

# Biological Resources Technical Report

Riverside Community College District IETTC Buildings 1A & 1B  
City of Jurupa Valley, Riverside County, California

## FINAL REPORT



Portion of APN 177-110-016

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## GLOSSARY

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APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CAPSA	Criteria Area Plant Survey Areas
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game (CDFW effective Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013)
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CRPR	California Rare Plant Ranking
CWA	Clean Water Act
DBESP	Determination of Biological Equivalent or Superior Preservation
FESA	federal Endangered Species Act
GIS	Geographic Information System
HANS	Habitat Acquisition and Negotiation Strategy
IETTC	Inland Empire Technical Trade Center
JPR	Joint Project Review
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
NCCP	Natural Communities Conservation Plan
NEPS	Narrow Endemic Plant Species
NEPSA	Narrow Endemic Plant Survey Areas
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPPA	Native Plant Protection Act
NWI	National Wetlands Mapper
NWPR	Navigable Water Protection Rule
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark
RCA	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
RCIP	Riverside County Integrated Project
RCCD	Riverside Community College District
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAA	Streambed Alteration Agreement
Sf	Square Feet
SSC	California Species of Special Concern
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

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## INTRODUCTION

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The following biological technical report describes a detailed assessment of potential sensitive natural resources located within and immediately adjacent to the Riverside Community College District (RCCD) Inland Empire Technical Trade Center (IETCC) Building 1A & 1B Project Site. Specifically, the report has been prepared to support the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) documentation, compliance and review process conducted by the RCCD. As discussed below, the assessment includes a thorough literature review, site reconnaissance characterizing baseline conditions (including floral and faunal and dominate vegetation communities), impact analysis, and proposed mitigation/avoidance measures.

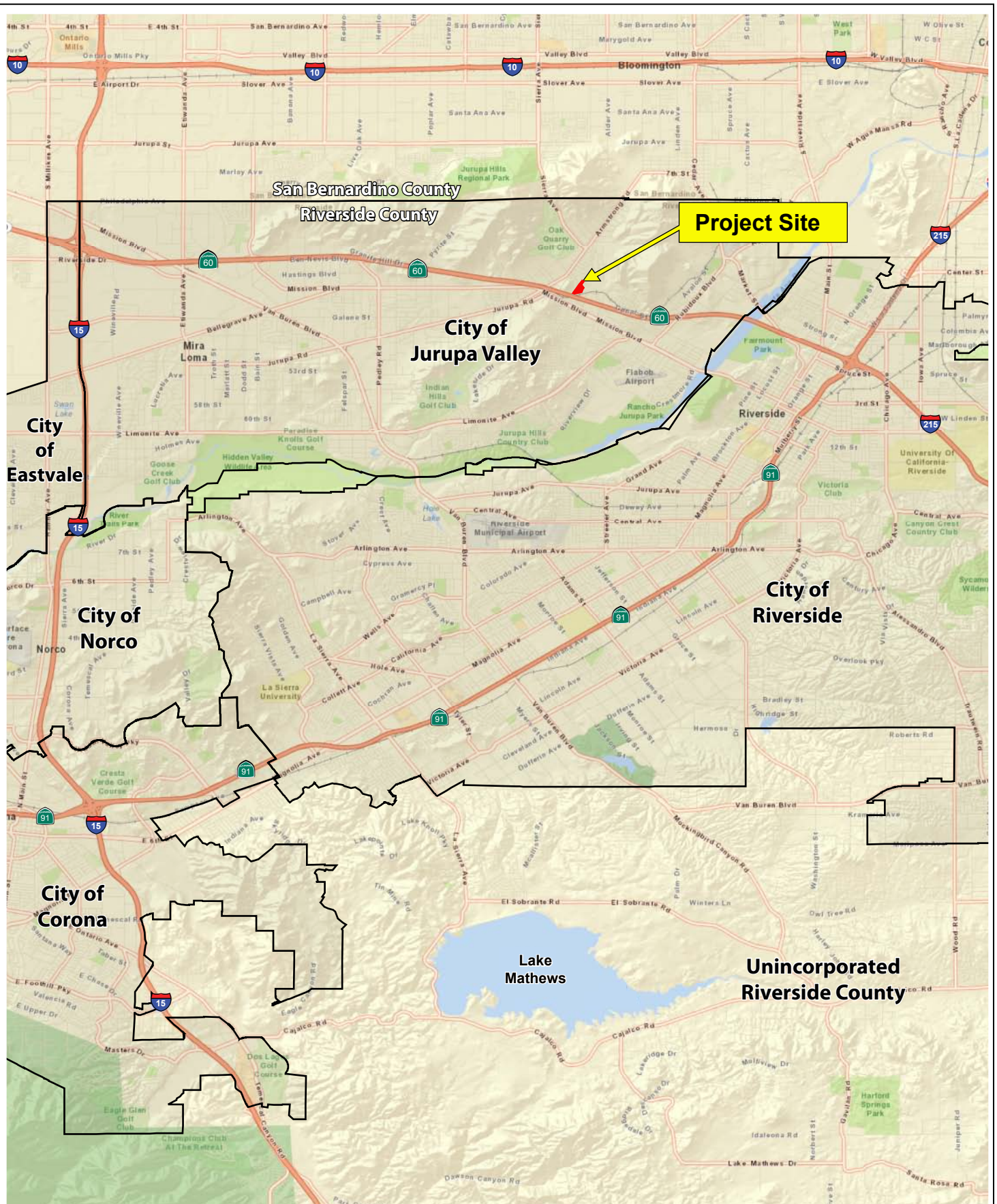
### PROJECT LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

The 9.74-acre Project Site is located in the western portion of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 177-110-016, extending east of Florine Avenue and southwest of 33<sup>rd</sup> Street in the City of Jurupa Valley, western Riverside County, California (U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)) 7.5' series Fontana Quadrangle, Riverside County, Township 2 South, Range 5 West, Sections 8, as shown in Figure 1, *Regional Location Map* and Figure 2, *Project Site Map*.

The Project Site located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP Jurupa Plan Area and is not located within or adjacent to an MSHCP Criteria Area Cell, Cell Group, or Linkage Area, as shown in Figure 3, *MSHCP Relationship Map* (Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) Geographic Information System (GIS) Data Downloads 2025).

The entire Project Site is covered by asphalt and concrete as a result of a historic development onsite with scattered invasive species emerging from cracks in the surface. No exposed soils, native or disturbed vegetation communities are present onsite.

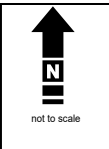
The project includes the develop two (2) educational buildings totaling approximately 121,100 square feet (sf), parking, and associated hardscape and landscaping. Building 1A consists of 57,700 sf and includes 5 classrooms, 8 class labs (double height labs), 3 computer labs, secondary space for study (student-centered space and AV/TV), and offices spaces on top floors. Building 1B consists of 63,400 sf and includes 3 classrooms, 6 class labs, 2 computer labs, office space (on top floors), a multipurpose room, AV/TV space, space for dining and merchandising, and general spaces for primary study space, student-centered space, and shared community uses (health, wellness, and food). Vehicular circulation to the Project Site will be provided via three driveways on Florine Avenue and one on 33rd Street. There will be a drop-off road located on 34th Street and Florine Avenue, a main parking lot located at the southern corner of the Project Site, and a secondary parking lot located to the northern corner of campus.



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**Figure 1 - Regional Location Map**

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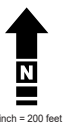




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**Figure 2 - Project Site Map**

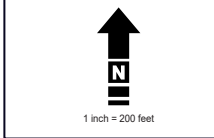
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**Figure 3 - MSHCP Relationship Map**  
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 RCCD IETTC Buildings 1A & 1B Project Site



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## METHODOLOGY

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The following section details the methods implemented prior to and during the reconnaissance conducted throughout the Project Site.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

Existing biological resource conditions within and adjacent to the Project Site were initially investigated through review of pertinent scientific literature and industry standard databases including but not limited to the following:

- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants in California (CNPS 2025).
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Species Occurrence Database (USFWS 2025a).
- The Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) database from the USFWS (USFWS 2025b).
- USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper (USFWS 2025c).
- The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (CDFW 2025a), a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Natural Heritage Division species account database.
- Special Animals (CDFW 2025b).
- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW 2025c).
- Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California (CDFW 2025d).
- Special Vascular Plants and Bryophytes List (CDFW 2025e).
- iNaturalist Database. (iNaturalist 2025).
- eBird (eBird 2025).
- City of Jurupa Valley Municipal Codes (City of Jurupa Valley 2025).
- City of Jurupa Valley General Plan.

### FIELD SURVEY

An initial reconnaissance survey of the Project Site was conducted by Cadre Environmental on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in order to characterize and identify potential wildlife habitats, sensitive resources, and to establish the accuracy of the data identified in the literature search.

Geologic and soil maps were examined to identify local soil types that may support sensitive taxa. Aerial photograph, topographic maps, and vegetation and rare plant maps prepared by previous studies in the region were used to determine community types and other physical features that may support sensitive plants/wildlife, uncommon taxa, or rare communities that occur within the Project Site.

The MSHCP has determined that all of the sensitive species potentially occurring within the Project Site have been adequately covered (MSHCP Table 2-2 Species Considered for Conservation Under the MSHCP Since 1999, 2004). However, additional surveys may be required for narrow endemic plant, criteria area, and specific wildlife species if

suitable habitat is documented onsite and/or if the property is located within a predetermined “Survey Area” (MSHCP 2004). Based on the initial MSHCP review of predetermined Survey Areas, habitat assessments were conducted for the following six (7) species.

- Delhi sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*), Federal Endangered (FE)

#### Section 6.1.2 Riparian, Riverine, Vernal Pool Species

- Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), FE;
- vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), Federal Threatened (FT);
- least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), FE, State Endangered (SE);
- southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), FE, SE;
- western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*), SE.

A habitat assessment was also conducted for, but not limited to, the following target species not covered by the MSHCP.

- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), State Candidate Endangered (SCE).

### **Vegetation Communities/Habitat Classification Mapping**

Natural community names and hierarchical structure follows the CDFW “List of California Terrestrial Natural Communities” and/or Holland (1986) classification systems, which have been refined and augmented where appropriate to better characterize the habitat types observed onsite when not addressed by the MSHCP classification system.

### **Floristic Plant Inventory**

A general plant survey was conducted throughout the Project Site during the initial reconnaissance in a collective effort to identify all species occurring onsite. All plants observed during the survey efforts were either identified in the field or collected and later identified using taxonomic keys. Plant taxonomy follows Jepson Flora Project (eds.) (Jepson eFlora 2025). Scientific names are included only at the first mention of a species; thereafter, common names alone are used.

### **Wildlife Resources Inventory**

All animals identified during the reconnaissance survey by sight, call, tracks, scat, or other characteristic sign were documented. In addition to species actually detected, expected use of the site by other wildlife was derived from the analysis of habitats on the site, combined with known habitat preferences of regionally occurring wildlife species. Vertebrate taxonomy followed in this report is according to the Center for North American Herpetology (2025) for amphibians and reptiles, the American Ornithological Society (2025) for birds, and American Society of Mammalogists (2025) for mammals. Both common and scientific names are used during the first mention of a species; common names only are used in the remainder of the text.

## **Regional Connectivity/Wildlife Movement Corridors**

The analysis of wildlife movement corridors associated with the Project Site and immediate vicinity is based on information compiled from literature, analysis of the aerial photograph and direct observations made in the field during the reconnaissance site visit.

A literature review was conducted that includes documents on island biogeography (studies of fragmented and isolated habitat “islands”), reports on wildlife home range sizes and migration patterns, and studies on wildlife dispersal. Wildlife movement studies conducted in southern California were also reviewed. Use of field-verified digital data, in conjunction with the GIS database, allowed proper identification of regional vegetation communities and drainage features. This information was crucial to assessing the relationship of the Project Site to large open space areas in the immediate vicinity and was also evaluated in terms of connectivity and habitat linkages. Relative to corridor issues, the discussions in this report are intended to focus on wildlife movement associated within the Project Site and the immediate vicinity.

### **Crotch’s Bumble Bee Habitat Assessment**

A habitat assessment was conducted by Cadre Environmental on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for Crotch’s bumble bee. The primary objective of the assessment was to identify optimal nectar resources, thereby determining areas with the highest likelihood of Crotch’s bumble bee occurrence. Nectar patches were delineated based on the relative abundance of blooming or soon-to-bloom floral species known to be preferred by Crotch’s bumble bee. Excluded habitat types were determined based on the absence or scarcity of suitable nectar resources. Habitat types unlikely to support foraging or presenting low detectability for Crotch’s bumble bee included disturbed or developed areas (e.g., access roads), riparian communities with limited floral resources, and non-native grasslands dominated by invasive species that had already senesced.

### **Jurisdictional Resources Assessment**

The Project Site was assessed for the potential presence/absence of United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), CDFW, and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) jurisdictional resources through review of pertinent scientific literature and industry standard databases including but not limited to the following:

- Custom Soil Resources Report for San Bernardino County, California. (Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) 2025)
- National Wetlands Mapper (NWI) (USFWS 2025d)
- National Surface Water Information System Database. United States Geological Service (USGS 2025).
- Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual, Technical Report (Environmental Laboratory. 1987).
- Regional Supplement to the USACE of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region (USACE 2008).
- Final National Ordinary High Water Mark Field Delineation Manual for Rivers and Streams (USACE 2025).

Non-wetland waters of the United States were assessed based on the limits of the Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM) as determined by erosion, the deposition of vegetation or debris, and changes in vegetation and soil characteristics. The assessment utilized the methodology for routine wetland determination according to the methods outlined in the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Arid West Wetland Delineation Supplement and updated regulatory guidance letters (USACE 2008). Wetlands are identified by the presence of three characteristics: hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology, and hydric soils. If any of these criteria were met, one or more transects were run to determine the extent of the wetland. Specifically, the presence of wetland hydrology was evaluated throughout the Project Site by recording the extent of observed surface flows, depth of inundation, depth to saturated soils, and depth to free water in the soil pits, where applicable. In addition, indicators of wetland or riverine hydrology were recorded, including water marks, drift lines, rack, debris, and sediment deposits, as warranted. Any indicators of hydric soils, such as redoximorphic features, buried organic matter, organic streaking, reduced soil conditions, gleyed or low-chroma soils, or sulfidic odor were also recorded.

### **MSHCP Riparian/Riverine/Vernal Pool Resources Assessment**

Regulated activities within inland streams, wetlands and riparian areas in Western Riverside County California fall under the jurisdiction of the MSHCP Section 6.1.2. The MSHCP requires, among other things, assessments for riparian/riverine and vernal pool resources. As projects are proposed within the MSHCP Plan Area, an assessment of the potentially significant effects of those projects on riparian/riverine areas, and vernal pools are required, as currently mandated by CEQA, using available information augmented by project-specific mapping provided to and reviewed by the permittee's biologist(s). Riparian/riverine areas and vernal pools are defined for this section as follows in accordance with Section 6.1.2, Vol. I, of the Final MSHCP Plan:

*“Riparian/Riverine Areas are lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year.” (MSHCP 2004)*

It is assumed the first part of the definition defines riparian habitat, and the second part defines riverine areas. Vernal pools are defined as:

*“...seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season, while upland species (annuals) may be dominant during the drier portion of the growing season”. (MSHCP 2004)*

The results of the MSHCP riparian/riverine/vernal pool resources assessments were utilized to determine the potential for Riverside fairy shrimp, vernal pool fairy shrimp, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and western yellow-billed cuckoo to occur within or adjacent to the Project Site.

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## EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

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### SURROUNDING LAND USES/TOPOGRAPHY/SOILS

The entire Project Site is covered by asphalt and concrete as a result of a historic development onsite with scattered invasive species emerging from cracks in the surface, as shown in Figure 4, *Vegetation Communities Map* and Figures 5 and 6, *Current Project Site Photographs*, and summarized in Table 1, *Vegetation Communities Acreages*. The Soil Survey of Western Riverside Area has the entire Project Site mapped as Greenfield sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, eroded, as shown on Figure 7, *Soils Association Map*. However, no exposed natural soils, native or disturbed vegetation communities are present onsite.

**Table 1.  
Vegetation Communities Acreages**

Vegetation Type	TOTAL Onsite Acres
Developed	9.74
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9.74</b>

Cadre Environmental 2025

#### Developed

The entire Project Site is covered by asphalt and concrete as a result of a historic development onsite with scattered invasive species emerging from cracks in the surface. Species documented onsite include golden crownbeard (*Verbesina encelioides*), crabgrass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*), spotted spurge (*Euphorbia maculata*), puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*), castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), annual jimson weed (*Datura stramonium*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), Mexican fan palm sprouts (*Washingtonia robusta*), fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*), and Lantana (*Lantana camara*).

### GENERAL PLANT & WILDLIFE SPECIES

General wildlife species documented onsite include American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*).

## JURISDICTIONAL RESOURCES

No jurisdictional resources regulated by the USACE, RWQCB, CDFW or MSHCP Section 6.1.2 were documented within the Project Site. Specifically, no wetland or non-wetland waters of the United States subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 404 were documented within or adjacent to the Project Site. No resources regulated by the State subject to the jurisdiction of the RWCQB pursuant to CWA Section 401 and State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne); streambed habitat subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW pursuant Sections 1600 *et seq.* of the CDFG Code, and MSHCP Section 6.1.2 riverine were documented onsite.

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## SENSITIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

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The following discussion describes the plant and wildlife species present, or potentially present within the property boundaries, that have been afforded special recognition by federal, state, or local resource conservation agencies and organizations, principally due to the species' declining or limited population sizes, usually resulting from habitat loss. Also discussed are habitats that are unique, of relatively limited distribution, or of particular value to wildlife. Protected sensitive species are classified by state and/or federal resource management agencies, or both, as threatened or endangered, under provisions of the state and federal endangered species act. Vulnerable or "at-risk" species that are proposed for listing as threatened or endangered (and thereby for protected status) are categorized administratively as "candidates" by the USFWS. CDFW uses various terminology and classifications to describe vulnerable species. There are additional sensitive species classifications applicable in California. These are described below.

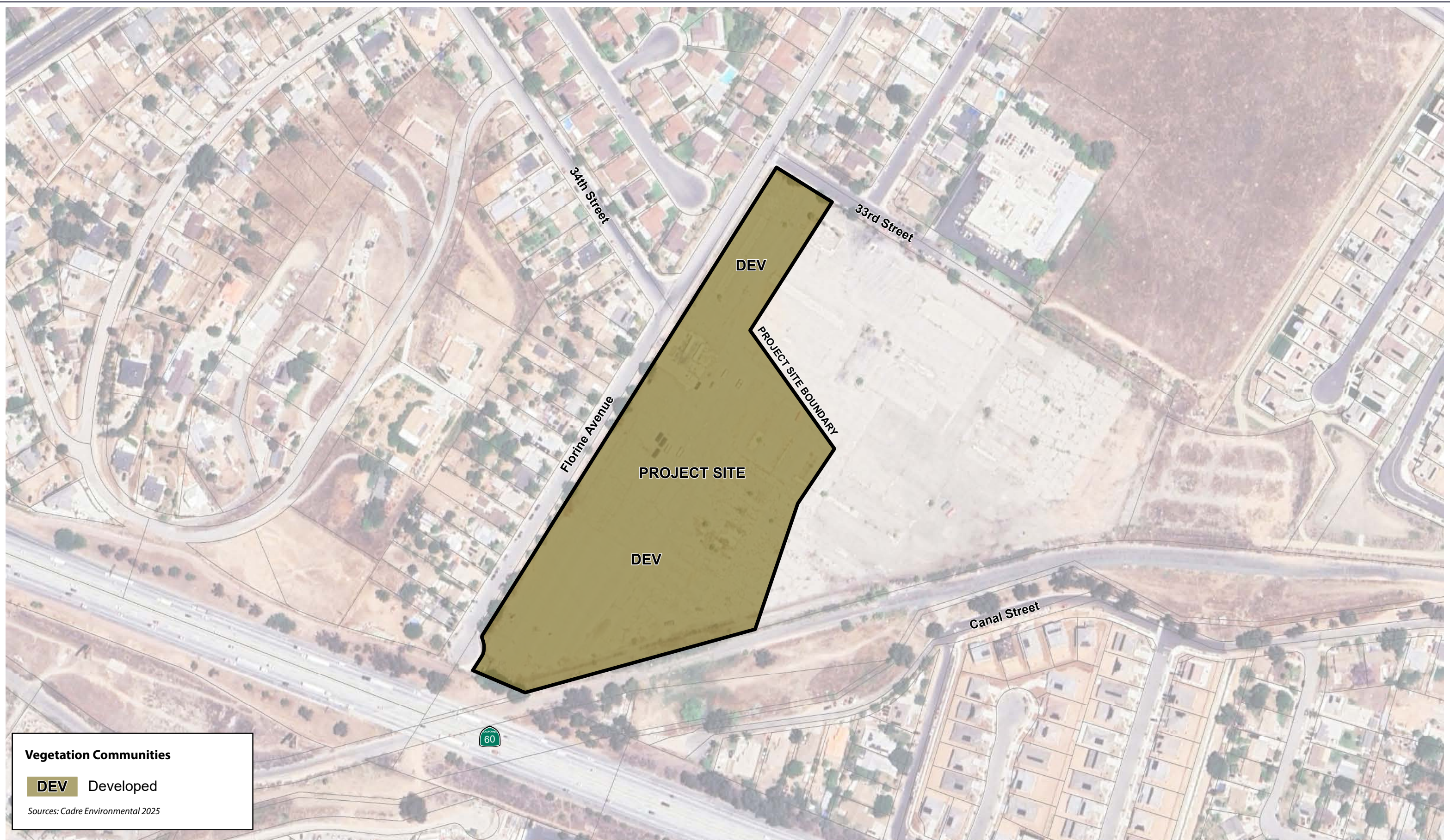
Sensitive biological resources are habitats or individual species that have special recognition by federal, state, or local conservation agencies and organizations as endangered, threatened, or rare. The CDFW, USFWS, and special groups like the California Native Plant Society maintain watch lists of such resources. For the purpose of this assessment sources used to determine the sensitive status of biological resources are:

**Plants:** USFWS (2025), CNDDDB (CDFW 2025a), CDFW (2025d, 2025e), CNPS (2025), and Skinner and Pavlik (1994),

**Invertebrate** - Crotch's bumble bee *Bombus crotchii*: Leif Richardson, Paul Williams, Robbin Thorp and Sheila Colla, et al. (2022), CDFW (2019), CDFW (2023), Hatfield, et al. (2019).

**Wildlife:** California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (2008), Ornithological Society (2025), American Society of Mammalogists (2025), eBird (2025), iNaturalist (2025), USFWS (2025a), CNDDDB (CDFW 2025a), and CDFW (2012, 2025b, 2025c, 2025f)

**Habitats:** CNDDDB (CDFW 2025a, 2025f).



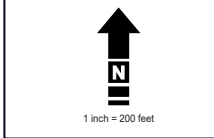
**Vegetation Communities**

**DEV** Developed

Sources: Cadre Environmental 2025

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**Figure 4 - Vegetation Communities Map**  
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PHOTOGRAPH 1 - Southwest view of Project Site.



PHOTOGRAPH 2 - Northeast view of Project Site.

*Refer to Figure 2 - Project Site Map for Photographic Key*

**Figure 5 - Current Project Site Photographs**  
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PHOTOGRAPH 3 - Northwest view of Project Site.

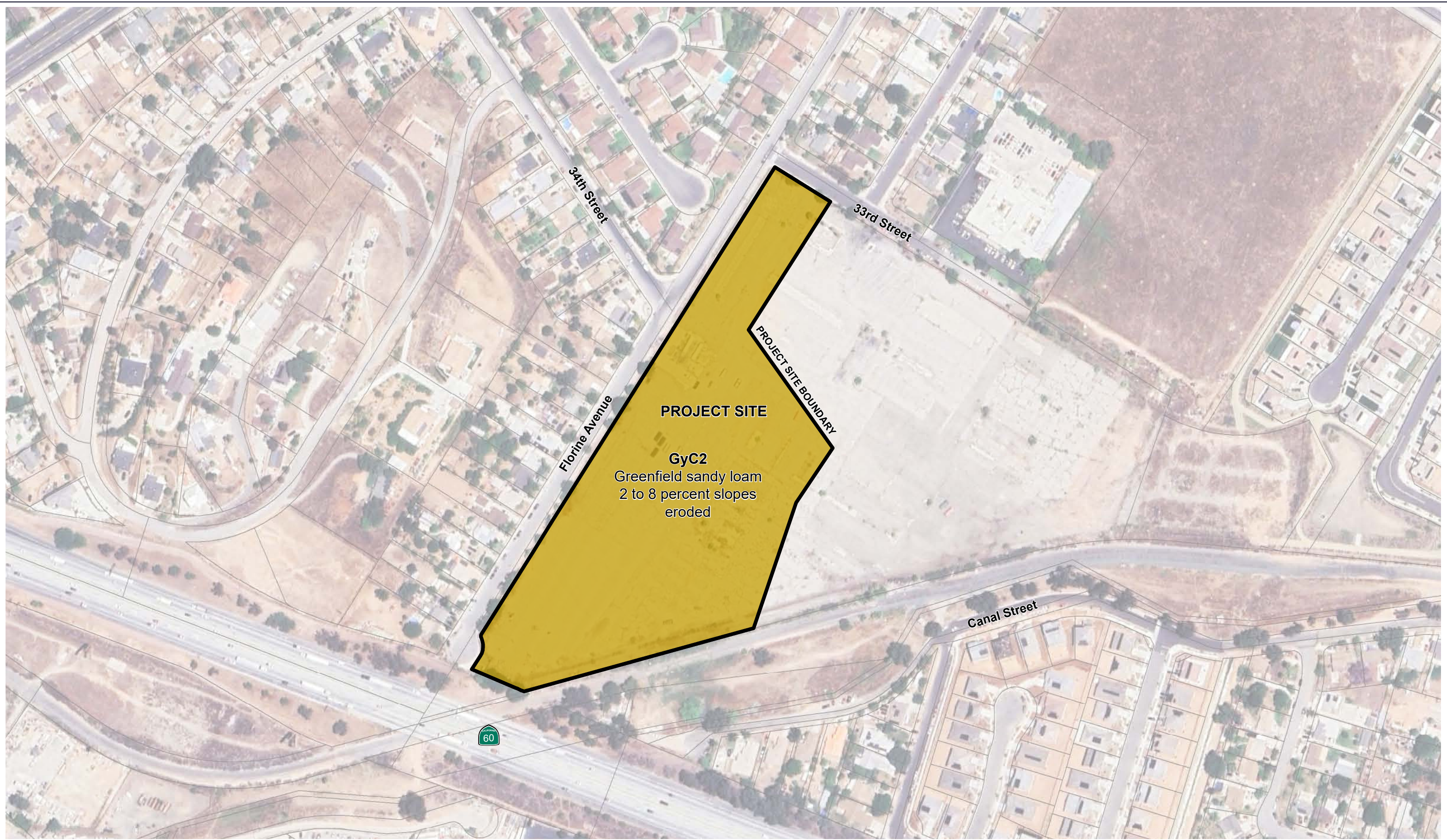


PHOTOGRAPH 4 - Westward view of Project Site.

*Refer to Figure 2 - Project Site Map for Photographic Key*

**Figure 6 - Current Project Site Photographs**  
*Biological Resources Technical Report  
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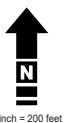




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**Figure 7 - Soils Association Map**

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1 inch = 200 feet

## FEDERAL PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) defines an endangered species as “any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range...” Threatened species are defined as “any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.” Under provisions of Section 9(a)(1)(B) of the FESA it is unlawful to “take” any listed species. “Take” is defined as follows in Section 3(18) of the FESA: “...harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.” Further, the USFWS, through regulation, has interpreted the terms “harm” and “harass” to include certain types of habitat modification as forms of a “take.” These interpretations, however, are generally considered and applied on a case-by-case basis and often vary from species to species. In a case where a property owner seeks permission from a federal agency for an action that could affect a federally listed plant and animal species, the property owner and agency are required to consult with USFWS. Section 9(a)(2)(b) of the FESA addresses the protections afforded to listed plants. Recently, the USFWS instituted changes in the listing status of former candidate species. Former C1 (candidate) species are now referred to simply as candidate species and represent the only candidates for listing. Former C2 species (for which the USFWS had insufficient evidence to warrant listing at this time) and C3 species (either extinct, no longer a valid taxon or more abundant than was formerly believed) are no longer considered as candidate species. Therefore, these species are no longer maintained in list form by the USFWS, nor are they formally protected. However, some USFWS field offices have issued memoranda stating that former C2 species are henceforth to be considered Federal Species of Concern. This term is employed in this document but carries no official protections. All references to federally protected species in this report (whether listed, proposed for listing or candidate) include the most current published status or candidate category to which each species has been assigned by USFWS. For purposes of this assessment, the following acronyms are used for federal status species:

FE	Federal Endangered
FT	Federal Threatened
FPE	Federal Proposed Endangered
FPT	Federal Proposed Threatened
FC	Federal Candidate for Listing

The designation of critical habitat can also have a significant impact on the development of land designated as “*critical habitat*.” The FESA prohibits federal agencies from taking any action that will “*adversely modify or destroy*” critical habitat (16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2)). This provision of the FESA applies to the issuance of permits by federal agencies. Before approving an action affecting critical habitat, the federal agency is required to consult with the USFWS who then issues a biological opinion evaluating whether the action will “*adversely modify*” critical habitat. Thus, the designation of critical habitat effectively gives the USFWS extensive regulatory control over the development of land designated as critical habitat.

The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) makes it unlawful to “*take*” any migratory bird or part, nest, or egg of such bird listed in wildlife protection treaties between the

United States and Great Britain, the Republic of Mexico, Japan, and the Union of Soviet States. For purposes of the MBTA, “take” is defined as to pursue, hunt, capture, kill, or possess or attempt to do the same.

The Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act explicitly protects the bald eagle and golden eagle and imposes its own prohibition on any taking of these species. As defined in this act, take means to pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, or molest or disturb. Current USFWS policy is not to refer the incidental take of bald eagles for prosecution under the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d).

## **STATE PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

California's Endangered Species Act (CESA) defines an endangered species as “...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.” The State defines a threatened species as “...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as rare on or before January 1, 1985 is a threatened species.” Candidate species are defined as “...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the commission has formally noticed as being under review by the department for addition to either the list of endangered species or the list of threatened species, or a species for which the commission has published a notice of proposed regulation to add the species to either list.” Candidate species may be afforded temporary protection as though they were already listed as threatened or endangered at the discretion of the Fish and Game Commission.

Article 3, Sections 2080 through 2085, of CESA addresses the taking of threatened or endangered species by stating “No person shall import into this state, export out of this state, or take, possess, purchase, or sell within this state, any species, or any part or product thereof, that the commission determines to be an endangered species or a threatened species, or attempt any of those acts, except as otherwise provided...” Under CESA, “take” is defined as “...hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.” Exceptions authorized by the state to allow “take” require “...permits or memorandums of understanding...” and can be authorized for “...endangered species, threatened species, or candidate species for scientific, educational, or management purposes.” Sections 1901 and 1913 of the California Fish and Game Code provide that notification is required prior to disturbance.

Additionally, some sensitive mammals and birds are protected by the State as Fully Protected Mammals or Fully Protected Birds, as described in the California Fish and Game Code, Sections 4700 and 3511, respectively. California Species of Special Concern (SSC) listings include special status species, including all state and federal protected and candidate taxa, Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service sensitive species, species considered to be declining or rare by the National Audubon

Society, and a selection of species which are considered to be under population stress but are not formally proposed for listing. This list is primarily a working document for the CDFW's CNDDDB project. Informally listed taxa are not protected per se but warrant consideration in the preparation of biotic assessments. For some species, the CNDDDB is only concerned with specific portions of the life history, such as roosts, rookeries, or nest sites. For the purposes of this assessment, the following acronyms are used for State status species:

SE	State Endangered
ST	State Threatened
SCE	State Candidate Endangered
SCT	State Candidate Threatened
SFP	State Fully Protected
SSC	California Species of Special Concern
SWL	California Watch List

Nesting birds, including raptors, are protected under California Fish and Game Code Section 3503, which reads, "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto." In addition, under California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5, "it is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto". Passerines and non-passerine land birds are further protected under California Fish and Game Code 3513. As such, CDFW typically recommends surveys for nesting birds that could potentially be directly (e.g., actual removal of trees/vegetation) or indirectly (e.g., noise disturbance) impacted by project-related activities. Disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort is considered "take" by CDFW.

### California Native Plant Society

The CNPS is a private plant conservation organization dedicated to the monitoring and protection of sensitive species in the State. This organization has compiled an inventory comprised of the information focusing on geographic distribution and qualitative characterization of rare, threatened, or endangered vascular plant species of California (Tibor 2001). The list serves as the candidate list for listing as threatened and endangered by CDFW. The CNPS has developed five categories of rarity references as California Rare Plant Ranks (CRPR):

CRPR 1A	Plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere
CRPR 1B	Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
CRPR 2A	Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere

CRPR 2B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
CRPR 3	Plants about which we need more information – a review list.
CRPR 4	Species of limited distribution in California (i.e., naturally rare in the wild), but whose existence does not appear to be susceptible to threat.

As stated by the CNPS:

*“Threat Rank is an extension added onto the California Rare Plant Rank and designates the level of endangerment by a 1 to 3 ranking with 1 being the most endangered and 3 being the least endangered. A Threat Rank is present for all California Rare Plant Rank 1B's, 2's, 4's, and the majority of California Rare Plant Rank 3's. California Rare Plant Rank 4 plants are seldom assigned a Threat Rank of 0.1, as they generally have large enough populations to not have significant threats to their continued existence in California; however, certain conditions exist to make the plant a species of concern and hence be assigned a California Rare Plant Rank. In addition, all California Rare Plant Rank 1A (presumed extinct in California), and some California Rare Plant Rank 3 (need more information) plants, which lack threat information, do not have a Threat Rank extension.” (CNPS 2025)*

0.1	Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
0.2	Fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
0.3	Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

## SENSITIVE HABITATS

Natural communities are evaluated using NatureServe’s Heritage Methodology, the same system used to assign global and state rarity ranks for plant and animal species in the CNDDDB. The basic ranking concepts of rarity and threats used in the “Heritage Methodology” since the 1970’s remain the same, using the best and most recent scientific information available. For rarity, the ranking involves the knowledge of range and distribution of a given type of vegetation, and the proportion of occurrences that are of good ecological integrity. Threats and trends are likewise considered in categories such as residential and commercial development, agriculture, energy production and mining, and invasive and other problematic species and genes (among others). Threat scope (typically assessed within a 20-year timeframe for vegetation) and severity are used to calculate an overall threat score, which is added to the overall rarity score for a single rank of 1 through 5. Evaluation is done at both the Global (full natural range within and outside of California) and State (within California) levels resulting in a single G (global) and S (state) rank ranging from 1 (very rare and threatened) to 5 (demonstrably secure). Natural Communities with ranks of S1-S3 are considered Sensitive Natural Communities

to be addressed in the environmental review processes of CEQA and its equivalents. (CDFW 2025f)

No sensitive natural communities listed by CDFW as sensitive were documented within or adjacent to the Project Site.

**SENSITIVE PLANTS**

Based on a review of the CNDDDB, a total of twenty-three (23) sensitive plant species listed in the State and local databases have potential to occur within the vicinity of the Project Site, as presented in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite* (CNDDDB 2025a).

The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.1.3.

The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Criteria Area Species Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

No state or federally listed threatened or endangered plant species were documented or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat, as outlined in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*.

No suitable habitat was documented onsite for special-status plants not covered under the MSHCP, as outlined in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*.

**Table 2.  
Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite.**

Species Name (Scientific Name)  Status	Habitat Description	Comments
<b>San Diego ambrosia</b> ( <i>Ambrosia pumila</i> )  FE CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP NEPS MSHCP Covered Species	San Diego ambrosia is known from Baja California, Mexico, and San Diego and Riverside counties in the United States. San Diego ambrosia occurs primarily on upper terraces of rivers and drainages as well as in open grasslands, openings in coastal sage scrub, and occasionally in areas adjacent to vernal pools.	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> <i>(Scientific Name)</i>  Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Marsh sandwort</b> <i>(Arenaria paludicola)</i>  FE/SE CRPR 1B.1	Perennial stoloniferous herb generally blooming from May to August with sandy openings in association with marshes and swamps (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Horn's milk-vetch</b> <i>(Astragalus hornii var. hornii)</i>  CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb generally blooming from May to October in lake margins, alkaline meadows, seeps and playas (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Nevin's barberry</b> <i>(Berberis nevinii)</i>  FE/SE CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Perennial evergreen shrub which generally blooms from February to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub in sandy, gravelly substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Plummer's mariposa-lily</b> <i>(Calochortus plummerae)</i>  CRPR 4.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Perennial bulbiferous herb which generally blooms from May to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and grassland habitats with granite and rocky substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Bristly sedge</b> <i>(Carex comosa)</i>  CRPR 2B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb generally blooming from May to September within coastal prairie, marsh, swamp and valley and foothill grasslands habitats (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Smooth tarplant</b> <i>(Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis)</i>  CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to September within chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland (alkaline substrates). (CNPS 2025)	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Salt marsh bird's-beak</b> <i>(Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum)</i>  FE/SE CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb (hemiparasitic) generally blooming from May to November within coastal dunes, marshes and swamps) (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> <i>(Scientific Name)</i>	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Status  <b>Parry's spineflower</b> <i>(Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi)</i>  CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub and grassland habitats with sandy and/or rocky openings (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
FE/SE CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub (alluvial fan) with sandy substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Slender-horned spineflower</b> <i>(Dodecahema leptoceras)</i>  CRPR 1B.2 MSHCP Covered	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Often occurring in clay soils.	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Many-stemmed dudleya</b> <i>(Dudleya multicaulis)</i>  CRPR 1B.2 MSHCP Covered	Perennial herb which generally blooms from April to September within chaparral, coastal scrub (alluvial fan) in sandy and gravelly substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Santa Ana River woollystar</b> <i>(Eriastrum densifolium ssp. sanctorum)</i>  FE/SE CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Perennial herb which generally blooms from February to September within chaparral (maritime), cismontane woodland and coastal scrub with sandy or gravelly substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Mesa horkelia</b> <i>(Horkelia cuneata ssp. puberula)</i>  CRPR 1B.1	Coulter's goldfields is associated with low-lying alkali and saline habitats along the coast and inland valleys. The majority of the populations are associated with coastal salt marsh. In Riverside County, Coulter's goldfields primarily grow in highly alkaline, silty clays associated with the Traver-Domino-Willows soils, and usually in the wet areas in the alkali vernal plain community.	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Coulter's goldfields</b> <i>(Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri)</i>  CRPR List 1B.1 MSHCP Criteria Area Species		

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> )	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Status		
<b>Robinson's pepper-grass</b> ( <i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> )  CRPR 4.3	Annual herb which generally blooms from January to July within chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Parish's desert-thorn</b> ( <i>Lycium parishii</i> )  CRPR 2B.3	Perennial shrub generally blooms from March to April within coastal scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Pringle's monardella</b> ( <i>Monardella pringlei</i> )  CRPR 1A (Presumed Extant)	Annual herb which generally blooms from May to June in coastal scrub dominated sandy substrates (CNPS 2025)	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Brand's phacelia</b> ( <i>Phacelia stellaris</i> )  CRPR 1B.1 MSHCP NEPS	Brand's phacelia is an annual herb and occurs in coastal sage scrub and dune habitats.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Parish's gooseberry</b> ( <i>Ribes divaricatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> )  CRPR 1A	Perennial deciduous shrub generally blooming from February to April within riparian woodland habitats (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>San Miguel savory</b> ( <i>Clinopodium chandleri</i> )  CRPR 1B.2 MSHCP NEPS	San Miguel savory is a perennial shrub. This species occurs in rocky habitats within chaparral, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, and grassland habitats.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Chaparral ragwort</b> ( <i>Senecio aphanactis</i> )  CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from January to May within chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub habitats (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> )	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Status  <b>Salt spring checkerbloom</b> ( <i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> )  CRPR 2B.2	Perennial herb which generally blooms from March to June within chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, and playas within alkaline/mesic gravelly substrates (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>San Bernardino aster</b> ( <i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i> )  CRPR 1B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb generally blooming from July to December within various vegetation communities in associating with wetland substrates (ditches, streams and springs) (CNPS 2025).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<p><b>California Native Plant Society (CNPS): California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)</b>            CRPR 1A – plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere            CRPR 1B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere            CRPR 2A – plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere            CRPR 2B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere            CRPR 3 – plants about which we need more information, a review list            CRPR 4 – plants of limited distribution, a watch list            .1 – Seriously endangered in California            .2 – Fairly endangered in California            .3 – Not very endangered in California</p> <p><b>Federal (USFWS) Protection and Classification</b>            FE – Federally Endangered            FT – Federally Threatened            FC – Federal Candidate for Listing</p> <p><b>State (CDFW) Protection and Classification</b>            SE – State Endangered            ST – State Threatened</p>		

Source: Cadre Environmental 2025.

## SENSITIVE WILDLIFE

Based on a review of the CNDDDB, a total of thirty-six (36) sensitive wildlife species listed in the State and local databases have potential to occur within the vicinity of the Project Site, as presented in Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite* (CNDDDB 2025a).

The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Amphibian Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Mammal Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

No state or federally listed threatened or endangered plant species were documented or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat, as outlined in Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*.

No suitable habitat was documented onsite for special-status wildlife not covered under the MSHCP, as outlined in Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*.

**Table 3.  
Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite.**

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> ) Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>		
<b>Delhi Sands flower-loving fly</b> ( <i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> )  FE MSHCP Covered Species	The Delhi Sands flower-loving fly is found at low numbers and is narrowly distributed within the Plan Area. This species is restricted by the distribution and availability of open habitats within the fine, sandy Delhi series soils (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete). No Delhi soils are mapped onsite.
<b>Crotch's bumble bee</b> ( <i>Bombus crotchii</i> )  SCE	Range extends from southern to northern California within a variety of habitats including grassland, scrub, chaparral and desert habitats. Food plants include but are not limited to the following genera: <i>Antirrhinum, Phacelia, Clarkia, Cordylanthus, Dendromecon, Medicago Eschscholzia, Chaenactis, Eriogonum, Hypericum, Lantana, Lupinus, Salvia, Asclepias, Cirsium, Monardella, Keckiella, Acmispon, Euthamia, Ehrendorferia, Vicia, and/or Trichostema.</i>	<u>No Potential.</u> The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> <i>(Scientific Name)</i> Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Vernal pool fairy shrimp</b> <i>(Branchinecta lynchi)</i>  FT MSHCP Covered Species	Vernal pool fairy shrimp is restricted to seasonal vernal pools (Eng, Belk, and Eriksen 1990; USFWS 1994). The vernal pool fairy shrimp prefers cool-water pools that have low to moderate dissolved solids, are unpredictable, and often short lived (Eriksen and Belk 1999, MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Riverside fairy shrimp</b> <i>(Streptocephalus woottoni)</i>  FE MSHCP Covered Species	<i>S. woottoni</i> is restricted to deep seasonal vernal pools/ephemeral ponds, and stock ponds and other human modified depressions (Eng, Belk, and Eriksen 1990, USFWS 1993, USFWS 2001). Riverside fairy shrimp prefer warm-water pools that have low to moderate dissolved solids, are less predictable, and remained filled for extended periods of time (Eriksen and Belk 1999, MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Monarch butterfly</b> <i>(Danaus plexippus)</i>  FC	Winter migrant along CA coast. Known to roost in eucalyptus trees. Usually encountered in lowland areas. Obligate milkweed host plant (primarily <i>Asclepias</i> spp.) during larval stage. Nectar and milkweed resources are often associated with riparian corridors. Overwinter in groves along the coast of California and Baja California, typically close to the coast, populated by a variety of tree species, including blue gum eucalyptus ( <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> ), Monterey pine ( <i>Pinus radiata</i> ), and Monterey cypress	<u>No Potential</u> . No food sources or roosting sites documented onsite and Western migratory monarchs typically overwinter in groves along the coast.

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> ) Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	( <i>Hesperocypris macrocarpa</i> ).	
<b>FISH</b>		
<b>Santa Ana sucker</b> ( <i>Pantosteus santaanae</i> )  FT/SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Preferred habitat, open water and emergent vegetation (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Arroyo chub</b> ( <i>Gila orcuttii</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Preferred habitat, open water and emergent vegetation in lower gradient streams with sand or mud substrate (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>REPTILES</b>		
<b>Southern California legless lizard</b> ( <i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> )  SSC	Species found in a broader range of habitats than any of the other species in the genus. Often locally abundant, specimens are found in coastal sand dunes and a variety of interior habitats, including sandy washes and alluvial fans.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Orange-throated whiptail</b> ( <i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	The orange-throated whiptail occurs primarily in a wide variety of habitats but is more closely tied to coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitats with less than 90 percent vegetative cover.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Coastal western whiptail</b> ( <i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The coastal western whiptail occurs in a wide variety of habitats including coastal sage scrub, desert scrub, Riversidean alluvial fan scrub, woodlands, grasslands, playas, and respective ecotones between these habitats (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> ) Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Red-diamond rattlesnake</b> ( <i>Crotalus ruber</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The red-diamond rattlesnake is often found in areas with dense vegetation especially chaparral and sage scrub up to 1,520 meters in elevation (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Western pond turtle</b> ( <i>Actinemys marmorata</i> )  FPT/SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The western pond turtle inhabits slow moving permanent or intermittent streams, small ponds, small lakes, reservoirs, abandoned gravel pits, permanent and ephemeral shallow wetlands, stock ponds, and sewage treatment lagoons (Rathbun <i>et al.</i> , 1992; Holland, 1994). Pools are the preferred habitat within streams (Bury, 1972, MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Coast horned lizard</b> ( <i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The horned lizard occurs primarily in scrub, chaparral, and grassland habitats. The species is common in most areas of the Plan Area except where adjacent to urban situations (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>BIRDS</b>		
<b>Cooper's hawk</b> ( <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Cooper's hawk is most commonly found within or adjacent to riparian/oak forest and woodland habitats. This uncommon resident of California increases in numbers during winter migration.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow</b> ( <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow is a non-migratory bird species that primarily occurs within sage scrub and grassland habitats and to a lesser extent chaparral sub-associations (Unitt 2004). This species generally breeds on the ground	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

Species Name (Scientific Name) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
	within grassland and scrub communities in the western and central regions of California.	
<b>Golden eagle</b> ( <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> )  SWL, SFP MSHCP Covered Species	Within southern California, the species prefers grasslands, brushlands (coastal sage scrub and chaparral), deserts, oak savannas, open coniferous forests, and montane valleys (Garrett and Dunn 1981, MSHCP 2004)	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Bell's sage sparrow</b> ( <i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	Bell's sage sparrow is an uncommon to fairly common but localized resident breeder in dry chaparral and coastal sage scrub along the coastal lowlands, inland valleys, and in the lower foothills of local mountains (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Burrowing owls</b> ( <i>Athene cunicularia</i> )  SCE/SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The burrowing owl uses predominantly open land, including grassland, agriculture (e.g., dry-land farming and grazing areas), playa, and sparse coastal sage scrub and desert scrub habitats (Garrett and Dunn 1981). Some breeding burrowing owls are year-round residents and additional individuals from the north may winter throughout the MSHCP Area Plan (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

Species Name (Scientific Name) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
<b>Western yellow-billed cuckoo</b> ( <i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> )  FT/SE MSHCP Covered Species	Although the preferred habitat, riparian scrub and forest, is well distributed at scattered locations within the Plan Area in the Riverside Lowland Bioregions, the western yellow-billed cuckoo apparently no longer inhabits much of this habitat (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>White-tailed kite</b> ( <i>Elanus leucurus</i> )  SFP MSHCP Covered Species	The white-tailed kite is found in riparian, oak woodlands adjacent to large open spaces including grasslands, wetlands, savannahs and agricultural fields. This non-migratory bird species occurs throughout the lower elevations of California and commonly nests in coast live oaks (Unitt 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Southwestern willow flycatcher</b> ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )  FE/SE MSHCP Covered Species	The southwestern willow flycatcher is narrowly distributed at few locations within the Plan Area. Although the preferred habitat, riparian woodland and select other forests, is well distributed within all bioregions and spread over the entire Plan Area, few current locations for the willow flycatcher have been documented (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>American peregrine falcon</b> ( <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> )  MSHCP Covered Species	Throughout the species' range, peregrine falcons are found in a large variety of open habitats, including tundra, marshes, seacoasts, savannahs and high mountains (AOU 1998, MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> ) Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Yellow-breasted chat</b> ( <i>Icteria virens</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The yellow-breasted chat is associated with riparian woodland and riparian scrub habitats. (MSHCP 2004)	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Loggerhead shrike</b> ( <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Loggerhead shrike prefer open ground for foraging and thick trees and shrubs including sage scrub, chaparral, and desert scrub habitats for nesting.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Black-crowned night heron</b> ( <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> )  MSHCP Covered Species	Black-crowned night-herons require marshes, ponds, reservoirs, and estuaries for foraging and also occur along the margins of lacustrine, large riverine, and fresh and saline emergent habitats and, rarely, in kelp beds in marine subtidal habitats (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Osprey</b> ( <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	The osprey is restricted to large water bodies supporting fish with surrounding or nearby forest Habitats, often ponderosa pine or mixed conifer (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Double-crested cormorant</b> ( <i>Nannopterum auritum</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	The double-crested cormorant is a common inhabitant of seacoasts and inland waters, rarely observed out of sight of land (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>White-faced ibis</b> ( <i>Plegadis chihi</i> )  SWL MSHCP Covered Species	The white-faced ibis is sparsely distributed throughout the Riverside Lowlands Bioregions of the MSHCP Plan Area within its suitable Habitat. It occurs at some of the areas of freshwater marsh habitat but is only documented for breeding at two locations: Prado Basin and Mystic	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

Species Name (Scientific Name) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
	Lake/San Jacinto Wildlife Area (MSHCP 2004).	
<b>Coastal California gnatcatcher</b> <i>(Polioptila californica californica)</i>  FT/SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The coastal California gnatcatcher is a non-migratory bird species that primarily occurs within sage scrub habitats in coastal southern California dominated by California sagebrush ( <i>Artemisia californica</i> ), and California buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> ).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Tree swallow</b> <i>(Tachycineta bicolor)</i>  MSHCP Covered Species	Suitable habitat is provided for the tree swallow by the riparian forest and woodland up through the lodgepole pine belt for breeding habitats. It frequents valley foothill and montane riparian habitats below 2,700 meters (9,000 feet) for breeding within its range (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Least Bell's vireo</b> <i>(Vireo bellii pusillus)</i>  FE/SE MSHCP Covered Species	Least Bell's vireo resides in riparian habitats with a well-defined understory including southern willow scrub, mule fat, and riparian forest/woodland habitats.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>MAMMALS</b>		
<b>Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse</b> <i>(Chaetodipus fallax fallax)</i>  MSHCP Covered Species	The northwestern San Diego pocket mouse occurs throughout the Plan Area in coastal sage scrub (including Diegan and Riversidean upland sage scrubs and alluvial fan sage scrub), sage scrub/grassland ecotones, chaparral, and desert scrubs at all elevations up to 6,000 feet (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

Species Name (Scientific Name) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
<b>San Bernardino kangaroo rat</b> ( <i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> )  FE/SE/SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Alluvial sage scrub on alluvial fans, flood plains, along washes, in adjacent upland areas, and in areas with historic braided stream channels; these habitats characterized by sand, loam, sandy loam, or gravelly soils. Prefers the more open early and intermediate phases of alluvial sage scrub, but mature sage scrub is important as refugia during floods.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Stephens' kangaroo rat</b> ( <i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> )  FE/ST MSHCP Covered Species	The Stephens' kangaroo rat is found almost exclusively in open grasslands or sparse shrublands with cover of less than 50 percent during the summer (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Western mastiff bat</b> ( <i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> )  SSC	Western mastiff bats are found in a variety of biotic environments from low desert scrub to chaparral, oak woodland and ponderosa pine.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Yellow bat</b> ( <i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> )  SSC	Although formerly associated only with the desert palm oasis in California (Bond, 1970), yellow bats appear to be expanding their range to the coast and northward, possibly as a result of the planting of ornamental palms.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Bobcat</b> ( <i>Lynx rufus</i> )  MSHCP Covered Species	The bobcat requires large expanses of relatively undisturbed brushy and rocky habitats near springs or other perennial water sources.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).

<b>Species Name</b> ( <i>Scientific Name</i> ) Status	<b>Habitat Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Pocketed free-tailed bat</b> ( <i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	Usually associated with rugged canyons, high cliffs, and rock outcroppings. Roosts in rock crevices and caves during the day; may also roost in buildings or under roof tiles (Ziener et al. 1988-1990).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Los Angeles pocket mouse</b> ( <i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> )  SSC MSHCP Covered Species	The Los Angeles pocket mouse appears to be limited to sparsely vegetated habitat areas in patches of fine sandy soils associated with washes or of aeolian (windblown) origin, such as dunes (MSHCP 2004).	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>American badger</b> ( <i>Taxidea taxus</i> )  SSC	The American badger prefers friable soils in open grassland and scrub habitat in southern California.	<u>No Potential</u> . The species is not expected to be present based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete).
<b>Federal (USFWS) Protection and Classification</b> FE – Federally Endangered FT – Federally Threatened FPT – Federally Proposed Threatened FC – Federal Candidate for Listing  <b>State (CDFW) Protection and Classification</b> SE – State Endangered    SCE - State Candidate Endangered ST – State Threatened SSC – State Species of Special Concern SWL – California Watch List SPF – State Fully Protected		

Sources: Cadre Environmental 2025.

Critical habitat designations by the USFWS were researched to determine if any of the Project Site is located within USFWS critical habitat. The Project Site does not occur within a designated critical habitat for federally endangered or threatened species.

## REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY/WILDLIFE MOVEMENT CORRIDORS

### Overview

Wildlife corridors link areas of suitable habitat that are otherwise separated by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbance. The fragmentation of open space areas by urbanization creates isolated “islands” of wildlife habitat. In the absence of habitat linkages that allow movement to adjoining open space areas, various studies have concluded that some wildlife species, especially the larger and more mobile mammals, will not likely persist over time in fragmented or isolated habitat areas because they

prohibit the infusion of new individuals and genetic information (MacArthur and Wilson 1967; Soule 1987; Harris and Gallagher 1989; Bennett 1990). Corridors effectively act as links between different populations of a species. A group of smaller populations (termed “demes”) linked together via a system of corridors is termed a “metapopulation.” The long-term health of each deme within the metapopulation is dependent upon its size and the frequency of interchange of individuals (immigration vs. emigration). The smaller the deme, the more important immigration becomes, because prolonged inbreeding with the same individuals can reduce genetic variability. Immigrant individuals that move into the deme from adjoining demes mate with individuals and supply that deme with new genes and gene combinations that increases overall genetic diversity. An increase in a population’s genetic variability is generally associated with an increase in a population’s health. Corridors mitigate the effects of habitat fragmentation by:

- (1) allowing animals to move between remaining habitats, which allows depleted populations to be replenished and promotes genetic diversity;
- (2) providing escape routes from fire, predators, and human disturbances, thus reducing the risk that catastrophic events (such as fires or disease) will result in population or local species extinction; and
- (3) serving as travel routes for individual animals as they move within their home ranges in search of food, water, mates, and other needs (Noss 1983; Fahrig and Merriam 1985; Simberloff and Cox 1987; Harris and Gallagher 1989).

Wildlife movement activities usually fall into one of three movement categories: (1) dispersal (e.g., juvenile animals from natal areas, individuals extending range distributions); (2) seasonal migration; and (3) movements related to home range activities (foraging for food or water, defending territories, searching for mates, breeding areas, or cover). A number of terms have been used in various wildlife movement studies, such as “wildlife corridor”, “travel route”, “habitat linkage”, and “wildlife crossing” to refer to areas in which wildlife moves from one area to another. To clarify the meaning of these terms and facilitate the discussion on wildlife movement in this study, these terms are defined as follows:

*Travel Route:* A landscape feature (such as a ridge line, drainage, canyon, or riparian strip) within a larger natural habitat area that is used frequently by animals to facilitate movement and provide access to necessary resources (e.g., water, food, cover, den sites). The travel route is generally preferred because it provides the least amount of topographic resistance in moving from one area to another; it contains adequate food, water, and/or cover while moving between habitat areas; and provides a relatively direct link between target habitat areas.

*Wildlife Corridor:* A piece of habitat, usually linear in nature, that connects two or more habitat patches that would otherwise be fragmented or isolated from one another. 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.

***Wildlife Crossing:*** A small, narrow area, relatively short in length and generally constricted in nature, that allows wildlife to pass under or through an obstacle or barrier that otherwise hinders or prevents movement. Crossings typically are manmade and include culverts, underpasses, drainage pipes, and tunnels to provide access across or under roads, highways, pipelines, or other physical obstacles. These are often “choke points” along a movement corridor.

### **Wildlife Movement within Project Site**

The Project Site does not represent a regional wildlife movement corridor and provides no cover, food, and no natural unrestricted water courses that would facilitate regional wildlife movement onsite. The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP designated core, extension of existing core, non-contiguous habitat block, constrained linkage, or linkage area.

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## **REGIONAL AND REGULATORY SETTING**

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### **LOCAL & MSHCP COMPLIANCE ANALYSIS**

#### **Western Riverside County MSHCP Compliance Analysis**

The proposed Project Site is located completely within the MSHCP, which is a comprehensive multi-jurisdictional effort that includes western Riverside County and eighteen (18) cities including the City of Jurupa Valley. Rather than addressing sensitive species on an individual basis, the MSHCP focuses on conservation of 146 species, including those listed at the federal and state levels and those that could become listed in the future. The MSHCP proposed a reserve system of approximate 500,000 acres, of which 347,000 acres are currently within public ownership and 153,000 acres will need to be assembled from lands currently in private ownership. The MSHCP allows the County and other permittees (including the City of Jurupa Valley) to issue take permits for listed species so that applicants do not need to receive endangered species incidental take authorization from the USFWS and CDFW.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the MSHCP, certified the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement, and authorized the Chairman to sign the Implementing Agreement with the respective wildlife agencies. The Incidental Take Permit was issued by the wildlife agencies on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. The City of Jurupa Valley is a Permittee under the MSHCP.

#### **MSHCP Reserve Design & Criteria Area Objectives**

Regions of the MSHCP have been organized into Area Plans that generally coincide with logical political boundaries, including city limits or long-standing unincorporated communities. The RCCD IETCC Building 1A & 1B Project Site is located within the Jurupa Area Plan. The Jurupa Plan has a target conservation acreage of 4,230 - 5,210 acres; it is composed of approximately 3,340 acres of existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands and 890 - 1,870 acres of Additional Reserve Lands (MSHCP 2004).

The RCCD IETCC Building 1A & 1B Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Criteria Area Cell, Cell Group, or Linkage Area. Therefore, no Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy (HANS) or Joint Project Review (JPR) are required.

### **MSHCP Sensitive Species**

Delhi Sands flower-loving fly - The species is not expected to be present onsite based on a lack of suitable soils or habitats. The Project Site is developed (asphalt and concrete) and no Delhi soils are mapped onsite.

MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species - The Project Site is not located within a Narrow Endemic Species Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.1.3

MSHCP Criteria Area Species - The Project Site is not located within a Criteria Area Species Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

MSHCP Amphibian and Mammal Species - The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Amphibian or Mammal Species Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

MSHCP Amphibian and Mammal Species - The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area; therefore, no surveys are required (RCA GIS Data Downloads 2025). The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.3.2.

### **MSHCP Section 6.1.2 Riparian, Riverine, Vernal Pool Resources**

Regulated activities within inland streams, wetlands and riparian areas in Western Riverside County California fall under the jurisdiction of the MSHCP Section 6.1.2. The MSHCP requires, among other things, assessments for riparian/riverine and vernal pool resources. As projects are proposed within the MSHCP Plan Area, an assessment of the potentially significant effects of those projects on riparian/riverine areas, and vernal pools are required, as currently mandated by CEQA, using available information augmented by project-specific mapping provided to and reviewed by the permittee's biologist(s). Riparian/riverine areas and vernal pools are defined for this section as follows in accordance with Section 6.1.2, Vol. I, of the Final MSHCP Plan:

*“Riparian/Riverine Areas are lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year.” (MSHCP 2004)*

It is assumed the first part of the definition defines riparian habitat, and the second part defines riverine areas. Vernal pools are defined as:

*“...seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation and hydrology) during*

*the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season, while upland species (annuals) may be dominant during the drier portion of the growing season". (MSHCP 2004)*

No evidence of vernal pool, ephemeral depressions, stock ponds, road ruts or other wetland features were recorded on the Project Site. Vernal pools are depressions in areas where a hard-underground layer prevents rainwater from draining downward into the subsoils. When rain fills the pools in the winter and spring, the water collects and remains in the depressions. In the springtime, the water gradually evaporates away, until the pools became completely dry in the summer and fall. Vernal pools tend to have an impermeable layer that results in ponded water. The soil texture (the amount of sand, silt, and clay particles) typically contains higher amounts of fine silts and clays with lower percolation rates. Pools that retain water for a sufficient length of time will develop hydric cells. Hydric cells form when the soil is saturated from flooding for extended periods of time and anaerobic conditions (lacking oxygen or air) develop.

A review of historic aerials was conducted to determine if inundated features were present during years of high rainfall when features would certainly be documented. Historic aerials taken in 2011 represent an ideal baseline during which known (previously documented) inundated vernal pool, ephemeral depressions, stock ponds, road ruts can easily be seen. No sign or indication of inundation representing suitable fairy shrimp habitat was documented within the Project Site during a review of historic aerials.

No riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitat suitable for the least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher or western yellow-billed cuckoo is present within or adjacent to the Project Site. The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.1.2.

An MSHCP Determination of Biological Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP) will not be required.

### **MSHCP Urban/Wildlands Interface Guidelines**

The MSHCP Urban/Wildlands Interface guidelines presented in Section 6.1.4 are intended to address indirect effects associated with locating commercial, mixed uses and residential developments in proximity to an MSHCP Conservation Area. The Project Site is not located adjacent to an existing or proposed MSHCP Conservation Area. The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.1.4.

### **MSHCP Fuels Management Guidelines**

The fuels management guidelines presented in Section 6.4 of the MSHCP are intended to address brush management activities around new development within or adjacent to MSHCP Conservation Areas. The Project Site is not located adjacent to an existing or proposed MSHCP Conservation Area. The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.4.

## City of Jurupa Protected Trees

The City of Jurupa Valley does not possess an ordinance pertaining to the protection of trees. Therefore, the following regulations apply to tree removal within Riverside County.

- Riverside County Code of Ordinances, Section 12.08.050 requires a permit from the county transportation Director to remove or severely trim any tree planted in the right-of-way of any county highway.
- Riverside County Code of Ordinances, Section 12.24 or Ordinance No. 559 requires a permit to “remove any living native tree on any parcel or property greater than one-half acre in size, located in an area above 5,000 feet in elevation and within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside.”
- The Riverside County Oak Tree Management Guidelines address the treatment of oak woodlands and their preservation.

No native trees or oak species occur onsite and the removal of ornamental trees would not conflict with any County of Riverside protected tree ordinance or oak tree management guidelines.

## City of Jurupa Valley General Plan - Conservation and Open Space Element

As outlined below, the City of Jurupa Valley’s 2017 General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element (Chapter 4) Goals and Policies for the preservation and protection of critical open space and natural resources have been incorporated into the project design and mitigation approach.

### **Biological Resources**

**COS 1.1 Habitat Conservation.** Conserve key habitats, including existing wetlands and California native plant communities, with a focus on protecting and restoring the following endangered species habitats:

1. Conserve alluvial fan sage scrub associated with the Santa Ana River to support key populations of Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium sanctorum*).

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River and no alluvial fan sage scrub habitat is located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(1).

2. Conserve clay soils to support key populations of many-stemmed liveforever plants (*Dudleya multicaulis*) known to occur along the Jurupa Valley portion of the Santa Ana River.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River and no clay soils are located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(2).

3. Conserve known populations of least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher along the Santa Ana River.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River and no riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitats are located within or adjacent to the property. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(3).

4. Conserve large intact habitat areas consisting of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and grasslands to support known locations of coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliioptila californica*).

No suitable coastal California gnatcatcher habitat is present within or adjacent to the Project Site. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(4).

5. Conserve grassland and coastal sage scrub supporting known populations of San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) in the Jurupa Mountains.

No suitable habitat for the San Bernardino kangaroo rat occurs within or adjacent to the Project Site. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(5).

6. Conserve grasslands adjacent to sage scrub for foraging habitat for raptors.

No grassland or sage scrub habitats occurs onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(6).

7. Conserve riparian areas, including river basin, creeks, streams, vernal springs, seeps and other natural water features.

No riparian scrub, forest, woodland or water features are located within the Project Site. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.1(7).

**COS 1.2 Protection of Significant Trees.** Protect and preserve significant trees, as determined by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Significant trees are those trees that make substantial contributions to natural habitat or to the urban landscape due to their species, size, or rarity. In particular, California native trees should be protected.

No native trees or oak species occur onsite and the proposed project would not conflict with any County of Riverside protected tree ordinance or oak tree management guidelines. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.2.

**COS 1.3 Other Significant Vegetation.** Maintain and conserve superior examples of vegetation, including: agricultural wind screen plantings, street trees, stands of mature native and non-native trees, and other features of ecological, aesthetic, and conservation value.

No native natural or disturbed significant vegetation features are located within the Project Site. The Project Site is developed. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 1.3.

## **Wildlife Habitats**

**COS 2.1 MSHCP Implementation.** Implement provisions of the MSHCP when conducting review of development applications, General Plan amendments/zoning changes, transportation, or other infrastructure projects that are covered activities in the MSHCP.

The previous section (LOCAL - Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Consistency Analysis) assesses compliance with all MSHCP requirements. The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP criteria area cell, group, or linkage area. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 2.1.

**COS 2.2 Wildlife Corridors.** Identify and maintain a continuous wildlife corridor along the City's northern boundary through the Jurupa Mountains and along the Santa Ana River from the northern boundary to the City's western boundary. Condition development approvals to ensure that important corridors for wildlife movement and dispersal are protected and not interrupted by walls, fences, roadways or other obstructions. Features of particular importance to wildlife include riparian corridors, wetlands, streams, springs, and protected natural areas with cover and water. Linkages and corridors shall be provided to maintain connections between habitat areas.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Jurupa Mountains or Santa Ana River. The Project Site does not represent a regional wildlife movement corridor and provides extremely limited cover, food, and no natural unrestricted water courses that would facilitate regional wildlife movement onsite. The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP designated core, extension of existing core, non-contiguous habitat block, constrained linkage, or linkage area. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 2.2.

**COS 2.3 Biological Reports.** Require the preparation of biological reports to assess the impacts of development and provide mitigation for impacts to biological resources when reviewing discretionary development projects with the potential to affect adversely wildlife habitat.

The following Biological Resources Technical Report assesses impacts and proposes mitigation to offset impacts to wildlife habitat and ensure compliance with all MSHCP and CEQA guidelines. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 2.3.

## **Water Resources - Floodplain and Riparian Area Management**

**COS 3.16 Floodway Modification.** Encourage other agencies to limit floodway modification or channelization only as a "last resort," and limit the alteration to:

1. That necessary for the protection of public health and safety, only after all other options are exhausted,
2. Essential public service projects where no other feasible construction method or alternative project location exists,
3. Projects where the primary function is improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, or

4. Private development entitlements shall be required to design floodplain and river edge treatments to simulate and ultimately regenerate natural terrain and riparian habitat, using techniques such as covering and re-planting over rip-rap embankments, and utilizing gentle contoured slopes that do not exceed 8:1 slope ratio.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River floodplain and no riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitat is located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.16.

**COS 3.17 Environmental Mitigation.** Encourage and, where possible, require that substantial modifications of a floodplain be designed to reduce adverse environmental effects to the maximum extent feasible, considering the following factors:

1. Stream scour
2. Erosion protection and sedimentation
3. Wildlife habitat and linkages
4. Groundwater recharge capability
5. Adjacent property
6. Designed to achieve a natural effect. Examples could include soft riparian bottoms, riparian corridors within the floodway, and gentle and modulating bank slopes, wide and shallow flood- ways, minimization of visible use of concrete, and landscaping with California native plants to the maximum extent possible. A site-specific hydrologic study may be required.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River floodplain. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.17.

**COS 3.18 Setbacks.** Based upon site-specific study, all development shall be set back from the designated floodway boundary or top of bank, whichever is most appropriate, a distance adequate to address the following issues:

1. Public safety,
2. Erosion,
3. Riparian or wetland buffer,
4. Wildlife movement corridor or linkage, and
5. Slopes.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River floodplain and no riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitat is located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.18.

**COS 3.19 Trails.** Consider designating floodway setbacks to accommodate greenways, trails, and recreation opportunities and allowing such uses within floodways, where appropriate.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River floodplain. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.19.

**COS 3.20 Riparian Area Preservation.** Require development projects to preserve and enhance native riparian habitat and prevent obstruction of natural watercourses. Zoning incentives, such as transfer of development credits, should be used to the maximum extent possible.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to the Santa Ana River floodplain and no riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitat is located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.20.

**COS 3.21 Ecotones.** Identify and, to the maximum extent possible, conserve remaining upland habitat areas, or “ecotones” adjacent to wetland and riparian areas that are critical to the feeding, hibernation, or nesting of wildlife species.

The Project Site is not located within or adjacent to a wetland and no riparian scrub, forest or woodland habitat is located onsite. The proposed project is in compliance with Policy COS 3.21.

### **City of Jurupa Valley Municipal Code Section 3.80.070 (MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee)**

The project applicant shall pay MSHCP Local Development Mitigation fees as established by the RCA and implemented by the City of Jurupa Valley. Five categories of the fee are defined, include and are effect till June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026: Residential, density less than 8.0 dwelling units per acre \$4,486 per dwelling unit; Residential, density between 8.1 and 14.0 dwelling units per acre \$1.870 per dwelling unit; Residential, density greater than 14.1 dwelling units per acre \$827 per dwelling unit; Commercial \$20,191 per acre; and Industrial \$20,191 per acre. Annual updated MSHCP fees are available at [Permits and Fees | Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority](#). (**BIO-CM1** MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee)

## **FEDERAL**

### **Federal Endangered Species Act**

The MSHCP serves as an HCP pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the FESA of 1973, allowing participating jurisdictions to authorize “take” of plant and wildlife species. The MSHCP has been issued under this Section and provides incidental take for all covered species.

### **Clean Water Act**

The Clean Water Act, Section 401 provides guidance for the restoration and maintenance of the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation’s waters. Section 401 requires a project operator to obtain a federal license or permit that allows activities resulting in a discharge to waters of the United States to obtain state certification, thereby ensuring that the discharge will comply with provisions of the CWA. The Regional Water Quality Control Board administers the certification program in California. Section 404 establishes a permit program administered by the USACE that regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. The USACE

implementing regulations are found at 33 CFR 320 and 330. Guidelines for implementation are referred to as the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines, which were developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in conjunction with the USACE (40 CFR 230). The guidelines allow the discharge of dredged or fill material into the aquatic system only if there is no practicable alternative that would have less adverse impacts.

### **Wetland Definition Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**

Aquatic resources, including riparian areas, wetlands, and certain aquatic vegetation communities, are considered sensitive biological resources and fall under the jurisdiction of several regulatory agencies. The USACE exerts jurisdiction over waters of the United States, including all waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; wetlands and other waters such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent or ephemeral streams), mudflats, sandflats, sloughs, prairie potholes, vernal pools, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds; and tributaries of the above features. The extent of waters of the United States is generally defined as the portion that falls within the limits of the OHWM. The OHWM is defined as the “line on the shore established by the fluctuation of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.”

On April 21, 2020 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the USACE published the Navigable Waters Protection Rule to define “Waters of the United States” in the Federal Register. The April 2020 definition includes four simple categories of jurisdictional waters, including: (1) the territorial seas and traditional navigable waters; (2) perennial and intermittent tributaries to those waters; (3) certain lakes, ponds and impoundments; and (4) wetlands adjacent to jurisdictional waters.

The April 2020 definition provides clear exclusions for many water features that traditionally have been regulated, such as ephemeral drainages. The April 2020 definition has been formally adopted by EPA and the USACE and was used for this Jurisdictional Delineation.

Wetlands, including swamps, bogs, seasonal wetlands, seeps, marshes, and similar areas, are defined by USACE as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” (33 CFR 328.3[b]; 40 CFR 230.3[t]). Indicators of three wetland parameters (i.e., hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and wetlands hydrology), as determined by field investigation, must be present for a site to be classified as a wetland by USACE (USACE 1987).

It is important to note that the RWQCB definition of wetland was redefined and the new definition went into effect May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The definition of a wetland is as follows: An area is wetland if, under normal circumstances, (1) the area has continuous or recurrent saturation of the upper substrate caused by groundwater, or shallow surface water, or both; (2) the duration of such saturation is sufficient to cause anaerobic conditions in the

upper substrate; and (3) the area's vegetation is dominated by hydrophytes or the area lacks vegetation. This RWQCB modified three-parameter definition is similar to the federal definition in that it identifies three wetland characteristics that determine the presence of a wetland: wetland hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytic vegetation. Unlike the federal definition, however, the RWQCB wetland definition allows for the presence of hydric substrates as a criterion for wetland identification (not just wetland soils) and wetland hydrology for an area devoid of vegetation (less than 5% cover) to be considered a wetland.

However, if any vegetation is present, then the USACE delineation procedures would apply to the vegetated component (i.e., hydrophytes must dominate). Examples of waters that would be considered wetlands by the RWQCB definition, but not by the federal wetland definition, are non-vegetated wetlands, or wetlands characterized by exposed bare substrates like mudflats and playas, as long as they meet the three-parameters as described in the RWQCB definition. It is important to note that while the USACE may not designate a feature as a wetland, that feature could be considered a special aquatic site or other water of the U.S. by the USACE and potentially subject to USACE jurisdiction.

### **Migratory Bird Treaty and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Acts**

Migratory birds including resident raptors and passerines are protected under the federal MBTA. The MBTA of 1918 implemented the 1916 convention between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of birds migrating between the U.S. and Canada. Similar conventions between the United States and Mexico (1936), Japan (1972) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (1976) further expanded the scope of international protection of migratory birds. Each new treaty has been incorporated into the MBTA as an amendment and the provisions of the new treaty are implemented domestically. These four treaties and their enabling legislation, the MBTA, established Federal responsibilities for the protection of nearly all species of birds, their eggs and nests. The MBTA made it illegal for people to "take" migratory birds, their eggs, feathers or nests. Take is defined in the MBTA to include by any means or in any manner, any attempt at hunting, pursuing, wounding, killing, possessing or transporting any migratory bird, nest, egg, or part thereof. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act affords additional protection to all bald and golden eagles.

## **STATE**

### **California Endangered Species Act**

The CESA is similar to FESA in that it contains a process for listing of species regulating potential impacts to listed species. Section 2081 of the CESA authorizes the CDFW to enter into a memorandum of agreement for take of listed species for scientific, educational, or management purposes. The MSHCP serves as an HCP pursuant the Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the NCCP Act of 2001, allowing participating jurisdictions to authorize "*Take*" of plant and wildlife species.

As stated by CDFW:

*“On June 22, 2004, the Department issued NCCP Approval and Take Authorization for the Western Riverside County MSCHP per Section 2800 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code. The MSHCP establishes a multiple species conservation program to minimize and mitigate habitat loss and the incidental take of covered species in association with activities covered under the permit.” (CDFG 2004)*

### **California Fish and Game Code 3503 and 3513**

As stated by CDFW:

*“CHAPTER 1. General Provisions [3500 - 3516] (Chapter 1 enacted by Stats. 1957, Ch. 456.) It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. (Amended by Stats. 1971, Ch. 1470.)”*

### **Native Plant Protection Act**

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) enacted a process by which plants are listed as rare or endangered. The NPPA regulates collection, transport, and commerce in plants that are listed. The CESA follows the NPPA and covers both plants and wildlife determined to be threatened with extinction or endangered. Plants listed as rare under the NPPA are designated as threatened under the CESA.

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

The RWQCB also has jurisdiction over waters deemed “isolated” or not subject to Section 404 jurisdiction under the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. Corps decision. Dredging, filling, or excavation of isolated waters constitutes a discharge of waste to waters of the state and prospective dischargers are required to obtain authorization through an Order of Waste Discharge or waiver thereof from the RWQCB and comply with other requirements of Porter-Cologne Act.

Under Section 401 of the CWA, the local RWQCB must certify that actions receiving authorization under Section 404 of the CWA also meet state water quality standards. The RWQCB requires projects to avoid impacts to wetlands if feasible and requires that projects do not result in a net loss of wetland acreage or a net loss of wetland function and values. Compensatory mitigation for impacts to wetlands and/or waters of the state is required.

### **CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement**

Waters of the State are regulated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) through Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code. Section 1600 et seq. requires notifying the CDFW prior to any project activity that might (1) substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; (2)

substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or (3) deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake. If, after this notification, the CDFW determines that the activity may substantially adversely affect fish and wildlife resources, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement will need to be obtained. CDFW may then place conditions in the Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potentially significant adverse impacts within CDFW jurisdictional limits.

The limits of Waters of the State are defined as the “body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supports fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation.” Therefore, the limits extend from the channel bed to the top of the bank, with the addition of the canopy of any riparian habitat associated with the watercourse.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

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The following sections include an analysis of the direct impacts, indirect impacts, and cumulative effects of the proposed action on sensitive biological resources. This analysis characterizes the project related activities that are anticipated to adversely impact the species, and when feasible, quantifies such impacts. Direct effects are defined as actions that may cause an immediate effect on the species or its habitat, including the effects of interrelated actions and interdependent actions. Indirect effects are caused by or result from the proposed actions, are later in time, and are reasonably certain to occur. Indirect effects may occur outside of the area directly affected by the proposed action.

Cumulative impacts refer to incremental, individual environmental effects of two or more projects when considered together. These impacts taken individually may be minor but may be collectively significant. Cumulative effects include future tribal, local, or private actions that are reasonably certain to occur in the proposal vicinity considered in this report. A cumulative impact to biological resources may occur if a project has the potential to collectively degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of wildlife species or cause a population to drop below self-sustaining levels, thereby threatening to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal species.

### THRESHOLD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The environmental impacts relative to biological resources are assessed using impact significance criteria which mirror the policy statement contained in the CEQA at Section 21001 (c) of the Public Resources Code. This section reflects that the legislature has established it to be the policy of the state to:

*“Prevent the elimination of fish and wildlife species due to man’s activities, ensure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self-perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities...”*

The following definitions apply to the significance criteria for biological resources:

- “*Endangered*” means that the species is listed as endangered under state or federal law.
- “*Threatened*” means that the species is listed as threatened under state or federal law.
- “*Rare*” means that the species exists in such small numbers throughout all or a significant portion of its range that it may become endangered if its environment worsens.
- “*Region*” refers to the area within southern California that is within the range of the individual species.
- “*Sensitive habitat*” refers to habitat for plants and animals (1) which plays a special role in perpetuating species utilizing the habitat on the property, and (2) without which there would be substantial danger that the population of that species would drop below self-perpetuating levels.
- “*Substantial effect*” means significance loss or harm of a magnitude which, based on current scientific data and knowledge, (1) would cause a species or a native plant or animal community to drop below self-perpetuating levels on a statewide or regional basis or (2) would cause a species to become threatened or endangered.

Impacts to biological resources may result in a significant adverse impact if one or more of the following conditions would result from implementation of the proposed project.

- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any endangered, or threatened species, as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (Sections 670.2 or 670.5) or Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (Sections 17.11 or 17.12).
- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS, and meets the definition of Section 15380 (b), (c), or (d) of the CEQA Guidelines.
- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS.
- Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish and wildlife species or with established native resident migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites.
- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.
- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan.

Also, the determination of impacts has been made according to the federal definition of “*take*”. The federal FESA prohibits the “*taking*” of a member of an endangered or threatened wildlife species or removing, damaging, or destroying a listed plant species by any person (including private individuals and private or government entities). The FESA

defines “take” as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, would, kill, trap, capture or collect” an endangered or threatened species, or to attempt to engage in these activities.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the Project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?			X	
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Native Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?			X	

## DIRECT IMPACTS

- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS, and meets the definition of Section 15380 (b), (c), or (d) of the CEQA Guidelines. **No Impact.**

The Project Site does not represent suitable habitat for any floral or faunal species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS based on a lack of undisturbed vegetation or soils, as summarized in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*, and Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*. The Project Site is devoid of any vegetation and is currently characterized as developed (asphalt and concrete), as shown in Attachment D, *Vegetation Communities Map* and Attachments E and F, *Current Project Site Photographs*. No native undisturbed vegetation communities or soils are present onsite. No Impact.

No Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) non-covered sensitive floral or faunal species were detected or expected to occur within or adjacent to the project as summarized in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*, and Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur Onsite*. The Project Site is devoid of any vegetation and is currently characterized as developed (asphalt and concrete). No Impact.

- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS. **No Impact.**

No riparian scrub, woodland, forest or other sensitive natural community is present within or adjacent to the Project Site. The Project Site is devoid of any vegetation and is currently characterized as developed (asphalt and concrete). No Impact.

- Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. **No Impact.**

No features including wetlands regulated by the USACE, CDFW, RWQCB and MSHCP Section 6.1.2. Riparian/Riverine/Vernal Pools are present onsite. Regulatory permits, certifications and MSHCP Determination of Biological Equivalent or Superior Preservation (DBESP) are not required. No Impact.

The project will comply with all applicable water quality regulations, including complying with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit by the Santa Ana Region Water Quality Control Board. This State Permit places pollution prevention requirements on planned developments, construction sites, commercial and industrial businesses, municipal facilities and activities, and residential communities. Both of these permits include the treatment of all surface runoff from paved and developed areas, the implementation of applicable Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction activities and the installation and proper maintenance of structural BMPs to ensure adequate long-term treatment of water before entering into any stream course or municipal system.

- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish and wildlife species or with established native resident migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native nursery sites. **Less than Significant.**

The Project Site does not represent a regional wildlife movement corridor and provides no cover, food, and no natural unrestricted water courses that would facilitate regional wildlife movement onsite. The Project Site is not located within an MSHCP designated core, extension of existing core, non-contiguous habitat block, constrained linkage, or linkage area. No Impact.

The ornamental vegetation documented adjacent and offsite to the Project Site represents low but suitable nesting habitat for nesting bird species and those which nest in landscaped vegetation. Potential indirect impacts to regulated nesting birds during construction within the Project Site will require compliance with the federal MBTA and CDFG Codes Section 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 (**BIO-CM2** MBTA & CDFG Nesting Bird Code Compliance). Less than Significant.

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. **No Impact.**

No native trees or oak species occur onsite and the proposed project would not conflict with any County of Riverside protected tree ordinance or oak tree management guidelines. The proposed project is in compliance with City of Jurupa General Plan Policy COS 1.2. No Impact.

- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan. **Less than Significant.**

A total of 9.74-acres of developed land would be permanently impacted as a result of the proposed action, as summarized in Table 4, *Vegetation Communities Impacts*, and illustrated in Figure 8, *Vegetation Communities Impact Map*. Impacts to 9.74-acres within the MSHCP will be less than significant following implementation of (**BIO-CM1** MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee).

**Table 4.  
Vegetation Communities Impacts**

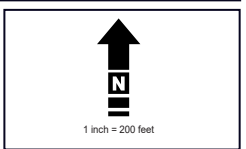
<b>Vegetation Type</b>	<b>TOTAL Onsite Acres</b>	<b>TOTAL Onsite Impact Acres</b>
Developed	9.74	9.74
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9.74</b>	<b>9.74</b>

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Portion of APN 177-110-016

**Figure 8 - Vegetation Communities Impact Map**  
 Biological Resources Technical Report  
 RCCD IETTC Buildings 1A & 1B Project Site



## **INDIRECT IMPACTS**

All MSHCP Urban/Wildlands Interface guidelines presented in Section 6.1.4 are intended to address indirect effects associated with locating commercial, mixed uses and residential developments in proximity to an MSHCP Conservation Area. The Project Site is not located adjacent to an existing or proposed MSHCP Conservation Area. The project is consistent with MSHCP Section 6.1.4.

### **Water Quality/Hydrology**

The project will comply with all applicable water quality regulations, including complying with a NPDES permit and MS4 Permit by the Santa Ana Region Water Quality Control Board. This State Permit places pollution prevention requirements on planned developments, construction sites, commercial and industrial businesses, municipal facilities and activities, and residential communities. Both of these permits include the treatment of all surface runoff from paved and developed areas, the implementation of applicable Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction activities and the installation and proper maintenance of structural BMPs to ensure adequate long-term treatment of water before entering into any stream course or municipal system.

### **Toxics**

The project will comply with all applicable water quality regulations, including complying with a NPDES permit and MS4 Permit by the Santa Ana Region Water Quality Control Board. This State Permit places pollution prevention requirements on planned developments, construction sites, commercial and industrial businesses, municipal facilities and activities, and residential communities. Both of these permits include the treatment of all surface runoff from paved and developed areas, the implementation of applicable BMPs during construction activities and the installation and proper maintenance of structural BMPs to ensure adequate long-term treatment of water before entering into any stream course or municipal system.

### **Lighting**

No open space, conserved lands, or sensitive biological resources are located within or adjacent to the Project Site. No Impact.

### **Noise**

No open space, conserved lands, or sensitive biological resources are located within or adjacent to the Project Site. No Impact.

### **Invasive Species**

Landscape plantings during and post construction would not indirectly impact natural communities. No open space, conserved land or sensitive biological resources are located within or adjacent to the Project Site. No Impact.

## Barriers

Barriers are intended to reduce or minimize unauthorized public access and associated impacts to protected resources. No open space, conserved lands, or sensitive biological resources are located within or adjacent to the Project Site. No Impact.

## CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The permanent impacts of the project would not result in cumulative impacts (State CEQA Section 15310) to environmental resources within the region of the Project Site. Cumulative impacts refer to incremental effects of an individual project when assessed with the effects of past, current, and proposed projects. The Project Site is located completely within the City of Jurupa Valley, an MSHCP permittee and is not located within or adjacent to a designated conservation area. As stated in the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency:

*"Implementation of the MSHCP and Covered Projects will not result in a cumulative adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any of the Covered Species, including the 31 species that are currently listed as threatened or endangered and the one species that is currently proposed for listing. Implementation of the MSHCP will benefit the Covered Species by preserving their habitat in order to address their life cycle needs. Thus, based on the features of the Plan itself, impacts to Covered Species are mitigated below a level of significance." (County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency 2003)*

The project would result in the permanent loss of 9.74-acres of developed land. As referenced above, the MSHCP was developed to address the comprehensive regional planning effort and anticipated growth in the City of Jurupa Valley.

As stated in the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency:

*"However, implementation of the MSHCP will result in cumulatively significant impacts on the Non-Covered Species because the issuance of incidental take permits will remove an impediment to development outside of the MSHCP Conservation Area. Non-Covered Species would receive little or no protection outside the reserves under existing ordinances and regulations" (County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency 2003)*

Non-covered sensitive floral or faunal species were not detected or expected to occur within or adjacent to the project and therefore the development of the Project Site would not result or contribute to a cumulative impact to non-covered species. No Impact.

As stated in the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency:

*"The Plan will not cause adverse cumulative effects related to the reduction of sensitive vegetation communities within the Plan Area; rather, the Plan is designed to preserve sufficient acreage of the sensitive vegetation*

*communities present in western Riverside County. Similarly, the Plan will not cause adverse cumulative effects related to interference with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or obstruction of genetic flow for the identified Planning Species. Part of the purpose and goals of the MSHCP is to use regional planning efforts to assemble a reserve that will preserve contiguous blocks of habitat in large enough areas to ensure that the reserve will allow movement of species and flow of genetic information.*

*The MSHCP will not cause adverse cumulative impacts by conflicting with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan either within or outside of the Plan area. Rather, the MSHCP has been written specifically to complement existing HCPs, such as the Stephens' kangaroo rat long-term HCP.” (County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency 2003)*

The proposed project has been designed and conservation measures will be implemented to remain in compliance with all MSHCP conservation goals and guidelines and therefore will not result in an adverse cumulative impact. No Impact.

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## CONSERVATION MEASURES

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The following biological conservation measures address those potential adverse impacts determined to be less than significant or are relevant to the protection of biological resources to the extent practicable as part of ensuring compliance and consistency with all MSHCP conservation goals and CEQA guidelines.

### **BIO-CM1 MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee**

The project applicant shall pay MSHCP Local Development Mitigation fees as established by the RCA and implemented by the City of Jurupa Valley. Five categories of the fee are defined, include and are effect till June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026: Residential, density less than 8.0 dwelling units per acre \$4,486 per dwelling unit; Residential, density between 8.1 and 14.0 dwelling units per acre \$1.870 per dwelling unit; Residential, density greater than 14.1 dwelling units per acre \$827 per dwelling unit; Commercial \$20,191 per acre; and Industrial \$20,191 per acre. Annual updated MSHCP fees are available at [Permits and Fees | Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority](#).

### **BIO-CM2 Nesting Bird Preconstruction Surveys**

Regulatory requirement for potential indirect impacts to nesting common and sensitive bird and raptor species will require compliance with the MBTA and CDFG Code Section 3503, 3503.5, and 3513. Construction outside the nesting season (between September 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>) do not require pre-removal nesting bird surveys. If construction is proposed between February 16<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, a qualified biologist will conduct a nesting bird survey(s) no more than three (3) days prior to initiation of grading to document the presence or absence of nesting birds directly adjacent (100 feet) to the Project Site.

The survey(s) will focus on identifying any raptors and/or bird nests that are directly or indirectly affected by construction activities. If active nests are documented, species-specific measures will be prepared by a qualified biologist and implemented to prevent abandonment of the active nest. At a minimum, grading in the vicinity of a nest will be postponed until the young birds have fledged. The perimeter of the nest setback zone will be fenced or adequately demarcated with stakes and flagging at 20-foot intervals, and construction personnel and activities restricted from the area. A survey report by a qualified biologist verifying that no active nests are present, or that the young have fledged, will be submitted to the RCCD for review and approval prior to initiation of grading in the nest-setback zone.

The qualified biologist will serve as a construction monitor during those periods when construction activities occur near active nest areas to ensure that no inadvertent impacts on these nests occur. A final monitoring report of the findings, prepared by a qualified biologist, will be submitted to the RCCD documenting compliance with the MBTA and CDFG Code Section 3503, 3503.5, and 3513. Any nest permanently vacated for the season would not warrant protection pursuant to the MBTA and CDFG Code Section 3503, 3503.5, and 3513.

Implementation of Mitigation and Avoidance Measures **BIO-CM1** and **BIO-CM2** would reduce all potential significant impacts on biological resources below a level of significance and ensure compliance with MSHCP conservation requirements.

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## LITERATURE CITED

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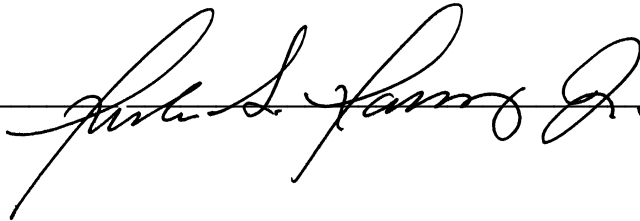
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Certification “*I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.*”

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