

APPENDIX B

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

This page is intentionally blank.

Biological Resources Assessment for the El Caballo Park Project

City of Escondido, San Diego County, California

Prepared for:
City of Escondido
Development Services Department
201 N. Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025

Prepared by:
Marisa Flores
Michael Baker International

December 2025

Biological Resources Assessment for the El Caballo Park Project, City of Escondido, San Diego County, California

Prepared for
City of Escondido
Development Services Department
201 N. Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025

Prepared by
Marisa Flores



5050 Avenida Encinas, Suite 260
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Project No. 201617

December 2025

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	1
1.1	Background and Purpose	1
1.2	Project Description.....	1
1.3	Project Location	2
2.0	Existing Conditions.....	3
3.0	Methods.....	4
3.1	Literature Review	4
3.2	Habitat Assessment/Field Survey.....	4
4.0	Results and Potential Biological Impacts	6
4.1	Vegetation Communities, Land Cover Types, and Floral Diversity.....	6
4.2	General Wildlife Inventory	9
4.3	Special-Status Biological Species and Regulated Resources	9
4.4	Regional Resource Planning Context.....	14
5.0	Mitigation Measures	16
6.0	References	20

List of Tables

Table 1. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types	6
Table 2. MHCP Mitigation Ratios for Environmentally Sensitive Habitat in the Project Site	16

List of Appendices

Appendix A Figures
Appendix B Site Photographs
Appendix C Plant and Wildlife Species Compendium
Appendix D Special-Status Species Potential to Occur Tables

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Michael Baker International, Inc. is pleased to submit this technical report documenting the results of a biological resources assessment for the proposed El Caballo Park Master Plan (“project”) located in the City of Escondido (“City”), San Diego County, California.

This report is intended to identify the potential significant impacts on biological resources for the proposed project based on compliance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), and identify regulatory permits and mitigation options for consistency with the Multiple Habitat Conservation Program (MHCP; San Diego Association of Governments [SANDAG] 2003).

1.1 Background and Purpose

El Caballo Park presently supports both recreational and equestrian amenities and is currently utilized by the Charros of Escondido (Asociación de Charros de Escondido) for equestrian activities and public events, as well as by equestrian enthusiasts and other members of the public.

The purpose of the El Caballo Park Master Plan is to:

- Develop a detailed Master Plan to provide a coordinated and strategic approach to the provision and development of equestrian activities and infrastructure;
- Guide the layout of active and passive recreation, facilities, amenities, parking requirements, and general park needs;
- Assess potential development funding opportunities and phasing strategies;
- Ensure the use of the space is maximized and that natural elements are retained and enhanced wherever possible; and,
- Provide “natural” play opportunities that will encourage creativity and learning, free of typical play structures that limit creative thinking.

1.2 Project Description

With the proposed improvements, El Caballo Park is intended to serve as a public facility that accommodates equestrian-oriented activities with amenities designed for a range of visitors. The project, while focused on equestrian activities, would also provide recreational facilities that would attract a mix of users such as the Charros of Escondido (Asociación de Charros de Escondido), equestrians dog lovers, and various groups such as the Wounded Warriors, therapeutic equestrian groups, local residents and visitors, businesses, educational institutions, and charitable organizations.

The park would have a central, open, passive recreational lawn area surrounded by a variety of natural play opportunities, picnic groves, equestrian facilities, and a pedestrian access path linking Mayflower Dog Park with El Caballo Park to facilitate improved access and create one cohesive park. Additionally, the project would naturalize Escondido Creek within the project boundaries. The Master Plan would also feature an architectural theme with various styles, colors and materials, fencing, lighting, signage, furniture, and landscaping that would allow the City to achieve a comprehensive design theme, thus unifying the recreational facilities (Appendix A, Figure 3, *Project Site*).

1.3 Project Location

El Caballo Park is located in the northeastern portion of the City of Escondido in northwestern San Diego County, California. The project is located west of East Valley Parkway and north of Beven Drive. The project is located southeast of the City-owned Daley Ranch Preserve, an approximately 3,000-acre open space preserve offering hills, valleys, ponds, and over 25 miles of trails on what were historically ranch lands. Additionally, the project site is located within proximity to traditional use areas of the Luiseño and the Kumeyaay (Diegueño, Ipai) tribes and the area is therefore considered to have a moderate sensitivity for potential unknown precontact archaeological sites, given the history of Native American presence in the region (Michael Baker International 2025). The project is within Section 01, Township 12 South, Range 02 West, and Section 06, Township 12S, Range 1 West of the Valley Center 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle map (Attachment A, Figure 1, *Regional Vicinity* and Figure 2, *Site Vicinity*). The project includes portions of County Assessor Parcel Numbers 760-246-1700 and 760-246-3300 and occurs within the MHCP (SANDAG 2003) and the City of Escondido draft MHCP Subarea Plan (City of Escondido 2001).

2.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS

El Caballo Park is located in the northeastern portion of the City, west of East Valley Parkway and north of Beven Drive. Daley Ranch Preserve to the north supports a variety of public use trails for hiking, biking, and horse riding. The El Caballo Trailhead is located near the northeastern park boundary, just south of the Humane Society. Escondido Creek bisects the proposed project east of El Caballo Park. Elevations on-site range from approximately 600 to 650 feet above mean sea level. The project site currently supports an existing equestrian arena with a small set of bleachers at the eastern end. A makeshift amphitheater cut into the adjacent slope provides seating on the south end of the arena. Several level graded pads are present, along with a portable restroom. Other existing on-site elements include park signage, varying fencing and stone walls, pathways, a water spigot, and the paved driveway to the Escondido Humane Society. A number of existing pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian paths are present in the area (i.e., along local roadways and in Daley Ranch). The project site covers an area of approximately 20 acres. Refer to Appendix B for representative photographs taken throughout the project site.

The Web Soil Survey (US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service [USDA NRCS] 2024) shows that the project site supports five soil types (Appendix A, Figure 4, *USDA NRCS Soils*):

- Cieneba-Fallbrook rocky sandy loams, 30 to 65 percent slopes, eroded
- Friant rocky fine sandy loam, 30 to 70 percent slopes
- Visalia sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
- Vista coarse sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes, MLRA 20
- Vista coarse sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, MLRA 20

The project area occurs within the MHCP (SANDAG 2003) and the City has a draft MHCP Subarea Plan (City of Escondido 2001) used for implementing the MHCP conservation goals. The western portion of El Caballo Park occurs within the hardline Focused Planning Area (FPA) of the MHCP (Appendix A, Figure 5, *Vegetation Communities and Other Land Uses*).

3.0 METHODS

3.1 Literature Review

Prior to conducting the field survey, Michael Baker conducted a thorough literature review and records search to characterize existing site conditions and assess the potential for special-status biological resources to occur that might pose a constraint to implementation of the proposed project. A query of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; CNDDDB 2024a) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2024) was conducted to obtain a list of special-status plant and wildlife species occurrence records within the USGS *Valley Center, CA* 7.5-minute quadrangle map and surrounding eight quadrangles (*Rodriguez Mountain, Bonsall, Boucher Hill, Pala, Escondido, Rancho Santa Fe, San Marcos, and San Pasqual*). The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) online database was also reviewed to identify special-status species and other resources, such as Critical Habitat, known or expected to occur on the project site or within the immediate vicinity (USFWS 2024a). Due to the results listed in the IPaC report, the USFWS Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species mapping tool (USFWS 2024b) was accessed to determine the location of designated Critical Habitat in relation to the project site. Other sources of information about the project site and surrounding area include the USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey (USDA NRCS 2024) and the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (USFWS 2024c). In addition, the current conservation status of species was verified through lists and resources provided by the CNDDDB, specifically the Special Animals List (CNDDDB 2024b), Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List (CNDDDB 2024c), State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California (CNDDDB 2024d), and State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CNDDDB 2024e). All the information obtained informed Michael Baker's understanding of the project site and assisted with the field survey and subsequent analysis. The results presented in this report provide a detailed assessment of the suitability of the on-site habitat to support special-status plant and wildlife species and other sensitive natural resources.

3.2 Habitat Assessment/Field Survey

Michael Baker biologists Marisa Flores and Jennifer Kendrick conducted a general biological resources survey and habitat assessment on July 12, 2024, between 0715 and 1130 hours to document existing conditions and conduct a habitat assessment for special-status plant and wildlife species and sensitive natural communities, and to determine the potential presence of aquatic resources within the study area. The study area consisted of the project site and a 300-foot survey buffer. Weather conditions were generally sunny with thin 80-90 percent cloud cover; temperatures ranged from 70 to 84 degrees Fahrenheit with wind speeds ranging from 0 to 3 mile per hour. The study area was approximately 64.5 acres, of which the majority of the areas outside of the project site were only visually assessed based on steep terrain, dense vegetation, and/or legal access; however, 100 percent of the approximately 20.1-acre project site was covered on foot. Classification of the on-site vegetation communities and other land uses

is based on the descriptions of terrestrial vegetation classification systems in the Draft Vegetation Communities in San Diego County (Oberbauer et al. 2008). In addition, site characteristics such as soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site vegetation communities, and the presence of potentially regulated jurisdictional features were noted. A formal aquatic resources delineation was not conducted. Michael Baker used geographic information systems (GIS) ArcView software to digitize the mapped vegetation communities and overlaid the data onto an aerial photograph to further analyze existing conditions and quantify the acreages of each vegetation community on-site.

All plant and wildlife species observed during the field survey were recorded in a field notebook. Plant species observed were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field while unusual and less familiar plant species were photographed and later identified using taxonomic guides. Plant species nomenclature and taxonomy follows *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*, second edition (Baldwin et al. 2012) and scientific names are provided immediately following common names of plant species (first reference only). Wildlife detections were made through aural and visual detection, as well as observation of sign including scat, trails, tracks, burrows, and nests. Field guides used to assist with identification of species during the field survey included *The Sibley Guide to Birds* (Sibley 2014) for birds, *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians* (Stebbins 2003) for herpetofauna, and *A Field Guide to Mammals of North America* (Reid 2006) for mammals. Wildlife species taxonomy follows the North American Butterfly Association (2024) for butterflies, the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (Crother et al. 2017) for herpetofauna, the American Ornithological Society for birds (Chesser et al. 2023), and Wilson and Reeder (2005) for mammals. Scientific names are provided immediately following common names of wildlife species (first reference only).

4.0 RESULTS AND POTENTIAL BIOLOGICAL IMPACTS

4.1 Vegetation Communities, Land Cover Types, and Floral Diversity

The location of each vegetation community in the survey area is described in detail below and presented in Appendix A, Figure 5. Representative photographs of the habitats within the study area are included in Appendix B.

A total of 51 species of native or naturalized plants, 27 native (53 percent) and 24 non-native (47 percent), were recorded in the study area. The common species documented are described under each vegetation community below. Appendix C contains a full list of plant species detected in the study area.

The study area supports the following land cover types: Diegan coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, non-native grassland, mule fat scrub, coast live oak woodland, Arundo-dominated riparian, eucalyptus woodland, disturbed habitat, and urban developed lands. Table 1, Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types, summarizes the extent of each land cover type on the project site. Appendix A, Figure 5, *Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types*, illustrates the extent of each vegetation community and land cover on the project site and study area. Appendix C, Plant and Wildlife Species Compendium, contains a list of observed plant species.

TABLE 1. VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND LAND COVER TYPES

Vegetation Community/Land Cover Type	Project Site (Acres)	Study Area (Acres)
Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub (32500) ¹	2.64	12.41
Southern Mixed Chaparral (37120)	0.09	8.14
Non-native Grassland (42200)	0.00	0.42
Mule Fat Scrub (63310)	0.37	0.37
Coast Live Oak Woodland (71160)	0.00	0.59
Arundo-dominated Riparian (65100)	0.42	0.89
Eucalyptus Woodland (79100)	1.41	1.53
Disturbed Habitat (11300)	12.01	12.59
Urban Developed (12000)	3.15	27.56
TOTAL	20.10	64.51

¹ Classification of the on-site vegetation communities and other land uses is based on the descriptions of terrestrial vegetation classification systems in the Draft Vegetation Communities in San Diego County (Oberbauer et al. 2008).

Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub (32500)

Diegan coastal sage scrub is a native plant community comprising a variety of low shrubs, dominated by drought deciduous species with scattered evergreen shrubs (Oberbauer et al. 2008). This community occurs typically on sites with low moisture availability such as steep, xeric slopes or clay-rich soils that are slow to release stored water. Approximately 12.41 acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub occur within the

southwestern portion of the study area, of which 2.64 acres occur on the project site. Within the study area, this vegetation community is dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*), and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*).

Southern Mixed Chaparral (37120)

Southern mixed chaparral is a native plant community characterized by relatively high species diversity. It is found on dry, rocky, often steep slopes with little soil and moderate temperatures (Oberbauer et al. 2008). Approximately 8.14 acres of southern mixed chaparral occur within the northwestern portion of the study area, of which 0.09 acres occur within the project site. The southern mixed chaparral within the study area includes both dense and open habitat dominated by chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) and scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), with native and non-native grasses and annuals in the understory. Other plant species documented within this habitat on-site included toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), broom baccharis (*Baccharis serigloides*), and black sage. The understory component included species such as blue dicks (*Dipterostemon capitatus*), deerweed, yellow pincushion (*Chaenactis glabriuscula*), red bush monkey flower (*Diplacus puniceus*), and southern honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata*).

Non-native Grassland (42200)

Non-native grassland, a prevalent vegetation community throughout California, is generally characterized by a dense to sparse cover of non-native, annual grasses and often associated with numerous weedy species. Most of the growth and flowering occurs within the spring. Plants then die in the summer but persist as seeds in the uppermost layers of the soil until the next rainy season. The non-native grassland was mapped in 0.42 acres of the study area, north of El Caballo Park, but does not occur within the project site. The dominant plant species observed were common oat (*Avena sativa*), compact brome (*Bromus madritensis*), and Maltese starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*).

Mule Fat Scrub (63310)

Mule fat scrub mainly occurs within flooded stream courses in Southern California but can also be found in many diverse riparian communities. The mule fat scrub vegetation community occurs within the eastern section of an ephemeral drainage that traverses El Caballo Park (total of 0.37 acres within the project site). This community was entirely composed of mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*).

Coast Live Oak Woodland (71160)

The coast live oak woodland is dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and is located within an approximate 0.59-acre portion of the study area but outside of the project site. This vegetation community is associated with north-facing slopes and occurs in the western portion of the study area.

Arundo-Dominated Riparian (65100)

An ephemeral drainage along the northwestern edge of El Caballo Park supports the Arundo-dominated riparian habitat. This vegetation classification consists of densely vegetated riparian thickets dominated almost exclusively by giant reed (*Arundo donax*). There were a few red willow (*Salix laevigata*), Goodding's willow (*Salix goodingii*), and Hooker's evening primrose (*Oenothera elata*) also associated with the drainage. There are 0.89 acres of Arundo-dominated riparian habitat within the study area, of which 0.42 acres occur within the project site.

Eucalyptus Woodland (79100)

Eucalyptus woodland occurs primarily in groves in El Caballo Park. This community is typically characterized by dense monotypic stands of gum trees (*Eucalyptus* sp.) with no shrubby understory and ground cover with leaf and bark litter. Plants in this genus, imported primarily from Australia, were originally planted in groves throughout many regions of California as a potential source of lumber and building materials, for their use as windbreaks, and for their horticultural novelty. They have increased their cover through natural regeneration, particularly in moist areas sheltered from strong coastal winds. Gum trees naturalize readily in the state and, where they form dense stands, tend to completely supplant native vegetation, greatly altering community structure and dynamics. Approximately 1.53 acres of eucalyptus woodland occur within the study area, of which 1.41 acres are within the project site.

Disturbed Habitat (11300)

The disturbed habitat within the study area includes areas that have been physically disturbed and no longer provide a native or naturalized habitat. This classification has been mapped within the majority of El Caballo Park, vacant dirt lots used as parking lots, and the dirt easement of Escondido Creek. Plants observed within this classification included non-native and ornamental plants such as Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*), Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), common iceplant (*Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), American century plant (*Agave americana*), Washington fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), feathertop (*Pennisetum villosum*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), oleander (*Nerium oleander*), and whitemargin sandmat (*Euphorbia albomarginata*). The disturbed habitat occurs within 12.59 acres of the study area, of which 12.01 acres occur within the project site.

Urban/Developed Lands (12000)

Urban/developed lands are typically developed, paved surfaces within areas under construction, or physically altered in such a way that native vegetation is no longer supported, such as community parks and ornamental landscaping. Approximately 27.56 acres of urban/developed lands occur within the study area and 3.15 acres are within the project site.

4.2 General Wildlife Inventory

A total of 30 wildlife species were observed during the field survey, 29 native (97 percent) and 1 non-native (3 percent). The most commonly occurring birds during the field survey included California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), acorn woodpecker (*Malanerpes formicivorus*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*), bushtit (*Psaltiriparus minimus*), and spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*). Only one reptile was observed—orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidocelis hyperythra*). Mammal species that were observed or detected were California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus adubonii*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Appendix C contains a full list of wildlife species detected in the study area.

4.3 Special-Status Biological Species and Regulated Resources

The potential for special-status species to occur in the study area was evaluated based on each species' known geographic distribution and elevation range; species-specific habitat requirements (e.g., vegetation communities/land covers, soils, hydrology, slope/aspect, and other requirements); life history traits (e.g., disturbance tolerance); and Michael Baker biologists' expertise, knowledge, and best professional judgment. Current and historical records of species identified during the literature review were also considered during the analysis; however, a species' potential to occur determination was not solely based on the age or location of these previously documented records. The potential to occur categories used in this analysis are defined as follows:

- **Present:** The species was observed or detected within the study area during the July 12, 2024 survey.
- **Expected:** The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species, suitable habitat (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is present, and there is viable landscape connectivity to a local, known extant population(s) or sighting(s).
- **Moderate:** The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species; however, habitat within the study area (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is marginal or limited and landscape connectivity to a local, known, extant population or detection is compromised or nonexistent.
- **Not Expected:** The species is not expected to occur within the study area due to the lack of suitable habitat, the location of the study area is outside of the species' elevation range or known geographic distribution, or there is no connectivity to known, extant populations.
- **Absent:** The species was not detected during focused or agency-approved protocol surveys.

The conceptual design for the Master Plan was reviewed to evaluate the potential impacts occurring within the project site. The anticipated permanent impacts will include all areas proposed for vegetation removal including but not limited to:

- Improvements to existing arenas, installation of new arenas, round pens, wash racks, bleachers, corrals, parking areas, the new community hall, and construction of other facilities that will be built into the existing disturbed areas of El Caballo Park.
- Removal of trees within the existing eucalyptus woodland and along the ephemeral drainage and replacement with native trees within vegetated areas of El Caballo Park.
- Modifications to the Escondido Creek channel.
- New fencing.
- A multiuse decomposed granite parking lot within disturbed areas in the southeastern portion of the project site.
- Escondido Creek Trail extension.
- Improvements to access drives within El Caballo Park.

Special-Status Plant Species

Ninety-eight special-status plant species have been recorded in the *Valley Center, California* and eight surrounding 7.5-minute quadrangles by the CNDDDB, CNPS Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California, and IPaC online database for the study area (Appendix D, *Special-Status Species Potential to Occur Tables*). The specific habitat preferences (i.e., vegetation communities, hydrological requirements, soils), local known distributions, historical records, geographic range, and elevation ranges for each species was reviewed for all 98 species to determine if study area conditions were suitable.

One special-status species, Engelmann oak (*Quercus engelmannii*, California Rare Plant Rank [CRPR] 4.2) was observed near the edge of the westernmost portion of the study area, but was not observed on the project site. There are five special-status species known from the Daley Ranch area that may be expected to occur in the study area based on the presence of suitable habitat within the Diegan coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral: delicate clarkia (*Clarkia delicata*, CRPR 1B. 2), summer holly (*Comarostaphylis diversifolia* ssp. *diversifolia*, CRPR 1B.2), Palmer's goldenbush (*Ericameria palmeri* var. *palmeri*, CRPR 1B.1), mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*, CRPR 1B.1), and Robinson's peppergrass (*Lepidium virginicum* var. *robinsonii*, CRPR 4.3). There are 25 additional special-status plant species with a moderate potential to occur based on the presence of suitable habitat in the study area. The remaining 67 species would not be expected due to lack of suitable habitat in the study area, or the project occurs outside of the species' geographic/elevational range. Appendix D, Table D1 contains a summary of the special-status plant species with their potential to occur in the study area.

Impacts to special-status plant species may be significant, depending on the species, quantity, local/regional rarity, and if suitable habitat cannot be avoided. If focused surveys determine presence, and significant impacts cannot be avoided, consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) would be required in addition to mitigation.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

Sixty-one (61) special-status wildlife species have been recorded in the USGS *Valley Center, California* and eight surrounding 7.5-minute quadrangles by the CNDDDB and IPaC online database for the project site. A review of specific habitat preferences, known distributions, and elevation ranges was conducted for all species. Only two special-status wildlife species were observed during the field survey: orange-throated whiptail (state Species of Special Concern [SSC]) and yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*, SSC). There is a potential for these species to be impacted during vegetation removal activities.

The following four species are expected to occur based on the known geographic distributions, presence of suitable habitat, and connectivity to local extant populations: southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*, Watchlist [WL]), Bell's sage sparrow (*Artemisospiza belli belli*, WL), San Diegan tiger whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*, SSC), and coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*, federally threatened [FT], SSC, WL). The coastal California gnatcatcher was observed near El Caballo Park in 2001 (Occurrence record 673; CNDDDB 2024a). Removal of Diegan coastal sage scrub at the southern end of El Caballo Park would potentially impact these species, if present.

Sixteen species have a moderate potential to occur due to presence of suitable habitat, including two listed species—least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*, federally endangered [FE], state endangered [SE], SSC) and Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*, state candidate endangered)—and two special-status bat species—pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*, SSC) and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*, SSC)—and may be affected by the proposed project. Least Bell's vireo has been recorded in portions of Escondido Creek that occur upstream of the study area (USFWS 2024d) in 2016, and the Arundo-dominated riparian community provides low to moderate quality of habitat for the species. Crotch bumble bee has the potential to forage on native flowers within the study area.

Potential impacts on orange-throated whiptail and yellow warbler are expected to be less than significant under CEQA with implementation of preconstruction nesting bird surveys; no focused surveys will be required for these species. Focused studies for coastal California gnatcatcher, Crotch bumble bee and least Bell's vireo will be necessary to determine species presence and level of impacts since these effects on federally and state-listed species (i.e., coastal California gnatcatcher, Crotch bumble bee, least Bell's vireo) would trigger a significant impact under CEQA. In addition, avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation in the form of habitat preservation and consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW would be necessary. Special-status bats could potentially roost on the project site in gum trees, and depending on the species, impacts may be significant and would also require additional studies and mitigation.

The remaining species from the CNDDDB and IPaC online databases are not expected to occur on the project site due to a lack of suitable habitat. Appendix D summarizes the special-status species with their potential to occur in the study area.

Sensitive Natural Communities

Ten natural communities considered sensitive by the CDFW were reported in the CNDDDB from the nine USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map region surrounding and including the *Valley Center, California* map. These communities are:

- Maritime Succulent Scrub
- San Diego Mesa Claypan Vernal Pool
- Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest
- Southern Coastal Salt Marsh
- Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest
- Southern Maritime Chaparral
- Southern Riparian Forest
- Southern Riparian Scrub
- Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland
- Southern Willow Scrub

The study area does not support any of the sensitive natural communities identified by the CNDDDB. However, the MHCP and draft MHCP Subarea Plan identify several vegetation communities in the study area, including Diegan coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, riparian scrub (i.e., Arundo-dominated riparian), non-native grassland, and coast live oak woodland. Of these, Diegan coastal sage scrub (2.64 acres), riparian scrub (0.42 acre), and southern mixed chaparral (0.09 acre) occur within the development areas of the project site and impacts to these communities require mitigation under the MHCP. Refer to Section 4.4.1 for additional details of the mitigation requirements within the MHCP FPA.

Critical Habitat

Under the US Endangered Species Act (ESA), Critical Habitat is designated at the time of listing of a species. Critical Habitat refers to specific areas within the geographical range of a species at the time it is listed that include the physical or biological features that are essential to the survival and eventual recovery of that species. Maintenance of these physical and biological features requires special management considerations or protection, regardless of whether individuals or the species are present or not. In the event that a project may result in take or adverse modification to a listed species' designated Critical Habitat, a project proponent may be required to engage in suitable mitigation. However, consultation for impacts to Critical Habitat is only required when a project has a federal nexus. This may include projects

that occur on federal lands, require federal permits (e.g., Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 404 permit), or receive any federal oversight or funding. If there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for providing funds or permits would be required to consult with the USFWS under the ESA.

Critical Habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher occurs within the western portion of the project site (Appendix A, Figure 6) and suitable habitat for the species is also present just south of El Caballo Park. There is a potential for the loss or adverse modification of Critical Habitat located in the southwestern portion of the project site. Focused studies would determine if the coastal California gnatcatcher is currently occupying the project site. Impacts to occupied Critical Habitat, which provides the essential physical and biological features that coastal California gnatcatcher needs to survive and reproduce, and provides for species conservation, would require formal consultation with the USFWS. The Diegan coastal sage scrub (2.64 acres) may provide these essential requirements; therefore, agency consultation will be necessary for any impacts to this community within the southern portions of El Caballo Park and may require mitigation. Any mitigation for Critical Habitat will be done in coordination with the impacts and mitigation for coastal California gnatcatcher.

State and Federal Jurisdictional Aquatic Features

Three agencies regulate activities within streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into “waters of the U.S.” pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the state agencies, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) regulates discharges to surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and Section 13263 of the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated riparian habitat under Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code.

Based on a review of aerial photographs, USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle maps, USFWS National Wetlands Inventory maps, and observations made during the field survey, there are several drainage features within and in the immediate vicinity of the project site. Escondido Creek is an existing concrete-lined channel that conveys flows from north to south across the proposed project area. An earthen/concrete-lined drainage originating at the northwestern portion of El Caballo Park conveys flows east into Escondido Creek. The National Wetlands Inventory also maps both Riverine and Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland features on the project site.

The site visit confirmed the presence of two drainage features and riparian habitat, all of which may be subject to the jurisdiction of the USACE, RWQCB, or CDFW. A formal aquatic resources delineation will be required to determine the jurisdictional limits for each regulatory agency. Impacts to any regulated drainage features may be considered significant and require coordination with the regulatory agencies to obtain the appropriate permits and establish mitigation requirements.

As there is no net loss of wetlands under Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) and the MHCP, any federally regulated wetlands and riparian habitat, including their biological function and values, would

require full replacement. The MHCP requires mitigation of 1:1 to 2:1 based on coordination with the regulating agencies (refer to Table 4-7 of the MHCP).

Wildlife Corridors and Habitat Linkages

Wildlife corridors link areas of suitable habitat that are otherwise separated by areas of non-suitable habitat such as rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbance. Wildlife corridors are essential to the regional ecology of a species because they provide avenues of genetic exchange and allow animals to access alternative territories as dictated by fluctuating population densities. Fragmentation of open space areas by urbanization creates “islands” of wildlife habitat that are more or less isolated from each other. Corridors mitigate the effects of this fragmentation by (1) allowing animals to move between remaining habitats, thereby permitting depleted populations to be replenished and promoting genetic exchange; (2) providing escape routes from fire, predators, and human disturbances, thus reducing the risk of catastrophic events (such as fire or disease) that could lead to local extinction; and (3) serving as travel routes for individual animals as they move within their home ranges in search of food, water, mates, and shelter. Wildlife corridors are usually bounded by urban land areas or other areas unsuitable for wildlife. The corridor generally contains suitable cover, food, and/or water to support species and facilitate movement while in the corridor. Larger, landscape-level corridors (often referred to as “habitat or landscape linkages”) can provide both transitory and resident habitat for a variety of species. Although it is commonly used as a synonym for wildlife corridor, a habitat linkage refers to a more substantial, or wider, land connection between two habitat areas. Habitat linkages allow for the periodic exchange of animals between habitat areas, which is essential to maintain adequate gene pools.

The project site borders the southern limits of Daley Ranch, a preserve that provides over 3,000 acres of habitat for native plant and wildlife species. South and east of the project site are existing residential areas and future residential areas (under construction during field survey). Escondido Creek also bisects the project site, and although this is a linear feature that could be used by a few mammal species to traverse the area, it does not currently provide vegetative cover for live-in habitat, or connect habitats and landscapes. El Caballo Park may function as a buffer between existing conservation lands and urban developed lands but does not serve as a habitat linkage or wildlife corridor. Buffer zones are used to lessen the effect urban landscapes can have on sensitive habitats, thereby protecting sensitive landscapes or conservation areas. The project site does not support a habitat linkage or wildlife corridor.

4.4 Regional Resource Planning Context

San Diego Multiple Habitat Conservation Plan (MHCP) and Draft City of Escondido MHCP Subarea Plan

Vegetation communities in the study area that are considered environmentally sensitive under the San Diego MHCP and draft City of Escondido MHCP Subarea Plan (“Draft Subarea Plan”) include Diegan sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, riparian scrub (i.e., Arundo-dominated riparian), and coast live oak woodland. The Draft Subarea Plan requires mitigation for impacts to sensitive biological resources,

including the potential impacts on Diegan coastal sage scrub (2.64 acres), southern mixed chaparral (0.09 acre), and riparian scrub (0.42 acre), which are within the project site. If sensitive habitats in the FPA cannot be avoided or on-site conservation established, the impacts to sensitive vegetation communities within the FPA would require off-site mitigation into lands inside an FPA or a conservation bank (i.e., Daley Ranch). Impacts to these communities outside of the FPA would also require mitigation, but at a lower ratio. Impacts to disturbed and developed landscapes would not require mitigation. Refer to Section 5.0 for mitigation required under the Draft Subarea Plan. Additionally, impacts on special-status plants and wildlife, if present, would be considered potentially significant. No focused studies have occurred to date. Mitigation for special-status plant and wildlife species may be achieved through the conservation of sensitive vegetation communities described above.

City of Escondido Protected Trees

The City of Escondido Municipal Code Section 33-1068.C regulates impacts to mature and protected trees.¹ Any mature tree that will be removed will be replaced at a 1:1 ratio and any protected tree that will be removed will be replaced at a 2:1 ratio. A tree inventory has not been conducted to date, but would be required for the project.

¹ "Mature tree" is any self-supporting woody perennial plant, native or ornamental, with a single well-defined stem or multiple stems supporting a crown of branches. The single stem, or one of the multiple stems of any mature oak tree (genus *Quercus*), shall have a diameter four inches or greater when measured at four and one-half (4½) feet DBH above the tree's natural grade. All other mature trees shall have a diameter of eight inches DBH, or greater, for a single stem or one of the multiple stems. "Protected tree" is any oak (genus *Quercus*) which has a 10 inch or greater DBH, or any other species or individual specimen listed on the local historic register or determined to substantially contribute to the historic character of a property or structure listed on the local historic register, pursuant to Article 40 of the Escondido Zoning Code.

5.0 MITIGATION MEASURES

Final design of the various Master Plan components will determine the exact nature and extent of potential impacts to biological resources and associated mitigation requirements listed below.

MM BIO-1: Avoidance of MHCP Sensitive Vegetation Communities. Avoidance of MHCP vegetation communities (i.e., Diegan coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral), particularly the vegetation communities that occur within the FPA, shall be a primary consideration during final design and implementation of project components. (Impacts on the Arundo-dominated riparian community will be addressed through coordination with the regulatory agencies [see **MM BIO-7**] but will require no net loss.) If complete avoidance is infeasible due to site constraints, compensatory mitigation for impacts will be required. The mitigation bank at Daley Ranch can be used to fulfill compensatory mitigation requirements. Refer to Table 2 for the mitigation required for each vegetation community.

TABLE 2. MHCP MITIGATION RATIOS FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE HABITAT IN THE PROJECT SITE

Environmentally Sensitive Habitats	Project Site Location: Impacts Within the Focused Planning Area	Project Site Location: Impacts Outside the Focused Planning Area
Arundo-dominated riparian	1:1 or 2:1 (no net loss)	1:1 or 2:1 (no net loss)
Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub	2:1	1:1
Southern Mixed Chaparral	1:1	0.5:1

*Mitigation ratios in this table were generated from Table 4-6 and Table 4-7 of the MHCP.

MM BIO-2: Rare Plant Focused Survey. A preconstruction rare plant survey for Palmer's goldenbush, mesa horkelia, delicate clarkia, summer holly, and Robinson's peppergrass shall be conducted during the appropriate blooming period (refer to Table 3) to determine if species are present, as well as location and quantity, and whether or not there will be impacts by the proposed project. If any of these species are observed and impacts (including a 100-foot buffer around the plants) cannot be avoided, a mitigation and monitoring plan shall be developed and approved by the CDFW prior to any project impacts. The plan would include collection of seed by a qualified botanist; and the implementation of mitigation at a minimum of 1:1 at an offsite location (i.e., Daley Ranch).

If the 100-foot buffer is needed, it shall be established by a qualified biologist and monitored during all vegetation clearing activities.

If species are absent, no additional measures apply.

Table 3. Rare Plant Species Blooming Period

Species	Blooming period
Palmer's goldenbush (CNPS 1B.1)	September - November
Mesa horkelia (CNPS 1B.1)	February - July
Summer holly (CNPS 1B.2)	April - June
Delicate clarkia (CNPS 1B.2)	April - June
Robinson's pepper-grass CNPS 4.3)	January - July

MM BIO-3: Coastal California Gnatcatcher Focused Survey and Permitting. If removal of suitable habitat or Critical Habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher cannot be avoided, a focused survey by a biologist with a 10(a)(1)(A) permit from the USFWS shall be required. A 3-visit focused survey following the USFWS Coastal California Gnatcatcher Presence/Absence Survey Protocol (USFWS 2019) shall be conducted.

If the species is present and would be impacted by the project, as implemented by phase, habitat removal shall be restricted from March 15 to June 30 to ensure no breeding individuals are affected. Since the Subarea Plan has not yet been approved by CDFW and USFWS, consultation with the Wildlife Agencies shall occur to ensure the project is consistent with the MHCP and an incidental take permit specifying compensatory mitigation requirements shall be obtained from the Wildlife Agencies. Conditions of the permit shall be implemented prior to any grading activities, vegetation removal, or staging within 500 feet of Diegan coastal sage scrub. Mitigation for loss of habitat may be achieved in coordination with the proposed mitigation in **MM BIO-1**.

MM BIO-4: Least Bell's Vireo Focused Survey and Permitting. If suitable habitat for least Bell's vireo cannot be avoided, a focused survey shall be conducted. If the species is deemed present and construction activities would occur during the breeding season (March 15 to September 15), consultation with the USFWS and CDFW will be necessary and require an incidental take permit and compensatory mitigation. This permit shall be obtained from the USFWS and CDFW specifying mitigation requirements and permit conditions shall be implemented prior to any grading activities, vegetation removal, or staging within 500 feet of riparian scrub habitat.

MM BIO-5: Crotch Bumble Bee Surveys and Monitoring. A preconstruction survey for Crotch bumble bee shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than three days prior to the initiation of each phase of project activities. If bumble bees are observed, the presence of a biological monitor during initial vegetation removal shall be required to ensure no bumble bees are harmed.

MM BIO-6: Special-status Bat Surveys. If removal of trees occurs during the maternity (March–September) or winter (November–February) seasons, a bat survey to determine the presence of a maternity/winter roost shall be required. If a roost is found, the City shall consult with the CDFW to determine best practices for avoiding bats, methods for eviction (outside of maternity and winter season), and any other monitoring requirements. In addition, a qualified bat biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey to determine if bats are actively roosting in trees two days prior to tree removal to confirm absence.

MM BIO-7: Aquatic Resources Jurisdictional Delineation and Permits. Prior to any impacts to jurisdictional aquatic resources within El Caballo Park or Escondido Creek, the City shall acquire aquatic permits from the regulating agencies (USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW) and mitigate for permanent and temporary impacts on waters of the U.S., waters of the State, and State streambed and associated riparian habitat. A jurisdictional delineation and impact analysis will be necessary for the permit applications. This will also include preparation of a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) for any on-site restoration activities. The HMMP must be reviewed and approved by the USACE, RWQCB and CDFW and all permit conditions shall be adhered to.

MM BIO-8: Tree Inventory and Vegetation Removal Permit. Prior to any vegetation removal or grading, a Vegetation Removal Permit shall be obtained from the City. The Vegetation Removal Permit shall include a site plan showing the location and type of existing plants, trees, and sensitive biological habitat areas, locations for all existing and proposed buildings or improvements on the property, and the specific area to be cleared. The permit shall be accompanied by a tree survey that includes the location, dripline, and trunk diameter at breast height [DBH] of all mature or protected trees. Additionally, a tree report documenting tree health, impact on the tree (i.e., proposed for removal or preservation), method of removal, and relocation site (if applicable), shall be included. A tree replacement and/or protection plan shall also be prepared in accordance with the Escondido Zoning Code tree replacement standards. The plan shall estimate the health of trees and identify impacts to tree(s) (i.e., preserved, removed, or relocated) and include specifications for transplanting and maintenance of the affected and/or new trees.

All documents shall be prepared by a professional International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified arborist. This documentation shall be submitted to the City Director of Community Development for review and approval, and any additional conditions shall be implemented. Prior to any vegetation removal or grading, a revegetation plan including a plant palette, methods for planting, performance standards, irrigation, and maintenance requirements shall also be prepared for review and approval by the City Director of Community Development. The use of native plantings (i.e., trees, shrubs, plants) shall be required to avoid the potential for indirect encroachment into adjoining native habitat to remain and to reflect the native environment.

MM BIO-9: Nesting Bird Surveys. A nesting bird survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 7 days prior to ground-disturbing or vegetation-removal activities associated with project implementation (or project phase) to determine if active nests of bird species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and/or the California Fish and Game Code are present and could potentially be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed project. If active nests are found, clearing and construction activities within 100 feet of the nest (300 feet for raptors) shall be postponed or halted, at the discretion of the biologist, until the nest is vacated and juveniles have fledged.

MM BIO-10: Worker Environmental Awareness Training. Prior to any grading or vegetation removal activities on-site, a qualified biologist shall conduct a training session for project and construction personnel. The training shall include a description of the special-status species of concern and their

habitats, general provisions of the federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act, penalties associated with violating the provisions of the acts, and measures being implemented on the project for species conservation, and identify any environmentally sensitive areas to be avoided.

MM BIO-11: Biological Construction Monitoring. A biologist experienced with identification of the sensitive and common biological resources in the region (biological monitor) shall be present to monitor all initial ground-disturbing and vegetation-clearing activities on the project site prior to each phase of the project both during and outside of the breeding season. The biological monitor shall perform biological clearance surveys at the start of each workday when ground-disturbing activities would take place to minimize impacts on special-status species. The monitor shall be responsible for ensuring that impacts to special-status species will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. The biological monitor shall be present during the initiation of ground-disturbing and vegetation-clearing activities, and monitoring will continue as necessary and at the biologist's discretion to maintain protective measures and to monitor for species potentially in harm's way. These protection measures may include redirecting wildlife to areas outside the work area. Biological monitoring shall take place until vegetation clearing activities have ceased.

6.0 REFERENCES

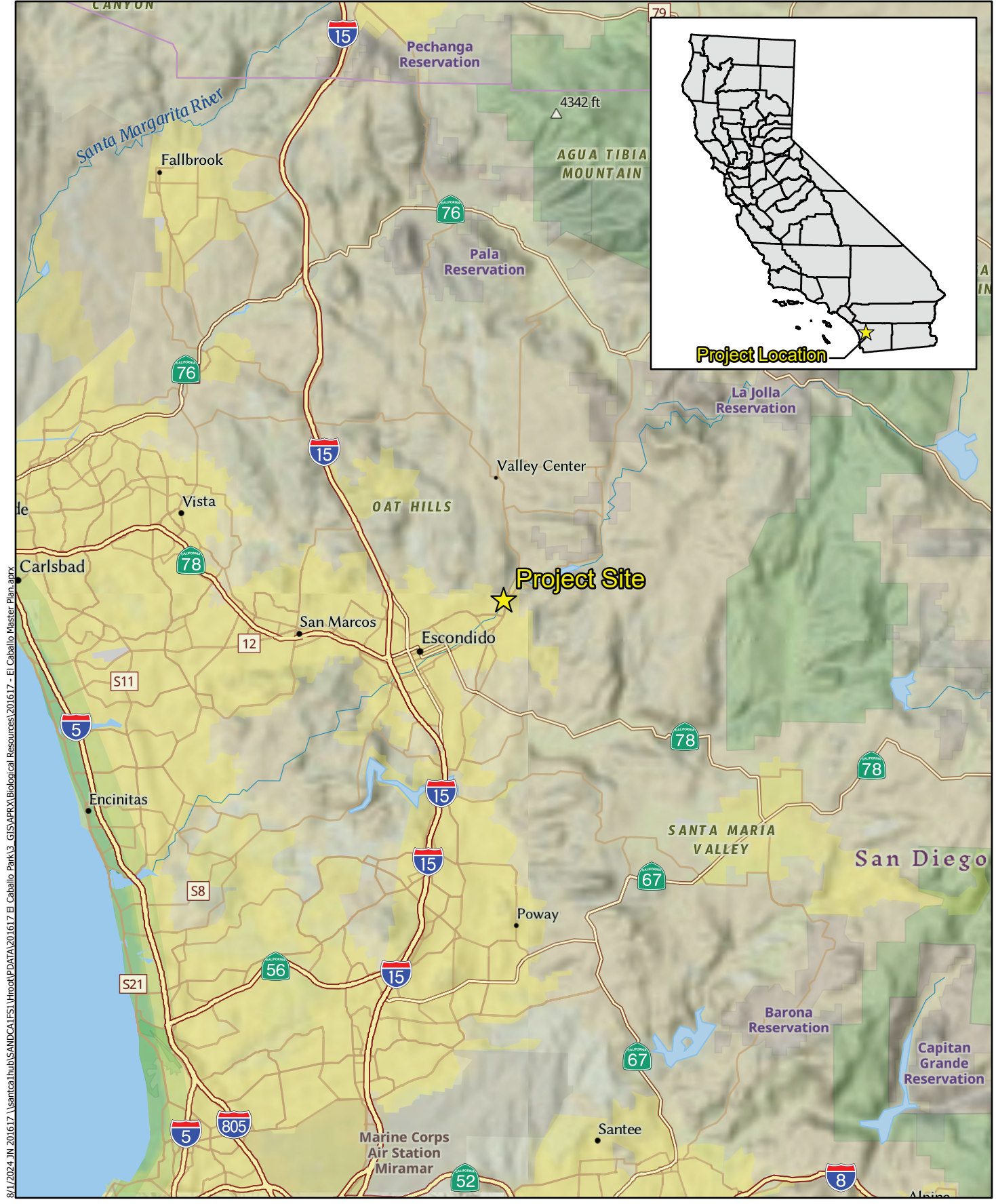
- Baldwin, Bruce, Douglas Goldman, David J. Keil, Robert Patterson, Thomas J. Rosatti, and Dieter Wilken, eds. 2012. *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Thoroughly Revised and Expanded, Second Edition*. University of California Press.
- Chesser, R. T., S. M. Billerman, K. J. Burns, C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, B. E. Hernández-Baños, R. A. Jiménez, A. W. Kratter, N. A. Mason, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., and K. Winker. 2023. Check-list of North American Birds (online). American Ornithological Society.
<https://checklist.americanornithology.org/taxa/>
- City of Escondido. 2001. Draft MHCP Subarea Plan. City of Escondido.
- CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2024a. RareFind 5 [Internet]. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Accessed June 7, 2024.
- CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2024b. Special Animals List. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA.
- CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2024c. Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA.
- CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2024d. State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA.
- CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2024e. State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA.
- CNPS (California Native Plant Society), Rare Plant Program. 2024. Rare Plant Inventory (online edition, v9.5). Accessed June 7, 2024. <https://www.rareplants.cnps.org>.
- Crother, B. I., ed. 2017. "Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico, with Comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding." *Herpetological Circular*, no. 43. 8th ed. Shoreview, Minnesota: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.
<https://ssarherps.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/8th-Ed-2017-Scientific-and-Standard-English-Names.pdf>
- Michael Baker International. 2025. *Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the El Caballo Park Project*.
- North American Butterfly Association. 2024. *Checklist of North American Butterflies, Butterflies Occurring North of Mexico, Edition 2.3*. Accessed July 31, 2024. <https://naba.org/butterfly-names-checklist/>

- Oberbauer, Thomas, Meghan Kelly, and Jeremy Buegge. March 2008. "Draft Vegetation Communities of San Diego County." Based on "Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California," Robert F. Holland, PhD, October 1986.
- Reid, F. 2006. *Mammals of North America*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments). 2003. Final MHCP Executive Summary. Prepared for the MHCP (Multiple Habitat Conservation Program).
- Sibley, D. A. 2014. *The Sibley Guide to Birds, Second Edition*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.
- Stebbins, R. C. 2003. *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, Third Edition*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- USDA NRCS (US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service). 2024. Web Soil Survey. Accessed April 5, 2024. <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>.
- USFWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service). 2024a. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed April 5, 2024. <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index>.
- USFWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service). 2024b. Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species. Accessed April 5, 2024. <https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe09893cf75b8dbfb77>.
- USFWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service). 2024c. National Wetlands Inventory. Accessed April 5, 2024. <https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>.
- USFWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service). "Special Status Species - USFWS Carlsbad Jurisdiction [ds99]". 2024d. Biogeographic Information and Observation System. Accessed August 8, 2024. <http://bios.dfg.ca.gov>.
- Wilson, D. E., and D. M. Reeder, eds. 2005. *Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference*. 3rd ed. Online version. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. <http://www.bucknell.edu/msw3/>.

This page intentionally left blank.

APPENDIX A

FIGURES



8/1/2024 JN 201617 \\santca\hub\SANDCA\FS1\Hrooth\DATA 201617 El Cabello Park\3 GIS\APRX\Biological Resources\201617 - El Cabello Master Plan.aprx



Legend

 Project Site



8/25/2025 10:17:17 AM \\santa\hubb\GIS\DATA\2016\17 El Caballo Park\13 GIS\APR\Biological Resources\2016\17 - El Caballo Master Plan.aprx



Legend

- ⊕ Reference Point
- Escondido Creek
- ▭ Project Site
- - - Study Area (300-ft Buffer)

EL CABALLO PARK MASTER PLAN
HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND CONSTRAINTS ANALYSIS

Project Site

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL



0 175 350
US Feet

Source: Esri, San Diego County, 2025 Nearmap Imagery

Figure 3

8/25/2025 10:17:11 \santacatharina\hubb\GIS\APR\Biodiversity\201617 - El Caballo Master Plan.aprx



Legend

⊕ Reference Point

— Escondido Creek

▭ Project Site

▭ Study Area (300-ft Buffer)

CnG2 Cieneba-Fallbrook rocky sandy loams, 30 to 65 percent slopes, eroded

FxG Friant rocky fine sandy loam, 30 to 70 percent slopes

VaA Visalia sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes

VsD Vista coarse sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes, MLRA 20

VsE Vista coarse sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, MLRA 20

EL CABALLO PARK MASTER PLAN
HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND CONSTRAINTS ANALYSIS

USDA NRCS Soils

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL



0 175 350
US Feet

Source: Esri, USDA, San Diego County, 2025 Nearmap Imagery

Figure 4

8/25/2025 10:17:11 \sa\area\h\ub\SANDCA\FS1\Hrooft\DATA\201617 El Caballo Park\3 GIS\APR\Biological Resources\201617 - El Caballo Master Plan.aprx



Legend

	Reference Point		11300 Disturbed Habitat - DH (12.59 Acres)		37120 Southern Mixed Chaparral - SMC (8.14 Acres)		65100 Arundo-Dominated Riparian - AR (0.89 Acres)
	Escondido Creek		12000 Urban/Developed - UD (27.56 Acres)		42200 Non-Native Grassland - NNG (0.42 Acres)		71160 Coast Live Oak Woodland - CLOW (0.59 Acres)
	Project Site		32500 Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub - DCSS (12.41 Acres)		63310 Mule Fat Scrub - MFS (0.37 Acres)		79100 Eucalyptus Woodland - EW (1.53 Acres)
	Study Area (300-ft Buffer)						
	MHCP Focused Planning Area						

EL CABALLO PARK MASTER PLAN HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND CONSTRAINTS ANALYSIS

Vegetation Communities and Other Land Uses



8/25/2025 10:16:17 AM \\santacal\hup\SANDCA\FS1\Hroot\PDATA\201617 El Caballo Park\3 GIS\APRX\Biological Resources\201617 - El Caballo Master Plan.aprx



Legend

- ⊕ Reference Point
- Escondido Creek
- Project Site
- Study Area (300-ft Buffer)
- Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*)



APPENDIX B

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1. View northwest across disturbed lot from corner of Valley Center Road and Beven Drive.



Photograph 2. View north of Escondido Creek from Beven Road.



Photograph 3. View looking east from the east side of Escondido Creek.



Photograph 4. View east along the north edge of El Caballo Park.



Photograph 5. View west across dirt lot toward El Caballo Park.



Photograph 6. View east of existing arena in El Caballo Park (near western edge).



Photograph 7. West end of El Caballo Park, looking east.



Photograph 8. View northeast across El Caballo Park.



Photograph 9. View west of coastal sage scrub and eucalyptus woodland along the north edge of El Caballo Park.



Photograph 10. View south across El Caballo Park.



Photograph 11. View north of the Arundo-dominated riparian located in a drainage along the northwestern portion of El Caballo Park.



Photograph 12. View east of coastal sage scrub at the south end of El Caballo Park.



Photograph 13. Access road along the south end of El Caballo Park, looking northwest.



Photograph 14. View east across El Caballo Park.



Photograph 15. View north of the mulefat scrub within a portion of the ephemeral drainage.

APPENDIX C

PLANT AND WILDLIFE SPECIES COMPENDIUM

PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

VASCULAR SPECIES

EUDICOTS

ADOXACEAE—Muskroot Family

Sambucus nigra ssp. *caerulea*—blue elderberry

AIZOACEAE—Fig-marigold Family

Mesembryanthemum crystallinum—common iceplant*

AMARANTHACEAE—Amaranth Family

Amaranthus albus—prostrate pigweed*

ANACARDIACEAE—Sumac Or Cashew Family

Malosma laurina—laurel sumac

Schinus molle—Peruvian peppertree*

Schinus terebinthifolius—Brazilian peppertree*

Toxicodendron diversilobum—poison oak

APOCYNACEAE—Dogbane Family

Nerium oleander—oleander*

ASTERACEAE—Sunflower Family

Artemisia californica—California sagebrush

Baccharis salicifolia—mulefat

Baccharis sergiloides—broom baccharis

Centaurea melitensis—Maltese star-thistle*

Chaenactis glabriuscula—yellow pincushion

Euchiton involucratus—Common cudweed*

Helianthus annuus—common sunflower

Heterotheca grandiflora—telegraphweed

Pseudognaphalium californicum—ladies' tobacco

BORAGINACEAE—Borage Family

Heliotropium curassavicum—salt heliotrope

Phacelia distans—distant phacelia

Phacelia ramosissima—branching phacelia

BRASSICACEAE—Mustard Family

Brassica nigra—black mustard*

Hirschfeldia incana—shortpod mustard*

CACTACEAE—Cactus Family

Opuntia xoccidentalis—pricklypear

Opuntia robusta—nopal tapon*

CAPRIFOLIACEAE—Honeysuckle Family

Lonicera subspicata—southern honeysuckle

CHENOPODIACEAE—Goosefoot Family

Salsola australis—Russian thistle*

*signifies introduced (non-native) species

PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

CRASSULACEAE—Stonecrop Family

Cotyledon orbiculata—pig's ear*

EUPHORBIACEAE—Spurge Family

Croton setiger—dove weed

Ricinus communis—castorbean*

FABACEAE—Legume Family

Acemisson glaber—deer weed

Parkinsonia florida—blue palo verde

FAGACEAE—Oak Family

Quercus agrifolia—coast live oak

Quercus engelmannii—Engelmann oak

LAMIACEAE—Mint Family

Marrubium vulgare—horehound*

Salvia mellifera—black sage

MYRTACEAE—Myrtle Family

Eucalyptus camaldulensis—river redgum*

NYCTAGINACEAE—Four O'clock Family

Bougainvillea sp.—bougainvillea species*

ONAGRACEAE—Evening Primrose Family

Oenothera elata—Hooker's evening primrose

PHYRMACEAE—Lopseed Family

Diplacus puniceus—red bush monkeyflower

POLYGONACEAE—Buckwheat Family

Eriogonum fasciculatum—California buckwheat

ROSACEAE—Rose Family

Heteromeles arbutifolia—toyon

SALICACEAE—Willow Family

Salix gooddingii—Goodding's willow

Salix laevigata—red willow

SOLANACEAE—Nightshade Family

Nicotiana glauca—tree tobacco*

MONOCOTS

AGAVACEAE—Agave Family

Agave americana—American century plant*

ARECACEAE—Palm Family

Washingtonia robusta—Washington fan palm*

POACEAE—Grass Family

Arundo donax—giant reed*

*signifies introduced (non-native) species

PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Avena sativa—common oat*

Bromus madritensis—compact brome*

Pennisetum villosum—feathertop*

Polypogon monspeliensis—annual rabbitsfoot grass*

Stipa tenuissima—Mexican feathergrass*

THEMIDACEAE—Brodiaea Family

Dipterostemon capitatus—bluedicks

*signifies introduced (non-native) species

WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED

BIRDS

Hawks

ACCIPITRIDAE

Buteo jamaicensis —red-tailed hawk

Shorebirds

CHARADRIIDAE

Charadrius vociferus —killdeer

New World Sparrows

PASSERELLIDAE

Melospiza crissalis —California towhee

Pipilo maculatus —spotted towhee

Jays, Magpies & Crows

CORVIDAE

Phelocoma californica —California scrub-jay

Cyanocitta stelleri —Steller's jay

Hummingbirds

TROCHILIDAE

Calypte anna —Anna's hummingbird

Wrens

TROGLODYTIDAE

Thryomanes bewickii —Bewick's wren

Troglodytes aedon —house wren

Wood Warblers & Allies

PARULIDAE

Setophaga petechia —yellow warbler

Typical Warblers, Parrotbills, Wrentit

SYLVIIDAE

Chamaea fasciata —wrentit

Finches

FRINGILLIDAE

Haemorhous mexicanus —house finch

Spinus psaltria —lesser goldfinch

Woodpeckers

PICIDAE

Melanerpes formicivorus —acorn woodpecker

WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED

Pigeons & Doves

COLUMBIDAE

Zenaida macroura —mourning dove

Flycatchers

TYRANNIDAE

Contopus sordidulus —western wood-pewee

Myiarchus cinerascens —ash-throated flycatcher

Sayornis nigricans —black phoebe

Tyrannus verticalis —western kingbird

Tyrannus vociferans —Cassin's kingbird

Shrikes

LANIIDAE

Lanius ludovicianus —loggerhead shrike

Old World Warblers & Gnatcatchers

POLIOPTILIDAE

Poliophtila caerulea —blue-gray gnatcatcher

Bushtits

AEGITHALIDAE

Psaltiriparus minimus —bushtit

Starlings & Allies

STURNIDAE

Sturnus vulgaris —European starling*

INVERTEBRATES

Butterflies & Moths

NYMPHALIDAE

Vanessa cardui —painted lady

Ants, Bees, & Wasps

POMPILIDAE

Pepsis sp.—tarantula hawk

MAMMALS

Squirrels

SCIURIDAE

Otospermophilus beecheyi —California ground squirrel

WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED

Hares & Rabbits

LEPORIDAE

Sylvilagus audubonii —desert cottontail

Canids

CANIDAE

Canis latrans —coyote

REPTILES

Lizards

TEIIDAE

Aspidoscelis hyperythra —orange-throated whiptail

APPENDIX D

**SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES
POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
TABLES**

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i> ssp. <i>crassifolia</i>	Del Mar manzanita	FE/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral/perennial evergreen shrub/June–Apr/0–1200	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral. Species not observed in the project site.
<i>Arctostaphylos rainbowensis</i>	Rainbow manzanita	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral/perennial evergreen shrub/Dec–Mar/675–2200	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral. Species not observed in the project site.
<i>Ceanothus verrucosus</i>	wart-stemmed ceanothus	None/None/2B.2/ None	Chaparral/perennial evergreen shrub/Dec–May/5–1245	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral. Species not observed in the project site.
<i>Atriplex parishii</i>	Parish's brittlescale	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chenopod scrub, Playas, Vernal pools; Alkaline/annual herb/June–Oct/80–6235	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Bahiopsis laciniata</i>	San Diego County viguiera	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial shrub/Feb–June(Aug)/195–2460	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>australis</i>	southern tarplant	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Marshes and swamps, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools/annual herb/May–Nov/0–1575	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>	smooth tarplant	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chenopod scrub, Meadows and seeps, Playas, Riparian woodland, Valley and foothill grassland; Alkaline/annual herb/Apr–Sep/0–2100	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Iva hayesiana</i>	San Diego marsh-elder	None/None/2B.2/ List B	Marshes and swamps, Playas/perennial herb/Apr–Oct/35–1640	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i>	southwest ern spiny rush	None/None/4.2/ List D	Coastal dunes, Marshes and swamps, Meadows and seeps/perennial rhizomatous herb/(Mar)May–June/10–2955	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>	Coulter's goldfields	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Marshes and swamps, Playas, Vernal pools/annual herb/Feb–June/5–4005	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Myosurus minimus</i> ssp. <i>apus</i>	little mousetail	None/None/3.1/ List C	Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools/annual herb/Mar–June/65–2100	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Navarretia fossalis</i>	spreading navarretia	FT/None/1B.1/ List A	Chenopod scrub, Marshes and swamps, Playas, Vernal pools/annual herb/Apr–June/100–2150	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Psilocarphus brevissimus var. multiflorus</i>	Delta woolly- marbles	None/None/4.2/ None	Vernal pools/annual herb/May–June/35–1640	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Rhinotropis cornuta var. fishiae</i>	Fish's milkwort	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Riparian woodland/perennial deciduous shrub/May– Aug/330– 3280	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i>	purple stemodia	None/None/2B.1/ List B	Sonoran desert scrub/perennial herb/(Jan)Apr– Dec/590–985	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Ambrosia pumila</i>	San Diego ambrosia	FE/None/1B.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Alkaline (sometimes), Clay (sometimes), Disturbed areas (often), Sandy (sometimes)/perennial rhizomatous herb/Apr– Oct/65–1360	Not expected to occur. Study area lacks suitable soils.
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i>	paniculate tarplant	None/None/4.2/ List D	Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Sandy (sometimes), Vernal Mesic (usually)/annual herb/(Mar)Apr–Nov/80–3085	Not expected to occur. Study area lacks vernal or mesic habitat.
<i>Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii</i>	San Diego button- celery	FE/SE/1B.1/ None	Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Mesic/annual/perennial herb/Apr– June/65– 2035	Not expected to occur. Study area lacks vernal pool or mesic habitat.
<i>Ferocactus viridescens</i>	San Diego barrel cactus	None/None/2B.1/ List B	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools/perennial stem/May–June/10–1475	Not expected to occur. Study area lacks vernal pool or mesic habitat.
<i>Adolphia californica</i>	California adolphia	None/None/2B.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay/perennial deciduous shrub/Dec– May/35–2430	Not expected to occur. Suitable clay soil is not present.
<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i>	San Diego thorn-mint	FT/SE/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay, Openings/annual herb/Apr– June/35–3150	Not expected to occur. Suitable clay soil or microhabitat is not present.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Atriplex coulteri</i>	Coulter's saltbush	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Alkaline (sometimes), Clay (sometimes)/perennial herb/Mar–Oct/10–1510	Not expected to occur. Suitable clay soil or microhabitat is not present.
<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's brodiaea	None/None/1B.1/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Closed-cone coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay, Mesic/perennial bulbiferous herb/May– July/100–5550	Not expected to occur. Suitable clay soil or microhabitat is not present.
<i>Dudleya variegata</i>	variegated dudleya	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay/perennial herb/Apr–June/10–1905	Not expected to occur. Suitable clay soil or microhabitat is not present.
<i>Aphyllon epigalium ssp. notocalifornicum</i>	Southern California galium broomrape	None/None/1B.3/ None	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian forest/ annual/perennial herb (parasitic)/Jun(Jul)/1535-5035	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range and there is no suitable habitat present.
<i>Chaenactis glabriuscula var. orcuttiana</i>	Orcutt's pincushion	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes/annual herb/Jan–Aug/0–330	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range and there is no suitable habitat present.
<i>Delphinium hesperium ssp. cuyamaca</i>	Cuyamaca larkspur	None/SR/1B.2/None	Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Vernal pools; Mesic/perennial herb/May–July/4005–5350	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range and there is no suitable habitat present.
<i>Lilium parryi</i>	lemon lily	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Riparian forest, Upper montane coniferous forest; Mesic/perennial bulbiferous herb/July–Aug/4005–9005	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range and there is no suitable habitat present.
<i>Pogogyne abramsii</i>	San Diego mesa mint	FE/SE/1B.1/List A	Vernal pools/annual herb/Mar–July/295–655	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range and there is no suitable habitat present.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Allium marvinii</i>	Yucaipa onion	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral/perennial bulbiferous herb/Apr–May/2495– 3495	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Astragalus oocarpus</i>	San Diego milk- vetch	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland/perennial herb/May–Aug/1000–5000	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Atriplex pacifica</i>	south coast saltscale	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Playas/annual herb/Mar–Oct/0–460	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Chamaebatia australis</i>	southern mountain misery	None/None/4.2/List D	Chaparral/perennial evergreen shrub/Nov–May/985– 3345	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i>	Peninsular spineflower	None/None/4.2/List D	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest; Granitic/annual herb/May– Aug/985–6235	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Chorizanthe orcuttiana</i>	Orcutt's spineflower	FE/SE/1B.1/None	Chaparral, Closed-cone coniferous forest, Coastal scrub; Openings, Sandy/annual herb/Mar–May/10– 410	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i> var. <i>linifolia</i>	Del Mar Mesa sand aster	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub; Sandy/perennial herb/May–Sep/15–490	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Diplacus clevelandii</i>	Cleveland' s bush monkeyflower	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest; Disturbed areas (often), Gabbroic, Openings, Rocky/perennial rhizomatous herb/Apr– July/1475–6560	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Dudleya alainae</i>	Banner dudleya	None/None/3.2/ None	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest, Sonoran desert scrub; Rocky/perennial herb/Apr–July/2430– 3935	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Erythranthe diffusa</i>	Palomar monkeyflower	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest; Gravelly (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)/annual herb/Apr– June/4005–6005	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Githopsis diffusa ssp. filicaulis</i>	Mission Canyon bluecup	None/None/3.1/List C	Chaparral/annual herb/Apr–June/1475–2295	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Hazardia orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's hazardia	None/ST/1B.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; Clay (often)/perennial evergreen shrub/Aug–Oct/260–280	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Horkelia truncata</i>	Ramona horkelia	None/None/1B.3/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland; Clay, Gabbroic/perennial herb/May–June/1310–4265	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Hulsea californica</i>	San Diego sunflower	None/None/1B.3/ List A	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest; Burned areas, Openings/perennial herb/Apr–June/3000–9565	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Isocoma menziesii var. decumbens</i>	decumbent goldenbush	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial shrub/Apr– Nov/35–445	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Lepechinia cardiophylla</i>	heart-leaved pitcher sage	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Closed-cone coniferous forest/perennial shrub/Apr–July/1705– 4495	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Leptosyne maritima</i>	sea dahlia	None/None/2B.2/ List B	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub/perennial herb/Mar– May/15–490	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Linanthus orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's linanthus	None/None/1B.3/ None	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest, Pinyon and juniper woodland; Openings/annual herb/May– June/3000–7040	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Lycium californicum</i>	California box- thorn	None/None/4.2/List D	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub/perennial shrub/Mar–Aug(Dec)/15–490	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> <i>ssp. intermedia</i>	intermediate monardella	None/None/1B.3/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest/perennial rhizomatous herb/Apr– Sep/1310–4100	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> <i>ssp. lanata</i>	felt-leaved monardella	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland/perennial rhizomatous herb/June–Aug/985–5170	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Monardella macrantha</i> <i>ssp. hallii</i>	Hall's monardella	None/None/1B.3/ None	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial rhizomatous herb/June– Oct/2395–7200	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Monardella nana ssp.</i> <i>leptosiphon</i>	San Felipe monardella	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest/perennial rhizomatous herb/June– July/3935– 6085	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Monardella viminea</i>	willowy monardella	FE/SE/1B.1/List A	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Riparian forest, Riparian scrub, Riparian woodland; Alluvial Terraces, Washes/perennial herb/June– Aug/165–740	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Rupertia rigida</i>	Parish's rupertia	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Pebble (Pavement) plain, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial herb/June–Aug/2295–8205	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Saltugilia caruifolia</i>	caraway-leaved woodland- gilia	None/None/4.3/ List D	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest; Openings, Sandy/annual herb/May–Aug/2755–7545	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Scutellaria bolanderi</i> <i>ssp. austromontana</i>	southern mountains skullcap	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest; Mesic/perennial rhizomatous herb/June–Aug/1395–6560	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.
<i>Sphenopholis interrupta</i> <i>ssp. californica</i>	prairie false oat	None/None/1B.1/ None	Chaparral; Clay/annual herb/Apr/50–50	Not expected to occur. The study area is outside of the species' known elevation range.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Artemisia palmeri</i>	San Diego sagewort	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Riparian forest, Riparian scrub, Riparian woodland; Mesic, Sandy/perennial deciduous shrub/(Feb)May– Sep/50–3000	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Asplenium vespertinum</i>	western spleenwort	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub; Rocky/perennial rhizomatous herb/Feb–June/590– 3280	Not expected. Species has only been documented in vicinity of El Cajon Mountain.
<i>Baccharis vanessae</i>	Encinitas baccharis	FT/SE/1B.1/None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland; Sandstone/perennial deciduous shrub/Aug–Nov/195– 2360	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Berberis nevinii</i>	Nevin's barberry	FE/SE/1B.1/List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian scrub; Gravelly (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)/perennial evergreen shrub/(Feb)Mar– June/230–2705	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Bloomeria clevelandii</i>	San Diego goldenstar	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay/perennial bulbiferous herb/Apr– May/165–1525	Not expected. No vernal pools present.
<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>	thread-leaved brodiaea	FT/SE/1B.1/None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Playas, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay (often)/perennial bulbiferous herb/Mar–June/80–3675	Not expected. Species is known from the Daley Ranch area and may occur in the study area. Although suitable habitat is present in the study area, there are no clay soils present.
<i>Calandrinia breweri</i>	Brewer's calandrinia	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; Burned areas, Disturbed areas, Loam (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)/annual herb/(Jan)Mar–June/35– 4005	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i>	Plummer's mariposa- lily	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley and foothill grassland; Granitic, Rocky/perennial bulbiferous herb/May–July/330–5580	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Camissoniopsis lewisii</i>	Lewis' evening- primrose	None/None/3/ None	Cismontane woodland, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)/annual herb/Mar–May(June)/0– 985	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Caulanthus simulans</i>	Payson's jewelflower	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; Granitic, Sandy/annual herb/(Feb)Mar–May(June)/295–7220	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Ceanothus cyaneus</i>	Lakeside ceanothus	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral, Closed-cone coniferous forest/perennial evergreen shrub/Apr– June/770–2475	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Cistanthe maritima</i>	seaside cistanthe	None/None/4.2/ List D	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Sandy/annual herb/(Feb)Mar– June(Aug)/15–985	Not expected. Species associated with habitats along the coast.
<i>Clarkia delicata</i>	delicate clarkia	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland; Gabbroic (often)/annual herb/Apr–June/770–3280	Expected. Species is known from the regional vicinity and may occur in the study area.
<i>Comarostaphylis diversifolia</i> ssp. <i>diversifolia</i>	summer holly	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland/perennial evergreen shrub/Apr–June/100–2590	Expected. Species is known from the Daley Ranch area and may occur in the study area.
<i>Convolvulus simulans</i>	small-flowered morning- glory	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay, Seeps, Serpentinite/annual herb/Mar–July/100–2430	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Dichondra occidentalis</i>	western dichondra	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial rhizomatous herb/(Jan)Mar–July/165–1640	Moderate. Species has potential within sage scrub, grassland and chaparral habitats.
<i>Dudleya viscida</i>	sticky dudleya	None/None/1B.2/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub; Rocky/perennial herb/May–June/35–1805	Not expected. Species associated with habitats along the coast.
<i>Ericameria palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i>	Palmer's goldenbush	None/None/1B.1/ List B	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; Mesic/perennial evergreen shrub/(July)Sep–Nov/100–1970	Expected. Species is known from the Daley Ranch area and may occur in the study area.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Harpagonella palmeri</i>	Palmer's grapplinghook	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay, Openings/annual herb/Mar– May/65–3135	Not expected to occur. Study area lacks clay soils.
<i>Heterotheca sessiliflora</i> <i>ssp. sessiliflora</i>	beach goldenaster	None/None/1B.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub/perennial herb/Mar–Dec/0–4020	Not expected. Species associated with habitats along the coast.
<i>Holocarpha virgata ssp.</i> <i>elongata</i>	graceful tarplant	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland/annual herb/May–Nov/195– 3610	Moderate. Species has potential within sage scrub, grassland and chaparral habitats.
<i>Hordeum intercedens</i>	vernal barley	None/None/3.2/ List C	Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools/annual herb/Mar– June/15– 3280	Not expected. No vernal pools present.
<i>Horkelia cuneata var.</i> <i>puberula</i>	mesa horkelia	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub; Gravelly (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)/perennial herb/Feb–July(Sep)/230– 2660	Expected. Species is known from the Daley Ranch area and may occur in the study area.
<i>Juglans californica</i>	Southern California black walnut	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian woodland/perennial deciduous tree/Mar– Aug/165–2955	Moderate. Species has potential within sage scrub and chaparral. Species not observed in the project site.
<i>Lathyrus splendens</i>	pride-of- California	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral/perennial herb/Mar–June/655–5005	Moderate. Species has potential within chaparral.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> <i>var. robinsonii</i>	Robinson's pepper- grass	None/None/4.3/ List A	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/annual herb/Jan–July/5–2905	Expected. Species is known from the Daley Ranch area and may occur in the study area.
<i>Leptosiphon</i> <i>grandiflorus</i>	large-flowered leptosiphon	None/None/4.2/ None	Cismontane woodland, Closed-cone coniferous forest, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Sandy (usually)/annual herb/Apr– Aug/15–4005	Not expected. Species associated with habitats along the coast.
<i>Lilium humboldtii ssp.</i> <i>ocellatum</i>	ocellated Humboldt lily	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian woodland; Openings/perennial bulbiferous herb/Mar– July(Aug)/100–5905	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Microseris douglasii</i> <i>ssp. platycarpa</i>	small-flowered microseris	None/None/4.2/ List D	Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Clay/annual herb/Mar–May/50–3510	Not expected. No vernal pools or clay soils present.
<i>Nolina cismontana</i>	chaparral nolina	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; Gabbroic (sometimes), Sandstone (sometimes)/perennial evergreen shrub/(Mar) May–July/460–4185	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral. Species not observed in the project site.
<i>Ophioglossum</i> <i>californicum</i>	California adder's- tongue	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Mesic/perennial rhizomatous herb/Jan– June(Dec)/195–1725	Not expected. No vernal pools present.
<i>Pentachaeta aurea</i> <i>ssp.</i> <i>aurea</i>	golden-rayed pentachaeta	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian woodland, Valley and foothill grassland/annual herb/Mar– July/260–6070	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Piperia cooperi</i>	chaparral rein orchid	None/None/4.2/ List D	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial herb/Mar–June/50– 5200	Not Expected. Species only known from Santa Ana Mountains
<i>Quercus dumosa</i>	Nuttall's scrub oak	None/None/1B.1/ List A	Chaparral, Closed-cone coniferous forest, Coastal scrub; Clay, Loam, Sandy/perennial evergreen shrub/Feb–Apr(May–Aug)/50–1310	Moderate potential to occur in the study area. Not observed in the project site.
<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	Engelmann oak	None/None/4.2/ None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Riparian woodland, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial deciduous tree/Mar– June/165–4265	Present. This species was observed at the west end of the study area. Not present on the project site.
<i>Salvia munzii</i>	Munz's sage	None/None/2B.2/ List B	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial evergreen shrub/Feb–Apr/375–3495	Not Expected. Species only known from Santa Ana Mountains
<i>Selaginella cinerascens</i>	ashy spike-moss	None/None/4.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial rhizomatous herb/None/65–2100	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Sphaerocarpos drewiae</i>	bottle liverwort	None/None/1B.1/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/ephemeral liverwort/None/295–1970	Moderate. Species has potential within Diegan sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.

Table D1. Special-status Plants Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitats/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Symphyotrichum defoliatum</i>	San Bernardino aster	None/None/1B.2/ None	Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Marshes and swamps, Meadows and seeps, Valley and foothill grassland; Streambanks/perennial rhizomatous herb/July–Nov/5–6695	Moderate. Species has potential within sage scrub habitat.
<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i>	Parry's tetracoccus	None/None/1B.2/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial deciduous shrub/Apr–May/540–3280	Moderate. Species has potential within southern mixed chaparral.
<i>Xanthisma junceum</i>	rush-like bristleweed	None/None/4.3/ None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub/perennial herb/Jan–Oct/785–3280	Moderate. Species has potential within sage scrub and chaparral.

Special-Status Plant Species Designations

Status Legend: **Federal** FE: Federally listed as endangered FT: Federally listed as threatened FC: Federal Candidate for listing DL: Delisted **State** SE: State listed as endangered ST: State listed as threatened SC: State Candidate for listing SR: State Rare **California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)** CRPR 1A: Plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere CRPR 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere CRPR 2A: Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere. .1: CRPR 2B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere CRPR 3: Review List: Plants about which more information is needed CRPR 4: Watch List: Plants of limited distribution Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat) Moderately threatened in California (20–80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat) Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

Present The species was observed or detected within the study area during focused surveys.

Expected The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species, suitable habitat (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is present, and there is viable landscape connectivity to a local, known extant population(s) or sighting(s).

Moderate The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species; however, habitat within the study area (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is marginal or limited and landscape connectivity to a local, known, extant population or detection is compromised or non-existent.

Not Expected The species is not expected to occur within the study area due to the lack of suitable habitat, the location of the study area is outside of the species' elevation range or known geographic distribution, or there is no connectivity to known, extant populations.

Absent The species was not detected during focused or agency-approved protocol surveys.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	None/WL IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests and forages in dense stands of live oak, riparian woodlands, or other woodland habitats often near water	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	None/SSC, ST/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_EN-Endangered NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Nests near freshwater, emergent wetland with cattails or tules, but also in Himalayan blackberry; forages in grasslands, woodland, and agriculture	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	None/WL	Nests and forages in open coastal scrub and chaparral with low cover of scattered scrub interspersed with rocky and grassy patches	Expected. Species could nest in scrub and chaparral habitat in project vicinity.
<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i>	arroyo toad	FE/SSC IUCN_EN- Endangered	Semi-arid areas near washes, sandy riverbanks, riparian areas, palm oasis, Joshua tree, mixed chaparral and sagebrush; stream channels for breeding (typically third order); adjacent stream terraces and uplands for foraging and wintering	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i>	southern California legless lizard	None/SSC/USFS_S-Sensitive	Coastal dunes, stabilized dunes, beaches, dry washes, valley-foothill, chaparral, and scrubs; pine, oak, and riparian woodlands; associated with sparse vegetation and moist sandy or loose, loamy soils	Not expected. Scrub and chaparral habitat is dense. CNDDDB record from the 1950s has species associated with Escondido Creek which is now a concrete-lined channel.
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	pallid bat	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive WBWG_H-High Priority	Grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, forests; most common in open, dry habitats with rocky outcrops for roosting, but also roosts in man-made structures and trees	Moderate potential to occur. Species could potentially roost in trees in the study area.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	golden eagle	None/FP, WL/BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests and winters in hilly, open/semi-open areas, including shrublands, grasslands, pastures, riparian areas, mountainous canyon land, open desert rimrock terrain; nests in large trees and on cliffs in open areas and forages in open habitats	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i>	California glossy snake	None/SSC	Arid scrub, rocky washes, grasslands, chaparral, open areas with loose soil	Moderate potential to occur in chaparral and sage scrub habitats.
<i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i>	Bell's sage sparrow	None/WL	Nests and forages in coastal scrub and dry chaparral; typically in large, unfragmented patches dominated by chamise; nests in more dense patches but uses more open habitat in winter	Expected. Species could nest in scrub and chaparral habitat in project vicinity.
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>	orange-throated whiptail	None/WL/ IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	Low-elevation coastal scrub, chaparral, and valley-foothill hardwood	Present. Species was observed on the project site during field survey.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>	San Diegan tiger whiptail	None/SSC/None	Hot and dry areas with sparse foliage, including chaparral, woodland, and riparian areas.	Expected. Species may occur in scrub and chaparral habitat in project vicinity.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	burrowing owl	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Nests and forages in grassland, open scrub, and agriculture, particularly with ground squirrel burrows	Not expected to occur. Although there are some open areas present in the study area, these areas were under active construction.
<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	Crotch bumble bee	None/CE/IUCN_EN-Endangered	Open grassland and scrub communities supporting suitable floral resources.	Moderate potential for foraging in the study area.
<i>Bombus pensylvanicus</i>	American bumble bee	None/None/IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Coastal prairie Great Basin grassland Valley & foothill grassland	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i>	San Diego fairy shrimp	FE/None/IUCN_EN-Endangered	Vernal pools, non-vegetated ephemeral pools	Not expected to occur. No clay soils are present and no depressional areas that could support a vernal pool were observed.
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Swainson's hawk	None/ST/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests in open woodland and savanna, riparian, and in isolated large trees; forages in nearby grasslands and agricultural areas such as wheat and alfalfa fields and pasture	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>	coastal cactus wren	None/SSC USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Southern cactus scrub patches	Moderate. There is a potential for suitable habitat within patches of the chaparral and sage scrub.
<i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>	Dulzura pocket mouse	None/SSC	Open habitat, coastal scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, chamise chaparral, mixed-conifer habitats; disturbance specialist; 0 to 3,000 feet above mean sea level	Moderate potential to occur in chaparral and sage scrub habitat.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>	northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	None/SSC	Coastal scrub, mixed chaparral, sagebrush, desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, pinyon– juniper, and annual grassland	Moderate potential to occur in chaparral and sage scrub habitat.
<i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i>	western snowy plover	FT/SSC/None	On coasts nests on sandy marine and estuarine shores; in the interior nests on sandy, barren or sparsely vegetated flats near saline or alkaline lakes, reservoirs, and ponds	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	western yellow-billed cuckoo	FT/SE/BLM_S-Sensitive NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive	Nests in dense, wide riparian woodlands and forest with well-developed understories	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive WBWG_H-High Priority	Mesic habitats characterized by coniferous and deciduous forests and riparian habitat, but also xeric areas; roosts in limestone caves and lava tubes, man-made structures, and tunnels	Not expected to roost or forage in the study area.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i>	red diamondback rattlesnake	None/SSC/ USFS_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Coastal scrub, chaparral, oak and pine woodlands, rocky grasslands, cultivated areas, and desert flats	Moderate potential to occur in chaparral and sage scrub habitat.
<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus pop. 1</i>	monarch - California overwintering population	FC/None/IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	Closed-cone coniferous forest, wind-protected tree groves with nectar sources and nearby water sources; Winter roost sites extend along the coast from northern Mendocino to Baja California, Mexico.	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>	Stephens' kangaroo rat	FE/ST/IUCN_EN-Endangered	Annual and perennial grassland habitats, coastal scrub or sagebrush with sparse canopy cover, or in disturbed areas	Not expected to occur. Habitat in the study area is dense. Soils in disturbed areas have compacted soils.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	southwestern willow flycatcher	FE/SE/NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	Nests in dense riparian habitats along streams, reservoirs, or wetlands; uses variety of riparian and shrubland habitats during migration	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	western pond turtle	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	Slow-moving permanent or intermittent streams, ponds, small lakes, and reservoirs with emergent basking sites adjacent uplands used for nesting and during winter;	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i>	large-blotched salamander	None/WL USFS_S-Sensitive	Moist and shaded evergreen and deciduous woodlands	Not expected to occur. No native woodlands present.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	western mastiff bat	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive WBWG_H-High Priority	Chaparral, coastal and desert scrub, coniferous and deciduous forest and woodland; roosts in crevices in rocky canyons and cliffs where the canyon or cliff is vertical or nearly vertical, trees, and tunnels	Moderate potential to occur and forage or roost within habitat in the study area.
<i>Gila orcuttii</i>	arroyo chub	None/SSC/AFS_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	Warm, fluctuating streams with slow-moving or backwater sections of warm to cool streams at depths >40 centimeters (16 inches); substrates of sand or mud	Not expected to occur. Escondido Creek does not provide substrate or vegetative cover.
<i>Icteria virens</i>	yellow-breasted chat	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests and forages in dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and thickets of willows, vine tangles, and dense brush	Moderate. Potential habitat for foraging and nesting is present within the willows associated with the arundo-riparian scrub.
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	least bittern	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests in freshwater and brackish marshes with dense, tall growth of aquatic and semi-aquatic vegetation	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	silver-haired bat	None/None/IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	Old-growth forest, maternity roosts in trees, large snags 50 feet aboveground; hibernates in hollow trees, rock crevices, buildings, mines, caves, and under sloughing bark; forages in or near coniferous or mixed deciduous forest, stream or river drainages	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Lasiurus frantzii</i>	western red bat	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_H-High Priority	Forest, woodland, riparian, mesquite bosque, and orchards, including fig, apricot, peach, pear, almond, walnut, and orange; roosts in tree canopy	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>	western yellow bat	None/SSC/None	Valley–foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats; below 2,000 feet above mean sea level; roosts in riparian and palms	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail	None/FP, ST/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_NT-Near Threatened NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	Tidal marshes, shallow freshwater margins, wet meadows, and flooded grassy vegetation; suitable habitats are often supplied by canal leakage in Sierra Nevada foothill populations	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	None/SSC/None	Arid habitats with open ground; grasslands, coastal scrub, agriculture, disturbed areas, and rangelands	Moderate potential to occur within scrub habitat.
<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	western small-footed myotis	None/None/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	Arid woodlands and shrublands, but near water; roosts in caves, crevices, mines, abandoned buildings	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Myotis evotis</i>	long-eared myotis	None/None/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	Brush, woodland, and forest habitats from sea level to 9,000 feet above MSL; prefers coniferous habitats; forages along habitat edges, in open habitats, and over water; roosts in buildings, crevices, under bark, and snags; uses caves as night roosts	Moderate potential to roost in gum trees on the project site.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Yuma myotis	None/None/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_LM-Low-Medium Priority	Riparian, arid scrublands and deserts, and forests associated with water (streams, rivers, tinajas); roosts in bridges, buildings, cliff crevices, caves, mines, and trees	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>	San Diego desert woodrat	None/SSC	Coastal scrub, desert scrub, chaparral, cacti, rocky areas	Moderate potential to occur. Suitable habitat present in chaparral and scrub habitat.
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>	pocketed free-tailed bat	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	Pinyon–juniper woodlands, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, desert riparian, desert wash, alkali desert scrub, Joshua tree, and palm oases; roosts in high cliffs or rock outcrops with drop-offs, caverns, and buildings	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>	big free-tailed bat	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_MH-Medium-High Priority	Rocky areas; roosts in caves, holes in trees, buildings, and crevices on cliffs and rocky outcrops; forages over water	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i>	Belding's savannah sparrow	None/SE/USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Nests and forages in coastal saltmarsh dominated by pickleweed (<i>Salicornia</i> spp.)	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i>	Pacific pocket mouse	FE/SSC	fine-grained sandy substrates in open coastal strand, coastal dunes, and river alluvium	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	Blainville's horned lizard	None/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Open areas of sandy soil in valleys, foothills, and semi-arid mountains including coastal scrub, chaparral, valley–foothill hardwood, conifer, riparian, pine–cypress, juniper, and annual grassland habitats	Moderate potential to occur. Suitable habitat present in chaparral and scrub habitat.
<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	white-faced ibis	None/WL IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests in shallow marshes with areas of emergent vegetation; winter foraging in shallow lacustrine waters, flooded agricultural fields, muddy ground of wet meadows, marshes, ponds, lakes, rivers, flooded fields, and estuaries	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Plestiodon skiltonianus interparietalis</i>	Coronado skink	None/WL/BLM_S-Sensitive	Woodlands, grasslands, pine forests, and chaparral; rocky areas near water	Moderate potential to occur in chaparral habitat.
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT/SSC/NABCI_YWL-Yellow Watch List	Nests and forages in various sage scrub communities, often dominated by California sagebrush and buckwheat; generally avoids nesting in areas with a slope of greater than 40%; majority of nesting at less than 1,000 feet above mean sea level	Expected. Species could nest in sage scrub within the study area. Species was recorded on the project site in 2001 (CNDDDB 2024). Project also occurs within species Critical Habitat.
<i>Pyrgus ruralis lagunae</i>	Laguna Mountains skipper	FE/None/None	Restricted to montane meadows of Laguna Mountains and Mount Palomar	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	vermillion flycatcher	None/SSC IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Nests in riparian woodlands, riparian scrub, and freshwater marshes; typical desert riparian with cottonwood, willow, mesquite adjacent to irrigated fields, ditches, or pastures	Not expected to occur. This species is not expected to nest in the study area as its more commonly associated with landscapes with adjacent pasture lands.
<i>Rallus obsoletus levipes</i>	Ridgway's rail	FE/FP, SE NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	Coastal wetlands, brackish areas, coastal saline emergent wetlands	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Rana muscosa</i>	mountain yellow-legged frog	FE/SE, WL IUCN_EN- Endangered USFS_S-Sensitive	Lakes, ponds, meadow streams, isolated pools, and open riverbanks; rocky canyons in narrow canyons and in chaparral	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i>	coast patch-nosed snake	None/SSC	Brushy or shrubby vegetation; requires small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering sites	Moderate potential within scrub habitats in the study area.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	yellow warbler	None/SSC	Nests and forages in riparian and oak woodlands, montane chaparral, open ponderosa pine, and mixed-conifer habitats	Present. Detected foraging within the arundo-riparian scrub. Potential for nesting is also present within riparian.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitats	Potential to Occur in Study Area
<i>Spea hammondi</i>	western spadefoot	FPT/SSC/BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	Primarily grassland and vernal pools, but also in ephemeral wetlands that persist at least 3 weeks in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley–foothill woodlands, pastures, and other agriculture	Not expected to occur due to lack of suitable habitat.
<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i>	California least tern	FE/FP, SE/IUCN_EN- Endangered	Forages in shallow estuaries and lagoons; nests on sandy beaches or exposed tidal flats	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>	Riverside fairy shrimp	FE/None/IUCN_EN-Endangered	Vernal pools, non-vegetated ephemeral pools	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	American badger	None/SSC/IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Dry, open, treeless areas; grasslands, coastal scrub, agriculture, and pastures, especially with friable soils	Not expected to occur. Scrub habitat in the study area was dense and not suitable for species.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	two-striped gartersnake	None/SSC	Streams, creeks, pools, streams with rocky beds, ponds, lakes, vernal pools	Not expected to occur. No suitable habitat is present.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	least Bell's vireo	FE/SE/BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern NABCI_YWL-Yellow Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive	Nests and forages in low, dense riparian thickets along water or along dry parts of intermittent streams; forages in riparian and adjacent shrubland late in nesting season	Moderate. Potential habitat for foraging and nesting is present within the willows associated arundo-riparian scrub.

Table D2. Special-status Wildlife Potential to Occur, continued

Special-Status Wildlife Species Designations

Status Legend:

Federal FE: Federally listed as endangered FT: Federally listed as threatened FPE: Federally proposed for listing as endangered FPT: Federally proposed for listing as threatened FC: Federal candidate species (former Category 1 candidates) FPD: Federally proposed for delisting BCC: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird of Conservation Concern BLM: Bureau of Land Management Sensitive Species USFS: U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species DL: Delisted

State SE: State listed as endangered ST: State listed as threatened SCE: State candidate for listing as endangered SCT: State candidate for listing as threatened SCD: State candidate for delisting SSC: California Species of Special Concern FP: California Fully Protected Species WL: California Watch List Species CDF: California Department of Forestry Sensitive Species

Present: The species was observed or detected within the study area during focused surveys.

Expected: The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species, suitable habitat (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is present, and there is viable landscape connectivity to a local, known extant population(s) or sighting(s).

Moderate: The study area is within the known geographic distribution and elevation range of the species; however, habitat within the study area (considering vegetation, soils, and other factors) is marginal or limited and landscape connectivity to a local, known, extant population or detection is compromised or non-existent.

Not Expected: The species is not expected to occur within the study area due to the lack of suitable habitat, the location of the study area is outside of the species' elevation range or known geographic distribution, or there is no connectivity to known, extant populations.

Absent: The species was not detected during focused or agency-approved protocol surveys.