Appendix D

Biological Resources

Sensitive Species Review Form
for APDs and Sundry Notices
BLM Oil and Gas Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-1-01-F-0063)

Company	Representative
California Resources Corporation	Daniel Padilla

Federal Lease Number and Federal Lease Name	NAD 83 coordinates	General Location, T, R, Sec., 1/4, 1/4
CAS 019343, Buena Vista	**Well 674UH-8D** 35.163753, -119.413338 **Well 675H-6-8D** 35.163701, -119.412136	T 32 S, R 24 E, Sec. 8D, NE 1/4

Project Description

California Resources Corporation (CRC) proposes to drill two new in the Buena Vista Oilfield (Figures 1 and 2).

674UH-6-8D: will be located on an existing, previously disturbed well pad located on federal surface; new disturbance of 0.101 acres (4,400 square feet) is anticipated for the well pad expansion. One new power pole and one new bank pole will be installed. The bank pole will be place in the previously disturbed well pad. An associated new 4-inch fluids pipeline and new 4-inch gas line will be installed, (2,000-feet each; 4,000-feet total) and will be placed on sleepers within an existing pipeline route and roadways to the 1A-9D Tank Setting located in Sec 9D, T32S, R24E. Approximately 800 feet of each pipeline and gas line (1,600-feet total) will be located on federal surface. The total new disturbance for the placement of pipelines will be approximately 0.116 acres of permanent disturbance. No temporary off-road travel will be required to install the associated ancillary facilities; the pipelines will be pulled or pushed into place. Existing bluelines within 100 ft of the proposed project areas will be avoided or spanned over at established pipeline crossing points.

675H-6-8D: will be located on existing, previously disturbed well pad located on federal surface; no new disturbance is anticipated for the well pad. One new bank pole will be installed on the previously disturbed well pad. An associated new 4-inch fluids pipeline and new 4-inch gas line will be installed, (1,600-feet each; 3,200-feet total) and will be placed on sleepers within an existing pipeline route and roadways to the 1A-9D Tank Setting located in Sec 9D, T32S, R24E. Approximately 500 feet of each pipeline and gas line (1,000-feet total) will be located on federal surface. The total new disturbance for the placement of pipelines will be approximately 0.013 acres of permanent disturbance. No temporary off-road travel will be required to install the associated ancillary facilities; the pipelines will be pulled or pushed into place. Existing bluelines within 100 ft of the proposed project areas will be avoided or spanned over at established pipeline crossing points.

Total permanent habitat disturbance for both proposed locations including well pad expansion and ancillary facilities is 0.230 acres.

Federal Surface? Yes

Total Acres Temp. Disturbed	% Habitat	Acres Habitat Temp. .Disturbed	Compensation Ratio	Compensation Required	Replacement Acres
0.000	100%	0.000	1.1:1	0.000	0.000
Total Acres Perm, Disturbed	**% Habitat**	**Acres Habitat Perm. Disturbed**	**Compensation Ratio**	**Compensation Required**	**Replacement Acres**
0.230	100%	0.230	3:1	0.690	0.230
Total Acres Disturbed		**Total Acres Habitat Disturbed**		**Total Compensation Required**	**Total Compensation + Replacement**
0.230		0.230		0.690	0.920

Generalized Habitat Description

Low density oilfield with patches of herbaceous vegetation and moderately dense to sparse valley saltbush scrub.

Generalized Vegetation Description

Vegetation mostly absent on proposed location with patches of non-native grassland (*Bromus madritensis rubens*) and valley saltbush scrub (*Atriplex polycarpa*) in undeveloped areas.

Habitat Zone	Date of Field Surveys
Green	October 22, 2021

Survey Method

Foot survey with 100% coverage, including a 250-foot buffer around the project area.

Will drainages be modified in a manner that requires CDF&G notification?	If YES where? Show on map or describe
YES NO	

Plant Species

Kern Mallow	San Joaquin Woolly-threads	California Jewelflower
Not observed	Not observed	Not observed
Hoover's Woolly-Star	Bakersfield Cactus	
Not present on site	Not present on site	

The survey **WAS** ☐ **WAS NOT** ☒ conducted during an appropriate time for the detection of sensitive annual plants.

If NOT, have previous surveys been conducted in the area? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☒ BLM Botanist/Ecologist Initials:
If YES, list survey dates, source and results.

Other Plant Species Observed
Alkali saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*) and red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*).

Comments
The proposed wells, power poles, and pipeline locations are located primarily in previously disturbed areas and within existing roadways and pipeline routes. Should floristic surveys be required, these should be scheduled during the appropriate time to identify special status species that have the potential to occur in the proposed project area.

Animal Species

San Joaquin Kit Fox	Giant Kangaroo Rat	Are Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards likely or known to occur in the area? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
No individuals were identified; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	Not present on site	If YES, are there any burrows suitable for use by BNLL that cannot be avoided? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
Tipton Kangaroo Rat	San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel	How many? N/A
Not present; the project area does not occur within the known range of the species.	No individuals were identified during the field survey; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	How large an area? N/A

Were species specific surveys conducted for Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
***The most recent protocol level surveys were conducted in Section 8D in 2014. No BNLL were identified during these surveys.

Other Animal Species Observed
Common raven (*Corvus corax*)

Comments
BNLL are not expected to be present in the proposed project area. No BNLL were identified during 2014, protocol level block surveys in section 8D. In addition, no drainages occur within the project vicinity and the project will be utilizing existing disturbed locations in an existing oil field.

Avoidance & Mitigation Actions

Action	Comments
• A biological monitor will be present during initial ground disturbance and will be on-call and notified (661) 448-3131 if listed species are observed in the project area subsequent to initial ground disturbance. • A Threatened and Endangered Species training session will be given to construction personnel prior to project implementation. • A pre-activity survey shall be conducted on the project site within 14-days of project construction. Should a potential kit fox den be observed during the 14-day pre-construction survey, CRC will implement monitoring measures based on guidelines in the USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011). • Project site boundaries shall be clearly delineated by stakes, flagging and/or rope to minimize inadvertent degradation or loss of adjacent habitat during well pad and pipeline installation activities. • All construction equipment, staging areas, material and personnel shall be restricted to previously disturbed areas (roads, well pads, and other non-habitat areas). • All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures stored at the construction site overnight having a diameter of two (2) inches or greater shall be inspected thoroughly for wildlife species before being buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. Pipes laid in trenches overnight shall be capped. If during construction a wildlife species is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe shall not be moved or, if necessary, moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the wildlife species has escaped.	

- A speed limit of 10 mph (MAX) will be enforced to avoid incidental take of wildlife along roadways.
- All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of three feet in depth left open for more than one (1) workday shall be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or other material to prevent entrapment of endangered species or other animals. Ramps shall be located at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals (for pipelines etc.) and at not more than 45-degree angles. Trenches shall be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be inspected thoroughly for entrapped animals. Any animals discovered shall be allowed to escape voluntarily without harassment before construction activities resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- All food related trash such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps shall be disposed of into closed containers and be removed daily from the site.
- Feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- CRC staff and/or its contractors should designate a specific individual as a contact representative between CRC and all applicable federal, state, and local agencies to oversee compliance with these avoidance mitigation measures.
- Firearms are prohibited on site.
- Pets are prohibited on site.
- Follow BLM General Guidelines for Conserving Habitat and Minimizing Project Impacts.

Additional Comments, Diagrams
Attached photo exhibit and Figure 1 map of the project area. Follow all avoidance and mitigation actions noted above. Additionally, follow all minimization and avoidance measures indicated on the Project Specific Conditions issued by BLM for this project.

Biologist Name Kimberly Fiehler	Company West Kern Environmental Consulting, LLC
Address P. O. Box 478 Buttonwillow, CA 93206	Phone (661) 448-3131
Signature 	Date October 28, 2021

Photo Exhibit

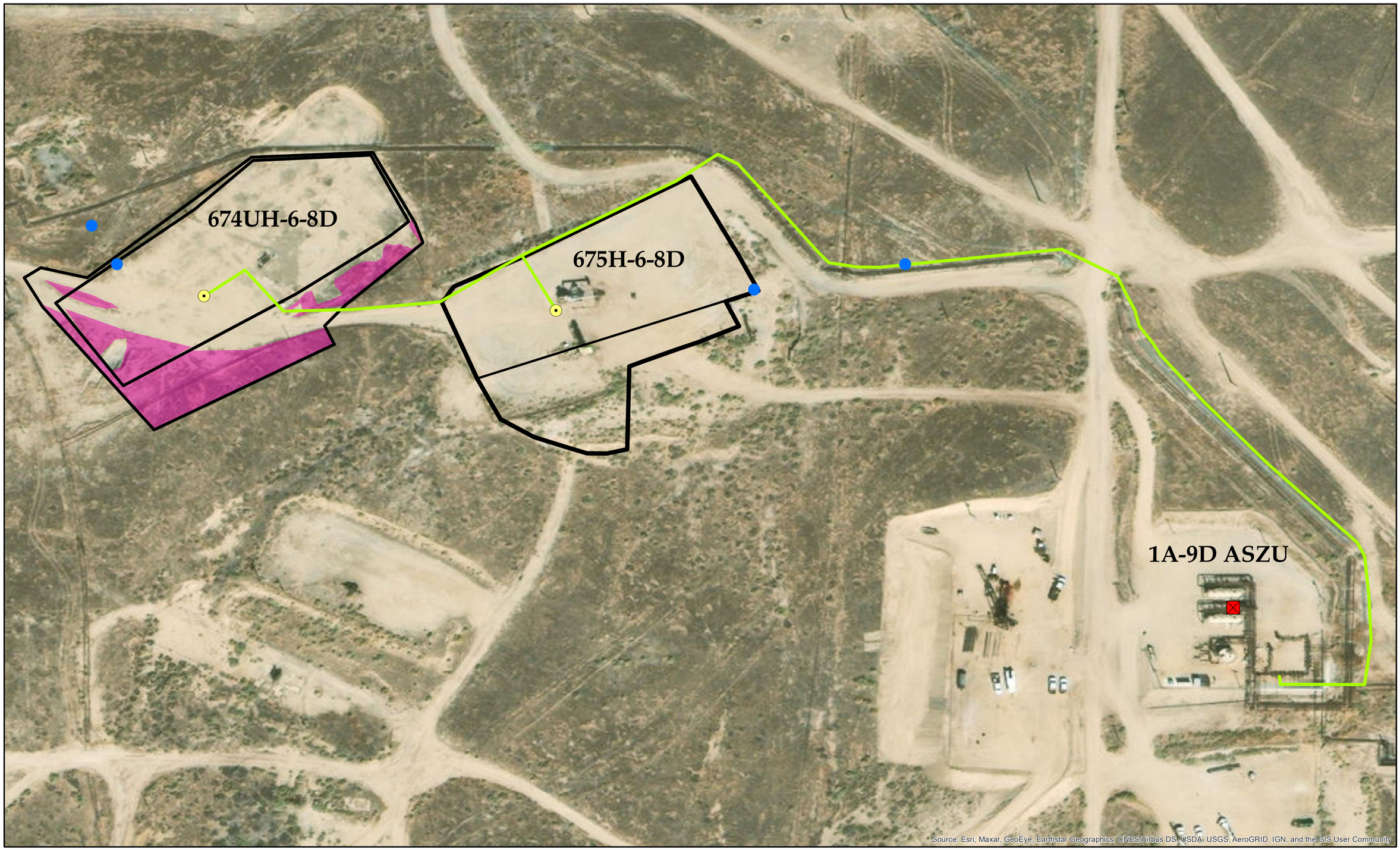


Photo 1. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 675H-6-8D.



Photo 2. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 674UH-6-8D.

Figure 1. New Well Disturbance Breakdown and Facilities Overview 674UH-6-8D and 675H-6-8D



Well center
Power pole
Flowline *(4-in)*
Project boundary/Pad
Permanent disturbance *(0.10 acres)*

0 125 250 500 Feet

N
S

Sensitive Species Review Form
for APDs and Sundry Notices
BLM Oil and Gas Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-1-01-F-0063)

Company	Representative
California Resources Corporation	Daniel Padilla

Federal Lease Number and Federal Lease Name	NAD 83 coordinates	General Location, T, R, Sec., 1/4, 1/4
CAS 019343, Buena Vista	**Well 603-1-6D** 35.11682444, -119.433372 **Well 658UH-36-6D** 35.168901, -119.433782	T 32 S, R 24 E, Sec. 6D, SE 1/4

Project Description

California Resources Corporation (CRC) proposes to drill two new in the Buena Vista Oilfield (Figures 1 and 2).

603H-1-6D: will be located on existing, previously disturbed multi-well pad located on federal surface; 0.040 acre will require disturbance of regrowth vegetation for areas that were previously disturbed in 2012. One new service pole will be installed on the existing well pad. An associated new 4-inch production pipeline and new 4-inch gas line will be installed, (2,200-feet each; 4,400-feet total) and will be placed on sleepers (every 20 ft) within an existing pipeline corridor and along existing roadways to the 4A-6D Tank Setting located in Sec 6D, T32S, R24E. The total new disturbance for the placement of pipelines will be approximately 0.010 acres of permanent disturbance. No temporary off-road travel will be required to install the associated ancillary facilities; the pipelines will be pulled or pushed into place. Existing bluelines within 100 ft of the proposed project areas will be avoided or spanned over at established pipeline crossing points.

658UH-36-6D: will be located on existing, previously disturbed multi-well pad located on federal surface; new disturbance of 0.728 acres is anticipated for well pad expansion (sump). A new access road 90 ft by 25 ft will also be required (0.052 acre). One new service pole will be installed and placed within the existing well pad. An associated new 4-inch production pipeline and new 4-inch gas line will be installed, (1,800-feet each; 3,600-feet total) and will be placed on sleepers (every 20 ft) within an existing pipeline corridor and along existing roadways to the existing 4A-6D Tank Setting located in Sec 6D, T32S, R24E. The total new disturbance for the placement of pipelines will be approximately 0.016 acres of permanent disturbance. No temporary off-road travel will be required to install the associated ancillary facilities; the pipelines will be pulled or pushed into place. Existing bluelines within 100 ft of the proposed project areas will be avoided or spanned over at established pipeline crossing points.

Total permanent habitat disturbance for both proposed locations including well pad expansion and ancillary facilities is 0.846 acres.

Federal Surface? Yes

Total Acres Temp. Disturbed	% Habitat	Acres Habitat Temp. .Disturbed	Compensation Ratio	Compensation Required	Replacement Acres
0.000	100%	0.000	1.1:1	0.000	0.000
Total Acres Perm, Disturbed	**% Habitat**	**Acres Habitat Perm. Disturbed**	**Compensation Ratio**	**Compensation Required**	**Replacement Acres**
0.846	100%	0.846	3:1	2.538	0.846
Total Acres Disturbed		**Total Acres Habitat Disturbed**		**Total Compensation Required**	**Total Compensation + Replacement**
0.846		0.846		2.538	3.384

Generalized Habitat Description

Low density oilfield with patches of herbaceous vegetation and moderately dense to sparse valley saltbush scrub.

Generalized Vegetation Description

Vegetation mostly absent on proposed location with patches of non-native grassland (*Bromus madritensis rubens*) and valley saltbush scrub (*Atriplex polycarpa*) in undeveloped areas.

Habitat Zone	Date of Field Surveys
Green	October 22, 2021

Survey Method

Foot survey with 100% coverage, including a 250-foot buffer around the project area.

Will drainages be modified in a manner that requires CDF&G notification?	If YES where? Show on map or describe
YES NO	

Plant Species

Kern Mallow	San Joaquin Woolly-threads	California Jewelflower
Not observed	Not observed	Not observed

Hoover's Woolly-Star	Bakersfield Cactus	
Not present on site	Not present on site	

The survey **WAS** ☐ **WAS NOT** ☒ conducted during an appropriate time for the detection of sensitive annual plants.

If NOT, have previous surveys been conducted in the area? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☒ BLM Botanist/Ecologist Initials:
If YES, list survey dates, source and results.

Other Plant Species Observed
Alkali saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*) and red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*).

Comments
The proposed wells, power poles, and pipeline locations are located primarily in previously disturbed areas and within existing roadways and pipeline routes. Should floristic surveys be required, these should be scheduled during the appropriate time to identify special status species that have the potential to occur in the proposed project area.

Animal Species

San Joaquin Kit Fox	Giant Kangaroo Rat	Are Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards likely or known to occur in the area? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
No individuals were identified; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	Not present on site	If YES, are there any burrows suitable for use by BNLL that cannot be avoided? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
Tipton Kangaroo Rat	San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel	How many? N/A
Not present; the project area does not occur within the known range of the species.	No individuals were identified during the field survey; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	How large an area? N/A

Were species specific surveys conducted for Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
***The most recent protocol level surveys were conducted in Section 6D in 2014. No BNLL were identified during these surveys.

Other Animal Species Observed
Common raven (*Corvus corax*)

Comments
BNLL are not expected to be present in the proposed project area. No BNLL were identified during 2014, protocol level block surveys in section 6D. In addition, no drainages occur within the project vicinity and the project will be utilizing existing disturbed locations in an existing oil field.

Avoidance & Mitigation Actions

Action	Comments
• A biological monitor will be present during initial ground disturbance and will be on-call and notified (661) 448-3131 if listed species are observed in the project area subsequent to initial ground disturbance. • A Threatened and Endangered Species training session will be given to construction personnel prior to project implementation. • A pre-activity survey shall be conducted on the project site within 14-days of project construction. Should a potential kit fox den be observed during the 14-day pre-construction survey, CRC will implement monitoring measures based on guidelines in the USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011). • Project site boundaries shall be clearly delineated by stakes, flagging and/or rope to minimize inadvertent degradation or loss of adjacent habitat during well pad and pipeline installation activities. • All construction equipment, staging areas, material and personnel shall be restricted to previously disturbed areas (roads, well pads, and other non-habitat areas). • All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures stored at the construction site overnight having a diameter of two (2) inches or greater shall be inspected thoroughly for wildlife species before being buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. Pipes laid in trenches overnight shall be capped. If during construction a wildlife species is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe shall not be moved or, if necessary, moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the wildlife species has escaped. • A speed limit of 10 mph (MAX) will be enforced to avoid incidental take of wildlife along roadways.	

- All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of three feet in depth left open for more than one (1) workday shall be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or other material to prevent entrapment of endangered species or other animals. Ramps shall be located at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals (for pipelines etc.) and at not more than 45-degree angles. Trenches shall be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be inspected thoroughly for entrapped animals. Any animals discovered shall be allowed to escape voluntarily without harassment before construction activities resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- All food related trash such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps shall be disposed of into closed containers and be removed daily from the site.
- Feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- CRC staff and/or its contractors should designate a specific individual as a contact representative between CRC and all applicable federal, state, and local agencies to oversee compliance with these avoidance mitigation measures.
- Firearms are prohibited on site.
- Pets are prohibited on site.
- Follow BLM General Guidelines for Conserving Habitat and Minimizing Project Impacts.

Additional Comments, Diagrams

Attached photo exhibit and Figures 1 & 2 maps of project area.

Follow all avoidance and mitigation actions noted above. Additionally, follow all minimization and avoidance measures indicated on the Project Specific Conditions issued by BLM for this project.

Biologist Name	Company
Kimberly Fiehler	West Kern Environmental Consulting, LLC
Address P. O. Box 478 Buttonwillow, CA 93206	Phone (661) 448-3131
Signature 	Date October 28, 2021

Photo Exhibit



Photo 1. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 603H-1-6D.



Photo 2. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 658UH-36-6D.

Figure 1. Facilities Overview
603H-1-6D and 658UH-36-6D



4A-6D Test setting

Power pole

Flowline *(4-in)*

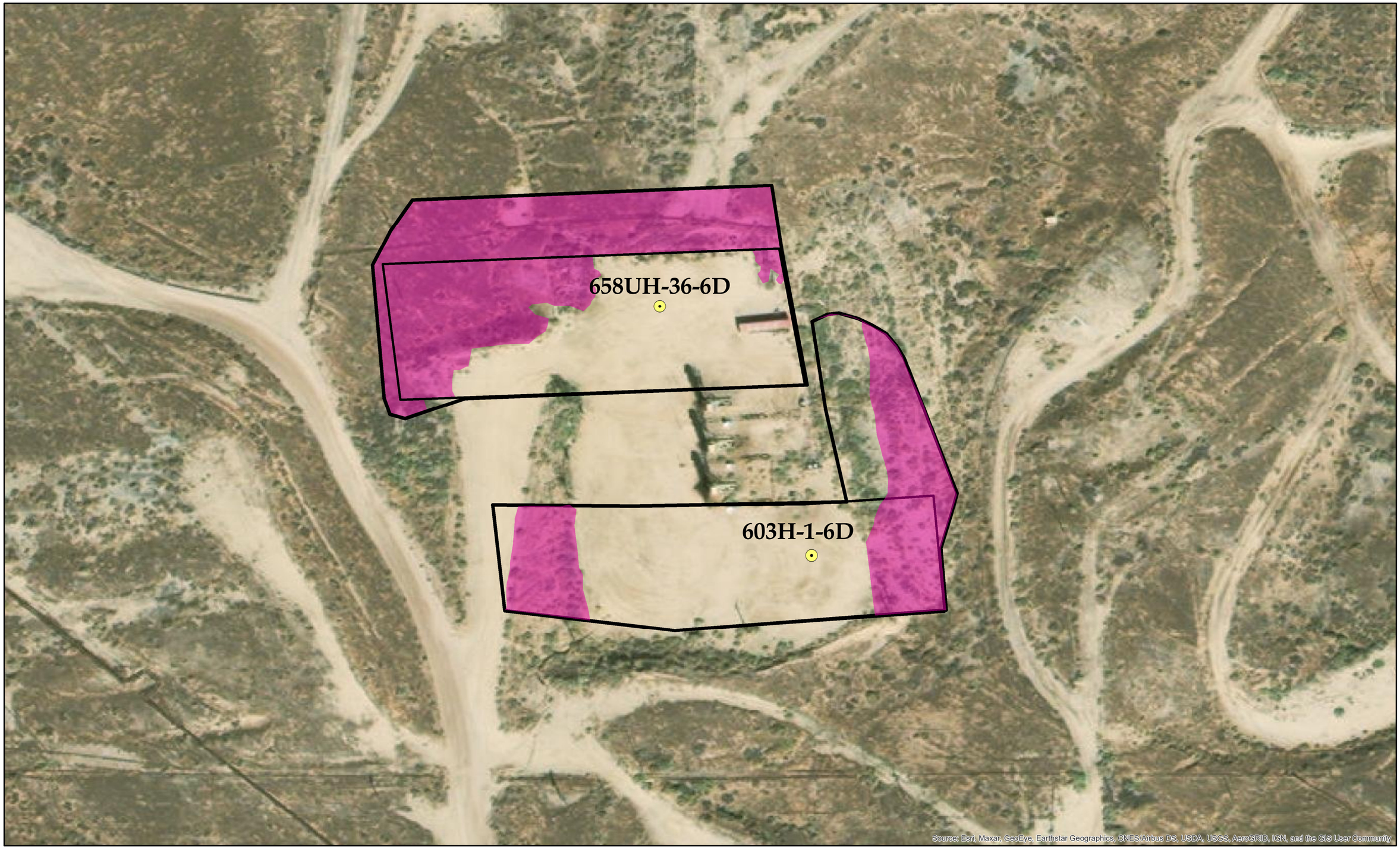
Project boundary/pad

0 125 250 500 Feet

N

S

Figure 2. New Well Disturbance
603H-1-6D and 658UH-36-6D



Well center

Project Boundary/Pad

Permanent disturbance

(603H= 0.40 ac., 658UH= 0.78 ac.)

0 125 250 500 Feet

N

S

Sensitive Species Review Form
for APDs and Sundry Notices
BLM Oil and Gas Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-1-01-F-0063)

Company	Representative
California Resources Production Corporation (CRPC)	Joseph Parra

Federal Lease Number and Federal Lease Name	NAD 83 coordinates	General Location, T, R, Sec., 1/4, 1/4
CAS 019343, Buena Vista	35.173446, -119.445226	T 32 S, R 24 E, Sec. 6D, NW 1/4

Project Description	Federal Surface?
CRPC proposed to drill new well 4-5H-6D and install the proposed associated ancillary facilities for the well in the Buena Vista Field, Kern County, CA. Expansion of an existing well pad will be required to accommodate drilling operations. Approximately 0.742 acres of permanent habitat disturbance will result from this expansion. Power will include a wreck out reroute of an existing line and the installation of a service pole and anchor. No habitat disturbance is anticipated for power installation. Approximately 2,000-ft of 3-inch pipeline will be installed along an existing pipeline R.O.W and dirt roadway to the 3-6D header. No habitat disturbance is anticipated for flowline installation.	Yes

Total Acres Temp. Disturbed	% Habitat	Acres Habitat Temp. .Disturbed	Compensation Ratio	Compensation Required	Replacement Acres
0.000	100%	0.000	1.1:1	0.000	0.000
Total Acres Perm, Disturbed	**% Habitat**	**Acres Habitat Perm. Disturbed**	**Compensation Ratio**	**Compensation Required**	**Replacement Acres**
0.742	100%	0.742	3:1	2.226	0.742
Total Acres Disturbed		**Total Acres Habitat Disturbed**		**Total Compensation Required**	**Total Compensation + Replacement**
0.742		0.742		2.226	2.968

Generalized Habitat Description
Low density oilfield with patches of herbaceous vegetation and moderately dense to sparse valley saltbush scrub.
Generalized Vegetation Description
Non-native grassland (*Bromus madritensis rubens*) and valley saltbush scrub (*Atriplex polycarpa*) in undeveloped areas.

Habitat Zone	Date of Field Surveys
Green	April 5, 2022

Survey Method
Foot survey with 100% coverage, including a 250-foot buffer around the project area.

Will drainages be modified in a manner that requires CDF&G notification?	If YES where? Show on map or describe
YES NO	

Plant Species

Kern Mallow	San Joaquin Woolly-threads	California Jewelflower
Not observed	Not observed	Not observed
Hoover's Woolly-Star	**Bakersfield Cactus**	
Not present on site	Not present on site	

The survey **WAS** ☒ WAS NOT ☐ conducted during an appropriate time for the detection of sensitive annual plants.

If NOT, have previous surveys been conducted in the area? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ BLM Botanist/Ecologist Initials:
If YES, list survey dates, source and results.

Other Plant Species Observed
Alkali saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), fiddleneck (*Amsinkia* sp.), red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), rose and white buckwheat (*Eriogonum gracillimum*), and peppergrass (*Lepidium nitidum*).

Comments
No special-status species were identified in the survey area.

Animal Species

San Joaquin Kit Fox	Giant Kangaroo Rat	Are Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards likely or known to occur in the area? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒
No individuals were identified; however, one potential den was observed.	Not present on site	If YES, are there any burrows suitable for use by BNLL that cannot be avoided? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒

Tipton Kangaroo Rat	San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel	How many? N/A
Not present; the project area does not occur within the known range of the species.	Two individuals were identified during the field survey in the vicinity of the proposed project.	How large an area? N/A

Were species specific surveys conducted for Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☒

***The most recent protocol level surveys were conducted in Section 6D in 2014. No BNLL were identified during these surveys.

Other Animal Species Observed

Common raven (*Corvus corax*), side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), and San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*).

Comments

BNLL are not expected to be present in the proposed project area. No BNLL were identified during 2014, protocol level block surveys in section 6D. In addition, no drainages occur within the project vicinity and the project will be utilizing existing disturbed locations in an existing oil field.

San Joaquin antelope squirrel (Nelson's antelope squirrel) were observed foraging along the existing dirt road and utilizing burrows in the hillsides adjacent to the project area. Active San Joaquin antelope squirrel burrows will be avoided by project activities.

One potential San Joaquin kit fox den observed during the April 5, 2022 will be monitored prior to ground disturbing activities.

One stick nest was observed on an existing power pole. No birds were observed during the time of the survey. However, if project related activities should occur during the nesting season (February – September), then a nesting bird survey should be conducted prior to project commencement.

Avoidance & Mitigation Actions

Action	Comments
• A biological monitor will be present during initial ground disturbance and will be on-call and notified (661) 448-3131 if listed species are observed in the project area subsequent to initial ground disturbance. • A Threatened and Endangered Species training session will be given to construction personnel prior to project implementation. • A pre-activity survey shall be conducted on the project site within 14-days of project construction. Should a potential kit fox den be observed during the 14-day pre-construction survey, CRC will implement monitoring measures based on guidelines in the USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011). • Project site boundaries shall be clearly delineated by stakes, flagging and/or rope to minimize inadvertent degradation or loss of adjacent habitat during well pad and pipeline installation activities. • All construction equipment, staging areas, material and personnel shall be restricted to previously disturbed areas (roads, well pads, and other non-habitat areas). • All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures stored at the construction site overnight having a diameter of two (2) inches or greater shall be inspected thoroughly for wildlife species before being buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. Pipes laid in trenches overnight shall be capped. If during construction a wildlife species is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe shall not be moved or, if necessary, moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the wildlife species has escaped. • A speed limit of 10 mph (MAX) will be enforced to avoid incidental take of wildlife along roadways. • All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of three feet in depth left open for more than one (1) workday shall be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or other material to prevent entrapment of endangered species or other animals. Ramps shall be located at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals (for pipelines etc.) and at not more than 45-degree angles. Trenches shall be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be inspected thoroughly for entrapped animals. Any animals	

discovered shall be allowed to escape voluntarily without harassment before construction activities resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded. • All food related trash such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps shall be disposed of into closed containers and be removed daily from the site. • Feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited. • CRPC staff and/or its contractors should designate a specific individual as a contact representative between CRPC and all applicable federal, state, and local agencies to oversee compliance with these avoidance mitigation measures. • Firearms are prohibited on site. • Pets are prohibited on site. • Follow BLM General Guidelines for Conserving Habitat and Minimizing Project Impacts.	

Additional Comments, Diagrams
Attached photo exhibit and Figures 1 and 2 maps of the project area. Follow all avoidance and mitigation actions noted above. Additionally, follow all minimization and avoidance measures indicated on the Project Specific Conditions issued by BLM for this project.

Biologist Name Kimberly Fiehler	Company West Kern Environmental Consulting, LLC
Address P. O. Box 478 Buttonwillow, CA 93206	Phone (661) 448-3131
Signature 	Date April 8, 2022

Photo Exhibit



Photo 1. Representative photo of proposed well 4-5H-6D, looking northwest.



Photo 2. Representative photo of proposed pipeline route along existing dirt road.

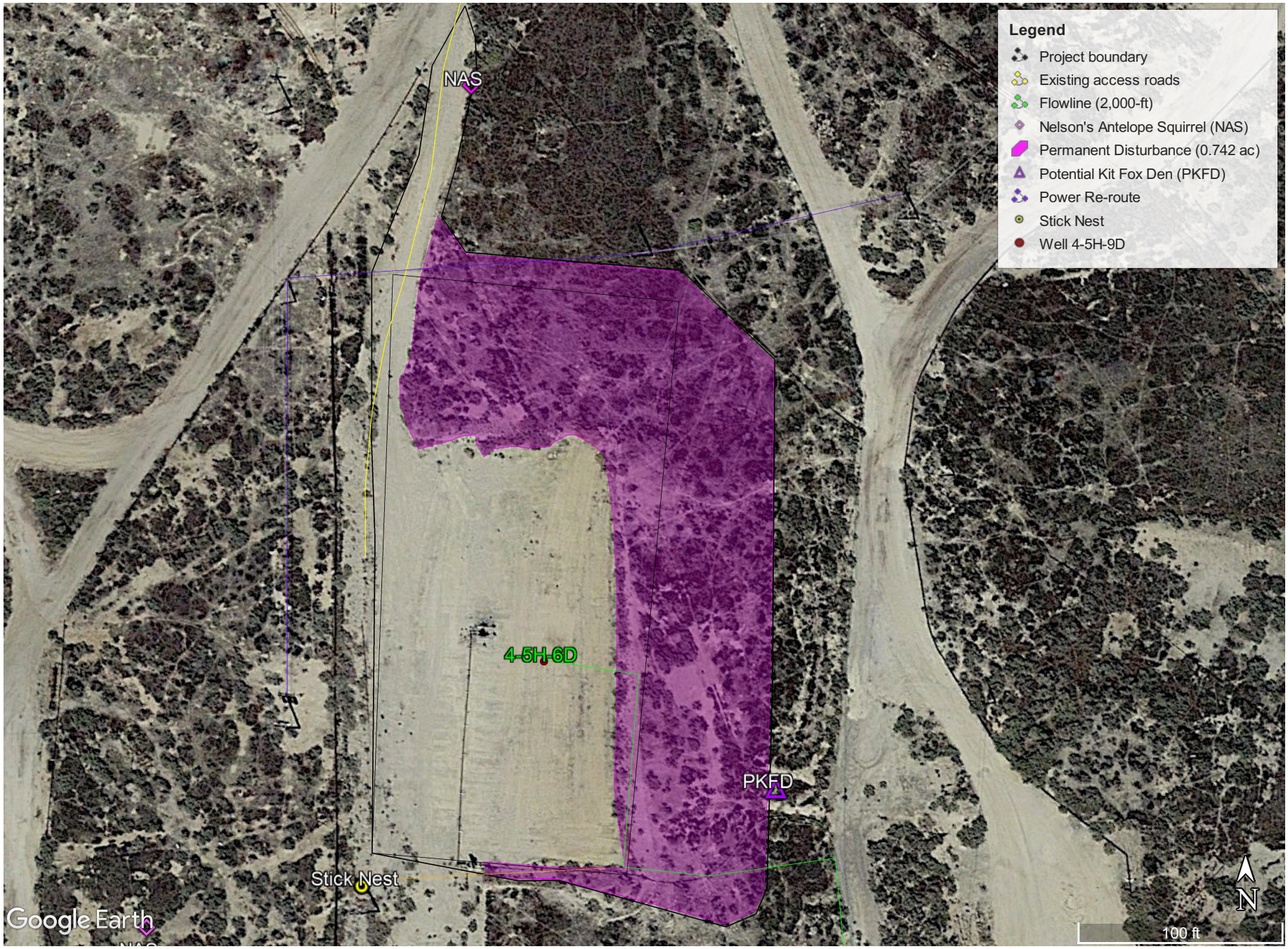


FIGURE 1. California Resources Production Corporation
Proposed Well 4-5H-6D

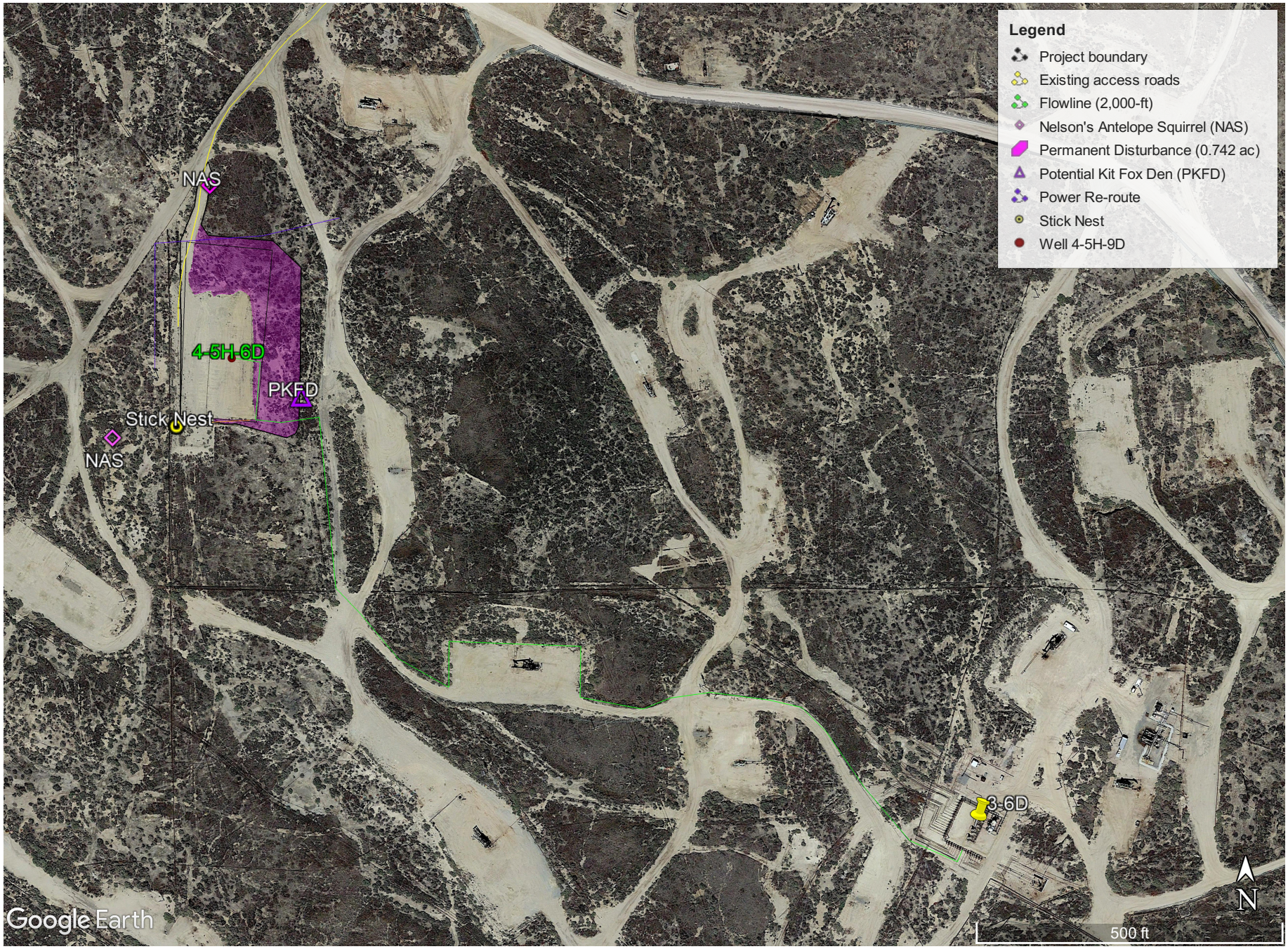


FIGURE 2. California Resources Production Corporation
Proposed Well 4-5H-6D and Ancillary Facilities

2.612Sensitive Species Review Form
for APDs and Sundry Notices
BLM Oil and Gas Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-1-01-F-0063)

Company	Representative
California Resources Elk Hills, LLC (CREH)	Daniel Padilla

Federal Lease Number and Federal Lease Name	NAD 83 coordinates	General Location, T, R, Sec., 1/4, 1/4
CAS 019343, 12D	35.155405, -119.357312	T 32 S, R 24 E, Sec. 12, SW ¼ of SW ¼

Project Description

CREH proposes to drill one new oil production well and install proposed associated ancillary facilities in the Buena Vista (Hills) Oilfield, located in Kern County, CA (Figures 1 and 2).

616-12D: The proposed well has been renamed and is the previously approved 645H-12D well that CREH did not drill prior to the expiration of the CalGEM NOI. The project was reviewed and approved by the BLM under: DOI-BLM-CA-C060-2019-0108-EA, Programmatic Project #68. CREH is requesting review and approval of the proposed project based on compliance with the original EA and Programmatic project approval. The proposed project has been updated to reduce the disturbance associated with the pipeline and has adjusted the well pad that will still be limited to the original project area within the area enclose by the exclusionary fencing. Updated project details: total well pad footprint will be: 3.26 acres (0.65 acres is existing and 2.61 acres will be new disturbance). Nine power poles will be required, 4 of which will occur on the new well pad. Four production pipelines will be required, all of which will occur on the new well pad and connect to the existing production pipelines located immediately adjacent to the existing access road. The production pipelines will consist of two 6-inch steel production pipelines, one 4-inch gas steel pipeline; and one 3-inch oil production pipeline. Also added to the well pad, will be one header for future oil and gas field development, one pooling tank; and a pump pad to assist with the transportation for production gas and fluids downstream.

Federal Surface? Yes

Total Acres Temp. Disturbed	% Habitat	Acres Habitat Temp. .Disturbed	Compensation Ratio	Compensation Required	Replacement Acres
0.00	100%	0.000	1.1:1	0.000	0.000
Total Acres Perm, Disturbed	**% Habitat**	**Acres Habitat Perm. Disturbed**	**Compensation Ratio**	**Compensation Required**	**Replacement Acres**
2.61	100%	2.61	3:1	7.83	2.61
Total Acres Disturbed		**Total Acres Habitat Disturbed**		**Total Compensation Required**	**Total Compensation + Replacement**
2.61		2.61		7.83	10.44

Generalized Habitat Description

Low density oilfield in rolling hills with large contiguous areas of herbaceous vegetation and moderately dense to sparse valley saltbush scrub.

Generalized Vegetation Description

Vegetation is mostly non-native grassland (*Bromus madritensis rubens*) and valley saltbush scrub (*Atriplex polycarpa*).

Habitat Zone	Date of Field Surveys
Green	October 22, 2021

Survey Method

Foot survey with 100% coverage, including a 250-foot buffer around the project area.

Will drainages be modified in a manner that requires CDF&G notification?	If YES where? Show on map or describe
YES **NO**	

Plant Species

Kern Mallow	San Joaquin Woolly-threads	California Jewelflower
Not observed	Not observed	Not observed
Hoover's Woolly-Star	**Bakersfield Cactus**	
Not observed	Not present on site	

The survey **WAS** ☐ **WAS NOT** ☒ conducted during an appropriate time for the detection of sensitive annual plants.

If NOT, have previous surveys been conducted in the area? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☒ BLM Botanist/Ecologist Initials:
If YES, list survey dates, source and results.

Other Plant Species Observed

Alkali saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*) and bladderpod (*Peritoma arborea*).

Comments
Floristic surveys will be scheduled during the appropriate time of year to identify special status species that have the potential to occur in the proposed project area.

Animal Species

San Joaquin Kit Fox No individuals were identified; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	Giant Kangaroo Rat Not present on site	Are Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards likely or known to occur in the area? **YES** ☒ **NO** ☐ If YES, are there any burrows suitable for use by BNLL that cannot be avoided? **YES** ☒ **NO** ☐
Tipton Kangaroo Rat Not present; the project area does not occur within the known range of the species.	San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel No individuals were identified during the field survey; however, the species is known to occur in the project vicinity.	How many? Moderately dense How large an area? 3.26 acres (fenced area)

Were species specific surveys conducted for Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards? **YES** ☒ **NO** ☐

***Wildlife exclusionary fencing was installed around the perimeter of the proposed well pad (645H-12D) in April 2019. At that time, Protocol Level BNLL surveys were initiated inside the exclusionary fencing.

Other Animal Species Observed
Common raven (*Corvus corax*)

Comments
At the time of the field survey in October 2021, the wildlife exclusionary fencing was in need of repairs. Repairs to the fence are tentatively scheduled for March 2022. In addition, protocol level BNLL are recommended within the exclusionary fencing on the proposed project area.

Avoidance & Mitigation Actions

Action	Comments
• A biological monitor will be present during initial ground disturbance and will be on-call and notified (661) 448-3131 if listed species are observed in the project area subsequent to initial ground disturbance. • A Threatened and Endangered Species training session will be given to construction personnel prior to project implementation. • A pre-activity survey shall be conducted on the project site within 14-days of project construction. Should a potential kit fox den be observed during the 14-day pre-construction survey, CREH will implement monitoring measures based on guidelines in the USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011). • Project site boundaries shall be clearly delineated by stakes, flagging and/or rope to minimize inadvertent degradation or loss of adjacent habitat during well pad and pipeline installation activities. • All construction equipment, staging areas, material and personnel shall be restricted to previously disturbed areas (roads, well pads, and other non-habitat areas). • All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures stored at the construction site overnight having a diameter of two (2) inches or greater shall be inspected thoroughly for wildlife species before being buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. Pipes laid in trenches overnight shall be capped. If during construction a wildlife species is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe shall not be moved or, if necessary, moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the wildlife species has escaped. • A speed limit of 10 mph (MAX) will be enforced to avoid incidental take of wildlife along roadways. • All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of three feet in depth left open for more than one (1) workday shall be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or other material to prevent entrapment of endangered species or other animals. Ramps shall be located at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals (for pipelines etc.) and at not more than 45-degree angles. Trenches shall be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be inspected thoroughly for entrapped animals. Any animals discovered shall be allowed to escape voluntarily without harassment before construction activities resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape	

unimpeded.

- All food related trash such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps shall be disposed of into closed containers and be removed daily from the site.
- Feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- CREH staff and/or its contractors should designate a specific individual as a contact representative between CREH and all applicable federal, state, and local agencies to oversee compliance with these avoidance mitigation measures.
- Firearms are prohibited on site.
- Pets are prohibited on site.
- Follow BLM General Guidelines for Conserving Habitat and Minimizing Project Impacts.

Additional Comments, Diagrams
Attached photo exhibit and Figures 1 & 2 maps of project area. Follow all avoidance and mitigation actions noted above. Additionally, follow all minimization and avoidance measures indicated on the Project Specific Conditions issued by BLM for this project.

Biologist Name Kimberly Fiehler	Company West Kern Environmental Consulting, LLC
Address P. O. Box 478 Buttonwillow, CA 93206	Phone (661) 448-3131
Signature 	Date January 7, 2022

Photo Exhibit



Photo 1. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 616-12D.



Photo 2. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 616-12D.

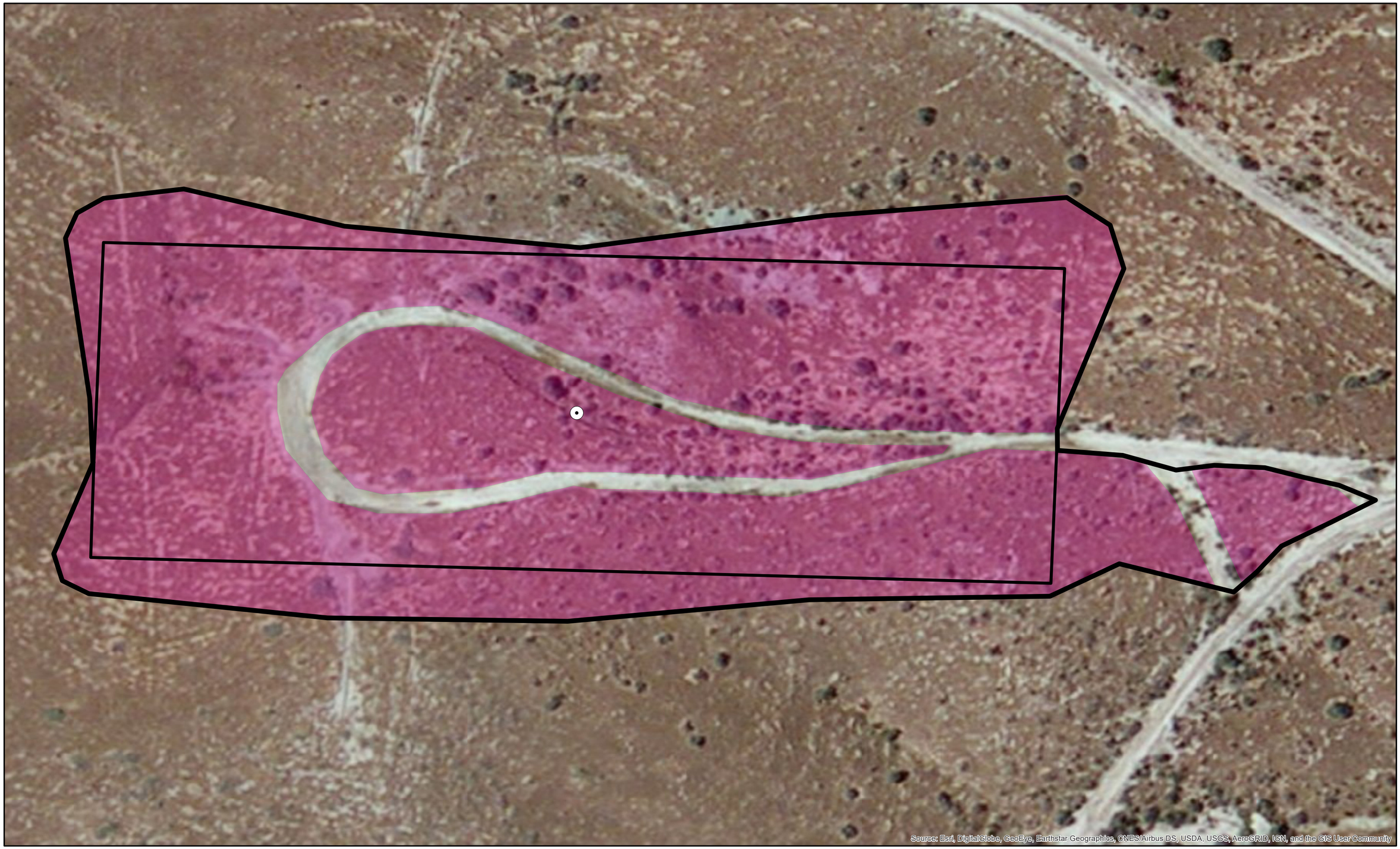


Photo 3. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 616-12D.



Photo 4. Representative photo of proposed location for new well 616-12D.

Figure 1. 616-12D New Well Disturbance



Well center

Pad

Project boundary

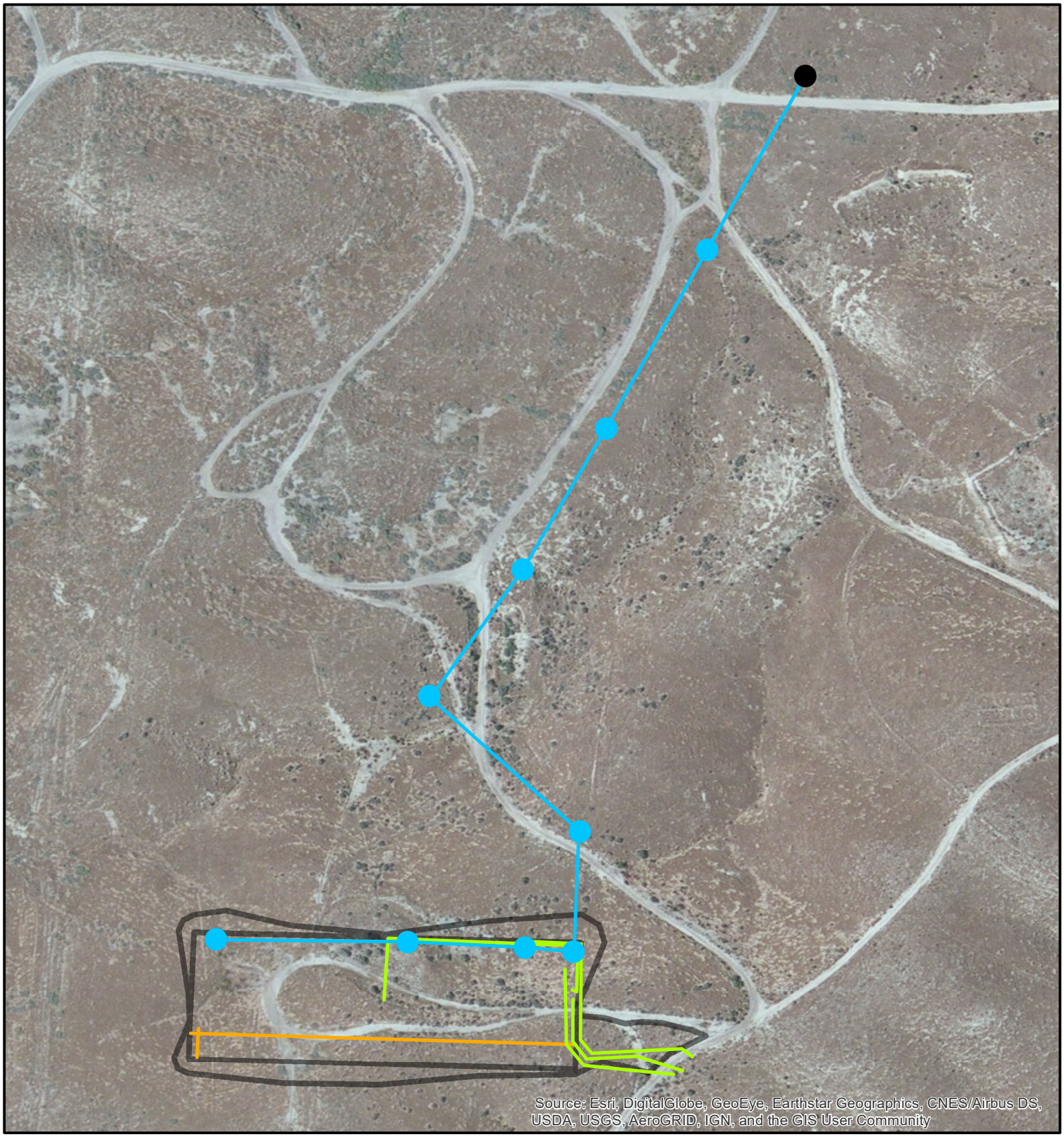
New disturbance *(2.61 acres)*

0 75 150 300 Feet

N

S

Figure 2. 616-12D Facilities Overview



October 13, 2022

Matthew Perry
Regulatory Advisor
California Resources Corporation
900 Old River Road
Bakersfield, CA 93311
Via email: Matt.Perry@crc.com

Re: PROTOCOL LEVEL BLUNT-NOSED LEOPARD LIZARD SURVEY RESULTS – PROPOSED WELL LOCATION 616-12D IN THE BUENA VISTA OIL FIELD, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Mr. Perry:

At the request of California Resources Elk Hills, LLC (CREH), West Kern Environmental Consulting (WKEC) conducted protocol level blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL) surveys in advance of the development of well location 616-12D located in the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 12, Township 32 South, Range 24 East, of the Buena Vista Oil Field, Kern County, California. The project location lies in an area of federal surface.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed well has been renamed and is the previously approved well 645H-12D that CREH did not drill prior to the expiration of the CalGEM NOI. The project was reviewed and approved by the BLM under DOI-BLM-CA-C060-2019-0108-EA, Programmatic Project #68. CREH is requesting review and approval of the proposed project based on compliance with the original EA and Programmatic project approval. The proposed project has been updated to reduce the disturbance associated with the pipeline and has adjusted the well pad that will still be limited to the original project area within the area enclosed by the exclusionary fencing. CREH proposes to install oil production facilities on the proposed well pad. Nine power poles will be required, four of which will occur on the proposed well pad. Four production pipelines will be required, all of which will occur on the project well pad and connect to the existing production pipelines located immediately adjacent to the existing access road. The production pipelines will consist of two 6-inch steel production pipelines, one 4-inch gas steel pipeline; and one 3-inch oil production pipeline. The proposed activities will be located on both federal and private lands (CREH surface).

PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

The proposed project area is located within the hills of the Buena Vista Oil Field. Exclusionary fencing was placed around the proposed well location prior to blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL) surveys that were conducted during the 2019 BNLL season. The project was delayed, and repairs were made to the exclusionary fencing prior to the BNLL survey season in 2022. The site supports areas of sparse cover of allscale (*Atriplex polycarpa*) shrubs and non-native grasses dominated by red brome (*Bromus madritensis rubens*). The proposed project area provides suitable habitat for several listed animal species that are reported to the California Natural Diversity Data Base

(CNDDB), including the blunt-nosed leopard lizard. Blunt-nosed leopard lizards (*Gambelia sila*) are Federally Endangered, State Endangered and State Fully Protected Species.

METHODS

Protocol level blunt-nosed leopard lizard surveys were conducted in accordance with California Department of Fish and Wildlife protocols within the exclusionary fence boundary for the proposed well location. Surveys consisted of a total of 12 adult surveys beginning on April 27, 2022 and ending on June 9, 2022. In addition, 5 more surveys were conducted in an effort to identify juvenile hatchlings beginning on August 15, 2022 and ending on September 21, 2022.

RESULTS

Although habitat for BNLL was identified on the project area, no blunt-nosed leopard lizards were observed within the exclusionary fencing for the proposed well pad in 2022. Table 1 provides the survey data collected during the 2022 protocol level surveys.

Table 1 – Blunt-nosed leopard lizard protocol survey data

Survey	Date	Weather	Start Time	End Time	Start Temp	End Temp	Start Soil Temp	End Soil Temp
Spring Adult BNLL Surveys								
1	04/27/2022	clear	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	90.0	89.0	91.0	86.0
2	05/02/2022	clear, sunny	10:10 AM	10:50 AM	79.0	85.0	72.0	79.0
3	05/04/2022	clear, sunny	9:05 AM	9:40 AM	77.0	79.0	69.0	68.0
4	05/05/2022	clear, sunny	10:10 AM	10:50 AM	88.0	90.0	79.0	81.0
5	05/06/2022	partly cloudy	1:05 PM	1:36 PM	84.0	87.8	97.3	96.0
6	05/16/2022	clear, sunny	9:15 AM	10:00 AM	81.5	85.9	77.9	78.3
7	05/17/2022	---	9:00AM	9:50 AM	77.0	82.4	87.5	94.5
8	05/18/2022	clear, sunny	9:00 AM	9:35 AM	85.9	83.2	93.1	96.2
9	06/06/2022	partly cloudy	8:30 AM	9:05 AM	77.6	81.8	80.5	82.4
10	06/07/2022	clear, sunny	8:15 AM	9:05 AM	84.4	87.0	87.6	87.9
11	06/08/2022	clear, sunny	8:25 AM	9:08 AM	79.7	88.7	86.0	91.2
12	06/09/2022	clear, sunny	8:40 AM	9:20 AM	85.4	89.2	85.6	87.6
Fall Juvenile/Hatchling BNLL Surveys								
13	08/15/2022	clear, sunny	8:09 AM	8:39 AM	85.3	89.2	87.2	87.2
14	08/16/2022	clear, sunny	9:10 AM	9:35 AM	92.6	94.8	91.0	89.5

15	08/17/2022	clear, sunny	8:10 AM	8:40 AM	98.1	94.7	93.1	94.8
16	09/20/2022	sunny	12:07 PM	12:36 PM	78.4	84.4	76.6	81.6
17	9/21/2022	---	12:34 PM	12:56 PM	77.7	87.9	73.4	86.1

During the protocol level surveys, no BNLL were identified within the survey area or within the exclusion fencing. Nelson's antelope squirrel (also known as San Joaquin antelope squirrel) (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*), were identified within the survey area and within the exclusionary fencing. Nelson's antelope squirrel (NAS) is a State Threatened species, known to occur throughout the region. Thirteen observations of NAS were made during the protocol level surveys. Six observations were made within the exclusionary fencing and seven observations were made outside of the exclusionary fence during the surveys. GPS points were taken where individuals were observed as shown on Figure 1. Table 2 provides a list of all the animal species observed during the surveys.

Table 2 – List of Animal Species Observed During 2022 Protocol Level BNLL Surveys

Scientific Name	Common Name
Ammospermophilus nelsoni	**Nelson's antelope squirrel**
Amphispiza belli	Bell's sparrow
Aspidoscelis tigris munda	California whiptail
Cathartes aura	turkey vulture
Corvus corax	common raven
Crotalus oreganus	Northern Pacific rattlesnake
Geococcyx californianus	greater roadrunner
Lepus californicus	black-tailed jackrabbit
Sturnella neglecta	Western meadowlark
Uta stansburiana	side-blotched lizard

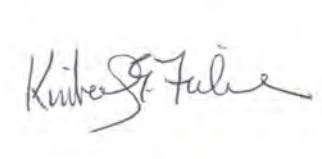
Bold font represents special-status species

Per the *2017 Programmatic Biological Opinion on Oil and Gas Activities on Bureau of Land Management Lands in the San Joaquin Valley*, "project activities may proceed until the negative survey expires. A negative survey result will be valid until April 1st of the following year unless a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is observed within 1000 feet of the project area. Alternatively, an exclusion barrier may be constructed around the project area where burrows will be impacted. A properly maintained exclusion barrier extends the valid period of the negative protocol-level survey results until the exclusion barrier is removed or to April 1st, whichever is later."

Although the 2022 BNLL survey was not positive for BNLL within the exclusionary fencing, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB, 2022) records indicate BNLL are known to occur in the vicinity (0.72 mi NE) of the project area. Therefore, active season avoidance measures for BNLL are recommended for this project when activities occur outside of the exclusion fencing.

Please do not hesitate to call our office (661) 805-6991 if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Fiehler
Senior Biological Consultant IV

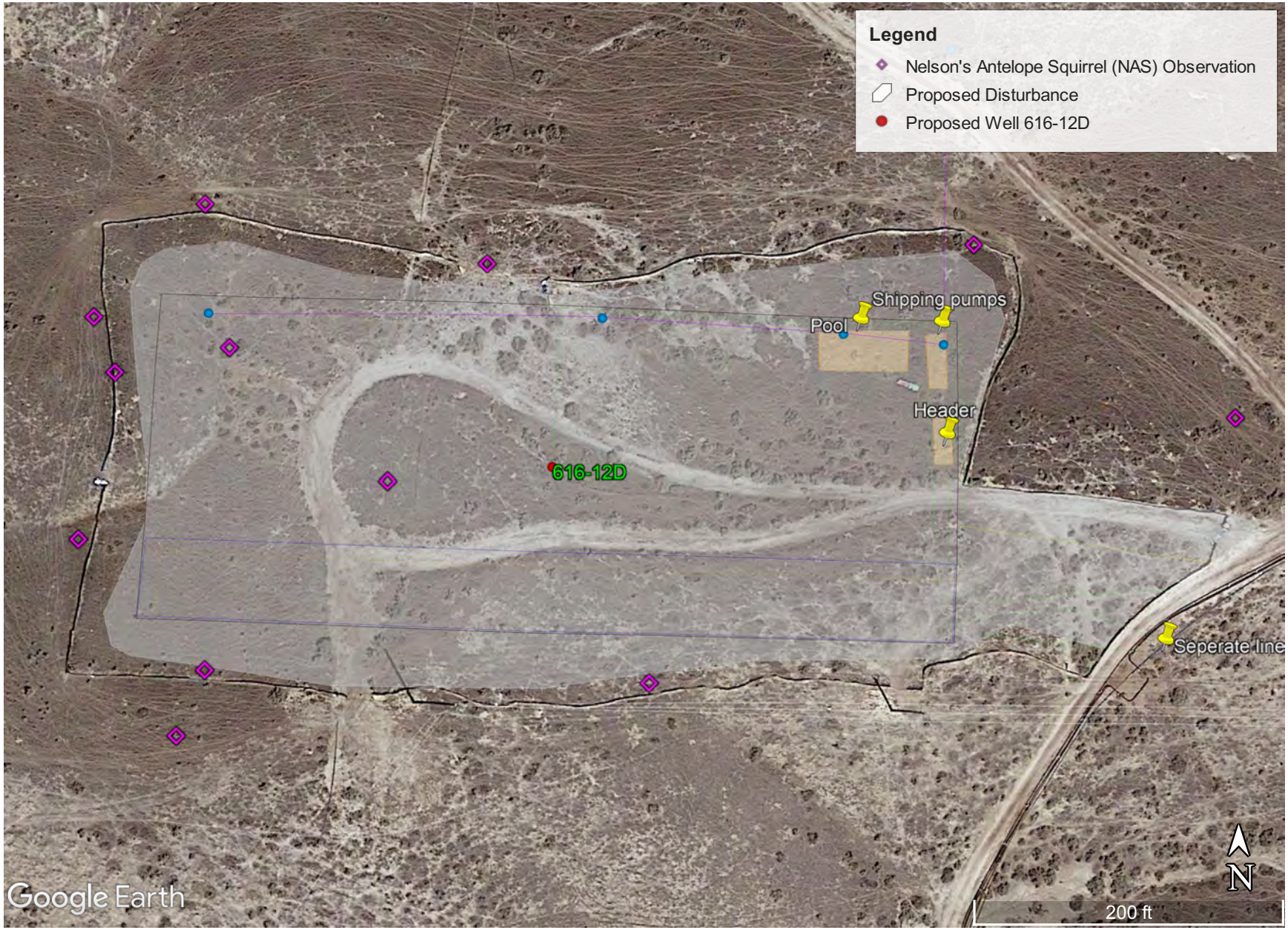


Figure 1. California Resources Elk Hills, LLC
Proposed Well 616-12D
2022 Special-Status Species
Observations