



April 28, 2026

Mr. Curt Roth
Vice President
DRP Engineering, Inc.
2550 W Main St., Suite 212
Alhambra, CA 91801

Re: Biological Resources Letter for the Long Beach Public Utilities Department's Sewer Lift Station S-7 Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Roth,

This biological resources letter presents the results of a biological reconnaissance survey conducted for the proposed Sewer Lift Station S-7 Reconstruction Project (Project). The Long Beach Utilities Department (LBUD) is proposing sewer system improvements that include the installation of a new circular wet well with submersible pumps and a rectangular valve vault and flow meter vault, a 5-foot-diameter maintenance hole and 8-inch-diameter force to connect the existing infrastructure to the new wet well, a new electrical equipment pad, and a new generator building. These improvements would conform to current engineering and City of Long Beach (City) standards, enhance system access, and allow for continued long-term use.

The Project is located in the Belmont Village/Belmont Park community of the City of Long Beach, California. The purpose of this biological resources letter is to document the existing biological resources within the BSA; the potential impacts of the proposed Project; and the discussion of any avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts on biological resources pursuant to local, state, and federal regulations, including information for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Description of the Project

PROJECT BACKGROUND

As the owner, operator, and maintainer of over 700 miles of sanitary sewer lines, the City and LBUD are able to deliver wastewater from numerous homes and businesses to the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County for treatment. LBUD's existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 manages and transports wastewater within the Belmont Park neighborhood. This facility needs to be upgraded to meet current City and engineering codes for improved efficiency and longevity. Sewer Lift Station S-7 was originally constructed in 1929 and subsequently rehabilitated in 2000. In recent years, peak flows have reached up to 811 gallons per minute (gpm); the estimated daily average in January 2017 (time of year with highest peak flows) was approximately 94 gpm (LBUD 2024).

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Project is to reconstruct LBUD's existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 and construct a new force main to connect to the existing LBUD gravity sewer main. In this context, the primary objectives of the Project include the following:

Objective 1: Reconstruct Sewer Lift Station S-7 to conform with current engineering and City standards to allow for continued long-term use.

Objective 2: Provide a total pumping capacity of 860 gpm and a force main flow velocity of between 3 to 6 feet per second.

Objective 3: Construct the new force main connection within existing public right-of-way (ROW) to enhance system redundancy and access.

Objective 4: Complete the Project before the 2028 Olympic construction moratorium, which restricts construction activities during the 2028 Olympic Games.

PROJECT LOCATION

The existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 is located at 349 Lakeview Avenue in the Belmont Village/Belmont Park community of the City of Long Beach, California (Figure 1; 33.7662535, -118.1306672). The extent of the Project Footprint spans from the existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 site (349 Lakeview Avenue) north along Lakeview Avenue and Marine Stadium Entrance Road, terminating at the existing sewer main point of connection (Figure 2). For the purposes of resource analysis, a Biological Study Area (BSA) was defined by encompassing the Project Footprint with a 500-foot buffer to assess potential indirect impacts on sensitive biological resources.

The BSA is approximately 46.3 acres and includes portions of Belmont Park/Belmont Village residential housing, public roadways (Monrovia Avenue, Lakeview Avenue, Appian Way, and others), an elementary/middle school complex, parking lots, open space, public facilities, and Marine Stadium (Alamitos Bay). Lowell's Elementary/Roger's Middle School, directly southwest of the Project Footprint, was considered in the BSA but was not surveyed in the field due to lack of access.

The Project Footprint is approximately 5.2 acres of the 46.3 acres in the BSA and encompasses the limits of construction, including both permanent and temporary impacts that are a direct result of the Project. The Project Footprint is bounded by E 3rd Street to the northwest, Wendy Lane to the southeast, Marine Stadium and Will Rogers Mini Park to the east, and Lowell Elementary/Rogers Middle School to the west.

PROPOSED PROJECT

The Project would consist of the demolition of existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 and the subsequent construction of the proposed upgraded components. Demolition of the existing facilities would include removing the existing concrete pad; adjacent trees, plants, and foliage; the existing lift station building and equipment housed within the building; on-site utility fixtures; and the vault below the building (up to 5 feet). After the demolition of the existing structure and facilities are complete, the installation and construction of the proposed upgraded components would begin. The proposed Project components include the installation of:

- A 9-foot-diameter wet well with a new vent and access hatch
- A junction drop maintenance hole (MH) to receive and combine flows from existing MH-040 and MH-041
- Two 8-inch gravity sewer lines to connect MH-040 and MH-041 to the new manhole junction
- Two recessed impeller submersible pumps to direct flows into the proposed vault via two 8-inch pump discharge pipes
- A 10-foot-by-11-foot rectangular valve vault (adjacent to the proposed wet well)
- A flow meter vault connecting to the 8-inch pump discharge pipes through a system of valves
- An approximately 1,450-linear-foot force main that would extend from the Sewer Lift Station S-7 flow meter vault to existing MH-026 that the existing force main discharges into
- An at-grade electrical equipment pad with a concrete mat foundation at the northern end of the site (in coordination with Southern California Edison [SCE])
- A generator building (diesel generator) to provide emergency power to Sewer Lift Station S-7 during utility outages, constructed on the eastern portion of the Project site
- A concrete pavement pad constructed around the wet well and vaults to allow easy access

Additionally, trees removed in conjunction with the Project would be replaced at a 2:1 ratio in the vicinity of the Project. After construction, drought-tolerant landscaping would be installed in portions of the site not containing impermeable (e.g. pavement) and semi-permeable (decomposed granite) surfaces.

UTILITIES

Existing known utilities in the BSA include Chevron petroleum lines; Southern California Edison (SCE) electric lines; LBUD gas, water, and sewer lines; fiber optic communication lines; and Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) and City of Long Beach storm drain pipes. Additionally, there are various dry utilities (i.e., electrical conduit) serving the on-site facilities (e.g., lighting and pumps) that would be removed at the beginning of construction and replaced in kind as part of the Project. Temporary aboveground lines may be installed for use during construction.

All other existing utilities would be avoided to the maximum extent practical and protected in place. Temporary disruption of service or relocation may be required to allow for construction. Service on such lines would not be disrupted until prior approval is received from the service provider.

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

TIMELINE

After the appropriate approvals are in place, construction of the Project is expected to begin in late 2026 and conclude by the end of 2027. Construction would occur in phases and activities

would be confined to normal City working hours (weekdays between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.).

Local Guidelines

CONSERVATION ELEMENT

The City of Long Beach General Plan includes goals and policies relevant to biological resources within the Conservation Element and Local Coastal Program Element (City of Long Beach 1973 and 1980). These goals and policies include:

- *To conserve the natural resources of Long Beach through wise management and well-planned utilization of water, vegetation, wildlife, minerals, and other resources*
- *To create and maintain a productive harmony between man and his environment through conservation of natural resources and protection of significant areas having environmental and aesthetic value*
- *To revitalize and enhance areas where inadequate conservation measures occurred in the past*
- *To improve and preserve the unique and fine qualities of Long Beach and to eliminate undesirable or harmful elements*
- *To promote the health, safety, and well-being of the people of Long Beach by adopting standards for the proper balance, relationship, and distribution of the various types of land uses and by formulating and adopting a long-term capital improvement program*
- *To establish a balanced program aimed at improving the qualitative conditions of life for all segments of the populations*
- *To provide protective controls for lands supporting distinctive native vegetation and wildlife species which can be used for ecologic, scientific, and educational purposes*
- *To locate, define, and protect other beneficial natural habitats in and about the City*
- *To promote measures and plans which protect and preserve distinctive types of wildlife including wildlife, birds, marine organisms, and especially endangered species*

TREE MAINTENANCE POLICY (2006)

The City's Tree Maintenance Policy provides guidelines to administer Section 14.28 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, which is intended to preserve and protect the community's urban forests (City of Long Beach 2006). For any tree removal, a City-employed certified arborist must be consulted to determine tree condition and removal need.

TREE REMOVAL CONDITIONS

Removal of a street tree may be considered for the following reasons (City of Long Beach 2006):

- *The tree is dead, dying, critically diseased, or damaged beyond reasonable repair*
- *The tree is in danger of falling or uprooting*

- *There is a recognized danger of falling or dropping limbs, which, combined with other factors such as high winds, makes corrective measures non-cost-effective*
- *The tree is competing for light or space with adjacent trees that are more valuable because of their potential longer life, attractiveness, and/or sturdier growth*
- *The tree is host to aggressive, life-threatening disease or pests that threaten to spread to other trees*
- *The tree is in decline and is estimated to have less than 2 years of life remaining*
- *The tree is damaging vital infrastructure such as a sewer line, water line, or gas or electrical conduit or is causing other major structural damage*
- *The Director of Public Works or his/her designee has made the determination that the removal is required to accommodate a City-approved infrastructure improvement*

TREE MAINTENANCE POLICY UPDATES (2023)

As an update to the prior 2006 policy, the City established its *Citywide Street Tree Replacement Program and Updated Tree Maintenance Program Memorandum* (City of Long Beach 2023) to provide a dedicated tree replacement program for certain circumstances (for example, when the City removes trees during required maintenance of City infrastructure and implementation of Capital Improvement Projects). The program also provides updates to policies and procedures related to the City's Tree Maintenance Policy and expands on issues pertaining to urban wildlife.

COASTAL ZONE REQUIREMENTS

Per Coastal Zone requirements, the trimming or removal of any tree must comply with all applicable codes or regulations of Local Coastal Development Permit (LCDP) #21-015, Coastal Development Permit #5-08-187, the California Coastal Act, and the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as well as the California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) where applicable. An annual monitoring report will also be required for all tree removals and replacements within the Coastal Zone, which will be submitted to the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission, Director of the Public Works Department, Director of the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department, and a representative of the Audubon Society for review (City of Long Beach 2006).

Trimming or Removal During Non-breeding/Non-nesting Season (October to December)

For trimming or removal of trees during the non-breeding/non-nesting season (October to December), a qualified biologist or ornithologist is required to conduct a nesting bird survey and prepare a report for submission to the City. No tree alteration can occur in the Coastal Zone until the City issues a Notice to Proceed.

Trimming or Removal During Breeding/Nesting Season (January to September)

For trimming or removal of trees during the breeding/nesting season (January to September), a qualified biologist or ornithologist is required to conduct a nesting bird survey, which will also include detection of bird activities and nesting behavior within 300 feet of the work area. A report will be submitted to the City consisting of (City of Long Beach 2023):

- *Description of how work will occur*
- *List of non-mechanized hand tools needed to complete the work*

- Limits of tree trimming and removal established in the field with flagging and stakes or construction fencing
- Steps to be taken to ensure tree trimming will be the minimum necessary to address health and safety risks while avoiding or minimizing impacts to breeding/nesting birds and their habitat

“Tree removals in the Coastal Zone require an approved Coastal Zone Permit. Before removing trees, Public Works will provide documentation to the Department of Development Services demonstrating compliance with any Conditions of Approval for approved Coastal Zone permits...Removing any breeding or nesting tree requires replacement at a 2:1 ratio and following the guidelines stated in LCDP #21-015.”

Methods

HDR biologists conducted a desktop review of the BSA in August 2025. The following sources were queried: the USFWS’s Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) online tool (USFWS 2025; Appendix A), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (CDFW’s) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) RareFind program (CDFW 2025), and the California Native Plant Society’s (CNPS’s) Rare Plant Inventory (CNPS 2025). The CNDDDB and CNPS databases were queried for the nine United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles containing and surrounding the Study Area (Long Beach, Inglewood, South Gate, Whittier, Torrance, Los Alamitos, San Pedro, and Seal Beach).

HDR biologists Tanessa Hartwig and Sydnee Dunn conducted a reconnaissance-level biological survey on foot on August 19, 2025 (see Table 1). Observed wildlife, common plant species, trees, and communities within the BSA were recorded. Fenced areas, residential backyards, and areas under deep water (e.g., Marine Stadium) were not observed or were observed through binoculars.

Table 1. Survey Information

Surveyor(s)	Survey Date	Time of Survey	Weather Conditions
Tanessa Hartwig and Sydnee Dunn	August 19, 2025	• Start: 8:30 a.m. • End: 12:00 p.m.	• Start: 67° F; cloudy with a light breeze up to 4 miles per hour (mph) • End: 78° F; sunny with a slight breeze and gusts up to 8 mph

Survey Results and Impact Analysis

The BSA is primarily urban and developed, mainly supporting residential development, an elementary/middle school complex, a fire station, parking lots, Will Rogers Mini Park, Marine Stadium, and associated landscaped areas (Figure 2). The vegetation within the Study Area consists mainly of maintained ornamental trees, shrubs, lawn, and flowering plants. Almost all vegetation identified around the existing pump station, along the marina (adjacent to E Paoli Way), and in park areas within the BSA appears to be consistently maintained, with the exception of low-growing vegetation in the riprap along the marina and a strip of disturbed vegetation along the northern tip of the marina. Within the riprap, species included alkali heath (*Frankenia salina*), fat-hen (*Atriplex prostrata*)*, Parish’s glasswort (*Arthrocnemum subterminale*), and woolly seablite (*Suaeda taxifolia*; California Rare Plant Rank [CRPR] 4.2¹).

¹ California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 4.2: Plants of limited distribution; moderately threatened in California (20–80 percent occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat).

The disturbed vegetation included Australian saltbush (*Atriplex semibaccata*), Brazilian pepper tree (*Schinus terebinthifolia*), cootamundra wattle (*Acacia baileyana*), date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*), flax-leaved horseweed (*Erigeron bonariensis*), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), and red flowering gum (*Corymbia ficifolia*).

There is also a maintained native area along Appian Way and Nieto Avenue that primarily contains native plants such as autumn sage (*Salvia greggii*),² black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), bladderpod (*Cleomella arborea*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), California brittlebush (*Encelia californica*), California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), coastal buckwheat (*Eriogonum cinereum*), common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), nodding needle grass (*Stipa cernua*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). These native areas are not expected to be directly impacted by Project activities.

Urban-adapted bird species observed within the BSA included Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), bushtit (*Psaltirparus minimus*), cormorant, European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*),* house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*),* lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Swinhoe's white-eye (*Zosterops simplex*),* turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*), and western gull (*Larus occidentalis*).

Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) was also observed within the BSA. The monarch is proposed for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA). The monarch's overwintering habitat tends to occur within 1.5 miles of the coast and includes moderate temperatures, dappled sunlight, high humidity, and a large grove of trees, preferably composed of blue gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*),* Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*), or Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). However, monarchs have also been observed overwintering in red gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus camadulensis*),* western sycamore (*Platanus racenosa*), coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), and coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) (Pelton et al. 2016). While the BSA does contain red gum eucalyptus and is located within 1.5 miles of the coast, the trees are not spatially patterned to constitute a grove and therefore do not provide the conditions that make suitable monarch habitat for overwintering. Therefore, it is unlikely that this species would overwinter in the BSA due to a lack of suitable roosting habitat; impacts to monarch butterfly are not expected to occur.

No other special-status plant or wildlife species, such as native bees, were observed or detected within the BSA.

TREES

As a result of the proposed force main realignment, ornamental trees planted along Lakeview Avenue, Wendy Lane, the parking lot along the marina, the park, and the existing pump station could be impacted by construction. Trees observed along the proposed force main realignment pathway and at the pump station site are listed in Table 2 below. Up to 3 ornamental trees on the existing pump station site would require removal as part of the Project. Trees bordering the proposed force main alignment would be avoided and protected in place to the maximum extent practical.

² Native to Texas and northern Mexico.

* Non-native species.

Table 2. Ornamental Trees Observed Along Proposed Force Main Pathway

Common Name	Scientific Name	Estimated Number of Individuals
Brazilian peppertree	<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>	4
Kurrajong	<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	2
Lemon-scented gum	<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i>	3
Magnolia	<i>Magnolia</i> sp.	2
Mexican fan palm	<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	17
Powhutukawa	<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	2
Red flowering gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	1
Unidentified	—	4
Total		35

SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES AND SENSITIVE COMMUNITIES

The desktop review documented 38 special-status plant species and 37 special-status wildlife species occurrences that had potential to occur within the Study Area. These species were assessed for their potential to occur based on presence of suitable habitat as well as historic and current species location data. Tables of these species, details about their habitat requirements, and an assessment of their potential to occur within the BSA are included in an appendix to this report (Appendix B).

Due to the urbanized nature of the BSA, none of the special-status wildlife species included in Appendix B have a moderate to high potential to occur within the BSA, and only one plant included in Appendix B, estuary seablite (*Suaeda esteroa*; CRPR 1B.2³), has a moderate to high potential to occur within the BSA. No CDFW-sensitive communities have the potential to occur within the BSA. One special-status plant not included in Appendix B, woolly seablite (CNPS 4.2), was observed within the BSA growing in the riprap along the marina during the survey. Additional woolly seablite individuals and estuary seablite have been reported just outside of the BSA in the riprap on the eastern side of Marine Stadium and along the banks of Colorado Lagoon north of Marine Stadium (iNaturalist 2025). Colorado Lagoon is hydrologically connected to Marine Stadium through an underground culvert. Because the habitat for these seablites is outside the Project Footprint, the Project is unlikely to impact these species as long as standard construction Best Management Practices are in place.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

As outlined in the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 USC 703 et. seq.), as amended, and the California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513), the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of nesting migratory birds and raptors is prohibited except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Although the majority of the BSA is urban and developed, construction and implementation of the proposed Project may result in indirect or direct impacts on resources utilized for nesting by migratory birds and raptors, including trees, shrubs, structures, and utility poles.

³ CRPR 1B.2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; moderately threatened in California (20 to 80 percent occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat).

JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES

This reconnaissance-level biological survey did not identify any jurisdictional aquatic resources within the Project Footprint. The Project Footprint is entirely urban and developed/landscaped, with no evidence of aquatic resources. However, the Alamitos Bay (Marine Stadium) is within the BSA and directly east of the Project Footprint. The Alamitos Bay is within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, CDFW, and California Coastal Commission. No impacts would be expected to aquatic resources from implementation of the proposed Project as long as standard construction Best Management Practices are in place.

Photographs of the Project Footprint and BSA can be found in Appendix C.

Summary of Findings and Recommendations

One special-status invertebrate, monarch butterfly (Federal Proposed Threatened), was observed in the BSA. However, monarch butterfly has a low potential to roost in the BSA and therefore is not expected to be impacted by the Project. One special-status plant, woolly seablite (CRPR 4.2) was observed outside the Project Footprint along the banks of Marine Stadium. One special-status plant, estuary seablite (CRPR 1B.2) has a moderate potential to occur outside the Project Footprint along the banks of Marine Stadium. No other special-status wildlife, plants, or CDFW-sensitive natural communities have a moderate to high potential to occur in the BSA.

In addition to standard construction Best Management Practices, the following sections outline mitigation measures that are recommended to protect biological resources.

PRECONSTRUCTION NESTING BIRD SURVEY

Trimming or Removal During Non-breeding/Non-nesting Season (October to December)

For trimming or removal during the non-breeding/non-nesting season (October to December), a qualified biologist or ornithologist is required to conduct a nesting bird survey and prepare a report for submission to the City. No tree alteration can occur in the Coastal Zone until the City issues a Notice to Proceed.

Trimming or Removal During Breeding/Nesting Season (January to September)

For trimming or removal during the breeding/nesting season (January to September), a qualified biologist or ornithologist is required to conduct a nesting bird survey, which will also include detection of bird activities and nesting behavior within 300 feet of the work area. A report will be submitted to the City following required content provided under Local Guidelines.

AVOIDANCE OF RARE PLANT SPECIES

- To protect the woolly seablite (CNPS 4.2) and other potential rare species, the Project should ensure that standard construction Best Management Practices, such as avoidance fencing along the perimeter of sensitive areas, are implemented and overseen by a qualified biologist.

TREE REMOVAL OR TRIMMING

- Before the trimming or removal of any tree as a part of the Project, a City-employed certified arborist will be consulted to determine the tree's condition and removal, per the City's Tree Maintenance Policy (City of Long Beach 2006).

- Trees removed as a result of Project activities will be replanted at a 2:1 ratio, following the guidelines stated in the LCDP #21-015 and Updated Tree Maintenance Program (City of Long Beach 2023).

Sincerely,
HDR Engineering, Inc.

Figures

1. Regional Map
2. Proposed Project Footprint and Biological Study Area

Figure 1. Regional Map

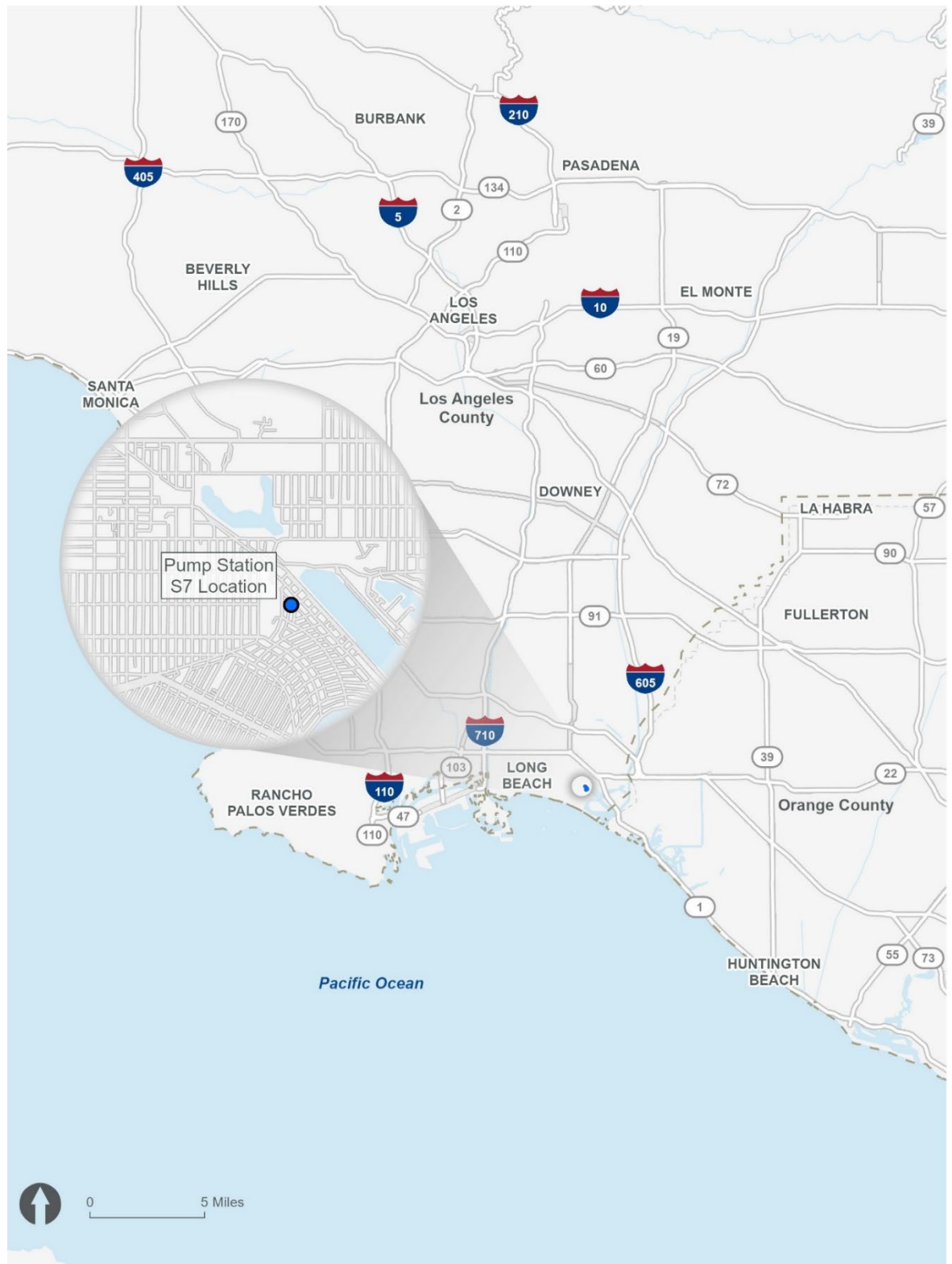
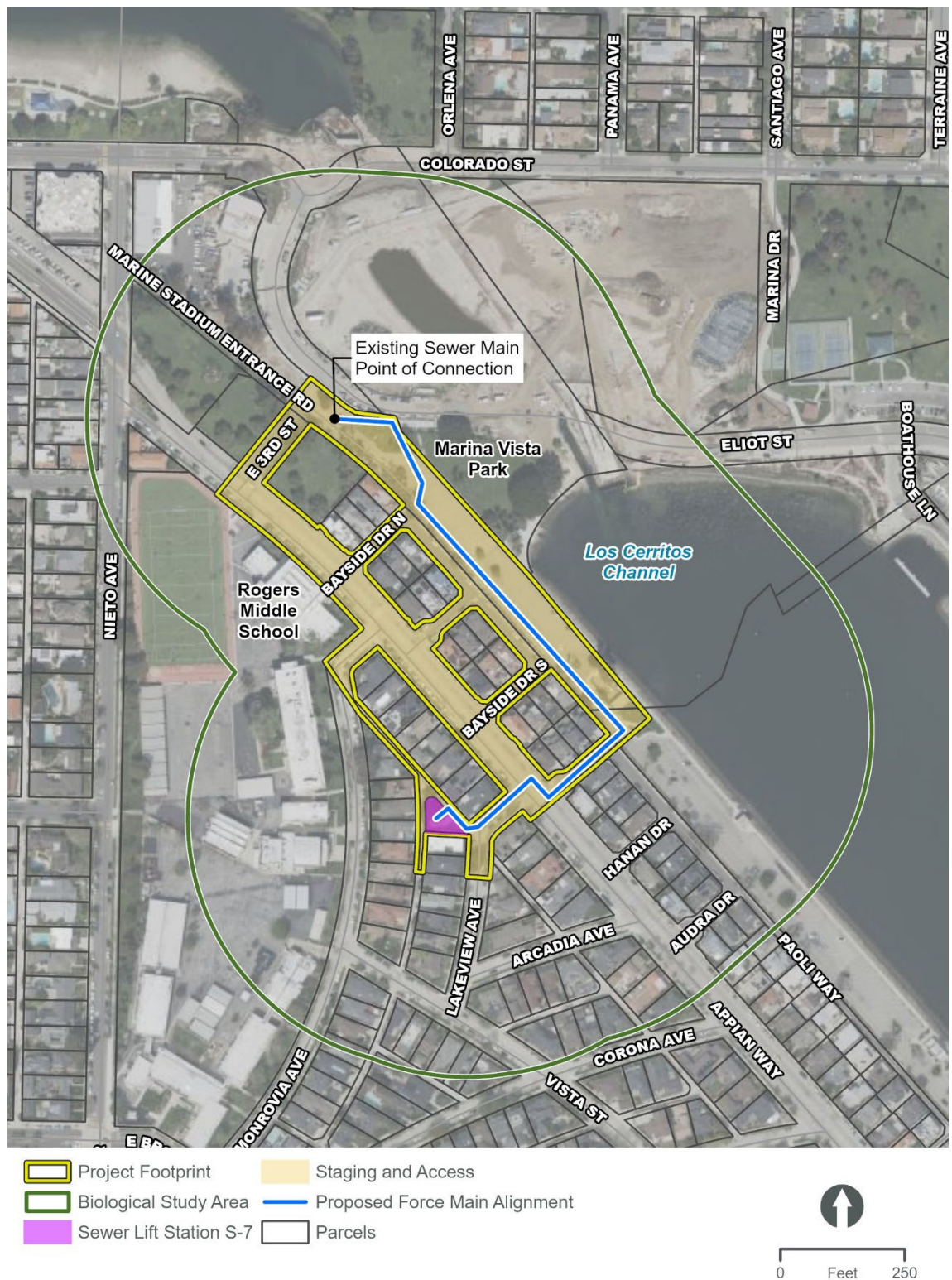


Figure 2. Proposed Project Footprint and Study Area



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Appendix A. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC Species List (Unofficial)

Appendix B. Special-Status Species Tables

Appendix C. Survey Photographs



Photograph 1. View looking west from the southeast corner of the existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 pump station off of Lakeview Avenue.



Photograph 2. View looking southwest at the inter-tie outlet location of the existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 pump station.



Photograph 3. View looking southeast at the existing Sewer Lift Station S-7 pump station.



Photograph 4. View looking southwest along Wendy Lane and the proposed tie-line pathway facing E Appian Way.



Photograph 5. View looking northwest along Marine Stadium, adjacent to E Paoli Way.



Photograph 6. View looking northwest along the parking lot between Marine Stadium (right) and E Paoli Way (left).



Photograph 7. View looking southeast along Marine Stadium riprap at the edge of Will Rogers Mini Park.



Photograph 8. View looking northwest along parking lot adjacent to E Paoli Way (left) where the proposed tie-line pathway will continue.



Photograph 9. View looking southeast at the bike path (left) and E Paoli Way (right) at the northwest corner of the Project Footprint in Will Rogers Mini Park.



Photograph 10. View looking southeast at native plant garden on the corner of E Appian Way and Nieto Avenue.