recurvirostridae	**Stilts and Avocets**
Himantopus mexicanus	black-necked stilt
Columbiformes	
Columbidae	**Pigeons and Doves**
Columba livia	rock pigeon
Streptopelia decaocto	Eurasian collared-dove
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove

Scientific Name	Common Name
Apodiformes	
Trochilidae	**Hummingbirds**
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird
Selasphorus sasin	Allen's hummingbird
Psittaciformes	
Psittacidae	**Parrots**
Amazona viridigenalis	red-crowned parrot
Passeriformes	
Tyrannidae	**Tyrant Flycatchers**
Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe
Corvidae	**Jays and Crows**
Corvus corax	common raven
Hirundinidae	**Swallows**
Hirundo rustica	barn swallow
Stelgidopteryx serripennis	northern rough-winged swallow
Sturnidae	**Starlings**
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling
Emberizidae	**Emberizine Sparrows and Allies**
Junco hyemalis	dark-eyed junco
Cardinalidae	**Buntings, Grosbeaks, and Tanagers**
Pheucticus melanocephalus	black-headed grosbeak
Icteridae	**Blackbirds**
Agelaius phoeniceus	red-winged blackbird
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird
Molothrus ater	brown-headed cowbird
Fringillidae	**Finches**
Haemorhous mexicanus	house finch
Spinus psaltria	lesser goldfinch
Passeridae	**Old World Sparrows**
Passer domesticus	house sparrow
Estrildidae	**Mannikins**
Lonchura punctulata	scaly-breasted munia/nutmeg mannikin
MAMMALS	
Sciuridae	**Squirrels and Chipmunks**
Sciurus niger	eastern fox squirrel
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel

Scientific Name	Common Name
REPTILES	
Lacertilia	**Lizards**
Phrynosomatidae	**Zebratail, Earless, Horned, Spiny, Fringe-Toed Lizards**
Sceloporus occidentalis	western fence lizard

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For reptiles: California Herps www.californiaherps.com(accessed 08/2024).
For mammals: ASM Mammal Diversity Database www.mammaldiversity.org (accessed 08/2024).

Attachment D
CNDDB and CNPS Results

ATTACHMENT D
CALIFORNIA NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE (CNDDB) RARE FIND AND CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS) RARE PLANT INVENTORY RESULTS

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Fauna Query										
Arctostaphylos glandulosa ssp. gabrielensis	San Gabriel manzanita	Dicots	PDERI042P0	35	None	None	G5T3	S3	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| USFS_S-Sensitive
Arenaria paludicola	marsh sandwort	Dicots	PDCAR040L0	19	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's milk-vetch	Dicots	PDFAB0F1G0	57	Endangered	None	G2	S2	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Astragalus pycnostachyus var. lanosissimus	Ventura Marsh milk-vetch	Dicots	PDFAB0F7B1	7	Endangered	Endangered	G2T1	S1	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Astragalus tener var. titi	coastal dunes milk-vetch	Dicots	PDFAB0F8R2	6	Endangered	Endangered	G2T1	S1	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Atriplex coulteri	Coulter's saltbush	Dicots	PDCHE040E0	121	None	None	G3	S2	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank
Atriplex pacifica	south coast saltscale	Dicots	PDCHE041C0	109	None	None	G4	S2	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank
Atriplex parishii	Parish's brittlescale	Dicots	PDCHE041D0	15	None	None	G1G2	S1	1B.1	SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank| USFS_S-Sensitive
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's saltscale	Dicots	PDCHE041T1	26	None	None	G5T1	S1	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Calystegia felix	lucky morning-glory	Dicots	PDCON040P0	10	None	None	G1Q	S1	1B.1	
Castilleja gleasoni	Mt. Gleason paintbrush	Dicots	PDSCR0D140	33	None	Rare	G2	S2	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden| USFS_S-Sensitive

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Centromadia parryi ssp. australis	southern tarplant	Dicots	PDAST4R0P4	94	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis	smooth tarplant	Dicots	PDAST4R0R4	137	None	None	G3G4T2	S2	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum	salt marsh bird's-beak	Dicots	PDSCR0J0C2	26	Endangered	Endangered	G4?T1	S1	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive | SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi	Parry's spineflower	Dicots	PDPGN040J2	150	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1	BLM_S-Sensitive | SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | USFS_S-Sensitive
Dithyrea maritima	beach spectaclepod	Dicots	PDBRA10020	28	None	Threatened	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Dodecahema leptoceras	slender-horned spineflower	Dicots	PDPGN0V010	42	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii	Los Angeles sunflower	Dicots	PDAST4N102	7	None	None	G5TX	SX	1A	
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	Coulter's goldfields	Dicots	PDAST5L0A1	111	None	None	G4T2	S2	1B.1	BLM_S-Sensitive | SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Linanthus concinnus	San Gabriel linanthus	Dicots	PDPLM090D0	43	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | USFS_S-Sensitive
Nama stenocarpa	mud nama	Dicots	PDHYD0A0H0	22	None	None	G4G5	S1S2	2B.2	
Nasturtium gambelii	Gambel's water cress	Dicots	PDBRA270V0	13	Endangered	Threatened	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Navarretia prostrata	prostrate vernal pool navarretia	Dicots	PDPLM0C0Q0	61	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum	white rabbit-tobacco	Dicots	PDAST440C0	62	None	None	G4	S2	2B.2	
Quercus dumosa	Nuttall's scrub oak	Dicots	PDFAG050D0	180	None	None	G3	S3	1B.1	BLM_S-Sensitive | IUCN_EN-Endangered | SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank | USFS_S-Sensitive
Ribes divaricatum var. parishii	Parish's gooseberry	Dicots	PDGRO020F3	5	None	None	G5TX	SX	1A	
Sidalcea neomexicana	salt spring checkerbloom	Dicots	PDMAL110J0	30	None	None	G4	S2	2B.2	USFS_S-Sensitive
Spermolepis lateriflora	western bristly scaleseed	Dicots	PDAPI23080	4	None	None	G5	SH	2A	
Symphyotrichum defoliatum	San Bernardino aster	Dicots	PDASTE80C0	102	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank | USFS_S-Sensitive
Symphyotrichum greatae	Greata's aster	Dicots	PDASTE80U0	56	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Pelazoneuron puberulum var. sonorense	Sonoran maiden fern	Ferns	PPTHE05192	27	None	None	G5T4	S2	2B.2	USFS_S-Sensitive
Walnut Forest	Walnut Forest	Forest	CTT81600CA	6	None	None	G1	S1.1		
Calochortus palmeri var. palmeri	Palmer's mariposa-lily	Monocots	PMLIL0D122	111	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive | SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden | USFS_S-Sensitive
Imperata brevifolia	California satintail	Monocots	PMPOA3D020	32	None	None	G3	S3	2B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden | USFS_S-Sensitive
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	Monocots	PMPOA4G010	39	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden | SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank
Sagittaria sanfordii	Sanford's arrowhead	Monocots	PMALI040Q0	143	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	Riparian	CTT61330CA	111	None	None	G3	S3.2		
Southern Mixed Riparian Forest	Southern Mixed Riparian Forest	Riparian	CTT61340CA	14	None	None	G2	S2.1		
Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	Scrub	CTT32720CA	30	None	None	G1	S1.1		
California Walnut Woodland	California Walnut Woodland	Woodland	CTT71210CA	76	None	None	G2	S2.1		
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry				FE	CE	G1	S1	1B.1	
Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis	slender mariposa-lily				None	None	G4T2T3	S2S3	1B.2	
Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina	San Fernando Valley spineflower				None	CE	G3T1	S1	1B.1	
Dudleya multicaulis	many-stemmed dudleya				None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula	mesa horkelia				None	None	G4T1	S1	1B.1	
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bushmallow				None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	
Flora Query										
Anaxyrus californicus	arroyo toad	Amphibians	AAABB01230	139	Endangered	None	G2G3	S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_EN-Endangered
Rana muscosa	southern mountain yellow-legged frog	Amphibians	AAABH01330	210	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S2		CDFW_WL-Watch List | IUCN_EN-Endangered | USFS_S-Sensitive
Spea hammondii	western spadefoot	Amphibians	AAABF02020	1443	Proposed Threatened	None	G2G3	S3S4		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_NT-Near Threatened
Taricha torosa	Coast Range newt	Amphibians	AAAAF02032	88	None	None	G4	S4		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Socalchemmis gertschi	Gertsch's socalchemmis spider	Arachnids	ILARAU7010	3	None	None	G1	S1		
Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	Birds	ABNSB10010	2057	None	None	G4	S2		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern | USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	Birds	ABNKC19070	2577	None	Threatened	G5	S4		BLM_S-Sensitive | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	western yellow-billed cuckoo	Birds	ABNRB02022	165	Threatened	Endangered	G5T2T3	S1		BLM_S-Sensitive | USFS_S-Sensitive
Coturnicops noveboracensis	yellow rail	Birds	ABNME01010	45	None	None	G4	S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive | USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	Birds	ABPAE33043	75	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S3		
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	Birds	ABPBJ08081	1087	Threatened	None	G4G5T3Q	S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Riparia riparia	bank swallow	Birds	ABPAU08010	299	None	Threatened	G5	S3		BLM_S-Sensitive | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	Birds	ABPBX03010	78	None	None	G5	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	Birds	ABPBW01114	505	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S3		
Catostomus santaanae	Santa Ana sucker	Fish	AFCJC02190	28	Threatened	None	G1	S1		AFS_TH-Threatened | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_EN-Endangered
Gila orcuttii	arroyo chub	Fish	AFCJB13120	49	None	None	G2	S2		AFS_VU-Vulnerable | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_VU-Vulnerable | USFS_S-Sensitive
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 8	Santa Ana speckled dace	Fish	AFCJB3705K	13	None	None	G5T1	S1		AFS_TH-Threatened | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Bombus crotchii	Crotch's bumble bee	Insects	IIHYM24480	442	None	Candidate Endangered	G2	S2		IUCN_EN-Endangered
Bombus pensylvanicus	American bumble bee	Insects	IIHYM24260	527	None	None	G3G4	S2		IUCN_VU-Vulnerable
Coelus globosus	globose dune beetle	Insects	IICOL4A010	50	None	None	G1G2	S1S2		IUCN_VU-Vulnerable
Eugnosta busckana	Busck's gallmoth	Insects	IILEM2X090	15	None	None	G1G3	S2S3		
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	Mammals	AMACC10010	420	None	None	G4	S3		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	Mammals	AMACC08010	635	None	None	G4	S2		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	Mammals	AMACD02011	296	None	None	G4G5T4	S3S4		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Lasionycteris noctivagans	silver-haired bat	Mammals	AMACC02010	139	None	None	G3G4	S3S4		IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	Mammals	AMACC05032	238	None	None	G3G4	S4		IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	Mammals	AMACC05070	58	None	None	G4G5	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Microtus californicus stephensi	south coast marsh vole	Mammals	AMAFF11035	7	None	None	G5T2T3	S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	Mammals	AMAFF08041	132	None	None	G5T3T4	S3S4		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	Mammals	AMACD04020	32	None	None	G5	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Onychomys torridus ramona	southern grasshopper mouse	Mammals	AMAFF06022	28	None	None	G5T3	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	Mammals	AMAFD01041	70	None	None	G5T2	S1S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern

SciName	ComName	Taxon Group	ElmCode	Total Occs	FedList	CalList	GRank	SRank	RPlant Rank	OthrStatus
Taxidea taxus	American badger	Mammals	AMAJF04010	647	None	None	G5	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Glyptostoma gabrielense	San Gabriel chestnut	Mollusks	IMGASB1010	24	None	None	G2	S3		
Gonidea angulata	western ridged mussel	Mollusks	IMBIV19010	158	None	None	G3	S2		IUCN_VU-Vulnerable
Helminthoglypta traskii pacoimensis	Pacoima shoulderband	Mollusks	IMGASC2472	2	None	None	G1G2T1	S1		
Actinemys pallida	southwestern pond turtle	Reptiles	ARAAD02032	477	Proposed Threatened	None	G2G3	SNR		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_VU-Vulnerable | USFS_S-Sensitive
Anniella spp.	California legless lizard	Reptiles	ARACC01070	125	None	None	G3G4	S3S4		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Anniella stebbinsi	Southern California legless lizard	Reptiles	ARACC01060	427	None	None	G3	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive
Arizona elegans occidentalis	California glossy snake	Reptiles	ARADB01017	260	None	None	G5T2	S2		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri	coastal whiptail	Reptiles	ARACJ02143	148	None	None	G5T5	S3		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	Reptiles	ARACF12100	841	None	None	G4	S4		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern
Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped gartersnake	Reptiles	ARADB36160	184	None	None	G4	S3S4		BLM_S-Sensitive | CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern | IUCN_LC-Least Concern | USFS_S-Sensitive

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