APPENDIX D-1

Marine Biological Resources Study

MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES STUDY

AT&T DECOMMISSIONING OF SEGMENTS 8 AND 9 OF THE JAPAN-U.S. CABLE NETWORK MORRO BAY TO MANCHESTER, CALIFORNIA

Project No. 2302-1441

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A. USFWS and NMFS Species Lists

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABREVATIONS

AT&T	AT&T Corporation
CCES	California Current Ecosystem Survey
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CRV	Cable Recovery Vessel
CSLC	California State Lands Commission
DPS	Distinct Population Segment
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FE	Federally Endangered
ft	feet
FT	Federally Threatened
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HAPC	Habitats of Particular Concern
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drill
IS/MND	Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
JUS	Japan-U.S.
km	kilometers
m	meters
mi	miles
MLPA	Marine Life Protection Act
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MPA	Marine Protected Area
nm	nautical mile
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NMS	National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OSRCP	Oil Spill Response and Contingency Plan
PFE	Proposed Federally Endangered
PFT	Proposed Federally Threatened

ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
S8	Segment 8
S9	Segment 9
SCE	State Candidate-Endangered Species
SCT	State Candidate-Threatened Species
sDPS	southern Distinct Population Segment
SSC	Species of Special Concern
SMCA	State Marine Conservation Area
TNW	Traditional Navigable Waters
µPa	micropascals
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WL	Watch List species
WoUS	Waters of the United States

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Marine Biological Resources Study (Study) has been prepared for the proposed AT&T Enterprises, LLC (AT&T) Segments 8 and 9 (S8 and S9) of the Japan-U.S. (JUS) Cable Network Removal Project (Project). The proposed Project includes the removal of approximately 42.9 miles (mi) (69 kilometers [km]) of the S8 cable and 80.8 mi (130 km) of the S9 cable from shore out to a water depth of 1,000 fathoms (6,000 ft; 1,829 m).

This Study includes a description of the proposed Project activities, followed by the study methodology section, which describes desktop study and analytical methods used to assess the biological resources within the Project area. The methodology section includes a review of the literature concerning historical site use, special-status species, sensitive habitats, and general biological site conditions. The environmental setting describes abiotic and biotic conditions within the Project area including climate, substrates, typical habitats and associated algal, marine plant and wildlife species, and special-status species reported in or near the Project area. A review of regulatory requirements is then provided, and the final section summarizes the avoidance and minimization measures currently proposed by AT&T to reduce or avoid Project impacts.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Project objective is the removal, to the extent feasible, of the JUS S8 and S9 cable segments from their US shore landings out to the end of their burial depth at the 1,000-fathom contour in accordance with the conditions for cable decommissioning and fisheries agreements, recycling of the cables, and then the termination or amendment of California State Lands leases PRC 8203.1 and PRC 8204.1. The Project involves the removal of approximately 42.9 mi (69 km) of the S8 cable and 80.8 mi (130 km) of the S9 cable. In addition, the S9 cable would be removed from its bore pipe at its shore landing (Montaña de Oro Lease Area), but the conduits themselves would be left in place at both shore landings.

AT&T installed the Japan-US Cable Network from 2000 through 2001 and operated it until the network was put out of service in June 2023. The cable system was originally installed in accordance with the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), for the Japan-US cable system, which was prepared by the California State Lands Commission (CSLC) and adopted in 2000 (State Clearinghouse No. 2000031062). Prior to installation, the CSLC issued two leases within State waters for the Japan-US Cable Network: Lease PRC 8203.1 (Manchester State Park, Mendocino County), and Lease PRC 8204.1 (Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County). Both CSLC leases had a 15-year term and are set to expire on June 30, 2025.

In 1999, during the initial installation of other transpacific telecommunication cables, AT&T entered into agreements with the licensed anglers along the California coast which required new cables to be buried within trawling grounds shallower than 1,000 fathoms. As such, AT&T agreed to remove out of service telecommunication cables, as necessary, to the 1,000-fathom depth so as to not interfere with commercial fishing activities in the areas where cables were previously buried.

2.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

The Project area is located offshore Mendocino and San Luis Obispo Counties (Project areas) (Figure 2-1): The S8 cable segment runs between Manchester and Japan, and the S9 cable segment runs offshore of the California coast between two shore landings in Manchester State Park and Montana de Oro State Park.

2.1.1 Montaña de Oro State Park, San Luis Obispo County

The JUS S9 segment offshore Montaña de Oro State Park is approximately 58.7-mi (94.5 km) long. The cable comes to shore via a horizontal directional drill (HDD) conduit (bore pipe) that extends underground between a manhole at the Sandspit parking lot at the State Park to an exit point approximately 0.5 mi (0.8 km) offshore (Figure 2-2). The cable runs through the conduit and out to a depth of 1,000 fathoms, then bends north, where it connects to the AT&T cable station in Manchester State Park. At approximately 9.0 mi (14.5 km) offshore, a section of the S9 cable runs underneath the in-service Bifrost and Global West cables. To prevent interference with the crossed cables, international cable regulations require this portion of S9 cannot be removed, which would leave 5,712 feet (ft) (1,741 meters [m]) of the S9 cable segment buried in place on the seafloor.

Figure 2-1. Japan-U.S. Cable Network Project Vicinity

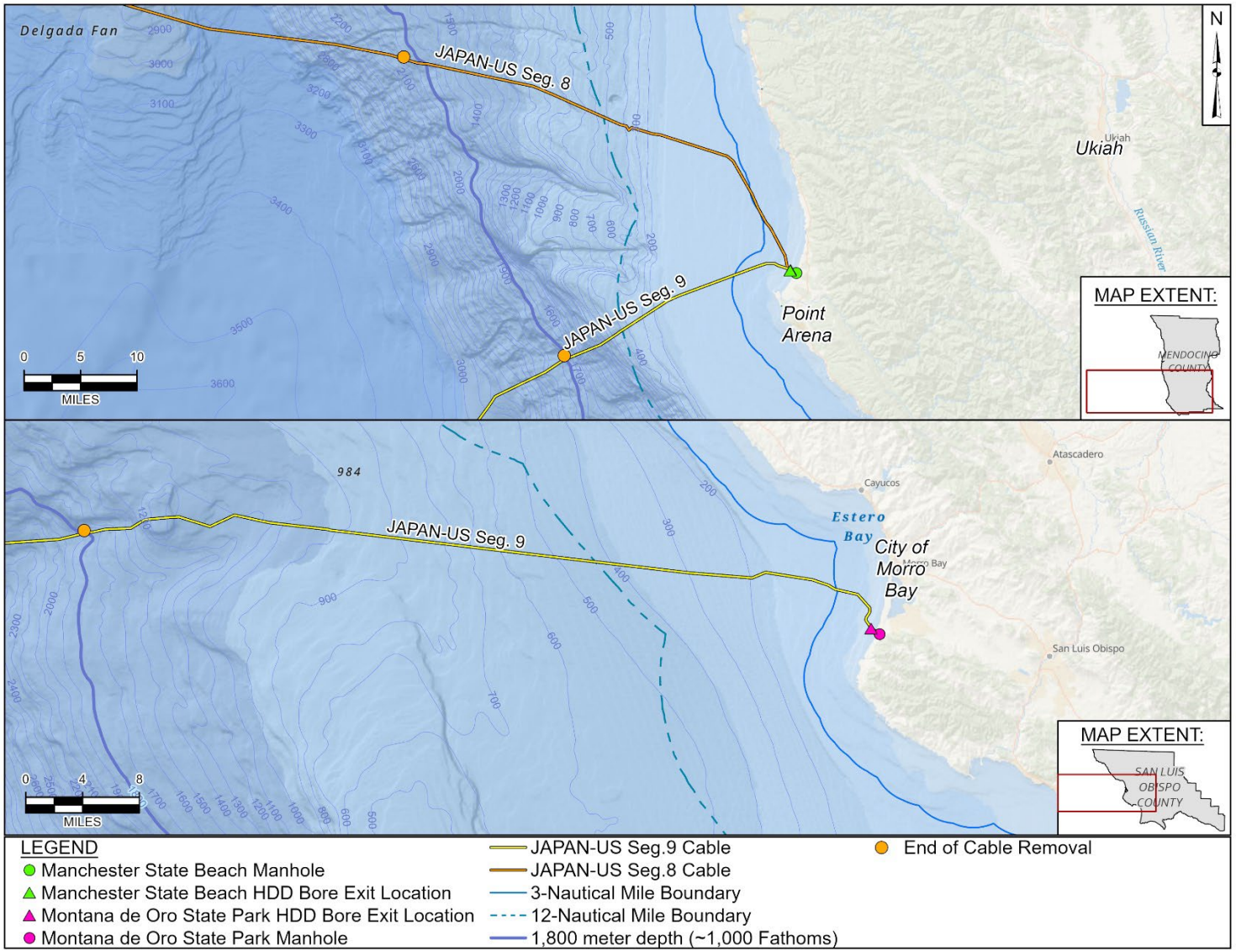
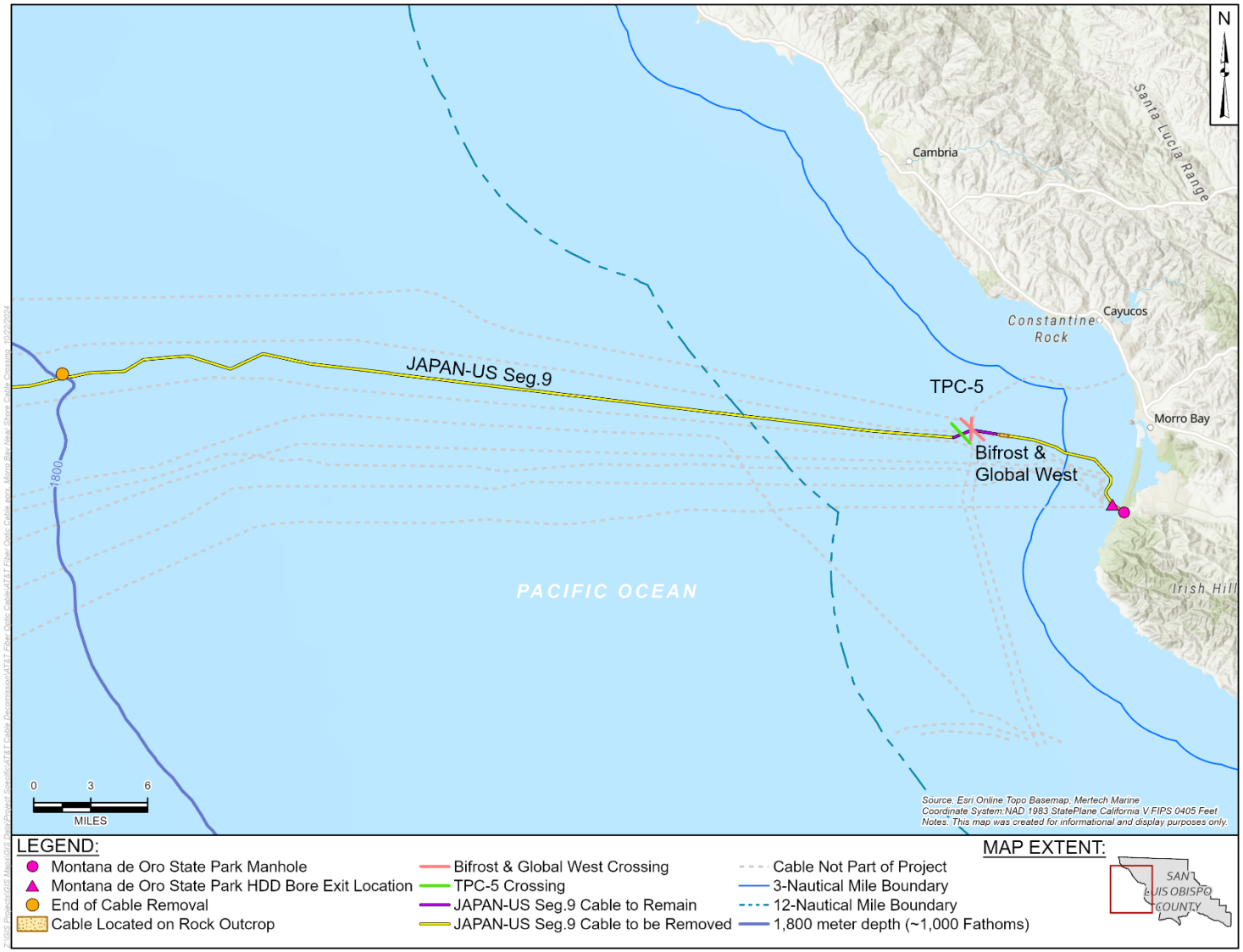


Figure 2-2. Montaña de Oro Cable Crossing



2.1.2 Manchester State Park, Mendocino County

The S8 cable originates from a manhole located in an AT&T cable station within the Manchester State Park in Mendocino County (Figure 2-3). From the manhole, the cable travels west within a subterranean conduit to where HDD bore exit is located, approximately 3,200 ft (975 m) offshore. From the HDD bore exit, the cable continues west through State Waters and into Federal and international waters until it makes landfall in Japan. A 42.9 mi (69 km) portion of the S8 cable was buried in the seafloor in State and federal waters out to a depth of 1,000 fathoms (6,000 ft; 1,829 m). This segment will be removed as part of the Project.

The S9 cable originates in the same cable station manhole within Manchester State Park and parallels the S8 cable through a subterranean conduit to where the HDD bore exit is located, approximately 3,200 ft (975 m) offshore. From this point, the S8 and S9 cables diverge, and an approximately 22.4-mi (36 km) section of the Manchester S9 cable was buried in the seafloor through State waters and into Federal waters. The segment will be removed as part of the Project. At this point, the cable turns southeast toward the shore landing at Montaña de Oro State Park, San Luis Obispo County.

2.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Project involves the removal of approximately 42.9 mi (69 km) of the S8 cable and 80.8 mi (130 km) of the S9 cable out to a water depth of 1,000 fathoms (6,000 ft or 1,828 m). The S9 cable would be removed from its subterranean conduit (bore pipe), but the conduits themselves would be left in place.

Project activities would include work in nearshore and offshore waters. Diver-assisted cable removal activities would occur in the nearshore work areas. The Manchester nearshore work area would begin in water depths of approximately 59 ft (18 m), and the Montaña de Oro nearshore work area would begin in water depths of 31 ft (9.1 m). All work activities will occur within a 328 ft (100 m) work corridor of S8 and S9 cable alignments for both nearshore and offshore work areas. The work corridor covers open water areas for operations and is larger than the area of seafloor disturbance.

Figure 2-3. Manchester HDD Bore Hole Exit Locations

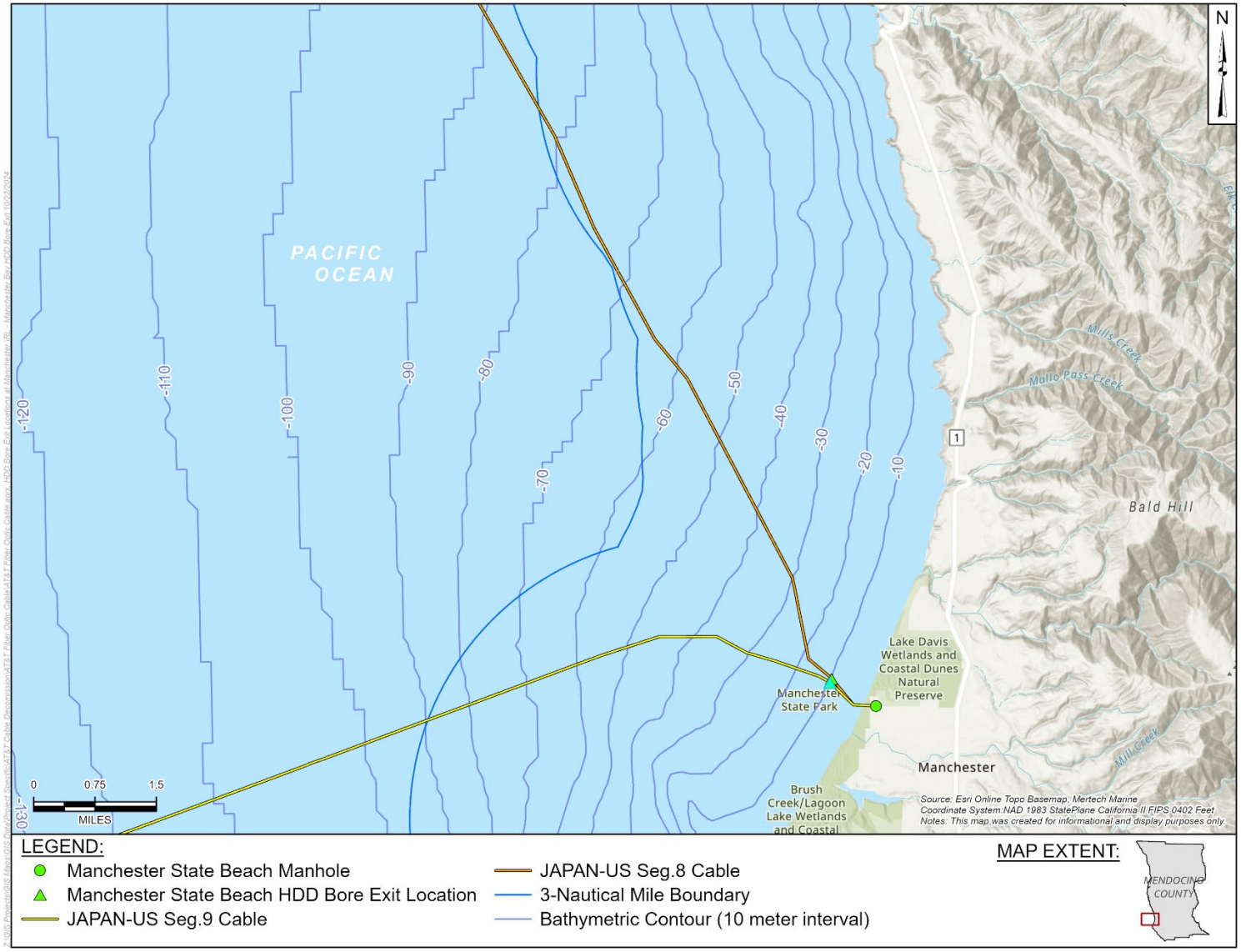


Table 2-1 describes the anticipated schedule for cable removal procedures by location. Cable removal procedures primarily include Pre-Project Activities, Onshore activities, Nearshore Cable Removal and associated anchoring, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) use, and Offshore Cable Removal as well as associated anchoring, if needed, as well as recycling of the recovered segments of cable once removed.

Table 2-1. Schedule of Project Events by Location

Location	Task	Days	Operation
Montaña de Oro	**Pre-Decommissioning Survey**		
	Mobilize survey vessel to Montaña de Oro	1	Survey
	Pre-decommissioning survey	2	
	Offshore Cable Removal		
	Mobilize ROV vessel and equipment from Seattle	1	ROV
	Transit to Montaña de Oro	5	
	Uncover, cut, and rig Cable S9 at 1,000 fathoms and at cable crossing	3	
	ROV vessel leave Montaña de Oro, transit to Seattle	4	
	Demobilize ROV Vessel and equipment in Seattle	5	
	Cable Recovery Vessel (CRV) recover from 1,000 fathoms to western cable crossing cut location	8	CRV
	Transit to MB S9 conduit end	1	
	Recover MB S9 from conduit end to eastern cable crossing cut location	3	
	Onshore Conduit Cable Cutting		
	Mobilize to State Park	0.5	Onshore Crew
	Access vault and cut cable landing	1	
	Nearshore Cable Removal		
	Mobilize dive spread in Morro Bay	1	Diving
	Transit to Montaña de Oro	1	
	Cut MB S9 at end of conduit	1	
	Excavate cable and cable anchors; Rig cable end	3	
	Recover MB S9 cable through conduit	1	
Manchester	**Pre-Decommissioning Survey**		
	Survey vessel transit from Montaña de Oro to Manchester	2	Survey
	Pre-decommission survey	2	
	Nearshore Cable Removal		
	Dive vessel transit to Manchester	3	Diving
	Cut MA S8 at end of conduit	1	
	Rig MA S8 cable end	3	
	Cut MA S9 at end of conduit	1	
	Rig MA S9 cable end	3	
	Recover MA S9 cable through conduit	1	

Location	Task	Days	Operation
	Dive vessel transit from Manchester back to Port Hueneme	4	
	Demobilize dive spread in Port Hueneme	1	
	Offshore Cable Removal		
	CRV transit from Montaña de Oro to Manchester	2	CRV
	Recover MA S9 from conduit to 1,000 Fathoms	10	
	Transit to JUS MA S8	1	
	Recover MA S8 from conduit to 1000 fathoms	7	
	Transit From Manchester to Port Hueneme	1	
	Demobilize in Port Hueneme	2	
Transit in International Waters	CRV transit to Port of discharge, South Africa	20	Recycling

2.3 MONTAÑA DE ORO S9 CABLE ALIGNMENT

2.3.1 Pre-Project Activities

A pre-project geophysical survey will be conducted of the nearshore work areas to identify the locations of sensitive habitats and confirm anchor locations, as necessary. To locate the cables underwater, an inaudible tone will be introduced into the copper conductor of the cables.

2.3.2 Offshore Cable Removal

The Montaña de Oro S9 cable crosses under non-project cables, Bifrost and Global West cables, and over the TPC-5 cable (Figure 2-2). Because of the positioning of the Montaña de Oro S9 cable in relation to the two other active cables, removal activities for this segment are divided into subsegments: Montaña de Oro S9(a) and S9(b). Consistent with international cable regulations, he S9 cable would be cut at two locations on either side of the cable crossing bundle and the cable in between the cuts would be left, buried in place to avoid potential disturbance to the other crossed cables. The Montaña de Oro subsegments S9(a) and (b) would be removed in their entirety, while 5,712 ft (1,741 km) of the Montaña de Oro S9 cable segment under the Bifrost and Global West cable crossing would be abandoned in place (Figure 2-2).

Recovery will start using an ROV from 1,000 fathoms offshore to have access to the toning signal along the full cable route. This will allow the first subsegment of the Montaña de Oro S9(a) cable to be recovered up to the cut location near the Global West Segment E cable. Each offshore cut location on the Montaña de Oro S9 cable is provided in Table 2-2.

Table 2-2. Montaña de Oro S9 Cable Cutting Locations

Cutting Location	Latitude	Longitude
1,000 Fathoms	35° 22.732’ N	121° 52.023' W
West of cable crossing	35° 21.356' N	121° 01.655' W
East of cable crossing	35° 21.554' N	121° 00.573' W
Conduit exit	35° 18.408’ N	120° 53.000' W

The ROV Vessel, *Ocean Titan* or similar vessel, will mobilize to the S9 cable 1,000 fathoms cut location and deploy an ROV. The ROV will identify, cut, and recover the cable to the surface. The ROV will attach the Segment 9(a) cable to flotation buoys for retrieval by the cable recovery vessel (CRV).

The CRV, marine vessel (*M/V) Grace* or similar vessel, would continue cable recovery operations from the flotation buoys, moving east toward the coastline. The CRV will recover the S9(a) cable from the 1,000-fathom cut location up to the Global West cable crossing. The western cut location is located at a minimum distance of three times water depth from the precise crossing location (35° 21.356' N, 121° 01.655' W). The cable will be recovered into one of the internal cable tanks. The cable will be pulled vertically, in alignment with its position on the seafloor, while working from the seaward side.

The CRV will then move to the conduit near the Montaña de Oro landing where the conduit cable and nearshore segment would be removed via assistance from the dive support vessel (DSV) and support vessels. The DSV and commercial divers will have cut and marked the cable as it exits the conduit on the seafloor. The remaining nearshore section of Montaña de Oro S9(b) cable is recovered into one of the internal cable tanks of *M/V Grace*. The S9(b) cable will be pulled vertically, in alignment with its position on the seafloor, while working from the seaward side. The cable will be cut again on the deck of the CRV, and the remaining cable will be lowered back down to the seabed using a dead man’s weight.

2.3.2.1 Anchoring (if needed)

Anchoring may be required for support vessels during offshore cable removal. If anchoring is required, a Marine Safety Anchoring Plan will be prepared that identifies proposed anchor locations that avoid known hardbottom substrate.

2.3.3 Onshore Cable Cutting

On shore, the cable will be cut within the beach manhole located in the Montaña de Oro State Park parking lot. The cut will occur entirely inside the manhole's vault, and the cable will be pulled out offshore.

2.3.4 Nearshore and Conduit Cable Removal

A commercial dive spread on the M/V *Surveyor*, or similar vessel, will be mobilized from Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County, as the DSV to support nearshore activities at the Montaña de Oro Project area. Once the ROV vessel has completed its final cut at the eastern cable crossing location and the offshore cables have been rigged onto the CRV, a team of commercial divers will locate the end of the nearshore cable at the bore pipe exit location and expose it using

underwater excavation equipment, such as hand jets. Once excavated, recovery rigging and buoys will be installed on the nearshore cable segment for final recovery by the CRV.

The divers will prepare the segment of cable within the conduit to be lifted and connected to a tugboat, the *A.N. Tillet* or similar vessel. The tugboat will pull the conduit cable segment to the northwest out of the bore pipe. The conduit cable will trail for approximately 3,281 ft (1,000 m) on the seafloor. If the CRV is not immediately available to recover the conduit cable from the tugboat due to weather, the cable will be transported with floatation buoys by the DSV and tugboat to an area of sandy seafloor and sunk back down under deadman's weight for wet storage. Wet storage will occur in State waters and the CRV will pick it up as soon as conditions are safe.

2.4 MANCHESTER S8 AND S9 CABLE ALIGNMENT

2.4.1 Pre-Project Activities

Similar to the methods described in the Montana de Oro section a pre-project geophysical survey will be conducted of the nearshore work areas to identify the locations of sensitive habitats and confirm anchor locations, as necessary. To locate the cables underwater, an inaudible tone will be introduced into the copper conductor of the cables.

2.4.2 Nearshore Cable Removal

The same commercial dive spread and DSV utilized for the Montaña de Oro nearshore work will be mobilized to the Manchester Project area after dive-specific work off Montaña de Oro is completed. The DSV would be mobilized and anchored at the dive work area. The DSV will first excavate and cut the S8 cable and then reposition its anchors to excavate and cut the S9 cable. The cable uncovered by divers would be cut by hand tools. The nearshore segment of cable will be rigged with recovery buoys by the DSV and support vessels and then transferred to the CRV to complete the recovery. The CRV will haul the cable into the vessel storage tanks to complete the recovery.

The Manchester S8 cable crosses over the top of three cables (HAW-4, TPC-4, and HAW-1). Because Manchester S8 is on top of the three other cables, there is no risk of upsetting the other cables by removing the Manchester S8 cable. The Manchester S9 cable does not intersect any other cables (Figure 2-4).

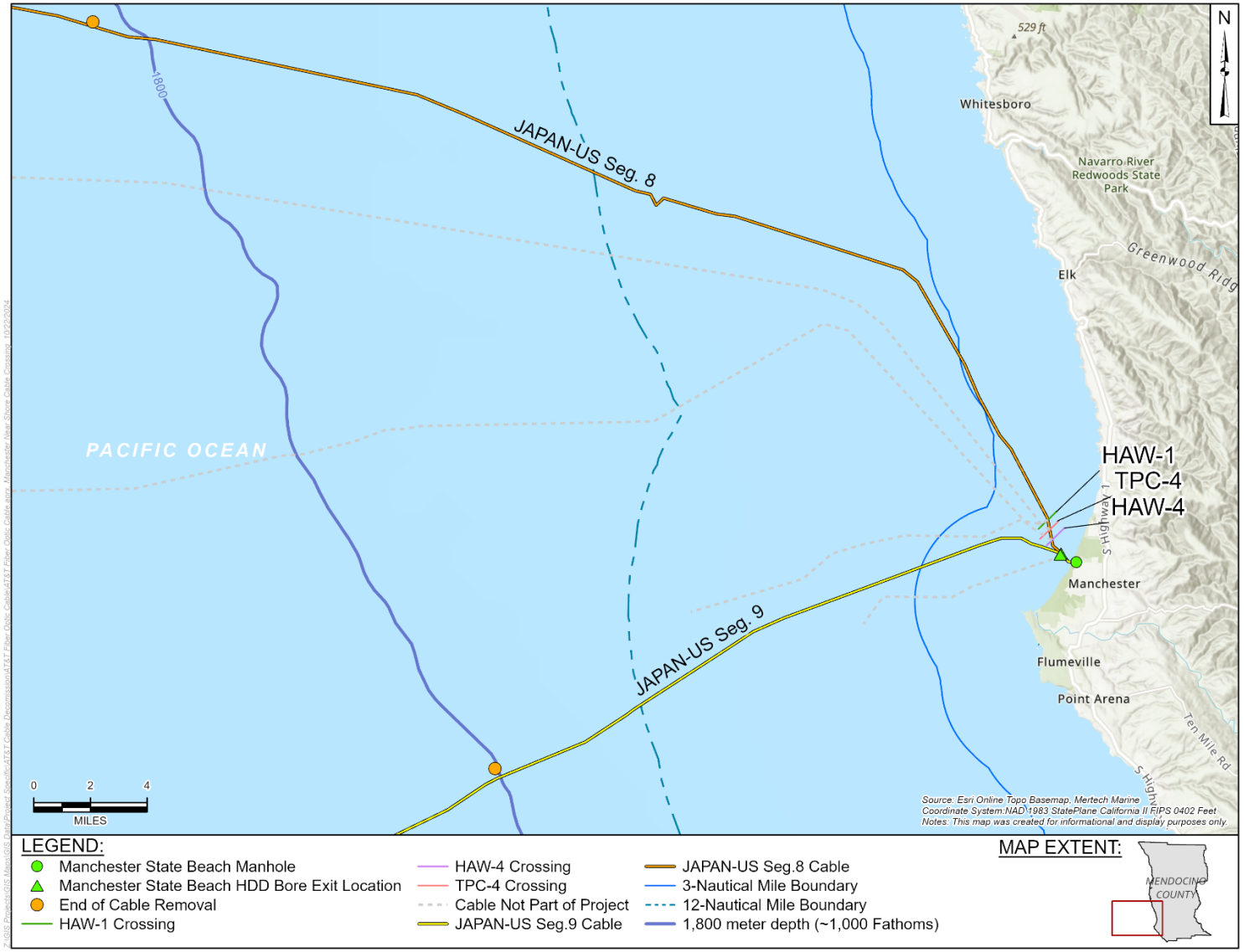
2.4.2.1 Anchoring

Similar to the process described for the Montaña de Oro nearshore anchoring section, the DSV will be on anchor while conducting nearshore Project activities. The DSV will arrive onsite and position itself at the intended diving location and deploy anchors. A three-point anchoring spread will be used to remain in position. There will be a maximum of 15 anchor locations during nearshore cable removal activities at this location. All anchors will be positioned in locations that consider cable safety zones and avoid hardbottom substrate. Anchor plots will be outlined in the Marine Safety Anchoring Plan that will be developed prior to Project implementation.

2.4.3 Offshore Cable Removal

Offshore cable removal for the Manchester S8 and S9 cables would consist of recovery of the end of the cable from its cut location at the conduit exit and extraction of each cable segment with the CRV out to the 1,000-fathom limit.

Figure 2-4. Manchester Nearshore Cable Crossing



Prior to recovery, the Manchester S8 and S9 cables will be surveyed, identified, and cut by divers at each shore-end location awaiting the CRV. The M/V *Grace* will position itself west of the S8 cable bore pipe exit at a safe standby location. A support vessel will be mobilized to provide positioning assistance to the M/V *Grace*. The support vessel will be positioned near the bore pipe and will coordinate with the nearshore DSV and team to handoff and connect the floating pulling rope. The support vessel would sail towards the M/V *Grace* and connect to the pulling rope of the M/V *Grace*. The cable will be routed into the internal cable tanks. The M/V *Grace* will pull itself towards the conduit pipe while slowly hauling the pulling rope with assistance from the support boat, if necessary. The cable recovery will continue offshore and will be pulled vertically, in alignment with its position on the seafloor, while working from the seaward side.

At the 1,000 fathoms water depth offshore, the S8 cable is cut on the CRV deck, and the remaining cable is lowered back down to the seabed using a dead man's weight. The CRV will return to the bore exit location for the S9 cable and repeat the process above. No ROV operations are expected to be needed to complete the recovery of the Manchester S8 or S9 cables.

Table 2-3. Manchester S8 and S9 Cable Cutting Locations

Cutting Location	Latitude	Longitude
Conduit exit S8	38°59.11950' N	124°09.25284'W
Conduit exit S9	38°59.07800' N	123°42.96400' W
1,000 Fathoms S8	38°52.95221' N	124°09.25284' W
1,000 Fathoms S9	38°52.95221' N	124°01.64124' W

2.4.3.1 Anchoring (if needed)

Anchoring may be required during cable removal. If anchoring is required, a Marine Safety Anchoring Plan will be prepared that identifies proposed anchor locations that avoid known hardbottom substrate.

2.5 EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL

2.5.1 Onshore Activities

The cable cutting onshore within Montaña de Oro State Park will require minimal equipment including two crew trucks and the use of hand tools including a circular saw. All work will occur within the cable vault in the parking lot and no ground disturbing equipment or activities will occur at the onshore work area.

2.5.2 Nearshore and Offshore Activities

The proposed fiber optic cable recovery will require the use of large, ocean-going vessels and heavy equipment. The CRV for this Project will be the *M/V Grace* or similar vessel. the *M/V Grace* is a vessel that is 284 ft (86.5 m) in length, 18.2 ft (5.5 m) in draft, and has a transit speed of 9 knots. The cable recovery system onboard the *M/V Grace* consists of a bow roller and platform, one main winch and tensioners. The main winch provides the main pulling force for recovery of the cable; the tensioner provides the required auxiliary tension for the main winch and transports the recovered cable to the cable tanks. The *M/V Grace* has been equipped with four

cable tanks. The maximum quantity of cable to be stored is approximately 35,314.7 cubic ft (1,000 cubic m).

In addition to the CRV, the Project will utilize support vessels or tugboats, a DSV, and a ROV support vessel. The DSV will be the *M/V Surveyor*, or a similar vessel. The *M/V Surveyor* is 100 ft in length, 7 ft in draft, with two 600 Horsepower (HP) Detroit diesel engines. The *M/V Surveyor* is also equipped with a hydraulic deck crane.

The support vessels for the project include the *A.N. Tillet* and *M/V Jab*, or similar vessels. The *A.N. Tillet* is a 69.2-foot, tugboat with two Mitsubishi S12R Tier 3 engines with 2,200 total HP. The *M/V Jab* is a 46-foot survey vessel equipped with two Cummins QSC 8.3 liter 500 HP commercial diesel engines, and one 1000 pound (lb.) hydraulic deck crane.

The ROV support vessel used during Project activities will be the *Ocean Titan* or a similar vessel. The *Ocean Titan* is 224 ft in length, 14.7 ft in draft, with two 800HP Variable Frequency Drive/Silicon Controlled Rectifier Engines (VFD/SCR) main engines. The *Ocean Titan* is equipped with an A-Frame and 17-ton knuckle boom. An Ultra Heavy-Duty Work Class ROV System will be utilized for Project activities. The ROV has a payload of 992-lbs., through lift frame of 7,716 lb., powered by a 250 shaft horsepower HPU motor. The ROV is rated to a depth of 13,123 ft.

Cable recovery operations for both Manchester S8 and S9 and Montaña de Oro S9 cables will take approximately 81 days to complete. The primary equipment requirements for the Project are summarized in Tables 2-4 below.

Table 2-4. Project Vessel List

Equipment Type	Horsepower	Hours/Day	# of Days
Nearshore			
Diving Vessel – *M/V Surveyor* (2) Engines-Twin-screw Detroit diesel	600 HP each	12 Hours	28
(1) 6x6 jet pump	300 cfm	12 Hours	28
(2) Generator/Compressor	80 HP each	12 Hours	28
Support vessel/anchor handler *M/V JAB* (2) Cummins Engines QSC 8.3 liter	500 HP each	12 Hours	28
Offshore			
Cable Recovery Vessel – *M/V Grace* (1) MAK 8M20 Engine	749 kw/ 1,000 HP	24 Hours	81
(1) Caterpillar Generator	360 kW/482 HP	24 Hours	81
(1) Main Winch (Electrically Driven)	-	24 Hours	81
(1) Tensioner (Electrically Driven)	-	24 Hours	81
ROV Vessel – *M/V Ocean Titan* (2) VFD/SCR Engines	800 HP each	24 Hours	12
Support vessel/tug–*A.N. Tillett* (2) Mitsubishi S12R	2,200 HP	12 Hours	81

2.6 SEVERE WEATHER AND CONTINGENCIES FOR CABLE CONFLICTS

The Project would prepare and implement measures provided in a Severe Weather Plan. The Plan includes provisions such as daily weather reporting, extended forecasts, and a selection of a work window to optimize anticipated offshore sea conditions. If the ocean condition thresholds for safe work are exceeded or are expected to worsen, measures will be taken to secure operations. Depending on the predicted severity of the storm, the ship will either ensure that enough cable is laid out to give maneuvering room, or will suspend operations completely, and cut the cable away and mark its last location. It will then either stand offshore until the weather abates, or seek shelter in port, as necessary. The power to determine critical conditions and make these decisions resides with the captain of the ship, who is ultimately responsible for the safety of the ship and its personnel.

During cable recovery, the cable segments would be brought on the CRV via the winch drum. The cable would be guided through the tensioners. The tensioners will measure and maintain the safe and operating tension on the cable and automatically adjust the opening section to the incoming diameter of the cable. In the unlikely event the cable breaks during recovery, the last position of the cable would be recorded and contingency measures, such as ROV survey or grappling, would be implemented until the cable end is recovered. Depending on water depth and cable burial depth, additional excavation may be necessary to restart cable recovery.

2.7 DEMOBILIZATION AND RECYCLING OF RECOVERED CABLE

The recovered cables will be spooled on the *M/V Grace* and transported to a Mertech-owned mechanical dismantling/recycling factory located in Cape Town, South Africa. The dismantling procedure breaks the out-of-service cables down into their component parts which are then sold into various industries as copper, polyethylene, steel and aluminum. The dismantling process is fully mechanical without any smelting required to recover cable materials.

2.8 DEBRIS AND BALLAST MANAGEMENT

All cable recovery procedures and methodologies have been designed to minimize the possibility of introducing debris into the water. All debris produced on board of all vessels will be handled in accordance with International and National Regulations. Small amounts of waste may be generated by the Project. Offshore vessels are equipped to manage, collect, and properly dispose of waste products. Likewise, any waste generated during the Project activities will be collected and properly disposed of.

To minimize the possibility of introducing non-native species into local waters, any ballast discharges by non-local vessels would take place in deep water beyond the 12-nm limit of the territorial seas. It is not expected that Project-related vessels arriving from outside the area would unexpectedly encounter circumstances requiring ballast water discharge for safe navigation in the nearshore waters.

A logbook will be maintained on all work vessels to keep track of all debris created by objects of any kind that fall into waters, as to types, date, time, and location during offshore operations to facilitate identification and location of debris for debris recovery and site clearance verification. Any discharges of ballast water will be documented as to location of the vessel and volume discharged. Copies of ships' logbooks would be available to the CSLC, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), or other agencies upon request to AT&T.

2.9 SCHEDULE

Project operations are currently anticipated to take place from July through September 2025. Following the mobilization of Project vessels in Port Hueneme and Seattle, Project activities would begin offshore Montaña de Oro State Park. Once the southern shore end of the S9 cable is cut and recovered, the Project vessels will transit to the work area offshore Manchester State Park to complete removal of the nearshore ends of the S8 and S9 cables, respectively. Project activities offshore Montaña de Oro and Manchester will take approximately 39 days and 45 days, respectively, including transit time and pre-activity surveys.

It is expected that the nearshore activities will be conducted during daylight hours (approximately 12 hours/day), seven days per week until dive operations are completed. Offshore activities will be conducted 24 hours/day, seven days per week until Project completion.

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3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Padre biologists reviewed available design information, historic CSLC lease information, as well as regional marine biological geographic information systems (GIS) data from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (CDFW, 2024a and 2024b). A list of federally listed Threatened and Endangered species was obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), and from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and are included under Attachment A.

3.2 DESKTOP STUDY

A biological resources study area was identified prior to beginning desktop studies. The study area includes all vessel corridors and potential anchoring areas. Post-Installation Burial Verification ROV inspections were conducted in 2003, 2005, 2010, and 2015 along the S8 and S9 cable routes out to a water depth of 1,000 fathoms, and the subsequent data was considered when analyzing species habitat preference.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

4.1 MARINE HABITAT DESCRIPTIONS

A series of ROV surveys were conducted in 2015 along portions of Segment 8 and 9 as they approached their terminuses near Montaña de Oro and Manchester. The surveys characterized the different habitat types found on the seafloor at these locations, which are detailed below.

4.1.1 Nearshore Terminus Benthic Habitats

Montaña de Oro

The seafloor found near Montaña de Oro has been characterized by soft sandy patches interspersed with rocky outcrops, pebbles, and boulders of increasing frequency as the cable travels farther offshore (Global Marine, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c). Areas with rocky substrate are more likely to support macro algae such as giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) or bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) which in turn supports numerous fish species such as blue rockfish, (*Sebastes mystinus*), California sheephead, (*Bodianus pulcher*), and Lingcod, (*Ophiodon elongatus*) (CDFW, 2023). While substrate availability makes kelp forest habitat a possibility offshore Montaña de Oro, Landsat satellite imagery analysis of historic kelp canopy cover shows no record of it occurring within the Project area (Bell et al., 2023).

Manchester

The seafloor found offshore Manchester is characterized by sand close to shore then a few areas of rocky outcrops and harder substrate mixed in with the sand as Segments 8 and 9 move offshore (Global Marine, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c). Areas with rocky substrate are more likely to support macro algae such as giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) or bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) in shallow water depths which in turn supports numerous fish species such as blue rockfish, (*Sebastes mystinus*), California sheephead, (*Bodianus pulcher*), and Lingcod, (*Ophiodon elongatus*) (CDFW, 2023). A Habitat of Particular Concern (HAPC) designated for Canopy Kelp is established within the offshore Project area; however, the Landsat satellite imagery analysis of historic kelp canopy cover shows no record of it occurring within the Project area (Bell et al., 2023).

4.1.2 Open Water and Pelagic Habitats

Montaña de Oro and Manchester Project areas both have offshore sections of Segments 8 and 9, which are considered open water and pelagic ecosystems. The open water habitat within the Project areas supports migration and foraging habitat for marine mammals, reptiles, avifauna, fish, and invertebrates.

Species found in the open water habitat may be in migration across the Pacific Ocean. Species such as Pacific leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus*), migrate across the Pacific Ocean from nesting to foraging/feeding areas. Other species such as the oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) prefer the surface waters near the Continental Shelf where pelagic prey species such as tuna and marlin are often found. Acoustic studies in the general vicinity of the Project area found beaked whales, sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*), Dall's porpoise (*Phocoenoides*

dalli), and harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) present in offshore waters (BOEM, 2018). Additionally, areas up to 3,280 ft deep can support coastal pelagic species including pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax caerulea*), pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), California market squid (*Doryteuthis (Loligo) opalescens)*, jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus)*, krill which are important prey species for many higher tropic levels (NMFS, 2024).

4.2 WILDLIFE

The nearshore, benthic seafloor, and open water habitat within the study area provide habitat for a wide variety of resident and migratory wildlife species. Special-status wildlife species (i.e., endangered, threatened, rare, or other special-status species) occurring, or potentially occurring, within the Project area and surrounding area are discussed in Table 4-2 below.

The composition, topography, water depth and other physical characteristics of marine communities determine the diversity and abundance of wildlife species residing in the study area. Wildlife species known to occur within the habitats present within the nearshore and offshore Project area are discussed below.

4.2.1 Invertebrates

The epifauna of the shallower sedimentary habitats typically includes several species of macro-invertebrates, including sea stars, Pacific sand dollars (*Dendraster excentricus*), and slender crabs (*Cancer gracilis*), as well as polychaete worms and mollusks. The rocky substrata tend to support a more diverse epibiota, comprised of macrophytic algae, urchins (*Strongylocentrotus* spp.), sea stars, and cnidarians (anemones and solitary corals). Sunflower sea stars (*Pycnopodia helianthoides)*, which have been proposed for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), were historically found from Southern Alaska down to Baja California. However, in recent years, their range has contracted due to a disease outbreak known as Sea Star Wasting Syndrome. Current populations are mostly limited to the northern parts of their former range, including Alaska and British Columbia. (NMFS, 2023). Juvenile individuals most commonly occur in the intertidal zone, while reproductive individuals inhabit subtidal zones. Current stock assessments have found adult individuals exclusively at the far northern end of their range in Alaska, Canada, and the Salish Sea of Washinton state.

Abalone are known to inhabit nearshore rocky reef habitats along the central California coast. Black abalone (*Haliotis cracherodii*) is a federally endangered species protected under FESA and is considered rare in the study area. Black abalone live in rocky intertidal and subtidal reefs (out to 18 feet deep), where they are generally found in rock crevices and feed on drifting giant kelp (Macrocystis) and feather boa kelp (*Egregia menziesii*). Other abalone species that could be found in the study area include red (*H. rufescens*), flat (*H. walallensis*), and threaded (*H. kamtschatkana*), whose populations are managed by CDFW.

4.2.2 Birds

Bird species commonly associated with open waters near Montaña de Oro and Manchester have the potential to occur in the offshore waters near the Project area. These birds include but are not limited to pelagic cormorants (*Urile pelagicus*), brown pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), loons (*Gavia* sp.), gulls (*Larus spp*.), surf scoters (*Melanitta perspicillata*), and sooty shearwater (*Ardenna grisea*) (EBird, 2024a and 2024b). These marine bird species feed on small

schooling fish, squid, and zooplankton, and forage in open water where prey is concentrated near the water's surface. In addition, several special-status species have the potential to migrate and/or forage in the offshore study area including Short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus*) and marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) (USFWS, 2023a and 2023b).

4.2.3 Fish

Fish assemblages off central and northern California are comprised of both year-round residents and migratory species. The abundance of some year-round residents, such as northern anchovy, may fluctuate as new cohorts of juveniles migrate inshore or develop from larvae during spring and summer months. Substrate composition, wave exposure, depth, and presence of kelp or seagrass often determines fish species composition in a particular area. The study area provides habitat for fish species such as anchovy, sardine, and topsmelts (*Atherinidae*) that feed on midwater plankton or other midwater fishes. Isolated hard substrate features may occur at portions of the open water study area. The hardbottom deeper reefs attract different assemblages of fishes, primarily rockfish (*Sebastes* sp.), which could transit through the region during localized movements. Various migratory managed fish species may also be present in the epipelagic, oceanic, and mesopelagic waters from water depths of 100 fathoms out to the Exclusive Economic Zone including albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*), bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), broadbill swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), common thresher shark (*Alopias vulpinus*), Northern bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), and skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

4.2.4 Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles

Baleen whales, toothed whales (including dolphins), and pinnipeds (California sea lion [*Zalophus californianus*] and Pacific harbor seal [*Phoca vitulina richardii*]), could occur in the study area. Some species of marine wildlife are seasonally present within the study area while others are resident species. All marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972, and their estimated populations near the Project are detailed in Table 4-3.

Although rarely encountered, marine turtles could potentially occur within the study area. Populations of marine turtles have been reduced due to over harvesting and loss of nesting sites in tropical coastal areas. Sea turtles breed at sea and the females return to their natal beaches to lay their eggs; however, sea turtles do not nest anywhere along the California coast. The four listed sea turtles that may occur within the study area include the endangered Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), the Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*), the threatened Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and Olive Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*).

4.3 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS

Multiple species of cetaceans (whales and dolphins), marine turtles, and pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) have been recorded within the waters offshore Mendocino and San Luis Obispo Counties. Most of the species can occur for long durations within the greater Project region, although seasonal abundances of these taxa vary; pinnipeds and some dolphins are year-round residents. For example, Pacific harbor seals and California sea lions are year-round residents within the study area and utilize beaches, rocky headlands, as well as floating docks and pier loading decks as haul-out areas.

Other marine species are migratory, such as the gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*), or seasonal, such as the humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and are more abundant during specific months. Large, baleen whales are known to spend the summer months feeding in northern latitudes building up fat stores to sustain them through the winter and then migrating to warmer, sheltered waters in Baja California, Mexico, Hawaii, and/or Central America for calving and breeding during winter months.

The Project area also intersects with the Pacific Flyway which is a major north-south migratory corridor for birds in North America. Bird species travel roughly the same route every year through the Pacific Flyway in both spring and fall, following food sources, headed to breeding areas, or traveling to overwintering sites.

Ocean currents and temperatures also create migratory corridors for fish species, as mentioned above. For example, coastal pelagic fin fish species will congregate in an area for spawning when sea surface temperatures are between 57- and 60-degrees Fahrenheit (°F) (14 to 16 degrees Celsius) (PFMC, 2021).

4.4 SENSITIVE HABITATS AND PROTECTED AREAS

4.4.1 Marine Protected Areas and National Marine Sanctuaries

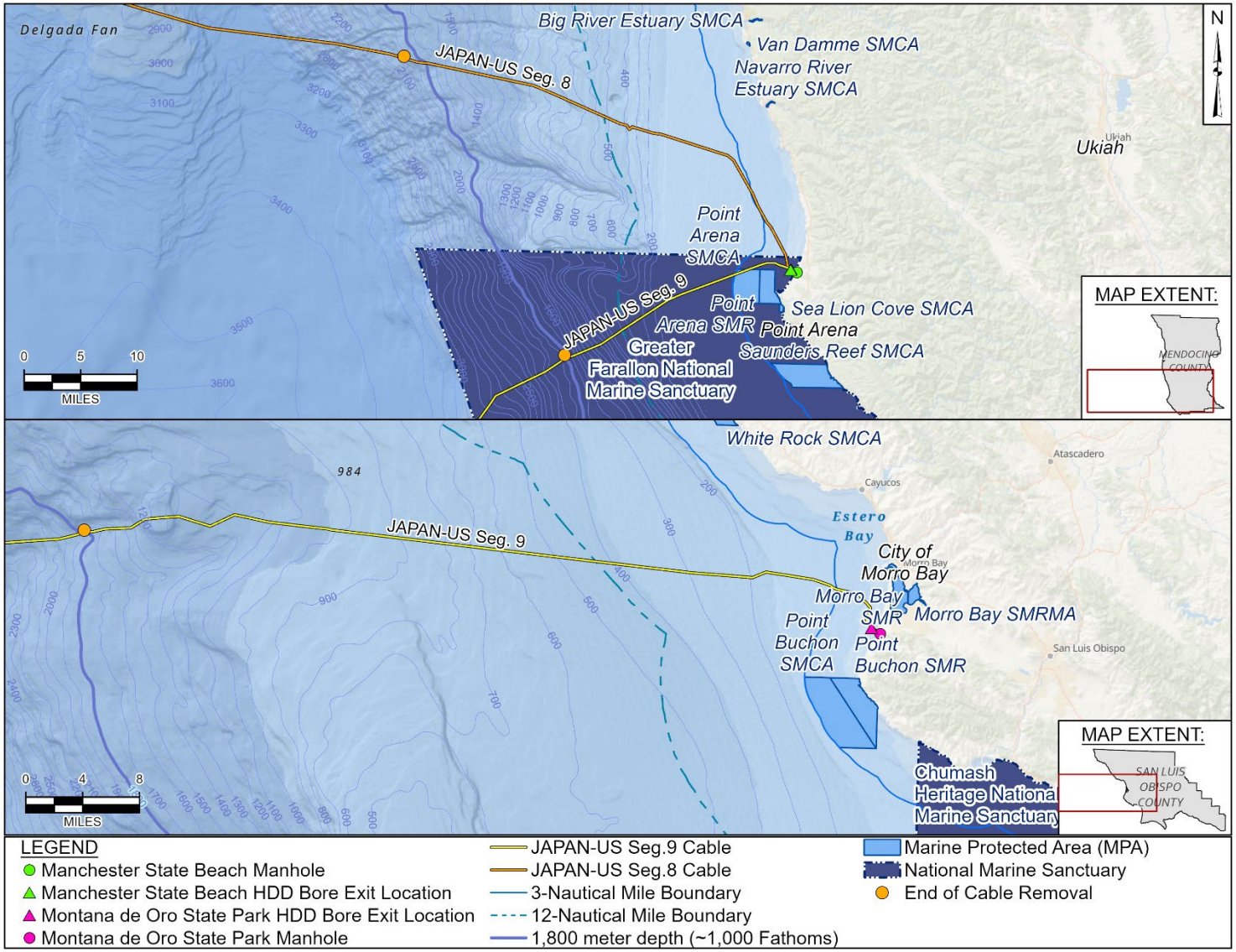
The Manchester S9 cable is routed through the Point Arena Marine Protected Area (MPA) State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), which has a total area of approximately 6.7 square mi (17.4 square km). The S9 cable bisects the MPA for approximately 4.3 mi (6.9 km) through to its westernmost extent (3-nautical mile (nm) State waters boundary) before the cable continues west toward the outer continental shelf (Figure 4-1).

The S8 and S9 cables are also routed through the Greater Farallon National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) for approximately 1.7 (2.7 km) and 32.5 mi (52.3 km), respectively. The Greater Farallon NMS encompasses approximately 3,295 square mi (8,534 square km) of ocean between Point Arena and San Francisco, and the Monterey Bay NMS is approximately 6,094 square mi (15,783 square km) and stretches along the California coastline from Marin to Cambria with an additional protected area located offshore in the Davidson Seamount. The S9 cable was routed through the Davidson Seamount Monterey Bay NMS for approximately 8.0 mi (12.8 km) however, this segment cable is proposed to be left in place.

4.4.2 Critical Habitats

The study area intersects within the designated critical habitat area for southern Distinct Population Segment (sDPS) green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), southern resident killer whale (*Orcinus orca)*, and Mexico Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and central America DPS humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*).

Figure 4-1. Marine Protected Areas and National Marine Sanctuaries



4.4.3 Essential Fish Habitat

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) defined essential fish habitat (EFH) as "those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity." According to the NMFS, EFH can include sediment, hard bottom, underwater structures, and associated biological communities (PFMC, 2021). Section 303, subdivision (a)(7) of the MSA requires fishery management councils to identify EFH. An EFH that is judged to be particularly important to the long-term productivity of populations of one or more managed species, or to be particularly vulnerable to degradation, should be identified as habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC).

In the EFH review of the offshore removal locations in Manchester and Montaña de Oro, one HAPC was identified. The HAPC of canopy kelp was identified near the Manchester terminus. The canopy kelp HAPC includes those waters, substrate, and other biogenic habitat associated with canopy-forming kelp species (e.g., *Macrocystis* spp. and *Nereocystis* spp.). These habitats have been shown to have some of the highest primary productivity in the marine environment and provide a significant contribution to the marine and estuarine food webs. Although kelp forest HAPC is present within Project Area, no current kelp forest is reported within the Project area. Analysis was done using Landsat satellite imagery and showed no kelp forested areas have been present since the start of timeseries satellite mapping began in 1984 (Bell et al., 2023).

Refer to the Project's Essential Fish Habitat Assessment for a detailed analysis of EFH within the study area.

4.5 SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

For the purposes of this Study, a special-status species is a plant or animal species that is:

- Listed as endangered, threatened, candidate, or a proposed species under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA);
- Listed as endangered, threatened, or a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA);
- Listed as a species of special concern by the CDFW;
- Marine mammal species afforded protection by NMFS under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA);
- A species that would occur in Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) within Essential Fish Habitat (EFH); and/or
- Considered rare, threatened, or endangered under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15380(d) as the species' survival is in jeopardy due to loss or change in habitat.

Based on the literature review and species lists obtained from USFWS (IPaC Trust Resource Report) (Project codes: 2024-0011145 [Manchester] and 2024-0011160 [Morro Bay]), from CNDDB, and from NMFS (NMFS, 2023a and 2023b), a list of special-status species that have been reported within a five-mile radius surrounding the Project areas has been compiled. Special-status species with occurrences within five miles that were considered for potential occurrence within the Project areas are listed in Table 4-2. The table also includes rationale for

why certain species were considered unlikely to occur or absent from the study area. Table 4-3 provides population estimates for MMPA species in the vicinity of the Project area.

An analysis of the likelihood of occurrence for each species was conducted based on species ranges, previous observations, contemporary sightings, and presence of suitable habitat elements. The Project may be located outside of the known range of some species, or within the geographic range for a certain species, but lacking suitable habitat, such as nesting or breeding grounds.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
PLANTS				
Agrostis hooveri	Hoover's bent grass	1B.2	A perennial grass endemic to California, only found from western San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties. It grows in hilly woodlands and chapparal.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Arctostaphylos morroensis	Morro Manzanita	FT	Native to a very limited area of San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County, from the vicinity of Morro Bay to Santa Maria. Found in sandy coastal cliffs and beach chaparral.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range
Arctostaphylos osoensis	Oso manzanita	1B.2	A manzanita species endemic to San Luis Obispo County, California, where it is known from only two occurrences on the northern edge of the Los Osos Valley.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range
Castilleja densiflora var. obispoensis	San Luis Obispo owl's-clover	1B.2	An annual herb endemic to California. It is found in coastal salt marshes and swamps	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat is present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent**. Outside of species range.
Chenopodium littoreum	Coastal goosefoot	1B.2	Endemic to California, known only from sections of the coastline of central California, in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties. It is an annual herb forming prostrate mats on coastal dunes.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Delphinium parryi ssp. eastwoodiae	Eastwood's larkspur	1B.2	This species is a perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae that is endemic to coastal San Luis Obispo County. a serpentine endemic occurring in valley and foothill grasslands and grassland openings in coastal chaparral. It has been observed in rocky crevices and tumbled talus with	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			deep adobe clays, usually below larger rock outcrops.	
Dithyrea maritima	Beach spectaclepod	ST, 1B.1	This species is found in deserts and sandy beaches of the Southwestern United States.	**Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area.
Eriodictyon altissimum	Indian Knob Mountainbalm	FE, 1B.1	A long-lived plant is endemic to California, occurring only in western San Luis Obispo County. The species can reach up to 18 ft (5.5 m) in height and have lavender bell-shaped flowers. Indian Knob mountainbalm occurs in coastal chaparral and is considered a fire-adapted species.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Hesperocyparis pygmaea	Pygmy Cypress	1B.2	Endemic to certain coastal terraces and coastal mountain ranges of Mendocino and Sonoma Counties in northwestern California.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Outside of species range. **Manchester** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the Project area.
Poa diaboli	Diablo Canyon blue grass	1B.2	This species is endemic to San Luis Obispo County, California, where it is known from about five occurrences in the San Luis Mountains near the coast.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present within the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
INVERTEBRATES				
Bombus occidentalis	Western bumble bee	SCE	The western bumble bee is broadly distributed in western North America, found from the Mediterranean California all the way up to the Tundra regions of Alaska, making them one of the bees with the widest range geographic range. Western bumblebee workers have three main color variations.	**Both Project Areas** **Low.** Low probability of bees flying through onshore Project area during Project activities. No habitat is present for them in offshore Project areas.
Haliotis cracherodii	Black Abalone	FE	Found in intertidal and shallow rocky habitat on exposed coasts from Point Conception, California to Baja California,	**Montaña de Oro**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			Mexico. They typically occur in shallow intertidal zones to 30 ft (9 m).	**Absent.** Project area does not include intertidal habitat. No suitable habitat present in the nearshore or offshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Helminthoglypta walkeriana	Morro Shoulderband (=banded Dune) Snail	FT	This species inhabits the accumulated litter and undersides of low shrub branches that exhibit dense, low growth and ample contact to the ground.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable terrestrial habitat present in the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Pycnopodia helianthoides	Sunflower sea star	PFT	Currently found in the subtidal from Alaska to Washington and in the intertidal from Alaska to California. As a habitat generalist, sunflower stars inhabit various marine environments, including kelp forests, rocky reefs, and sandy bottoms, usually at depths from the intertidal zone to about 656 ft (200 m).	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** No intertidal habitat present within Project areas. Subtidal habitat outside of current species range.
FISH				
Acipenser medirostris	sDPS Green Sturgeon	FT	Green sturgeon are anadromous fish. There are two DPS of green sturgeon. Fish that spawn in the Klamath and Eel River in Northern California and the Rogue River in Oregon belong to the Northern DPS. Fish that spawn in Sacramento, Feather, and Yuba River in California belong to the federally threatened sDPS. This species is found in near shore marine within depths of less than 60 fathoms (360 ft [110 m]) and estuarine environments.	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** The Project area that falls within 60 fathoms (110 m) of depth provides suitable habitat elements. **Manchester** **Moderate.** The Project area that falls within 60 fathoms (110 m)of depth is located within designated Critical Habitat for this species. This intersection will take place close to the Manchester terminus of Segments 8 and 9.
Carcharhinus longimanus	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	FT	Found in tropical and sub-tropical waters; generally remaining offshore in the open ocean, on the outer continental shelf, or around oceanic islands in water depths	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** Marginal habitat is present in Project area closer to the outer continental shelf offshore Morro Bay; however, water temperatures are

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			greater than 600 ft. Oceanic whitetip sharks have a strong preference for the surface mixed layer in warm waters above 68°F (20°C) and are therefore a surface-dwelling shark; can be found at the ocean surface, but most frequently stay between 84 and 164 ft (25-50 m) deep.	generally lower than species' preferred temperature range. **Manchester** **Low.** Project activities occur outside of typical species range.
Eucylogobius newberryi	Tidewater Goby	FE	Found in brackish, shallow lagoons and lower stream reaches, they need still but not stagnant water and high oxygen levels.	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** The Project area lacks suitable habitat.
Manta birostris	Giant Manta Ray	FT	They are filter feeders and eat large quantities of zooplankton. Giant manta rays are slow-growing, migratory animals with small, highly fragmented populations that are sparsely distributed across the world. Prefer water temperatures above 69 degrees Fahrenheit.	**Both Project Areas** **Low.** Offshore Project activities have the possibility to intersect with giant manta ray foraging habitat depending on prey availability in the areas; however, Project areas are outside of preferred temperature range.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irdeus	Northern California DPS Steelhead	FT	Steelhead generally enter estuaries and rivers between September and March, with spawning peaking between December and early April. They usually spend two years in freshwater and one year growing at sea. Found in California coastal river basins from Redwood Creek in Humboldt County to the Gualala River in Mendocino County.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Project activities occur outside the range of ocean dwelling Northern California DPS Steelhead. **Manchester** **Moderate.** Nearshore Project may provide suitable ocean dwelling habitat for Northern California DPS steelhead. The nearest migratory spawning river is the Garcia River, located three miles south of the Project area
Oncohrynchus kisutch	Central California Coast Coho Salmon	FE	Coho salmon is an anadromous species spending a large portion of their life cycle in the ocean before migrating upstream to spawn in their natal streams. Spawning period is between September and March in California with peaking between November and January. These Coho salmon originating from rivers south of	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Project area is outside the range of ocean dwelling Central California Coast Coho Salmon. **Manchester** **Moderate.** Project area near Manchester terminus may provide suitable habitat for ocean dwelling coho salmon. The nearest migratory

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			Punta Gorda, California to and including Aptos Creek, as well as such coho salmon originating from tributaries to San Francisco Bay.	spawning river is the Garcia River, located three miles south of the Project area.
Oncohrynchus kisutch	Southern Oregon and Northern California Coast coho salmon	FE	Coho salmon is an anadromous species spending a large portion of their life cycle in the ocean before migrating upstream to spawn in their natal streams. These Coho salmon spawn in Cape Blanco, Oregon, and Punta Gorda, California. Spawning period is between September and March in California with peaking between November and January	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** Project area is outside of species' range. Project activities are too far south for these coho salmon to be encountered.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irdeus	South-central California Coast steelhead	FT	Steelhead trout are rainbow trout with an anadromous life history. Steelheads make spawning runs into rivers and small creeks flowing into the ocean. Spawning takes place in the rivers from December to April with most spawning activity occurring between January and March. Juvenile steelhead can spend up to seven years in freshwater before moving downstream as smolts from March to May	**Montaña de Oro** **Moderate.** Project activities closer to the Morro Bay terminus may intersect with ocean dwelling steelhead. Nearest spawning is located in the Morro Bay watershed Los Osos creek. **Manchester** **Absent.** Project area is outside the range of ocean dwelling South-Central California Coast steelhead.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irdeus	Central Valley steelhead	FT	Steelhead trout are rainbow trout with an anadromous life history. Steelheads make spawning runs into rivers and small creeks flowing into the ocean. Spawning takes place in the rivers from December to April with most spawning activity occurring between January and March. Juvenile steelhead can spend up to seven years in freshwater before moving downstream as smolts from March to May	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** The Project areas are outside of the range of ocean dwelling Central Valley steelhead.
Oncorhynchus tshawyscha	Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon	FE	Chinook salmon is an anadromous species spending most of its adult life in the ocean and then returning to freshwater streams to spawn. These	**Both Project Areas**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			chinook salmon originate from the Sacramento River and its tributaries. They spend 3-6 years maturing in the ocean before they immigrate upstream to spawn. Adult chinook salmon die after spawning. Juveniles spend from several months to over a year rearing in their natal streams before emigrating to the ocean	**Absent.** The Project areas are outside of the range of ocean dwelling Central Valley spring-run chinook.
Oncorhynchus tshawyscha	California Coastal Chinook Salmon	FT	Chinook salmon is an anadromous species spending most of its adult life in the ocean and then returning to freshwater streams to spawn. They spend 3-6 years maturing in the ocean before they immigrate upstream to spawn. Chinook salmon originating from rivers and streams south of the Klamath River to and including the Russian River.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** The Project area is outside of species range. **Manchester** **Moderate.** Project area offshore Manchester terminus provides suitable habitat and may intersect with ocean dwelling chinook salmon.
Oncorhynchus tshawyscha	Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon	FE	Chinook salmon is an anadromous species spending most of its adult life in the ocean and then returning to freshwater streams and tributaries of the Sacramento River to spawn. They spend 3-6 years maturing in the ocean before they immigrate upstream to spawn. Adult chinook salmon die after spawning. Juveniles spend from several months to over a year rearing in their natal streams before emigrating to the ocean	**Both Project Areas** **Absent**. Project areas are outside of species range.
Sphyrna lewini	Eastern Pacific DPS Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	FE	A circum-global species that lives in coastal warm temperate and tropical sea. Highly mobile and partly migratory. It occurs over continental and insular shelves, as well as adjacent deep waters, but is seldom found in waters colder than 72°F (22° C). Ranges from the intertidal and surface to depths of up to 1476 to 1680 ft (450-512 m), with occasional	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** The Project area intersects the northernmost edge of species distribution along continental shelves and neighboring deep, offshore waters; however, water temperatures are lower than species preferred range. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of typical species range.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			dives to even deeper waters. Range in the eastern Pacific Ocean is from the coast of southern California to Ecuador.	
REPTILES				
Anniella pulchra	Northern California legless lizard	SSC	This species occurs in coastal dune, valley-foothill, chaparral, and coastal scrub habitats. It is found from Central California down into Baja California.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable habitat present in the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Caretta caretta	North Pacific Loggerhead sea turtle	FE	Within the North Pacific, loggerhead nesting has only been documented in Japan. Southern California is the northern limit of loggerhead turtle distribution in the eastern Pacific; however, loggerhead turtles have been stranded on beaches as far north as Alaska.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Project activities will not impact nesting activities; however, loggerhead sea turtles have the potential to occur in the Project areas during migration across the Pacific from nesting to feeding areas.
Chelonia mydas	Green sea turtle	FT	This species has a circumglobal distribution, found in tropical and subtropical waters along continental coasts and islands between 30 degrees North and 30 degrees South. Green turtles spend the majority of their lives in coastal foraging grounds, fairly shallow waters both open coastline and protected bays and lagoons. In the eastern North Pacific, green turtles have been sighted from Baja California to southern Alaska, but most commonly occur from San Diego south	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** No suitable nesting or foraging habitat present however, there is a possibility for this species to occur in the Project areas during migration to and from nesting locations.
Dermochelys coriacea	Leatherback sea turtle	FE	Western Pacific leatherbacks nest in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea and migrate to California central coast following prey jellyfish and sea nettles. Observed offshore central California coast May through December.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** No suitable nesting habitat present. However, this species may occur in the Project areas during migration and foraging opportunities based on prey availability.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
Lepidochelys olivacea	Olive Ridley sea turtle	FT	This species is distributed circumglobally. Within the eastern Pacific Ocean, olive ridley turtles typically occur in tropical and subtropical waters, as far south as Peru and as far north as California, but occasionally have been documented as far north as Alaska. Olive Ridley turtles are rarely observed north of San Diego	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** Project activities will not occur within nesting areas. However, due to the pelagic nature of this species, the olive ridley turtle may occur in the Project area. Central California is out of the typical range of this species. **Manchester** **Low.** No suitable nesting or foraging habitat present within the Project area. Potential migration corridor could occur in offshore Project area. Northern California is out of the typical range of this species.
BIRDS				
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	WL	These birds breed over much of California in forests, open woods, and streamside trees. They utilize additional habitats for hunting, including chaparral and other scrub communities. Cooper's hawks have also become well adapted to heavily treed urban environments where they are commonly observed in public parks and around bird feeders. Nests can be built in a variety of trees, typically at heights ranging from 25 to 50 ft (7.6 to 15.2 m) off of the ground.	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** No suitable nesting habitat present in the onshore Project area; however, the species may forage in dunes habitat adjacent to the onshore Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Brachyramphus marmoratus	Marbled Murrelet	FT	A small sea bird that spends most of its life in the nearshore waters. The murrelet is an opportunistic feeder and utilizes several different prey species. The murrelet nests in inland in low-elevation old growth forests, or other forests with remnant large trees within the marine fog belt near the coast which is within 50 mi (80.5 km) of the coast.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Outside of species range **Manchester** **High.** Foraging habitat is present within the Project area, specifically waters offshore of the Manchester cable landing. Marbled murrelets have the potential to be present in the Project area during non-breeding season (late summer through early spring). No nesting habitat is present in the Project area.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
Charadrius nivosus nivosus	Western snowy plover	FT	Snowy plover nests on sandy beaches and dunes by creating a shallow depression as a nest, using driftwood, rocks, or bushes as cover, nests may also be entirely out in the open.	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** No suitable habitat is present in the Project areas.
Gymnogyps californianus	California Condor	FE	The condor is a big vulture that can weigh approximately 20 lbs. (9 kg) and has a wingspan of approximately nine feet. The bird nests in caves or rock crevices, laying one egg per clutch between February and May.	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** Mostly present near inland mountain ranges, however sightings of foraging individuals have occurred recently along the coast. No nesting habitat has been observed within the Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Project area is outside of species range.
Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus	Short-tailed Albatross	FE	A majority of the short-tailed albatross population use a single colony, Tsubamezaki, on Torishima Island in Japan. The short-tailed albatross range extends along the Pacific Rim along the continental shelf margin from southern Japan to northern California during the non-breeding season.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Outside of species range **Manchester** **Moderate.** Project area provides suitable foraging habit for albatross along continental shelf margins. Nesting habitat is not present in Project area.
Pterodroma sandwichensis	Hawaiian Petrel	FE	This species has a small breeding range, known from five locations in the main Hawaiian islands. Foraging habitat extends from the islands to the Eastern Pacific edge.	**Both Project Areas** **Absent.** No suitable nesting habitat present in the Project areas. The Project areas are outside of the typical species eastern foraging range.
Sterna antillarum browni	California Least Tern	FE	It occurs in at the Oceano Dunes State Park during the breeding seasons approximately 20 mi (32 km) south of the Montana de Oro Project area. Least tern can overwinter in southern Mexico and Central America. It breeds primarily on sandy coastal beaches, estuary, lagoons, bays, and along freshwater lakes and ponds near the coast. It is primarily a	**Montaña de Oro** **Low.** No suitable nesting habitat present in the onshore Project area. Foraging habitat is present in nearshore Project area and species may occur during non-breeding or migration season (September–April). **Manchester**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			colonial nester, but solitary nesting does occur. California least tern feed on small fish, crustaceans, and insects.	**Absent.** Project area is outside of species range.
MAMMALS				
Cetaceans				
Balaenoptera musculus	Blue whale	FE	Inhabit broad areas throughout the eastern North Pacific. Concentrations of blue whales have been documented feeding off California each summer and fall.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** The offshore Project areas may intersect with blue whales as they move between warmer water calving areas in winter and high latitude feeding grounds in the summer.
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale	FE	Pelagic migrations from Arctic and Antarctic feeding areas in summer to tropical breeding and calving areas in the winter.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Fin whales may occur in the Project areas they seasonally move from high latitude feeding areas. More likely to be present during season migrations in spring or early summer.
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale	FE	Offshore deep waters away from the coastline. Unpredictable distribution. Breeding areas unknown.	**Both Project Areas** **Low.** The Project areas provide suitable migration and foraging habitat. Offshore project activities could intersect feeding areas for Sei whales. Breeding areas will not be impacted by Project activities.
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale	MMPA	California/Oregon/Washington Stock migratory, but to establish home ranges. Minke whales occur year-round in California waters.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat present in offshore Project areas.
Berardius bairdii	Baird's beaked whale	MMPA	Baird's beaked whales are distributed throughout deep waters and along the continental slopes of the North Pacific.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat present in offshore Project areas.
Delphinus capensis	Long-beaked common dolphin	MMPA	Long-beaked common dolphins are commonly found from Baja California northward to about central California. long-beaked common dolphins primarily	**Montaña de Oro** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat present in offshore Project area within deeper water depths. **Manchester**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			occur inshore of the 820 ft (250 m) isobath.	**Absent.** Outside of species range.
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	MMPA	Pelagic; found in large groups up to thousands in cool temperate water along continental slope in waters 650 to 6,500 ft (198 to 1981 m) deep, but in California are common from coast to 300 mi (482.8 km) offshore.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat present along continental slope in offshore Project area**.**
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	MMPA	Coastal and Pelagic; circumglobally temperate and tropical waters in harbors, bays, estuaries, as well as nearshore coastal waters, and deeper waters over the continental shelf.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat is present within Project areas.
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	MMPA	Pelagic; prefer deeper water (3,300 ft [1006 m] deep) but can be found feeding around continental shelf following primary prey, squid.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat is present within Project areas and along continental shelf.
Eschrichtius robustus	California gray whale	FE, MMPA	Coastal and Pelagic; migrate through coastal shallow waters in fall and early spring. Breed in warm, shallow lagoons in Baja California. Feed in shallow softbottom habitats on benthic and epibenthic invertebrates by filtering sediments.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Migration corridors and suitable foraging habitat located in Project areas. Most likely to be present in study area mid-February through May. Breeding grounds are not present within Project areas.
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale	FE	Mostly occur in the central North Pacific and Bering Sea. Spend summers in far northern feeding grounds and migrate south to warmers water in southern California.	**Both Project Areas** **Low.** Migration corridors are present within the Project areas. However, due to extremely low population, occurrence is unlikely.
Globicephala macrorhynchus	Short-finned pilot whale	MMPA	California/Oregon/Washington Stock occur from Baja, California to Northern Oregon.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat is present within Project areas and along continental shelf.
Lissodelphis borealis	Northern right-whale dolphin	MMPA	Northern right-whale dolphins are endemic to temperate waters of the North	**Both Project Areas**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			Pacific Ocean. Off the U.S. west coast, they have been seen primarily in shelf and slope waters.	**High.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat is present within Project areas and along continental shelf.
Megaptera novaeangliae	Central America DPS Humpback whale	FE	Generally found close to shore and are commonly active at the surface. Mexican population feeds across a broad range from California to Alaska. Central American population feeds off West Coast of U.S. and southern British Columbia.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable migration and foraging habitat are present in offshore and nearshore Project areas.
	Mexico DPS	FT		
Mesoplodon spp.	Mesoplodont beaked whale	MMPA	Mesoplodont beaked whales are distributed throughout deep waters and along the continental slopes of the North Pacific Ocean. Until methods of distinguishing these six species at-sea are developed, the management unit must be defined to include all Mesoplodon stocks	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Suitable foraging and migration habitat is present within Project areas specifically in deeper waters.
Orcinus orca	Southern resident Killer Whale	FE	Southern resident killer whale stock consists of a small population off British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon. Forage widely along the outer coast of the North Pacific where they follow chinook salmon runs as well as inland waters of the Puget Sound in spring and summer.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Outside of species range. **Manchester** **High.** Suitable foraging habitat for both southern resident killer whale occurs in Project area.
Orcinus orca	West Coast Transient killer whales	MMPA	The West Coast Transient killer whales can be observed in offshore Monterey Bay from April through June feeding on migrating Gray Whale calves. This stock is not a federally listed species.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat for west coast transient killer whale occurs in Project areas.
Phocoena phocoena	San Franciso-Russian River Harbor Porpoise	MMPA	San Francisco-Russian River Harbor Porpoise primarily inhabit the coastal waters and estuaries along California's central and northern coast typically in depths less than 98 feet (30 meters).	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Project Area is outside of species range. **Manchester**

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
				High. Project activities occurring on the coastal continental shelf will intersect suitable foraging habitat.
Phocoena phocoana	Morro Bay Harbor Porpoise	MMPA	Morro Bay Harbor Porpoise primarily inhabits the shallow coastal waters of Morro Bay, California. This estuarian environment includes mudflats, salt marches, and shallow bays which provide foraging and nursery habitats.	**Montaña de Oro** **High.** Project activities occurring on the coastal continental shelf will intersect suitable foraging habitat. **Manchester** **Absent.** Project Area is outside of species range.
Phocoenoides dalli	Dall's porpoise	MMPA	Dall's porpoises are endemic to temperate waters of the North Pacific. Off the U.S. west coast, they are seen in shelf, slope, and offshore waters	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Project activities occurring in shelf, slope and offshore waters will intersect suitable habitat for this species.
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	FE	Offshore deep waters, with highest abundance off California from April to mid-June and from August to mid-November.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas specifically in open, deeper water.
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped Dolphin	MMPA	Striped dolphins are distributed world-wide in tropical and warm-temperate pelagic waters. Striped dolphins are commonly seen in warm offshore waters of California, and a few sightings have been made off Oregon.	**Montaña de Oro** **High.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas specifically in open, deeper water. **Manchester** **Low.** The Manchester Project area is at the northern end of the species range.
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale	MMPA	Cuvier's beaked whales are distributed widely throughout deep waters of all oceans.	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas specifically in open, deeper water.
Pinnipeds				
Callorhinus ursinus	Northern fur seal	MMPA	Northern fur seals are a pelagic species. This species' full range extends throughout the Pacific, from Japan to the Channel Islands of California, with their	**Both Project Areas** **Moderate.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			main breeding colonies found in the Bering Sea. These seals are thought to be mostly solitary at sea, nocturnal species.	
Eumetopias jubatus	Steller sea lion	FDL	The range of the Steller sea lion extends from the north shore of Honshu in Japan to the Gulf of Alaska in the north, down to Año Nuevo Island off the coast of central California to the south. Skilled and opportunistic marine predators, this species feeds on a wide range of fish and cephalopod species in coastal waters.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Outside of species range. **Manchester** **Moderate.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project area specifically in open, deeper water. No rookeries or haul-outs are present in the Project area.
Mirounga angustirostris	Northern elephant seal	MMPA	Northern elephant seals breed and give birth in California primarily on offshore islands, from December to March. Males migrate to the Gulf of Alaska and western Aleutian Islands along the continental shelf to feed on benthic prey, while females migrate to pelagic areas in the Gulf of Alaska and the central North Pacific to feed on pelagic prey.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas specifically in open, deeper water. No rookeries or haul-outs are present within the Project areas.
Phoca vitulina richardii	Pacific harbor seal	MMPA	Coastal and beach areas from Alaska to Baja California within temperate and coastal habitats. These seals stay within 15 to 31 mi (24 to 50 km) of their natal areas. Perform shallow and deep dives for fish, shellfish, and crustaceans	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable migrating and foraging habitat present in the Project areas specifically in nearshore waters. There are no rookeries or reported haul-outs in the Project area.
Zalophus californianus	California sea lion	MMPA	Coastal waters and on beaches, docks, buoys, and jetties in shallow water from southeast Alaska to the Pacific coast of Mexico. Primary rookeries are located on Channel Islands offshore Santa Barbara.	**Both Project Areas** **High.** Suitable foraging habitat is present within the Project area. There are no rookeries or reported haul-outs in the Project areas.
Fissiped				
Enhydra lutris nereis	Southern sea otter	FT	Forage and breed in shallow kelp forest between San Mateo County and Santa Barbara County. Within Monterey Bay,	**Montaña de Oro** **Moderate.** The current lack of kelp forest habitat near this site diminishes the likelihood of otter presence; however, sea otters are

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
			sea otters are frequently observed in kelp beds off Lover's Point and Cannery Row.	commonly seen offshore of the Montaña de Oro State Park. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.
Aplodontidae				
Aplodontia rufa nigra	Point Arena Mountain Beaver	FE	The Point Arena Mountain beaver, a subspecies of the mountain beaver, is primarily found in the coastal areas of Northern California, particularly in the Point Arena region. Its habitat typically includes dense, moisture-rich environments like riparian zones, forests, and thickets with ample understory vegetation	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** Project area is outside of species range. **Manchester** **Absent.** No suitable habitat present in the Project area.
Castorimorphs				
Dipodomys heermanni morroensis	Morro Bay kangaroo rat	FE, SE	This kangaroo rat is endemic to San Luis Obispo County, California. The species is the smallest subspecies of the Heermann's kangaroo. This subspecies is unique to Baywood fine sands, a soil type found in Morro Bay, Los Osos, and Montana de Oro State Park on the Central Coast of California. As a result, the Morro Bay kangaroo rat lives in a restricted 1.2 mi (2 km) area south of Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County, California.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable habitat present in the Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Outside of species range.

Table 4-2. Special-Status Species Occurring Within Five Miles of Project Areas

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1,2]	Habitat	Probability of Occurrence
Vulpes macrotis mutica	San Joaquin Kit Fox	FE	This species is found mostly in grasslands or grassy open stages of vegetation dominated by scattered brush, shrubs, and scrub. These foxes typically use the burrow of a ground squirrel as a den, but will also utilize manmade structures, sites such as pipes and culverts.	**Montaña de Oro** **Absent.** No suitable habitat present in the Project area. **Manchester** **Absent.** Project area outside of species range.

[1] Status:

FE = Federal Endangered
FT = Federal Threatened
FPT = Federal Proposed Threatened
SE = California State Endangered
ST = California State Threatened
WL = CDFW Watch List
SSC = California Species of Special Concern
BCC = USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern
HAPC = Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPCs are defined as discrete subsets of EFH that provide important ecological functions and/or are especially vulnerable to degradation)

[2] All marine mammals are Federally protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Table 4-3. Population estimates of MMPA Species in the vicinity of the Project areas.

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Status[1,2]	Minimum Population Estimate	Current Population Trend	Source
MYSTICETI CETACEANS				
California gray whale *Eschrichtius robustus*		25,849 (Eastern North Pacific Stock)	Fluctuating annually	NMFS, 2020b
Fin whale *Balaenoptera physalus*	FE	7,970 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Increasing off California	NMFS, 2021a
Humpback whale *Megaptera novaeangliae*	FE	1,282 (Central America / Southern Mexico - California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Increasing	NMFS, 2022a
	FT	3,185 (Mainland Mexico - California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2022b
Blue whale *Balaenoptera musculus*	FE	1,767 (Eastern North Pacific Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2021b
Minke whale *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*		509 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2021c
ODONTOCETI CEATACEANS				
Long-beaked common dolphin *Delphinus capensis*		69,636 (California Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2021d
Short-beaked common dolphin *Delphinus delphis*		888,971 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Increasing	NMFS, 2021e
Pacific white-sided dolphin *Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*		29,090 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2021f
Killer Whale *Orcinus orca*		349 (West Coast Transient Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2020c
		276 (Eastern North Pacific/Offshore Stock)	Stable	NMFS 2018c
Risso's dolphin *Grampus griseus*		4,817 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2016c
Northern right whale dolphin *Lissodelphis borealis*		17,024 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2021g
Striped dolphin *Stenella coeruleoalba*		23,448 (California, Oregon, Washington)	No long-term trend due to rarity	NMFS, 2021h
Baird's beaked whale *Berardius bairdii*		894 (California, Oregon, Washington)	No long-term trend due to rarity	NMFS, 2021i
Cuvier's beaked whale *Ziphius cavirostris*		4,214 (California, Oregon, Washington)	No long-term trend due to rarity	NMFS, 2022c
Mesoplodont beaked whales *Mesoplodon* spp.		1,967 (California, Oregon, Washington)	No long-term trend due to rarity	NMFS, 2017b
Bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus*		1,255 (California/Oregon/Washington Offshore Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2016d
		346 (California Coastal Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2016e
Short-finned pilot whale *Globicephala macrorhynchus*		466 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested	NMFS, 2016f
Dall's porpoise *Phocoenoides dalli*		10,286 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	Unable to determine	NMFS, 2021j
OTARIID PINNIPEDS				
California sea lion *Zalophus californianus*		233,515 (U.S. Stock)	Increasing	NMFS, 2018d

Common Name ***Scientific Name***	**Status[1,2]**	**Minimum Population Estimate**	**Current Population Trend**	**Source**
Northern fur seal *Callorhinus ursinus*		6,858 (California Stock)	Increasing	NMFS, 2015c
PHOCID PINNIPEDS				
Pacific harbor seal *Phoca vitulina richardsii*		27,348 (California Stock)	Decreasing	NMFS, 2014b
Northern elephant seal *Mirounga angustirostris*		85,369 (California breeding stock)	Increasing	NMFS, 2021k
FISSIPEDS				
Southern sea otter *Enhydra lutris nereis*	FE, ST, SP	2,962 (California Stock)	Increasing	USFWS, 2021

[1]Status Codes:

FE Federally listed Endangered Species

FT Federally listed Threatened Species

ST State listed Threatened Species

SP State Fully Protected Species

[2]All marine mammals are Federally protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

5.0 REGULATORY SETTING

5.1 FEDERAL

5.1.1 Special-Status Species

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), administered by the USFWS and the NMFS, provides protection to species listed as Threatened (FT) or Endangered (FE), or proposed for listing as Threatened (PFT) or Endangered (PFE). The Services maintain lists of species that are neither formally listed nor proposed but could be listed in the future. These Federal candidate species (FC) include taxa for which substantial information on biological vulnerability and potential threats exists and are maintained to support the appropriateness of proposing to list the taxa as an endangered or threatened species. The FESA makes it unlawful to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect an endangered species, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Anyone violating the provisions of the ESA and regulations is subject to a fine and imprisonment. An “endangered species” is any species which the Secretaries of the Department of the Interior and/or the Department of Commerce determine is in danger of extinction throughout all or a portion of its range. A “threatened species” is any species which the Secretaries determine is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

The United States MMPA of 1972, amended 1994, protects all marine mammals, including cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises), pinnipeds (seals and sea lions), sirenians (manatees and dugongs), sea otters, and polar bears within the waters of the U.S. Specifically, the MMPA prohibits the intentional killing or harassment of these marine mammals; however, incidental harassment, with authorization from the appropriate federal agency, may be permitted. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (or NMFS) is responsible for enforcing the MMPA. Provided certain findings are made, NOAA Fisheries may issue incidental take authorizations allowing the unintentional “take” of marine mammals incidental to specified activities, including construction projects, scientific research projects, oil and gas development, and military exercises. Incidental harassment due to elevated underwater noise could occur if project noise levels exceeded acoustic thresholds set by NMFS. Acoustic thresholds are applied by the sound source characteristics (impulsive/non-impulsive) and based on marine mammal hearing groups.

NMFS’s 2024 Updated Technical Guidance for Assessing the Effects of Anthropogenic Sound on Marine Mammal Hearing (NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-OPR-71) identifies criteria to assess auditory injury (Level A harassment) to different marine mammal groups (based on hearing sensitivity) as a result of exposure to sound from impulsive and non-impulsive sources. NMFS predicts that marine mammals are likely to be behaviorally harassed in a manner that qualifies as Level B harassment when exposed to underwater noise above root-mean-square (RMS) received levels of 120 decibels (dB) re 1 μPa (micropascal) for continuous and 160 dB re 1 μPa for non-explosive, impulsive or intermittent sound sources. For in-air sounds, NMFS predicts that harbor seals exposed to RMS received levels >90 dB re 20 μPa will be behaviorally harassed, and other pinnipeds will be harassed when exposed to RMS received levels >100 dB 20 μPa. These in-air behavioral thresholds apply to all sound sources, including airborne detonations.

5.1.2 Essential Fish Habitat

Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act protects Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) which is defined as "…those waters and substrate necessary for fish spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity." "Waters," as used in this definition, are defined to include "aquatic areas and their associated physical, chemical, and biological properties that are used by fish." These may include "…areas historically used by fish where appropriate; 'substrate' to include sediment, hard bottom, structures underlying the waters, and associated biological communities." "Necessary" means, "the habitat required to support a sustainable fishery and the managed species' contribution to a healthy ecosystem." EFH is described as a subset of all habitats occupied by a species (NOAA, 1998).

The NOAA identifies four Habitats of Particular Concern (HAPC) within the California area: estuaries, rocky reefs, seagrass beds, and kelp beds. HAPCs are defined as discrete subsets of EFH that provide important ecological functions and/or are especially vulnerable to degradation. The HAPC designation does not necessarily confer additional protection or restrictions upon an area, but it helps prioritize and focus conservation efforts.

5.1.3 Waters and Wetlands

The Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the discharge of dredge and fill material into jurisdictional "waters of the United States" (WoUS) and wetlands under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps is responsible for the issuance of permits for the placement of dredged or fill material into WoUS pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). As defined by the Corps at 33 CFR 328.3(a)(3), WoUS are those waters that are used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; tributaries and impoundments to such waters; interstate waters including interstate wetlands; and territorial seas.

The Corps asserts jurisdiction over traditional navigable waters and adjacent wetlands. Under Corps and EPA regulations, wetlands are defined 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. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas."

5.1.4 Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33USC 403)

In addition to Section 404, the Corps regulates activities affecting "navigable waters of the United States" under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403). Navigable waters are defined as "…*those waters of the United States that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide shoreward to the mean high-water mark and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible to use to transport interstate or foreign commerce* (33 CFR 322.2[a])." Structures or work under or over a navigable WoUS is considered to have an impact on the navigable capacity of the waterbody (33 CFR 322.3[a]).

5.2 STATE

5.2.1 Special-Status Species

The CDFW administers several laws and programs designed to protect the State's fish and wildlife resources. Principal of these is the California Endangered Species Act of 1984 (CESA) (Fish and Game Code Section 2050), which regulates the listing and take of State endangered (SE) and threatened species (ST). Under Section 2081 of CESA, CDFW may authorize an incidental take permit allowing the otherwise unlawful take of a SE or ST species.

CDFW maintains lists of Candidate-Endangered species and Candidate-Threatened species. These candidate species are afforded the same level of protection as listed species. CDFW designates Species of Special Concern (SSC) that are species of limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. These species do not have the same legal protection as listed species but may be added to official lists in the future. The SSC list is intended by CDFW as a management tool for consideration in future land use decisions.

5.2.2 Marine Life Protection Act

California adopted the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) in 1999 to provide improved protection for the diversity and abundance of California's ocean habitats through a network of MPAs with the goals of sustaining, conserving and protecting marine life populations; protecting marine ecosystems; improving recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems; and protecting marine natural heritage. There is strong scientific evidence that marine protected areas restore and protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.

5.3 LOCAL AND REGIONAL

5.3.1 County of Mendicino

The County of Mendicino's Coastal Plan defines environmentally sensitive habitat areas as "any areas in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments." In Mendocino County, environmentally sensitive habitat areas include "anadromous fish streams, sand dunes, rookeries and marine mammal haul out areas, wetlands, riparian areas, pygmy vegetation containing species of rare or endangered plants, and habitats of rare and endangered plants and animals."

County Policy 30230 stipulates that marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and, where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological or economic significance. Uses of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for long-term commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes (Mendocino County, 2009).

5.3.2 County of San Luis Obispo

The County of San Luis Obispo's Coastal Plan defines environmentally sensitive areas as "any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable

because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments." San Luis Obispo County's environmentally sensitive habitat areas found within the coastal zone include "unique plant habitats; rare and endangered animal habitats; wetlands; coastal streams; rocky points; intertidal areas; and kelp beds."

County Policy 30230 stipulates that marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological or economic significance. Uses of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for long-term commercial, recreation, scientific, and educational purposes (San Luis Obispo County, 2007).

6.0 PROJECT INCORPORATED MEASURES

The proposed Project has the potential to cause temporary impacts to marine biological species and habitats during cable removal activities, including impacts from vessel operations and lighting, anchoring, seafloor and sensitive habitat disturbance, oil spills, and introduction of non-native aquatic species. To reduce the likelihood of significant impacts to marine biological resources, the following Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs), Project plans, and studies, as well as applicable mitigation measures identified within the 2000 Mitigated Negative Declaration: AT&T Japan – U.S. Cable Network Segments S8 and S9 Mendocino County and San Luis Obispo County, California (SCH# 2000031062, MND #702) have been incorporated into the Project to reduce the potential Project impacts to regulated and sensitive resources.

MM MB-2: Pre-Activity Environmental Orientation and Training. The approved biological monitor(s) will be responsible for conducting an environmental awareness training for all Project personnel to familiarize workers with surrounding common and special-status species and their habitats, applicable regulatory requirements, and measures that must be implemented to avoid or minimize potential impacts to biological resources.

APM BIO-1: Marine Wildlife Mitigation and Training Plan. AT&T will prepare and implement a Marine Wildlife Mitigation and Training Plan during all offshore Project activities to reduce or eliminate potential impacts of the Project activities on marine mammals and birds (marine wildlife). The Plan shall include monitoring vessel transit, anchoring, and cable removal operations by a designated monitor trained to detect marine wildlife. The monitor shall have the authority to halt marine operations that may adversely affect marine wildlife or marine habitat.

APM BIO-2: Marine Safety and Anchoring Plan. AT&T and their contractors will prepare and implement a Marine Safety and Anchoring Plan to provide procedures for safe offshore work activities to ensure that impacts to sensitive habitats are reduced to the extent feasible.

APM BIO-3: Oil Spill Contingency and Response Plan. AT&T and their contractors will prepare and implement an Oil Spill Contingency and Response Plan that details oil containment measures and contingencies, including agency notifications, in the event of an incidental spill.

MM CRF-1: Notice to Local Mariners. AT&T will ensure the publication of a Notice to Mariners, describing the nature, location, and duration of cable recovery activities, at least 15 days prior to initiation of work activities at each location. The notice will be submitted to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG).

APM AQ-4 Emissions Reduction Plan. This plan would require all marine vessels and associated motorized equipment involved with the Project to have and maintain all appropriate air pollution prevention certificates. AT&T would implement all commercially feasible best practices, as necessary, to minimize NOx emissions. In addition, and if necessary, AT&T would make an appropriate monetary contribution to the SLO County

Air Pollution Control District and/or Manchester County Air Quality Management District to offset NOx emissions.

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ATTACHMENT A

USFWS, CNDDB, AND NMFS SPECIES LISTS

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: BIOS selection

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Abronia umbellata var. breviflora pink sand-verbena	G4G5T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	10 30	61 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0
Agrostis blasdalei Blasdale's bent grass	G2G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	60 80	62 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Aplodontia rufa nigra Point Arena mountain beaver	G5T1 S1	Endangered None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	40 450	39 S:21	1	5	1	0	0	14	9	12	21	0	0
Arborimus pomo Sonoma tree vole	G3 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	80 200	222 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Bombus caliginosus obscure bumble bee	G2G3 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	200 200	181 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Bombus occidentalis western bumble bee	G3 S1	None Candidate Endangered	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	100 100	306 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Calystegia purpurata ssp. saxicola coastal bluff morning-glory	G4T2T3 S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	50 65	42 S:3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	0
Carex californica California sedge	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	900 915	41 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
Carex lyngbyei Lyngbye's sedge	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 IUCN_LC-Least Concern	12 12	37 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Carex saliniformis deceiving sedge	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	60 750	18 S:4	1	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	4	0	0

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks A	B	C	D	X	U	Population Status Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Presence Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Castilleja ambigua var. humboldtiensis Humboldt Bay owl's-clover	G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley	2 2	31 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Castilleja mendocinensis Mendocino Coast paintbrush	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	50 80	52 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh	G3 S2.1	None None			60 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Coastal Brackish Marsh Coastal Brackish Marsh	G2 S2.1	None None			30 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Coastal Terrace Prairie Coastal Terrace Prairie	G2 S2.1	None None		280 280	8 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Cuscuta pacifica var. papillata Mendocino dodder	G5T1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2		5 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Eastwoodiella californica swamp harebell	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	30 750	155 S:13	0	6	2	0	0	5	11	2	13	0	0
Emys marmorata western pond turtle	G3G4 S3	Proposed Threatened None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	11 11	1559 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Erigeron supplex supple daisy	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley	20 600	21 S:4	0	1	0	1	0	2	3	1	4	0	0
Eucyclogobius newberryi tidewater goby	G3 S3	Endangered None	AFS_EN-Endangered CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	5 5	127 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Eumetopias jubatus Steller sea lion	G3 S2	Delisted None	IUCN_NT-Near Threatened MMC_SSC-Species of Special Concern	15 15	38 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Fritillaria roderickii Roderick's fritillary	G1Q S1	None Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	150 150	8 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Gilia capitata ssp. pacifica Pacific gilia	G5T3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden		91 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Glyceria grandis American manna grass	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	200 200	10 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Hesperevax sparsiflora var. brevifolia short-leaved evax	G4T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	45 80	72 S:4	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	3	4	0	0
Hesperocyparis pygmaea pygmy cypress	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	30 30	37 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lasthenia californica ssp. bakeri Baker's goldfields	G3T1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	20 100	19 S:3	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	2	1	0
Lasthenia californica ssp. macrantha perennial goldfields	G3T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	20 50	59 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Lasthenia conjugens Contra Costa goldfields	G1 S1	Endangered None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley	100 100	36 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Lilium maritimum coast lily	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_BerrySB-Berry Seed Bank SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley	25 800	84 S:10	0	2	5	0	0	3	7	3	10	0	0
Microseris paludosa marsh microseris	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz		38 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Northern Coastal Bluff Scrub Northern Coastal Bluff Scrub	G2 S2.2	None None		50 50	1 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Northern Coastal Salt Marsh Northern Coastal Salt Marsh	G3 S3.2	None None			53 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oenothera wolfii Wolf's evening-primrose	G2 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_BerrySB-Berry Seed Bank	100 100	29 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oncorhynchus gorbuscha pink salmon	G5 S1	None None		40 40	1 S:1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 49 steelhead - northern California DPS winter-run	G5T3Q S3	Threatened None	AFS_TH-Threatened CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	51 538	96 S:4	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	2	4	0	0
Plebejus anna lotis lotis blue butterfly	G4TH SH	Endangered None		250 250	2 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Potamogeton epihydrus Nuttall's ribbon-leaved pondweed	G5 S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 IUCN_LC-Least Concern		25 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Rana boylii pop. 1 foothill yellow-legged frog - north coast DPS	G3T4 S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	25 39	1608 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Rana draytonii California red-legged frog	G2G3 S2S3	Threatened None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	20 825	1768 S:6	0	1	0	0	0	5	5	1	6	0	0

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Sidalcea malachroides maple-leaved checkerbloom	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 4.2	80 500	136 S:5	0	0	4	0	0	1	5	0	5	0	0
Sidalcea malviflora ssp. purpurea purple-stemmed checkerbloom	G5T1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive		19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Speyeria zerene behrensii Behren's silverspot butterfly	G5T1 S1	Endangered None		54 334	12 S:6	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	4	6	0	0
Sulcaria spiralifera twisted horsehair lichen	G3G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	20 20	18 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: BIOS selection

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Accipiter cooperii Cooper's hawk	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	260 260	118 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Agrostis hooveri Hoover's bent grass	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	1,200 1,200	31 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Anniella pulchra Northern California legless lizard	G3 S2S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	55 132	386 S:4	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	3	4	0	0
Arctostaphylos morroensis Morro manzanita	G1 S1	Threatened None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	100 400	6 S:3	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	0	0
Arctostaphylos osoensis Oso manzanita	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	135 600	11 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Arctostaphylos pechoensis Pecho manzanita	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	600 1,200	16 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	4	0	0
Arenaria paludicola marsh sandwort	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	23 23	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	G4 S2	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	231 231	2057 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Atriplex coulteri Coulter's saltbush	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank	20 25	121 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	0
Bombus caliginosus obscure bumble bee	G2G3 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	40 40	181 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Camissoniopsis hardhamiae Hardham's evening-primrose	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	200 200	22 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Castilleja densiflora var. obispoensis San Luis Obispo owl's-clover	G5T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	1,300 1,300	69 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Central Dune Scrub Central Dune Scrub	G2 S2.2	None None		40 160	24 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Central Maritime Chaparral Central Maritime Chaparral	G2 S2.2	None None		250 680	19 S:2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	0
Charadrius nivosus nivosus western snowy plover	G3T3 S3	Threatened None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	43 43	140 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Chenopodium littoreum coastal goosefoot	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	20 120	13 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. palustre Point Reyes salty bird's-beak	G4?T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	15 15	80 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cladonia firma popcorn lichen	G4 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	118 256	4 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0
Coelus globosus globose dune beetle	G1G2 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	10 20	50 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks A	B	C	D	X	U	Population Status Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Presence Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Danaus plexippus plexippus pop. 1 monarch - California overwintering population	G4T1T2Q S2	Candidate None	IUCN_EN-Endangered USFS_S-Sensitive	20 200	400 S:6	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	6	6	0	0
Delphinium parryi ssp. eastwoodiae Eastwood's larkspur	G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	1,300 1,300	15 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Dipodomys heermanni morroensis Morro Bay kangaroo rat	G4TH SH	Endangered Endangered	CDFW_FP-Fully Protected	28 910	18 S:11	0	0	0	0	11	0	11	0	0	1	10
Dithyrea maritima beach spectaclepod	G1 S1	None Threatened	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	10 40	28 S:3	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	3	0	0
Erigeron blochmaniae Blochman's leafy daisy	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	23 300	36 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	1	5	0	0
Eriodictyon altissimum Indian Knob mountainbalm	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_USDA-US Dept of Agriculture	325 780	6 S:4	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	3	3	1	0
Eucyclogobius newberryi tidewater goby	G3 S3	Endangered None	AFS_EN-Endangered CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	0 20	127 S:3	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	2	1	0
Eumetopias jubatus Steller sea lion	G3 S2	Delisted None	IUCN_NT-Near Threatened MMC_SSC-Species of Special Concern	50 50	38 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Helminthoglypta walkeriana Morro shoulderband	G2 S2	Threatened None	IUCN_CR-Critically Endangered	10 300	14 S:10	3	2	5	0	0	0	2	8	10	0	0
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula mesa horkelia	G4T1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	100 780	103 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3	4	0	0

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Horkelia cuneata var. sericea Kellogg's horkelia	G4T1? S1?	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz USFS_S-Sensitive	400 400	58 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Icaricia icarioides moroensis Morro Bay blue butterfly	G5T2 S2	None None		40 865	12 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	3	5	0	0
Lasthenia californica ssp. macrantha perennial goldfields	G3T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden		59 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri Coulter's goldfields	G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden		111 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus California black rail	G3T1 S2	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_EN-Endangered	19 19	304 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Layia erubescens blushing layia	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	34 34	36 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Monardella sinuata ssp. sinuata southern curly-leaved monardella	G3T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz	80 150	36 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	0
Nemacaulis denudata var. denudata coast woolly-heads	G3G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank		42 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0

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California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks A	B	C	D	X	U	Population Status Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Presence Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Neotoma lepida intermedia San Diego desert woodrat	G5T3T4 S3S4	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	50 1,260	132 S:5	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0
Northern Coastal Salt Marsh Northern Coastal Salt Marsh	G3 S3.2	None None			53 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Nyctinomops macrotis big free-tailed bat	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	80 80	32 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 9 steelhead - south-central California coast DPS	G5T2Q S2	Threatened None	AFS_TH-Threatened CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	140 320	42 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	G4 S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	259 259	841 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Poa diaboli Diablo Canyon blue grass	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	380 1,312	6 S:6	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	1	6	0	0
Polyphylla morroensis Morro Bay June beetle	G1 S1	None None		72 307	11 S:9	0	5	0	0	0	4	3	6	9	0	0
Rallus obsoletus obsoletus California Ridgway's rail	G3T1 S2	Endangered Endangered	CDFW_FP-Fully Protected		99 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Senecio aphanactis chaparral ragwort	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_CRES-San Diego Zoo CRES Native Gene Seed Bank	840 840	98 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Streptanthus albidus ssp. peramoenus most beautiful jewelflower	G2T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley USFS_S-Sensitive	1,300 1,300	103 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Suaeda californica California seablite	G1 S1	Endangered None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	10 10	18 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Sulcaria isidiifera splitting yarn lichen	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1	180 877	7 S:5	0	1	0	1	0	3	3	2	5	0	0
Sulcaria spiralifera twisted horsehair lichen	G3G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	168 288	18 S:3	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	0	0
Valley Needlegrass Grassland Valley Needlegrass Grassland	G3 S3.1	None None		920 1,320	45 S:3	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arcata Fish And Wildlife Office
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521-4573
Phone: (707) 822-7201 Fax: (707) 822-8411

In Reply Refer To: October 31, 2023
Project Code: 2024-0011145
Project Name: AT&T Pipeline Segments 8 & 9 Japan to US Cable Decommission-Manchester

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Arcata Fish And Wildlife Office
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521-4573
(707) 822-7201

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0011145
Project Name: AT&T Pipeline Segments 8 & 9 Japan to US Cable Decommission-Manchester
Project Type: Maintenance/Modification - Below Ground Communications Lines
Project Description: Fiberoptic cable decommissioning
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.92641425,-123.9037887026229,14z

Counties: Mendocino County, California

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 19 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Point Arena Mountain Beaver *Aplodontia rufa nigra* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7727	Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Hawaiian Petrel *Pterodroma sandwichensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6746	Endangered
Marbled Murrelet *Brachyramphus marmoratus* Population: U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA) There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467	Threatened
Northern Spotted Owl *Strix occidentalis caurina* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1123	Threatened
Short-tailed Albatross *Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/433	Endangered
Western Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* Population: Pacific Coast population DPS-U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA), Mexico (within 50 miles of Pacific coast) There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035	Threatened
Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus* Population: Western U.S. DPS There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Green Sea Turtle *Chelonia mydas* Population: East Pacific DPS No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6199	Threatened
Leatherback Sea Turtle *Dermochelys coriacea* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1493	Endangered

AMPHIBIANS

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog *Rana draytonii* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891	Threatened

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Tidewater Goby *Eucyclogobius newberryi* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/57	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Behren's Silverspot Butterfly *Speyeria zerene behrensii* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/900	Endangered
Lotis Blue Butterfly *Lycaeides argyrognomon lotis* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5174	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRUSTACEANS

NAME	STATUS
California Freshwater Shrimp *Syncaris pacifica* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7903	Endangered
Conservancy Fairy Shrimp *Branchinecta conservatio* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Burke's Goldfields *Lasthenia burkei* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4338	Endangered
Contra Costa Goldfields *Lasthenia conjugens* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7058	Endangered
Showy Indian Clover *Trifolium amoenum* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6459	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

There are 2 critical habitats wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog *Rana draytonii* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891#crithab	Final
Western Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035#crithab	Final

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[1] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats[3], should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Jan 1 to Sep 30
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

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

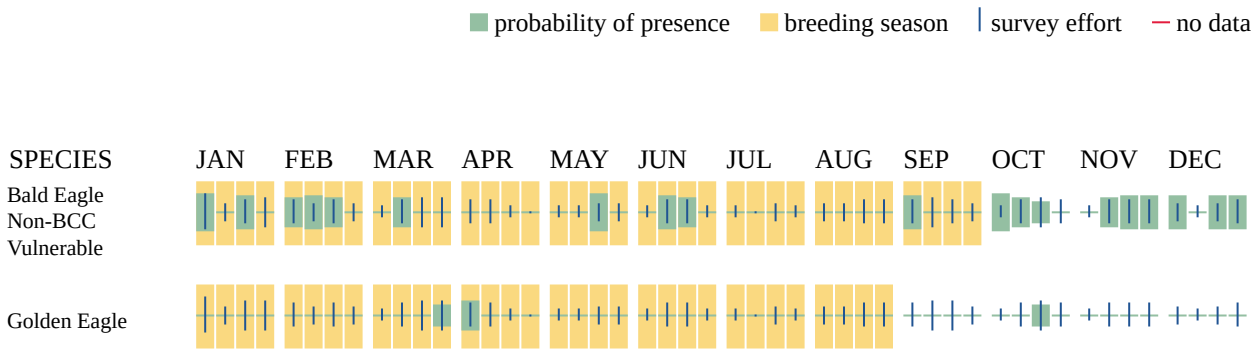
Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

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



Non-BCC
Vulnerable

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats[3] should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Allen's Hummingbird *Selasphorus sasin* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9637	Breeds Feb 1 to Jul 15
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Jan 1 to Sep 30

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus bachmani* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9591	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Black Scoter *Melanitta nigra* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10413	Breeds elsewhere
Black Turnstone *Arenaria melanocephala* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10557	Breeds elsewhere
Black-footed Albatross *Phoebastria nigripes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8033	Breeds elsewhere
Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10459	Breeds elsewhere
Black-vented Shearwater *Puffinus opisthomelas* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9623	Breeds elsewhere
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6034	Breeds Jan 15 to Sep 30
California Gull *Larus californicus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10955	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31
Cassin's Auklet *Ptychoramphus aleuticus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6967	Breeds Mar 21 to Sep 21

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Clark's Grebe *Aechmophorus clarkii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10575	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
Common Loon *gavia immer* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4464	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Common Murre *Uria aalge* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10453	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 15
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Laysan Albatross *Phoebastria immutabilis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9669	Breeds elsewhere
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7238	Breeds elsewhere
Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10465	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
Pink-footed Shearwater *Puffinus creatopus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9598	Breeds elsewhere
Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10458	Breeds elsewhere
Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10469	Breeds elsewhere
Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10693	Breeds elsewhere
Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10467	Breeds elsewhere
Red-throated Loon *Gavia stellata* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9589	Breeds elsewhere
Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10468	Breeds elsewhere
Rufous Hummingbird *selasphorus rufus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002	Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 15

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 10
South Polar Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10699	Breeds elsewhere
Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10463	Breeds elsewhere
Western Grebe *aechmophorus occidentalis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
White-winged Scoter *Melanitta fusca* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10462	Breeds elsewhere
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669	Breeds elsewhere
Wrentit *Chamaea fasciata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10668	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

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

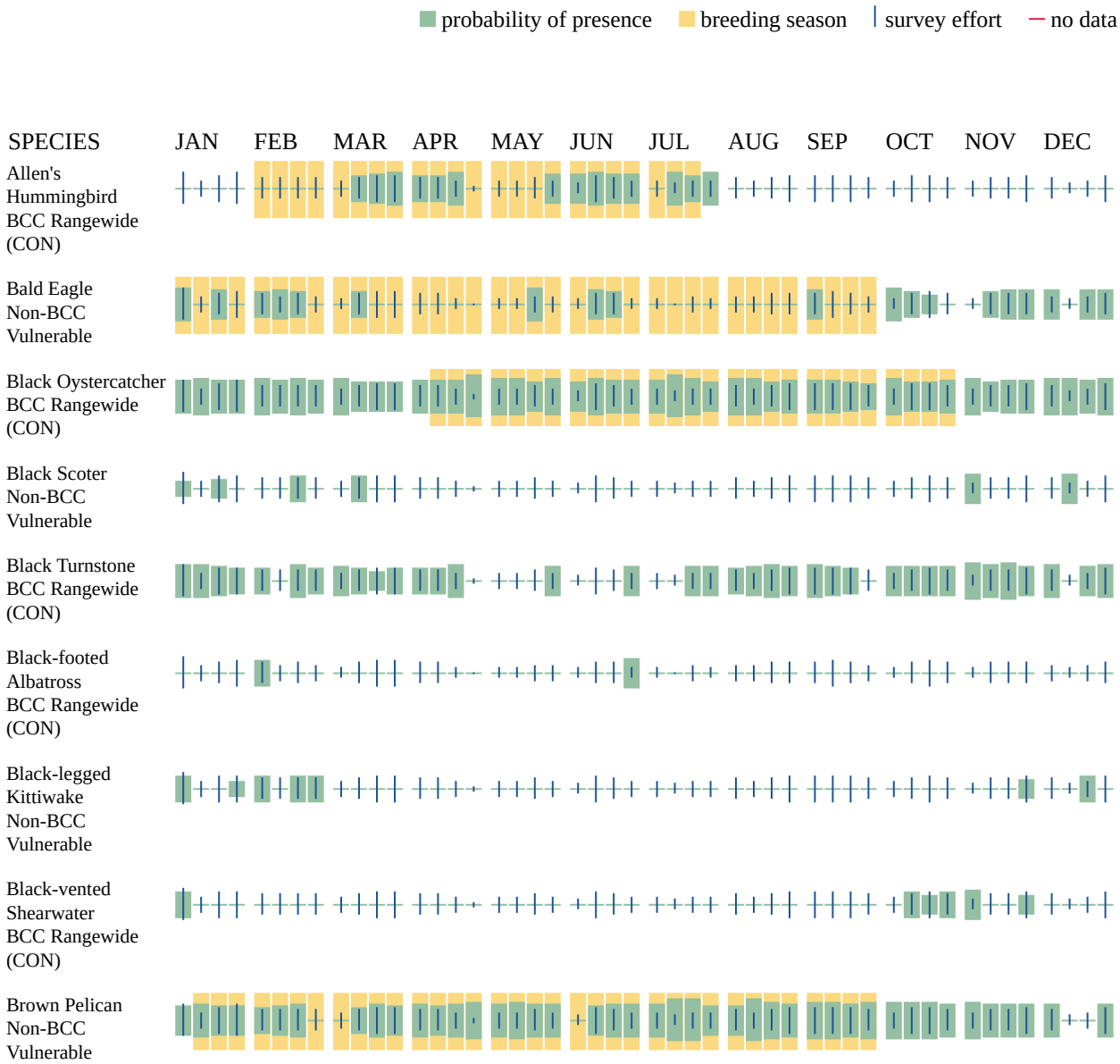
Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

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



California Gull
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Cassin's Auklet
BCC - BCR
Clark's Grebe
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Common Loon
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Common Murre
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Golden Eagle
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Laysan Albatross
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Lesser Yellowlegs
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Long-tailed Duck
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Manx Shearwater
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Marbled Godwit
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Olive-sided
Flycatcher
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Pink-footed
Shearwater
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Pomarine Jaeger
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Red Phalarope
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

WETLANDS

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

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

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER POND

- PUBF
- PUSA
- PUBH
- PUBT

RIVERINE

- R1UBV
- R4SBA
- R2UBH
- R4SBCx
- R1USQ

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- PSS1C
- PSS1B
- PSS1R

ESTUARINE AND MARINE WETLAND

- M2USN
- E2USN
- M2RSN
- E2USP
- M2USP

ESTUARINE AND MARINE DEEPWATER

- M1UBL
- E1UBL

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- PEM1S
- PEM1B
- PEM1A
- PEM1T
- PEM1C

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003-7726
Phone: (805) 644-1766 Fax: (805) 644-3958
Email Address: FW8VenturaSection7@FWS.Gov

In Reply Refer To: October 31, 2023
Project Code: 2024-0011160
Project Name: AT&T Pipeline Segments 8 & 9 Japan to US Cable Decommission-Morro Bay

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed list identifies species listed as threatened and endangered, species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered, designated and proposed critical habitat, and species that are candidates for listing that may occur within the boundary of the area you have indicated using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information Planning and Conservation System (IPaC). The species list fulfills the requirements under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the species list should be verified after 90 days. We recommend that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists following the same process you used to receive the enclosed list. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any correspondence about the species list.

Due to staff shortages and excessive workload, we are unable to provide an official list more specific to your area. Numerous other sources of information are available for you to narrow the list to the habitats and conditions of the site in which you are interested. For example, we recommend conducting a biological site assessment or surveys for plants and animals that could help refine the list.

If a Federal agency is involved in the project, that agency has the responsibility to review its proposed activities and determine whether any listed species may be affected. If the project is a major construction project*, the Federal agency has the responsibility to prepare a biological assessment to make a determination of the effects of the action on the listed species or critical habitat. If the Federal agency determines that a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be adversely affected, it should request, in writing through our office, formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. Informal consultation may be used to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat prior to a

written request for formal consultation. During this review process, the Federal agency may engage in planning efforts but may not make any irreversible commitment of resources. Such a commitment could constitute a violation of section 7(d) of the Act.

Federal agencies are required to confer with the Service, pursuant to section 7(a)(4) of the Act, when an agency action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat (50 CFR 402.10(a)). A request for formal conference must be in writing and should include the same information that would be provided for a request for formal consultation. Conferences can also include discussions between the Service and the Federal agency to identify and resolve potential conflicts between an action and proposed species or proposed critical habitat early in the decision-making process. The Service recommends ways to minimize or avoid adverse effects of the action. These recommendations are advisory because the jeopardy prohibition of section 7(a)(2) of the Act does not apply until the species is listed or the proposed critical habitat is designated. The conference process fulfills the need to inform Federal agencies of possible steps that an agency might take at an early stage to adjust its actions to avoid jeopardizing a proposed species.

When a proposed species or proposed critical habitat may be affected by an action, the lead Federal agency may elect to enter into formal conference with the Service even if the action is not likely to jeopardize or result in the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat. If the proposed species is listed or the proposed critical habitat is designated after completion of the conference, the Federal agency may ask the Service, in writing, to confirm the conference as a formal consultation. If the Service reviews the proposed action and finds that no significant changes in the action as planned or in the information used during the conference have occurred, the Service will confirm the conference as a formal consultation on the project and no further section 7 consultation will be necessary. Use of the formal conference process in this manner can prevent delays in the event the proposed species is listed or the proposed critical habitat is designated during project development or implementation.

Candidate species are those species presently under review by the Service for consideration for Federal listing. Candidate species should be considered in the planning process because they may become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. Preparation of a biological assessment, as described in section 7(c) of the Act, is not required for candidate species. If early evaluation of your project indicates that it is likely to affect a candidate species, you may wish to request technical assistance from this office.

Only listed species receive protection under the Act. However, sensitive species should be considered in the planning process in the event they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. We recommend that you review information in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Diversity Data Base. You can contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at (916) 324-3812 for information on other sensitive species that may occur in this area.

[*A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the

human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Marine Mammals
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003-7726
(805) 644-1766

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0011160
Project Name: AT&T Pipeline Segments 8 & 9 Japan to US Cable Decommission-Morro Bay
Project Type: Maintenance/Modification - Below Ground Communications Lines
Project Description: Fiberoptic Cable decommissioning
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@35.20572745,-121.6544756940437,14z

Counties: San Luis Obispo County, California

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 28 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Giant Kangaroo Rat *Dipodomys ingens* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6051	Endangered
Morro Bay Kangaroo Rat *Dipodomys heermanni morroensis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6367	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox *Vulpes macrotis mutica* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered
Southern Sea Otter *Enhydra lutris nereis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. ***This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements.*** Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8560	Threatened

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
California Clapper Rail *Rallus longirostris obsoletus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4240	Endangered
California Condor *Gymnogyps californianus* Population: U.S.A. only, except where listed as an experimental population There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	Endangered
California Least Tern *Sterna antillarum browni* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104	Endangered
Hawaiian Petrel *Pterodroma sandwichensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6746	Endangered
Least Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945	Endangered
Marbled Murrelet *Brachyramphus marmoratus* Population: U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA) There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467	Threatened
Short-tailed Albatross *Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/433	Endangered
Western Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* Population: Pacific Coast population DPS-U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA), Mexico (within 50 miles of Pacific coast) There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035	Threatened
Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus* Population: Western U.S. DPS There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

AMPHIBIANS

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog *Rana draytonii* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander *Ambystoma californiense* Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076	Threatened
Foothill Yellow-legged Frog *Rana boylii* Population: South Coast Distinct Population Segment (South Coast DPS) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5133	Endangered

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Tidewater Goby *Eucyclogobius newberryi* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/57	Endangered

SNAILS

NAME	STATUS
Morro Shoulderband (=banded Dune) Snail *Helminthoglypta walkeriana* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2309	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRUSTACEANS

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
California Jewelflower *Caulanthus californicus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4599	Endangered
California Seablite *Suaeda californica* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6310	Endangered
Chorro Creek Bog Thistle *Cirsium fontinale var. obispoense* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5991	Endangered
Indian Knob Mountainbalm *Eriodictyon altissimum* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1261	Endangered
Marsh Sandwort *Arenaria paludicola* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2229	Endangered
Morro Manzanita *Arctostaphylos morroensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2934	Threatened
Salt Marsh Bird's-beak *Cordylanthus maritimus ssp. maritimus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6447	Endangered
Spreading Navarretia *Navarretia fossalis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1334	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

There are 3 critical habitats wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
Morro Bay Kangaroo Rat *Dipodomys heermanni morroensis* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6367#crithab	Final
Morro Shoulderband (=banded Dune) Snail *Helminthoglypta walkeriana* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2309#crithab	Final
Western Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035#crithab	Final

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[1] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats[3], should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

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

Probability of Presence (■)

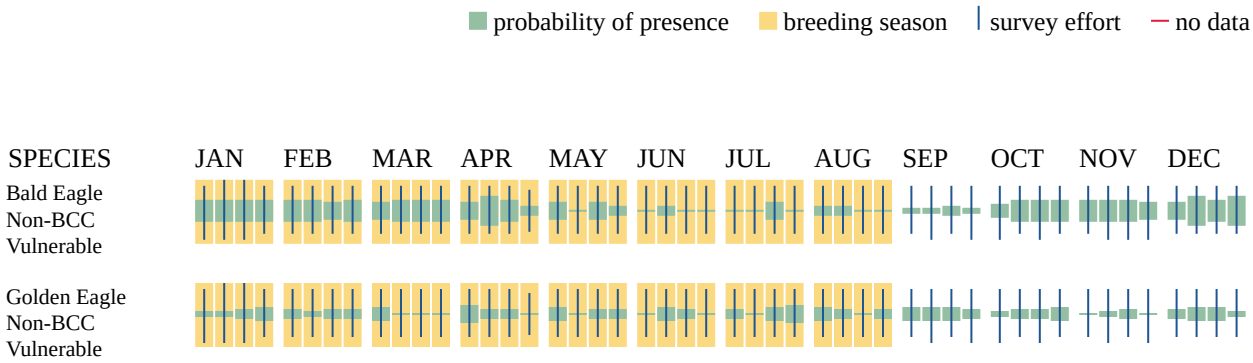
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

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



Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats[3] should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Allen's Hummingbird *Selasphorus sasin* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9637	Breeds Feb 1 to Jul 15
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Belding's Savannah Sparrow *Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 15
Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus bachmani* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9591	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Black Scoter *Melanitta nigra* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10413	Breeds elsewhere
Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
Black Swift *Cypseloides niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10
Black Turnstone *Arenaria melanocephala* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10557	Breeds elsewhere
Black-chinned Sparrow *Spizella atrogularis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9447	Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Black-footed Albatross *Phoebastria nigripes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8033	Breeds elsewhere
Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10459	Breeds elsewhere
Black-vented Shearwater *Puffinus opisthomelas* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9623	Breeds elsewhere
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6034	Breeds Jan 15 to Sep 30
Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullockii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9458	Breeds Mar 21 to Jul 25
California Gull *Larus californicus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10955	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31
California Thrasher *Toxostoma redivivum* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9436	Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31
Cassin's Finch *Carpodacus cassinii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462	Breeds May 15 to Jul 15
Clark's Grebe *Aechmophorus clarkii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10575	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Common Loon *gavia immer* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4464	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Common Murre *Uria aalge* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10453	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 15
Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas sinuosa* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2084	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Double-crested Cormorant *phalacrocorax auritus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3478	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Lawrence's Goldfinch *Carduelis lawrencei* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464	Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20
Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7238	Breeds elsewhere
Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10465	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Nuttall's Woodpecker *Picoides nuttallii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9410	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 20
Oak Titmouse *Baeolophus inornatus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656	Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 15
Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
Pink-footed Shearwater *Puffinus creatopus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9598	Breeds elsewhere
Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10458	Breeds elsewhere
Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10469	Breeds elsewhere
Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10693	Breeds elsewhere
Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10467	Breeds elsewhere
Red-throated Loon *Gavia stellata* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9589	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10468	Breeds elsewhere
Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10471	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 31
Scripps's Murrelet *Synthliboramphus scrippsi* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10677	Breeds Feb 20 to Jul 31
Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds elsewhere
South Polar Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10699	Breeds elsewhere
Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10463	Breeds elsewhere
Tricolored Blackbird *Agelaius tricolor* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10
Western Grebe *aechmophorus occidentalis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
White-winged Scoter *Melanitta fusca* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10462	Breeds elsewhere

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669	Breeds elsewhere
Wrentit *Chamaea fasciata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10668	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10
Yellow-billed Magpie *Pica nuttalli* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9726	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

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

Probability of Presence (■)

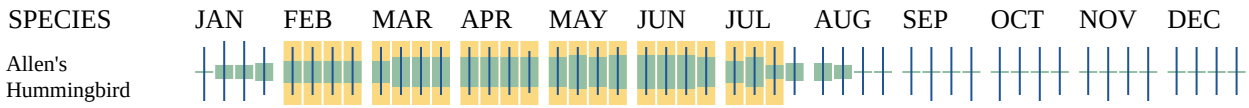
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

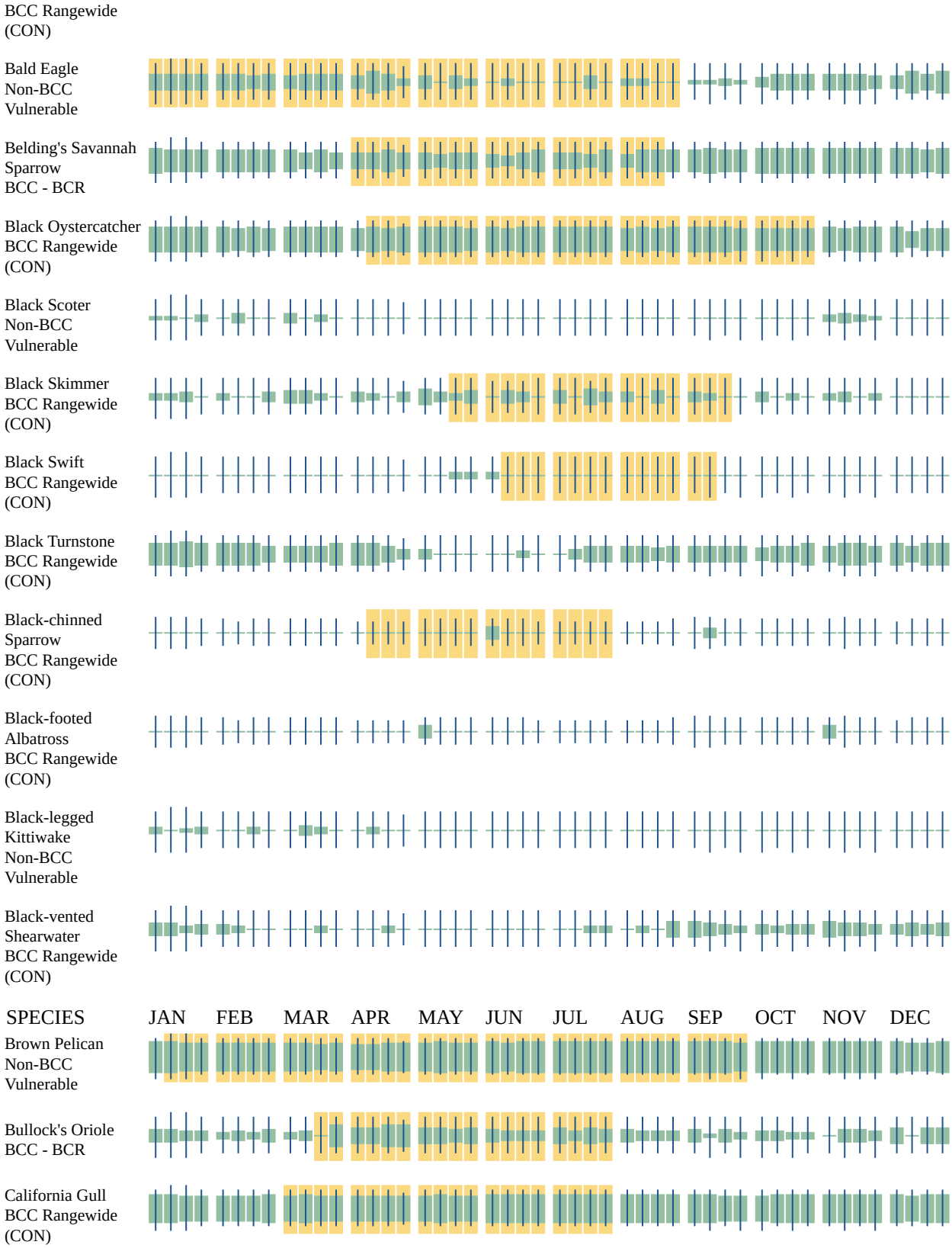
Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

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

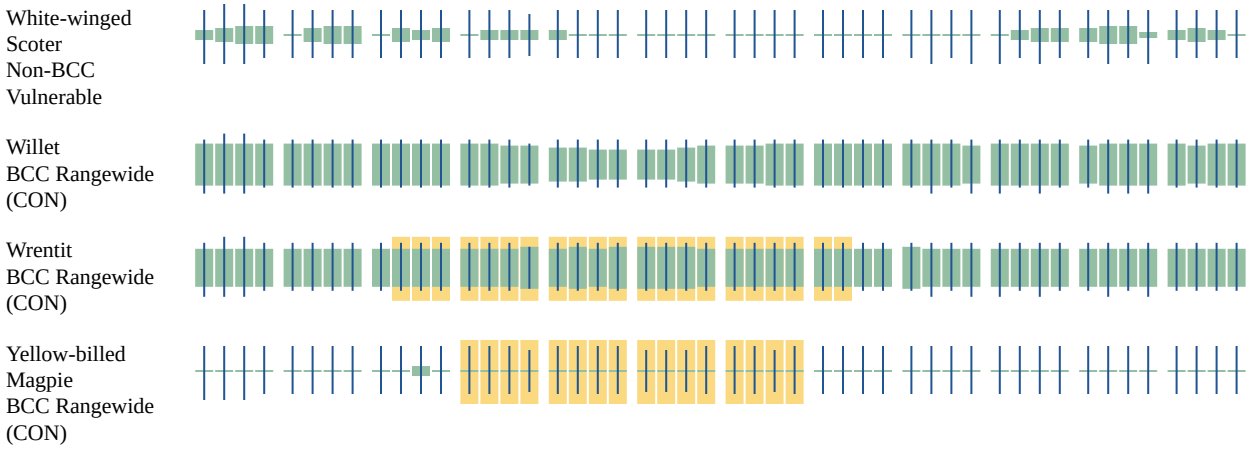
■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort – no data




BCC Rangewide (CON)
Bald Eagle Non-BCC Vulnerable
Belding's Savannah Sparrow BCC - BCR
Black Oystercatcher BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black Scoter Non-BCC Vulnerable
Black Skimmer BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black Swift BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black Turnstone BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black-chinned Sparrow BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black-footed Albatross BCC Rangewide (CON)
Black-legged Kittiwake Non-BCC Vulnerable
Black-vented Shearwater BCC Rangewide (CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Brown Pelican Non-BCC Vulnerable
Bullock's Oriole BCC - BCR
California Gull BCC Rangewide (CON)

California Thrasher
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Cassin's Finch
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Clark's Grebe
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Common Loon
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Common Murre
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Common
Yellowthroat
BCC - BCR
Double-crested
Cormorant
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Golden Eagle
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Lawrence's
Goldfinch
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Long-tailed Duck
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Manx Shearwater
Non-BCC
Vulnerable
Marbled Godwit
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Nuttall's
Woodpecker
BCC - BCR
Oak Titmouse
BCC Rangewide
(CON)
Olive-sided
Flycatcher
BCC Rangewide
(CON)

Pink-footed Shearwater BCC Rangewide (CON)
Pomarine Jaeger Non-BCC Vulnerable
Red Phalarope Non-BCC Vulnerable
Red-breasted Merganser Non-BCC Vulnerable
Red-necked Phalarope Non-BCC Vulnerable
Red-throated Loon Non-BCC Vulnerable
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Ring-billed Gull Non-BCC Vulnerable
Royal Tern Non-BCC Vulnerable
Scripps's Murrelet BCC Rangewide (CON)
Short-billed Dowitcher BCC Rangewide (CON)
South Polar Skua Non-BCC Vulnerable
Surf Scoter Non-BCC Vulnerable
Tricolored Blackbird BCC Rangewide (CON)
Western Grebe BCC Rangewide (CON)



Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

MARINE MAMMALS

Marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Some are also protected under the Endangered Species Act[1] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[2].

The responsibilities for the protection, conservation, and management of marine mammals are shared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [responsible for otters, walruses, polar bears, manatees, and dugongs] and NOAA Fisheries[3] [responsible for seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins, and porpoises]. Marine mammals under the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list; for additional information on those species please visit the Marine Mammals page of the NOAA Fisheries website.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the take of marine mammals and further coordination may be necessary for project evaluation. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office shown.

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1. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.

2. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild.
3. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

NAME

Southern Sea Otter *Enhydra lutris nereis*

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8560

WETLANDS

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

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

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

ESTUARINE AND MARINE WETLAND

- M2USN
- M2USP

RIVERINE

- R4SBA

ESTUARINE AND MARINE DEEPWATER

- M1UBL

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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Common Name (*Latin name)*	Listing Status	Listing/Designation Notice, Recovery Plan	Habitat Requirements	Designated critical habitat
Black Abalone (*Haliotis cracherodii*)	Endangered	ESA listing 74 FR 1937 (2009) Recovery Plan (2020) 5-Year Status Review (2018)	Live in rocky intertidal and subtidal reefs along the California and Baja California coast. They are "broadcast spawners," releasing eggs and sperm into the water by the millions when environmental conditions are right. Their strong, muscular "foot" allows them to attach to rocks and other hard surfaces while their oval-shaped shells protect them from predators.	76 FR 66805 (2011) rocky intertidal and subtidal habitat within five segments of the California coast between the Del Mar Landing Ecological Reserve to the Palos Verdes Peninsula, as well as on the Farallon Islands, Año Nuevo Island, San Miguel Island, Santa Rosa Island, Santa Cruz Island, Anacapa Island, Santa Barbara Island, and Santa Catalina Island.
Blue Whale *(Balaenoptera musculus)*	Endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970) Recovery Plan (1998) Draft Updated Recovery Plan 83 FR 51665	Inhabit coastal and pelagic environments, frequently found on the continental shelf and far offshore in deep water. Distribution is driven largely by food requirements—they occur in waters where krill is concentrated such as upwelling zones. Eastern North Pacific blue whales are believed to spend winters off of Mexico and Central	None designated.

			America and likely feed during summer off the U. S. West Coast.	
Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*)	Endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970) 5- Year Status Review (2019) Recovery Plan (2010)	Deep, offshore waters.	None designated.
Giant Manta Ray (*Manta birostris*)	Threatened	ESA listing 83 FR 2916 (2018)	They are filter feeders and eat large quantities of zooplankton. Giant manta rays are slow-growing, migratory animals with small, highly fragmented populations that are sparsely distributed across the world.	None designated.
Gray Whale *(Eschrichtius robustus)*	Western North Pacific DPS listed as endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970): https://s3.amazonaws.com/archives.federalregister.gov/issue_slice/1970/6/2/8487-8498.pdf#page=5	Found mainly in shallow coastal waters in the North Pacific Ocean. In the fall, gray whales migrate from their summer feeding grounds, heading south along the coast of North America to spend the winter in their wintering and calving areas off the coast of Baja California, Mexico.	None designated
Green Sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*)	Southern DPS listed as threatened	ESA Listing 71 FR 17757 (2006): https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2006/04/07/06-3326/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-and-plants-threatened-	Spend a large portion of their lives in coastal marine waters as subadults and adults. Occupy water to a depth of 360 feet (110	Critical Habitat Designation 74 FR 52299 (2009); Coastal marine habitat off California from Monterey Bay,

		status-for-southern-distinct-population Recovery Plan (2018): https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/18695	meters). Congregate in coastal bays and estuaries of the west coast of the U.S. during the summer and fall.	north and east to include waters in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington, and extends from mean higher high water to a depth of 358 feet (109 meters).
Guadalupe fur seal (*Arctocephalus townsendi*)	Threatened	ESA Listing 50 FR 51252 (1985)	Live in the waters off southern California and Pacific coast of Mexico. A small number of breeding Guadalupe fur seals has been reported on San Miguel Island. Found in coastal rocky habitats and caves.	None designated
Humpback Whale *(Megaptera novaeangliae)*	Mexico DPS listed as threatened; Central America DPS listed as endangered	Original ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970) Revised ESA Listing 81 FR 62259 (2016) 5-Year Status Review (2015) Recovery Plan (1991)	Generally found close to shore and are commonly active at the surface. Mexican population feeds across a broad range from California to Alaska. Central American population feeds off West Coast of U.S. and southern British Columbia.	2021 Critical Habitat Designation 86 FR 21082; includes approximately 48,521 nmi^2 of marine habitat in the North Pacific Ocean within the portions of the California Current Ecosystem off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California.
Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*)	Southern resident DPS listed as endangered	Original Listing 70 FR 69903 (2005) Updated ESA Listing 80 FR 7380 (2015) 5-Year Status Review (2016)	Occur predictably in Washington and Oregon waters, but range includes California up to Southeast Alaska. Spend considerable time in the Georgia Basin from late spring to early	Critical Habitat Designation 71 FR 69054 (2006); Critical habitat is designated in Washington State, including a small portion of Olympic Coast National Marine

			autumn, with concentrated activity in the inland waters of the state of Washington around the San Juan Islands, and then move south into Puget Sound in early autumn. Although they primarily spend time in Northern Washington State, Southern Resident killer whales are known to travel as far south as central California. Less is known about the whales' movements in coastal waters, satellite tagging, opportunistic sighting, and acoustic recording data suggest that Southern Resident killer whales spend nearly all of their time on the continental shelf, within 34 km (21.1 mi) of shore in water less than 200 m (656.2 ft) deep.	Sanctuary; Revised Critical Habitat (2021) 86 FR 41668; Revised critical habitat includes roughly 15,626 square miles of marine waters between the 6.1-meter depth contour and the 200-meter depth contour from the U.S. international border with Canada south to Point Sur, California.
Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)	Endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970) 5-Year Status Review (2020) Recovery Plan (1998)	Highly migratory and inhabit a wide variety of marine environments; most common in the Pacific Ocean between July and October when surface water temperatures are warmer and large jellyfish are seasonally abundant offshore. Have been reported along the California coast generally	Critical Habitat Designation 77 FR 4169 (2012); Designated critical habitat is all oceanic waters between Point Arena and Point Arguello that are east of the 3,000 m (9,840') contour and extend from the surface to a maximum depth of 80 m (262').

			from May to November, however, nesting has not been documented in the state of California.	
Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)	North Pacific Ocean DPS listed as endangered	Original ESA Listing 43 FR 32800 (1978) Updated ESA Listing 76 FR 58867 (2011) 5-Year Status Review (2020) Recovery Plan (1997)	Circumglobal, occurring throughout the temperate and tropical regions of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. Occasional sightings reported from the coasts of Washington and Oregon, but most records are of juveniles off the coast of California. Spend the first 7 to 15 years of their lives in the open ocean and then migrate to nearshore coastal areas, which provide critically important habitat for juveniles, foraging habitat, inter-nesting habitat, and migratory habitat for adults.	None designated for this DPS.
North Pacific Right Whale *(Eubalaena japonica)*	Endangered	Original ESA Listing 35 FR 8491 (1970) Updated ESA Listing 73 FR 12024 (2008) 5-Year Status Review (2017) Recovery Plan (2013)	Right whales have occurred historically in all the world's oceans from temperate to subpolar latitudes. Contemporary sightings of right whales have mostly occurred in the central North Pacific and Bering Sea. Sightings have been reported as far south as central Baja California in the eastern North Pacific, as far south as	Not designated in the action area

			Hawaii in the central North Pacific, and as far north as the sub-Arctic waters of the Bering Sea and sea of Okhotsk in the summer.	
Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*)	Threatened	ESA Listing 83 FR 4153 (2018)	Found in tropical and sub-tropical waters; generally remaining offshore in the open ocean, on the outer continental shelf, or around oceanic islands in water depths greater than 600 feet. Oceanic whitetip sharks have a strong preference for the surface mixed layer in warm waters above 20°C, and are therefore a surface-dwelling shark; can be found at the ocean surface, but most frequently stay between 25.5 and 50 meters deep.	Determined no critical habitat warranted 85 FR 12898 (2020)
Olive Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)	Mexico Pacific Coast breeding population listed as endangered	ESA Listing 43 FR 32800 (1973) 5-Year Status Review (2014; most recent) Recovery Plan (1998)	Pelagic sea turtle, but have been known to inhabit coastal areas, including bays and estuaries. Globally distributed in the tropical regions of the South Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. In the Eastern Pacific, they occur from Southern California to Northern Chile; no known nesting populations in the U.S.	None designated.

Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*)	Eastern Pacific DPS listed as endangered	ESA Listing 79 FR 38213 (2014) 5-Year Review (2020)	A circum-global species that lives in coastal warm temperate and tropical sea. Highly mobile and partly migratory. Occurs over continental and insular shelves, as well as adjacent deep waters, but is seldom found in waters colder than 22° C. Ranges from the intertidal and surface to depths of up to 450-512 m, with occasional dives to even deeper waters. Range in the eastern Pacific Ocean is from the coast of southern California to Ecuador.	Determined no critical habitat warranted 80 FR 71774 (2015)
Sei Whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*)	Endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 12222 (1970) 5-Year Status Review (2012) Recovery Plan (2011)	Usually observed in deeper waters of oceanic areas far from the coastline. Populations of sei whales may seasonally migrate toward the lower latitudes during the winter and higher latitudes during the summer.	None designated.
Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*)	Endangered	ESA Listing 35 FR 18319 (1970) 5-Year Status Review (2015; most recent) Recovery Plan (2010)	Spend most of their time in deep waters and their diet consists of many larger organisms that also occupy deep waters of the ocean. The California-Oregon-Washington Stock is distributed across the entire North Pacific and into the	None designated

			southern Bering Sea in summer, but the majority are thought to be south of the California-Oregon border in winter. Sperm whales are found year round in California waters, but they reach peak abundance from April through mid-June and from the end of August through mid-November. Sperm whales are seen off Washington in every season except winter.	