

CORAL MOUNTAIN RESORT
DRAFT EIR
SCH# 2021020310

TECHNICAL APPENDICES

Biological Resources Assessment and
CVMSHCP Consistency Analysis
Appendix D.1

June 2021

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT AND
CVMSHCP CONSISTENCY ANALYSIS**

WAVE AT CORAL MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

CITY OF LA QUINTA

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

LSA

May 2021

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT AND CVM SHCP CONSISTENCY ANALYSIS

WAVE AT CORAL MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

CITY OF LA QUINTA

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LSA was retained by CM Wave Development, LLC to prepare a Biological Resources Assessment and to conduct a Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP) Consistency Analysis. This report has been prepared for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the CVMSHCP, and the Federal and California Endangered Species Acts.

The study area lies within the planning boundaries of the CVMSHCP. The CVMSHCP provides take coverage for covered species, which include both listed and non-listed species that are adequately conserved by the CVMSHCP. To ensure adequate conservation of covered species, CVMSHCP Conservation Areas provide habitat and other ecological elements. The study area does not lie within a CVMSHCP Conservation Area.

The study area contains suitable habitat for the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) and other nesting birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code. A burrowing owl pre-construction survey will be required to ensure any direct impacts to this species will be avoided. In addition, it is recommended that vegetation removal be conducted between September 1 and January 15 (outside the general bird nesting season) to avoid impacts to nesting birds. If vegetation cannot be removed outside the bird nesting season, a pre-construction nesting bird survey by a qualified biologist is required prior to vegetation removal.

The study area contains suitable roosting and foraging habitat for multiple bat species. Suitable roosting sites are present in native and non-native ornamental palms, rock outcrops associated with Coral Mountain, and an abandoned adobe structure. Roosting bats were confirmed in the rock outcrops during early-maternity season surveys performed in April 2021. Additional maternity-season surveys will be performed in June 2021 to maximize the probability of detection of maternity roosts for all bat species that may occur in the proposed project area and to gather more precise data on numbers and species of bats in roosts identified during the April 2021 survey. If maternity roosts are identified within the project area, the biologist will coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to implement avoidance measures during the bat maternity season in accordance with CDFW's established standards. With implementation of this and other mitigation measures, impacts to roosting bats will be less than significant.

At least one year prior to construction, a qualified bat biologist will conduct a habitat assessment and acoustic surveys for roosting bats. If maternity roosts or hibernacula are found, the biologist will coordinate with CDFW to implement avoidance measures where possible. If avoidance of the roost(s) is not feasible, the biologist will prepare a site-specific bat avoidance and mitigation plan and coordinate with CDFW. This avoidance and mitigation plan would include mitigation strategies to minimize and/or mitigate adverse effects to bats, post-implementation monitoring, and performance standards.

No potential jurisdictional waters regulated pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and no lake, rivers, or streambeds regulated pursuant to the California Fish and Game Code by CDFW are present within the study area.

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INTRODUCTION

LSA was retained by CM Wave Development, LLC to prepare a Biological Resources Assessment and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP) Consistency Analysis. This report evaluates the approximately 385-acre proposed Wave at Coral Mountain Development Project (project) located in the City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California. Specifically, the project lies south of 58th Avenue and directly west of Madison Street. The project study area is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *La Quinta, Indio, Martinez Mountain, and Valerie, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles in Sections 27 and 28, Township 6 South, Range 7 East (Figure 1).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project proposes mixed-use residential, resort, and recreational development.

METHODS

Literature Review

A literature review was conducted to assist in determining the existence or potential occurrence of special-interest plant and animal species within the study area and in the project vicinity. A records search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) *Rarefind 5* (2019), and California Native Plant Society's *Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants* (California Native Plant Society [CNPS] v7-18) for the *La Quinta, Indio, Martinez Mountain, and Valerie, California* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles was conducted on August 16, 2019. Additionally a subsequent literature search was conducted on April 27, 2021. A review of the Final Recirculated CVMSHCP (CVAG 2007) was also conducted in order to determine CVMSHCP consistency and conservation measures that apply to the proposed project, and to reference vegetation types within the study area. Geographic Information System software was used to map the project location, habitat types, land uses, etc.

Field Surveys

LSA Biologist Jodi Ross-Borrego conducted a general field survey within the study area on September 11, 2019, from 8:00 am to 1:35 pm. Weather conditions consisted of clear skies, temperatures ranging from 73 to 91 degrees Fahrenheit, and winds ranging from 3 to 5 miles per hour. Additionally, a follow up general biological field survey was conducted on April 28, 2021 from 6:00 am to 12:40 p.m. Weather conditions consisted of clear skies, temperatures ranging from 58 to 89 degrees Fahrenheit, and winds ranging from 3 to 5 miles per hour. The entire study area was surveyed on foot. Notes were taken on general site conditions, vegetation, and suitability of habitat for various special-interest elements.

A bat habitat assessment was performed in November 2020 by LSA bat specialist Jill Carpenter, and focused nighttime acoustic and emergence surveys were conducted by LSA biologists in April 2021. The detailed results of the focused bat surveys are provided in a separate report. All plant and animal species observed or otherwise detected during all field surveys were noted and are listed in Appendix A. Appendix B summarizes the special-interest plant and animal species potentially present within the study area.

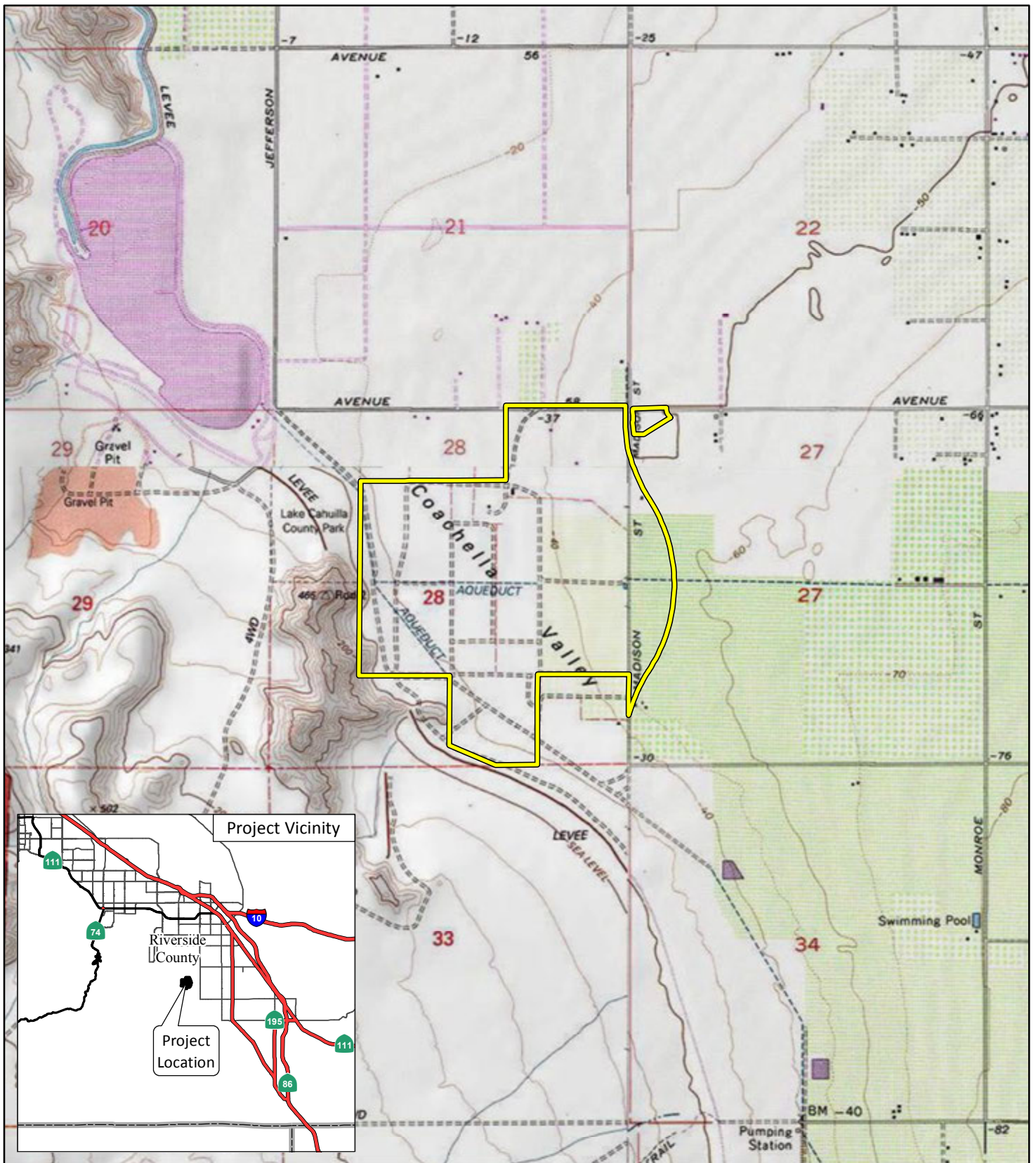

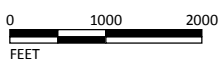


FIGURE 1

LSA

LEGEND

 Study Area



SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad., La Quinta, CA (1980); Indio, CA (1972); Martinez Mtn, CA (1988); Valerie, CA (1972)

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RESULTS

Existing Site Conditions

The study area is south of 58th Avenue and west of Madison Street. Other surrounding land uses include residential development to the north and east, vacant land to the west, and settling ponds to the south. The project falls within the boundaries of the CVMSHCP, as discussed in further detail below.

Topography and Soils

The study area is situated on relatively flat land within elevations ranging from approximately 72 feet below mean sea level to 65 feet above mean sea level.

A mosaic of soils occurs within the study area and is mapped by the Soil Conservation Service (Knecht 1980) as the following types:

- CdC: Carsitas gravelly sand, 0 to 9 percent slopes;
- CpA: Coachella fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- CsA: Coachella fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- GaB: Gilman loamy fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes;
- GbA: Gilman fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Ip: Indio fine sandy loam;
- Ir: Indio fine sandy loam, wet;
- Is: Indio very fine sandy loam;
- It: Indio very fine sandy loam, wet;
- MaB: Myoma fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes; and
- RO: Rock outcrop.

Vegetation

Vegetation within the study area is best described as Desert Saltbush scrub, Tamarisk scrub, and Mesquite Hummock (CVMSHCP 2007). Land is disturbed in southern and northeast portions of the study area and a stand of blue palo verde (*Parkinsonia florida*) is present in the eastern portion of the study area. Dominant species include fourwind saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), bush seepweed (*Suaeda nigra*), athel (*Tamarix aphylla*), and common Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*).

The majority of the study area was previously agricultural land. As a result, the Desert Saltbush scrub is fairly disturbed throughout the study area.

Wildlife

Common wildlife species observed within the study area during the field survey include common raven (*Corvus corax*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and greater roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*).

Figure 2 shows vegetation and photograph key locations. Figure 3 shows site photographs. A complete list of plant and wildlife species observed is provided in Appendix A.

Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

The CVMSHCP is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation plan focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in the Coachella Valley region of Riverside

County. The overall goal of the CVMSHCP is to maintain and enhance biological diversity and ecosystem processes within the region, while allowing for future economic growth. The CVMSHCP covers 27 sensitive plant and wildlife species (Covered Species) as well as 27 natural communities. Covered Species include both listed and non-listed species that are adequately conserved by the CVMSHCP. The overall provisions for the plan are subdivided according to specific resource conservation goals that have been organized according to geographic areas defined as Conservation Areas.

The proposed project is within the boundaries of the CVMSHCP; however, it is not within any conservation areas identified in the CVMSHCP.

Special-Status Species

This section discusses special-status species observed or potentially occurring within the limits of the study area. Legal protection for special-interest species varies widely, from the comprehensive protection extended to listed threatened/endangered species, to no legal interest at present. The CDFW, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), local agencies, and special-interest groups, such as the CNPS, publish watch lists of declining species. Species on watch lists can be included as part of the special-interest species assessment. Species that are candidates for State and/or Federal listing and species on watch lists are included in the special-interest species list. Inclusion of species described in the special-interest species analysis is based on the following criteria:

- Direct observation of the species or its sign in the study area or immediate vicinity during previous biological studies;
- Sighting by other qualified observers;
- Record reported by the NDDDB, published by the CDFW;
- Presence or location information for specific species provided by private groups (e.g., CNPS); and/or
- Study area lies within known distribution of a given species and contains appropriate habitat.

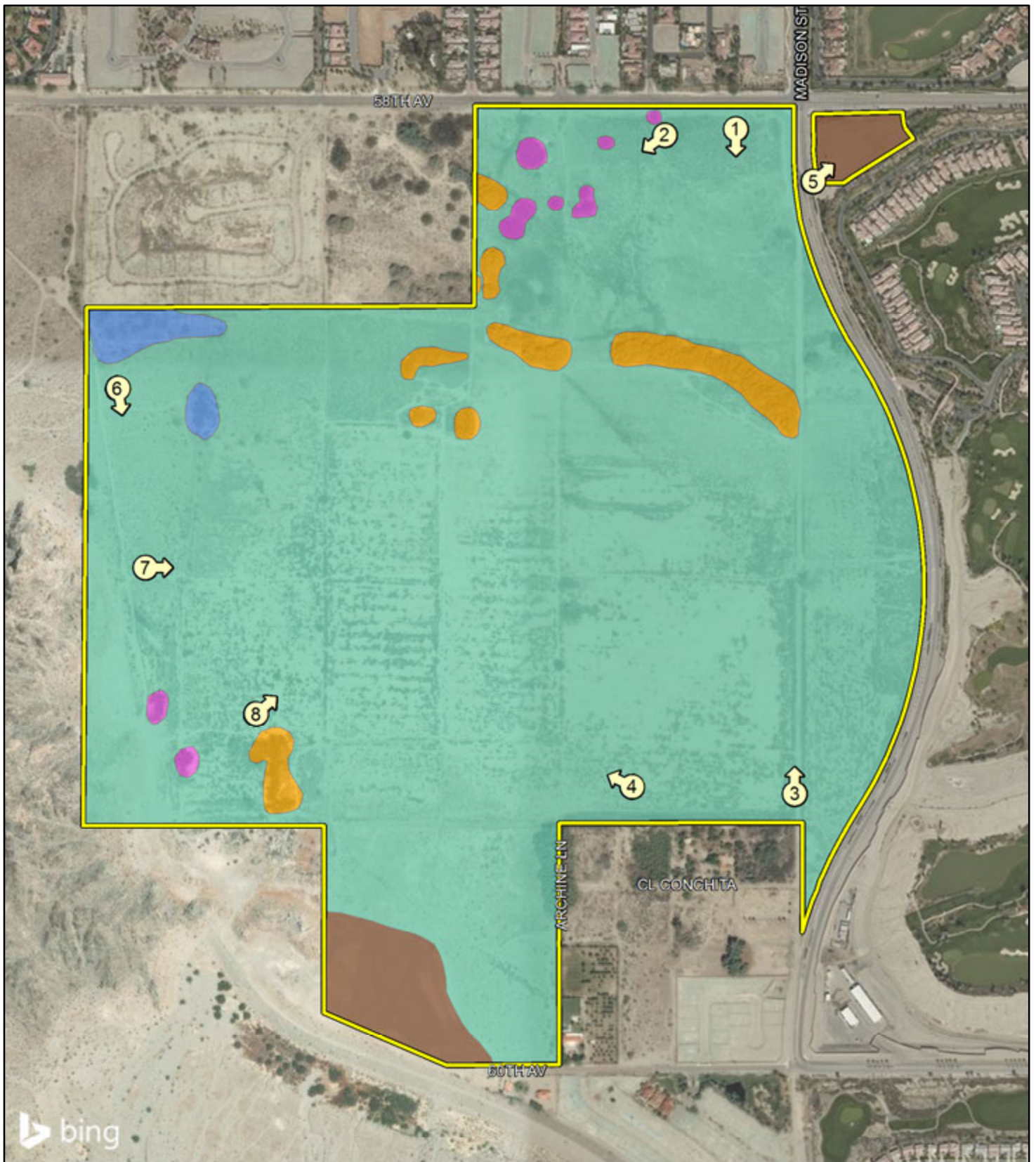


FIGURE 2

LSA

LEGEND

Study Area

Photo Locations

Vegetation

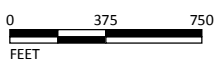
Desert Saltbush Scrub

Disturbed

Mesquite Hummock

Paloverde Stand

Tamarisk Scrub



SOURCE: Bing Aerial (09/2017)

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The Wave at Coral Mountain
Vegetation, Land Use, and
Photograph Key Location Map



Photo 1. View of desert saltbush scrub as seen facing south.



Photo 2. View of the proposed project site as seen facing southeast.



Photo 3. View of an access road as seen facing north.



Photo 4. View of desert saltbush scrub as seen facing northwest.

The special-interest species analysis revealed 49 special-interest species with the potential to occur within the limits of the study area. Appendix B lists these species with a data summary and determination of the likelihood of each species occurring within the study area.

Threatened/Endangered Species

The following seven federally/State listed species were identified as potentially present (Appendix B) in the project vicinity:

- Coachella Valley milkvetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *cochellae* [CVMV]): Federally listed as Endangered and CVMSHCP covered species;
- Triple-ribbed milkvetch (*Astragalus tricarinatus*): Federally listed as Endangered and CVMSHCP covered species;
- Casey's June beetle (*Dinacoma caseyi*): Federally listed as Endangered;
- Desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*): Federally and State-listed as Endangered and CVMSHCP covered species;
- Desert slender salamander (*Batrachoseps major aridus*) Federally and State-listed as Endangered;
- Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (*Uma inornata*): Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Endangered, and CVMSHCP covered species; and
- Peninsular bighorn sheep (*Ovis Canadensis nelsonii*) (peninsular Distinct Population Segment): Federally listed as Endangered, State listed as threatened, California Fully Protected Species, and CVMSHCP covered species.

Habitat within the study area is considered unsuitable for six of the seven species identified above. Marginally suitable habitat for CVMV was found to be present within the study area.

Non-Listed Special-Interest Species

Of the 42 other non-listed special-interest species identified and discussed in Appendix B, 18 species are considered absent based on lack of suitable habitat, seven species are considered to have a low probability of occurrence, seven species are considered to have a moderate probability of occurrence, five species are considered to have a high probability of occurrence, and five species were detected within the study area during field surveys. The following non-listed special-interest species have a moderate to high probability to occur, or were detected, within the study area:

- Slender cottonheads (*Nemacaulis denudata* var. *gracilis*);
- Flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma macalli*);
- Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*);
- Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*);
- Prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*);
- Black-tailed gnatcatcher (*Polioptila melanura*);

- Le Conte's thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*);
- California leaf-nosed bat (*Macrotus californicus*);
- Western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*);
- Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*);
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*);
- Western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis*);
- Pocketed free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops femorosaccus*);
- Big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*);
- Pallid San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax pallidus*); and
- Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel (*Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus*).

Nesting bird species, including special-interest species identified in Appendix B, with potential to occur are protected by California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800, and by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC 703–711). These laws regulate the take, possession, or destruction of the nest or eggs of any migratory bird or bird of prey. However, the USFWS has recently determined that the MBTA should apply only to "... affirmative actions that have as their purpose the taking or killing of migratory birds, their nests, or their eggs" and will not be applied to incidental take of migratory birds pursuant to otherwise lawful activities.

Critical Habitat

The study area does not lie within federally designated critical habitat.

Jurisdictional Waters

No potential jurisdictional waters regulated pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and no lake, rivers, or streambeds regulated pursuant to the California Fish and Game Code by the CDFW are present within the limits of the proposed project.

IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Following is a discussion of potential disturbances and recommendations for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures per applicable local, State, and Federal policy.

Threatened and Endangered Species

Coachella Valley Milkvetch

CVMV is a covered species under the CVMSHCP. The CVMSHCP does not require avoidance and minimization measures for CVMV. Through participation in the CVMSHCP via payment of development fees, the project would mitigate for any impacts to CVMV.

Non-Listed Special-Interest Species

The 42 special-interest species identified in Appendix B as having a low to high probability of occurrence in the study area have limited population distribution in Southern California and development is further reducing their ranges and numbers. These species have no official State or Federal protection status, but they merit consideration under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Due to the disturbed nature of the site, surrounding development, and through compliance with the CVMSHCP, impacts from the project are anticipated to have a less than significant effect on these non-listed special-interest species.

In addition, to ensure compliance with California Fish and Game Code and to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, it is recommended that the vegetation removal activities be conducted outside the general bird nesting season (January 15 through August 31). If vegetation cannot be removed outside the bird nesting season, a pre-construction nesting bird survey by a qualified biologist is required prior to vegetation removal.

Burrowing Owl

A pre-construction burrowing owl survey would be required using an accepted protocol (as determined by the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission in coordination with the permittees and the wildlife agencies). Prior to construction, a qualified biologist will survey the construction area and, as feasible, up to a 500-foot buffer outside the project limits for burrows that could be used by burrowing owl. If a burrow is located, the biologist will determine whether an owl is present in the burrow. If the burrow is determined to be occupied, the burrow will be flagged and a 160-foot diameter buffer will be established during the non-breeding season or a 250-foot diameter buffer during the breeding season. The buffer area will be staked and flagged. No development activities will be permitted within the buffer until the young are no longer dependent on the burrow.

Bats

Early season nighttime acoustic and emergence surveys in April 2021 confirmed the presence of at least eight bat species, including four with special status, within the study area. Additional maternity-season surveys will be performed in June 2021 to maximize the probability of detection of maternity roosts, which are native wildlife nursery sites, for all bat species that may occur in the proposed project area and to gather more precise data on numbers and species of bats in roosts identified during the April 2021 survey. If maternity roosts are identified within the project area, the biologist will coordinate with the CDFW to implement avoidance measures during the bat maternity season in accordance with CDFW's established standards. No construction will occur within a 300-foot buffer of maternity roost sites during the bat maternity season unless concurrence is received from CDFW to reduce that buffer distance based upon the bat species present and the activities occurring. Other mitigation measures include two-step tree removal protocols, minimization of light overspill, and humane bat exclusion.

Critical Habitat

No federally designated critical habitat is present within the study area; therefore, there will be no project-related effects to critical habitat.

Jurisdictional Waters

No potential jurisdictional waters of the United States regulated by the USACE or RWQCB, or CDFW jurisdictional lakes, rivers, or streams are present on the proposed project site. Thus, there will be no project-related effects to jurisdictional waters.

Habitat Fragmentation and Wildlife Movement

Wildlife movement and habitat fragmentation are important issues in assessing effects to wildlife. Habitat fragmentation occurs when a proposed action results in a single, unified habitat area being divided into two or more areas such that the division isolates the two new areas from each other. Isolation of habitat occurs when wildlife cannot move freely from one portion of the habitat to another or from one habitat type to another. An example is the fragmentation of habitats within and around “checkerboard” residential development. Habitat fragmentation can also occur when a portion of one or more habitats is converted into another habitat, as when scrub habitats are converted into annual grassland habitat because of frequent burning.

Because the study area does not lie within a CVMSHCP-designated wildlife corridor and the study area is adjacent to residential development, the proposed project is not anticipated to have significant impacts related to habitat fragmentation and regional wildlife movement.

Local Policies and Ordinances

With participation in the CVMSHCP, the project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances.

Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

The study area lies within the planning area of the CVMSHCP; however, it does not lie within a Conservation Area identified in the CVMSHCP. The proposed project is subject to the requirements of the CVMSHCP (e.g., development fees).

MITIGATION MEASURES

BIO-1: A burrowing owl clearance survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist not more than 30 days prior to any site disturbance (grubbing, grading, and construction). The pre-construction survey is required to use accepted protocol (as determined CDFW). Prior to construction, a qualified biologist will survey the construction area and an area up to a 500-foot outside the project limits for burrows that could be used by burrowing owls. If the burrow is determined to be occupied, the burrow will be flagged, and a 160-foot diameter buffer will be established during non-breeding season or a 250-foot diameter buffer during the breeding season. The buffer area will be staked and flagged. No development activities will be permitted within the buffer until the young are no longer dependent on the burrow.

If the burrow is unoccupied, the burrow will be made inaccessible to owls, and construction may proceed. If either a nesting or escape burrow is occupied, owls shall be relocated pursuant to accepted Wildlife Agency protocols. A burrow is assumed occupied if records indicate that, based on surveys conducted following protocol, at least one burrowing owl has been observed occupying a burrow on

site during the past three years. If there are no records for the site, surveys must be conducted to determine, prior to construction, if burrowing owls are present. Determination of the appropriate method of relocation, such as eviction/passive relocation or active relocation, shall be based on the specific site conditions (e.g., distance to nearest suitable habitat and presence of burrows within that habitat) in coordination with the Wildlife Agencies. Active relocation and eviction/passive relocation require the preservation and maintenance of suitable burrowing owl habitat determined through coordination with the Wildlife Agencies.

BIO-2: In June 2021, a qualified bat biologist will conduct a second round of focused nighttime surveys for roosting bats at locations where suitable roosting habitat is identified. The nighttime survey will include a combination of acoustic and exit count methods, and will take place during the bat maternity season (March 15–August 31 in the Coachella Valley) to enable detection of maternity-roosting bats. If maternity roosts are identified within the project area, the biologist will coordinate with CDFW to implement avoidance measures during the bat maternity season in accordance with CDFW’s established standards. No construction activities will occur within a 300-foot buffer of maternity roost sites during the bat maternity season unless concurrence is received from CDFW to reduce that buffer distance based upon the bat species present and the activities occurring.

BIO-3: Removal of trees (including palm trees) shall occur outside the maternity season (March 15–August 31 in the Coachella Valley), which coincides with the bird nesting season, to avoid the potential for “take” of nonvolant (flightless) young. Trees and snags that have been identified as confirmed or potential roost sites require a two-step removal process and the involvement of a bat biologist to ensure that no roosting bats are killed during this activity. Consistent with CDFW protocols this two-step removal shall occur over two consecutive days as follows: on Day 1, branches and limbs not containing cavities, as identified by a qualified bat biologist, will be removed. On Day 2, the remainder of the tree may be removed without supervision by a bat biologist. The disturbance caused by limb removal, followed by an interval of one evening, will allow bats to safely abandon the roost.

BIO-4: Although no construction will occur at the rock outcrops where occupied bat roosts were identified during the April 2021 surveys, bats roosting in that area could be subject to potential adverse effects from project-related light overspill. To avoid permanent impacts to roosting bats from the installation of new light fixtures associated with the proposed development, all lighting fixtures shall have light shields or similar devices (e.g., dark sky compliant lighting) installed to minimize light overspill on to Coral Mountain and surrounding open space.

BIO-5: A qualified bat biologist shall confirm the absence of roosting bats prior to any removal of the adobe. If bats are found or if the absence of bats cannot be confirmed, the bat biologist will install or directly supervise installation of humane eviction devices and exclusionary material to prevent bats from roosting in the building. Implementation of the humane eviction/exclusions is typically performed in the fall (September or October) preceding construction activity at each structure to avoid impacts to hibernating bats during the winter months or during the maternity season (March 15–August 31 in the Coachella Valley), when nonvolant (flightless) young are present. Any humane eviction/exclusion devices must be installed at least 10 days prior to the demolition of a structure housing bats to allow sufficient time for the bats to vacate the roost(s).

BIO-6: To ensure compliance with California Fish and Game Code and the MBTA and to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, vegetation removal activities shall be conducted outside the general bird nesting season (January 15 through August 31). Any vegetation removal and/or construction activities that occur during the nesting season will require that all suitable habitats be thoroughly surveyed for the presence of nesting birds by a qualified biologist. Prior to commencement of clearing, a qualified biologist shall conduct preconstruction surveys within 14 days and repeated 3 days prior to ground-disturbing activities. . If any active nests are detected a buffer of 300 feet (500 feet for raptors) around the nest adjacent to construction will be delineated, flagged, and avoided until the nesting cycle is complete. The buffer may be modified and/or other recommendations proposed as determined appropriate by the biologist to minimize impacts.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

According to Section 15130 of the *CEQA Guidelines*, “cumulative impacts” refers to incremental effects of an individual project when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, current projects, and probable future projects. Due to the relatively disturbed nature of the study area, its proximity to residential development, and through compliance with the CVMSHCP, impacts are not considered to be cumulatively significant.

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APPENDIX A

PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED

SPECIES OBSERVED LIST

EUDICOT FLOWERING PLANTS	
Scientific Name	Common Name
Asteraceae	Sunflower family
<i>Dicoria canescens</i>	Bugseed
<i>Isocoma acradenia</i>	Alkali goldenbush
<i>Palafoxia arida</i> var. <i>arida</i>	Desert palafox
<i>Pluchea sericea</i>	Arrowweed
<i>Stephanomeria exigua</i>	Small wreath-plant
Bignoniaceae	Bignonia family
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Desert willow
Boraginaceae	Borage family
<i>Cryptantha</i> sp.	Cryptantha
<i>Tiquilia plicata</i>	Fanleaf crinklemat
Brassicaceae	Mustard family
<i>Brassica tournefortii</i> *	Sahara mustard
Chenopodiaceae	Saltbush family
<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Fourwing saltbush
<i>Salsola tragus</i> *	Russian thistle
<i>Suaeda nigra</i>	Bush seepweed
Elaeagnaceae	Oleaster family
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> *	Russian olive
Fabaceae	Pea family
<i>Parkinsonia florida</i>	Blue palo verde
<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> var. <i>torreyana</i>	Honey mesquite
<i>Prosopis</i> sp.*	Mesquite (non-native)
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk family
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i> *	Athel
<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i> *	Mediterranean tamarisk
Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop family
<i>Larrea tridentata</i>	Creosote bush
MONOCOTS FLOWERING PLANTS	
Poaceae	Grass family
<i>Schismus barbatus</i> *	Common Mediterranean grass

Scientific Name	Common Name
REPTILES	
Phrynosomatidae	Phrynosomatid Lizards

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	Common side-blotched lizard
Teiidae	Whiptails
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>	Orange-throated whiptail

Scientific Name	Common Name
BIRDS	
Tytonidae	Barn Owls
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn owl
Tyrannidae	Tyrant Flycatchers
<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>	Ash-throated flycatcher
Columbidae	Pigeons and Doves
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Mourning dove
Caprimulgidae	Goatsuckers
<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>	Lesser nighthawk
<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i>	Common poorwill
Apodidae	Swifts
<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	Vaux's swift
Cuculidae	Cuckoos and Roadrunners
<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>	Greater roadrunner
Corvidae	Crows and Ravens
<i>Corvus corax</i>	Common raven
Troglodytidae	Wrens
<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	Rock wren
<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's wren
Mimidae	Mockingbirds and Thrashers
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Northern mockingbird
Sturnidae	Starlings
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	European starling
Fringillidae	Finches
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	House finch

APPENDIX B

SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES SUMMARY

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Plants				
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> Chaparral sand-verbena	US: – CA: 1B	Sandy areas (generally flats and benches along washes) in chaparral and coastal sage scrub, and improbably in desert dunes or other sandy areas, below 1,600 meters (5,300 feet) elevation. In California, reported from Riverside, San Diego, Imperial, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties. Believed extirpated from Orange County. Also reported from Arizona and Mexico (Baja California). Plants reported from desert communities are likely misidentified.	Blooms mostly March through August (annual or perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (washes in chaparral and coastal sage scrub) is not present within the study area.
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>cochellae</i> Coachella Valley milk-vetch	US: FE CA: 1B CVM SHCP: C	Sandy areas, typically in coarse sands in active sand fields, adjacent to dunes, along roadsides in dune areas, or along the margins of sandy washes, in Sonoran Desert scrub at 60 to 655 meters (200 to 2,150 feet) elevation. Known only from Riverside County in the Coachella Valley between Cabazon and Indio, and in the Chuckwalla Valley northeast of Desert Center.	Blooms February through May (annual or perennial herb)	Low. Suitable habitat (some coarse sand areas) is present within the study area.
<i>Astragalus preussii</i> var. <i>laxiflorus</i> Lancaster milk-vetch	US: – CA: 1B	Alkaline clay flats, gravelly or sandy washes, and along draws in gullied badlands, in chenopod scrub below about 700 meters (2,300 feet) elevation. Known in California only from near Lancaster and Edwards Air Force Base in Los Angeles, Kern, and San Bernardino Counties, and from one historical occurrence (1928) near La Quinta in Riverside County. Also occurs in Nevada and Arizona.	Blooms March through May (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (clay flats, gravelly or sandy washes, and along draws in gullied badlands, in chenopod scrub) is not present within the study area.
<i>Astragalus tricarinatus</i> Triple-ribbed milk-vetch	US: FE CA: 1B CVM SHCP: C	Metamorphic rock outcrops weathering into gravelly soil in semi-desert chaparral, or (probably as waifs) at the edges of boulder-strewn desert washes and adjacent slopes in rocky incised canyons in Joshua tree woodland and Sonoran Desert	Blooms February through May (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (metamorphic rock outcrops) is not present within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
		scrub; known from west edge of desert at 450 to 1,200 meters (1,500 to 3,900 feet) elevation in Riverside and extreme southern San Bernardino Counties.		
<i>Ayenia compacta</i> California ayenia	US: – CA: 2B	Rocky canyons and sandy and gravelly washes from 150 to 1,095 meters (500 to 3,600 feet) elevation in desert scrub. In California, occurs in Providence Mountains, Eagle Mountains, and west edge of Sonoran Desert.	Blooms March through April (subshrub)	Absent. Suitable habitat (rocky canyons and sandy and gravelly washes) is not present within the study area.
<i>Bursera microphylla</i> Little-leaf elephant tree	US: – CA: 2B	Rocky slopes and washes in Sonoran Desert scrub at 200 to 700 meters (600 to 2,300 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Riverside, Imperial, and San Diego Counties.	Blooms June through July (deciduous tree)	Absent. Suitable habitat (rocky slopes and washes) is not present within the study area.
<i>Ditaxis claryana</i> Glandular ditaxis	US: – CA: 2B	Sandy soils in creosote bush scrub of the Sonoran and Mojave deserts at 0 to 465 meters (0 to 1,500 feet) elevation. Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, and Arizona and northern Mexico.	Blooms October through March (perennial herb)	Low. Suitable habitat (sandy soils) is present within the study area.
<i>Ditaxis serrata</i> var. <i>californica</i> California ditaxis	US: – CA: 3.2	Sandy washes and alluvial fans in Sonoran desert scrub at 30 to 1,000 meters (100 to 3,300 feet) elevation. In California, known from Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms March through December (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (sandy washes and alluvial fans) is not present within the study area.
<i>Eriastrum harwoodii</i> Harwood's eriastrum	US: – CA: 1B	Desert dunes, 125 to 915 meters (410 to 3,002 feet) elevation (CNPS).	Blooms March through June (annual herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (desert dunes) is not present within the study area.
<i>Leptosiphon floribundus</i> ssp. <i>hallii</i> Santa Rosa Mountains leptosiphon	US: – CA: 1B	Sonoran desert scrub in desert canyons at 900 to 1,280 meters (2,950 to 4,190 feet) elevation. Known only from Riverside and San Diego Counties.	Blooms May through July (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (Sonoran desert scrub) is not present within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Marina orcuttii</i> var. <i>orcuttii</i> California marina	US: – CA: 1B	Rocky soils and gravelly hillsides in pinyon and juniper woodlands, Sonoran desert scrub, and chaparral at 1,050 to 1,160 meters (3,400 to 3,800 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Riverside County.	Blooms May through October (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (rocky soils and gravelly hillsides) is not present within the study area.
<i>Matelea parvifolia</i> Spear-leaf matelea	US: – CA: 2B	Rocky ledges and slopes in Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub at 430 to 1,095 meters (1,400 to 3,600 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties.	Blooms March through May (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (rocky ledges in Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub) is not present within the study area.
<i>Nemacaulis denudata</i> var. <i>gracilis</i> Slender cottonheads	US: – CA: 2B	Coastal or desert dunes, sandy mesquite hummocks, or similar sandy sites at -50 to 400 (560) meters (-160 to 1,300 [1,800] feet) elevation. Known from Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties in California, and from Arizona and Mexico.	Blooms mostly late March to mid-May (annual herb)	Moderate. Suitable habitat (sandy mesquite hummocks) is present within the study area.
<i>Phaseolus filiformis</i> Slender-stem bean	US: – CA: 2B	Annual or perennial vine in Sonoran desert scrub found in gravelly washes bordered by Creosote bush-dominated rocky slopes; 125 meters (410 feet) elevation. Known only from one site in California: Coachella Valley, Riverside County.	Blooms April (annual herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (gravelly washes bordered by Creosote bush-dominated rocky slopes) is not present within the study area.
<i>Pseudorontium cyathiferum</i> Deep Canyon snapdragon	US: – CA: 2B	Rocky sites in Sonoran Desert scrub at 0 to 800 meters (0 to 2,600 feet) elevation. In California, known only from the Deep Canyon area of Riverside County.	Blooms February through April (annual herb)	Absent. The study area is outside of the species geographic range.
<i>Selaginella eremophila</i> Desert spike-moss	US: – CA: 2B	Shaded sites in gravelly soils and among rocks or in crevices from 200 to 900 (2,425?) meters (700 to 3,000 [8,000?] feet) elevation in Sonoran desert scrub.	Reproductive mostly in June (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (shaded sites in gravelly soils and among rocks or in crevices) is not present within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Senna covesii</i> Coves's cassia	US: – CA: 2B	Dry, sandy desert washes and slopes in Sonoran desert scrub at 200 to 1,070 meters (700 to 3,500 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties.	Blooms March through June (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (dry, sandy desert washes and slopes) is not present within the study area.
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i> Purple stemodia	US: – CA: 2B	Sonoran Desert scrub, mostly in mesic sandy areas, at 180 to 300 meters (600 to 1,000 feet) elevation. In California, known from San Diego and possibly Riverside Counties. Also occurs in Arizona, Texas, Mexico, and South America.	Blooms January through December (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (Sonoran Desert scrub, mostly in mesic sandy areas) is not present within the study area.
<i>Thelypteris puberula</i> var. <i>sonorensis</i> Sonoran maiden fern	US: – CA: 2B	Seeps and along streams in meadows at 50 to 610 meters (170 to 2,000 feet) elevation. Known from western Riverside, southwest San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles Counties.	Blooms January through September (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (seeps and along streams in meadows) is not present within the study area.
<i>Xylorhiza cognata</i> Mecca aster	US: – CA: 1B CVM SHCP: C	Steep slopes of arid canyons in sandstone and clay in Sonoran desert scrub at 20 to 400 meters (70 to 1,300 feet) elevation. Known only from Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties, California, principally in the Indio and Mecca hills of Riverside County.	Blooms January through June (perennial herb)	Absent. Suitable habitat (steep slopes of arid canyons in sandstone and clay) is not present within the study area.
Invertebrates				
<i>Dinacoma caseyi</i> Casey's June beetle	US: FE CA: SA	Associated with alluvial sediments, typically in Carsitas gravelly sand (CdC), riverwash, or possibly Carsitas cobbly sand (ChC) of broad, gently sloping alluvial fans at the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains. Known distribution is an area of less than 324 hectares (800 acres) in southern Palm Springs within the Palm Canyon alluvial floodplain and eastward to East Palm Canyon Drive.	Spring (late March through June)	Absent. The study area is outside of the species known geographic range.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Macrobaenetes valgum</i> Coachella giant sand treader cricket	US: – CA: SA CVMSHCP: C	Wind-swept sand dune ridges, spring-dampened sandy areas. Restricted to Coachella Valley.		Absent. Suitable habitat (Wind-swept sand dune ridges, spring-dampened sandy areas) is not present within the study area.
<i>Oliarces clara</i> Cheeseweed moth lacewing	US: – CA: SA	Associated with creosote bush (<i>Larrea tridentata</i>) in desert scrub. Known in California from Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. This species is rarely observed in the field due to the short flight season of adults (up to 3 or 4 days) and the indeterminate timing of adult emergence.		Low. Suitable habitat (creosote bush) is present within the study area.
Fish				
<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i> Desert pupfish	US: FE CA: SE CVMSHCP: C	Desert backwater areas, springs, streams, and pools. In California, found in the Salton Sea and some of its tributaries (San Felipe Creek, San Sebastian Marsh, and Salt Creek) in Riverside and Imperial Counties.		Absent. Suitable habitat (desert backwater areas, springs, streams, and pools) is not present within the study area.
Amphibians				
<i>Batrachoseps major aridus</i> Desert slender salamander	US: FE CA: SE	Inhabits steep-walled desert canyons with permanent water seeping from fractured bedrock. Known from only two canyons the Santa Rosa Mountains, in the Coachella Valley of Riverside County.	Active year-round (peak possibly February to April).	Absent. Suitable habitat (steep-walled desert canyons with permanent water seeps) is not present within the study area.
Reptiles				
<i>Phrynosoma mcalli</i> Flat-tailed horned lizard	US: – CA: SSC CVMSHCP: C	Fine sand in desert washes and flats with vegetative cover and ants, generally below 180 meters (600 feet) elevation in Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties.	May be active year-round in mild weather, but peak activity occurs in spring, early summer, and fall.	Moderate. Suitable habitat (fine sand in flats with vegetative cover) is present within the study area.
<i>Uma inornata</i> Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard	US: FT CA: SE CVMSHCP: C	Fine, loose, windblown sand (dunes), interspersed with hardpan and widely spaced desert shrubs; known only from the Coachella Valley.	April through October (May is peak).	Absent. Suitable habitat (Fine, loose, windblown sand [dunes], interspersed with hardpan) is not present within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Birds				
<i>Athene cucularia</i> (burrow sites) Burrowing owl	US: – CA: SSC (breeding) CVMSHCP: C	Open country in much of North and South America. Usually occupies ground squirrel burrows in open, dry grasslands, agricultural and range lands, railroad rights-of-way, and margins of highways, golf courses, and airports. Often utilizes man-made structures, such as earthen berms, cement culverts, cement, asphalt, rock, or wood debris piles. They avoid thick, tall vegetation, brush, and trees, but may occur in areas where brush or tree cover is less than 30 percent.	Year-round	High. Suitable habitat (ground squirrel burrows) is present within the study area.
<i>Buteo regalis</i> (wintering) Ferruginous hawk	US: – CA: SA	Forages in open fields, grasslands and agricultural areas, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats, and other open country in western North America. Not known to breed in California.	Mid-September through mid-April	Moderate. Suitable foraging habitat (open desert scrub habitat) is present within the study area.
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> (nesting) Prairie falcon	US: – CA: SA	Open country in much of North America. Nests in cliffs or rocky outcrops; forages in open arid valleys and agricultural fields. Rare in southwestern California.	Year-round diurnal	Moderate. Suitable foraging habitat (open arid valley) is present within the study area.
<i>Polioptila melanura</i> Black-tailed gnatcatcher	US: – CA: SA	Nests in wooded desert wash habitat containing mesquite, palo verde, ironwood, and acacia. May also occur in areas with salt cedar, especially when adjacent to native wooded desert wash habitat. Also occurs in desert scrub habitat in winter.		High. Suitable nesting habitat (mesquite hummocks and salt cedar [tamarisk]) is present within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<p><i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> (nesting)</p> <p>Vermilion flycatcher</p>	<p>US: – CA: SSC (breeding)</p>	<p>A rare, local, year-long resident along the Colorado River, especially in vicinity of Blythe, Riverside County. Sporadic breeder in desert oases west and north to Morongo Valley and the Mojave Narrows, San Bernardino County. Formerly bred in coastal San Diego County. Nesters inhabit cottonwood, willow, mesquite, and other vegetation in desert riparian habitat adjacent to irrigated fields, irrigation ditches, pastures, and other open, mesic areas. Rare fall and winter visitor throughout the lowlands of Southern California from Santa Barbara and Inyo Counties south. Formerly much more common and widespread, but has disappeared entirely from Imperial and Coachella Valleys.</p>	<p>Fall or winter visitor or rare and local breeder</p>	<p>Absent. Suitable habitat (desert oases) is not present within the study area.</p>
<p><i>Toxostoma crissale</i></p> <p>Crissal thrasher</p>	<p>US: – CA: SSC (year round) CVMSHCP: C</p>	<p>Dense thickets of shrubs or low trees in desert riparian and desert wash habitats. Southeastern California to Texas and northern Mexico.</p>	<p>Year-round</p>	<p>Low. Suitable habitat (Dense thickets of shrubs) is present within the study area.</p>

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i> Le Conte's thrasher	US: – CA: SA CVMSHCP: C	Inhabits sparsely vegetated desert flats, dunes, alluvial fans, or gently rolling hills having a high proportion of saltbush (<i>Atriplex</i> spp.) or cholla (<i>Cylindropuntia</i> spp.), often occurring along small washes or sand dunes. Prefers dense thorny shrubs (most often saltbush or cholla) for nesting. Uncommon and local resident in low desert scrub throughout most of the Mojave Desert, extending up into the southwestern corner of the San Joaquin Valley. Breeding range in California extends from these areas into eastern Mojave, north into the Owens Valley and south into the lower Colorado Desert and eastern Mojave. Only the San Joaquin Valley population of this species is considered a Bureau of Land Management Sensitive Species or California Species of Concern.	Year-round	High. Suitable habitat (sparsely vegetated desert flat having a high proportion of saltbush [<i>Atriplex</i> spp.]) is present within the study area.
Mammals				
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> Pallid bat	US: – CA: SSC	Roosts in crevices in rocky outcrops and cliffs, caves, mines, hollows or cavities of large trees, and anthropogenic structures such as bridges and buildings; may also roost near the ground in rock piles. Foraging habitat includes grassland, open scrub, open forest, and gravel roads.	Year-round; nocturnal	Detected. Suitable trees and rock outcrops for day roosting present in study area. Suitable foraging habitat in open desert scrub. Visually observed emerging from roosts in rock outcrops in the study area, as well as foraging in palo verde stands at the western portion of the study area.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> Western mastiff bat	US: – CA: SSC	Occurs in many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.; roosts in crevices in vertical cliff faces, high buildings, and tunnels, and travels widely when foraging.	Year-round; nocturnal	Detected. Suitable roosting present in rocky outcrops within study area. Suitable foraging habitat present.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i> Western red bat	US: – CA: SSC	Typically solitary, but sometime found in small groups. Roosts in the foliage of broad-leafed trees or shrubs within streams or fields, in orchards, and occasionally urban areas; commonly roosts in mature cottonwoods and sycamores. Also documented roosting in mature eucalyptus trees and palm trees. Strongly associated with riparian corridors, but has also been observed in desert scrub.	Year-round; nocturnal	Low. Typically more associated with riparian habitats, but has been documented in desert scrub habitats. May occur in study area.
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> Hoary bat	US: – CA: SA	Solitary. Roosts in the foliage of coniferous, deciduous, and evergreen trees and shrubs, often at the edge of a clearing. Typically roosts near the ends of branches approximately 3–12 meters above the ground. Migratory wintering sites have not been well documented, and specific migration routes are not known	Primarily fall, winter, and spring; nocturnal	Low. Suitable large trees present for day roosting, including athel (<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>). Unlikely to be present during the summer months. May forage in study area.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> Western yellow bat	US: – CA: SSC	Found mostly in desert and desert riparian areas of the southwest U.S., but also expanding its range with the increased usage of native and non-native ornamental palms in landscaping. Individuals typically roost amid dead fronds of palms in desert oases, but have also been documented roosting in cottonwood trees. Forages over many habitats.	Year-round; nocturnal	Detected. Native and non-native ornamental palms surrounding the study area could provide suitable roosting habitat. Suitable foraging habitat is also found within the study area.
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i> Yuma myotis	US: – CA: SA	Roosts in crevices within bridges, buildings, culverts, cliff crevices, caves, mines, and trees, typically near a perennial water source. Also documented roosting in swallows nests.	Year-round; nocturnal	High. Suitable trees for day roosting present. Crevices in adobe building are also suitable for roosting. May forage over open water in golf courses and water impoundments immediately adjacent to the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Macrotus californicus</i> California leaf-nosed bat	US: – CA: SSC	Day roosts primarily in caves and mines, but occasionally roosts in anthropogenic structures such as bridges. Foraging habitat is predominantly in desert washes containing palo verde, ironwood, or smoke trees.	Year-round; nocturnal	High. Suitable roosting present in rocky outcrops within study area. Known roosting sites in project vicinity. Suitable foraging habitat present.
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> Pocketed free-tailed bat	US: – CA: SSC	Usually associated with cliffs, rock outcrops, or slopes. May roost in buildings (including roof tiles) or caves. Rare in California, where it is found in Riverside, San Diego, Imperial and possibly Los Angeles Counties. More common in Mexico.	Year-round; nocturnal	Detected. Suitable rock outcrops for day roosting present in rocky outcrops within study area. Heard foraging over study area.
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i> Big free-tailed bat	US: – CA: SSC	Roosts mainly in crevices in cliffs, although there is some documentation of roosting in buildings, caves, and tree cavities. Found in desert shrub, woodlands, and evergreen forests.	Year-round; nocturnal	Moderate. Suitable rock outcrops for day roosting present. May forage in study area.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> Pallid San Diego pocket mouse	US: – CA: SSC	Found in sandy herbaceous areas, usually associated with rocks or coarse gravel in desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent scrub, pinyon-juniper woodlands, etc. in desert border areas of Southern California into Mexico.	Nocturnal, active year-round	Moderate. Suitable habitat (sandy herbaceous areas) is found within the study area.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
<i>Perognathus longimembris bangsii</i> Palm Springs pocket mouse	US: – CA: SSC	Primary habitat in the Coachella Valley is dunes and mesquite hummocks associated with honey mesquite (<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> var. <i>torreyana</i>) and, to a lesser extent, dunes and hummocks associated with creosote (<i>Larrea tridentata</i>) or other vegetation. Its range in the Coachella Valley extends from Joshua Tree National Park southward, west to San Gorgonio Pass, and south to Borrego Springs and the east side of San Felipe Narrows, in Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties. Results of recent morphological and genetic studies indicate that this species also ranges northward at least to Hinkley Valley and Death Valley in San Bernardino County.	Spring through fall	Low. Although suitable habitat (mesquite hummocks associated with honey mesquite (<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> var. <i>torreyana</i>) is found within the study area, these areas are limited in size and isolated within the study area.
<i>Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus</i> Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel	US: – CA: SSC CVMSHCP: C	Desert succulent scrub, desert wash, desert scrub, alkali scrub; will burrow in man-made levees; prefers open, flat, grassy areas in fine textured, sandy soil. Restricted to Coachella Valley.	February through August (hibernates September through January)	Moderate. Suitable habitat (alkali scrub associated with fine textured, sandy soil) is found within the study area.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	US: – CA: SSC	Primary habitat requirements seem to be sufficient food and friable soils in relatively open uncultivated ground in grasslands, woodlands, and desert. Widely distributed in North America.	Year-round	Low. Suitable habitat (friable soils) is found within the study area.
<i>Ovis canadensis nelsonii</i> (peninsular Distinct Population Segment) Peninsular bighorn sheep	US: FE CA: ST/CFP CVMSHCP: C	Occurs on open desert slopes below 1,220 meters (4,000 feet) elevation from San Gorgonio Pass south into Mexico; optimal habitat includes steep-walled canyons and ridges bisected by rocky or sandy washes, with available water.		Absent. Suitable habitat (steep-walled canyons and ridges bisected by rocky or sandy washes) is not present. within the study area

LEGEND

US: Federal Classifications

- No applicable classification
- FE Taxa listed as Endangered.
- FT Taxa listed as Threatened.

CA: State Classifications

- SE Taxa State-listed as Endangered.
- ST Taxa State-listed as Threatened.
- SSC California Species of Special Concern. Refers to animals with vulnerable or seriously declining populations.
- CF California Fully Protected. Refers to animals protected from take under Fish and Game Code Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and P 5515.
- SA Special Animal. Refers to any other animal monitored by the Natural Diversity Data Base, regardless of its legal or protection status.
- 1B California Rare Plant Rank 1B: Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
- 2B California Rare Plant Rank 2B: Rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.
- 3 California Rare Plant Rank 3: A review list of plants about which more information is needed.

California Rare Plant Rank Extensions

- 0.2 Fairly endangered in California (20 to 80% occurrences threatened).

CVMSHCP: Coachella Valley MSHCP Status

- C Species is adequately conserved under the CVMSHCP.