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May 21, 2025
(2024-043.02A)

Omar Tinoco
Golden State Water Company
401 South San Dimas Canyon Road
San Dimas, CA 91773
Via e-mail to: Omar.Tinoco@gswater.com

Subject: Results of Biological Resources Surveys conducted at Morongo Del Sur, Yeager Well Replacement Project Site, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Mr. Tinoco:

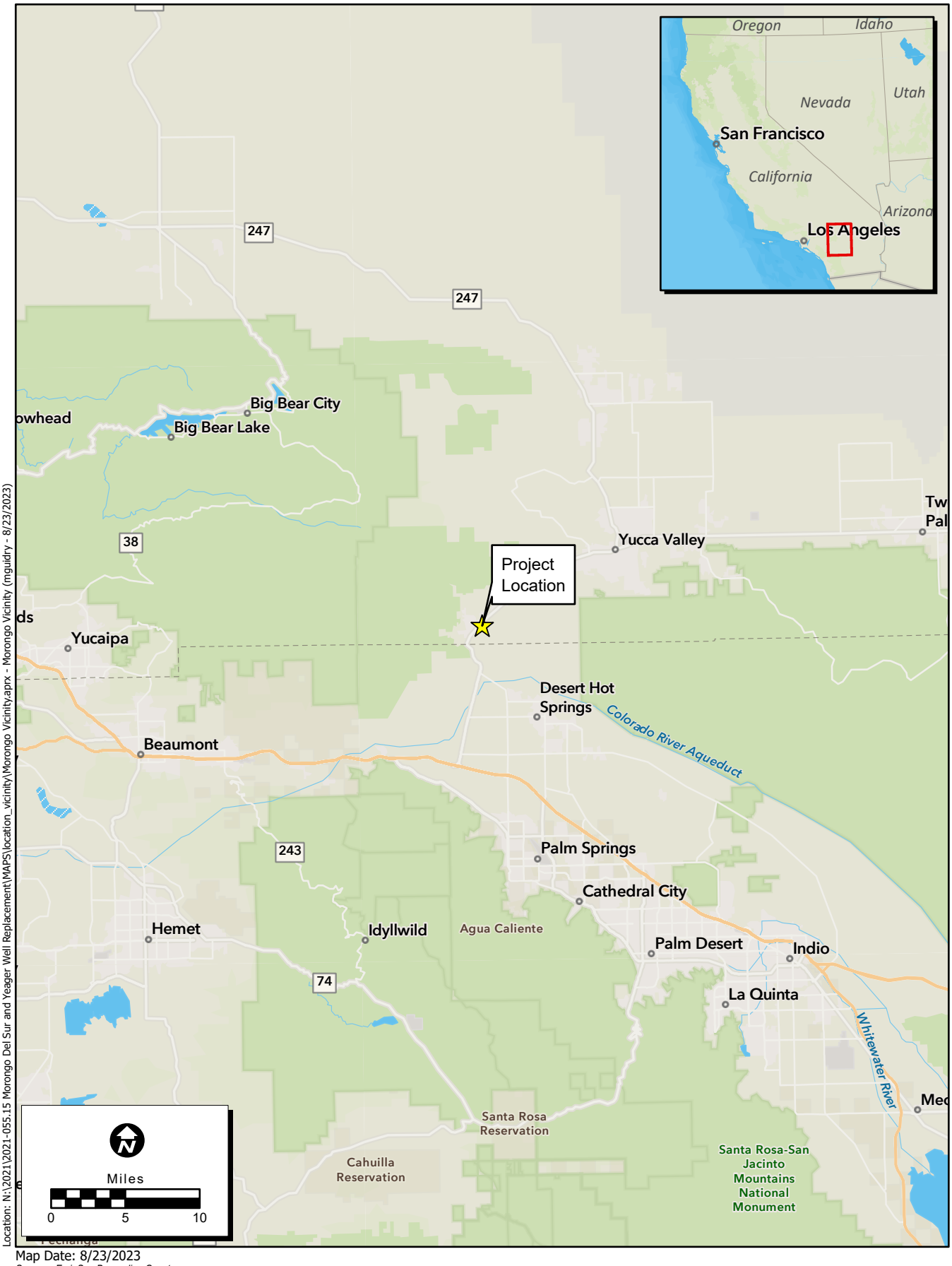
This report presents the results of biological resources surveys conducted by ECORP Consulting, Inc., (ECORP) on an approximately 0.77-acre property (APNs 0583-261-07 and 0583-261-08) in the community of Morongo Valley (Project Site). The surveys were conducted for the purpose of determining the baseline biological conditions, and to identify any biological constraints that would affect the Site plan for the Project.

Project Location and Description

GSWC is planning to construct a replacement potable water supply well, Yeager Well 4, at its Yeager-Vale Plant, located at 11077 Vale Drive, Morongo Valley, California (San Bernardino County Assessor's Parcel Number [APN]: 058326108) (Figure 1). An adjacent GSWC-owned parcel to the south (APN: 058326107) has been identified by GSWC as the proposed location for the replacement well (Figure 2). The identified parcel is approximately 130 feet (east to west) by 100 feet (north to south). The addition of the parcel to the south would expand the total area of the Yeager-Vale Plant to approximately 0.77 acre.

The Proposed Project would be part of GSWC's Morongo Del Sur System, which delivers groundwater pumped from the Morongo Valley portion of the Morongo Basin located east and west of the Twenty-Nine Palms Highway between Morongo Valley and Yucca Valley. GSWC is proposing to decommission Yeager-2 once Yeager Well 4 has been established. Yeager-2 is approximately 300 feet deep, and the new Yeager-4 well would reach approximately the same depth. The facility would not require a crew or staff; therefore, no bathroom facilities would be built.

The southern parcel, Parcel B, of the Project Site is undeveloped land, with mesquite dominated vegetation and a large tree towards the eastern side, and overhead power lines parallel to the northern property line between the southern parcel and the Yeager-Vale Plant. The overhead power lines proceed north along the eastern perimeter of the Yeager-Vale Plant. As part of the construction, the vegetation and the large tree will need to be removed and the ground leveled and prepared (i.e., temporary gravel bed) for heavy equipment prior to construction activities.



Map Date: 8/23/2023

Sources: Esri, San Bernardino County

Figure 1. Project Vicinity



Location: N:\2021\2021-055.15 Morongo Del Sur and Yeager Well Replacement\MAPS\location_vicinity\Morongo Vicinity.aprx - Morongo Location (trotellini - 5/21/2025)

Map Date: 5/21/2025

Sources: Esri, San Bernardino County (2024)

Figure 2. Project Location

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The Project ingress/egress would be on the western property boundary from Vale Drive. The Yeager-Vale Plant has several permanent structures that would be protected in place: the Yeager-Vale Plant treatment building, generator, motor control center, and chemical building. The existing onsite discharge pond located on Parcel A would also remain in place.

To manage excess water volumes generated during the well development phase that exceed the capacity of the existing discharge pond, a temporary above-ground high-capacity discharge pipeline would be installed. The line will extend east along Mojave Drive and then continue north along East Drive before terminating south of the East Drive and Covington Drive intersection, with the line discharging into an upland area (Figure 2). The pipeline would span approximately 500 linear feet and be completely contained within the developed roadway and shoulder of Mojave Drive and East Drive. This alignment has been selected to avoid encroachment on wetland habitat within the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.

GSWC maintains regulatory coverage for this discharge under the State Water Board National Permit Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Drinking Water System Discharges (Order No. WQ 2014-0194-DWQ, WDID No. 4DW0623), administered by the State Water Board. To ensure NPDES permit compliance, two temporary settling tanks would be deployed on Parcel B to remove suspended solids, reduce turbidity, and decrease flow velocity prior to discharge. These tanks operate based on gravitational sedimentation principles and serve as a best management practice for the discharge. The temporary discharge pipeline and settling infrastructure would be fully decommissioned and removed upon completion of construction activities.

The highest pumping rate at Yeager-2 was 415 gallons per minute (gpm) when measured in 1990, and the pumping rate has declined nearly 50 percent in recent years. Yeager-4 is anticipated to have a capacity of 300-400 gpm. Pumping rates would be determined during drilling and are impacted by several factors including well interference at the well field, the nearby domestic wells across the street, and water quality.

To meet the local noise ordinances, 24-foot-high sound walls would be required during well drilling. It is expected that the Project Site would need to be partially enclosed with sound walls strategically placed to minimize impacts to sensitive receptors to the west and south sides of the Project Site.

Methods

Literature Review

Prior to conducting the biological reconnaissance surveys, ECORP biologists performed a literature review using the CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB; CDFW 2025a), the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS') Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI; CNPS 2025a), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) to determine the special-status plant and wildlife species that have been documented near the Project Site (USFWS 2025a).

ECORP searched CNDDB, CNPSEI, and IPaC records within the Project Site boundaries as depicted on USGS 7.5-minute Morongo Valley topographic quadrangle (quad) and the surrounding 8 quads, which included Yucca Valley South, Yucca Valley North, Rimrock, Onyx Peak, Catclaw Flat, White Water, and Desert Hot Springs. The CNDDB and CNPSEI contain records of reported occurrences of federally and/or state-listed endangered, threatened, proposed endangered or threatened species, CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC), or sensitive natural communities that may occur within or near the Project. Additional information was gathered from the following sources and includes, but is not limited to:

- *State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California* (CDFW 2025b);
- *Special Animals List* (CDFW 2025c);
- *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California* (Baldwin et al. 2012);
- *The Manual of California Vegetation,* 2nd Edition (Sawyer et al. 2009);
- Countywide – All Biotic Resources Overlay Map (County of San Bernardino 2012);
- National Wetlands Inventory (NWI; USFWS 2025b);
- United States Geological Survey National Hydrography Dataset (USGS 2025); and
- Calfora (Calflora 2025).

Using this information and observations in the field, a list of special-status plant and animal species that have the potential to occur on or near the Project Site was generated. For the purposes of this assessment, special-status species are defined as plants or animals that:

- have been designated as either rare, threatened, or endangered by CDFW, CNPS, or the USFWS, or are protected under either the federal ESA or California ESA;
- are candidate species being considered or proposed for listing under these same acts;
- are plant taxa considered by CDFW to be "rare, threatened, or endangered in California" and assigned a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of the following:
    - CRPR 1A—Plants presumed to be extinct in California
    - CRPR 1B—Plants that are rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
    - CRPR 2A—Plants presumed to be extinct in California but more common elsewhere
    - CRPR 2B—Plants that are rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
- are fully protected by the California Fish and Game Code, §§ 3511, 4700, 5050, or 5515; or
- are of expressed concern to resource and regulatory agencies or local jurisdictions.

Habitat is defined as the composition of various biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) factors that collectively support the survival, reproduction, and persistence of an animal or plant species. Special-status species reported for the region in the literature review or for which suitable habitat occurs on the site were assessed for their potential to occur within the Project Site based on the following guidelines:

Present: The species was observed onsite during a site visit or focused survey.

High: Suitable habitat (including soils, vegetation communities, and elevation factors) that could support persistence of the species (including foraging, shelter, and breeding) occurs within the Project Site and a known occurrence has recently been recorded (within the last 20 years) within five miles of the area.

Moderate: Suitable habitat (including soils, vegetation communities, and elevation factors) that could support persistence of the species (including foraging, shelter, and breeding) occurs within the Project Site and a documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within five miles of the area; or a recently documented observation occurs within five miles of the area and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs in the Project Site.

Low: Limited (e.g., small area, scarce) or marginal (e.g., low quality, disturbed) habitat for the species occurs within the Project Site and a recently documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within five miles of the area; a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within five miles of the Project Site; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs on site, but no records or only historic records were found within the database search.

Presumed Absent: Species was not observed during a site visit or focused surveys conducted in accordance with protocol guidelines at an appropriate time for identification; habitat (including soils and elevation factors) does not exist onsite; or the known geographic range of the species does not include the Project Site.

Note that location information on some special-status species may be of questionable accuracy or unavailable. Therefore, for survey purposes, the environmental factors associated with a species' occurrence requirements may be considered sufficient reasons to give a species a positive potential for occurrence. In addition, just because a record of a species does not exist in the databases does not mean it does not occur. In many cases, records may not be present in the databases because an area has not been surveyed for that species.

A review of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS; NRCS 2025a) Web Soil Survey, NRCS Hydric Soils List (NRCS 2025b), NWI (USFWS 2025a), and the corresponding USGS topographic maps was also conducted to determine if there were any blue line streams or drainages present on the Project Site that potentially fall under the jurisdiction of either federal or state agencies.

The biological reconnaissance survey was conducted by ECORP biologists who walked the entire Project Site to determine the vegetation communities and wildlife habitats present on the Site and a 500-foot survey buffer to assess adjacent areas. The biologists documented the plant and wildlife species present on the Project Site, and the location and condition of the Project Site were assessed for the potential to provide habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species. Additionally, the biologists documented features within the Project Site with the potential to be jurisdictional to the USACE, RWQCB, and/or the

CDFW; however, a formal aquatic resources delineation was not performed as part of the survey. Data were recorded in the field utilizing ArcGIS™ Field Maps on a device (smartphone or tablet) connected to a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, field notebooks, or maps. Photographs were also taken during the survey to provide visual representation of the conditions within the Project Site. The Project Site was also examined to assess its potential to facilitate wildlife movement or function as a movement corridor for wildlife moving throughout the region. The biologists documented the vegetation communities present on the Project Site. Vegetation communities were mapped in accordance with the *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW 2018). Vegetation communities were classified to the alliance level and followed *A Manual of California Vegetation Online* (CNPS 2025b).

Biological Surveys

The biological reconnaissance survey was conducted by ECORP biologists who walked the entire Project Site to determine the vegetation communities and wildlife habitats present on the Site and visually scanned a 500-foot survey buffer to assess adjacent areas. The biologists documented the plant and wildlife species present on the Project Site, and the location and condition of the Project Site were assessed for the potential to provide habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species. Additionally, the biologists documented features within the Project Site with the potential to be jurisdictional to the USACE, RWQCB, and/or the CDFW; however, a formal aquatic resources delineation was not performed as part of the survey. Data were recorded in the field utilizing ArcGIS™ Field Maps on a device (smartphone or tablet) connected to a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, field notebooks, or maps. Photographs were also taken during the survey to provide visual representation of the conditions within the Project Site. The Project Site was also examined to assess its potential to facilitate wildlife movement or function as a movement corridor for wildlife moving throughout the region. The biologists documented the vegetation communities present on the Project Site. Vegetation communities were mapped in accordance with the *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW 2018). Vegetation communities were classified to the alliance level and followed *A Manual of California Vegetation Online* (CNPS 2025b).

Results

Literature Review and Database Searches

The literature review and database searches identified nine special-status plant species and 33 special-status wildlife species that have been previously documented near the Project Site. A list was generated from the results of the literature review and the Project Site was evaluated for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status plant or wildlife species on the list.

Additionally, a desktop review of the NWI and USGS topographic map did not identify any potentially jurisdictional features or wetlands present on the Project Site (USFWS 2025a; USGS 2025). However,

review of aerial photographs determined that a small man-made discharge basin was located on the existing Yeager-2 site and warranted further investigation during the biological surveys.

Biological Surveys

The initial biological survey was conducted by ECORP biologist, Shelby Dunn, on August 18, 2023. A second updated survey was conducted on March 12, 2025, by ECORP biologist, Phillip Wasz. The Project Site consisted of a mix of disturbed and developed land. The Project Site is surrounded by roadways, residential development to the west, a skatepark and playground to the south, undeveloped lots to the northeast, and Big Morongo Canyon Preserve to the east. The northern parcel, Parcel A, containing the Yeager-2 well, is developed with facilities associated with the existing well operation, ornamental vegetation, gravel road, chain link fencing, and existing man-made discharge basin (Figure 3). The southern parcel, Parcel B, proposed for the Yeager-4 well is composed of a mix of native and nonnative vegetation consisting of *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance (mesquite thickets; a CDFW S3 Rank Sensitive Natural Community) and disturbed land that included a compacted dirt road, and some sparse native shrubs, dominated by golden bush (*Isocoma* sp.). The mesquite trees on site covers approximately 47 percent (approximately 0.14 acres) of the parcel on the east and north (Figure 3). The Project Site is located near the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, which is located about 170 feet to the east. The preserve includes desert riparian and marsh habitat (Big Morongo Creek), which attracts a variety of wildlife, including migratory and special-status bird species.

The Project Site is located within a residential area with localized ongoing disturbance from human activities (e.g., existing facility maintenance, paved roads, trash, introduced nonnative plant species). Parcel A did not contain any natural vegetation communities due to its developed nature. Therefore, Parcel A was assigned a land cover type of developed. One native vegetation community was documented within Parcel B: *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance (mesquite thickets). The *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance within Parcel B has also been affected by the localized ongoing human disturbance within and around the Project Site. Due to the presence of the dirt road, multiple foot paths, scattered trash, introduced nonnative plant species, and evidence of timber cutting, this community is characterized as disturbed and its value as a sensitive natural community may be lessened due to these factors.

Some of the wildlife species present on and adjacent to the Project Site during the biological surveys included, but was not limited to, side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), California scrub jay *(Aphelocoma californica),* California quail (*Callipepla californica*)*,* Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), black-headed grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*), California thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum*)*,* house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*), hooded oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*), and desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*). During the 2023 biological survey, one yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), a CDFW Species of Special Concern, was audible outside of the Project Site, within the adjacent Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.



Map Contents

- Project Area
- 500-ft Buffer
- Temporary Discharge Line

Parcel Boundaries

- Parcel A
- Parcel B

2023 Biological Survey

- Yellow Warbler

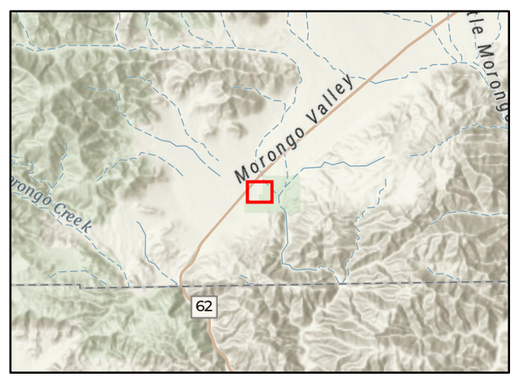
Vegetation Communities

- *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance (Disturbed)

Land Cover Types

- Developed
- Disturbed

Sources: ESRI, San Bernardino County (2024)
Other Related Info if Needed



Location: N:\2021\2021-055.15 Morongo Del Sur and Yeager Well Replacement\MAPS\biological_resources\Biological Resources aprx - MDS_Bio_Results_20250521 (trotellini - 5/21/2025)

Map Date: 5/21/2025

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Scale in Feet
0 150

Figure 3. Biological Survey Results

2021-055.15 Morongo Del Sur and Yeager Well Replacement

Representative photographs of the Project Site can be found in Attachment A and lists of all the plants and wildlife species observed are included as Attachment B and C.

Potential for Special-Status Plant Species

For the purposes of this study, due to the isolated nature of the Project Site, the fact that it is bordered by development on three sides, the Project Site's history of disturbance, and the lack of mobility for plant species, the results of the literature review were limited to plant species occurring within five miles of the Project Site. Additionally, plant species with a CNPS Rare Plant Rank of 3 or 4 species were eliminated from the analysis because these rankings are considered a review list and a watch list, respectively, and are not likely to be federally or state-listed in the near future. Even if these species were to occur on the Project Site, impacts to CRPRs 3 and 4 species would likely not be considered significant under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The literature review and database searches identified nine special-status plant species as occurring within five miles of the Project Site (CDFW 2025a; CNPS 2025b). A list of the nine special-status plant species was generated from the results of the literature review and the Project Site was evaluated for its suitability to support any of the special-status plant species on the list.

Of the nine special-status plant species that appeared in the literature review and database searches for the Project Site, five were presumed absent due to the lack of suitable habitat (including elevation and soil) or because the Project Site is located outside of the known range for the species. Four species were determined to have a low potential to occur on the Project Site. A table outlining each species, their designations, and potential for occurrence on the Project Site can be found in Attachment D. The USFWS IPaC Species List is also included as Attachment E.

Plant Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following four species have a low potential to occur within the Project Site due to the presence of limited (e.g., small area, scarce) or marginal (e.g., low quality, disturbed) habitat for the species occurring within the Project Site and a recently documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within five miles of the area; a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within five miles of the Project Site; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs on site, but no records or only historic records were found within the database search:

- Lincoln rockcress (*Boechera lincolnensis*) CRPR 2B.3;
- White-bracted spineflower (*Chorizanthe xanti* var. *leucotheca*) CRPR 1B.2;
- Little San Bernardino Mountains linanthus (*Linantus maculatus* ssp. *maculatus*) CRPR 1B.2; and
- Latimer's woodland-gilia (*Saltugilia latimeri*) CRPR 1B.2.

Potential for Special-Status Wildlife Species

The literature search identified 33 special-status wildlife species that had previously been documented on or in the vicinity of the Project Site. A list was generated from the results of the literature review and the Project was evaluated for suitable habitat that could support any of the special-status wildlife species on the list. Of the 33 special-status wildlife species that appeared in the literature review and database searches for the Project Site, 24 wildlife species were presumed absent due to the lack of suitable habitat (including vegetation and soils) or because the Project Site is located outside of the known range for the species. The high level of human disturbance within and adjacent to the Project Site precludes many of these species from occurring. One special-status wildlife species was determined to have a moderate potential to occur and seven special-status wildlife species were determined to have a low potential to occur on the Project Site. A table outlining each species, their designations, and potential for occurrence on the Project Site can be found in Attachment F. The USFWS IPaC Species List is also included as Attachment E.

Wildlife Species with a Moderate Potential to Occur

One species was determined to have a moderate potential to occur within the Project Site due to the presence of suitable habitat (including soils, vegetation communities, and elevation factors) that could support persistence of the species (including foraging, shelter, and breeding) within the Project Site and a documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within five miles of the area; or a recently documented observation occurs within five miles of the area and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs in the Project Site:

- Yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) CDFW SSC

Wildlife Species with a Low Potential to Occur

The following seven species have a low potential to occur within the Project Site due to the presence of limited (e.g., small area, scarce) or marginal (e.g., low quality, disturbed) habitat for the species occurring within the Project Site and a recently documented observation occurs within the database search, but not within five miles of the area; a historic documented observation (more than 20 years old) was recorded within five miles of the Project Site; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs on site, but no records or only historic records were found within the database search:

- Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) state candidate for listing (Endangered);
- Red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*) CDFW SSC;
- Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) CDFW SSC;
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludocicianus*) CDFW SSC;
- Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*) CDFW SSC;

- Vermilion flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) CDFW SSC;
- San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) CDFW SSC

Raptors and Migratory Birds

Potential nesting habitat for migratory birds and raptors protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code is present throughout the Project Site in the form of shrubs, trees, and a wooden telephone line. Suitable nesting habitat for ground-nesting bird species, such as mourning doves, is also present in the Project Site. Due to the presence of suitable nesting habitat, native and migratory birds could use the Project Site during the nesting bird season (typically February 1 through August 31).

Aquatic Resources

Although a formal aquatic resources delineation was not performed, a desktop review of the NWI and USGS topographic map did not identify any potentially jurisdictional features or wetlands present on the Project Site (USFWS 2025a; USGS 2025). Off-site improvements include a temporary above-ground discharge pipeline which will be temporarily installed above-ground within the existing developed roadway and shoulder. The pipeline will span approximately 500 linear feet extending east along Mojave Drive and then continuing north along East Drive before terminating south of the East Drive and Covington Drive intersection, with the line discharging into an upland area (Figure 3). This alignment has been selected to avoid encroachment on sensitive wetland habitat within the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.

Additionally, there is a small man-made discharge basin located on the existing Yeager-2 site. This feature was investigated during the March 12, 2025 biological survey and was observed to be completely dry and devoid of vegetation. The discharge basin consists of a small man-made earthen lined unvegetated basin, designed to accept discharge from Yeager-2. The basin is an artificial structure, isolated from other natural waterways, and does not support fish, wildlife, or protected plant species due to its unvegetated nature and lack of habitat. Therefore, this feature is not jurisdictional for the Army Corps of Engineers, State Regional Water Quality Control Board, or CDFW.

Wildlife Movement Corridors, Linkages, and Native Wildlife Nursery Sites

The concept of habitat corridors addresses the linkage between large blocks of habitat that allow the safe movement of mammals and other wildlife species from one habitat area to another. The definition of a corridor varies, but corridors may include such areas as greenbelts, refuge systems, channels and flood control, underpasses, and biogeographic land bridges. In general, a corridor is described as a linear habitat embedded in a dissimilar matrix that connects two or more large blocks of habitat. Wildlife movement corridors are critical for the survivorship of ecological systems for several reasons. Corridors can connect water, food, and cover sources, spatially linking these three resources with wildlife in different areas. In addition, wildlife movement between habitat areas provides for the potential of

genetic exchange between wildlife species populations, thereby maintaining genetic variability and adaptability to maximize the success of wildlife responses to changing environmental conditions. This is especially critical for small populations subject to loss of variability from genetic drift and effects of inbreeding. The nature of corridor usage and wildlife movement patterns vary greatly among species.

The Project Site was assessed for its ability to function as a wildlife corridor. Although the Project Site is adjacent to open undeveloped desert scrub habitat, it is generally surrounded by residential development and less than 0.25 mile southeast of State Route 62 which limits wildlife movement. Wildlife could use portions of the Project Site or areas immediately adjacent to the Project Site for local travel to larger, contiguous blocks of habitat such as the San Bernardino Mountains to the north, but the Project Site itself does not provide wildlife movement corridor or linkage opportunities due to its small size and exposed nature. Additionally, the presence of heavy human activity reduces the Project Site's value as a wildlife movement corridor or linkage.

Sensitive Natural Communities

The Project Site contains one vegetation community (*Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance) and two land cover types (developed and disturbed). The *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation community was documented within the southern parcel, Parcel B, proposed for Yeager-4. *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance is a S3 ranked CDFW sensitive natural community. S3 is the lowest of the Sensitive Natural Community ranks and indicates that the vegetation community is vulnerable due to a restricted range, relatively few populations, recent declines, or other factors making them vulnerable to extirpation from the State. Approximately 0.14-acre of *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance (disturbed) was present within Parcel B.

Impact Analysis

Special-Status Species

The Project Site consists of two pieces, Parcel A which consists of a developed existing well site (Yeager-2) and Parcel B which consists of a 0.30-acre area containing *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation and disturbed land. Off-site improvements include a temporary above-ground discharge pipeline which will be temporarily installed above-ground within the existing developed roadway and shoulder. The pipeline will span approximately 500 linear feet extending east along Mojave Drive and then continuing north along East Drive before terminating south of the East Drive and Covington Drive intersection, with the line discharging into an upland area (Figure 3). This alignment has been selected to avoid encroachment on sensitive wetland habitat within the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. The Project Site is surrounded by roadways, residential development to the west, a skatepark and playground to the south, undeveloped lots to the northeast, and Big Morongo Canyon Preserve to the east. Evidence of past disturbances are present on the Project Site including

compacted soils, a dirt roadway across, multiple footpaths, nonnative grasses and plants, and trash were observed throughout the Project Site.

No special-status plant or wildlife species were observed during the biological surveys; however, four special-status plant species (Lincoln rockcress; White-bracted spineflower; Little San Bernardino Mountains linanthus; and Latimer's woodland-gilia have a low potential to occur on the Project Site. However, due to the lack of high-quality habitat within the Project Site, the site's history of anthropogenic disturbances, and the presence of urban development immediately adjacent to the Project Site, if present on the Project Site, these four species are only expected to occur in low density and Project-related impacts would not be expected to contribute to the overall decline of populations for these species. Therefore, impacts to Lincoln rockcress, white-bracted spineflower, little San Bernardino Mountains linanthus, and Latimer's woodland-gilia would not be considered significant under CEQA, and additional surveys and mitigation are not necessary.

Of the 33 special-status wildlife species identified in the literature review, one species (yellow warbler) has a moderate potential to occur and seven species (Crotch's bumble bee, red-diamond rattlesnake, coast horned lizard, loggerhead shrike, summer tanager, vermilion flycatcher, and San Diego desert woodrat) have a low potential to occur on the Project Site. Although these species are not expected to occur on the Project Site, wildlife are mobile and, if present, these species could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and vegetation removal and indirect impacts from construction noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to the development of the Project Site. However, impacts to these species would be less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4 discussed below.

As stated above, Crotch bumble bee (candidate species for listing [endangered] under the California ESA) was determined to have a low potential to occur on the Project Site based on the presence of marginally suitable habitat and recent species records in the vicinity. No Crotch bumble bees were observed during the 2023 and 2025 biological surveys. However, if present on the Project Site, this species could be subject to direct impacts through ground disturbance and vegetation removal and indirect impacts from construction noise, vibrations, and increased human activity related to the development of the Project Site. Any direct impacts to Crotch bumble bee associated with Project implementation would be considered significant under CEQA. However, implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-3 and BIO-4 will reduce impacts to Crotch bumble bee to a level that is less than significant.

Due to the Project Site's history of disturbance and lack of high-quality habitat, none of the plant or wildlife species with a low potential are expected to occur on the Project site. Therefore, it is not likely that the Project would require a mechanism for "take" of federally or state-listed plant or wildlife species. Therefore, significant impacts to special-status plant or wildlife species are not expected to occur and with the implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4, all potential

Project related impacts to candidate, sensitive, or special-status plant and wildlife species would be reduced to a less than significant threshold.

Raptors and Migratory Birds

The trees and large shrubs on the Project Site, as well as the trees immediately adjacent to the Project Site, could provide nesting habitat for nesting birds and raptors protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code, including yellow warbler. Furthermore, the Project Site could provide nesting habitat for ground-nesting bird species. If construction of the proposed Project occurs during the bird breeding season (typically February 1 through August 31), ground-disturbing construction activities could directly affect birds protected by the MBTA and their nests through the removal of habitat on the Project Site, and indirectly through increased noise, vibrations, and increased human activity. However, impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-4.

Aquatic Resources

Although a formal aquatic resources delineation was not performed, a desktop review of the NWI and USGS topographic map did not identify any potentially jurisdictional features or wetlands present on the Project Site (USFWS 2025a; USGS 2025). Off-site improvements include a temporary above-ground discharge pipeline which will be temporarily installed above-ground within the existing developed roadway and shoulder. The pipeline will span approximately 500 linear feet extending east along Mojave Drive and then continuing north along East Drive before terminating south of the East Drive and Covington Drive intersection, with the line discharging into an upland area (Figure 3). This alignment has been selected to avoid encroachment on sensitive wetland habitat within the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.

Additionally, there is a small man-made discharge basin located on the existing Yeager-2 site. This feature was investigated during the March 12, 2025 biological survey and was observed to be completely dry and devoid of vegetation. The discharge basin consists of a small man-made earthen lined unvegetated basin, designed to accept discharge from Yeager-2. The basin is an artificial structure, isolated from other natural waterways, and does not support fish, wildlife, or protected plant species due to its unvegetated nature and lack of habitat. Therefore, this feature is not jurisdictional for the Army Corps of Engineers, State Regional Water Quality Control Board, or CDFW

Wildlife Movement Corridors, Linkages, and Native Wildlife Nursery Sites

The Project Site was assessed for its ability to function as a wildlife corridor. Although the Project Site is adjacent to open undeveloped desert scrub habitat, it is generally surrounded by residential development and less than 0.25 mile southeast of the Project Site is State Route 62 which limits wildlife movement. Wildlife could use portions of the Project Site or areas immediately adjacent to the Project Site for local travel to larger, contiguous blocks of habitat but the Project Site itself does not provide

wildlife movement corridor or linkage opportunities due to its small size and exposed nature. Additionally, the presence of heavy human activity reduces the Project Site's value as a wildlife movement corridor or linkage

The Project Site is partially developed as an existing GSWC well site and is located within a rural urbanized area. Due to the presence of natural vegetation on the southern Parcel B, wildlife could use portions of the Project Site or areas immediately adjacent to the Project Site for local travel to larger, contiguous blocks of habitat. However, due to the Project Site's small size, exposed nature, and the existing residential and community services developments to the north, south and west, the Project Site does not function as a corridor for the movement of native resident or migratory animals or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Additionally, the presence of heavy human activity reduces the Project Site's value to wildlife as a movement corridor or linkage. Thus, the Proposed Project would not interfere with wildlife movement or use of native wildlife nursery sites. No impact would occur

Sensitive Natural Communities

The Project Site contained one vegetation community (*Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance(mesquite thickets) and two land cover types (developed and disturbed). The *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation community was documented within the southern parcel, Parcel B, proposed for Yeager-4. *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance is a S3 ranked CDFW sensitive natural community. S3 is the lowest of the Sensitive Natural Community ranks and indicates that the vegetation community is vulnerable due to a restricted range, relatively few populations, recent declines, or other factors making them vulnerable to extirpation from the State. Approximately 0.14-acre of disturbed *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance was present within Parcel B. *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation was also observed on adjacent lands and is a prominent vegetation community with the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. The *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance on the Project Site is located within a disturbed environment that is constantly exposed to human disturbance and impacts, which lessens its conservation value. Additionally, with the prominence of *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation in the surrounding area and within conserved/protected areas like the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, removal of 0.14-acre of *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance would not threaten the community's long-term viability and would not create a substantial adverse effect. Therefore, the loss of 0.14-acre of *Prosopis glandulosa - Prosopis velutina - Prosopis pubescens* Woodland Alliance vegetation would be a less than significant impact under CEQA

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1 Pre-Construction Special-Status Wildlife Survey. To ensure impacts to special-status wildlife species, including red-diamond rattlesnake, coast horned lizard, and San Diego desert woodrat, are less than significant, a pre-construction special-status wildlife survey shall be conducted no more than three days prior to the initiation of construction activities (e.g., equipment staging, ground disturbance, vegetation removal, and/or heavy equipment work). The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist, experience in identifying special-status wildlife species and determining/establishing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures; and monitoring the efficacy of implemented avoidance and minimization measures. The survey shall also be conducted during the appropriate time of day and weather conditions and shall encompass the entire project site and a 500-ft buffer, where access is permissible. Areas where access is not permissible will be scanned with binoculars. If special-status species are identified on the Project Site, the biologist should coordinate with the Department of Water Resources, CDFW, and/or USFWS to develop and implement appropriate measures. These may include establishing protective buffer zones, rescheduling activities to avoid sensitive periods, or other measures.

BIO-2 Pre-construction Nesting Bird Survey. To avoid disturbance of nesting and special-status birds, or migratory bird species protected by Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the CFGC and the MBTA, activities related to project construction, including but not limited to vegetation and/or tree removal, should occur outside of the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31). If ground disturbance, vegetation and tree removal, or heavy equipment work must begin in the breeding season, then a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than three days prior to the initiation of construction activities. The survey shall be conducted at the appropriate time of day, during appropriate weather conditions, no more than three days prior to the initiation of Project activities such as vegetation removal and/or initial ground disturbance. The survey shall encompass the Project Site and a 250-foot buffer for passerines and a 500-foot buffer for raptors. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the identification of avian species known to occur in the region. An additional survey shall be conducted following any lapse in construction activity of seven or more days during the bird breeding season. The survey shall cover all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. Survey duration should take into consideration the size of the Project Site; density, and complexity of the habitat; number of survey participants; survey techniques employed; and it shall be sufficient to ensure the data collected is complete and accurate. The survey should be conducted by a qualified biologist experienced in identifying local and migratory bird species; conducting bird surveys using appropriate survey methodology; nesting surveying techniques, recognizing breeding and nesting behaviors, locating nests and breeding territories, and identifying nesting stages and nest success; determining/establishing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures; and monitoring the efficacy of implemented avoidance and minimization measures.

If no nesting birds are observed during the survey, Project Site preparation and construction activities may begin.

If active nests are found, a qualified biologist shall establish a suitable avoidance buffer around the nest, with specific buffer widths to be determined by a qualified biologist. The buffer shall be delineated and flagged, and no construction activity shall occur within the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines the nestlings have fledged and/or the nest is no longer active, the nest has failed, or the nest has otherwise been determined inactive. The buffer shall be established to ensure nesting activity is not disturbed by construction activity and determined by the qualified biologist based on the species' known tolerances, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the Project Site. The buffer(s) shall be demarcated by the biologist and the boundary marked with bright construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means. 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. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of a qualified biologist and with monitoring of the active nest to ensure construction activities are not disrupting nesting behavior. If a qualified biologist determines that such Project activities may be causing an adverse reaction, the qualified biologist shall adjust the buffer accordingly or implement alternative avoidance and minimization measures, such as redirecting or rescheduling construction or erecting sound barriers. Work can resume within these avoidance areas when no other active nests are found, or the nest is determined to be inactive.

BIO-3 Pre-Construction Crotch Bumble Bee Survey. If the Crotch bumble bee is no longer a Candidate or formally Listed species under the California ESA at the time ground-disturbing activities occur, then no additional protection measures are proposed for the species.

If the Crotch bumble bee is legally protected under the California ESA as a Candidate or Listed species at the time ground-disturbing activities are scheduled to occur, it is recommended pre-construction surveys be conducted in accordance with the established survey protocol provided by CDFW. If no such protocol is available and ground-disturbing activities are scheduled to occur during the Crotch bumble bee flight season (February 16 through October 31), then it is recommended a minimum of two Crotch bumble bee pre-construction surveys are conducted by a qualified biologist experienced in identifying the species prior to ground disturbing activities (including vegetation and tree removal). The surveys shall be conducted no more than 14 days and three (3) days prior to ground-disturbing activities and vegetation clearing activities that are to occur during the flight season.

Should vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities be scheduled to begin during the overwintering season (November 1 to February 15), when Crotch bumble bee are not detectable aboveground, then four (4) focused surveys shall be conducted at least three (3) weeks apart during the peak flight season (late March through August) immediately prior to start of construction.

If Crotch bumble bee is determined to occur within the Project Site at any time, coordination with CDFW shall be required prior to the initiation of Project activities. Additionally, if Crotch's bumble bee is present, the qualified biologist shall identify the location of nests in in the survey area, to the extent feasible. If nests are identified, the qualified biologist shall determine the need to establish a no-disturbance buffer around the nest, where feasible, to reduce the risk of disturbance or accidental take. The buffer shall provide at least 50 feet (15 meters) of clearance around active nest entrances. If Project component activities may result in disturbance or potential take, the qualified biologist, in coordination with CDFW, shall expand the buffer zone as necessary to prevent disturbance or take. If establishment of a no-disturbance buffer is feasible, construction activities shall not occur within the buffer until a qualified biologist determines the colony is no longer active (i.e., no Crotch's bumble bees are seen flying in or out of the nest for three consecutive days, indicating the colony has completed its nesting season and the next season's queens have dispersed from the colony). Once the nest has been determined to be inactive, construction activities within the no-disturbance buffer(s) shall be allowed to resume. Otherwise, the no-disturbance buffer shall be maintained for the duration of Project component construction activities in each work area and shall be removed only after the conclusion of all grading, clearing, and construction activities at each construction site.

BIO-4 Biological Monitoring. A qualified biologist shall be present to monitor all initial ground disturbing and vegetation-clearing activities conducted for the Project. During each monitoring day, the biological monitor shall perform clearance survey "sweeps" at the start of each workday that vegetation clearing takes place to minimize impacts on special-status species with potential to occur. The monitor will be responsible for ensuring that impacts to special-status species, nesting birds, and active nests will be avoided to the greatest extent possible. Biological monitoring shall take place until the Project Site has been completely cleared of any vegetation. If an active nest is identified, the biological monitor shall establish an appropriate disturbance limit buffer around the nest using flagging or staking. Construction activities shall not occur within any disturbance limit buffer zones until the nest is deemed no longer active by the biologist. If listed (candidate, threatened, or endangered) wildlife species are detected during biological monitoring activities, then consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW shall be conducted, and a mitigation plan shall be developed to avoid and offset impacts to these species. Mitigation measures may consist of work restrictions and/or additional biological monitoring activities after ground-disturbing activities are complete.

Certification

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Field work conducted for this assessment was performed by me or under my direct supervision. I certify that I have not signed a non-disclosure or consultant confidentiality agreement with the Project applicant or the applicant's representative and that I have no financial interest in the Project.

SIGNED:  DATE: 5/21/2025

Phillip Wasz
Senior Wildlife Biologist
ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Attachment A: Representative Site Photographs

Attachment B: Plant Species Observed

Attachment C: Wildlife Species Observed

Attachment D: Special-Status Plant Species Potential for Occurrence

Attachment E: USFWS IPaC Species List

Attachment F: Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential for Occurrence

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ATTACHMENT A

Representative Site Photographs



Photo 1: View of Parcel A, facing northeast on March 12, 2025.



Photo 2: Representative photo of Parcel A discharge basin, facing southwest, on March 12, 2025.



Photo 3: Fence between Parcel A and Parcel B, facing east, on March 12, 2025.



Photo 3: West border of Parcel B, along Vale Drive, looking east, on March 12, 2025.



Photo 4: Corner of Vale Drive and Mojave Drive, Parcel B, facing northeast, on March 12, 2025.



Photo 5: Corner of Vale Drive and Mojave Drive, Parcel B, facing east along Mojave Drive, on March 12, 2025.



Photo 6: Representative photo of the discharge point for the temporary above-ground discharge pipeline.

ATTACHMENT B

Plant Species Observed

Attachment B. Plant Species Observed on and Adjacent to the Project Site

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of heaven
Ambrosia sp.	Ragweed
Atriplex polycarpa	Allscale saltbush**
Arecaceae sp.*	Palm**
Arundo donax	Giant reed**
Brassica sp*	Mustard
Bromus sp.*	Brome sp.
*Caesalpinia gilliesii**	Bird of paradise
Croton californicus	California croton
Datura wrightii	Sacred datura
Heterotheca grandiflora	Telegraph weed
Ericameria linearifolia	Narrowleaf golden bush
Larrea tridentata	Creosote bush**
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed**
Populus sp.	Cottonwood sp.
Prosopis glandulosa var. *torreyana*	Honey mesquite
*Salsola tragus**	Russian thistle
*Schismus barbatus**	Mediterranean grass
**Nonnative species* ***Observed adjacent to the Project Site*	

ATTACHMENT C

Wildlife Species Observed

Attachment C. Wildlife Species Observed on and Adjacent to the Project Site

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
REPTILIA	REPTILES
Uta stansburiana	Side-blotched lizard
AVES	BIRDS
Aphelocoma californica	California scrub-jay
Baeolophus inornatus	Oak titmouse
Callipepla californica	California quail
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird
Calypte costae	Costa's hummingbird
Chamaea fasciata	Wrentit
Chondestes grammacus	Lark sparrow
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow
Dryobates nuttallii	Nuttall's woodpecker
Geococcyx californianus	Greater roadrunner
Haemorhous mexicanus	House finch
Icterus cucullatus	Hooded oriole
Melozone crissalis	California towhee
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird
*Passer domesticus**	House sparrow
Phainopepla nitens	Phainopepla
Pheucticus melanocephalus	Black-headed grosbeak
Setophaga petechia	Yellow warbler**
*Streptopelia decaocto**	Eurasian collared dove
Thryomanes bewickii	Bewick's wren
Toxostoma redivivum	California thrasher
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove
Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned sparrow

MAMMALIA	MAMMALS
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel**
Sylvilagus audubonii	Desert cottontail

**Nonnative species*
***Observed adjacent to the Project Site*

ATTACHMENT D

Special-Status Plant Species Potential for Occurrence

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)**	**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Astragalus lentiginosus var. *coachellae* Coachella Valley milk-vetch	Fed: CA: CRPR:	END none 1B.2	Feb-May 130 - 2,150	Occurs in sandy soils of desert dunes and Sonoran desert scrub.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable dune habitat was present within the Project Site. There was one historic CNDDB record documented within 5 miles of the Project Site. The record (Occ. # 28) was documented in 1995 approximately 4 miles southwest of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Astragalus tricarinatus triple-ribbed milk-vetch	Fed: CA: CRPR:	END none 1B.2	Feb-May 1,475 - 3,905	Occurs in Joshua tree woodland and Sonoran desert scrub. Sometimes found in gravelly or sandy soils.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable Joshua tree woodland or Sonoran desert scrub was present on the Project Site. Multiple recent and historic CNDDB records were revealed in the literature search. The most recent record (Occ. # 51) was documented in 2019 4.9 miles east of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). The closest recent record (Occ. # 1) was documented in 2011 0.41 miles southeast of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Boechera lincolnensis Lincoln rockcress	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 2B.3	Mar-May 3,610 - 8,875	Occurs in carbonate soils of chenopod scrub and Mojavean desert scrub.	**Low.** Marginally suitable habitat was present within the disturbed mesquite thicket vegetation on the Project Site. While the literature understands this species to occur at elevations between 3,610 to 8,875 feet (ft) above mean sea level, records in the area indicate that the species has been observed in elevations as low as 2,675 ft above mean sea level (Calflora 2025; CDFW 2025). Additionally, one historic record (Occ. # 5) was documented in 1972 0.02 miles southwest of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)**	**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Calochortus palmeri var. *palmeri* Palmer's mariposa lily	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 1B.2	Apr-Jul 2,330 - 7,840	Occurs in mesic soils of chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, and meadows and seeps.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. One historic CNDDB record (Occ. # 22) was documented in 1941 approximately 3.8 miles north of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). However, this record is located in the adjacent mountain range where habitat differs from that of the Project Site.
Chorizanthe xanti var. *leucotheca* white-bracted spineflower	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 1B.2	Apr-Jun 985 - 3,935	Occurs in Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and in alluvial fans of coastal scrub. Sometimes found in sandy or gravelly soils.	**Low.** Marginally suitable habitat was present within the disturbed mesquite thicket vegetation on the Project Site. One recent record (Occ. #55) and four historic CNDDB records (Occ. # 10, 11, 12, and 54) were documented within 5 miles of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). Occurrence #55 was documented 4.3 miles west of the Project Site in 2011 (CDFW 2025).
Linantus maculatus ssp. *maculatus* Little San Bernardino Mtns. linanthus	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 1B.2	Mar-May 460 - 4,005	Occurs in sandy soils of desert dunes, Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran desert scrub.	**Low.** Marginally suitable habitat was present within the disturbed mesquite thicket vegetation on the Project Site. Additionally, multiple recent CNDDB and Calflora records were revealed during the literature search. The closest and most recent record (ID # cbo94043) was documented in 2019 approximately 3.6 miles southeast of the Project Site (Calflora 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)**	**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Monardella robisonii Robison's monardella	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 1B.3	(Feb) Apr-Sep (Oct) 2,000 - 4,920	Occurs in pinyon and juniper woodland.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable pinyon and juniper woodland habitat is present within the Project Site. One historic CNDDB record (Occ. # 32) was documented in 1980 approximately 2.1 miles south of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). However, this record is located in the adjacent mountain range where habitat differs from that of the Project Site.
Saltugilia latimeri Latimer's woodland-gilia	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none none 1B.2	Mar-Jun 1,310 - 6,235	Occurs in chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, and pinyon and juniper woodland. Often found in granitic soils. Sometimes found in rocky or sandy soils and in washes.	**Low.** Marginally suitable habitat was present within the disturbed mesquite thicket vegetation on the Project Site. Multiple recent and historic CNDDB and Calflora records were documented within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record (ID # RSA0167735) was documented in 2017 approximately 1.9 miles southeast of the Project Site (Calflora 2025). The most recent record (ID # cbo94042) was documented in 2019 approximately 3.4 miles east of the Project Site (Calflora 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)**	**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Yucca brevifolia western Joshua tree	Fed: CA: CRPR:	none SC CBR	Mar-Jun 1,300 - 7,550	Occurs in Mojavean desert scrub, Great Basin desert scrub, and Joshua tree woodland. Usually found on desert flats and slopes.	**Presumed Absent.** No western Joshua trees were observed within or adjacent to the Project Site during the biological survey conducted by ECORP on 11/7/24. One recent Calflora record (ID # in:10028757) was documented in 2018 approximately 0.40-mile south of Project Site, just east of Bella Vista Drive (Calflora 2024). However, due to the fact that no Joshua trees were observed within or adjacent to the Project Site, the probability of future recruitment is low and therefore this species was determined to be presumed absent for the Project Site.

Notes: CDFG = California Department of Fish and Game; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database; CNPS = California Native Plant Society; CRPR = California Rare Plant Rank; ECORP = ECORP Consulting, Inc.; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; USGS = U.S. Geological Survey
*According to CNPS [Skinner and Pavlik 1994], plants on Lists 1B and 2 meet definitions for listing as threatened or endangered under Section 1901, Chapter 10 of the California Fish and Game Code (CDFG 2010b). This interpretation is inconsistent with other definitions.)

Federal Designations:
(Federal Endangered Species Act, USFWS)
END: Federally-listed, Endangered
THR: Federally-listed, Threatened

State Designations:
(California Endangered Species Act, CDFW)
END: State-listed, Endangered
THR: State-listed, Threatened
RARE: State-listed, Rare
SC: State Candidate Species

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) Designations:
1A: Plants presumed extinct in California.
1B: Plants rare and endangered in CA and throughout their range.
2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in CA but more common elsewhere in their range. CBR: Considered but rejected
Plants 1B, 2, and 4 extension meanings:
Seriously endangered in CA (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened)
Not very endangered in CA (<20% of occurrences threatened, or no current threats known)

Sources: California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) (CDFW 2024), CNPS Rare and Endangered Plant Inventory (CNPS 2024), Calflora Information on California Plants (Calflora 2024), USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles for: White Water, Onyx Peak, MorongoValley, Yucca Valley North, Yucca Valley South, Rimrock, Desert Hot Springs, Seven Palms Valley, and Catclaw Flat.

ATTACHMENT E

USFWS IPaC Species List

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Location

San Bernardino County, California



Local office

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

(760) 431-9440
(760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species[1] and their critical habitats are managed by the Ecological Services Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries[2]).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact NOAA Fisheries for species under their jurisdiction.

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1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the listing status page for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Least Bell's Vireo Vireo bellii pusillus Wherever found There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945	Endangered
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii extimus Wherever found There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Desert Tortoise Gopherus agassizii There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4481	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Wherever found There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Coachella Valley Milk-vetch Astragalus lentiginosus var. coachellae Wherever found There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7426	Endangered

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Triple-ribbed Milk-vetch Astragalus tricarinatus Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3370

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act [2] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1]. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your project area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity.

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an incidental take permit may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the Do I Need A Permit Tool. For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles, to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

Review the FAQs

The FAQs below provide important additional information and resources.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)

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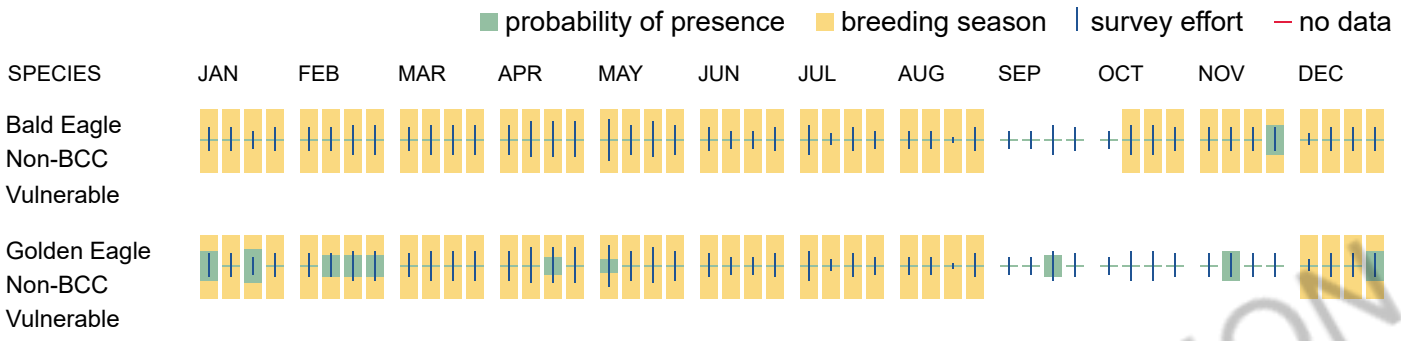
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Bald & Golden Eagles FAQs

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements may apply).

Proper interpretation and use of your eagle report
On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort line or no data line (red horizontal) means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide you in knowing when to implement avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities or get the appropriate permits should presence be confirmed.

How do I know if eagles are breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If an eagle on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your “IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY” at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:
The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

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Migratory birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1] prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The Service interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Migratory Bird Impacts

Your IPaC Migratory Bird list showcases birds of concern, including Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC), in your project location. This is not a comprehensive list of all birds found in your project area. However, you can help proactively minimize significant impacts to all birds at your project location by implementing the measures in the Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds document, and any other project-specific avoidance and minimization measures suggested at the link Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds for the birds of concern on your list below.

Ensure Your Migratory Bird List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles document, to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

Review the FAQs

The FAQs below provide important additional information and resources.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Avocet Recurvirostra americana This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 21 to Aug 10
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

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Black-chinned Sparrow Spizella atrogularis — Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9447

California Thrasher Toxostoma redivivum — Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Costa's Hummingbird Calypte costae — Breeds Jan 15 to Jun 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9470

Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos — Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680

Lawrence's Goldfinch Spinus lawrencei — Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464

Leconte"s Thrasher Toxostoma lecontei — Breeds Feb 15 to Jun 20

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8969

Long-eared Owl asio otus — Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631

Pinyon Jay Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus — Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420

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Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)

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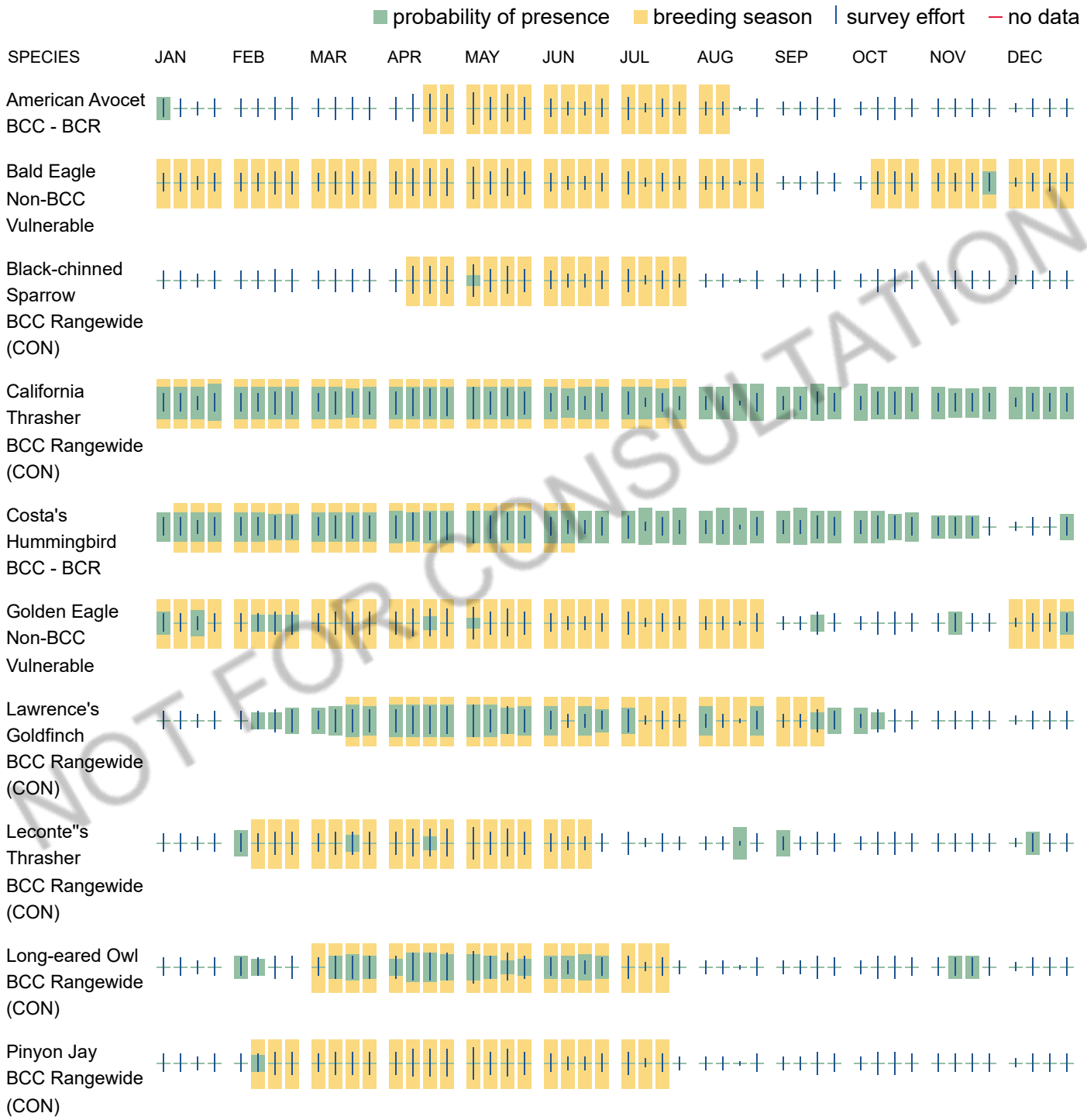
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



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Migratory Bird FAQs

Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Avoidance & Minimization Measures for Birds describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year-round. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is one of the most effective ways to minimize impacts. To see when birds are most likely to occur and breed in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location, such as those listed under the Endangered Species Act or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and those species marked as "Vulnerable". See the FAQ "What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?" for more information on the levels of concern covered in the IPaC migratory bird species list.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) with which your project intersects. These species have been identified as warranting special attention because they are BCC species in that area, an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, and to verify survey effort when no results present, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

Why are subspecies showing up on my list?

Subspecies profiles are included on the list of species present in your project area because observations in the AKN for **the species** are being detected. If the species are present, that means that the subspecies may also be present. If a subspecies shows up on your list, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if that subspecies may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). This data is derived from a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your IPaC migratory bird

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species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your “IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY” at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially BCC species. For more information on avoidance and minimization measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts, please see the FAQ “Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds”.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Proper interpretation and use of your migratory bird report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list does not represent all birds present in your project area. It is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide implementation of avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about avoidance and minimization measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

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Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs
Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:
The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

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Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

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Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

ATTACHMENT F

Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential for Occurrence

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
INSECTS				
Bombus crotchii Crotch bumble bee	Fed CA	None CE	Found in coastal California east to the Sierra-Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Occurs in open grassland and scrub habitats. Prefers a diet consisting of certain plant species including milkweeds, dusty maidens, lupines, medics, phacelias, sages, clarkias, poppies, and wild buckwheats. Nests are often located underground in abandoned rodent nests or above ground in tufts of grass, old bird nests, rock piles, or cavities in dead trees.	**Low.** Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site. Habitat characteristics such as small mammal burrows provide suitable nesting and overwintering habitat while flowering recourses such as golden bush and California croton provide foraging habitat. There is one historic CNDDB record that overlapped with the Project Site in 1958 (Occ. #179; CDFW 2025). However, the exact location of Occ. # 179 is unknown and was mapped as a general location with a 1 mile radius (CDFW 2025). Therefore, the record may not have overlapped specifically with the Project Site.
Dinacoma caseyi Casey's June beetle	Fed CA	END none	Occurs in sandy soils in a small southern portion of Palm Springs. Needs loose and sandy soils for burrowing.	**Presumed Absent**. The Project Site is outside the known range for this species. Additionally, there are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
AMPHIBIANS				
Rana draytonii California red-legged frog	Fed CA	THR SSC	Found near ponds in humid forests, grasslands, woodlands, coastal scrub, and streamsides with plant cover. Breeding habitat is in permanent or ephemeral water sources. Requires drier upland habitat.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. Additionally, there are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Rana muscosa southern mountain yellow- legged frog	Fed CA	END END	Ponds, streams, lakes, and isolated pools in southern Sierra Nevada Mountains and rocky streams within narrow canyons and the chapparral belt in Southern California mountains.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. Additionally, there are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
REPTILES				
Anniella stebbinsi southern California legless lizard	Fed CA	none SSC	Typically occurs in moist warm loose soil with plant cover in sparsely vegetated areas of beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, and stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There is one recent CNDDB record of the species within 5 miles of the Project site. The record (Occ. # 117) was documented in 2022 approximately 0.06 miles east of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Arizona elegans occidentalis California glossy snake	Fed CA	none SSC	Typically occurs in moist warm loose soil with plant cover in sparsely vegetated areas of beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, and stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Charina umbratica southern rubber boa	Fed CA	None THR	Under rocks, woody debris, or in crevices in conifer or conifer-mixed semi open forests and woodlands, patchy chaparral/shrublands, and meadows.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Crotalus ruber red-diamond rattlesnake	Fed CA	none SSC	Found in coastal chaparral, arid scrub, rocky grassland, oak and pine woodlands, desert mountain slopes and rocky desert flats.	**Low.** Marginally suitable habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site, however, the Site lacks rocky structure typically preferred by this species. There are two recent CNDDB records, and one record without a date, within 5 miles of the Project Site. The closest record (Occ. # 107) was documented in 2008 0.75 miles northeast of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). The most recent record (Occ. #176) was documented 3.33 miles south of the Project Site in 2010 (CDFW 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Gopherus agassizii desert tortoise	Fed CA	THR THR	Desert valleys with vegetation communities such as alluvial fan, saltbush, creosote bush, desert scrub, and Joshua tree woodland. Burrows in soil, under rocks, and along washes.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable alluvial fan, saltbush, creosote bush, desert scrub, and Joshua tree woodland vegetation is present on the Project Site. Additionally, no desert tortoise or desert tortoise sign (e.g., scat, tracks, burrows) was observed during the biological surveys. The database search identified one historic CNDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the Project Site. The record (Occ. # 268) was documented 3.8 miles southeast of the Project Site in 2004 (CDFW 2025).
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	Fed CA	none SSC	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub, desert wash, pinon & juniper woodlands, riparian scrub, riparian woodland, and valley & foothill grassland habitats. Requires open areas for sunning, bushes to provide cover, and loose soil for burial. Diet consists mainly of ants and small invertebrates. Most commonly found in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes.	**Low**. Marginally suitable habitat is present on the Project Site within the mesquite thicket vegetation on the Project Site. Habitat characteristics present include loose soils for burial, bushes for cover, open areas for sunning, and ant hills as a food source. The database search revealed one historic CNDDB record, and one record without a date, within 5 miles of the Project Site. Occurrence 261 was documented 1.22 miles northwest of the Project Site in 1949 (CDFW 2025). The closest record (Occ. #260) was documented 0.8 miles southwest of the Project Site at an unknown date (CDFW 2025).
Phrynosoma mcallii flat-tailed horned lizard	Fed CA	none SSC	Desert scrub on sandy flats and valleys with little or no windblown sand, salt flats, and areas with gravelly soils.	**Presumed Absent.** The Project Site is outside the known range for this species and there is no suitable habitat on the Project Site. Additionally, there are no records within 5 miles of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Uma inornata Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard	Fed CA	END THR	Limited to sandy areas in the Coachella Valley. Occurs in desert dunes and desert wash habitat. Requires fine, loose, windblown sand (for burrowing), interspersed with hardpan and widely spaced desert shrubs.	**Presumed Absent.** The Project Site is outside the known range for this species and there is no suitable habitat on the Project Site. One recent CNDDB record (Occ. #94) was documented in 2013 3.5 miles south of the Project Site. However, this record is located in habitat with sandy hummocks (CDFW 2025), which differs from the Project Site.

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Thamnophis hammondii two-striped gartersnake	Fed CA	none SSC	Found near water sources, such as pools, creeks, and riparian areas. Associated with oak woodland, willow, coastal sage scrub, scrub oak, sparse pine, chaparral, and brushland.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
BIRDS				
Aquila chrysaetos golden eagle (nesting & wintering)	Fed CA	GBEPA FP	Broadleaved upland forest, cismontane woodland, coastal prairie, Great Basin grassland, Great Basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, pinon & juniper woodlands, upper montane coniferous forest, and valley & foothill grassland habitats. Found in rolling foothills, mountain areas, sage-juniper flats, and desert. Cliff-walled canyons provide nesting habitat in most parts of range; also, large trees such as eucalyptus or oak in open areas.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Asio otus long-eared owl	Fed CA	none SSC	Dense wooded areas such as deciduous and evergreen forests. Prefers dense trees for nesting and/or roosting adjacent to open areas for hunting. Found in a variety of woodland habitats including forests adjacent to meadows and streamside desert groves.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable dense deciduous or evergreen forest habitat is present within the Project Site. There is one historic CNDDB record (Occ. #12) that was documented 0.2 miles east of the Project Site in 1975 (CDFW 2025). This record describes a nest with young located in cottonwoods at the Morongo Valley Wildlife Reserve (CDFW 2025), or Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. While there are trees on the Project Site, the vegetation is not densely wooded like it is at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. It is possible that the species could use the Project Site as a stopover but, but it is unlikely that the species would nest since higher quality suitable habitat exists adjacent to the Project Site.

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl (burrow & some wintering sites)	Fed CA	None CE, SSC	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low- growing vegetation. Occurs in coastal prairie, coastal scrub, Great Basin grassland, Great Basin scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, Sonoran Desert scrub, and valley & foothill grassland habitats. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel. Also found in vacant lots and airports.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat or burrowing owl sign (e.g., burrows, pellets, white-wash, feathers, prey remains) were observed on the Project Site during the biological surveys. The mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site is dense and the disturbed portions contain tall shrub cover. Additionally, the Site is very small and exposed to heavy human disturbance, making burrowing owl presence highly unlikely. There are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site (CDFW 2025). There are, however, numerous species records beyond five miles. The closest recent record was documented approximately 5.4 miles south of the Project Site in 2009 (Occ. #1280; CDFW 2025).
Icteria virens yellow-breasted chat	Fed CA	none SSC	Riparian and upland thickets, and dry overgrown pastures. Prefers to nest in dense scrub along streams or at the edges of ponds or swamps.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable riparian habitat is present within the Project Site. There is one historic CNDDB record within 5 miles of the Project Site. The record (Occ. #39) was documented 0.2 miles east of the Project Site in 1977 (CDFW 2025).
Lanius ludocicianus loggerhead shrike (nesting)	Fed CA	none SSC	Open areas with short vegetation and well- spaced shrubs or low trees. Often found in agricultural fields, pastures, orchards, desert scrublands, among other areas. Nests are often placed in thorny vegetation.	**Low.** Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site in the form of open areas with short vegetation, well-spaced shrubs, and thorny vegetation for nesting such as mesquite. There are no CNDDB occurrences within five miles of the Project Site. However, there is one recent CNDDB record documented approximately 11.6 miles south of the Project Site in 2011 (Occ. # 46; CDFW 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Piranga rubra summer tanager	Fed CA	none SSC	Breeding in the southwest occurs in cottonwood-willow riparian woodlands in riverbeds with broad stands of tall cottonwood at low elevations. At high elevations they may nest within mesquite and tamarisk stands. They forage primarily on bees and wasps; however, they will consume other aerial or terrestrial invertebrates and fruits.	**Low.** Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site. There is one historic CNDDB record (Occ. #15) that was documented 0.2 miles east of the Project Site in 1986 (CDFW 2025).
Pyrocephalus rubinus vermilion flycatcher (nesting)	Fed CA	none SSC	Arid country, scrub, savannah, and riparian woodlands along streams. Less often in dry grasslands or deserts with scattered trees.	**Low.** Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site. There is one historic CNDDB record (Occ. #15) that was documented 0.2 miles east of the Project Site in 1977 (CDFW 2025).
Empidonax traillii extimus southwestern willow flycatcher	Fed CA	END END	Occurs in riparian woodland habitat in Southern California. Nests in densest areas of riparian tree and shrub communities associated with rivers, swamps, and other wetlands, including lakes and reservoirs.	**Presumed Absent.** No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Setophaga petechia yellow warbler	Fed CA	none SSC	Riparian woodlands especially with willows, open scrub, gardens, and thickets often near water.	**Moderate.** Marginally suitable (low quality foraging) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site. There are two historic records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The nearest record (Occ. # 30) overlaps with the Project Site and was recorded in 1970 (CDFW 2025). Additionally, this species was observed adjacent to the Project Site during a previous biological survey of the area (ECORP 2022).
Vireo bellii pusillus least Bell's vireo	Fed CA	END END	Occurs in riparian woodlands and willow-cottonwood forests particularly with streamside thickets and dense brush	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable riparian habitat is present within the Project Site. There are three historic CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site. The nearest record (Occ. #13) was documented 0.3 miles east of the Project Site in 1986 while the most recent (Occ. #338) was documented in 2004 3.8 miles southwest of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
MAMMALS				
Antrozous pallidus pallid bat	Fed CA	none SSC	Roosts in rock crevices, caves, mines, buildings, bridges, and in trees. Generally, in mountainous areas, lowland desert scrub, arid grasslands near water and rocky outcrops, and open woodlands.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat roost habitat is present within the Project Site. There is one historic CNDDB record (Occ. #241) which overlaps with the Project Site and was documented in 1939 (CDFW 2025). However, the exact location of Occ. # 241 is unknown and was mapped as a general location with a 1 mile radius (CDFW 2025). Therefore, the record may not have overlapped specifically with the Project Site.
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	Fed CA	none SSC	Roosts in mines, caves, buildings, bridges, or other cavities. Prefers hollow cavity roosting spaces.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable roost habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Lasiurus xanthinus western yellow bat	Fed CA	none SSC	Found in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats and human developed areas. Roosts in trees, particularly palms. Forages over water and among trees.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable roost habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Neotoma lepida intermedia San Diego desert woodrat	Fed CA	none SSC	Coastal scrub of Southern California from San Diego County to San Luis Obispo County. Also found in coastal chaparral, sagebrush scrub, sandy desert, Joshua tree woodland, pinyon- juniper pine, and boulder habitats. Moderate to dense canopies preferred. They are particularly abundant in rock outcrops & rocky cliffs & slopes.	**Low**. Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site. There are numerous historic records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site. The nearest record (Occ. #113) was documented in 1993 2.1 miles south of the Project Site while the most recent (Occ. #105) was documented in 1995 4.1 miles southwest of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Ovis canadensis nelsoni desert bighorn sheep	Fed CA	none FP	Open, steep, and rocky terrain in arid desert mountains particularly in southeastern California.	**Presumed Absent**. No suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There is one historic record (Occ. #14) documented 0.8 miles southeast of the Project Site in 1986 (CDFW 2025). However, this record was documented in the mountain habitat (CDFW 2025), which differs from the Project Site.

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Ovis canadensis nelsoni pop. 2 Peninsular bighorn sheep DPS	Fed CA	END THR, FP	Open, steep, and rocky terrain at lower elevations (below 4,600 feet) of the Peninsular Ranges along the Sonoran Desert. Population occurs between San Jacinto Mountains and the U.S.-Mexican border.	**Presumed Absent**. The Project Site is located outside of this species range and no suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. Additionally, there are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Perognathus longimembris bangsi Palm Springs pocket mouse	Fed CA	none SSC	Occurs in flat or gently sloping habitats of loose or sandy soils, with relatively sparse vegetation.	**Presumed Absent**. The Project Site is located outside of this species range and no suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are two historic CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site. The nearest (Occ. # 9) was documented 2.6 miles south of the Project Site in 1993 (CDFW 2025). The most recent (Occ. # 4) was documented in 1995 4.1 miles south of the Project Site (CDFW 2025).
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus Los Angeles pocket mouse	Fed CA	none SSC	Occurs in low elevational grassland, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal sage scrub.	**Presumed Absent**. The Project Site is located outside of this species range and no suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. There are no CNDDB records within 5 miles of the Project Site.
Taxidea taxus American badger	Fed CA	none SSC	Occurs in a variety of habitats including grassland, shrubsteepe, desert, dry forest, parkland, and agricultural areas.	**Presumed Absent.** Marginally suitable (low quality) habitat is present within the disturbed mesquite thickets vegetation on the Project Site, but no badger burrows or sign of badger was observed during any of the surveys. The site is very small and exposed to heavy human disturbance, making badger presence highly unlikely. There is one historic record (Occ. # 270) which was recorded in 1949 and overlaps with the Project Site (CDFW 2025). However, the exact location of Occ. # 270 is unknown and was mapped as a general location with a 5 mile radius (CDFW 2025). Therefore, the record may not have overlapped specifically with the Project Site.

Scientific Name **Common Name**	**Status**		**Habitat Requirements**	**Potential for Occurrence**
Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel	Fed CA	none SSC	Habitats with course sands such as those in washes. Prefers habitat with sand accumulates at the base of large shrubs.	**Presumed Absent**. The Project Site is located outside of this species range and no suitable habitat is present within the Project Site. Additionally, there are no CNDDB records of the species within 5 miles of the Project Site.

Notes: CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database; CNPSEI = California Native Plant Society's Electronic Inventory; DPS = Distinct Population Segment; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; USGS = U.S. Geological Survey

Federal Designations: (Federal Endangered Species Act, USFWS)

END: federally listed, endangered

THR: federally listed, threatened

FP: State Fully Protected Species

GBEPA: Protected under the Golden and Bald Eagle Protection Act

State designations: (California Endangered Species Act, CDFW)

END: state-listed, endangered

THR: state-listed, threatened

CE: candidate endangered

SSC: CDFW Species of Special Concern

Source: California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI), USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles for: White Water, Onyx Peak, MorongoValley, Yucca Valley North, Yucca Valley South, Rimrock, Desert Hot Springs, Seven Palms Valley, and Catclaw Flat.