

August 14, 2018

JN 168168

**Sri Jayaram Foundation Inc.**

Contact: *Arunasri Reddy*

3579 East Foothill Boulevard, #714

Pasadena, California 91107

**SUBJECT: Biological Resources Memorandum for the Sri Sai Ram Mandir Project located in the City of Chino Sphere of Influence, San Bernardino County, California**

Dear Mrs. Reddy,

Michael Baker International (Michael Baker) conducted a habitat assessment for the Sri Sai Ram Mandir Project (Project) located in the City of Chino Sphere of Influence, San Bernardino County, California. Michael Baker biologists Ashley Spencer and Frances Yau inventoried and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on August 6, 2018 to characterize existing site conditions and assess the potential occurrence of special-status<sup>1</sup> plant and wildlife species that could pose a constraint to project implementation. This biological resources memorandum provides an in-depth assessment of the suitability of the on-site habitat to support burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), as well as several other special-status plant and wildlife species identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) and other electronic databases as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project site.

**PROJECT LOCATION**

The project site is generally located north of State Route 91, east of State Route 71, south of State Route 60, and west of Interstate 15 in the City of Chino Sphere of Influence, San Bernardino County, California (refer to Exhibit 1, *Regional Vicinity*). The project site is depicted on the Ontario quadrangle of the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map series in an un-sectioned area of Township 2 south, Range 8 west (refer to Exhibit 2, *Site Vicinity*). Specifically, the project site is located north of Riverside Drive, east of East End Avenue, south of Walnut Avenue, and west of Roswell Avenue (refer to Exhibit 3, *Project Site*).

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<sup>1</sup> As used in this report, "special-status" refers to plant and wildlife species that are federally or State listed, proposed, or candidates; plant species that have been designated a California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Rank; and wildlife species that are designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as fully protected, species of special concern, or watch list species.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project consists of the construction of a 10,000 square foot temple and associated infrastructure, including a parking lot with seventy-six (76) stalls. In addition, project activities will include landscaping and the installation of paved driveways (refer to Exhibit 4, *Project Depiction*).

## **METHODOLOGY**

A literature review and records search was conducted to determine which special-status biological resources have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity of the project site. In addition to the literature review, a general habitat assessment or field survey of the project site and surrounding area was conducted. The field survey was conducted to document existing conditions within the project site and assess the potential for special-status biological resources to occur.

### **Literature Review**

Prior to conducting the field survey, a literature review and records search was conducted for special-status biological resources potentially occurring on or within the vicinity of the project site. Previously recorded occurrences of special-status plant and wildlife species and their proximity to the project site were determined through a query of the CDFW's QuickView Tool in the Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), CDFW's CNDDDB Rarefind 5 database, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California, Calflora Database, compendia of special-status species published by CDFW, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) species listings.

All available reports, survey results, and literature detailing the biological resources previously observed on or within the vicinity of the project site were reviewed to understand existing site conditions and note the extent of any disturbances that have occurred on the project site and surrounding area that would otherwise limit the distribution of special-status biological resources. Standard field guides and texts were reviewed for specific habitat requirements of special-status and non-special-status biological resources, as well as the following resources:

- Google Earth Pro historic aerial imagery (1994 – 2017);
- San Bernardino County General Plan;
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey; and
- USFWS Critical Habitat designations for Threatened and Endangered Species.

The literature review and records search provided a baseline from which to inventory the biological resources potentially occurring within the project site. Additional recorded occurrences of those species found on or near the project site were derived from database queries. The CNDDDB database was used, in conjunction with ArcGIS software, to review historical special-status species occurrence data within the vicinity of the project site.

### Habitat Assessment and Field Survey

Michael Baker biologists Ashley Spencer and Frances Yau inventoried and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on August 6, 2018. Plant communities were preliminarily identified on aerial photographs and visually inspected during the field survey to document their extent within the project site. The plant communities occurring within the project site were further evaluated for their potential to provide suitable habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species as well as function as corridors and/or linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area. Special attention was given to any special-status habitats and/or undeveloped, natural areas, which have a higher potential to support special-status plant and wildlife species.

All plant and wildlife species, including dominant plant species within each plant community, observed during the field survey were recorded. Plant species were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field. Unusual and less familiar plant species were photographed during the field survey and identified in the laboratory using taxonomical guides. Wildlife detections were made through observation of scat, trails, tracks, burrows, nests, and/or visual and aural observation. In addition, site characteristics including soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site plant communities, and presence of jurisdictional drainage and/or potential wetland features were noted.

### EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

The project site consists of a disturbed, unvegetated lot located southwest of the intersection of Roswell Avenue and Walnut Avenue. The project site contains evidence of a high level of human disturbance as a result of ongoing weed abatement activities (i.e. disking) and illegal dumping. Areas surrounding the project site primarily consist of residential land uses. State Route 60 is located directly north of the project site and State Route 71 is located approximately 1.5 miles to the west. In addition, an active railway runs along the northern boundary of the project site in a northwest/southeast direction. On-site surface elevation ranges from approximately 751 to 758 feet above mean sea level (msl) and gently slopes to the south. According to the USDA NRCS Custom Soil Resource Report for San Bernardino County, the project site is underlain by the following soil units: Grangeville fine sandy loam (Gr); and Hilmar loamy fine sand (Hr) (refer to Exhibit 5, *Soils*). Refer to Attachment B for representative photographs taken throughout the project site.

### VEGETATION

The project site appeared to have been recently disked and as a result is primarily unvegetated with a few scattered ruderal/weedy, low-growing plant species (refer to Exhibit 6, *Vegetation*). Common plant species observed within and adjacent to the project site included tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), annual burrweed (*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*), wild oat (*Avena fatua*), lamb's quarters (*Chenopodium album*), Jimsonweed (*Datura wrightii*), common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), cheeseweed (*Malva parviflora*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), and puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*). Several ornamental tree species, including date palm (*Phoenix* sp.) and Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), associated with surrounding residential properties were also observed within and along

the western and southern boundaries of the project site. Refer to Attachment C for a complete list of plant species observed during the field survey.

## WILDLIFE

Plant communities provide foraging habitat, nesting/denning sites, and shelter from adverse weather or predations. This section provides a general discussion of those wildlife species that were observed during the field survey or that are expected to occur within the project site based on existing site conditions. The discussion is to be used as a general reference and is limited by the season, time of day, and weather conditions in which the field survey was conducted. Wildlife detections were based on calls, songs, scat, tracks, burrows, and direct observation. Refer to Attachment C for a complete list of wildlife species observed during the field survey.

### Fish

No fish or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of fish were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the project site.

### Amphibians

No amphibians or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support amphibian species were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, no amphibians are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the project site.

### Reptiles

No reptilian species were observed during the field survey. However, the project site and surrounding area have the potential to support reptilian species that are adapted to a high level of human disturbance. Common reptilian species expected to occur within the project site include western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*), San Diego alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata webbii*), Great Basin fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis longipes*), and Great Basin gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer deserticola*).

### Birds

Bird species detected during the field survey included Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), American bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), common starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), Cassin's kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), and mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*).

### Mammals

The project site provides suitable habitat for a limited number of mammals that are adapted to a high level of human disturbance associated with on-going weed abatement activities and illegal dumping. However, most

mammalian species are nocturnal and are difficult to observe during a diurnal field survey. The only mammalian species observed during the field survey was California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*). Other common mammalian species expected to occur on the project site include opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), Audubon's cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*).

### **NESTING BIRDS**

No active nests or birds displaying nesting behavior were observed during the field survey. Although heavily disturbed, the ornamental trees and vegetation associated with the project site and surrounding residential properties provide suitable foraging and limited amount of nesting opportunities for a variety of year-round and seasonal avian residents, as well as migrating songbirds that could occur in the area. Additionally, the project site provides limited ground nesting opportunities due to the high level of weed abatement activities which would likely deter birds from nesting on the open ground.

### **MIGRATORY CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES**

Habitat linkages provide links between larger undeveloped habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. A corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species, but inadequate for others. Wildlife corridors are significant features for dispersal, seasonal migration, breeding, and foraging. Additionally, open space can provide a buffer against both human disturbance and natural fluctuations in resources.

The project site is located in a heavily developed area within Unincorporated San Bernardino County and is exposed to on-going weed abatement activities (i.e., disking) which limits wildlife movement opportunities throughout the area. Further, the project site is surrounded by development and light and noise associated with State Route 60 to the north, the active railway to the east, and the surrounding residential properties to the south, east, and west would likely deter wildlife from utilizing the project site as a movement corridor. As such, development of the project site is not expected to disrupt wildlife movement opportunities within or adjacent to the project site.

### **JURISDICTIONAL AREAS**

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regulatory Branch regulates the discharge of dredge or fill materials into "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. Of the State agencies, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) regulates discharges to surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control

Act, and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated plant communities under California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 *et seq.* of the California Fish and Game Code.

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features occur within the boundaries of the project site. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdictional areas and regulatory approvals will not be required.

### **SPECIAL-STATUS BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The CNDDDB was queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species as well as special-status natural plant communities in the Ontario USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle. A search of published records of these species was conducted within these quadrangles using the CDFW's CNDDDB Rarefind 5 database and CNDDDB Quickview Tool in BIOS. The habitat assessment evaluated the conditions of the habitat(s) within the boundaries of the project site to determine if the existing plant communities, at the time of the survey, have the potential to provide suitable habitat(s) for special-status plant and wildlife species.

The literature search identified seventeen (17) special-status plant species, thirty-four (34) special-status wildlife species, and one (1) special-status plant community as having the potential to occur within the Ontario USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle. Special-status plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to occur within the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions. Special-status plant and wildlife species determined to have the potential to occur within the vicinity of the project site are presented in Attachment D, *Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources*. Attachment D provides a detailed analysis regarding the potential occurrence of special-status plant and wildlife species within the project site.

#### **Special-Status Plants**

Seventeen (17) special-status plant species have been recorded in the CNDDDB and CNPS within the Ontario USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle (refer to Attachment D). No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field survey. The project site is routinely exposed to on-going weed abatement activities (i.e., disking) and illegal dumping resulting in heavily disturbed soils and an absence of natural plant communities. Therefore, no special-status plant species are expected to occur and are presumed to be absent from the project site. Focused surveys for special-status plant species are not recommended.

#### **Special-Status Wildlife**

Thirty-four (34) special-status wildlife species have been recorded by the CNDDDB within the Ontario USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle (refer to Attachment D). No special-status wildlife species observed during the field survey. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site has a low potential to support Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). All remaining special-status wildlife species are presumed to be absent from the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions. The potential occurrence of burrowing owl is described in further detail below.

### *Burrowing Owl*

The burrowing owl is currently listed as a California Species of Special Concern. It is a grassland specialist distributed throughout western North America where it occupies open areas with short vegetation and bare ground within shrub, desert, and grassland environments. Burrowing owls use a wide variety of arid and semi-arid environments with well-drained, level to gently-sloping areas characterized by sparse vegetation and bare ground (Haug and Didiuk 1993; Dechant *et al.* 1999). Burrowing owls are dependent upon the presence of burrowing mammals (such as ground squirrels) whose burrows are used for roosting and nesting (Haug and Didiuk 1993). The presence or absence of colonial mammal burrows is often a major factor that limits the presence or absence of burrowing owls. Where mammal burrows are scarce, burrowing owls have been found occupying man-made cavities, such as buried and non-functioning drain pipes, stand-pipes, and dry culverts. Burrowing mammals may burrow beneath rocks and debris or large, heavy objects such as abandoned cars, concrete blocks, or concrete pads. They also require open vegetation allowing line-of-sight observation of the surrounding habitat to forage as well as watch for predators.

Despite a systematic search of the project site, no burrowing owls or sign of burrowing owl activity (i.e., pellets, feathers, castings, or white wash) were observed during the field survey. The project site is primarily unvegetated and/or vegetated with a variety of low-growing plant species that allow for line-of-sight observation favored by burrowing owls. However, the project site is located within a heavily developed area within Unincorporated San Bernardino County and is exposed to a high level of disturbance associated with the active railway to the north and on-going weed abatement activities which would likely deter burrowing owls from occupying the project site. In addition, several power poles and ornamental trees surround the project site which further decreases the likelihood that burrowing owls would occur as these features provide perching opportunities for larger raptor species (i.e., red-tailed hawk [*Buteo jamaicensis*]) that prey on burrowing owls. Therefore, burrowing owl is presumed absent from the project site and focused surveys are not recommended.

### Special-Status Plant Communities

According to the CNDDDB, one (1) special-status plant community has been reported in the Ontario USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle: Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub. Based on the results of the field survey, this special-status plant community does not occur within the project site.

### **CRITICAL HABITAT**

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

404 permit), or receive any federal oversight or funding. If there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for providing funds or permits would be consult with the USFWS.

The project site is not located within federally designated Critical Habitat. Therefore, impacts to Critical Habitat will not occur and consultation with the USFWS will not be required for the loss or adverse modification to Critical Habitat.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The project site primarily consists of a disturbed, unvegetated lot with a few scattered, low-growing plant species located southwest of the intersection of Roswell Avenue and Walnut Avenue. The project site is routinely exposed to on-going weed abatement activities (i.e., disking) and illegal dumping resulting in heavily disturbed soils and an absence of natural plant communities. Therefore, no special-status plant species are expected to occur within the project site and no additional surveys are recommended.

No special-status wildlife species were observed during the field survey. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site has a low potential to support Cooper's hawk. All remaining special-status wildlife species are presumed to be absent from the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions.

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and Sections 3503, 3503.3, 3511, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code. If project activities are to be initiated during the nesting season (February 1 to August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than three (3) days prior to the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that birds protected under the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code are not impacted. A qualified biologist shall survey all suitable nesting habitat within the project site, and within a biologically defensible buffer distance surrounding the project site, for nesting birds prior to commencing project activities. Documentation of surveys and findings shall be submitted to Sri Jayaram Foundation Inc. for review and file. If no active nests are detected, construction may begin. If an active nest is found, the bird shall be identified to species and the approximate distance from the closest work site to the nest shall be estimated and the qualified biologist shall establish a "no-disturbance" buffer around the active nest. The distance of the "no-disturbance" buffer may be increased or decreased according to the judgement of the qualified biologist depending on the level of activity and species (i.e., listed, sensitive). The qualified biologist shall periodically monitor any active nests to determine if project-related activities occurring outside the "no disturbance" buffer disturb the birds and if the buffer should be increased. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, construction activities within the buffer area can occur.

Although burrowing owl focused surveys are not recommended, a pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey shall be conducted to ensure that burrowing owls remain absent from the project site and impacts to any occupied burrows do not occur. In accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012),



two pre-construction clearance surveys shall be conducted 14-30 days and 24 hours prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities. Documentation of surveys and findings shall be submitted to Sri Jayaram Foundation Inc. for review and file. If no burrowing owls or occupied burrows are detected, construction may begin. If an occupied burrow is found within the development footprint during pre-construction clearance surveys, a burrowing owl exclusion plan will need to be prepared and submitted to CDFW for approval prior to initiating project activities.

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were observed within or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdictional areas and regulatory approvals will not be required.

The project site is not located within federally designated Critical Habitat. Therefore, impacts to Critical Habitat will not occur and consultation with the USFWS will not be required for the loss or adverse modification to Critical Habitat.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (909) 974-4961 or [tommillington@mbakerintl.com](mailto:tommillington@mbakerintl.com) or Ashley Spencer at (909) 974-4962 or [ashley.spencer@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ashley.spencer@mbakerintl.com) should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



Thomas Millington  
Biologist  
Natural Resources



Ashley Spencer  
Biologist  
Natural Resources

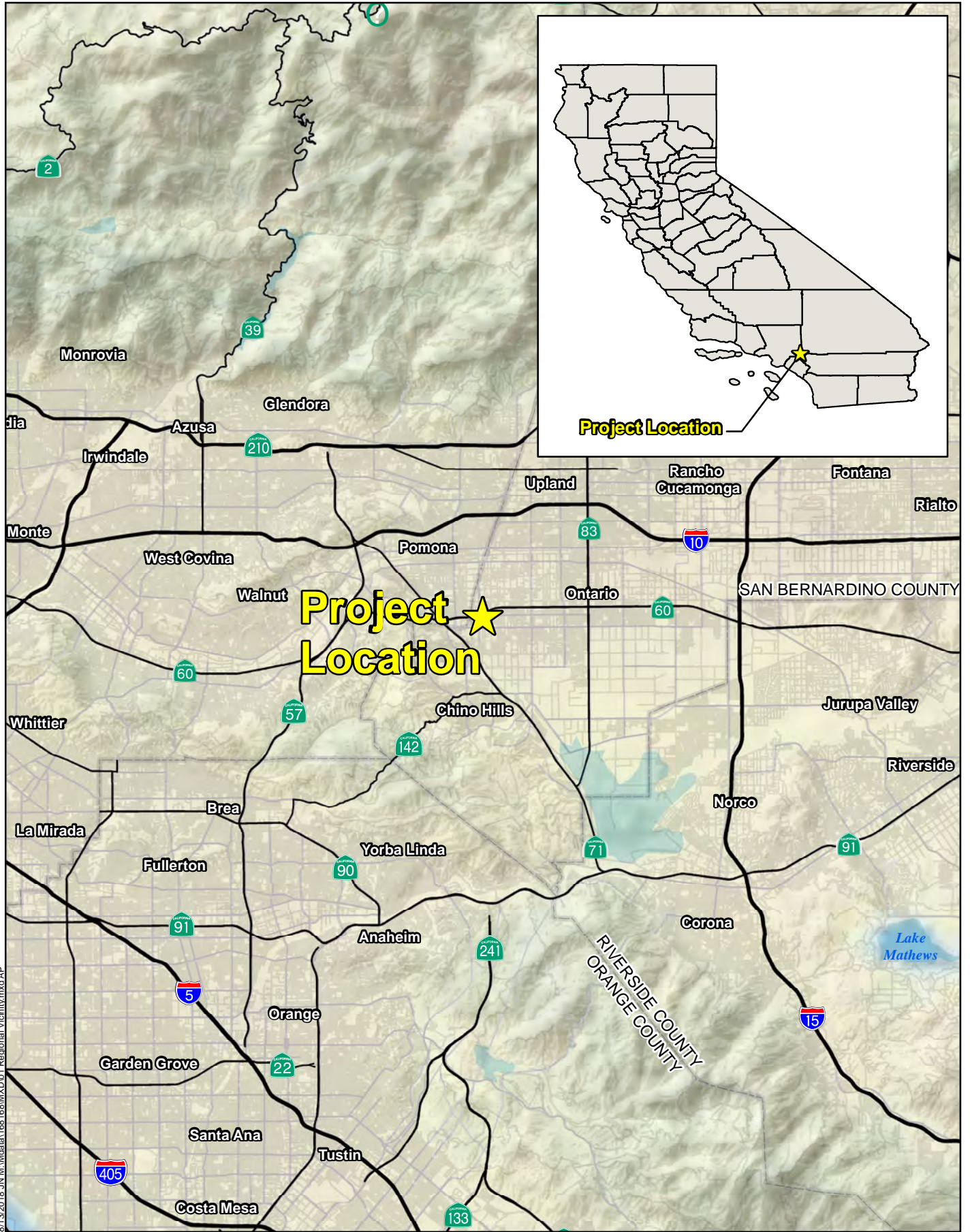
Attachments:

- A. Project Exhibits
- B. Site Photographs
- C. Flora and Fauna Compendium
- D. Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources

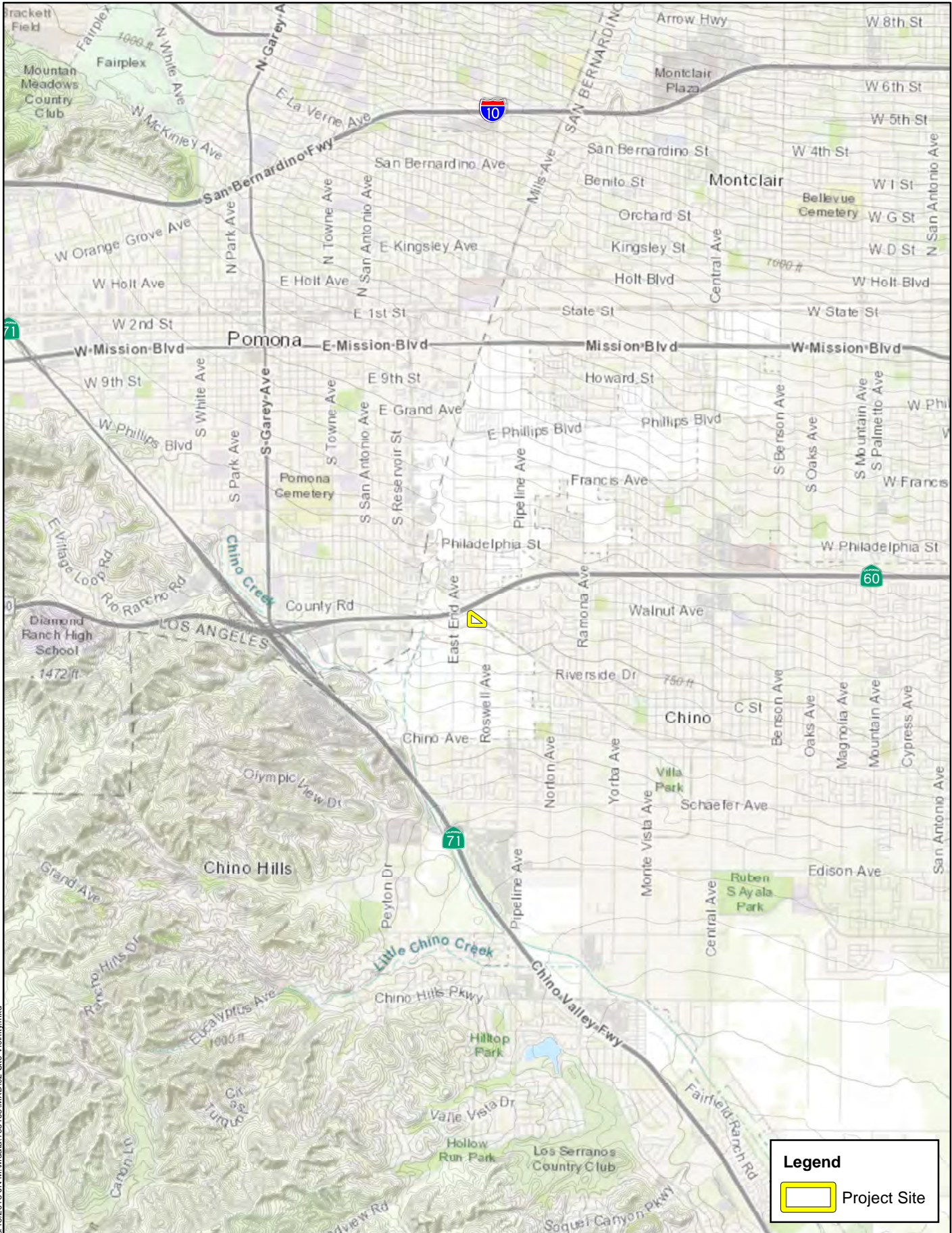
**Attachment A**

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Project Exhibits



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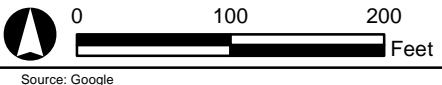
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 Project Site

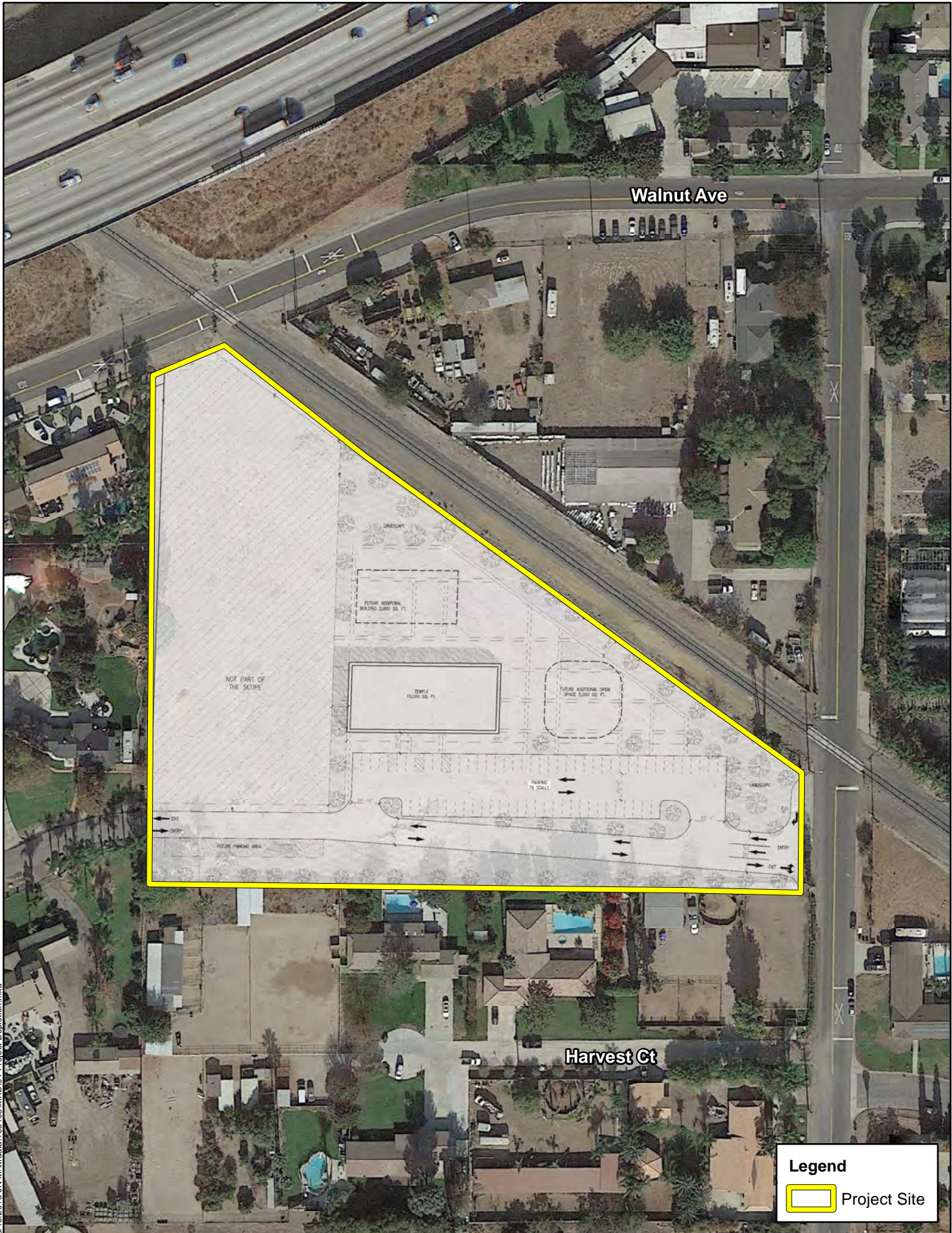
SRI SAI RAM MANDIR PROJECT  
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MEMORANDUM

# Project Site

Exhibit 3



Source: Google



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**Legend**

Project Site

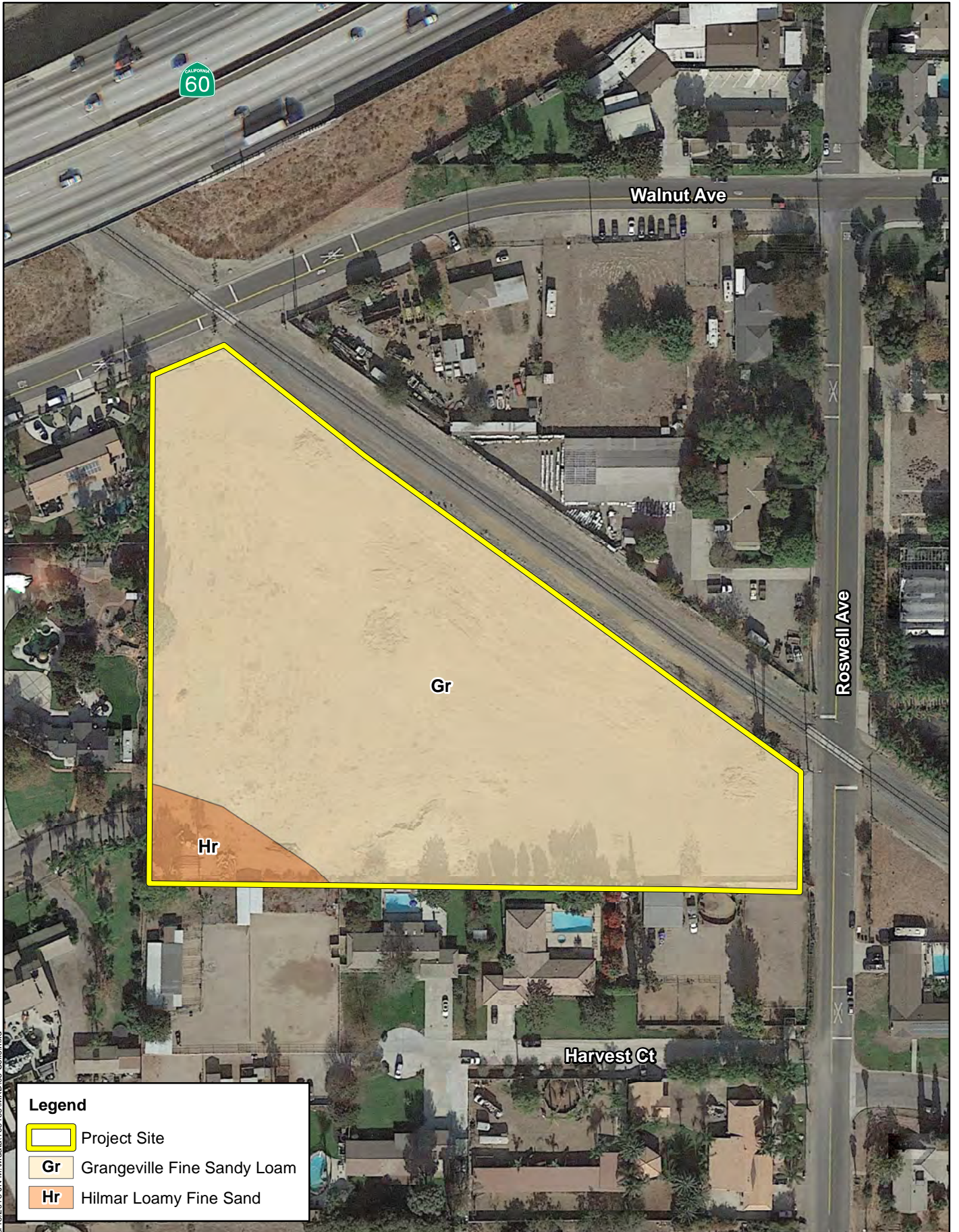
SRI SAI RAM MANDIR PROJECT  
 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MEMORANDUM

**Project Depiction**

**Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL**

0 100 200 Feet

Source: Google

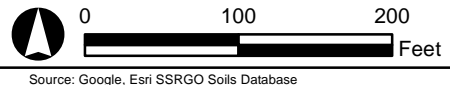


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**Legend**

- Project Site
- Gr Grangeville Fine Sandy Loam
- Hr Hilmar Loamy Fine Sand

SRI SAI RAM MANDIR PROJECT  
 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MEMORANDUM



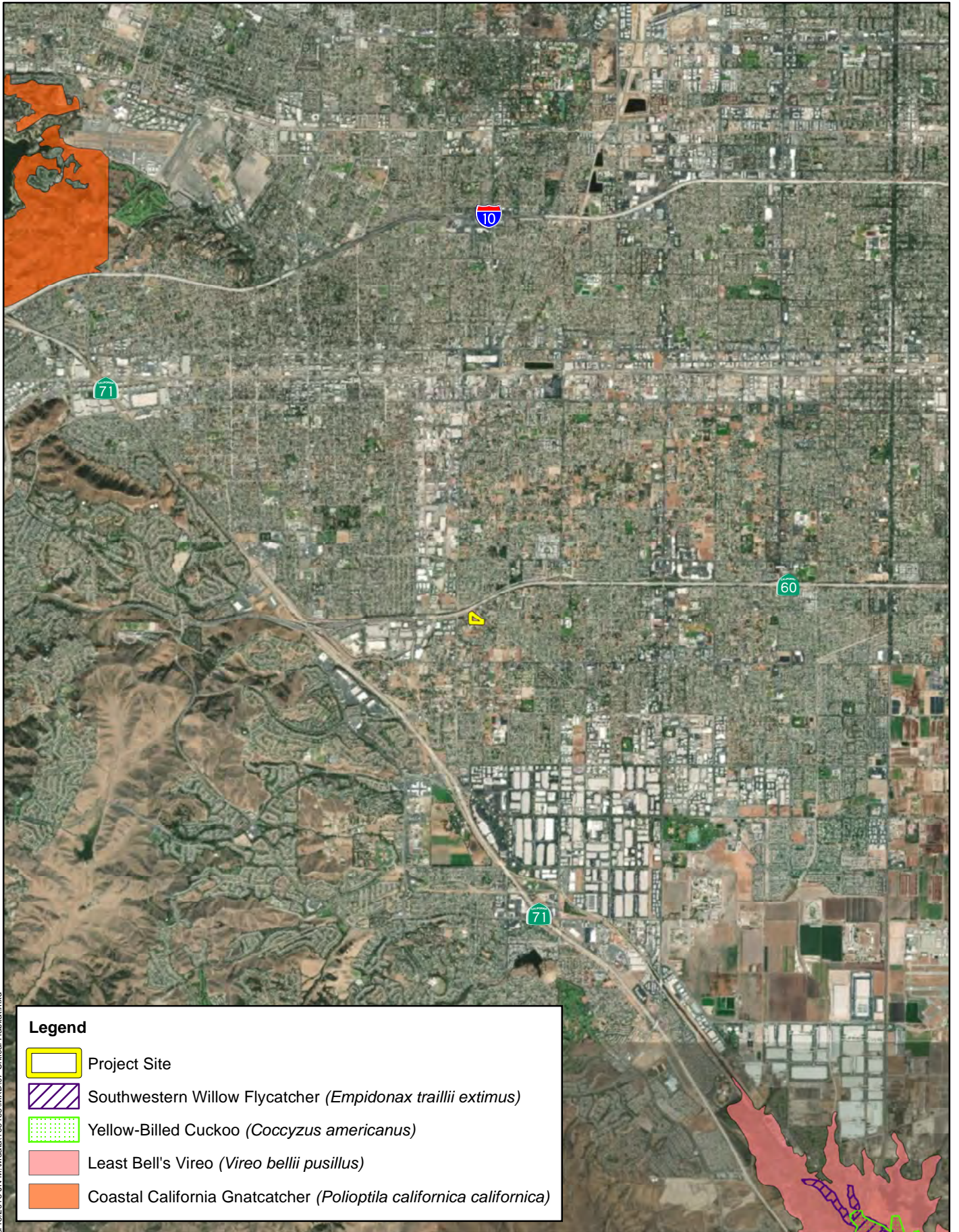


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


**Legend**

- Project Site
- Disturbed (4.83 Acres)

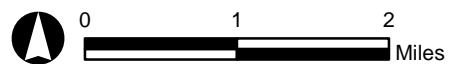




**Legend**

-  Project Site
-  Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)
-  Yellow-Billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)
-  Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)
-  Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*)

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Source: Esri Imagery, US Fish and Wildlife Service

SRI SAI RAM MANDIR PROJECT  
 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MEMORANDUM  
**Critical Habitat**

**Attachment B**

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Site Photographs



**Photograph 1:** Standing within the southeastern portion of the project site looking west. Evidence of recent weed abatement activities (i.e., disking) can be seen in the foreground.



**Photograph 2:** Looking northwest across the western portion of the project site. Evidence of illegal dumping can be seen in the distance.



**Photograph 3:** Looking southwest across the central portion of the project site.



**Photograph 4:** Standing within the northern portion of the project site looking southeast across the project site.



**Photograph 5:** Standing within the southeastern portion of the project site looking south across the project site.



**Photograph 6:** Standing within the southeastern portion of the project site looking northwest.

**Attachment C**

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Flora and Fauna Compendium

Table C – 1: Plant Species

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> *	tree of heaven
<i>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</i>	annual burrweed
<i>Avena fatua</i> *	wild oat
<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>	mulefat
<i>Bromus diandrus</i> *	ripgut brome
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i> *	foxtail brome
<i>Chenopodium album</i> *	lamb's quarters
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> *	field bindweed
<i>Datura wrightii</i>	Jimsonweed
<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i> *	hairy crabgrass
<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i> *	flax-leaved horseweed
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i> *	coastal heron's bill
<i>Euphorbia maculata</i> *	spotted spurge
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	common sunflower
<i>Lactuca serriola</i> *	prickly lettuce
<i>Malva parviflora</i> *	cheeseweed
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> *	tree tobacco
<i>Phoenix</i> sp.*	date palm
<i>Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum</i> *	Jersey cudweed
<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	arroyo willow
<i>Salsola tragus</i> *	Russian thistle
<i>Schismus barbatus</i> *	common Mediterranean grass
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> *	horse nettle
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> *	puncture vine
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i> *	Mexican fan palm

Table C – 2: Wildlife Species

Scientific Name	Common Name
<b>Aves</b>	<b>Birds</b>
<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	house finch
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	barn swallow
<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	California towhee
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	house sparrow
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	American parakeet
<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	black phoebe
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	common starling
<i>Tyrannus vociferans</i>	Cassin's kingbird
<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>	mourning dove
<b>Mammalia</b>	<b>Mammals</b>
<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel

\*Non-native/invasive

**Attachment D**

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Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources



Table D-1: Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES</b>				
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Generally, found in forested areas up to 3,000 feet in elevation, especially near edges and rivers. Prefers hardwood stands and mature forests, but can be found in urban and suburban areas where there are tall trees for nesting. Common in open areas during nesting season.	No	<b>Low:</b> Some suitable foraging habitat is present within the project site. Additionally, this species is known to occur within urban areas.
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> southern California legless lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Locally abundant specimens are found in coastal sand dunes and a variety of interior habitats, including sandy washes and alluvial fans. A large protected population persists in the remnant of the once extensive El Segundo Dunes at Los Angeles International Airport.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> pallid bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common of low elevations in California. Occupies a variety of habitats including grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Inhabits arid scrub, rocky washes, grasslands, and chaparral habitats.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Occurs in chaparral dominated by fairly dense stands of chamise. Also found in coastal sage scrub in south of range.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in a variety of ecosystems, primarily hot and dry open areas with sparse foliage - chaparral, woodland, and riparian areas.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily a grassland species, but it persists and even thrives in some landscapes highly altered by human activity. Occurs in open, annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. The overriding characteristics of suitable habitat appear to be burrows for roosting and nesting and relatively short vegetation with only sparse shrubs and taller vegetation.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	Fed: None CA: THR	Typical habitat is open desert, grassland, or cropland containing scattered, large trees or small groves. Breeds in stands with few trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and in oak savannah in the Central Valley. Forages in adjacent grassland or suitable grain or alfalfa fields or livestock pastures.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i> coastal cactus wren	Fed: None CA: SSC	The coastal population inhabits cactus scrub from southern Ventura County and southwestern San Bernardino County to northwestern Baja California. Key habitat element is thickets of chollas or prickly-pear cacti tall enough to support and protect the birds' nests.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in desert and coastal habitats in southern California, Mexico, and northern Baja California, from sea level to at least 4,596 feet above msl. Found in a variety of temperate habitats ranging from chaparral and grasslands to scrub forests and deserts. Requires low growing vegetation or rocky outcroppings, as well as sandy soils for burrowing.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Circus cyaneus</i> northern harrier	Fed: None CA: SSC	Frequents meadows, grasslands, open rangelands, desert sinks, fresh and saltwater emergent wetlands; seldom found in wooded areas. Mostly found in flat, or hummocky, open areas of tall, dense grasses moist or dry shrubs, and edges for nesting, cover, and feeding.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Fed: END CA: SSC	Primarily found in Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub and sandy loam soils, alluvial fans and flood plains, and along washes with nearby sage scrub. May occur at lower densities in Riversidian upland sage scrub, chaparral and grassland in uplands and tributaries in proximity to Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub habitats. Tend to avoid rocky substrates and prefer sandy loam substrates for digging of shallow burrows.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, marshes, and irrigation ditches, with abundant vegetation, either rocky or muddy bottoms, in woodland, forest, and grassland. In streams, prefers pools to shallower areas. Logs, rocks, cattail mats, and exposed banks are required for basking. May enter brackish water and even seawater. Found at elevations from sea level to over 5,900 feet in elevation.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily a cliff-dwelling species, roost generally under exfoliating rock slabs. Roosts are generally high above the ground, usually allowing a clear vertical drop of at least three meters below the entrance for flight. In California, it is most frequently encountered in broad open areas. Its foraging habitat includes dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, and agricultural areas.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Falco columbarius</i> merlin	Fed: None CA: WL	Nest in forested openings, edges, and along rivers across northern North America. Found in open forests, grasslands, and especially coastal areas with flocks of small songbirds or shorebirds. Occurs at elevations below 3,900 feet above msl.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	Fed: None CA: WL	Ranges from southeastern deserts northwest throughout the Central Valley and along the inner Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada. Distributed from annual grasslands to alpine meadows, but associated primarily with perennial grasslands, savannahs, rangeland, some agricultural fields, and desert scrub. Within the Sierra Nevada, this species range above the timberline in late summer, but winter at lower elevations. During the breeding season, this species is commonly found in foothills and mountains which provide cliffs and escarpments for nesting.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Icteria virens</i> yellow-breasted chat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily found in tall, dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and thickets of willows, vine tangles, and dense brush with well-developed understories. Nesting areas are associated with streams, swampy ground, and the borders of small ponds. Breeding habitat must be dense to provide shade and concealment. It winters south the Central America. Found at elevations ranging from 820 to 2,625 feet above msl.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike	Fed: None CA: SSC	Often found in broken woodlands, shrublands, and other habitats. Prefers open country with scattered perches for hunting and fairly dense brush for nesting.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Roosts in palm trees in foothill riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats with access to water for foraging.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> California black rail	Fed: None CA: THR ; FP	Suitable habitat generally includes salt marches, freshwater marshes, and wet meadows. Typical associated vegetation includes pickle weed ( <i>Salicornia virginica</i> ), in salt marshes and bulrush ( <i>Scirpus</i> spp.) in less saline habitats.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert woodrat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in coastal scrub communities between San Luis Obispo and San Diego Counties. Prefers moderate to dense canopies, and especially rocky outcrops.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i> big free-tailed bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Maternity roosts have been documented in rock crevices, with evidence of long term use. Mainly roost in crevices and rocks in cliff situations. Some have been documented roosting in buildings, caves, and tree cavities.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage scrub communities in and around the Los Angeles Basin. Prefers open ground with fine sandy soils. May not dig extensive burrows, but instead will seek refuge under weeds and dead leaves instead.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in a wide variety of vegetation types including coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland and coniferous forest. In inland areas, this species is restricted to areas with pockets of open microhabitat, created by disturbance (i.e. fire, floods, roads, grazing, fire breaks). The key elements of such habitats are loose, fine soils with a high sand fraction; an abundance of native ants or other insects; and open areas with limited overstory for basking and low, but relatively dense shrubs for refuge.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Poliioptila californica californica</i> coastal California gnatcatcher	Fed: THR CA: SSC	Obligate resident of sage scrub habitats that are dominated by California sagebrush. This species generally occurs below 750 feet elevation in coastal regions and below 1,500 feet inland. It prefers habitat with more low-growing vegetation.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Rana boylei</i> foothill yellow-legged frog	Fed: None CA: CTHR ; SSC	Frequents rocky streams and rivers with rocky substrate and open, sunny banks, in forests, chaparral, and woodlands. Sometimes found in isolated pools, vegetated backwaters, and deep, shaded, spring-fed pools.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	Fed: THR CA: SSC	Found mainly near ponds in humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and stream sides with plant cover. Most common in lowlands or foothills. Frequently found in woods adjacent to streams. Occurs along the coast ranges from Mendocino County south and in portions of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades ranges.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgulata</i> coast patch-nosed snake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Inhabits semi-arid brushy areas and chaparral in canyons, rocky hillsides, and plains. Requires friable soils for burrowing.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i> yellow warbler	Fed: None CA: SSC	Nests over all of California except the Central Valley, the Mojave Desert region, and high altitudes and the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada. Winters along the Colorado River and in parts of Imperial and Riverside Counties. Nests in riparian areas dominated by willows, cottonwoods, sycamores, or alders or in mature chaparral. May also use oaks, conifers, and urban areas near stream courses.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Spea hammondi</i> western spadefoot	Fed: None CA: SSC	Prefers open areas with sandy or gravelly soils, in a variety of habitats including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washed, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, alkali flats, foothills, and mountains. Rainpools which do not contain bullfrogs, fish, or crayfish are necessary for breeding.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Taricha torosa</i> Coast Range newt	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in wet forests, oak forests, chaparral, and rolling grasslands. In southern California, drier chaparral, oak woodland, and grasslands are used.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> two-striped gartersnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Utilizes a variety of habitats including forests, mixed woodlands, grassland, chaparral, and farmlands. Often found near ponds, marshes, or streams.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Thamnophis sirtalis infernalis</i> south coast gartersnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Utilizes a variety of habitats including forests, mixed woodlands, grassland, chaparral, and farmlands. Often found near ponds, marshes, or streams.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> yellow-headed blackbird	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in freshwater emergent wetlands, and moist, open areas along croplands and mud flats of lacustrine habitats. Prefers to nest in dense wetland vegetation characterized by tules, cattails, or other similar plant species along the border of lakes and ponds.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES</b>				
<i>Calochortus catalinae</i> Catalina mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Habitats include chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 2,297 feet above mean sea level (msl). Blooming period is from February to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Prefers openings in chaparral, foothill woodland, coastal sage scrub, valley foothill grasslands, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest and yellow pine forest. Often found on dry, rocky slopes and soils and brushy areas. Can be very common after a fire. Found at elevations ranging from 459 to 6,299 feet above msl. Blooming period is from May to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Calystegia felix</i> lucky morning-glory	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Historically associated with wetland and marshy places, but possibly in drier situations as well. Found in riparian scrub, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 98 to 705 feet above msl. Blooming period is from March to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis</i> smooth tarplant	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in alkaline soils within chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 2,100 feet above msl. Blooming period is from April to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in sandy or rocky openings within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 902 to 4,003 feet above msl. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Cladium californicum</i> California saw-grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Grows in alkaline or freshwater marshes and swamps. Additionally found in meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 197 to 2,838 feet above msl. Blooming period is from June to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> slender-horned spineflower	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub (alluvial fan sage scrub). Flood deposited terraces and washes. Found at elevations ranging from 1,181 to 2,690 feet above msl. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Horkelia cuneata var. puberula</i> mesa horkelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Open sandy fields and chaparral, mostly away from the coast, old dunes, foothill edge of LA Basin, south Coast, Peninsular range. Found at elevations ranging from 230 to 2,657 feet above msl. Blooming period is from February to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Juglans californica</i> southern California black walnut	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 164 to 2,953 feet above msl. Blooming period is from March to August.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii</i> southwestern spiny rush	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Occurs in coastal dunes (mesic), meadows and seeps (alkaline seeps), and marshes and swamps (coastal salt) habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 9 to 2,953 feet above msl. Blooming period is (March) May to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii</i> Robinson's pepper-grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.3	Dry soils on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 3 to 2,904 feet above msl. Blooming period is from January to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Muhlenbergia californica</i> California muhly	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.3	Found in chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 328 to 6,562 feet above msl. Blooming period is from June to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> prostrate vernal pool navarretia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in coastal scrub, vernal pools, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 10 to 3,970 feet above msl. Blooming period is from April to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i> white rabbit-tobacco	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Found in sandy and gravelly soils within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland habitats. Occurs at elevations ranging from 0 to 6,890 feet above msl. Blooming period is from August to November.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> salt spring checkerbloom	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Habitat includes chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, plays, and mojavean desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 5,020 feet above msl. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i> San Bernardino aster	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grassland (vernally mesic). Can be found growing near ditches, streams, and springs within these habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 7 to 6,693 feet above msl. Blooming period is from July to November.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<i>Thysanocarpus rigidus</i> rigid fringepod	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in dry, rocky slopes within pinyon and juniper woodland habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 1,969 to 7,218 feet above msl. Blooming period is from February to May.	No	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> No suitable habitat is present within the project site.
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT COMMUNITIES</b>				
Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Occur within broad washes of sandy alluvial drainages that carry rainfall runoff sporadically in winter and spring but remain relatively dry through the remainder of the year. Is restricted to drainages and floodplains with very sandy substrates that have a dearth of decomposed plant material. These areas do not develop into riparian woodland or scrub due to the limited water resources and scouring by occasional floods.	No	<b>Absent</b>

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) - Federal**  
 END - Federal Endangered  
 THR - Federal Threatened

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) - California**  
 END- California Endangered  
 THR - California Threatened  
 CTHR - The classification provided to a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the Fish and Game Commission has formally noticed as being under review by the Department of Fish and Wildlife for addition to the list of threatened species, or a species for which the commission has published a notice of proposed regulation to add the species to the list of threatened species.  
 SSC - California Species of Concern  
 WL - Watch List  
 FP - California Fully Protected

**California Native Plant Society (CNPS)**  
**California Rare Plant Rank**  
 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere  
 2B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere  
 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

**Threat Ranks**  
 0.1 - Seriously threatened in California  
 0.2 - Moderately threatened in California  
 0.3 - Not very threatened in California